

# MILL ROAD HISTORY PROJECT BUILDING REPORT

# 175 Mill Road, Cambridge

Corn Merchant (c.1887–c.1934) Brewer and Beer Seller (c.1895–c.1985) Fruiterer and other retailing (1936–present)



**Katie Blyth** 



The Mill Road History Project was officially launched in 2013 under the umbrella of Mill Road Bridges<sup>1</sup> to study the heritage of Mill Road, Cambridge, its buildings (residential, commercial and industrial), institutions and community. It was supported by a two-year grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund.

1<sup>st</sup> edition – January 2016 Author: Katie Blyth

Cover picture: 175 Mill Road, 2015 (photograph by Becky Proctor)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> 'Mill Road Bridges seeks to grow and maintain the community spirit, heritage and rich cultural diversity of the Mill Road area by improving the flow of information between and about individuals, businesses, voluntary organisations and local stakeholders.'

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## **Abbreviations**

BNA British Newspaper Archive (www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk)

CA Cambridgeshire Archives
CC Cambridgeshire Collection
CDN Cambridge Daily News

CIP Cambridge Independent Press

CN Cambridge News

#### NOTE

This report was produced by Katie Blyth, a resident of Romsey Town, Cambridge and volunteer for the Project. The focus of the report is the building comprising 175 and 175a Mill Road, currently the premises of Cut Price Carpets and Hilary's Greengrocers, and 1a Catharine Street.

#### Location

175 and 175a Mill Road, Cambridge, CB1 3AN
The building is situated on the Romsey side of the railway bridge on the north side of the road.

#### **National Grid reference**

TL46695 57665 X: 546695 Y: 257665

Latitude: 52.1977498992337 Longitude 0.145798788777299

No. 175 Mill Road was classified in 2006/2007 as a 'building of local interest' (BLI) by the local planning authority and is in the Mill Road conservation area (Cambridge City Council).

## INTRODUCTION

No. 175 Mill Road was erected at a time when many new houses and businesses were being built to serve the burgeoning community on the Romsey side of the bridge. Originally built as a corn merchants and bakery, it has changed hands several times but interestingly the type of produce traded has not changed drastically – raw food in the form of grains and fruit and vegetables seems to be a continuous theme. Fruit and vegetables have been sold on the premises since its beginnings, and beer from 1895 till the 1980s when part of it was an off-licence. Corn and grain were traded there for the first fifty years of its existence. From about 1937 the street directories show the building as two separate buildings, suggesting that it may have been divided into two at this time. (However there is no certainty about when the division occurred). From then on, two separate businesses have traded from the building. This research focuses on what is now 175 and 175a Mill Road and includes some information about No 1a Catharine Street which was originally part of the premises.

## **BACKGROUND**

In 1881 on the Romsey side of Mill Road, on the south side between the railway line and Cyprus Road, there appear to have been no shops and just twelve houses occupied by railway workers, a laundress, a brewer, financial agent, builder, journalist and labourer. The last building on that side of Mill Road at the time was the *Royal Standard* pub, occupied by publican Charles Watson. The north side of the road was more populated and the houses were occupied mainly by railway workers, labourers and tradesmen such as bricklayers, carpenters, a bookbinder, a blacksmith and a cab driver. There was also a dressmaker and a charwoman.

By 1910 a substantial number of shops and businesses had appeared along Mill Road to serve the growing community which was developing in and around Mill Road. These were mainly on the south side of the road with residential properties dominating the north side. The following list (taken from Spalding's Street Directory, 1910) shows the occupants between Thoday Street and the railway bridge. There appears to have been little in the way of everyday items from food to clothes that could not be purchased by residents of Romsey at that time.

#### Mill Road, North Side

Here is Thoday Street

S. Philip's Church

Howard, Rev. Charles, M.A., *vicar*, The Vicarage Sunday Schools.

**SWANSEA TERRACE** 

189 White, Bert, station clerk G.E.R.

187 Robarts, William, timekeeper

185 Bennett, James R., traveller

183 Langley, William Mitchell, dairy-man's assistant

181 Smith, John, iron moulder

179 & 177 Co-operative Industrial Society (Limited), grocers, tea dealers, etc. No 1 Branch. Mills, Ben, *secretary* 

Here is Catharine Street

175 & 174 French, George Henry, corn and seed merchant, and at 173, East Road Easy, Frederick, *manager* 

173 Bilton, W., baker

171 Wall William, hairdresser and cycle agent

169 Brown, H., Chas., engine driver, Cornard House

167 Allen, G., bootmaker

165 Stone, Rev., Geo., Baptist Missionary

161 Hewish, John, hairdresser, Sedgwick House

Here is Sedgwick Street

Smith, George, J.P., Councillor and Bailiff of the Borough, The Lodge Smith, Miss

Here is Cavendish Road.

157 Wallis, S.B., & Sons, grocers, tea and provision merchants, Cavendish House Thompson, Stephen

#### **GELDART TERRACE**

155 Charles, Mrs.

153 Ceadel, Robert, railway carriage examiner

151 Loates, William, carpenter

149 Stevens, Mrs

147 Squires, William, Joseph, railway signalman

145 Morgan, Davies, engine driver

#### **BEACONSFIELD TERRACE**

143 Canning, Earnest, boot and shoe repairer

141 Brown, Mrs J

139 Jones, John, grocer, confectioner, stationer and newsagent

137 Mote, Albert

135 Russell, George, College Servant

133 Thompson, Stephen, The Earl of Beaconsfield

Here is Great Eastern Street

131 Harradine F., Inspector G.E.R. Algeria House

129 Wright, Walter, railway inspector, Carlton Cottage

Garden

125 Driver, James, Connaught House

123 Covill, Edward, railway signalman

The bridge over the railway.

## THE BUILDING TODAY

The building occupies the corner of Catharine Street and Mill Road and has undergone several modifications since it was built. The original building has been divided into two separate shop units: currently Cut Price Carpets (175 Mill Road) and Hilary's Greengrocer's (175a). Like most of the buildings in the area it is constructed from Cambridge bricks under a pitched slate roof. There are two sky-light windows above the greengrocer's. Below the

roof is a decorative stringcourse of bricks. The gable end comprising two modern windows on the upper storey and the remnants of an arched window beneath, faces Catharine Street. There is a cellar running the width of both shops with a wall dividing the two. Traces of the cellar aperture, with curved brick lintel are visible on the Catharine Street side of the building.<sup>2</sup>



Figure 1 – Decorative brick stringcourse and evidence of original arched windows, 2015

Adjoining the building in Catharine Street is a small two-storey residence with a flat roof, modern windows and evidence of a bricked-up door. Adjoining this is a pitched roof residence. Both these buildings are residential properties occupying part of the original site of No. 175 Mill Road. Heading towards the bridge, neighbouring shops on the north side of the road are: Tax Assist accountants; Claud Butler cycle shop; Bush Estate agents; Tesco Express supermarket and Monarch Coin Laundry. A variety of shops and eating places continue to the bridge. Heading in the opposite direction, across Catharine Street is a Co-op supermarket and a pharmacy, St Philip's Church and mainly residential properties. On the south side of Mill Road opposite No. 175 is Londis convenience store, Chicken Rush takeaway, Limoncello Delicatessen, BLD café and the Cambridge Building Society.



Figure 2 – Cut Price Carpets, Hilary's, and the Co-op, 2015

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Photograph by Joe Blyth 2015.



Figure 3 - Cut Price Carpets and Hilary's, 2015



Figure 4 - Hilary's: side elevation on Catharine Street, 2015

Figures 2–4 show Cut Price Carpets and Hilary's, together with the Co-op, as they were in 2015.<sup>3</sup>

## HISTORY OF THE SITE AND ITS OCCUPANTS c.1887-1935

The Ordnance Survey map of 1886 (Figure 5)<sup>4</sup> shows that Mill Road and its surrounding streets were by that time already well populated. The site on the corner of Mill Road and Catharine Street however, where No. 175 now stands, was still empty, as were many other plots which have since been built upon. The map shows that from the railway tracks up to Stockwell Street on the south side and to Cavendish Street on the north side most of the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Figures 2–4 by Joe Blyth, 2015.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Ordnance Survey 1886 XLVII.3.21 scale 10.56 feet to one statute mile (CA); pink shading denotes brick or stone buildings, grey shading sheds and outbuildings, and cream shading roads.

building plots had been filled. On the north side between Cavendish Street and Catharine Street there were just five buildings, with the grounds of The Lodge (where the Broadway now stands) taking up the whole stretch between Cavendish Street and Sedgwick Street. Catharine Street itself had only a handful of buildings and a large area of vacant land on the corner of Mill Road. — This map was issued first in black and white in 1885 then with coloured shading in 1886. No. 175 Mill Road was built within two years of that first issue, i.e. in 1886 or 1887, filling part of this vacant land.



