

SUTTON – THEN & NOW – PART 1



1.

Glynn Whiteoak collection

This view of Sutton is one of the earliest of the village and probably dates from the late 1870's. On the left is the Bull Bridge, which is just about wide enough to allow a cart to pass. Greenroyd Mill still has a pitched roof. Bailey Haigh was the landlord of the Black Bull Inn on the right, the family retained the pub for four generations over a period of a hundred years.



2

Glyn Whiteoak collection

The above photograph, of about 1910, shows further changes. The Bridge has been widened and a new wall with railings have been built. The tall chimney to the left of Craven House is that of W & JR Thompson's peg and lag shop at Rosemount, (the wood turners was moved to Holme Lane about 1922). A new footway has also been formed from the Bull to the King's Arms.



3.

R. Longbottom collection

This photograph was taken in the 1930's, Thompson's chimney has gone and a garage (behind the car) has been built at Rose Cottage (now Alister House) for Jimmy Laycock's motor car. It had the benefit of gas lighting, a pit for a mechanic and it's own boiler house and central heating. The sign on the King's Arms wall advertises *Bentley's Yorkshire Breweries Ltd Pure Ales*.



During the 20th century the Bull Bridge was widened so much that it is now hardly recognisable as a bridge. An additional storey was been added to Greenroyd Mill, a house built at Rose Mount (right of Craven House centre) and a new house at the corner of Ash Grove. Street lamps, road signs, street names, road markings and telephone wires are small but visible changes.



4.

Glynn Whiteoak collection

Looking from Craven House with the King's Arms Inn on the left and the Black Bull Inn at the centre. The cart shed opposite the Bull was pulled down to widen the bridge and rebuilt on the low side of the inn. The King's Arms was built in the 1850's by William Longbottom, who relocated it from King's Court. The old Manor House was two cottages, the top one was incorporated into the King's Arms in the early 1900's. The photograph is possibly taken at the same time as picture 1.



The scene today has changed little with the exception that the Bull Bridge and beck are no longer visible and pushing a child in a pram up the middle of the High Street is now a thing of the past.



5.

Glynn Whiteoak collection

Greenroyd Mill was built in 1791 as a cotton mill, but had changed to worsted spinning by 1805. After the death of the first tenant, Robert Hodgson, in 1807, it was tenanted by Peter Hartley, the Hartley family eventually bought it in 1861. The old mill building on the right has yet to have an additional storey and parapet roof added.



Spinning is now a thing of the past and the mill has been converted into residential apartments.



6.

Leonard Davy collection

Greenroyd Mill from Rose Mount. In 1834 John Hartley bought a 112 spindle spinning frame from William Longbottom, Sutton machine maker and innkeeper, at a cost of £92 - 8 shillings, when the machine was installed he supplied 5 gallons of ale to celebrate 'footing the frame'. In 1935 the mill was running 12,400 spindles and 7 combing machines and producing hosiery and knitting yarns.



The Mill has now been stone cleaned and extra windows introduced to give light into the new flats.



7.

Glyn Whiteoak Collection

A view up the High Street (originally Towngate). The corner shop shown on the left was a grocers in the 1950's and 60's and run by Ivan Spence of Steeton. In 1960 there were five shops on the left of the street, Spence's grocers, Tim Pighill's butchers, Mr Seymour's bakers shop, Mrs Stirk's haberdashery and Gladys Ingham's sweet shop and store, whilst on the right at the very top, with the twin gables, was the Co-operative store.



The corner shop closed its doors in the 1990's and today there are no shops left in the High Street .



8.

Leonard Davy collection

Lister Hill off the High Street. Prince Ratcliffe, a well known Sutton character, lived in the first cottage on the left, he wore clogs all his life apart from during his service during the Great War. The telegraph pole was one of many in the village, but private telephones were still uncommon in the 1960's and many households had to share a line, making a private call almost impossible.



The two cottages are now one house and the multiple telephone wires have gone.



9.

Leonard Davy collection

Rosewood Square. Seymour's bakers shop is on the left. Mr. Seymour came to fame when he blew the shop up about 1960, he had turned the gas ovens on and then gone for matches, when he eventually struck a match the whole shop went up, fortunately he was not seriously hurt.



