

THE BLUE ANCHOR, 1422 HIGH ROAD, N20

Notes by John Heathfield

Note: In the following: admitted = registered owner of,
mess = messuage (dwelling house),
surr = sold

The Blue Anchor was built on land formerly belonging to the Duke of Chandos (hence Chandos Avenue). He was also Marquis of Buckingham, (hence Buckingham Avenue).

1756

In 1756 the War Office needed to know how many troops could be billeted out and a billeting return was drawn up. This is the first reference we have to the Blue Anchor. This shows the publican as S Edwards and room for 1 horse and 1 soldier. This suggests that it was essentially a beerhouse, that is one selling beer from a barrel in the front room.

1772

The other early references are in the Friern Barnet Court Rolls. These show that in 1772, John Sleath sold the Anchor with stables & outhouses - - north of the copyhold premises of Thomas Gannell and south of those James Pritchard and the Duke of Chandos - to Nathaniel Carter, victualler, and James Pritchard.

They go on: -

1780

Nat Carter left the Anchor to his daughters Mary and Lydia Carter.

1790

The Carter sisters sold the Anchor to George Whittingstall, brewer

1822

Whittingstall sold the Anchor to Edwin Fearnley.

1827

The 1827 Licensed Victualler's return - Isaac Taylor shown as licensee Blue Anchor.

1841

By 1841 the pub was run by Charles & Elizabeth Woodward, who employed 5 servants as bar maids etc and had 9 lodgers, all agricultural labourers.

1851

Their son William had taken over by 1851.

1875-6

It was rebuilt and enlarged about 1875/6 by Sedgewick & Co later part of the Benskins brewery group.

The 1881 census shows

1881

Isaac Goodwin aged 51 publican born in Bedford. Wife Mary, James, Isaac (horse dealer), George (coal merchant), and three more sons, of whom William was deaf

and dumb. Harry Appleby aged 18 a labourer, born in Yorkshire, was one of 3 lodgers.

1895

A planning application for 'additions'

1935

In 1935 Charles Cutler was landlord.

1905

About a hundred years ago, cycling was a very popular hobby, partly because it was deemed a suitable activity for ladies. The Cyclists Touring Club recommended various places for rest and refreshment. The Anchor was one of these and displayed a CTC roundel from 1905.

1982

In 1982, the building was demolished. A series of drawings was made and these are on file at Barnet Museum.