Figure 5 – Ordnance Survey map 1886 showing part of Mill Road and surrounding streets. © Crown Copyright



**Figure 6** – Detail of above map, showing the empty plot on the corner of Catharine Street

## 175 MILL ROAD

#### UNICORN TRADING COMPANY c.1887-c.1895

The Unicorn Trading Company was started in Cottenham, Cambridgeshire in 1878 by Robert Martin Ivatt, a farmer, merchant, salesman, miller and fruit grower. Ivatt was born in Cottenham c.1851, the son of Robert Ivatt, High Constable, maltster, miller, and farmer of 150 acres.<sup>5</sup> Robert Martin Ivatt subsequently opened a business in Mill Road, Cambridge, and Stratford Market, Essex.<sup>6</sup> No. 175 Mill Road began its existence as the Unicorn Trading Company (bakery and corn stores) c.1887.

The local street directories do not show any corn merchants on or around the Romsey side of Mill Road at this time, apart from Unicorn. On the Petersfield side of the bridge was Joseph Parker in Gwydir Street and R. W. Tofts in the aptly named Cornetta Villa<sup>7</sup>. Unicorn was clearly something that the rapidly expanding Romsey community benefited from, since it continued as a corn merchant (although under different ownership) until the mid-1930s.

A notice to building contractors (see below), published by the Cambridge Independent Press on 17 July 1886<sup>8</sup> names the architect of the building as Frank Waters, and it can probably be assumed that the plans were drawn up in the same year, the building being constructed soon after. Spalding's Street Directory for 1887 lists it as: 'Unicorn Trading Compy's new premises.'

#### To Contractors

Builders desirous of tendering for the erection of a model machine bakery and corn stores on the Mill-road Cambridge, for the Unicorn Trading Co., to send their claim to me. Specification and plans can be seen and quantities obtained at my office after July 22<sup>nd</sup> 1886.

FRANK WATERS, Architect.

1 Sidney Street. Cambridge.

#### Frank Waters - architect

Frank Waters, architect and civil engineer, was born in Cambridge c.1855. He married Florence Freeman in 1879 at Christchurch, Cambridge. In 1891 he was living in East Road and by 1901 had moved to 54 Mawson Road. Amongst his designs were the Cattle Market (built by William Saint of St Barnabas Road) on the junction of Hills Road and Cherry Hinton Road, which opened in 1885 (since demolished and now the site of Cambridge Leisure Park). It was described in the *Cambridge Independent Press* as a new cattle market, which, for its convenience and accommodation, will, when it is completed, be probably by far the best

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> 1851 England and Wales census HO107/1759/217/25 (www.ancestry.co.uk).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> BNA: *CIP*, 30 November 1894. Stratford was linked to Cambridge by rail, with express haulage taking 75 minutes to cover the 54 miles: Warren and Phillips (1987), p. 18.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Spaldings Street Directory 1887 (near the Gwydir Street corner with Mill Road).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> BNA: *CIP*, 17 July 1886.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> BNA: *CIP*, 26 April 1879.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> 1891 England, Wales and Scotland census RG12/1283/159/3 (www.ancestry.co.uk).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> 1901 England, Wales and Scotland RG13/1530/168/29 (www.ancestry.co.uk).

in the Eastern Counties'.<sup>12</sup> With John J Webster he designed the Victoria Bridge on Victoria Avenue, 1889–90.<sup>13</sup> He also designed No 19 Grange Road (1892) and the Branch Library on Mill Road, constructed by Coulson and Lofts in 1897.<sup>14</sup> Frank Waters died in 1935 and is buried in Mill Road Cemetery with his wife Florence.

The original plans for the property have not been found but the photograph shown below gives an idea of how it probably appeared from the outside at the time it was built. Although the photograph was taken several decades after it was built, the building does not appear to have been modified greatly, with its original wide-arched windows and high-ceilinged ground storey. Note also, the upper window in the gable end with what appears to be a winch or similar device (presumably for hoisting sacks of grain into the loft). The two front doors, each with a set of worn front steps, both appear to be original. This prompts a series of questions: Why was the building built with two front doors? Was one for customers and the other for staff? Did one lead to a storage area or office? Did the door on the left perhaps open into a hallway or lobby which in turn opened to a large room either side?<sup>15</sup>



Figure 7 – 175a Mill Road and 1a Catharine Street (c.1955)

<sup>13</sup> Bradley and Pevsner (2014), p. 306.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> BNA: *CIP*, 3 October 1885.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> Bradley and Pevsner (2014), pp. 326, 327–28; Henry Tribe (1997). The Library is now a Grade II listed building.

## **Managers of the Unicorn Bakery**



Figure 8 - Cambridge Independent Press, 19 September 1885

Why was a 'married man' required to manage the new bakery? The street directory for 1887 indicates that Mr Arthur Searle was the manager then, and the 1891 census<sup>16</sup> shows that he was married with six children and lived in Catharine Street. The Searle family had previously lived in Cottenham as did Mr Searle's employer, Mr Ivatt. By 1891 Leonard Goodliffe had taken over as 'baker's manager'. He was also from Cottenham and lived in Cottenham at the time, but according to the census return of 1891<sup>17</sup> was 'single'.

## **Produce sold at the Unicorn Trading Company**

Advertisements from the *Cambridge Independent Press* showing some of the produce available at the Unicorn Trading Company are displayed below:



Figure 9 - Cambridge Independent Press, 16 March 1888



Figure 10 - Cambridge Independent Press, 8 July 1892

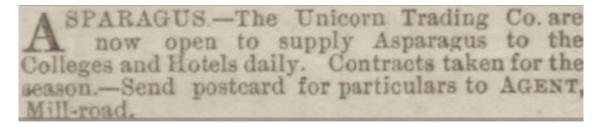


Figure 11 - Cambridge Independent Press, 5 May 1893

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> 1891 England, Wales & Scotland census RG12/1284/188/21 (Findmypast.co.uk)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> 1891 England, Wales & Scotland census, RG12/1279/100/15 (Findmypast.co.uk)

FOR SALE, Good STRAW CHAFF, OATS, EATING and SEED POTATOES —Try the UNICORN TRADING Co., Mill-road, Cambridge.

Figure 12 - Cambridge Independent Press, 11 May 1894

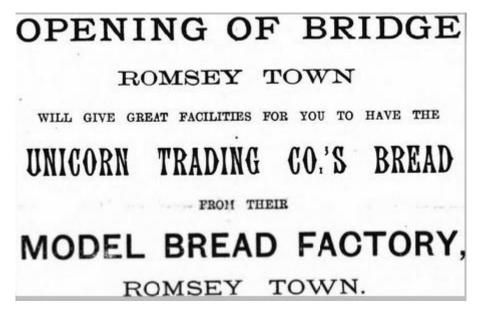


Figure 13 – Advertisement in the Cambridge Daily Nnew, 1 August 1889

The opening of the railway bridge must have made a huge difference to the lives of householders and traders on both sides of the bridge. Until it opened, the rapidly growing community on the Romsey side of the tracks must have found getting to the other side quite an inconvenience, as would those on the other side wanting to visit the new shops and businesses (such as the Unicorn Bakery) springing up in Romsey. When the bridge was opened on 1 August 1889 it was reported that Mr C Balls who opened it at the 'long looked for event' acknowledged 'the great inconvenience the people in the neighbourhood of Millroad had endured for many years'. A few days before the opening the *Cambridge Daily News* also commented on the hardship faced by those wanting to cross the tracks:

... weary pedestrians may hope very soon to have the long-desired privilege of walking over the line uninterrupted by the gates, which have been so long a terrible hindrance to business men going in that direction. <sup>19</sup>

(See Appendix II for the full articles about the opening of Mill Road bridge mentioned here).

