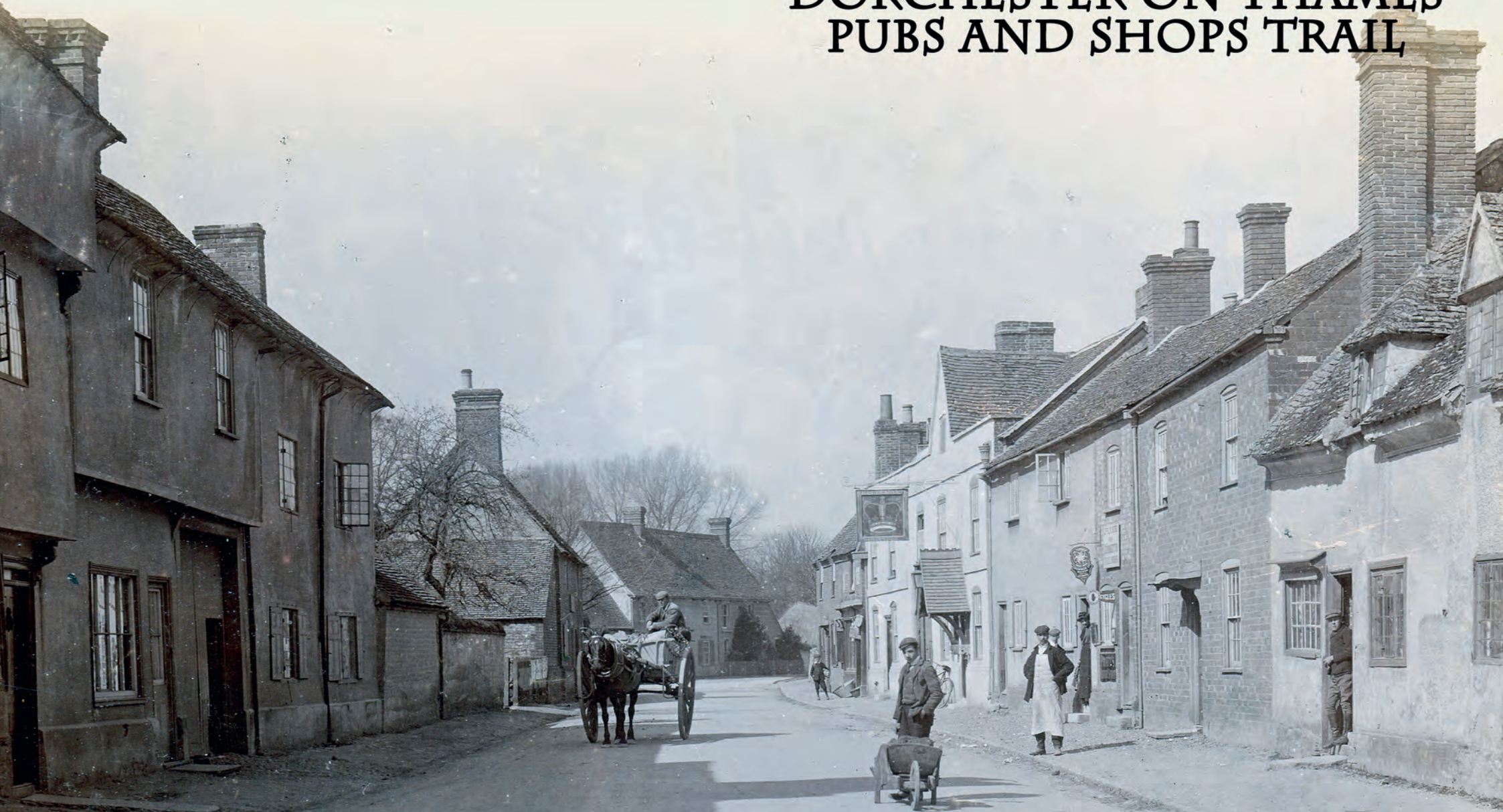


# DORCHESTER ON THAMES PUBS AND SHOPS TRAIL



The content of this trail guide has been prepared by  
Dorchester Historical Society, as part of an ongoing research project,  
using many local sources, published and unpublished, oral and written,  
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A WALK AROUND AN  
HISTORIC OXFORDSHIRE VILLAGE



# Dorchester shops and pubs trail

## Key and information for locations on map

Dorchester was once an important coaching stop between London and Oxford, and the High Street was the main road before the by-pass was built in 1982. The village was largely self-sufficient in food and services, and many of the trades reflected the needs of the main occupation – agriculture – and tourism. Very few of these remain in business. This list is a selection of businesses operating in Dorchester over the past century or so. Your walk will show you how few are still in business, and how many have been converted into private dwellings.

