

Travel and Hospitality in Jane Austen's World

Part 1

Sophie C. Turner

"Travelling Carriage," James Pollard





White Horse, Romsey

Notes

- Not all photos are of British coaching inns
- Focused primarily on land-based long-distance travel
- Using current names for extant inns
Display does not equal endorsement

Agenda

01 Etymology

02 Early Travel

03 New Modes of Travel

04 Coaching Inns

05 Other Hospitality

06 The Golden Age

07 Advent of the Railways

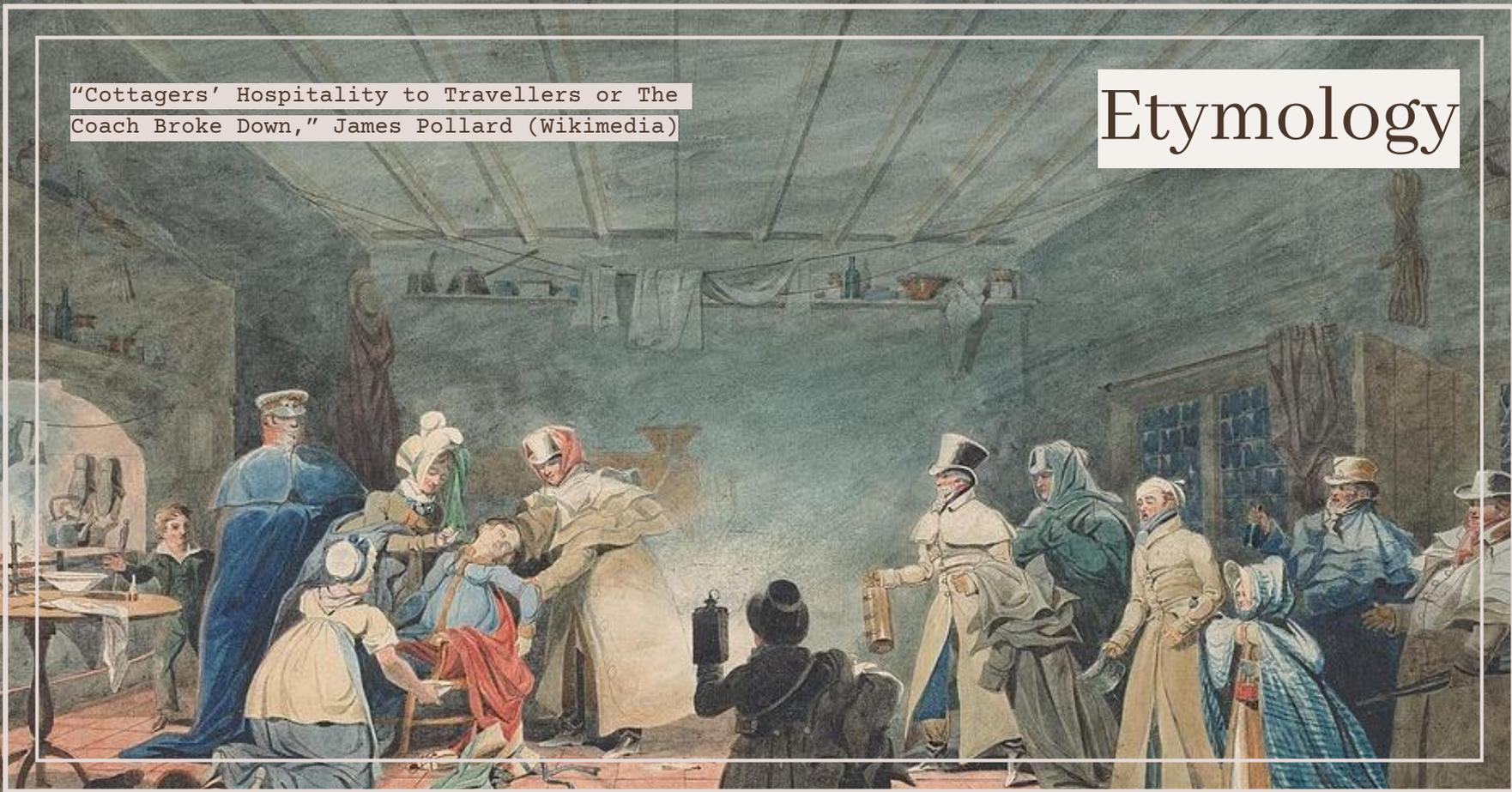
08 Conclusion

09 Resources

10 Q&A

"Cottagers' Hospitality to Travellers or The
Coach Broke Down," James Pollard (Wikimedia)

Etymology



The Root of Travel is Travail



Fort William Rail Station

Hospital & Hospitality Share a Root

Lord Leycester Hospital,
Warwick



Early Travel



Ye Olde Fighting Cocks, St Albans



Fishbourne Roman Palace

Roman Era

- Romans built roads and places to stop along them
- Bibulium was an ale-house or tavern with the sign of an ivy-garland or wreath of vine-leaves

After the Romans

- Most people don't travel at all
- If you travel, you're likely royal or noble - or in their service
- Staying at the homes of other nobles

"At Alton we got some bread and cheese at a friend's, and then came to Alresford by Medstead..."

-*Rural Rides*, William Cobbett

"...they seemed almost hurt that Captain Wentworth should have brought any such party to Lyme, without considering it as a thing of course that they should dine with them."

-*Persuasion*



Weald and Downland Museum



Former pilgrims' hostel, Battle

Pilgrims

"Bifel that, in that
seson on a day

In Southwerk at the
Tabard as I lay

Redy to wenden on my
pilgrimage

To Caunterbury with ful
devout corage"

-*The Canterbury Tales*,
Geoffrey Chaucer



Canterbury



Falstaff, Canterbury

Monastic Houses

- Initially would have a room where you could be provided shelter and food
- Eventually built separate buildings
- Well-to-do would be invited to stay in the Abbot's House

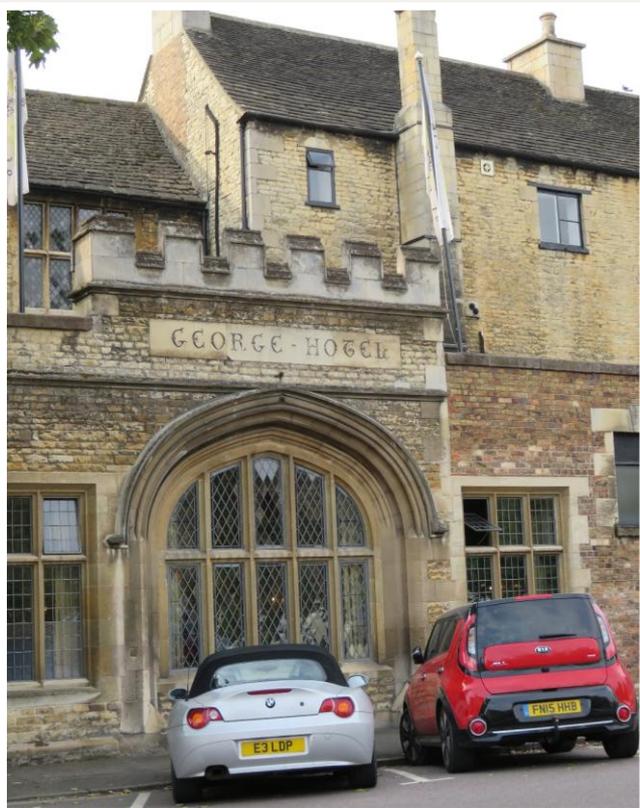


Abbey Gatehouse, Stoneleigh Abbey



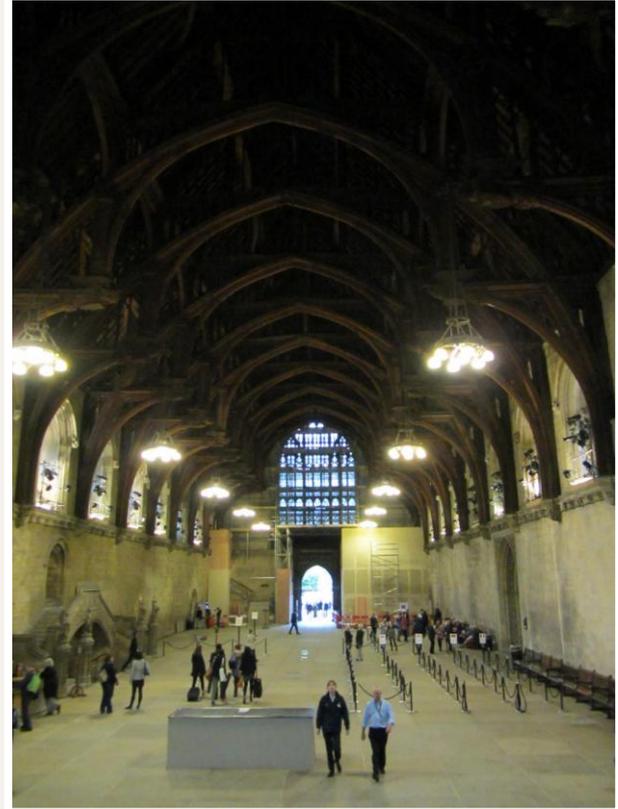
Stoneleigh Abbey Gateway





George, Stamford

George,
Stamford
(left) and
Westminster
Great Hall
(right)



Transition to Innkeeping for Profit



Plaster detail, George, Stamford

- Monastic hospitality ends with dissolution of the monasteries
- Already for-profit inns
- Some make this their new career

Modes of Travel

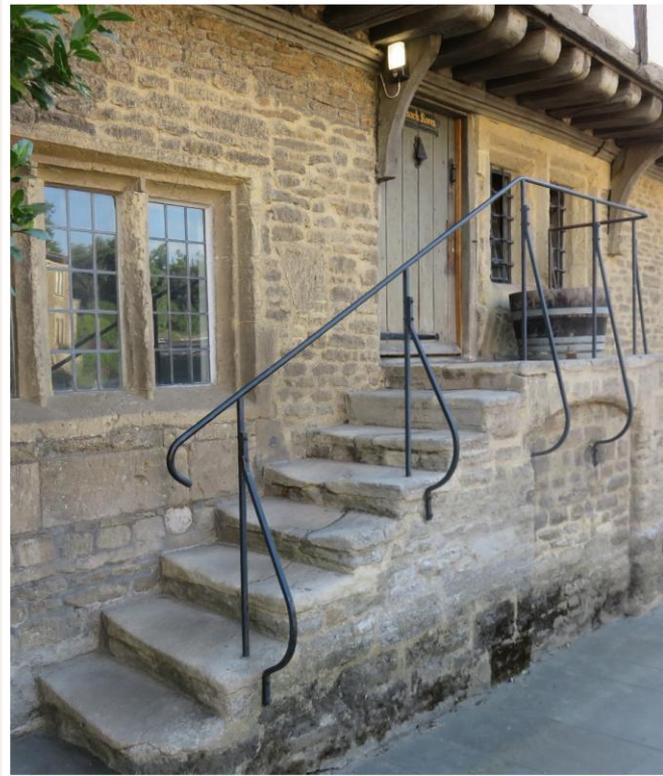
On foot

Horseback:

- Women rode “pillion” behind men
- This required a “double strong,” stout horse to handle the weight of two riders

“Riding on a Pillion,” from A History of Domestic Manners and Sentiments in England During the Middle Ages, by Thomas Wright





George Inn, Norton St Philip



George Inn, Norton St Philip



Gloucester English Civil War Reenactment

Speed on horseback

- One example: 30 miles in two hours on one horse
- In 1603 Robert Cary rode 401 miles from London to Edinburgh in 3 days

"In the hope of diverting her father's thoughts from the disagreeableness of Mr. Knightley's going to London; and going so suddenly; and going on horseback, which she knew would be all very bad; Emma communicated her news of Jane Fairfax..."

-Emma

"It was a heavy, melancholy day. Soon after the second breakfast, Edmund bade them good-bye for a week, and mounted his horse for Peterborough, and then all were gone."

-Mansfield Park

"Had they been only ten minutes sooner, they should have been beyond the reach of his discrimination, for it was plain that he was that moment arrived, that moment alighted from his horse or his carriage."

-Pride and Prejudice

Early Carriages

- Queen Mary coronation in 1553, state coach
- Elizabethan / early Stuart coaches are ROUGH and SLOW
- 1684, four days to get from London to Bath



Elizabethan replica coach, Stockwood Discovery Centre



State Coach, Royal Mews

Rudimentary “Technology”

- No shock absorption (“springs”)
- Carriages are slung on leather braces

Rudimentary “Technology”

No glass in the windows:
shutters or leather
curtains instead



Post Chaise, Red House Carriage Museum

New Modes of Travel

A detailed painting of a mail coach racing downhill. The coach is a large, dark-colored carriage with red accents, pulled by four horses: two dark brown and two white. Four men in top hats and formal attire are seated on the coach, and a driver is visible at the front. The scene is set on a steep, rocky hillside under a blue sky with light clouds. The overall style is that of a 19th-century oil painting.

"The London to Edinburgh
Mail Coach Racing Downhill,"
John Frederick Herring, Sr.

First Stagecoaches

- Sporadic mentions of stagecoaches in the first half of the 17th century
- 1657 first recorded stagecoach established on the Chester road
- Then coaches to Exeter and up the Great North Road
- 1667 Bath "Flying Machine" advertised

From *Stagecoach and Mail in Days of Yore*, Charles G. Harper



BIRMINGHAM STAGE-COACH,

In Two Days and a half; begins May the
24th, '1731.