## Break-in at the Unicorn Bakery

A press report from February  $1889^{20}$  (some two years after the bakery was built) tells the story of a break-in by three local schoolboys. At the Cambridge Borough Police Court they were charged with breaking into the premises of the Unicorn Trading Company and stealing money from the till (£4.3s) belonging to Robert Martin Ivatt. They were also charged with breaking into A. W. Goode's butcher's shop in Catharine Street and stealing meat, a knife

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> BNA: *CDN*, 1 Aug 1889.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> BNA: *CDN*, 26 July 1889.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> BNA: *CIP*, 22 February 1889.

and a key, on the same evening. The extract below is a statement provided by one of the boys (George Burton, aged 12).

Yesterday, myself, brother Robert and William Taylor instead of going to school (St Paul's Russell-street) we decided to break into the Unicorn Trading Company's shop in Mill-road, corner of Catherine-street. We played in the fields in St Philip's-road till it was dark. About seven we went into a butcher's shop (Mr. Goode's) corner of St. Phillip's Road. The shop was locked up. Mr Goode having another shop in Gwydir-street. We pulled the cellar grate up, went into the back room attached to the shop, and lighted a fire. We got some meat cooked it and ate it. We stopped there until about twelve o'clock. I took a knife from there. We then went to the Unicorn Shop in Mill-road (corn and beer sellers). Mr Searle is the manager and we knew he lived in Catherine-street and that no-one slept in the shop. The cellar grate was off. We all got down into the cellar and found the door fastened. We then returned, and went to the back of the shop, and all of us picked the putty out of the frame of one pane, which we removed and entered the shop. We knew the money was placed in a drawer, in a little office which had no door to it. The drawer was not locked. I opened it and we took the money. We each kept what we got. I don't know how much. There was no gold, but a lot of silver, and some coppers, including a lot of farthings. We took the silver and some of the copper, but left most of the copper. We found some Banbury cakes on the counter and had one each. We had no light, but as the moon was shining brightly we could see very well without. We stopped there about ten minutes. We then returned to the butcher's shop and stopped there about a quarter of an hour. We then went to the ballast hole, on the Gt Eastern Railway and got into a first-class carriage and stopped there until seven o'clock. We went to sleep there. We then walked to Harston, and arrived about 9.30am and booked to London (King's Cross). We paid 2s 2 ½d each for our fares. We got to London about twelve o'clock. We went into a coffee shop. We had some coffee and bread and butter. I spent 4d. Robert spent 4d and Taylor 5d. We bought a cap each for which we paid 6 ½ d. We went to a shoe shop and bought a pair of boots each, for which we paid 5s 6d. I bought a half pound of chocolate (3d) and the other two had a twopenny cake each. We then decided not to stop in London. Robert and myself decided to go to Yarmouth, to see if we could get to sea, and Taylor said he should go home again. We got to Holloway Station and took tickets accordingly. I paid 10s 1d for mine, Robert 5s for his and Taylor 2s 3½d. We travelled to Finsbury Park Station, where we changed, and while we were on the platform, waiting for the train to take us on, that gentleman (meaning foreman Clarke) came and questioned us, and I told him we had taken some money from our fathers and run away.

The boys were sentenced to gaol for fourteen days with hard labour and then to a reformatory for five years.

A newspaper report about a road accident involving an employee of the Unicorn Trading Company in 1889 highlights the neglected and hazardous state of Mill Road:

THE DANGER OF BAD ROADS.—About five o'clock on Wednesday afternoon, an accident, which is attributed to the neglected condition of the road, occurred near Madras-road, Romsey Town, to a lad named Reynolds, of Thoday-street, who was driving a cart belonging to the Unicorn Trading Company. The road is so very rough that the lad could not pull the pony, and the continual shaking of the cart caused the animal to run away, by which the boy was thrown off, and the wheel passing over him, his thigh was broken. He was at once removed to Addenbrooke's Hospital.

Figure 14 - Cambridge Daily News, 13 June 1889

## **Demise of the Unicorn Trading Company**

Newspaper articles from the period<sup>21</sup> report that in the latter part of 1894 Robert Martin lvatt became bankrupt and sold his business to Mr Owen Ainsworth, whom he had employed as a clerk.

The following notice appearing in the *Cambridge Independent Press*<sup>22</sup> in January 1895 shows that the premises in Mill Road were put up for sale. Presumably Ivatt owned these premises and was selling them because of his bankruptcy. This notice provides us with information about the structure, layout and contents of the premises. It also tells us that Ivatt owned the two cottages adjacent to No. 175 in Catharine Street (Nos 1 and 3). (But are these what are Nos 1 & 3 today, or the buildings that were once part of No. 175 and had since undergone renovation?)

Sales by Auction

By order of the Mortgagee

Mill Road and Catharine Street

Cambridge

#### HIGHLY VALUABLE FREEHOLD PROPERTY

Brick built and slated

Comprising all that commanding block of buildings

NO 175 MILL ROAD

Consisting of a lofty shop (with double front), Bar, office, Bakery (fitted with Ten-Bushel oven and Proving closet), cooling room with spacious storage over and extensive cellarage under. The yard at back has entrance from Catharine Street. The outbuildings consist of open shed with glazed and corrugated iron roof, corn shed, brick-built with glazed and slated roof, two stall stable and Harness-room, Brick-built and slated: chaff house, boarded with corrugated iron roof, furnace house to oven, Brick-built with corrugated iron roof, now in the occupation of Mr. Owen Ainsworth, trading under the name of THE UNICORN TRADING COMPANY, as corn merchants, Bakers, Beer-house keepers etc, on a yearly Michaelmas tenancy, at a rental of £60.

#### Also adjoining

#### A PLOT OF BUILDING LAND

Having a frontage of 17 feet to Mill Road in the occupation of Mr. Aaron Berry, a yearly Lady-day<sup>23</sup> tenancy, at a rental of £6 and

#### TWO FREEHOLD COTTAGES

Brick built and slated

Nos 1 and 3 CATHARINE STREET

Each containing 5 rooms, with wash house (fitted with copper), shed and earth closet and lean-to in yard at back, to which there is a joint entrance passage, in the occupation of Messrs King.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> BNA: CIP, 30 November 1894 and CIP, 14 December 1894.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> BNA: CIP, 25 January 1895.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> Lady Day: 25 March (the Feast of the Annunciation), the date on which contracts and tenancies in England traditionally began and ended.

#### TO BE SOLD BY AUCTION BY

#### JOHN SWAN & SON

At the Old Castle hotel, St Andrews Street, Cambridge, on FRIDAY 22<sup>nd</sup> February 1895 at four o'clock in two lots.

Further particulars and conditions of sale may be obtained of Mr PEED, solicitor, 62 Sidney Street.....

Directly beneath this notice is another, publicising the sale of valuable household furniture, machinery and implements 'in bankruptcy re R. M. Ivatt, Cottenham, Cambridgeshire'.

It seems that his sister Agnes McQuaid (of 53 St Barnabas Road) bought the Mill Road premises from him. The Land Value Records from 1910<sup>24</sup> show her as the owner of part of the premises (Frederick Dale also owned part) and as owner of No. 173 (no occupier listed), a separate building next door.

The two cottages in Catharine Street (Nos 1 & 3 referred to in the above sales advertisement) appear to have been sold to Ambrose Miller of 25 Belgrave Road.<sup>25</sup>

Robert Ivatt died in December 1906. Notice of his death was given in the *Cambridge Independent Press*:

Ivatt-December 12th, at Gothic House, Cottenham, Robert Martin Ivatt, eldest son of the late Robert Ivatt, aged 55. Inte. ment in Cottenham Churchyard Monday, 17th. Noflowers, by request.