1. **Plough Public House:** Corner Abingdon Road and High Street, now private dwelling

2. No 73 High Street, **Willoughby House**, formerly **Ray Belcher's Dairy** (milk was delivered there), also sold vegetables



**3. Atkins Butchers**

3. No 65 High Street, **Hair and Body Workshop**, formerly **Atkins Butchers** and slaughterhouse

4. No 63 High St, **Mr Greenaway's Coal Merchants**, now a private house

**WW2  
American  
Airmen at  
The Plough**

5. Nos 57 and 59 High Street, **Bull Inn** (Bulleyn), now two private houses

6. No 55 High Street, North Gate House, formerly **Green's Yard (Tommy Green, painter and decorator)** and **Ottrey Antiques**, before that extension of Bull Inn

7. Beechcroft, High Street, formerly **Beech House**, private house (Hatts, Mrs Hatt sold ice cream), then Hotel until ca 1970s

8. **Forge Filling station** (pavement corner of Malthouse and High Street, in front of No. 47), run by Pratt family, previously McPherson, Bailey (see also back of White Hart)



**8. Area outside Old Village Hall, nr Coop**

9. No. 43, **Co-op** since 1914, managers Mr Ward, Mr Galsworthy, others

**1. The Plough**



25. **Exon's bakery**, now part of **White Hart**, bakers Mr Bullock, Douglas Exon (also Parish Council, bell tower captain), Mr Strudwick worked there,

26. **The Old College**, now private houses, formerly Hallidays' Antiques, Mrs Nash's guesthouse (WW2), temporary school (WW2) and Missionary College



**25. Exon's Bakery**

**24. White Hart**

**24. Macpherson's Garage**

27. No 14 High Street, now private houses, formerly **Post Office**, originally both sides of arch, grocery, general store (Gardiners (Mrs G and William for many years), Abbey Weavers on left side in 1960s.

28. No 8 High Street, Lychgate Cottage, now a private house, also previously photographer's

29. Down Malthouse Lane on right, Malthouse cottages, formerly Jordan's **wheelwright, Leonard Kenny blacksmith, Forge Engineering** (Pratt's Yard - garage)



**27. on left, post office;  
11. on right, Mrs Goodwin's  
Haberdashery**

30. No 8 Rotten Row, **Farmer's Man** pub, now a private house

31. No 4 Bridge End and 1A-1B High Street, **Mr Brown's garage and shop**, now private houses, also formerly **antiques**.