SET Sout from the *Swan-Inn* in *Birmingham*,
every *Monday* at six a Clock in the Morning,
through *Warwick*, *Banbury* and *Alexbury*,
to the *Red Lion Inn* in *Aldersgate street*, *London*,
every *Wednesday* Morning: And returns from
the said *Red Lion Inn* every *Thursday* Morning
at five a Clock the same Way to the *Swan-Inn*
in *Birmingham* every *Saturday*, at 21 Shillings
each Passenger, and 18 Shillings from *Warwick*,
who has liberty to carry 14 Pounds in Weight,
and all above to pay *One Penny a Pound*.

Perform d (if God permit)

By **Nicholas Rothwell.**

The Weekly Waggon sets out every *Tuesday* from the *Naggs-Head* in
Birmingham, to the *Red Lion Inn* aforesaid, every *Saturday*, and returns
from the said *Inn* every *Monday*, to the *Naggs-Head* in *Birmingham* every
Thursday.

Note. By the said *Nicholas Rothwell* at *Warwick*, all Persons may be furni-
shed with a *By Coach*, *Chariot*, *Coach*, or *Hearse*, with a *Mourning Coach*
and all the *Horses*, to any Part of *Great Britain*, at reasonable Rates: And
also *Saddle Horses* to be had.

Travel as “Travail”

- No seats on the top (but people sat there anyway)
- Or sit in the basket at the back (the “boote” or “rumble-tumble”) and get crushed by baggage

“The Stage Coach or The Country Inn Yard”, William Hogarth, Ashmolean





Clink Prison Museum

...and the Highwaymen

- And women! “Moll Cutpurse” in the Stuart era
- Noteworthy haunts of highwaymen: Hounslow Heath, Finchley Common, Putney Heath, Highgate, Hampstead, Wimbledon Common, “Aukenbury” (Ogilby), Gonerby Hill, Maidenhead Thicket, Gad’s Hill (near Rochester)
- People would sometimes carry purses with bad money to hand over
- One man dressed as a woman to hide that he was carrying a large amount of money
- Or travel on Sundays to avoid highwaymen

Sunday Travelling is Still Frowned Upon

"She saw that there had been bad habits; that Sunday travelling had been a common thing; that there had been a period of his life (and probably not a short one) when he had been, at least, careless in all serious matters; and, though he might now think very differently, who could answer for the true sentiments of a clever, cautious man, grown old enough to appreciate a fair character?"

-*Persuasion*



Black Horse, Skipton

Bad Roads

- For a good portion of the 18th century: driver (coachman), postillion, and six horses
- There was opposition to the turnpikes, and people sometimes put obstructions in the road



"Stage Coach and Six," Thomas Rowlandson (Wikimedia)



Compass Inn Museum, Pennsylvania

Downhill

- Brakes haven't been invented yet
- Instead a shoe or "slipper" is used to prevent one wheel from turning

Uphill

Get ready to walk!

"My dear Sir Thomas, if you had seen the state of the roads that day! I thought we should never have got through them, though we had the four horses of course; and poor old coachman would attend us, out of his great love and kindness, though he was hardly able to sit the box on account of the rheumatism which I had been doctoring him for ever since Michaelmas... And then the poor horses too! To see them straining away! You know how I always feel for the horses. And when we got to the bottom of Sandcroft Hill, what do you think I did? You will laugh at me; but I got out and walked up. I did indeed. It might not be saving them much, but it was something, and I could not bear to sit at my ease and be dragged up at the expense of those noble animals."

-Mansfield Park

THE EDINBURGH STAGE-COACH, for the better Accommodation of Passengers, will be altered to a new genteel Two-end Glass Machine, hung on Steel Springs, exceeding light and easy, to go in ten Days in Summer and twelve in Winter, to set out the first Tuesday in March, and continue it from Hosea Eastgate's, the Coach and Horses in Dean-street, Soho, LONDON, and from John Somervell's in the Canon-gate, Edinburgh, every other Tuesday, and meet at Burrow-bridge on Saturday Night, and set out from thence on Monday Morning, and get to London and Edinburgh on Friday. In the Winter to set out from London and Edinburgh every other Monday Morning, and to get to Burrow-bridge on Saturday Night; and to set out from thence on Monday Morning, and get to London and Edinburgh on Saturday Night. Passengers to pay as usual. Perform'd, if God permits, by your dutiful Servant,
HOSEA EASTGATE.

Care is taken of small Parcels, paying according to their Value.

Improvements in Coach Design

- "Glass Machine" = windows
- "Steel Springs"
- Rails then eventually seats added on top
- Brakes
- Some big stagecoach proprietors were also coach makers

Stagecoach and Mail in Days of Yore,
Charles G. Harper

Mail coaches: Left,
Stockwood Discovery
Centre and right,
London Postal Museum



More Outside Passengers

- Once there are seats, they carry more
- How many people can sit where is set by various acts of Parliament
- At one point up to 12 outside in summer, 10 throughout the year after 1811

Stagecoach, Red House Carriage Museum





Some Inside-Only Stagecoaches

- Doesn't mean there weren't still disputes about who sat where!
- A stagecoach was introduced late in the coaching era with numbered and assigned seats

Park Drag (note: significantly newer than stagecoach), Thrasher Carriage Museum

Turnpiking

- Another cause for improvement is the privatisation of roads
- Acts of Parliament create turnpikes
- Periodic toll houses with toll gates set up to collect fares
- Everyone has to pay, with one exception



Toll House and Gate, Blists Hill Victorian Town



Toll House, Blists Hill Victorian Town



Toll House, Coalport



"Stourbridge to Birmingham Royal Mail Coach,"
William J. Pringle (Wikimedia)



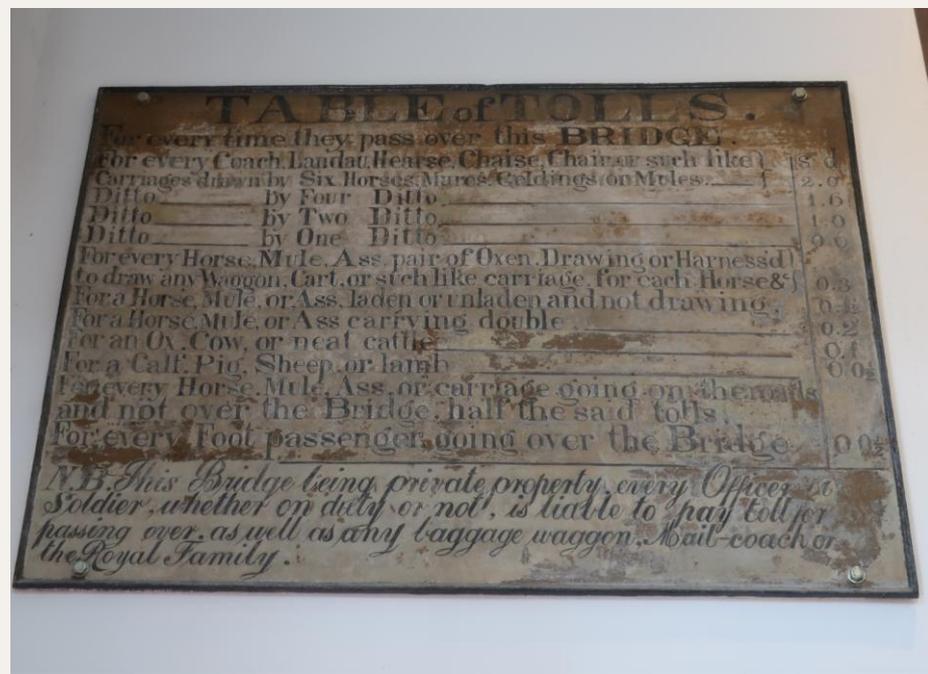
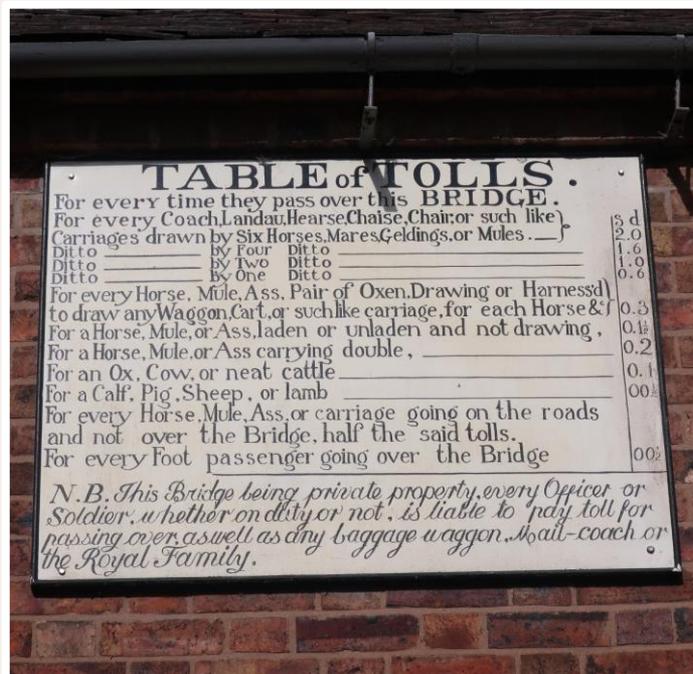
Tyburn Turnpike, about 1830
(*The English Inn, Past and Present*)



Toll House, Ironbridge



Toll House, London



Ironbridge replica (left) and original (right) table of tolls

THE STAPLETON (OR ANGEL INN) AND BARTON LANE END TURNPIKE
 Authorised to be demanded and taken under the William 4th Statute
 Any Horse, Oss, Mule or other Beast or Cattle drawn Stage Coach, Landau, Berlin, Wagon, Chaise, Gig, Calash, Hearse, Litter or other such like carriage when it is drawn by six or more Horses or other Beasts the sum of **SIXPENCE**
 Drawn by Three Horses or other Beasts the sum of **SIXPENCE**
 Drawn by One Horse or other Beast the sum of **SIXPENCE**
 For Horse, Oss, Mule or other Beast or Cattle Drawn by Cart, Van, Caravan, Wagon, Wain or other Carriage having the follies of the wheels Six Inches or upwards of the bottom the sum of **FOURPENCE**
 where the follies of the wheels thereof are of less breadth than Six Inches the sum of **SIXPENCE**
 Any Horse, Oss, Mule or other Beast or Cattle laden and drawn by a Cart or Cattle the sum of **TWOPENCE**
 For any Oxen, the sum of **TENPENCE**
 For any less, the sum of **FOURPENCE**
 For any less, the sum of **TWOPENCE**
 Any Carriage with Three or Less number of wheels Not Horse or Other Beast Drawn, But Propelled By Machinery, the sum of **TWO SHILLINGS**
 Any Carriage with Three or Less number of wheels Not Horse or Other Beast Drawn, But Propelled By Machinery, the sum of **ONE SHILLING**

NOTICE
 Sums in which a fractional part of a Half Penny in the amount of Tolls arise, the Sum of a Half Penny be Demanded and Taken in Lieu of such fractional part of a Half Penny.
 Stapleton Toll, Blackwell Bridge Toll,
 Toll at This Bar.
 By Order,
 Clerk To The Trustees

THE STAPLETON (OR ANGEL INN) AND BARTON LANE END TURNPIKE
 Authorised to be demanded and taken under the William 4th Statute
 Any Horse, Oss, Mule or other Beast or Cattle drawn Stage Coach, Landau, Berlin, Wagon, Chaise, Gig, Calash, Hearse, Litter or other such like carriage when it is drawn by six or more Horses or other Beasts the sum of **SIXPENCE**
 Drawn by Three Horses or other Beasts the sum of **SIXPENCE**
 Drawn by One Horse or other Beast the sum of **SIXPENCE**
 For Horse, Oss, Mule or other Beast or Cattle Drawn by Cart, Van, Caravan, Wagon, Wain or other Carriage having the follies of the wheels Six Inches or upwards of the bottom the sum of **FOURPENCE**
 where the follies of the wheels thereof are of less breadth than Six Inches the sum of **SIXPENCE**
 Any Horse, Oss, Mule or other Beast or Cattle laden and drawn by a Cart or Cattle the sum of **TWOPENCE**
 For any Oxen, the sum of **TENPENCE**
 For any less, the sum of **FOURPENCE**
 For any less, the sum of **TWOPENCE**
 Any Carriage with Three or Less number of wheels Not Horse or Other Beast Drawn, But Propelled By Machinery, the sum of **TWO SHILLINGS**
 Any Carriage with Three or Less number of wheels Not Horse or Other Beast Drawn, But Propelled By Machinery, the sum of **ONE SHILLING**

Where the follies of the wheels thereof are of less breadth than four Inches and a half the sum of **EIGHTPENCE**
 Any Horse, Oss, Mule or other Beast or Cattle laden not drawing the sum of **TWOPENCE**
 1 Score of Oxen, Cattle Horses the sum of **TENPENCE**
 For any less, the sum of **FOURPENCE**
 1 Score of Calves, Swine, Sheep, the sum of **FIVEPENCE**
 For any less, the sum of **TWOPENCE**
 Any Carriage with four or more wheels Not Horse or Other Beast Drawn, But Propelled by Machinery, the sum of **TWO SHILLINGS**
 Any Carriage with Three or Less number of wheels Not Horse or Other Beast Drawn, But Propelled By Machinery, the sum of **ONE SHILLING**

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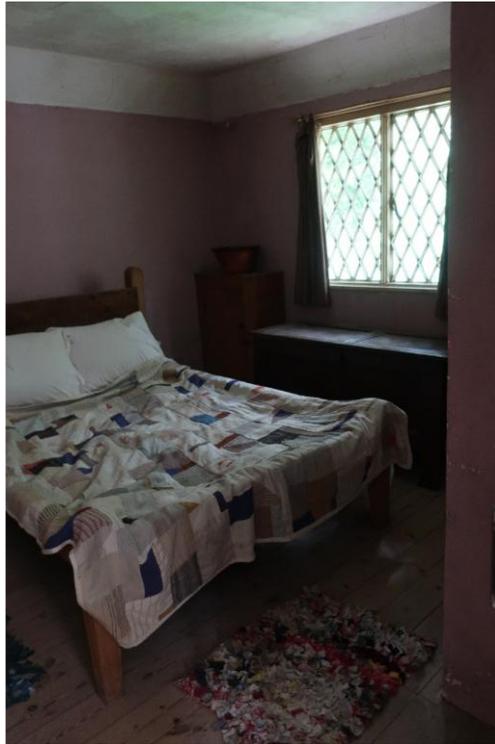
1 Score of Oxen, Cattle Horses the sum of **TENPENCE**
 For any less, the sum of **FOURPENCE**
 1 Score of Calves, Swine, Sheep, the sum of **FIVEPENCE**
 For any less, the sum of **TWOPENCE**
 Any Carriage with four or more wheels Not Horse or Other Beast Drawn, But Propelled by Machinery, the sum of **TWO SHILLINGS**
 Any Carriage with Three or Less number of wheels Not Horse or Other Beast Drawn, But Propelled By Machinery, the sum of **ONE SHILLING**

NOTICE
 Sums in which a fractional part of a Half Penny in the amount of Tolls arise, the Sum of a Half Penny be Demanded and Taken in Lieu of such fractional part of a Half Penny.
 Stapleton Toll, Blackwell Bridge Toll,
 Toll at This Bar.

