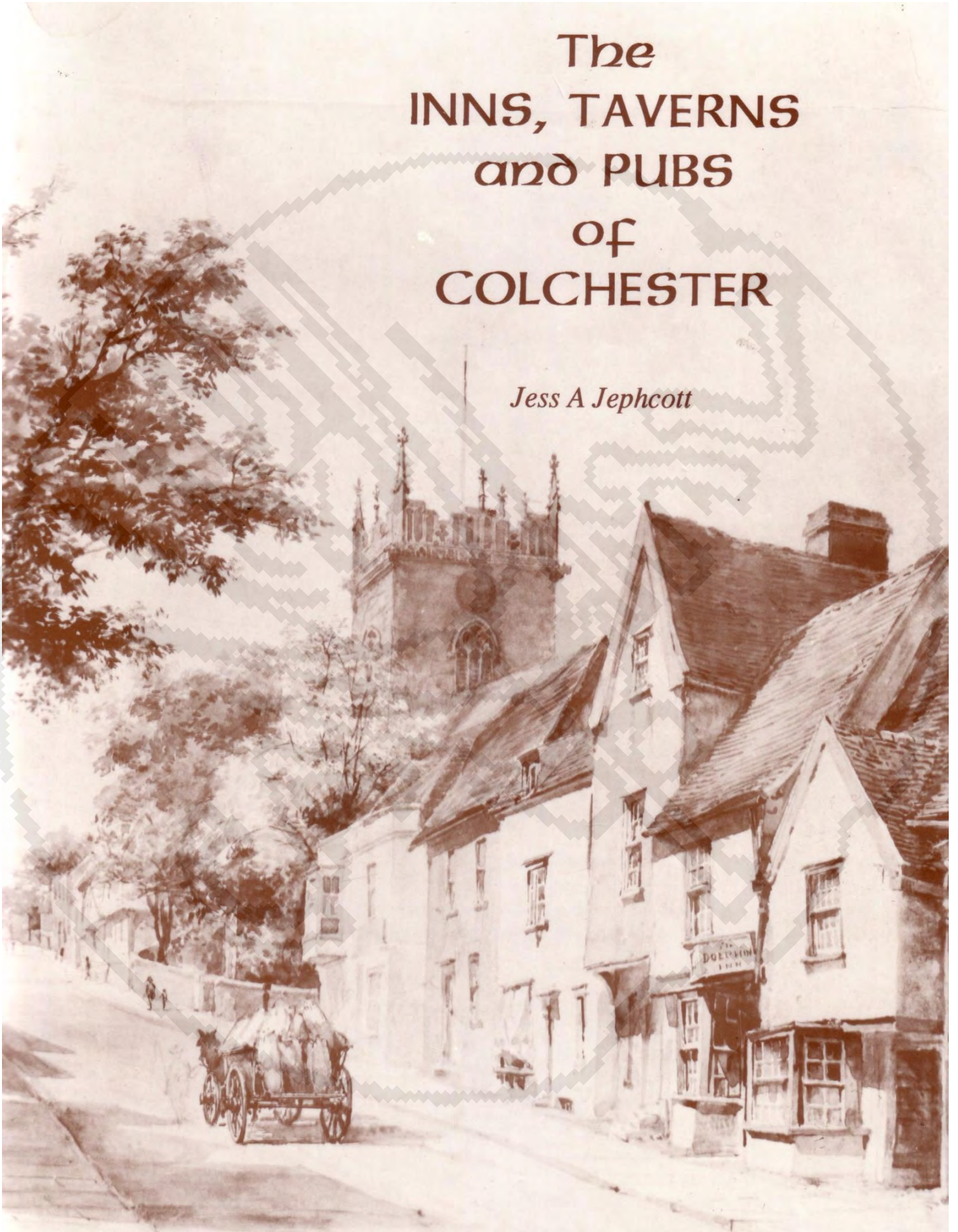
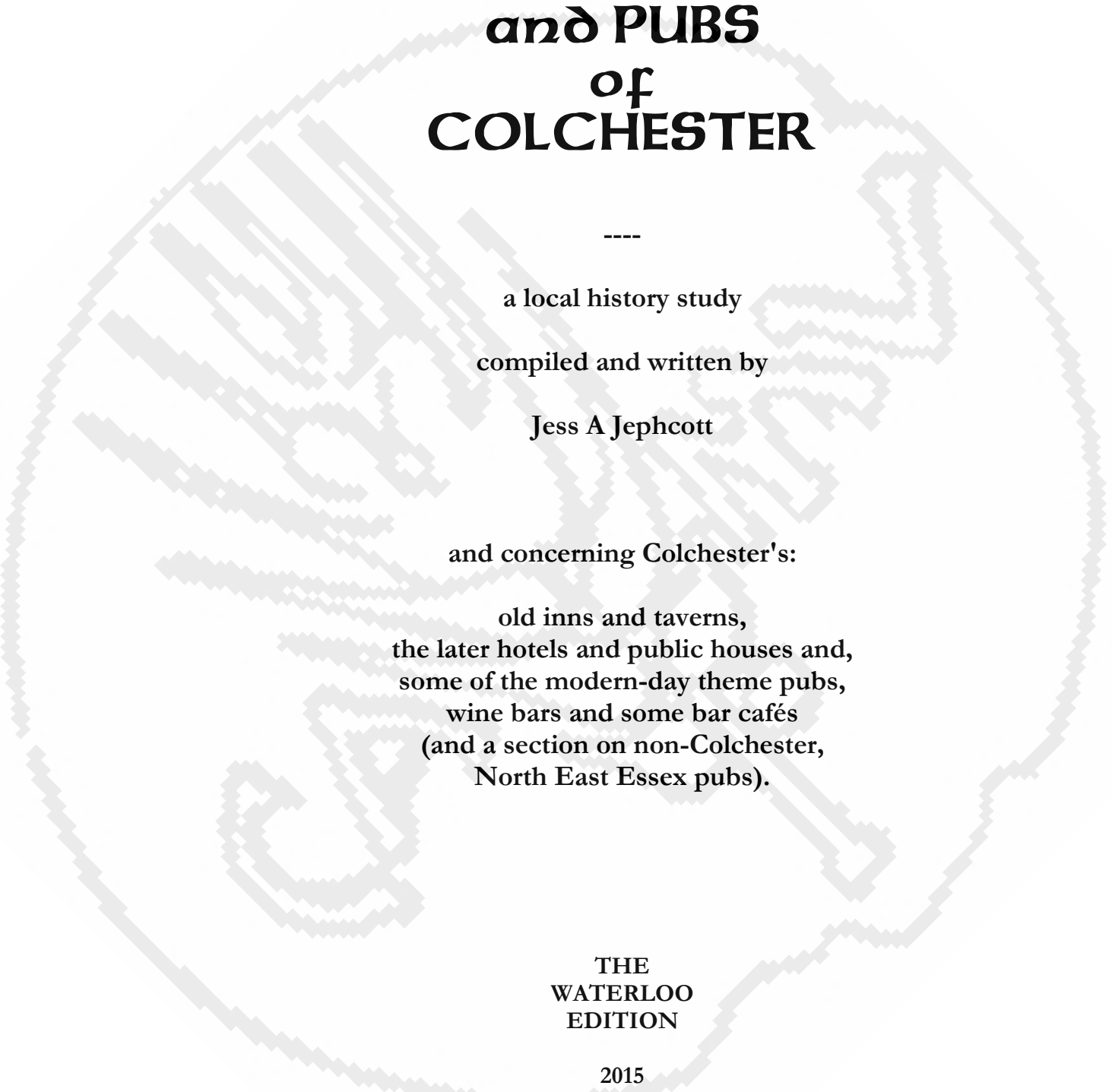


