

Bell Inn

Extracts from Jackson's Oxford Journal

1757	Jan 1	Bell Inn for sale, enquire Smith, Ickford	
1763		Bell Inn (public house for more than 150 years) and adjoining butcher's shop for sale, enquiries to Thomas Davis, Kings Arms	
1774	Nov 16	Ed Meysey, yeoman, of Waterperry, denied he committed an indecent act on Wm Best, at the Bell.	
1778	Jan 1	Bell Inn to let; occupier, James Taylor	
1779	Dec 29	Bell Inn to be let—see attached copy of advert and note from Miss J. McLennan	
1781	Apr 7	Bell and adjoining bakehouse in middle of town to let. Richard White, who had been tenant, left to take another inn.	

EXTRACT FROM 'JACKSON'S OXFORD JOURNAL 1st January 1780
(This was the Local Newspaper in those days)

"....WHEATLEY OXFORDSHIRE, December 29 1779....

TO BE LET and entered upon at Lady Day next, an old and good- accustomed PUBLIC HOUSE, known by the sign of THE BELL, and now in occupation of James Taylor, with Brew House, and two stables in required, one a very lofty commodious-built stable; also a very commodious-built bakehouse adjoining, with Dough-trough, and other fixtures suitable and convenient for carrying on the Baking Business and good storerooms for flour etc, with a Carden and Piggeries and other conveniences thereto belonging.

"The Bake-house, with Dwelling House and Bread Shop and 5 rooms over them with one Stable may be entered on immediately if required. For further particulars and to treat for the same apply to William Davies, Maltster, Wheatley."

"NB. The premises are all in exceeding good repair and everything that is necessary for the advantage of the Tenant will be complied with. There are good conveniences of Store-room for carrying on the Mealing Business with the Baking. No person need apply that has not a Capital. It will not be advertised any more for the present if not lett."

According to an Index of INNKEEPERS mentioned in "Jacksons Oxford Journal" between 1753 A 1780 there was a T. DAVIS at the KINC'S ARMS, as well as J.TAYLOR at THE BELL as well as others.

Note by resident of No.5 Bell Lane: THE BELL was at *Corner* of High St & Bell Lane &. the first 4 cottages in Bell Lane 'overlap each other in various ways thus they were all part of the original INN with outbuildings etc. Recent restoration in No. 1 revealed the MALTING OVENS: the centre passage between 2nd & 3rd cottage shows a wide chimney breast (recently exposed in No.3) which could have been the bakehouse; upper floors were "walk-through" as there are bricked in doorways; some STABLE EQUIPMENT found in the garden of No.5 (old horse-shoe, harness buckle, horse brass, stable-yard tiles, gulley etc.<& iron chain & ring for hitching fastened in passage wall).