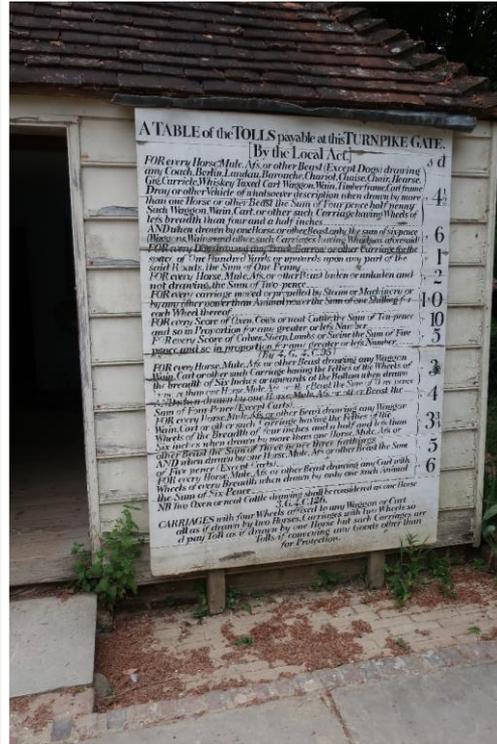
Richmondshire Muesum



Weald and Downland Museum



Weald and Downland Museum, Bedroom and Tolls



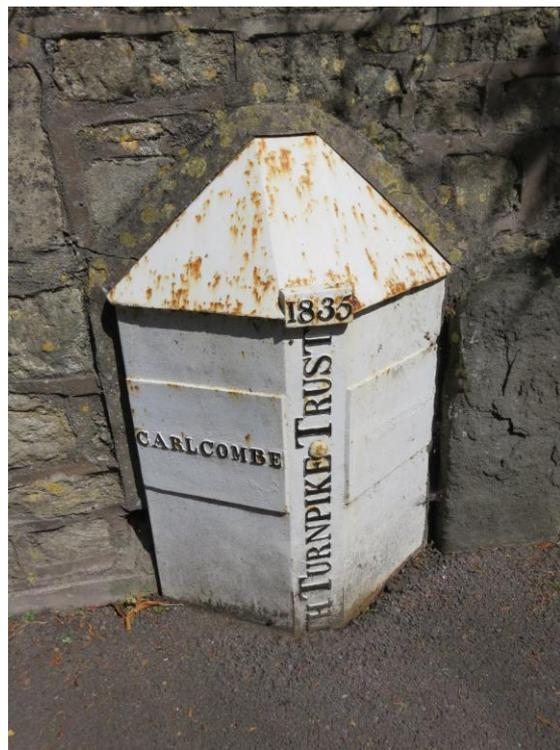
Weald and Downland Museum, Bedroom and Tolls



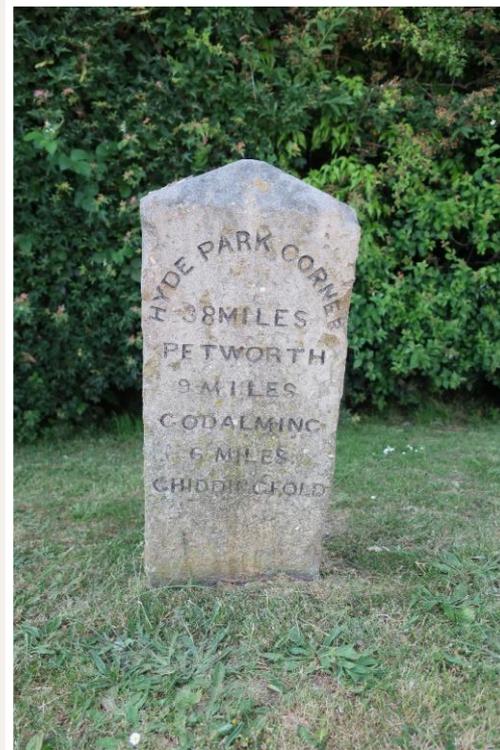
Mile Marker, Blists Hill



Alton



Bath



Chiddingfold



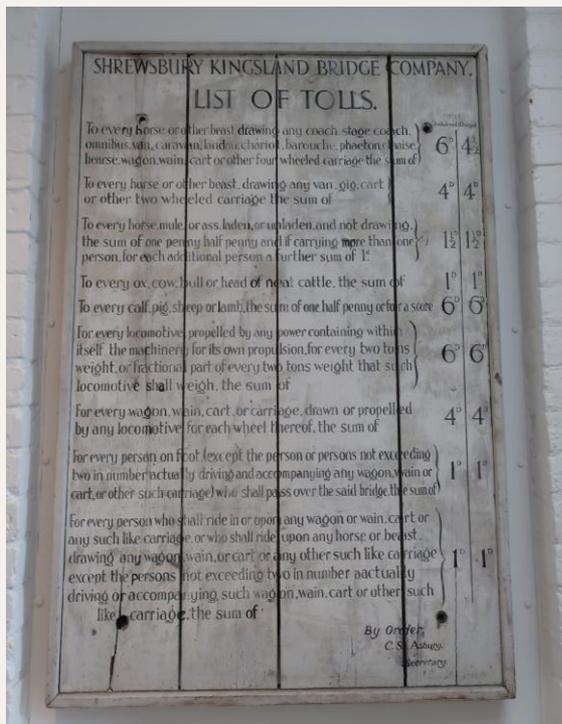
Elton



Stafford

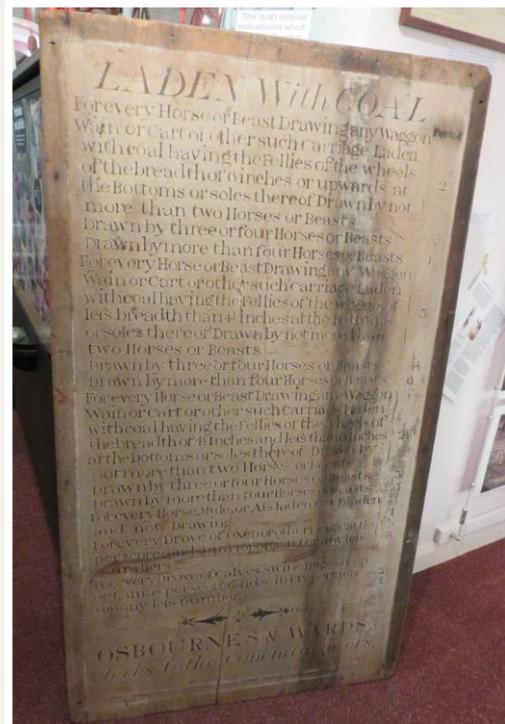


Stafford



Bridge Tolls, Shrewsbury
Museum

"After making every possible enquiry on that side London, Colonel F. came on into Hertfordshire, anxiously renewing them at all the turnpikes, and at the inns in Barnet and Hatfield, but without any success, no such people had been seen to pass through."
-Pride and Prejudice



Twerton Toll Gate Tolls,
Bath Postal Museum

Buildings Cleared to Widen Roads



The Shambles,
York (left)

Gloucester
(right)



The Shambles,
York (left)



Stagecoach Staffing

- Postillion early on
- Driver
- Sometimes a guard

Red House Stables Carriage Museum

Speeds

- 1667 London to Oxford coach 54 miles in 2 days
- By 1786, two coaches daily between London and Edinburgh taking 60 hours
- At the turn of the 18th century it's still faster to ride



"The Coaching Era" (1900, Wikimedia)



Accidents Common

- **Overturning**
- **Hit an obstruction in the road**
- **Collide with another carriage or object**
- **Something breaks**
- **Competitor crashes**

From *The Autobiography of a Stagecoachman*, 1904 (Wikimedia Commons)

"A Gentleman & Lady travelling from Tunbridge towards that part of the Sussex Coast which lies between Hastings & E. Bourne, being induced by Business to quit the high road, & attempt a very rough Lane, were overturned in toiling up it's long ascent half rock, half sand."
-Sanditon



"The Overturned Coach," Thomas Rowlandson



Red House Stables Carriage Museum

Some Names

- Early: Machine, Flying Machine
- Specific types: Diligence, Post Coach, Accommodation
- Rockingham, True Blue, Expedition, Balloon, Defiance, Highflyer, Vixen, Spitfire, Flying Childers, Lightning, Rapid, Regulator, Reliance, Good Intent, Telegraph, Quicksilver, Nelson, Lord Nelson, Trafalgar, Wellington, Waterloo, Union, Comet

"He came down by yesterday's coach, and was with me this morning immediately after breakfast, to report his proceedings, first on my affairs, and then on his own."

-Emma

"Don't fancy that you will be any inconvenience to me, for I shan't put myself at all out of my way for you. It will only be sending Betty by the coach, and I hope I can afford that."

-Sense and Sensibility

"Our own particular little brother got a place in the coach last night, and is now, I suppose, in town."

-Jane Austen, letter to Cassandra



Richmondshire Museum



"The Royal Mail Coach on the Road," John Frederick Herring

"On the following morning, however, when he drove into A—, he found that that gentleman, having caught sight of him on the stage coach the previous afternoon, had hastily cleared out, taking Mrs. Burton along with him."

-*The Watsons*

"Sam was walking along the High Street of Guildford just as the coach drove up to the stage; and, for the moment, thinking less of anything in the world than of Emma, when, to his amazement, she suddenly appeared on the platform."

-*The Watsons*

The Post

- Origins with Henry VIII's royal messengers
- Relays of horses on the four great post roads: London to Dover, Plymouth, Scotland, and Chester
- Expanded to carry other letters: Royal Mail
- Post delivered by post boys
- Inns kept relays of horses for them
- Begin to keep horses for private (non-royal) travel as well



Sherborne



Coach Trial

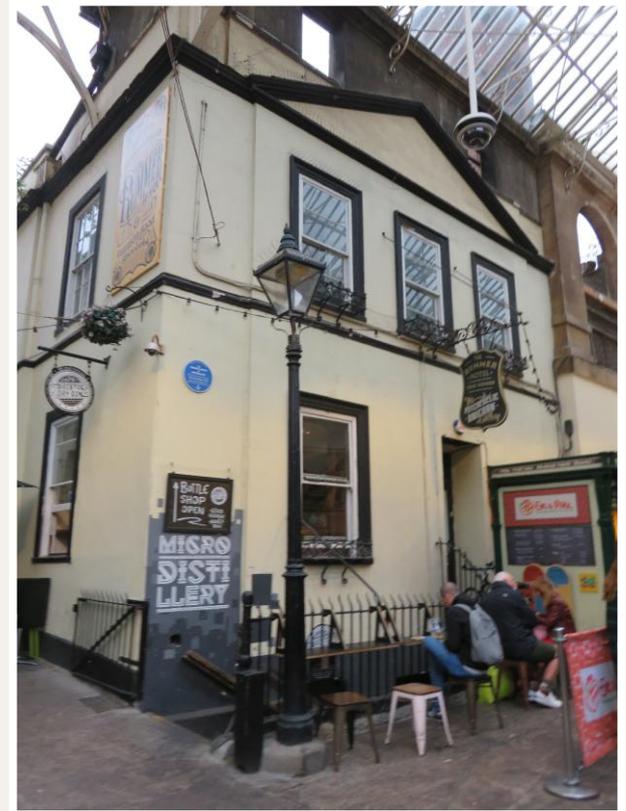
- Towards the end of the 18th century people are secretly sending letters by stagecoach: has reached 7 mph
- John Palmer proposes mail coaches:
- 8-9 mph (London to Bath in 16 hours)
- Armed guard and coachman
- Passengers, but no outsiders