Tim Pighills moved his butchers shop from the High Street into the bakers after Mr. Seymour relocated to Holme Bridge. The property is now a house.



10.

Glyn Whiteoak collection

This group of boys in the High Street have been playing with their hoops and guiders and have paused to pose for the photographer. By the 1950's hoops and guiders were a thing of the past but you could still buy a whip and top from Mrs Stirk's haberdashery in High Street, chalk it up and whip it along the pavement. The enlargement below shows the hoops a little more clearly.





11.

Glyn Whiteoak Collection

High Street, Sutton. On the right of centre is a street vendor's waggon and horse. Into the 1960's Sutton had a number of 'mobile shops'. Raymond Ridsdale from Low Fold and Fred Morrell from Harper Square had vans and sold fruit and vegetables around the district. Ronnie Holmes came once a week from Steeton with his butcher's van and as did Hoyle's 'pop' waggon from Keighley. In the 1970's a fish van brought fresh fish from Fleetwood.



Motor cars are now the central feature of the High Street and the street vendors are long gone.



12.

Leonard Davy collection

About 1832 William Longbottom opened the King's Arms Inn at the house in the centre of the photograph. Beer was brewed in a small stone brew house, that still stands at the rear. The inn remained here until he purchased the cottages and croft on the corner of High Street and North Road in 1854 and built the present pub.



The scene today remains very much unchanged apart from the cottages to the right of the garage roof which have been demolished.



13.

Glyn Whiteoak Collection

The two old cottages centre and right dated back to the 17th century and stood in King's Court until the late 1960's when they were demolished.



Today only the shadow on the gable remains of the cottages and there is no sign at all of the 'privvies' that once stood in the foreground.



14.

Glyn Whiteoak Collection

The top o't town, known as Towngate, as it appeared before John Willie Hartley demolished the cottages to improve the entrance to Sutton Hall. The gas lamp was known as 'Owd Jumbo' and was also destined for removal and was replaced with a grand three armed column with lamps and water a fountain, which in turn was also removed.



The dormer bungalow at Towngate was built by Fred Morrell in the early 1930's



15.

Andrew Monkhouse Collection

Looking across Fall Bridge to the Bay Horse Inn and farm. The two buildings between the copper beech tree and the inn were once occupied as a butchers shop and a fish and chip shop. The butchers shop was run by Willie Riley and the fish and chip shop by David Coleman. On the right of the photograph is the water fountain and lamp standard which replaced 'Owd Jumbo'.



Willie Riley's butchers shop has gone and David Coleman relocated his fish and chip shop to the King's Arms yard, where it remained for many years until it too finally closed down. The modern lamp column and 'dayglow' road sign are a poor substitute for the fine Victorian water fountain which was broken up just after the end of the Second World War.



16.

Leonard Davy collection

Looking from the Bay Horse across Fall Bridge with the 'Top Co-op' on the left with its twin gables and the gable of Mary Ingham's shop to the right of it, the large advertisement was for Brook Bond Tea. To the right of the shop are the cottages and barn of Daisy Place.



The scene remains very much unchanged, although a car park has been made for the Bay Horse Inn and tree growth has obscured the cottages at Daisy Place.



17.

Glyn Whiteoak collection

This group of properties was once known as The Fold. The fine Georgian house on the left had been the home of Richard Walters Harper, whose family gave their name to Harper Square. The Baptist Church once met here and in the 1840's William Fawcett, Minister of the Gospel, resided at the property. In 1891 the house was occupied by Thomas Parker, a retired police constable, and this may well be him standing in the gateway in his smoking cap.



Richard Walters Harper's house was converted into three dwellings by John Willie Hartley about 1900 and only the ground floor windows are now recognisable. The other dwellings were demolished at the same time.



18.

R. Longbottom collection

This property, together with a nearby row of four dwellings and the properties on Overburn Road, were known as New Market. The house and buildings stood just to the rear of the left hand lodge at Hall Drive. The lane between the field wall and the buildings lead up to Sutton House.