The
INNS, TAVERNS
and PUBS
of
COLCHESTER

Jess A Jephcott





The INNS, TAVERNS and PUBS of COLCHESTER

a local history study

compiled and written by

Jess A Jephcott

and concerning Colchester's:

old inns and taverns,
the later hotels and public houses and,
some of the modern-day theme pubs,
wine bars and some bar cafés
(and a section on non-Colchester,
North East Essex pubs).

THE
WATERLOO
EDITION

2015

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First edition of 240 perfect bound and 10 hardback copies printed in 1995.
Second edition (The Millennium Edition) of 100 perfect bound copies printed in 1999.
Third edition (The Smoker's Edition) of 50 perfect bound copies printed in 2007.
Fourth edition (The Queen's Diamond Jubilee Edition) of 50 perfect bound copies printed in 2012.
(with a further 70 printed, with minor revisions, due to unexpected demand).
Fifth edition (The Waterloo Edition) of 100 perfect bound copies printed in 2015.

To obtain a copy of this book please try contacting the author at:

Ditchling, Quilters Green, Fordham, Colchester, CO6 3LZ.

or pending his removal to some tax haven, or another more permanent place, then via telepathy

- or perhaps at: www.camulos.com

For those that are interested and understand such things, this book was written on a PC (personal computer), using Microsoft Word (a word processing programme) and printed in Garamond, CelticMD and Brush Script fonts. The main text is in 10pt Garamond.

This book is self-published by the author, a non-academic, so please make allowances. It had to be self-published as, what professional publisher in their right mind would take it on? It is also a non-PC publication. The pea-brained idiots who promote political correctness have gradually taken over our lives and have destroyed much of our traditional way of life. Oppose them whenever you are able. It's not too late, and remember, it can be fun!

WARNING!