Model of trial Mail Coach, Bath Postal Museum

1784 Trial is Run

- Leaves 8 pm every night from the Swan with Two Necks, Lad-Lane, London
- Arrives at Three Tuns Inn, Bath, before 10 the next morning
- Arrives at the Rummer Tavern, Bristol, at 12 pm
- Price 28 shillings for inside

Rummer, Bristol





Trial Successful

- 27 mail coaches leave London every night
- Including Sunday
- Great means of fast (overnight) travel
- Mail coach horses changed every 6-8 miles
- 4 horses and 6 in bad weather
- Improved service = higher rates
- Early coaches replaced by "patent coach"
- Add one then three outside passengers

London Science Museum

Mail on the Road

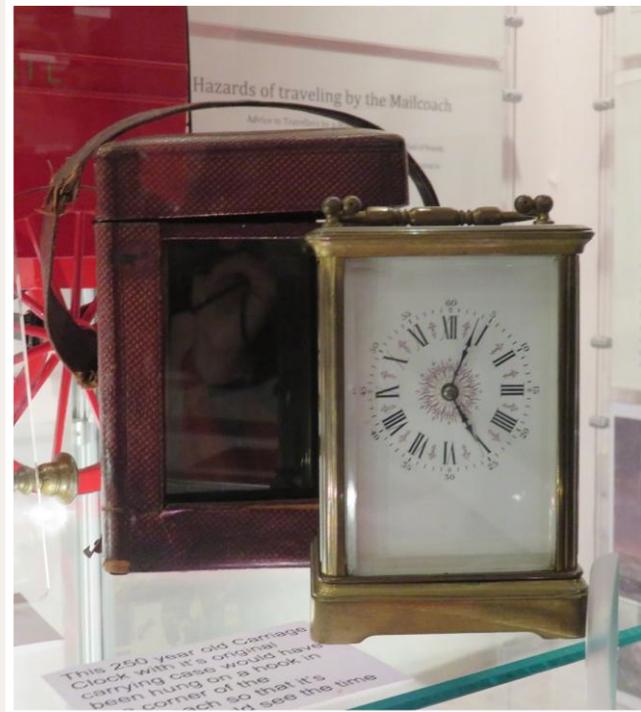
- Only vehicles that do not have to pay toll in England
- Guard blows horn to pass
- Roads get improved due to the mails
- Post Office surveyors could indict roads in bad condition
- Staffed by a driver and a guard

London Science Museum





"Royal Mail Stagecoach," William Henry Pyne (Wikimedia)



Mail Coach Clock, Bath Postal Museum



Blunderbuss, Historic Deerfield



Dicky Seat, London Postal Museum

"...the original plan was that William should go up by the mail from Northampton the following night, which would not have allowed him an hour's rest before he must have got into a Portsmouth coach..."

-Mansfield Park

"You may imagine something of my present state. There is no end of the evil let loose upon us. You will see me early by the mail.—
Yours, etc."

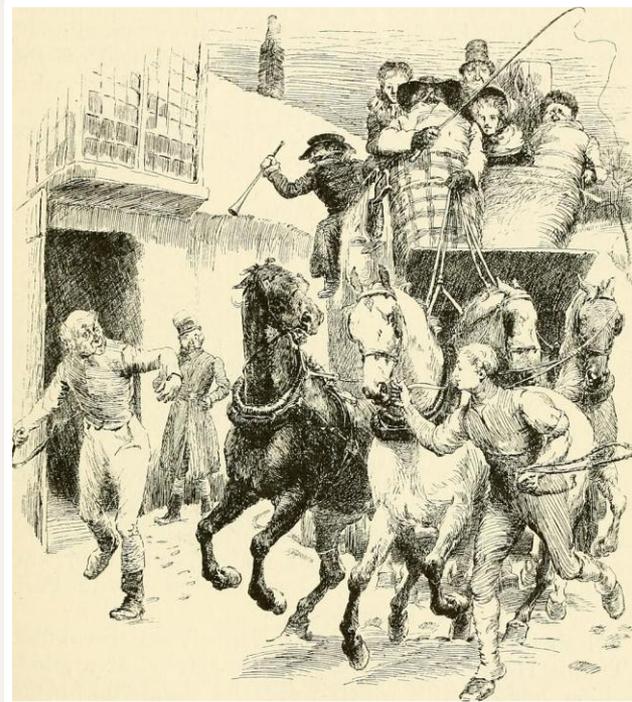
-Mansfield Park

"They all escorted him to the mail coach at A—, and Emma was constrained to wonder if it were to be for ever her lot to be parted from all to whom she had become attached..."

-The Watsons



"All Right! The Bath Mail Taking up the Mail-bags"
(Stagecoach and Mail in Days of Yore)



From *Coaching Days and Coaching Ways*, W. Outram Tristram



Travelling Chariot, Arlington Court

Travelling “Post”

- Network of horses allows for private use
- Might use your carriage
- Or hiring a post-chaise, nicknamed a “yellow bounder”

“Where shall you change horses?—Oh! Bromley, of course.—If you mention my name at the Bell, you will be attended to.”

— *Pride and Prejudice*

Post Horses

- Advertised that you were licensed to let Post Horses
- Given a ticket with the number of horses hired to give to turnpike keeper at first gate
- Hard work, horses generally replaced every three years
- Average price 30 pounds



Chester



Post Chaise, Stockwood Discovery
Centre

"A heroine in a hack post-chaise is such a blow upon sentiment, as no attempt at grandeur or pathos can withstand. Swiftly therefore shall her post-boy drive through the village..."

-*Northanger Abbey*

"...Captain Wentworth proposed, and Charles Musgrove agreed, that it would be much better for him to take a chaise from the inn, and leave Mr Musgrove's carriage and horses to be sent home the next morning early, when there would be the farther advantage of sending an account of Louisa's night."

-*Persuasion*

"Their Visitors answered for two Hack-Chaises.—Could it be the Camberwell Seminary?—No—No.—Had there been a 3^d carriage, perhaps it might; but it was very generally agreed that two Hack chaises could never contain a Seminary."
—Sanditon



"The Departure of a Post-Chaise from the Red Lion Inn, Bagshot," possibly Samuel Howitt (Wikimedia)



Post Chaise and other
carriages, Stockwood
Discovery Centre

"The proposal was a very pleasant one to William himself, who enjoyed the idea of travelling post with four horses, and such a good-humoured, agreeable friend.."

-Mansfield Park

"She thanked him with brief, though fervent gratitude, and while he went to hurry off his servant with a message to Mr. Harris, and an order for post-horses directly, she wrote a few lines to her mother..The horses arrived, even before they were expected, and Colonel Brandon only pressing her hand with a look of solemnity, and a few words spoken too low to reach her ear, hurried into the carriage."

-Sense and Sensibility

Or Use Your Own Horses

"My journey to town—
travelling with my own
horses, and therefore so
tediously—no creature to
speak to—my own reflections
so cheerful—when I looked
forward every thing so
inviting!—when I looked back
at Barton, the picture so
soothing!—oh, it was a
blessed journey!"

-Sense and Sensibility



St. John, Canada

"At last, however, the door was closed upon the three females, and they set off at the sober pace in which the handsome, highly fed four horses of a gentleman usually perform a journey of thirty miles: such was the distance of Northanger from Bath, to be now divided into two equal stages...The tediousness of a two hours' wait at Petty France, in which there was nothing to be done but to eat without being hungry, and loiter about without anything to see, next followed—and her admiration of the style in which they travelled, of the fashionable chaise and four-postilions handsomely liveried, rising so regularly in their stirrups, and numerous outriders properly mounted, sunk a little under this consequent inconvenience. Had their party been perfectly agreeable, the delay would have been nothing; but General Tilney, though so charming a man, seemed always a check upon his children's spirits, and scarcely anything was said but by himself; the observation of which, with his discontent at whatever the inn afforded, and his angry impatience at the waiters, made Catherine grow every moment more in awe of him, and appeared to lengthen the two hours into four..."

-Northanger Abbey



Travelling Chariot, Arlington Court

"The first heedless scheme had been to go in the morning and return at night; but to this Mr Musgrove, for the sake of his horses, would not consent..."

-Persuasion

"When the distressing communication at Uppercross was over, and he had seen the father and mother quite as composed as could be hoped, and the daughter all the better for being with them, he announced his intention of returning in the same carriage to Lyme; and when the horses were baited, he was off."

-Persuasion



"Chaise at the Door Setting Out...,"
Thomas Rowlandson (Wikimedia)



"A Comfortable Nap in a Post Chaise,"
Thomas Rowlandson (Wikimedia)

Or Mix and Match

"As Mrs. Gardiner began to wish to be at home, it was settled that she and her children should go to London, at the same time that Mr. Bennet came from it. The coach, therefore, took them the first stage of their journey, and brought its master back to Longbourn."

-Pride and Prejudice

"The novelty of travelling, and the happiness of being with William, soon produced their natural effect on Fanny's spirits, when Mansfield Park was fairly left behind; and by the time their first stage was ended, and they were to quit Sir Thomas's carriage, she was able to take leave of the old coachman, and send back proper messages, with cheerful looks."

-Mansfield Park

Hackney Carriage

- Carriage for hire in greater London
- Hansom Cab invented 1834

"Oh! but their removing from the chaise into an hackney coach is such a presumption! And, besides, no traces of them were to be found on the Barnet road."

-Pride and Prejudice



Hansom Cab

“‘Three and twenty!’ cried Thorpe. ‘Five and twenty if it is an inch.’ Morland remonstrated, pleaded the authority of road-books, innkeepers, and milestones; but his friend disregarded them all; he had a surer test of distance.”

-Northanger Abbey

“Salisbury she had known to be her point on leaving Northanger; but after the first stage she had been indebted to the post-masters for the names of the places which were then to conduct her to it; so great had been her ignorance of her route. She met with nothing, however, to distress or frighten her. Her youth, civil manners, and liberal pay procured her all the attention that a traveller like herself could require; and stopping only to change horses, she travelled on for about eleven hours without accident or alarm...”

-Northanger Abbey

Travel Speeds

"It was a journey of only twenty-four miles, and they began it so early as to be in Gracechurch-street by noon."

-*Pride and Prejudice*

"And what is fifty miles of good road? Little more than half a day's journey. Yes, I call it a very easy distance."

-*Pride and Prejudice*



"Changing Horses to a Post-Chaise outside the 'George'," Charles Cooper Henderson (Wikimedia)



Travelling Chariot with Dormeuse Boot, Arlington Court

"They travelled as expeditiously as possible; and sleeping one night on the road, reached Longbourn by dinner-time the next day. It was a comfort to Elizabeth to consider that Jane could not have been wearied by long expectations."

-Pride and Prejudice

Cost

- Could vary widely depending on how much competition was on a stagecoach route
- Post-chaise ninepence to a shilling a mile, coach two pence to five pence a mile
- Examples: 3£ 8s 6d for a seat in a stagecoach from Newcastle to London; London to Newcastle 1830 5£ 15s inside and 3£ 10s outside

"Elinor received her brother's congratulations on their travelling so far towards Barton without any expense.."

-Sense and Sensibility



New Inn, Gloucester



Thomas Rowlandson, "Breakfast at Egham - 'please your Honour, remember your Postboy!'"

Tips

- Tipping the coachman started early in the coaching age, known as "capping"
- Each coach driver 2 shillings
- Mail guard looked for half a crown from insides and 2 shillings from outsides

Winter

- Early days, coaches didn't run in the winter
- Once that changes, getting stuck in the snow is a real possibility
- So is freezing to death
- The mail got through in a blizzard - you as a passenger did not



"The Snow Storm - Delay of the Mail," James Pollard



Boot warmers, Leamington Spa Museum

“‘What an excellent device,’
said he, ‘the use of a
sheepskin for carriages...’”
-Emma

Keeping Warm

- Lots of references to shawls / wrap
- Foot / Boot warmers
- Straw on the floor



Hancock-
Clarke
House

Spring

- Especially when the stagecoaches didn't run in winter, big deal in rural communities
- Stagecoaches were decorated for May Day



Thomas Rowlandson, "The Market-Place Barnet, North London"



Travel for Women

- Women did travel unaccompanied even in the early days of stagecoach travel
- However Austen's own letters and works suggest it's frowned upon for women of her class and up
- Charles G. Harper writes "The final test of a gentleman in those days was his behaviour at a stage-coach dinner."

"You know I always speak my mind, and I cannot bear the idea of two young women travelling post by themselves. It is highly improper."

