

Highfield Inn

578 Ripponden Road

Licencees

James Hallas	1861 – 80
Abraham Hallas	1883 – 05
Sarah Platt	1905 – 06
Asa Heason	1906 – 10
Sam Warburton	1910 – 12
John Hallas	1912 – 15
Mary Hallas	1915 – 19
Joe Shepherd	1919 – 31
George Simpson	1931 – 54
Lewis Wild	1954 – 74
Irvin Wild	1974 – 85
Eric J Devall	1985 – 88
Michael Hardman	1988 -



Highfield Inn, Ripponden Road, in 1963

In 1861, after keeping a beerhouse at Sholver Fold for twenty-three years, James Hallas built himself a new house on Ripponden Road at a cost of £600, with the intention of getting it licensed as a public house. He purchased an excise licence and opened the Highfield Inn as a beerhouse, then put in for the full licence the following year. He was refused, but at the 1863 sessions he was successful.

In 1886 Abraham Hallas was the licensee and James was still the owner, then by 1894 Abraham had inherited the property. There were then four drinking rooms and four bedrooms, accommodation for travellers and stabling for two horses in the enclosed yard. The house was not tied to a brewer and it was very clean and in good repair.

Abraham left in 1905 and five years later Oldham Brewery purchased the Highfield Inn. They made some minor alterations in 1933, re-siting the stairs so that a quadrant-shaped bar could be fitted. The pub then had a tap room and a parlour at the front, on either side of the lobby, and at the back were the kitchen, bar and snug. The old scullery, an outbuilding at the back, became the ladies' toilets and a well in the yard was flagged over.

O.B made extensive alterations in 1954, the year Lewis Wild took over. Lewis stayed for twenty years and was followed by Irvin Wild from 1974 until 1985

Today the Highfield belongs to the Boddington pub company and it was recently refurbished.

The Oldham Beerhouses and their licensees 1828 – 1994. Part One: Albert Hotel to Hunters Tavern
– Rob Magee, Werneth, March 1994