Figure 15 – Cambridge Independent Press, 14 December 1906

Seven days later the newspaper published a description of his funeral in Cottenham:<sup>26</sup>

THE LATE MR. R. M. IVATT - The funeral of Mr. Robert Martin Ivatt, of Gothic House, took place on Monday afternoon, amidst a large gathering of sympathising friends and neighbours. The interment was in the parish churchyard, and the impressive service was conducted by the Rev. Walter Crump of Stopsley, near Luton, formerly curate here, and an intimate friend of the deceased. The chief mourners were:- Mrs Ivatt (widow), the Misses Marguerite, Josephine, Kathleen, and Mollie Ivatt (daughters), Mrs. McQuaid and Mrs. Cook (sisters) and Mr. Charles Edward Ivatt (cousin). Among the general company assembled at the graveside were Mr. Thomas and Miss Hilda Ivatt, Mr. J. M. Goode, Dr. and Mrs. C. H. Cox, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Bull, Mr. T. W. Graves, Mr. W. C. Bull, Mr. Esra Chivers, Messrs. A. C. Harradine, G. F. Coxall, S. W. Smith, and F. Russell (of the "Crown" Trading Company). Messrs. E. Norman, F. Cross, C. Papworth, and J. O. Cross (bearers). The deceased was the representative of a family of long standing and position in the village. At one time he was in an extensive way of business as a farmer, maltster, and miller, and in recent years he has been manager of the "Crown" Trading Company, of Cottenham and Stratford, and as such a large employer of labour. Though afflicted with permanent lameness through an accident in his youth, and far from enjoying robust health, he was a man of great force of character and energy actively displayed both in his private and public life. To him is due the levelling and general improvement of the Village Green, in which, by necessarily diverting a road from the centre to the side, he encountered considerable opposition as a parish officer several years back.

<sup>26</sup> BNA: *CIP*, 21 December 1906.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> CA: Duties on Land Values, 1910.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> Building byelaw plans (1895) CA: KCB/2/SE/3/9/827.

## JARMAN & CO., BREWERS & BEER RETAILERS c.1895-c.1904

In May 1895, soon after purchasing the premises, Agnes McQuaid leased them to brothers John and Albert Jarman. The Jarman brothers were brewers and maltsters who ran Jarman's Golden Ale Brewery in Meldreth.<sup>27</sup> The lease agreement between Agnes McQuaid and the Jarman brothers dated 1 May 1895 describes the premises as:

containing in front next Mill Road 59 feet or thereabouts and in depth next Catherine Street 97 feet. Together with the shop, Bakehouse, offices and other buildings now erected and standing thereon and lately occupied by the Unicorn Trading Company (including therein the site of a shop occupied by F Berry the materials of the shop being the property of the said F Berry as tenant) ... <sup>28</sup>

The lease states that the annual rent was £68. — F Berry mentioned above is likely to be Frederick Berry, son of Aaron Berry (mentioned in the advertisement for the property transcribed above). According to the 1891 census return, Aaron Berry was a furniture dealer (aged 50) and his 18-year-old son his assistant.<sup>29</sup> It is likely that they occupied a small part of the premises at No. 175 selling furniture. In 1891 they happened to be living on East Road close to a Mr George French (corn merchant) who would soon become a long-term owner and occupant of No. 175. By 1898 the shop referred to here was occupied by Charles Hill but so far no information about him has been found. — In May 1898 the premises were re-leased to brewers George Warren Bindloss and Henry John Gibbs of Meldreth. Presumably they were connected with Jarman and Co, as according to street directories Jarman & Co Brewers were occupying the premises until 1904.

## GEORGE HENRY FRENCH, CORN AND SEED MERCHANT c.1895 – c.1934

Street directories show that George Henry French occupied part of the premises from c.1895 to c.1934. He was a corn and seed merchant who also traded at his home address on 173 East Road. It is likely that he rented his part of the premises from Agnes McQuaid at least in the early years of his occupancy (Land Duties documents of 1910 show premises owned by Agnes McQuaid and Frederick Dale). However, he may well have taken ownership of part of the premises later on. (Sara Payne refers to his selling his business and off-licence premises to Dales when he retired).<sup>30</sup>

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup> http://www.meldrethhistory.org.uk/page\_id\_\_80.aspx

Lease and release of premises, shop and bakehouse in Mill Rd., CA: Ref 132/E/B/29.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>29</sup> 1891 England Wales and Scotland Census, RG12/1283/161/8 (<u>www.ancestry.co.uk</u>).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>30</sup> Payne (1984), p. 74.

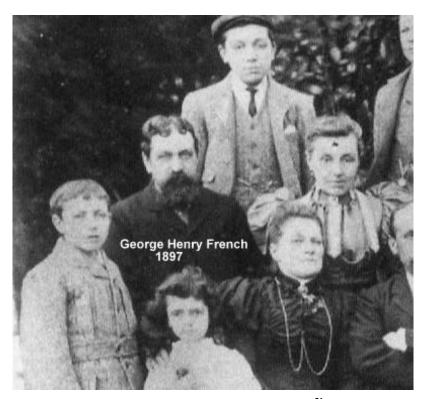


Figure 16 – George Henry French, 1897<sup>31</sup>

According to his great grandson (Michael French), 32 George Henry French was born in 1857 and was the fifth son of William French who came to Cambridge in c.1855 to run and then buy Chesterton Mill. George French grew up at the mill and the 1881 census<sup>33</sup> shows him living and working there as a miller with his brother Edmond. Chesterton Mill still exists today and can be found tucked away at the bottom of French's Road.

Ancestry (www.ancestry.co.uk).
 Communication with Allan Brigham.
 1881 England and Wales census.



Figure 17 – Chesterton Mill, French's Road, 2015 (Katie Blyth)

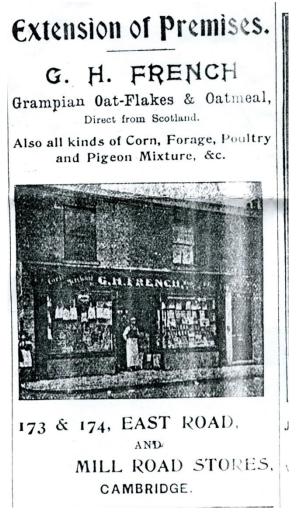


Figure 18 – Advertisement showing G H French's shop on East Road<sup>34</sup>

YOU should use OVUM, Thorley's Poultry Spice. Why? Because it keeps the birds in a fine healthy condition, helps them through the moult and assists nature, and produces an abundance of eggs.—Ovum is sold by G. H. FRENCH AND Sons, 173 and 174, East-road, and 175, Mill-road, Cambridge.

Figure 19 - Advertisement in the Cambridge Daily News, 24 November 1914

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>34</sup> Courtesy of Michael French.



Figure 20 - Advertisement in the Cambridge Independent Press, 28 December 1917

QUALITY IS BOUND TO TELL. — "CAMBRIDGE GEM" SELF-RAISING FLOUR being pure, always gives satisfaction, housewives delighted; give it a arial.—Manufactured by G. H. French and Sons, 173, and 174, East-road, and Mill-road Stores, Cambridge. Tel. 308.

Figure 21 - Advertisement in the Cambridge Daily News, 9 July 1920

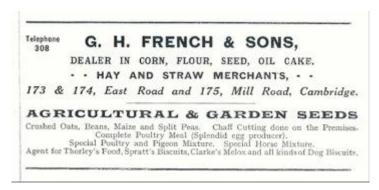


Figure 22 — Advertisement in Spaldings Street Directory 1924-25



Figure 23 - Advertisement in Spaldings Street Directory 1927-28

The street directories indicate that from 1898 to 1915 the shop was managed by Frederick Easy. According to the 1901 census record<sup>35</sup> he, like previous employees at the premises, was born in Cottenham. He lived round the corner at 50 Catharine Street. In 1911 the census records<sup>36</sup> show him living at 36 Hemingford Road (a side street further along Mill Road) and 'manager in corn shop'.

The following is an extract from a letter from a Mrs Fitch, born in 1913, who remembers the corn merchant's stores.<sup>37</sup>

I remember as a little girl a large house which stood in its own grounds where the Broadway is now; it was called The Lodge. We had many a Sunday School treat in the grounds. What happy days.

Very vivid in my mind was a corn merchants situated at the corner of Catherine Street to enter the shop you had several steps, but oh the joy of entering to buy a halfpenny worth of horse-beans or tiger nuts.

I would not wish to live anywhere else. Give me Romsey with all its memories.

Mrs Barraclough, born in 1922, also remembers Mr French's shop:<sup>38</sup>

I remember the steps up at the front. I used to run up and down those steps. We used to get all our flour from them. There were always sacks outside. They also sold vegetables and other stuff. I remember a long counter inside. Mr French – who I remember as a very nice man – used to go out to the back of the shop to get stuff.