-Pride and Prejudice

"1818 Carriage Dress," *Ackermann's Repository*, (Wikimedia)

“Were your friends, the Allens, still in Bath, you might go to them with comparative ease; a few hours would take you there; but a journey of seventy miles, to be taken post by you, at your age, alone, unattended!”
-*Northanger Abbey*

“Catherine took us quite by surprise yesterday evening,” said she. “She travelled all the way post by herself...it is a great comfort to find that she is not a poor helpless creature, but can shift very well for herself.”
-*Northanger Abbey*



“1813 Carriage Dress,” *Ackermann's Repository*, (Wikimedia)



"1816 Carriage Dress,"
Ackermann's Repository (Wikimedia)

"Barton was not beyond one day, though a long day's journey; and their mother's servant might easily come there to attend them down..."
-Sense and Sensibility

"Elinor could not find herself in the carriage with Mrs. Jennings, and beginning a journey to London under her protection..."
-Sense and Sensibility

"Would Jane but go, means were to be found, servants sent, friends contrived—no travelling difficulty allowed to exist; but still she had declined it!"
-Emma



Other Transport

MILLMEAD

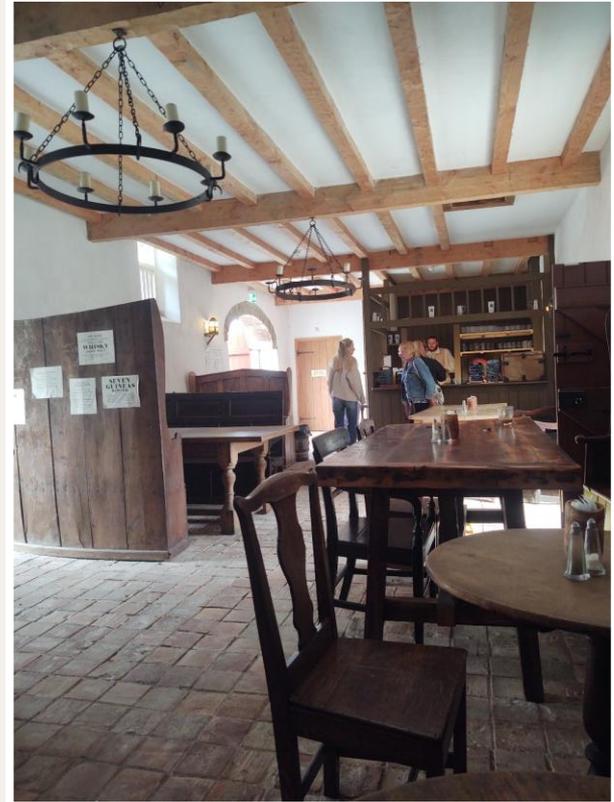
2014

Guildford

Moving Goods

- First by pack horse, often in trains - best over rough roads
- "Rider" was a peddler
- Drovers drove livestock to market - sometimes very long distances
- Some merchants used carts pulled by dogs due to a quirk in turnpike tolling

Replica drover's inn, Beamish Museum





Wagon, Compass Inn Museum

Wagons / Waggons

- Replaces pack horses on good roads
- Slow, same horses
- Flying waggons changed horses
- Passenger travel for lower classes
- Waggon fares varied widely - on the Bath road a penny a mile

Railways

- Trackways and then railways to reduce friction have been around for millennia
- Tanfield railway built in 1725 with wooden rails
- Surrey Iron Railway built 1802-1803
- Horse- and then steam-drawn



Railway, Blists Hill Victorian Town



Spry, Severn Trow, Blists Hill



Bradford
on Avon

By Water: Goods

- River, canal, ocean
- 2/3 of goods traffic is by water

By Water: Passengers

- Thames barges
- Mail packets
- 1815, Black Ball Line packets between New York and Liverpool
- Naval ship (if you had connections)
- Merchant ships



Black Ball Line ship, attributed to Samuel Walters and/or his father Miles Walters (Wikimedia Commons)

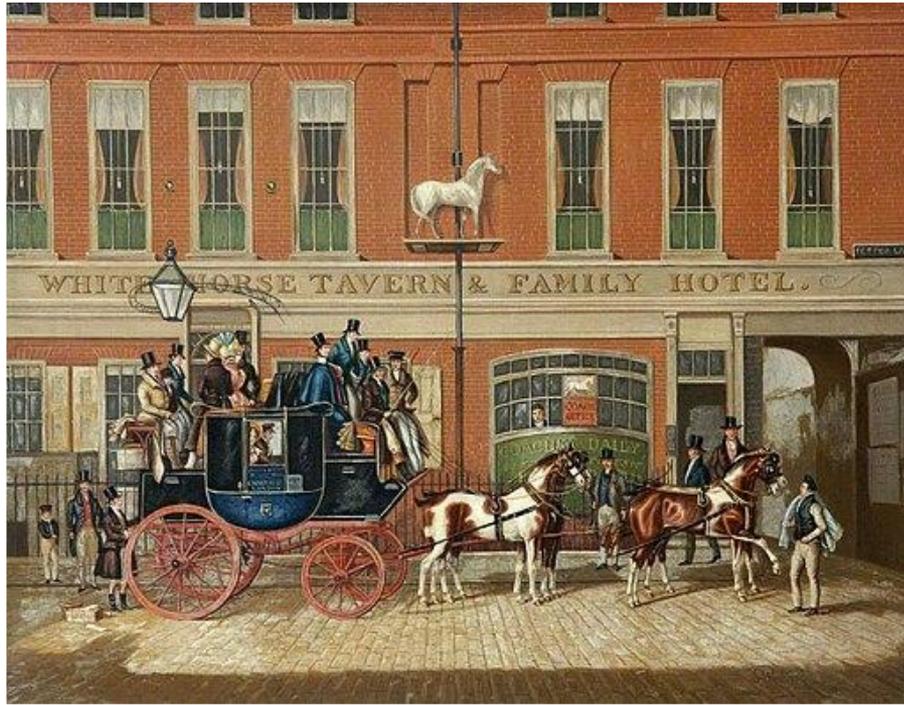


Packet Cabin, National Maritime Museum, Falmouth

Georgian Coaching Inns

Swan, Leighton Buzzard





"The Cambridge Telegraph Coach at the White Horse Tavern & Family Hotel, Fetter Lane, London," James Pollard

Stagecoach / Mail Stop

- Change horses
- Give passengers a chance to eat
- Mail's priority is postal business
- Large inns had hundreds of horses

(Or Not)

- Some inns did not cater to the stagecoach
- These were known among the more elite travelling class

King's Head, Richmond





Keppel's Head Hotel, Portsmouth

“Well, my dear,’ said Mrs. Jennings, ‘and how did you travel?’

‘Not in the stage, I assure you,’ replied Miss Steele, with quick exultation; ‘we came post all the way, and had a very smart beau to attend us.’”

-Sense and Sensibility

“...and Mrs. Norris found that all her anxiety to save her brother-in-law’s money was vain, and that in spite of her wishes and hints for a less expensive conveyance of Fanny, they were to travel post...”

-Mansfield Park

"Old Roadside Inn," Edward
Charles Williams (Wikimedia)



Waggoners

- Sometimes stopped at the same inns
- Also inns that catered to waggon traffic



Falcon Tavern, Huntingdon

Architecture

In major cities and towns, specific architecture evolves:

- Small frontage on the road
- Archway leading to a first yard with living spaces
- Second archway leading to another yard with stables, coach houses, etc.



George, Bewdley



George Hotel, Bewdley





George Inn, Borough High Street, London



George, Huntingdon

The George

FREE CAR PARKING
FOR GEORGE HOTEL CUSTOMERS
STAY IN GEORGE HOTEL AND GET 2 HOURS OF FREE CAR PARKING

WELCOME TO
THE GEORGE
HOTEL
RESTAURANT



George, Reading



George, Reading



Angel, Guildford



Angel, Guildford



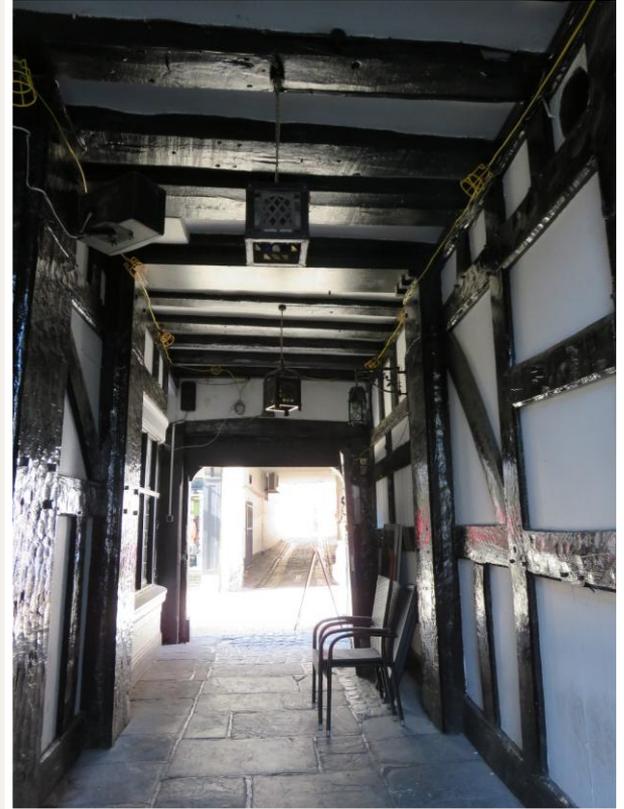
Former Dolphin, Romsey



Old Bell, Derby



Old Bell, Derby





Old Bell, Derby



Norfolk Arms, Arundel



Norfolk Arms, Arundel



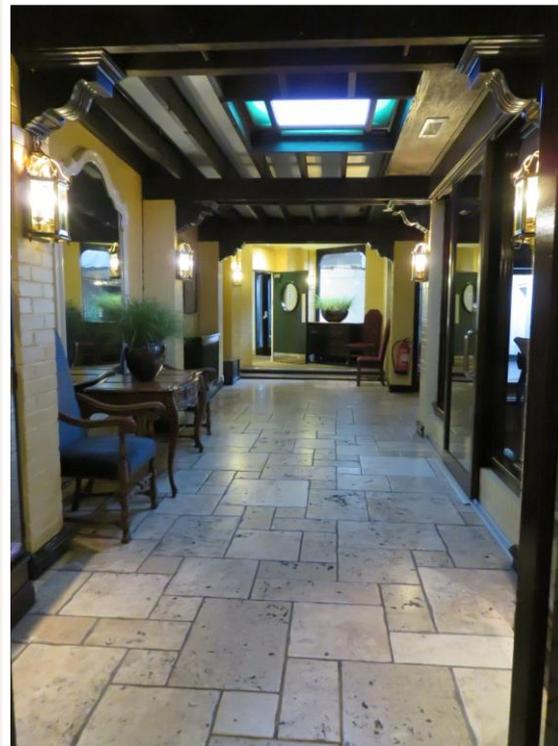
Norfolk Arms, Arundel



White Hart, St Albans



Bull, Peterborough





King's Arms, Swindon



Seven Stars, Totnes



Galleries

- Surround the first yard
- Means of getting natural light to the living rooms
- Stairs up to bedrooms, parlours, etc.
- Model for theatres

George Inn, London



George Inn, Borough High Street, London

"The yard presented none of that bustle and activity which are the usual characteristics of a large coach inn. Three or four lumbering waggons, each with a pile of goods beneath its ample canopy about the height of the second-floor window of an ordinary house, were stowed away beneath a lofty roof which extended over one end of the yard; and another, which was probably to commence its journey that morning, was drawn out into the open space. A double tier of bedroom galleries with old clumsy balustrades ran round two sides of the stragglng area, and a double row of bells to correspond, sheltered from the weather by a little sloping roof, hung over the door leading to the bar and coffee-room. Two or three gigs or chaise-carts were wheeled up under different little sheds and pent-houses, and the occasional heavy tread of a cart-horse, or rattling of a chain at the further end of the yard, announced to anyone who cared about the matter that the stable lay in that direction. When we add that a few boys in smock-frocks were lying asleep on heavy packages, woolpacks, and other articles that were scattered about on heaps of straw, we have described as fully as need be the general appearance of the 'White Hart' inn, High Street, Borough."

-*Pickwick Papers*, Charles Dickens



New Inn, Gloucester



New Inn, Gloucester

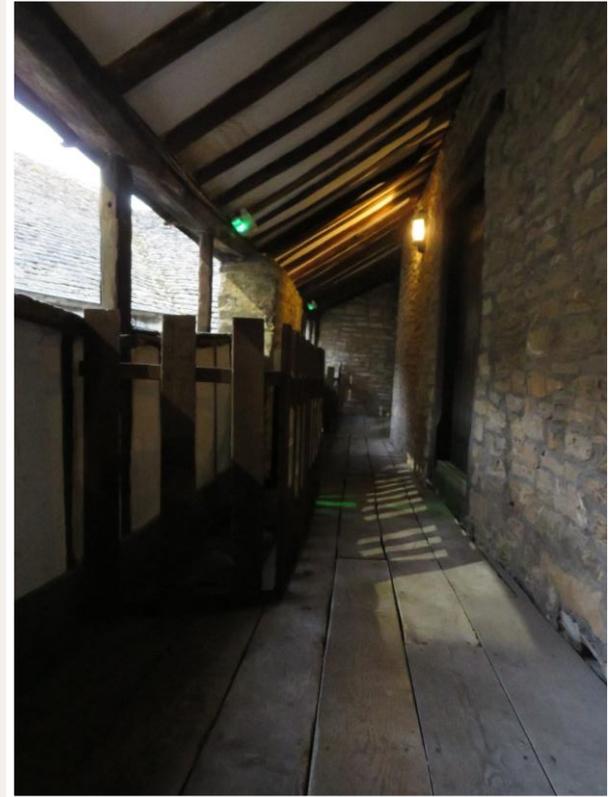




NO
ENTRY



George Inn, Norton Saint Philip





George Inn, Norton Saint Philip

“Just before their setting out from Oxford, while Susan was stationed at a window, in eager observation of the departure of a large family from the inn, the other two were standing by the fire; and Edmund, particularly struck by the alteration in Fanny’s looks, and from his ignorance of the daily evils of her father’s house, attributing an undue share of the change, attributing all to the recent event, took her hand, and said in a low, but very expressive tone, ‘No wonder—you must feel it—you must suffer. How a man who had once loved, could desert you! But yours—your regard was new compared with—Fanny, think of me!’”

