



THE PLOUGH

on Liverton Street

Research by Richard Thomas

An Ordnance Survey Map of 1896 shows that one of the first buildings on the left when coming from Platts Heath was a Public House. The house is now called 'Plough House' and is a listed building.¹

We found the first mention of this pub in a notice of the London Gazette² in February 1779, when the premises *known by the sign of the Plow* were sold and occupied by a Mr. Carpenter. On the plot, there were other outbuildings and a stable, an orchard and gardens.³

It might be a coincidence that, in 1839, Edward Sedgwick⁴, whose brother owned the brewery in Lenham High Street, also owned the houses opposite the "Plough" and a hop garden just down the road in Platts Heath.

On June 12th 1964, there was a Receiving Order in the London Gazette: *Stanley William Guyver, residing and carrying on business at The Plough, Liverton Street, Sandway, Lenham, Maidstone in the county of Kent, general grocer and off licensee.*

It seems that by that time the 'Plough' had become a shop and off-licence and the then owner had been declared bankrupt. There were several notices after that and the latest on 23 February 1968 said that Mr Guyvers bankruptcy was discharged.

A planning application (Ref. No: 74/1074) to Maidstone Borough Council to convert the Plough into a private dwelling and add a Porch was lodged on 1. January 1974 and decided in March 1980.

¹ <https://historicalengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1116343>

² Thank you to: <http://www.dover-kent.com/2020-Project/Plough-Lenham.html>

³ <http://www.dover-kent.com/2020-Project/Plough-Lenham.html>

⁴ Plot Nr 783 on the Tithe Map of 1839