

WHITFIELD Archives, DOVER

Birchington items

EK / U 1453 B1 / 1 / 1

COBB PAPERS

1842

The CAGE:

A huge INDENTURE for the sale of 51 lots – consisting of a brewery and just under 50 public houses in Margate and surrounding villages, but also including a few plots of land and a few individual houses in Margate.

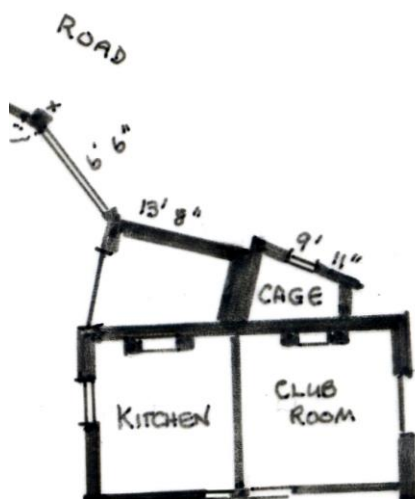
The survey includes detailed plans of all the properties and land drawn by William Edmunds, Surveyor of Margate.

The Crown and Sceptre at Acol, as well as The Bell Inn and The Sun Inn at St Nicholas-at-Wade.

THE POWELL ARMS

This is among those that were included in the transfer of the holdings in 1842 and the plans are attached.

One feature of the drawing that is of particular interest to us Birchington is that the **CAGE**, which once stood in the Square, is shown attached to the wall of the Powell Arms and facing onto the road. It stood more or less where the two telephone kiosks now stand. (The picture on the right shows a similar one dating from c. 1830.)



Birchington's cage was an odd shaped building that was fitted into the corner of the building on the Station Road side. (see the map) This meant that the only part of the structure that required repairs was a very small amount of outside walling, plus the roof. The building is mentioned several times in the Churchwardens' accounts and also in the later Parish reports in the 19th century.

It does not appear on any of the maps from 1872 onwards and is no longer mentioned in the accounts after that date either, so one can assume that it had been

dispensed with once prisoners could easily be transported to Margate by train, after the arrival of the railway in 1863.