#### Sara Payne reports:

Bert Forsdyke of 157 Ross Street remembers watching the bags of grain being taken up by hoist to the loft above. The hoist has gone now. 'My father used to get his oats, bran and pollard for his rabbits and chickens there. There were three steps leading up to the entrance, which was on Mill Road'.<sup>39</sup>

## FREDERICK DALE, BREWER, c.1909-?

Dale's street directory for 1909-10 lists the following:

175 French, George Henry, corn and seed merchant Dale, Frederick Bilton, William

<sup>35 1901</sup> England, Wales and Scotland census, RG13/1530 www.ancestry.co.uk

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>36</sup> 1911 England and Wales census RG14/09117 www.ancestry.co.uk

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>37</sup> Letter or postcard in response to an enquiry placed in *CEN* during 2003 (precise date unknown).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>38</sup> Interview with Katie Blyth at Mrs Barraclough's home on 8 December 2015.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>39</sup> Payne (1984), p. 74.

The Land Value Duties documents of 1910 show Frederick Dale as the owner of a small portion of the premises. (Agnes McQuaid owned the larger portion, shown in red in the images below). The part that he owned (shown in brown) appears to be accessed from Catharine Street.

No. on map	Names of occupiers	Owners	Description of property
4551	French Geo Henry	McQuaid Agnes	Shop & premises
4552	Bilton Wm	Dale Fredk	Beerhouse, stabling & premises

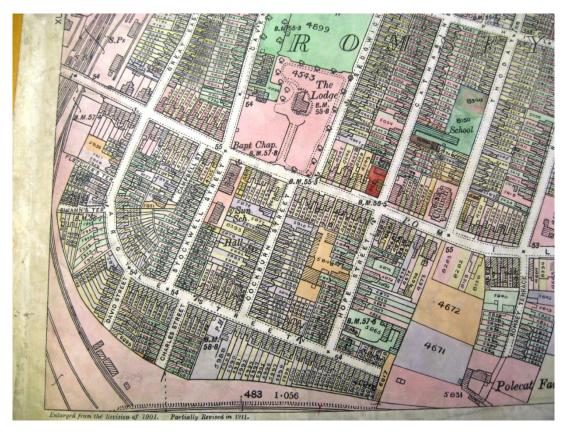


Figure 24 – Land Value Duties Map 1910 showing part of Mill Road (CA: 037\_XLVII.3\_SW\_LVD\_1911)



Figure 25 Detail showing No. 175 Mill Road

Frederick Dale was born in Pimlico, London<sup>40</sup> c.1865, and came to Cambridge in 1889 working as a tailor. In 1898 he married Edith Beales the daughter of Lieutenant Colonel Barnet William Beale, owner of the Panton Brewery. It was probably this connection which enabled him to become a successful brewer. Dale's first brewery was a small business behind the *British Queen* public house in Histon Road. By 1902 he was able to have a new brewery built on the site of stables that had once been the Gwydir Brewery premises in Gwydir Street. Dale's new brewery was a large three-storey building with the name 'Dale's Brewery' delineated in large wrought-iron letters around the roof.<sup>41</sup> The building still stands today.

Dale does not appear to have occupied the premises in Mill Road for very long and it seems from the street directories that he shared occupation of the building with George French.

According to the Census of England and Wales 1911 Frederick Dale was then living at 65 Lensfield Road with his wife, Edith, and son Guy (aged 12). They had a cook and a housemaid.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>40</sup> 1911 England and Wales census RG14-09125-0603-03 (www.Ancestry.co.uk)

<sup>41</sup> http://cambsantiques.com/history

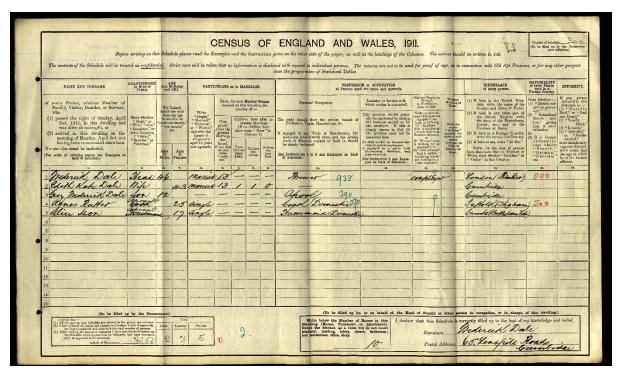


Figure 26 – 1911 census record showing Frederick Dale's household 42

Although Dale may not have occupied No. 175 for long, it seems that Dale's Brewery owned part of the premises for several decades. When Frederick Dale died in 1930, his son, Lieutenant Colonel Guy Frederick Dale, became the Company Chairman until the firm was taken over by Whitbread in 1954.<sup>43</sup> We know from a building byelaw plan (for a toilet) dated 1937<sup>44</sup> (see Appendix I) that Guy Dale owned part (possibly all) of No. 175 Mill Road then. A set of photographs included in an album of properties in the Cambridge area owned by Whitbread from the 1950s includes images of No. 175, and this suggests that these premises may have been owned by Dale's till at least the time that Dale's was taken over by Whitbread. According to Sara Payne, 45 George French sold his business and off-licence premises to Dale's when he retired. (Going by the street directory listings, it is likely that this was c.1934).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>42</sup> 1911 England and Wales census RG14-09125-0603-03 (www.ancestry.co.uk)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>43</sup> The takeover was reported in the *Morning Advertiser* for 23 June 1954. See also http://gwydir.demon.co.uk/jo/gwydir/dales.htm and http://cambsantiques.com/history 44 CA: KCB/2/SE/3/9/1231/23/3/1937.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>45</sup> Payne (1984), p. 74.

## 1935 - PRESENT DAY

Since George French's departure c.1934, the premises have seen many different occupants. Precise details of occupancy and information on ownership has been difficult to identify. It appears from the street directories that from c.1937 the building is likely to have been divided into two as from this point it is listed as 175 and 175a. The adjoining building in Catharine Street, which is presumed to have been part of the premises, starts to be numbered '1a Catharine Street' round about this time.

For ease of organisation, the remainder of this report discusses the two halves of the Mill Road premises and 1a Catharine Street as three separate entities.

The numbering of the two halves of the property at 175 Mill Road has varied over the decades since 1936. For the sake of simplicity, in the discussion below the eastern half, occupying the corner with Catharine Street, will be called '175a', and the western half '175b' – the nomenclature it had for half a century. But for the record, the following table shows how the two half-properties were numbered according to Spalding's and Kelly's Street Directories and planning permission documents:

Years	eastern half	western half
1936	175	
1937/38	175	175a
1938/39–1987	175a	175b
1988–Present	175a	175

## 175a MILL ROAD

#### P S WHITEHEAD, FRUITERER 1936-c.1955

[No information has been found so far about this business.]

## E WARD, FRUITERER c.1955-??

Two photographs, taken in about 1955, and included in an album of properties owned by the Whitbread company, constitute the only known evidence of the premises in the 1950s. It is not clear whether No. 175a was occupied by P S Whitehead or E Ward when the photograph was taken, which must have been shortly after Whitbread took the premises over in June 1954.



Figure 27 – 175a Mill Road and 1a Catharine Street (c.1955)<sup>46</sup>



Figure 28– Mill Road Nos. 171–175a Mill Road (Catharine Street) and 177 (c.1955)<sup>47</sup>

 $<sup>^{46}</sup>$  Whitbread & Co Ltd Public Houses, photographic album (CC: C.27.4 LS), vol. 2, p. 15.  $^{47}$  Whitbread & Co Ltd Public Houses, photographic album (CC: C.27.4 LS), vol. 2, p. 45.

In Figure 28 can be seen (left to right) G F Foster & Son (171), A & F Bowd, confectioners (173), Stevenson's Printing Service (175b), P S Whitehead or E Ward, fruiterer (175a), and across Catharine Street part of the Co-operative Store (177–81).