32. No 6 Bridge End, **Castle Inn**, replaced earlier Castle pub, now private house (the Old Castle)

33. No 20 Bridge End, **Chequers Inn** (formerly run by Tame family), now private house

34. Waterloo, Bridge End, formerly **Mr Cobb's boat hire business**



**High St looking south  
Left**

**20. The Stores**

**21. Crown Inn**

**22. The White Hart**

**Right**

**3. Atkins Butchers**

**5. Bull Inn**

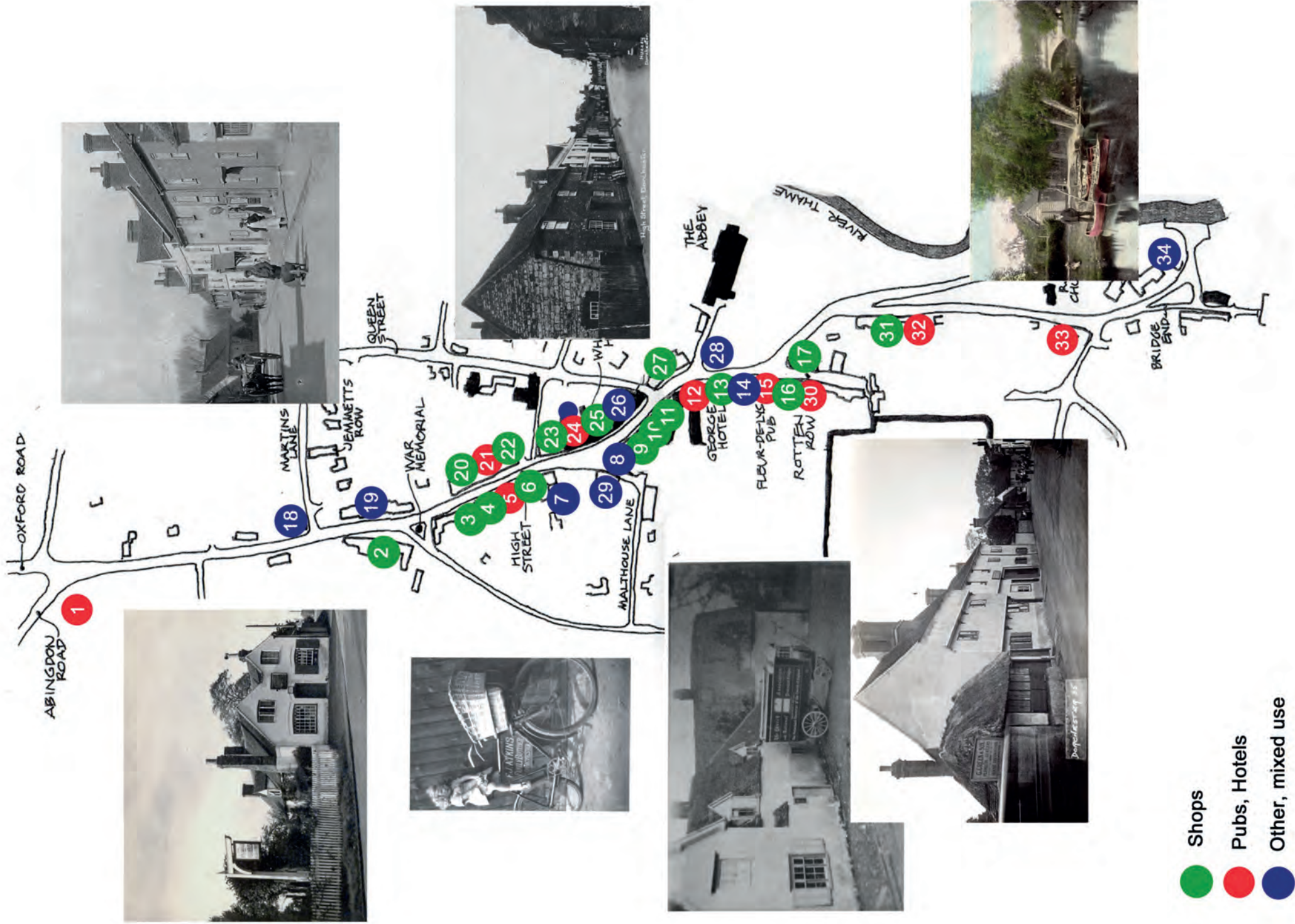


**8. Forge Filling Station; Pratts Trailers**



**34. Waterloo, Bridge End – Mr Cobb's Boat Hire business**







18. Corner High Street/Martins Lane, **the Old Forge, formerly The Lilacs** (up to late 1940s), had been farm, was requisitioned for local families, Miss Cadell (teacher at boys' school) delivered milk on tricycle

19. **Tegg's Garage**, now Nos 62-70 High Street, five private houses, see Roman pots in Museum found there in 1930s

20. No 51a High Street, **The Stores**, now private house, Fletcher, Huzzey, into 1950s, (see plaque in Birinus chapel), Waldegrave, Hancock

21. Nos 46-52 High Street, **Crown Inn** (Mrs Wichelo early 20thC), now private houses, footpath to Queen Street runs through former inn yard, band hut behind inn now a private house

22. No 40 High Street, **Cycle shop**, Mr Tinson

23. No 28 High Street, **Lily's** formerly **Dorchester Fireplaces**, antiques, and **Jennifer's** greengrocers

24. **White Hart Hotel**, McPherson's car hire and garage at back



25. **Exon's bakery**



32. **Castle Inn**  
31. **Mr Brown's garage & shop**

**High St looking north**  
**Right**

22. **Cycle Shop**, 21. **Crown**, 20. **The Stores**

**Left (ahead)**

2. **Willoughby House**



14. **Swadling's Carriers & Tickets**

10. No 37 High Street, **The Nook**, now a private house, formerly gift shop, Uptons

11. No 31 High Street, now private house, formerly **Mrs Goodwin's haberdashers**, Mary Goodwin's father was a cobbler.

12. **The George Hotel**, long-time inn and hotel, now well-known for Midsomer Murders

13. No 23 High Street, left of George hotel alleyway, **Farriers Cottages**, formerly **Mr Edward Nash's general stores**, ironmongers, etc. (previously **Mrs Cobb's**), now part of George Hotel, **Massage Matters** now in alleyway.

14. No 11 High Street, (pink house next to Fleur) formerly **Swadling's** carriers and tickets, bus stop, now private house

15. **Fleur de Lys Inn**

16. No 5-7 High Street, **The Pigeons**, now private house, formerly tea room, restaurant, antiques, gallery, printing press, weavers.

17. No 3 High Street, **Dorchester Fireplaces**, formerly **Shambles Antiques**, previously **butchers** and **shambles** (successively Bannister, Mapes, Lester, Townsend).



12. **The George**  
13. **Nash's Shop**



**Left**

6. **Green's Yard & Ottery Antiques**

5. **Bull Inn**

**Right**

21. **Crown Inn**



**Left**

15. **The Fleur de Lys**

14. **Swadling's**

13. **Nash's Shop**

12. **The George**

**Right (ahead)**

27. **Post Office**