There is material in this book which might be considered as distasteful.
There is also material in this book which might be considered as humorous.
There is also material in this book that may not be strictly accurate.
If you are a pedantic prude with no sense of humour, this book is not for you.
Sorry.

front cover picture: 'Hythe Hill, looking west towards St Leonard's church.'

Painted by Major Bale around 1900, showing the Dolphin Inn and what would then have been the Packet Inn. The area of the town that it depicts is little changed today, showing a carter driving his heavily laden wagon up the hill towards the town. Although the original belongs to us all, it is reproduced here with the kind permission of Colchester Museum.

back cover picture: 'Bottolph Street, Colchester, Essex.'

Unsigned and undated, it is believed to be by Edward Eyre and dated around 1790. He was a military man and seems to have painted several views of Colchester, being characterised by a fondness for sunbeams, elegant ladies and soldiers; all of which are in this picture. The original was owned by Mr Arthur T Osborne (once a Colchester brewer and owner of many public houses) but is now owned by the Borough of Colchester and held at the Colchester Museum. It shows an area of Colchester which has since been completely swallowed up by St Botolph's roundabout, depicting the building that became the Woolpack Inn on the right, and the Plough Inn on the left. The sign of the Plough is just visible. It is a view looking south, towards the foot of the present day Mersea Road, with the old (medieval) buttressed wall and the windmill behind, the latter taken down at the time of the Crimean War when the Camp was being formed. The street is paved with coarse cobbles, once so common in the town, and the gutter is in the middle of the road. It is a delightful work of art and an obvious choice for inclusion in this book. Again, it is reproduced here with the kind permission of Colchester Museum.

A Convivial Meeting

presumed to be by

William Hogarth



This illustration is from a sketch, believed to have been drawn by William Hogarth (1697 to 1764.) It is entitled 'A Convivial Meeting' and shows various characters sitting round a table at a tavern, smoking and drinking. One of the number is giving an order to a maid who enters at the door. A man-servant, with a key in his hand, stands at the other side.

Acknowledgements and Thanks

I have received so much help and encouragement from landlords, ex-landlords and landladies, the 'old boys and girls,' local historians, museum and library staff, etc. that there are too many to mention by name. To all of them I offer my thanks for helping me in the compiling and presentation of this book.

I am particularly grateful for the help and assistance given to me by the staff of the following bodies and for their permission to reproduce many of the illustrations shown within this book.

Colchester Library, Local Studies Section (as was)
Colchester Museum Resources Centre
Essex Record Office, Colchester (as was)

My special thanks to Theresa for the help given with proof reading, constructive criticism and general assistance with getting all of the editions of the book to print.

Belated thanks also to Mr Bill Nevard (deceased) who cautiously let me have selected copies of his Truman collection of photographs to publish in this book. Where did the collection go to Bill?

Some years ago, when I was working on the earlier editions of this book, I became aware of Mr Ian Hunter (deceased) and his Essex Pubs website. Ian 'Pubby' Hunter did a tremendous amount of work with recording our Essex pubs, which, of course, included Colchester. We often exchanged information and he was kind enough to acknowledge my work on this subject. For this and the previous edition of the book, I have added much of Ian's trade directory references and various other snippets that he and unknown others had uncovered over the years. I therefore offer a special tribute to Ian Hunter and to those who followed him with the recording, preserving and adding-to the collective database. People such as Mr John Mead (deceased) and to Kevan of the 'Dead Pub' website, deserve our special thanks.

Finally, to my old (and now deceased) dad, Arthur Henry (Jeph) Jephcott, for setting me on the path of pub appreciation, that was to ultimately result in this work being produced. Cheers Dad! I miss you mate!

Dedication

I dedicate this book to the memory of

Mr Gerald Owen Rickword

who died 18th January 1969 at the age of 82 years.

It was said of him that he carried in his head and in his reference books, a mass of information, particularly about his chief love, the Army, and about Colchester's families, businesses and, of course, its inns.

Local historians have become accustomed to drawing on the accumulated treasury of their predecessors. As these pioneers pass on, research is continued by a younger generation. We are fortunate indeed that so many of Gerald Rickword's records have been preserved, so that others have been able to gain from his depth of knowledge and interest in Colchester's rich history.

This book draws heavily from Mr Rickword's work.

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Notes to this Waterloo Edition of 2015

This book is an updated version of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Edition that was published in 2012.

It includes additional information and extra illustrations and corrects certain errors and/or omissions that had been discovered.

Rather than include present day information about pubs, which is all too soon out of date and irrelevant, the author has set up an internet website to give up-to-date information about today's pubs.

In 2015, this book was made available for free viewing on the internet, as was the 2007 edition before that. If requested, a modest fee would be charged for a watermarked copy of this book on a computer disc.

To access the website, please go to:

www.camulos.com/pubs.com

or (if the author has passed on or something has since changed in this fast moving technological medium) simply search the internet using the keywords:

camulos colchester pubs

You may get lucky!