## J W CHRISTENSSEN, FRUITERER & GREENGROCER c.1962-c.1975

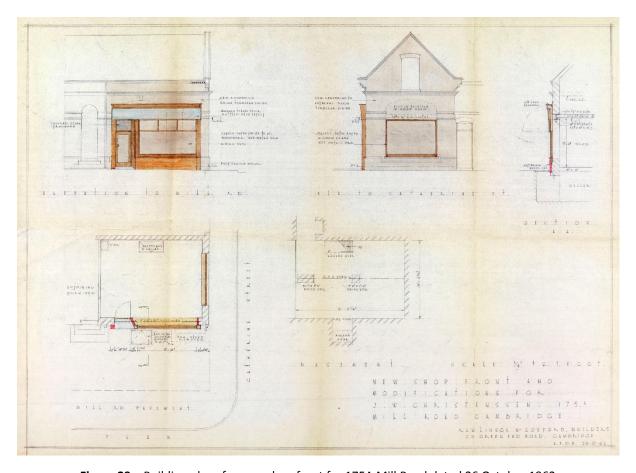


Figure 29 – Building plans for new shop front for 175A Mill Road dated 26 October 1962 (CA: KCB/2/SE/3/9/29083)

In 1962 J W Christenssen, owner and proprietor of No. 175a, submitted plans to alter the shop front. In the drawings (Figure 29) the outline of the original arched window and arched front entrance are just visible behind the proposed new shop front. The drawings of the new shop front show the front entrance repositioned from the right-hand side to the left-hand side, with a rectangular louvred glass transom above the door. A mosaic tiled fascia with mottled blue effect is shown above a rising sash window, with a sapele satin wood finish to the woodwork. The brickwork is shown rendered with a beige Tyrolean finish. Drawings of the side elevation facing Catharine Street show the original arched window head filled in and the brickwork rendered as for the front wall. The builders, named on the plans are Rawlinson & Cosford, builders of Green End Road, Cambridge.

A current employee of Hilary's who worked at the shop when it was Christenssen's recalls that 'there was a big window at the front which would be pulled up to sell their produce'. He also remembers that 'upstairs was gained by stairs at the back of the shop to the right as

you walk in and this area was used as storage. Now there is a side door in Catherine Street for the flat there.'

The greengrocery store in Figure 30, from Sara Payne's book, shows No. 175 in 1976. It is not known whether Christenssen still owned it at this time. The woman in the photograph is thought to be a Mrs Jean Hiner who either owned or managed the shop at the time. 48



Figure 30 – Shopping in Mill Road in 1976<sup>49</sup>

 $<sup>^{48}</sup>$  Communication with Tina Jones, Hilary's Wholesale, November 2015.  $^{49}$  Payne (1984), p. 53.

## **HILARY'S, GREENGROCER 1978-PRESENT**



Figure 31 – Stevenson's Printing Service, Hilary's and the Co-op, 1978 (CC: BM 71 K78 51232)

According to current employees of Hilary's, Christenssen sold his business to 'Colin and Hilary' (which explains the origins of the name). No further information to date has been found about this couple or their business, which appears to have been short-lived. According to the same source Colin and Hilary sold the business to an ex-policeman named Don Bates, and in 1978 the current owner Mrs Malik bought it. Figure 31 shows her shop with the display window fitted by the previous owner J W Christenssen. It also shows the rendering on the brickwork above the window (shown in Christenssen's plans) and painted brickwork below the window. In c.2004 Christenssen's shop front was replaced with the shop front that stands today. The sash window has been removed and replaced with a set of four glazed folding doors that open from the middle (see Figure 32). There is still a front door where the previous one was, on the left. The rendering and paintwork on the bricks has been removed to expose the original Cambridge bricks. On the side (facing Catharine Street) the window installed by Christenssen has been removed and replaced with a door (entrance to bedsit above?) and a window with six panes. (See Figures 33–34 below).



Figure 32 – Cut Price Carpets and Hilary's, 2015



**Figure 33** – Hilary's (side view) 2015<sup>50</sup>

Figures 32–33 by Joe Blyth.







Figure 34 – Colourful painted signs on No 175a, 2015<sup>51</sup>

Mrs Pankhania recalls Mrs Malik and her shop (probably in the early 1980s:<sup>52</sup>

There was a shop in ... There was a place in Cockburn Street, there is a place, yeah – a Pakistani lady used to live there, and she had a fruit shop; and I used to go and buy my fruit from there. And she said: 'Come end of the day'. I was wondering why she said 'Come end of the day', and she used to give me boxes of fruit. And I said to her: 'if it's gone off I don't want it'; she said: 'No, it's good – we can't sell it'. And she used to give ... and some days she laughed because I [told her to stop it??]. You know, people were so nice in those days. Nowadays they'd rather throw tons and tons of fruit away. — *Interviewer: Her shop wasn't in the street, though, was it?* — It was on Mill Road – I think it's still on Mill Road. But like, me being Indian and she being same colour – she's a Pakistani lady – in those days we didn't think about colour or anything, you just made friends.

A careful look at Figure 36 provides a glimpse of Mrs Malik and some of her relatives from Pakistan in the doorway of her shop. 53

The City Council Planning Register shows that on 4 September 1987<sup>54</sup> permission was granted for conversion of the first-floor storage area to a bedsit. The records confirm that the owner was Mrs Malik. Evidence of the renovations are visible from the outside with two skylight windows in the roof facing Mill Road and two single casement windows where the shuttered window with the winch once was on the side overlooking Catharine Street.

<sup>52</sup> Interview conducted by Linda Cockburn 1 September 2014.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>51</sup> Photographs by Joe Blyth.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>53</sup> Communication with Tina Jones, Hilary's Wholesale, November 2015.

<sup>54</sup> https://idox.camb<u>ridge.gov.uk/online-applications/</u>

## 175b MILL ROAD

#### RADIO SERVICE c.1937-c.1948

[No information has been found to date about this business which is likely to have sold and repaired radio sets.]

## UPHOLSTERER (Arthur Ambrose) c.1948-c.1952

[No information has been found so far about this business.]

#### STEVENSON'S PRINTING SERVICE 1953-c.1988

No information had been found about this business. The only known evidence is contained in the following photograph from the Whitbread Album.



Figure 35 – 175a & b Mill Road (c.1955)<sup>55</sup>

In Figure 35, 'Stevenson's Printers can clearly be read across the window of No. 175b. No. 175a is not labelled, but must have been either P S Whitehead or E Ward, fruiterer (since the shop changed hands in 1955).

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>55</sup> Whitbread & Co Ltd Public Houses, photographic album (CC: C.27.4 LS), vol. 2, p. 45.

#### **ALTERATIONS TO PREMISES 1988**

In November 1988 permission was granted from the City Council for a 'change of use to offices (class B1) (ground floor) and conversion and extension to form 2 No bedsits (the first floor.)'<sup>56</sup> This permission was granted to Mr R Pascuzzi. Up until this point this part of the building was still a single-storey building (with cellar). The previous year the loft space above No. 175a had been converted into a bedsit (see above). It is not known what business operated from here once the change of use had been permitted. Presumably it was around this time that Stevenson's Printing Service closed.

#### CORAL, BOOKMAKER 1988 or 1989-c.2000

Coral is reported to have opened its betting shop in mid-1988. Doubt is cast on this by the granting of permission for a further change of use 'of ground floor from office (class B1) to financial and professional services (A2)' the following year, in August 1989. (Again the permission was granted to owner, R Pascuzzi.<sup>57</sup>) It is unclear whether Coral could have conducted business on these premises before the latter permission was granted. To add more doubt about Coral opening there in 1988, the Cambridge Telephone Directory lists Stevenson's Printers still at this address in March 1989. (It is not listed beyond this date; however, for reasons unknown, Coral is not listed here either).

Whether it opened in 1988 or in 1989, the shop was inaugurated by the world-famous race horse Red Rum. Figure 36 shows the horse outside the shop, Figure 37 shows him inside, affording a rare glimpse of a shop interior décor.