-Mansfield Park



White Hart, St Albans



Crown Inn, Chiddingfold

Arch + Yard Layout Not Universal

Particularly in
rural locations,
carriages might
simply stop outside



Red Lion, Lacock



Rose and Crown, Romaldkirk

Conversions

Sometimes former town
or manor houses would
get converted into
inns

Llandoger Trow, Bristol

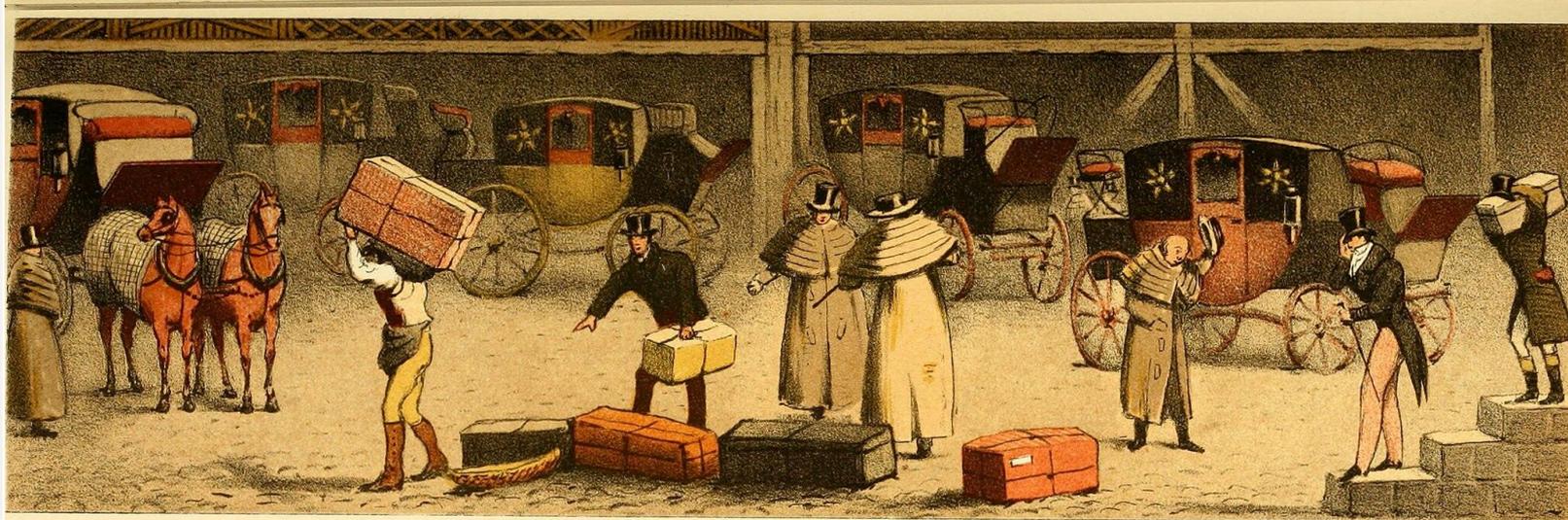




Llandoger Trow,
Bristol



Bull and
Mouth Yard,
*Annals of the
Road, or
Notes on Mail
and Stage
Coaching in
Great
Britain,*
Captain Malet





The Leisurely Experience

- May meet waiter / landlord in the yard, or in the hall
- Waiter takes your hat / coat / shawl
- Often a glazed cupboard showing meat, pies, pastries, etc.

Royal Lion, Lyme

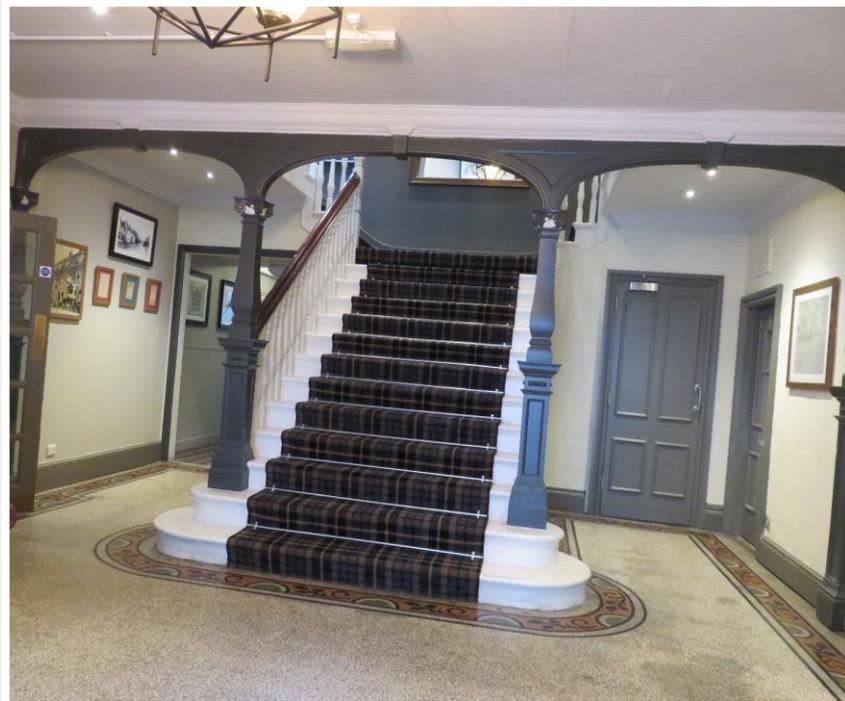


Royal Lion, Lyme





Swan, Alton

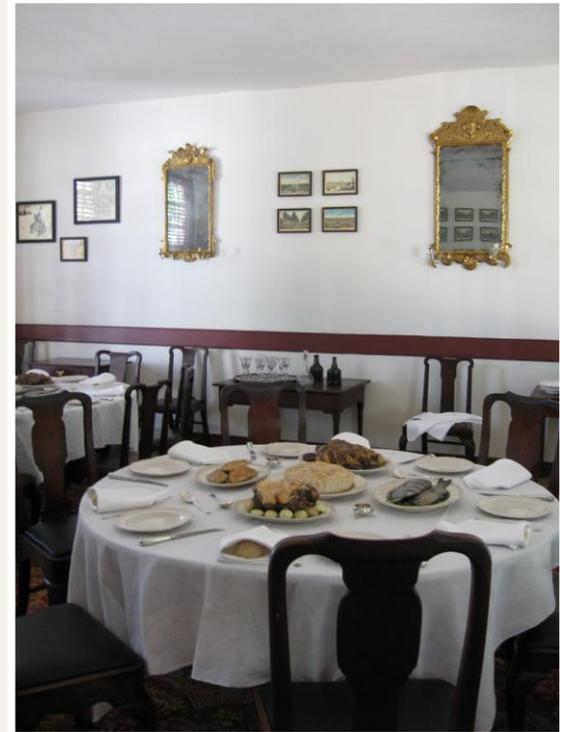


Taken to a Room to Dine

- Might be a dining-room or the coffee-room
- Stagecoach passengers might have a separate room for dining

"...an immense central table, round or rectangular, laid in readiness for the meal, with good plated cutlery and spotless table-linen."

- Charles G. Harper, *Old Inns of Old England*



Wetherburn's Tavern, Colonial Williamsburg



"An Inn at
Bristol,"
E.V.
Rippingille
(Wikimedia)



Dining Room, The Feathers, Ludlow (*The English Inn, Past and Present*, Richardson & Eberlein)



Dining Room, The Feathers, Ludlow (*Old Inns of Old England*, Charles G. Harper)



Coffee Room, The Feathers, Ludlow (*The English Inn, Past and Present*, Richardson & Eberlein)



Dining-Room, The Duke's Head, King's Lynn (*The English Inn, Past and Present*, Richardson & Eberlein)



George, Stamford



Keeler Tavern Museum, Connecticut



Colonial Williamsburg

We know from

William Byrd, who lived about thirty miles up the James River from Williamsburg at Westover, in 1737: "There is also made a very good

a piece of linen, and a pound more or less of sugar—according to the sweetness desired. All of this is mixed together. Finally a little nutmeg is scraped into it, after which one has a very pleas-





The 20-Minute Dash

- Standard dining break for a stagecoach
- Some even had 10- or 15-minute breaks
- Landlord: "Please to alight ladies and gentlemen"
- After 20 minutes: "Gentlemen, time's up!"
- Fast coaches kept a strict timetable and you often had to go back to the coach without getting the meal you paid for

Crown Inn, Chiddingfold (note post-Regency neo-Jacobean)

Hot Soup

How could an inn cheat your meal?

- Hot soup (goes back in the pot)
- Food is “delayed”
- Waiter has no change

Savvy passengers might:

- Yell “Dinner, d----d quick!”
- Fill a flask and get cold meat in the taproom



Fraunces Tavern, New York City



"Twenty minutes before twelve you arrive at Cooper's Cottage at Thatcham, where you find a good substantial supper laid out, consisting of ham, beef, fowls, meat pies, etc., with waiters to carve and attend on you, and as twenty minutes is allowed you have plenty of time to discuss the various articles before you."

-And So To Bath, Cecil Roberts

"Flying Breakfast, or the Contents of a Night Coach," Thomas Rowlandson (Wikimedia)

"The coaches often stopped at The Crown to regale the passengers with cakes and ale, the long London-Bath journey being divided, gastronomically, into breakfast at Colnbrook, dinner at Reading, cakes and ale at Theale, Newbury supper and sleep, Marlborough for breakfast, Chippenham for lunch, and Bath for high tea."
-And So To Bath, Cecil Roberts



"Stage Coach Passengers at Breakfast," James Pollard



"The 'Tally-Ho' London-Birmingham Stage Coach Passing Whittington College, Highgate," James Pollard

Insides vs. Outsides

- Inside stagecoach passengers dine in the dining room
- They don't want the outsides dining with them - might be relegated to a separate table or a separate room
- Social divide between the insides and outsides is even more marked on the mail

"Terrible place—
dangerous work— other
day— five children—
mother— tall lady,
eating sandwiches—
forgot the arch—
crash— knock— children
look round— mother's
head off— sandwich in
her hand— no mouth to
put it in— head of a
family off— shocking,
shocking!"

- *Pickwick Papers*,
Charles Dickens



Red Lion, Otley



Outsides Gain Respect

- Becomes more fashionable to sit outside
- Some inns elevate their carriage archways to cater more to outsiders
- Largely driven by young sporting gentlemen who want a turn on the "ribbons"

Red Lion, Salisbury

Amateur Coachmen

Driving a four-in-hand stagecoach is a test of skill

To get a chance:

- Tip the yard-porter to get the seat on the box
- Coachman asks if you have your driving gloves and would like to take the ribbons
- Tip him half a guinea



Red Lion, Salisbury



"The Consequence of Being Drove by a Gentleman," after H. Alken, *Stagecoach and Mail in Days of Yore*



"An Inn Kitchen, Late XVIIIth Century," Thomas Rowlandson

Lower Classes

- Waggon passengers might sleep on the waggon itself, bunk in the straw of the stables
- Lower classes of travellers dined in the kitchen
- 6-9p for cold beef and bread and a stable berth
- Pedestrians were suss



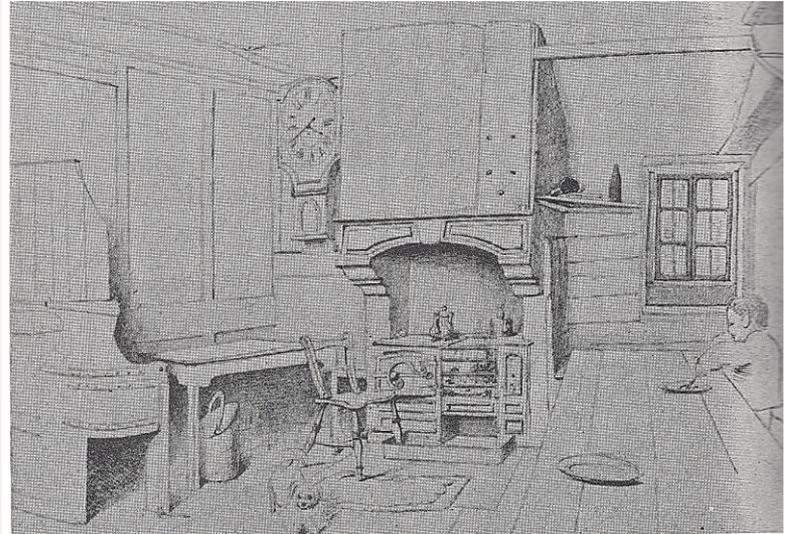
"The Kitchen of a Country Inn, 1797, Showing the Turnspit Dog,"
After Rowlandson, *Old Inns of Old England*



Keeler Tavern Museum,
Connecticut

"I entered, and admired for the hundredth time, that picture of convenience, neatness, and broad honest enjoyment, the kitchen of an English inn. It was of spacious dimensions; hung round by copper and tin vessels highly polished, and decorated here and there with a Christmas green. Hams, tongues, and flitches of bacon, were suspended from the ceiling; a smoke-jack made its ceaseless clanking beside the fire-place, and a clock ticked in one corner. A well scoured deal table extended along one side of the kitchen, with a cold round of beef, and other hearty viands upon it, over which two foaming tankards of ale seemed mounting guard."

-Washington Irving



Kitchen, Oxford Arms, Warwick Lane, (*The English Inn, Past and Present*, Richardson & Eberlein)



Thomas Rowlandson, "Kitchen at the Inn at Lymington"

"'I will drink my rum-and-water,' said Mr. Slurk, 'by the kitchen fire.' So, gathering up his hat and newspaper, he stalked solemnly behind the landlord to that humble apartment, and throwing himself on a settle by the fireside, resumed his countenance of scorn, and began to read and drink in silent dignity."