This house in Hall Drive, although not quite on the footprint of the property in the top photograph, follows an almost identical layout and relationship to it.



19.

Glyn Whiteoak collection

These four houses, formed part of the area called New Market and stood to the front of the present left hand lodge as you approach Hall Drive. They were demolished as part of the Sutton Hall development.



Nothing remains of the four cottages in New market although the present ballister wall still follows the approximate line of the old garden wall.



20.

Glyn Whiteoak collection

A view of Sutton House about 1890. A two storey building with an upper 'taking in door' is just visible through the trees, this structure spanned the beck and was demolished by John Willie Hartley, leaving the base to form a bridge so that the house could be accessed from Ellers Road. On the left is the barn and stable block to the house.



The field is now built over by the Hall Estate and only the roof top of Sutton House can now be seen between the two houses.



21.

R Longbottom collection

The main entrance to the Sutton Hall Estate. The four cottages of New Market stood somewhere forward of the lodge on the left. The wrought iron gates were made by Wilson Davy, the father of Leonard Davy who photographed the village in the 1950's and 60's.



The wrought iron gates were removed during World War II, but were saved from the melting pot by a Keighley dealer called Harry Bairstow who later sold them to Keighley Corporation. They are now on the Skipton Road entrance to Cliffe Castle park and house in Keighley.



22.

Glyn Whiteoak collection

Sutton Hall was built by John Willie Hartley, worsted spinner of Greenroyd Mill, Sutton. The house was only occupied for a short period and never fully completed internally. During World War II it was used as flats and then demolished. The cellars were open to the sky into the 1960's and became a favoured playground for local children.



Nothing now remains of the Hall and its estate with the exception of the lodge pictured here in West Lane, the archway and lodges in Hall Drive and the stable block in the Clough.



23.

Glyn Whiteoak collection

Looking towards the bottom of West Lane. Originally known as Smithy Lane the current name is something of a misnomer as it actually runs southwards and did not turn west until it was beyond Bankfoot Farm. In the 1950's the barn, with the cart in front of it, was occupied by Dennis and Edgar Marklew, who supplied firewood.



The scene at the bottom of West Lane remains much the same today, with the exception of the lower cottages on the right, which fell victim to John Willie Hartley's village improvement scheme.



24.

Glyn Whiteoak collection

Cottages at the bottom of West Lane. The cottage on the left was occupied in the 1930's and 40's by 'Owd Zeke', otherwise Ezekiel Sunderland,. He slept in the downstairs room in a 'cupboard bed', these beds were completely enclosed and entered through a door or doors. They were once common place throughout the district. Zeke is said to have had a hook and pulley device so he could hoist his table off the floor to prevent the mice getting at the food he left out.



The cottages at the bottom of West Lane now painted brilliant white are otherwise unchanged.



25.

Glyn Whiteoak Collection

Dow Well at the bottom of the Ellers. Eller or owler is the dialect word for the alder tree, the wood was used to make clog soles. Houses had no mains water supply so those at the top of the village drew their water from the fountain at Towngate or from Dow Well. The water in the well became contaminated in the early 1960's and was concreted over. It was re-opened in the 1980's.



Dow Well today, looking somewhat uncared for and almost engulfed in road chippings.



26.

Leonard Davy collection

This three storey building in Ellers was known as the Dolphin 'Oyle and the whole top floor was once Billy Walton's weaving shop, the taking in door can be seen blocked up on the right. Ellers was a hotbed of unrest in the village during the Chartist movement of the 1840's, when disaffected villagers were drilled by an 'old soldier' in anticipation of a revolution that never materialised.



The old Dolphin 'Oyle is now two dwellings and today enjoys more peaceable times.



27.

Leonard Davy collection

Willie Riley at his pigeon loft in Cryer Row, Ellers. A butcher by trade he had a shop on Fall Bridge and in later life made and gave away windmills, with little articulated men 'driving' a crank around. Most gardens at the top end of the village had one, which would, "Go like the clappers," to quote Willie. He inspected them all regularly to make sure they were kept in good order.



Today the pigeon lofts have given way to a garden, but sadly without the benefit of a windmill.

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