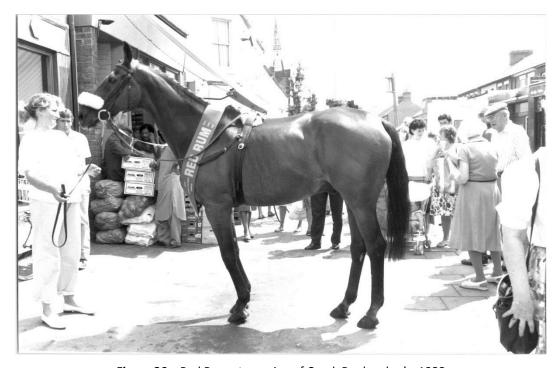


Figure 36 – Red Rum at opening of Coral, Bookmaker's, 1988 (CC: B.Mill K90 41731000)

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<sup>56</sup> https://idox.cambridge.gov.uk/online-applications/

https://idox.camb<u>ridge.gov.uk/online-applications/</u>



Figure 37 – Red Rum at opening of Coral, Bookmaker's, 1988 (Cut Price Carpets)

## **CUT PRICE CARPETS 2000-PRESENT**

Cut Price Carpets opened in 2000 and is run by John and Irene Ball, who rent the shop from Mr Romeo Pascuzzi. $^{58}$ 



Figure 38 – Cut Price Carpets and Hilary's greengrocers, 2015<sup>59</sup>

 $<sup>^{\</sup>rm 58}$  Conversations with Paul Allen and Irene Ball from Cut Price Carpets 2015.

## 1a CATHARINE STREET

The 1910 Land Value map (shown earlier in this report) shows the adjoining building behind No. 175 on Catharine Street as part of 175's premises. Street directories suggest that from 1895 this building was an off-licence. In 1895 it was run by Arthur W Searle (presumably the same Arthur Searle who managed the Unicorn Bakery up until 1891). He is identified as a 'beer retailer' in the 1895 Street Directory.

The image below of Ward's greengrocery store shown earlier in the report is displayed again here to draw attention to the buildings on Catharine Street. The single-storey building with the arched window immediately behind No. 175a is likely to have been the off-licence premises.



Figure 39 – 175a Mill Road and 1a Catharine Street (c.1955)<sup>60</sup>

The Register of Licences<sup>61</sup> shows that 1 Catharine Street was granted a licence in 1897 (though possibly not for the first time) and was owned by Mrs Agnes McQuaid. (As discussed previously, Mrs McQuaid purchased No. 175 Mill Road from her bankrupt brother Robert Martin Ivatt in 1895). The licensees at the time are identified as Henry John Gibbs and George Warren Bindloss (from Jarman's Brewery in Meldreth, as discussed earlier). It is assumed that the building referred to here is the building adjoining the back of No. 175 Mill Road accessed from Catharine Street, but there seems to be some confusion over the numbering in this part of the street. The No. 1 Catharine Street referred to in the sales particulars shown earlier in this report, which was once owned by Ivatt, and purchased by

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>59</sup> Photograph by Joe Blyth.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>60</sup> Whitbread & Co Ltd Public Houses, photographic album (CC: C.27.4 LS), vol. 2, p. 45.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>61</sup> Register of licences Petty Sessions, CA: S/C75/182-288, vols 1, 2, 3.

Mr Miller in 1895, is not likely to have been the same building as the No. 1 referred to in the Register of Licences, as building plans<sup>62</sup> show it to be a two-storey, semi-detached property unlike the single-storey building adjoining No. 175 Mill Road.

According to the Register of Licences, Mrs McQuaid owned the off-licence at 1 Catharine Street from 1897 to 1926, and Frederick Dale owned it from 1926. This information seems to contradict the Land Value Records of 1910 which suggest that Frederick Dale owned it in 1910.

By 1913 Jonas Chapman is the beer retailer here and remains so till at least 1940. In November 1918 Jonas Chapman was 44 and married. A report in the *Cambridge Daily News*<sup>63</sup> (just six days before the Armistice) mentions his name amongst other Cambridge conscientious objectors who were granted three months exemption from serving if they paid £50. His occupation is mentioned here as 'off-licence holder and furniture remover'.

During the period 1895 to 1940 the building is not given a number. In the street directories it is listed under Catharine Street, between No. 1 Catharine Street and Mill Road, beside a 'stable and stores'. For example in 1895 it appears as follows:

1 Catharine St, King Mrs Susan, Laundress Stables and stores Searle, Arthur W, beer retailer Here is Mill Road

Sometime between 1940 and 1948 it started to be identified as '1a' and the 'stables and stores' no longer appears on the list. Were they demolished or did they become part of 1a? (or was it decided not to record them?).

Kelly's Street Directories from 1948 to 1975 identify Charles Plumb as the beer retailer at No. 1a Catharine Street. It is thought that he ran the off-licence there for Whitbread's brewery:



Figure 40 – Charles Plumb at his Off-License in Catharine Street, 1981<sup>64</sup>

<sup>63</sup> BNA: *CDN*, 5 November 1918.

<sup>64</sup> Payne (1984), p. 74.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>62</sup> CA: KCB/2/SE/3/9/827.

On 25 February 1987 approval was granted by the City Council for 'redevelopment of the site by the erection of a 2 storey building containing one retail unit, one bedsit and three one bedroomed flats'. The approval was given to D & R Pascuzzi c/o Hilton Surveys. 65 (Pascuzzi also owned and still owns No. 175b Mill Road).

During the 1990s or early 2000s there was a spectacle shop on the site. There is no retail unit on the site today, and it appears to have been converted into ground-floor flats or bedsits.



Figure 41 – Hilary's: side elevation on Catharine Street, 2015

Figure 41 shows recent redevelopment of the buildings adjoining No. 175a Mill Road on Catharine Street, 2015. Figure 42 shows the same view in the 1950s before redevelopment.<sup>67</sup>



Figure 42 – 175a Mill Road and 1a Catharine Street (c.1955)

<sup>65</sup> https://idox.cambridge.gov.uk/online-applications/ 66 Photograph by Joe Blyth.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>67</sup> Whitbread & Co Ltd Public Houses, photographic album (CC: C.27.4 LS), vol. 2, p. 45.

## **APPENDIX I**

# Occupancy of 175/a/b Mill Road and 1/1a Catharine Street

# (from Spalding's and Kelly's street directories)

175/175a/175b Mill Road	1/1a Catharine Street
1887 (Spalding's)	
Here is Catharine Street	
Unicorn Trading Compy's. new premises	
Searle, A.W., manager	
Garden	
Parmenter, Edward, railway fireman, Cornard House	
Mansfield, Thomas, carpenter, Clare House	
1891	
Searle, A.W., agent	
Unicorn Trading Company (model bakery) bakers, pastry	
cooks, confectioners, beer sellers, flour and corn dealers and	
general merchants, and at Cottenham, Cambs	
Goodliffe, Leonard, manager	1005
1895	1895
175 Jarman, and Co., brewers and beer retailers 174 French, George Henry, corn and seed merchant	1 Catharine St, King Mrs Susan, Laundresss Stable and stores
Webster, J., manager	Searle, Arthur W., beer retailer
webster, J., manager	Here is Mill Road
1898, 1901	Tiere is will nodu
175 Jarman, and Co., brewers and beer retailers	
174 French, George Henry, corn and seed merchant	
Easy, Fred., manager	
1904	
175 Jarman, and Co., brewers and beer retailers	
174 French, George Henry, corn and seed merchant	
Easy, Frederick, manager	
1907, 1910, 1911	
175 & 174 French, George Henry, corn and seed merchant,	
and at 173, East Road	
Easy, Frederick, manager	
1909/10 (Dale's)	
175 French. George Henry, corn and seed merchant	
Dale, Frederick	
Bilton, William	
1912–1915	1913, 1915
175 & 174 French, George Henry, corn and seed merchant,	Catharine St., Miller, Benjamin, bricklayer
and at 173, East Road 308	Stables and stores
Easy, Frederick, manager	Chapman J., beer retailer
1916/17 - 1924/25	1919/20
175 French, G. H. & Sons, corn and seed merchants, and at 173 and 174, East Road <b>308</b>	1 Catharine St., Miller, Benjamin, machinist Stables and stores
Easy, Frederick, manager	Chapman J., beer retailer
1925/26 – 1930/31	1927/28
175 French, G. H. & Sons, corn and seed merchants 308	1 Catharine St., Foster, Mrs H. E.
Easy, Frederick, manager	Stables and stores
	Chapman J., beer retailer