-*The Pickwick Papers*,
Charles Dickens

Food and Drink (Aside from Hot Soup)

- Cheese
- "Fine sausages"
- Potted venison
- "Gelatinous veal pies"
- Cold pigeon-pie
- Yorkshire ham / "Colossal hams"
- Loaf of household bread
- Oysters
- "Fine big potatoes with salt butter"
- Green gooseberries



Stilton cheeses

"He went to while away the next three hours as he could, with his other acquaintance, till the best dinner that a capital inn afforded was ready for their enjoyment..."

-Mansfield Park



Compass Inn Museum

- Turbot
- Salmon
- "Fresh-water fish in every form"
- Eels ("stewed, fried, boiled, baked, 'spitchcocked,' and water-souché")
- Green pea soup
- Roast fowl
- Fried whiting
- Rashers of bacon
- Poached eggs
- Buttered toast
- "The purest butter"
- "The same bad butter"
- Celery

- "A sallad and cucumber"
- "Such cold meat as an inn larder usually affords"
- Chicken and ham
- Cutlets
- Kidneys
- Irish stews
- Boiled mutton
- Roast mutton or lamb
- "Saddle of Southdown mutton, kept to a moment and done to a turn"
- "Mutton chops, hot and hot"
- "Mutton-broth, rich in meat and herbs"

- "Very fine haunch of venison"
- Plum-pudding
- Fruit-tarts
- Trifle
- Gooseberry fool
- Ham and eggs, "ill cooked," or nothing at all
- Half-done and stringy mutton
- Greasy, cold chops
- Tough, dry rump steaks
- "Living for three days on veal-cutlets and waiters"
- The best asparagus Samuel Pepys "ever ate in my life"

- "Marble-veined ribs"
- Sirloin of beef
- Beef with honey sauce
- Boiled meat and cabbage with a sauce of flour and water
- Round of cold boiled beef
- "Iris-tinted rounds of beef"
- "Rump-steaks tender and juicy"
- Veal and ham sandwiches

"'I understand you,' he replied, with an expressive smile, and a voice perfectly calm; 'yes, I am very drunk.—A pint of porter with my cold beef at Marlborough was enough to over-set me.'"

-Sense and Sensibility



Buckman Tavern, Massachusetts



Blaise Museum

- “Cold bacon and bread, and some milk”
- Milk and water
- Rum and milk
- Rum and water
- Brandy and water
- “Hot pine-apple rum-and-water, with a slice of lemon in it”
- Punch made of claret and brandy with various herbs to taste
- “Delicious beer and good Bordeaux wine”
- “Bins full of old port and burgundy”
- Tea
- Beer on tap
- “Gallons of old ale”
- “Not-sour small beer, if I can get [it]”

Local Delicacies

- Bath Olivers
- Banbury cakes
- Devonshire cream
- Doncaster butterscotch
- Everton toffee
- Banbury cake
- Shrewsbury cakes
- Cornish saffron cake
- Grantham gingerbread
- Bath buns
- Melton Mowbray pork pies
- York hams
- Brawn in Cambridge
- Cygnet in Norfolk
- Crayfish in Newbury
- Whitstable “real natives”
- Laver in Somerset
- Northumberland “singing hinnies”
- Kent “huffkins”
- Hasty pudding in Cumberland
- “Wheatears” in the Sussex downs
- Scotch shortbread
- Cherry brandy in Durham
- Cheddar cheese
- Cheese in Stilton

"...Mrs. Jennings on her side treated them both with all possible kindness, was solicitous on every occasion for their ease and enjoyment, and only disturbed that she could not make them choose their own dinners at the inn, nor extort a confession of their preferring salmon to cod, or boiled fowls to veal cutlets. They reached town by three o'clock the third day, glad to be released, after such a journey, from the confinement of a carriage, and ready to enjoy all the luxury of a good fire."

-Sense and Sensibility



Haunch of Venison, Salisbury



George, Norton Saint Philip

"Menu at the Sugar Loaf, Dunstable—

'A Boiled Round of Beef; a Roast Loin of Pork; a Roast Aitchbone of Beef; and a Boiled Hand of Pork with Peas Pudding and Parsnips; a Roast Goose; and a Boiled Leg of Mutton'"

"...we have seen hundreds upon hundreds of sheep, as fat as hogs, go by this inn door, their toes, like those of the foot-marks at the entrance of the lion's den, all pointing towards the Wen; and the landlord gave us for dinner a little skinny, hard leg of old ewe mutton!"

-*Rural Rides*, William Cobbett

"Hallo, you sir! Lunch for three, directly, and keep the horses back for a quarter of an hour. Tell them to put everything they have cold on the table, and some bottled ale, and let us taste your very best Madeira."

-*The Pickwick Papers*, Charles Dickens

"Tom and his father had alighted at the Peacock at about seven in the evening; and having heard with unfeigned joy the paternal order, at the bar, of steaks and oyster-sauce for supper in half an hour, and seen his father seated cozily by the bright fire in the coffee-room with the paper in his hand, Tom had run out to see about him, had wondered at all the vehicles passing and repassing, and had fraternized with the boots and hostler, from whom he ascertained that the Tally-ho was a tip-top goer - ten miles an hour including stoppages - and so punctual that all the road set their clocks by her."

-*Tom Brown's Schooldays*, Thomas Hughes



Old Inn on the Green, Massachusetts



The Dun Cow, Shrewsbury

Political / Commerce Dinners

- Inns could host dinners for locals, as well
- Often candidates for Parliament would give out drinks or food
- Or parties would host dinners

"After returning from Yarmouth yesterday, went to dine at Stoke-Holy-Cross, about six miles off; got home at mid-night, and came to Norwich this morning, this being market-day, and also the day fixed on for a Radical Reform Dinner at the Swan Inn, to which I was invited."

-*Rural Rides*, William Cobbett

"...during his sojourn it was determined upon by his friends to give him a dinner at the Rose and Crown Inn. Thursday was fixed for the purpose; when about forty persons, agriculturists and tradesmen of Tring and the neighbouring towns, assembled, and sat down to a dinner served up in very excellent style, by Mr. Northwood, the landlord."

-*Rural Rides*, William Cobbett



The Dun Cow, Shrewsbury



Munroe Tavern, Massachusetts

Local Governing

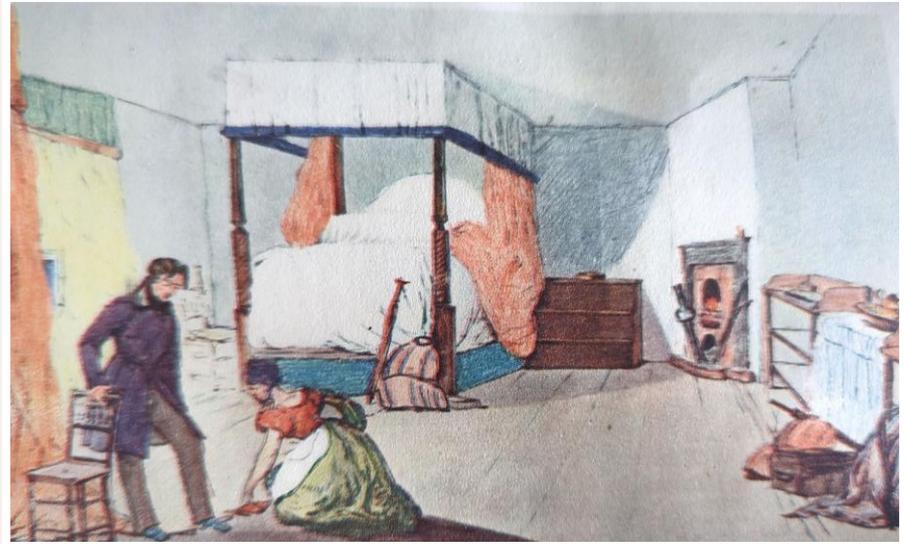
- Informal: leading men sat around and drank and talked
- Formal: quarter sessions, coroner's inquests, etc.

"Oh! no, it is a meeting at the Crown, a regular meeting. Weston and Cole will be there too; but one is apt to speak only of those who lead.—I fancy Mr. E. and Knightley have every thing their own way."

—Emma

Staying the Night

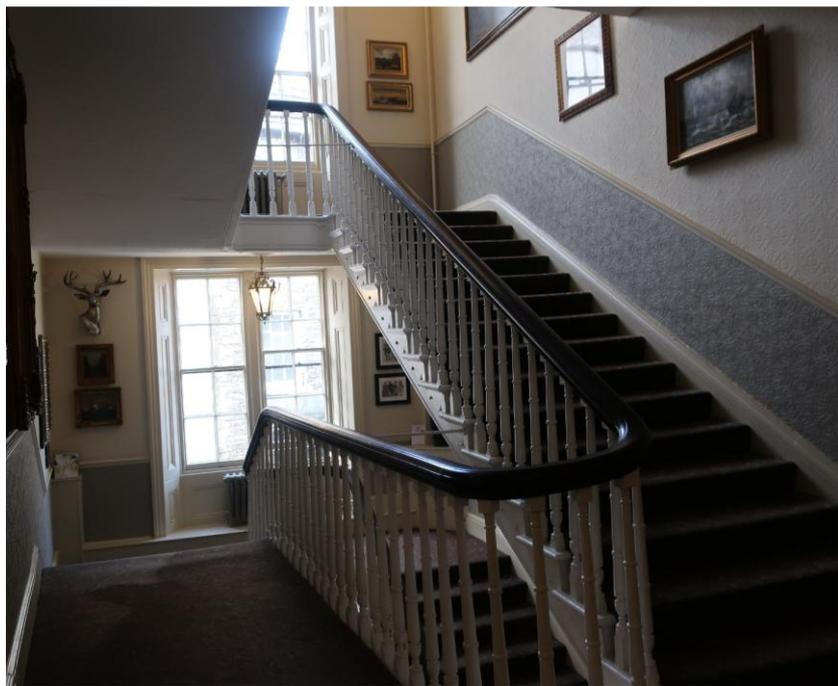
- Privacy is now a possibility
- Rooms often had names: Sun, Moon, Star, Crescent, Paragon, Globe
- Can get a suite of rooms including bedchambers, dining-parlour, sitting-room, etc.



And So To Bath, Cecil Roberts

"...the landlord smiled his delight and issued orders to the waiter. 'Lights in the Sun, John; make up the fire; the gentlemen are wet!'"

-Pickwick Papers, Charles Dickens



King's Head, Richmond

"We have got apartments up two pair of stairs, as we could not be otherwise accommodated with a sitting-room and bed-chambers on the same floor, which we wished to be. We have one double-bedded and one single-bedded room; in the former my mother and I are to sleep. I shall leave you to guess who is to occupy the other. We sate down to dinner a little after five, and had some beefsteaks and a boiled fowl, but no oyster sauce."

-Jane Austen, letter to Cassandra

"We have the strangest little rooms (sitting-room and two bedrooms together) the ceilings of which I can touch with my hand. The windows bulge out over the street, as if they were little stern windows in a ship. And a door opens out of the sitting-room on to a little open gallery with plants in it, where one leans over a queer old rail."

-Charles Dickens, letter to his daughter re a stay at the Lion, Shrewsbury



Lion Hotel, Shrewsbury

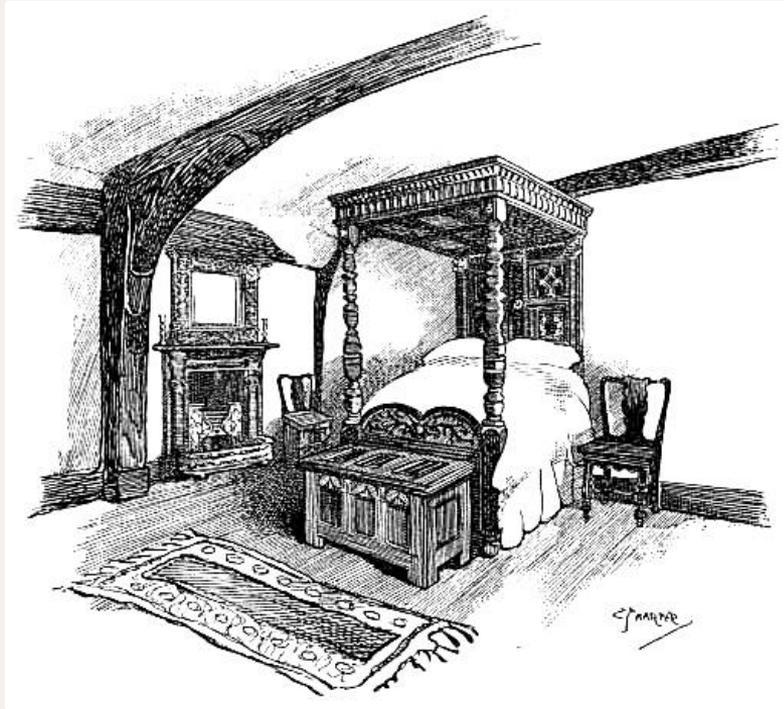


Crown Inn, Chiddingfold



"...After attending Louisa through her business, and loitering about a little longer, they returned to the inn; and Anne, in passing afterwards quickly from her own chamber to their dining-room, had nearly run against the very same gentleman, as he came out of an adjoining apartment."

-*Persuasion*



King Charles Bedroom, Saracen's Head
Southwell (*Old Inns of Old England*, Harper)

Bedchambers

- Sheets could be suspect
- Some people brought their own sheets or even mattresses
- Usually had a four-poster bed, mirror, washing-table with ewer and basin, chamber pot

"The linen invariably smelt of lavender or dried rose-leaves, of which big bags were kept among the sheets; but the washing apparatus was poor, and the illumination was scanty."