1925/26 – 1930/31	1929/30, 1931/32, 1932/33
175 French, G. H. & Sons, corn and seed merchants 308	1 Catharine St., Mrs Futter
Easy, Frederick, <i>manager</i>	Stable and stores
11,, 11111, 1, 1119	Chapman J., beer retailer
1932/33, 1933/34	,
175 French, G. H. & Sons, corn and seed merchants 308	
Thompson, W., manager	
1934/35, 1935/36	1934/35, 1935/36
175 — [i.e. unoccupied]	1 Catharine St., Mrs Wright
	Stables and stores
	Chapman J., beer retailer
1936/37	1936/37
175 Whitehead, P.S., fruiterer	1 Catharine St., Mrs Wright
	Stables and stores
	Chapman J., beer retailer
1937/38	1937/38
175 Whitehead, P.S., fruiterer	1 Catharine St., Maltby C.L., mechanic
175a Radio Service 87684	Stables and stores
	Chapman J., beer retailer
1938/39, 1939/40	1940
175a Whitehead, P.S., fruiterer	Chapman J
175b Radio Service 87684	
[wartime]	[wartime]
1948, 1951 (Kelly's)	1948 (Kelly's)
175a, Whitehead, Mrs. P.S. fruitr	1a Catharine St., Plumb, Chas., beer retlr.
175b Ambrose Arth. upholsterer	
1953, 1955	
175a, Whitehead, Mrs. P.S. fruitr	
175b Stevenson's Printing Service	
1957, 1960	
175a, Ward E. fruitr	
175b Stevenson's Printing Service	
1962, 1964	
here is Catharine st	
175a, Christenssen J. fruiter & greengrocer	
175b Stevenson's Printing Service	
1965/66, 1967	1965/66
175a, Christenssen J.W. fruiter	1a Catharine St., Plumb Hbt. Chas., beer retlr.
175b Stevenson's Printing Service	
1968	1968
175a, Christenssen J.W. fruiter	1a Catharine St., Plumb Herbt. Chas., beer retlr.
175b Stevenson's Printing Service	
1969–1975	1975
175a, Christenssen J.W. fruiter	1a Catharine St., Plumb Herbt
175b Stevenson's Printing Service	

## **APPENDIX II**

## **Building Plans 1937**

Building plans submitted by Guy Dale for a toilet at No. 175 Mill Road, which were approved on 10 February 1937.

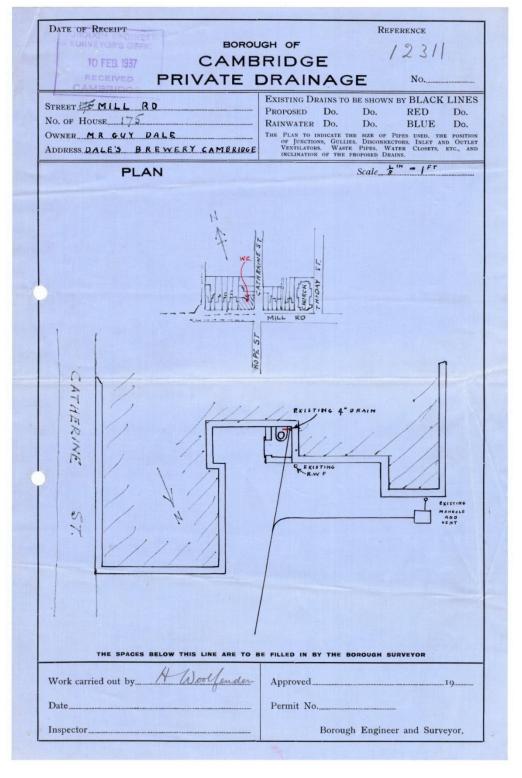


Figure 43 — Building Plans for toilet 1937 (CA: CB 2 SE 3 9 12311.1)

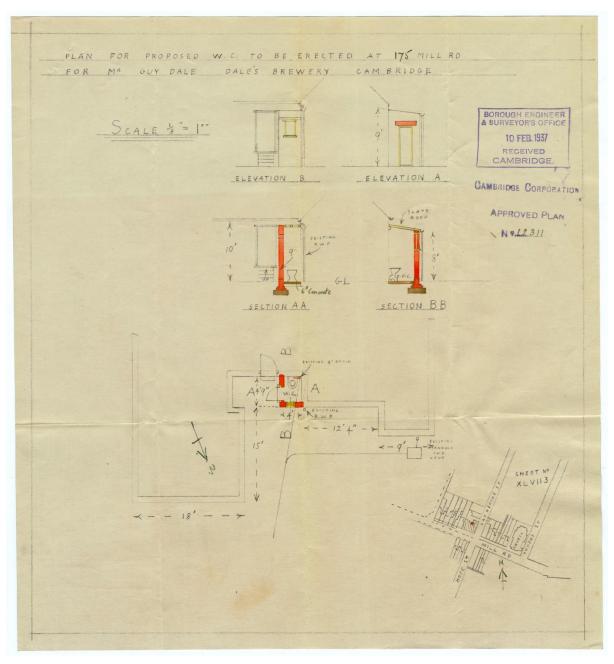


Figure 44 – Building Plans for toilet (1937) (CA: CB 2 SE 3 9 12311.2)

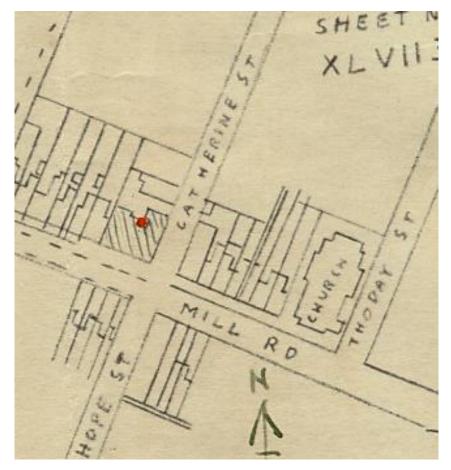


Figure 45 – Block Plan: detail from Figure 44

The detail from the building plan shown in Figure 44 shows the outline of the premises and location of proposed toilet.

## **APPENDIX III**

Mill Road Bridge: Opening Ceremony on 1 August 1889

## THURSDAY, AUGUST 1, 1889. OPENING OF THE MILL ROAD BRIDGE. This long-looked for event took place this morning in the presence of about 200 spectators. At about half-past ten an open carriage containing Mr. C. Balls and Mr. H. T. Hall drove over the bridge towards Romsey Town, and turning back again stopped on the middle of the bridge. Amongst the company assembled were Messer. W. R. Bright (station master), C. W. Palmer (clerk to the Improvement Commissioners), E. W. Harry (borough surveyor), J. Wheatson, Geullond, &c. Mr. C. Balls, having declared the bridge open to the public for ever, briefly spoke as to the great inconvenience the people in the neighbourhood of Mill-road had endured for many years. He also mentioned a few facts with regard to the Hills-road bridge. Before long he hoped to see that bridge re-built, as it was st present in a dangerous state. He was very pleased to say that the plans for that work were placed in the office of the Commissioners that morning. Cheers having been given for Mr. Balls, an attempt was made to return, but the horse refused to move. As the gentlemen in the carriage were in rather a dangerous position, they at last stepped out and walked to witness the opening of Tennisonroad. The bridge—the building of which was com-menced at the beginning of this year—will cost about some thousands (including the purchase of property, &c). It is 300 it. long and 30 ft. wide. The span over the railway is 81 ft., and the structure has six arches on each side. The brickwork was erected by Messrs. Holme and King, of Liverpool, under the able superintendence of Mr. Denley. Messrs. Ives and Barker, of Darlington, erected the It is acknowledged by the Chief Engineer of the Works to be the finest overhead bridge on the G.E.R.

**Figure 46** – *CDN*, 1 August 1889

THE MILL-ROAD BRIDGE.—We understand that it is probable the Mill-road bridge, which has been in hand so many months, is likely to be opened to the public in the early part of August—probably on the first of the month. Messrs. Holmes and King, who did the brick-work with surprising rapidity, hope to finish their portion of the contract, including the making of the road and tar-paths, by the end of this week, and with the iron-work also very forward, weary pedestrians may hope very soon to have the clong-desired privilege of walking over the line uninterrupted by the gates, which have been so long a terrible hindrance to business men going in that direction.

Figure 47 – CDN, 26 July 1889

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