-*Old Inns of Old England*, Charles G. Harper

"I always stand up for women—and I assure you, if you knew how Selina feels with respect to sleeping at an inn, you would not wonder at Mrs. Churchill's making incredible exertions to avoid it. Selina says it is quite horror to her—and I believe I have caught a little of her nicety. She always travels with her own sheets; an excellent precaution. Does Mrs. Churchill do the same?

-Emma



Wayside Inn, Massachusetts



Wetherburn's Tavern, Colonial Williamsburg

“‘Very well,’ replied Mr. Pickwick, looking round him. It was a tolerably large double-bedded room, with a fire; upon the whole, a more comfortable-looking apartment than Mr. Pickwick’s short experience of the accommodations of the Great White Horse had led him to expect. ‘Nobody sleeps in the other bed, of course,’ said Mr. Pickwick. ‘Oh, no, Sir.’”
-*Pickwick Papers*, Charles Dickens

Luggage

"One day, soon after Charlotte's arrival at Sanditon, she had the pleasure of seeing just as she ascended from the Sands to the Terrace, a Gentleman's Carriage with Post Horses standing at the door of the Hotel, as very lately arrived, & by the quantity of Luggage taking off, bringing it might be hoped, some respectable family determined on a long residence."

-Sanditon

"-& when I left her she was directing the Disposal of the Luggage, & helping old Sam uncord the Trunks."

-Sanditon

Trunks, Arlington Court





1680-1710 Trunk, V&A (Wikimedia)

Trunks

Large trunks or quantities of baggage might be sent by carrier (i.e. waggon)

"...and all my trunks to repack, from not having understood in time what was intended as to the wagons..."

-*Persuasion*

"I have some hopes of being plagued about my trunk; I had more a few hours ago, for it was too heavy to go by the coach which brought Thomas and Rebecca from Devizes; there was

reason to suppose that it might be too heavy likewise for any other coach, and for a long time we could hear of no wagon to convey it.

-Jane Austen, letter to Cassandra

"Small heart had Harriet for visiting. Only half an hour before her friend called for her at Mrs. Goddard's, her evil stars had led her to the very spot where, at that moment, a trunk, directed to 'The Rev. Philip Elton, White-Hart, Bath', was to be seen under the operation of being lifted into the butcher's cart, which was to convey it to where the coaches past; and every thing in this world, excepting that trunk and the direction, was consequently a blank."

-Emma



Trunk on Post Chaise, Arlington Court

"...few and trivial were the sentences exchanged while they remained upstairs, Catherine in busy agitation completing her dress, and Eleanor with more goodwill than experience intent upon filling the trunk."

-Northanger Abbey



"Their engagements at Rosings were as frequent during the last week of her stay, as they had been at first. The very last evening was spent there; and her Ladyship again enquired minutely into the particulars of their journey, gave them directions as to the best method of packing, and was so urgent on the necessity of placing gowns in the only right way, that Maria thought herself obliged, on her return, to undo all the work of the morning, and pack her trunk afresh."

-Pride and Prejudice

"At length the chaise arrived, the trunks were fastened on, the parcels placed within, and it was pronounced to be ready."

-Pride and Prejudice

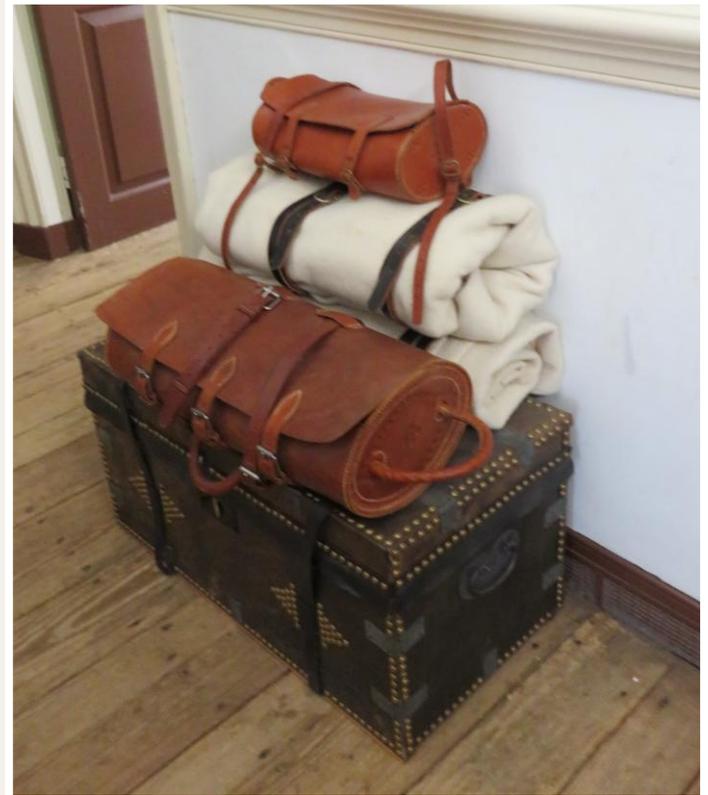
Colonial Williamsburg

Portmanteau

- Cylindrical leather bag closed with straps
- Could be used for either riding or carriage travelling
- Strapped on to saddle

"...for not only the things on our bodies were soaked, but those also which we carried in little thin leather rolls, fastened on upon the saddles before us."
-*Rural Rides*, William Cobbett

Colonial Williamsburg



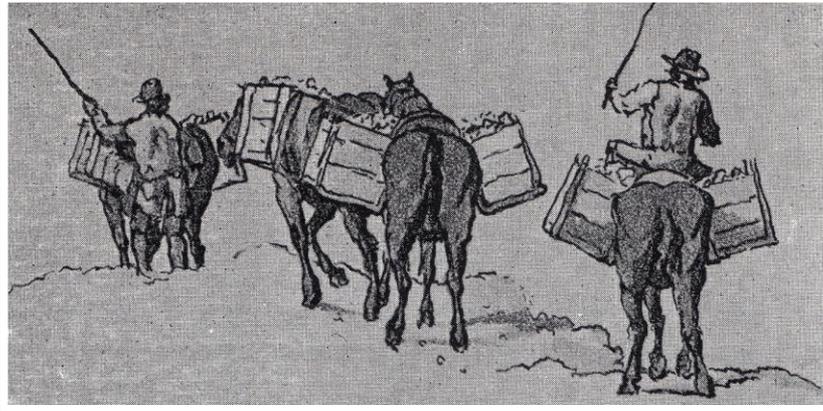


George Washington's Portmanteau, Museum of the American Revolution

"Unfortunately, just at this critical period, one of the loops that held the straps of Richard's little portmanteau broke; and it became necessary (just before we overtook Mr. Bailey) for me to fasten the portmanteau on before me, upon my saddle."

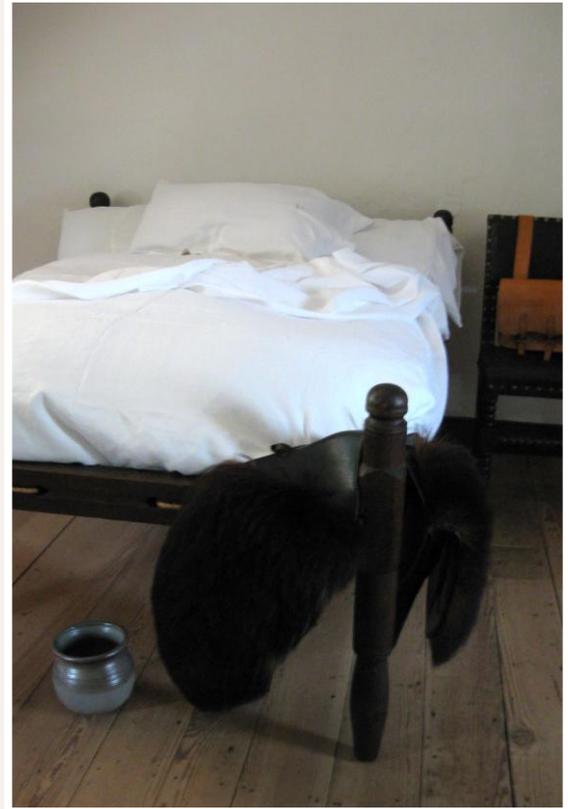
-*Rural Rides*,
William Cobbett

Packhorses
(*The English
Inn, Past
and
Present*);
Colonial
Williamsburg



Saddlebags

- Existed for millennia
- Draped over horse, bag on either side
- Not mentioned in Austen
- Shakespeare does reference panniers

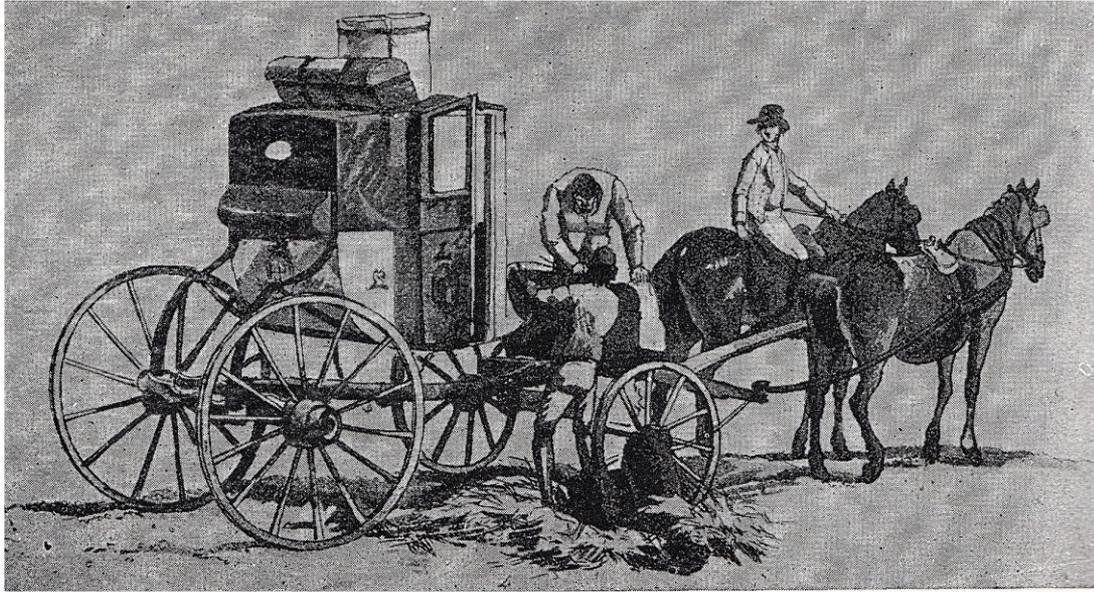


Valise

- Difficult to find a specific definition of it
- Either a small trunk or a small portmanteau
- From French valise / Italian valigia
- No references in Austen

Possibly a valise and saddlebags,
Historic Deerfield





Bandbox

Loading a Chaise
(*The English
Inn, Past and
Present*)

- Austen does use this
- Originally to carry starched "bands" (collars)
- Made of pasteboard or wood
- Usually circular

"Farther discussion was prevented by various bustles: first, the driver came to be paid; then there was a squabble between Sam and Rebecca about the manner of carrying up his sister's trunk, which he would manage all his own way; and lastly, in walked Mr. Price himself, his own loud voice preceding him, as with something of the oath kind he kicked away his son's port-manteau and his daughter's bandbox in the passage, and called out for a candle; no candle was brought, however, and he walked into the room."

-*Mansfield Park*



Circa 1800-1825 bandbox sans lid (Wikimedia)



Colonial Williamsburg

Parcels / Boxes

"...after some contrivance, the whole party, with all their boxes, workbags, and parcels, and the unwelcome addition of Kitty's and Lydia's purchases, were seated in it."

-*Pride and Prejudice*

"-Susan had only superintended their final removal from the Hotel, bringing two heavy Boxes herself..."

-*Sanditon*

"Before very long her box was forwarded from Croydon, and both Robert and Jane wrote more suitably than might have been expected, expressing considerable regret that she had left them."

-*The Watsons*

Writing-desk / Writing-slope

"The clock struck ten while the trunks were carrying down, and the general had fixed to be out of Milsom Street by that hour. His greatcoat, instead of being brought for him to put on directly, was spread out in the curricle in which he was to accompany his son. The middle seat of the chaise was not drawn out, though there were three people to go in it, and his daughter's maid had so crowded it with parcels that Miss Morland would not have room to sit; and, so much was he influenced by this apprehension when he handed her in, that she had some difficulty in saving her own new writing-desk from being thrown out into the street."
-Northanger Abbey



Jane Austen Centre, Bath



Old Sturbridge Village

"I should have begun my letter soon after our arrival but for a little adventure which prevented me. After we had been here a quarter of an hour it was discovered that my writing and dressing boxes had been by accident put into a chaise which was just packing off as we came in, and were driven away towards Gravesend in their way to the West Indies. No part of my property could have been such a prize before, for in my writing-box was all my worldly wealth...Mr Nottley immediately despatched a man and horse after the chaise, and in half an hour's time I had the pleasure of being as rich as ever; they were got about two or three miles off."

-Jane Austen, letter to Cassandra

Dressing-Case / Travelling Service

- Specialised case with compartments, usually for grooming implements
- Sometimes larger ones with other useful implements



Historic Deerfield



Prince Regent's Travelling Service, "Dressing the Georgians," Queens Gallery



Continue to Part 2



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