

Stroud Town Council Local Heritage Asset List

Wallbridge, The Bell Hotel, Stroud near GL5 3JS	
Historic Building	Conservation Area: Stroud Industrial Heritage Stroud Town Centre NDP area
Hotel, now offices and flats	List entry number SLHA0044



Description

Three storey brick building with stone string courses and sills and a fine front door and three part window above and a porthole window in the mansard roof.

The Bell Hotel was the tap house for Stroud Brewery built (1850's?). It predated the LMS railway Wallgate station by at least 30 years (LMS opened in 1886 and closed 1947) but its shape meant that it became the corner of the bridge entrance to the Midland Railway passenger and goods station (LMS) (*image owned by Howard Beard and publishes in The Old Stroud Brewery by Marion Hearfield*).

Stroud Brewery leased the Bell Hotel from the Thames and Severn Canal Company before 1865 when the annual rent went up to £41 (*ibid* p28)

This is an unusually shaped building which once stood opposite the Stroud Brewery with stabling on the wharf by the canal (*Ibid. p28*).

It is no longer trading as the Bell Hotel today (since 2007) and is now the visitor centre for the Cotswold Canals Trust, a print company, a popular canalside cafe and apartments.

With its links to the brewery, railway and canal, this building is an integral part of the Wallbridge area, as well as being a high quality Victorian building prominently placed at one of the gateways to the town.

Selection Criteria	
Age	

Rarity	A remnant of the Wallbridge area of Stroud Brewery.
Architectural and aesthetic value	Classic 'triangular' corner building, now detached from its bridge to the old Midland station.
Group value	
Evidential value	
Historic association	The main station pub for the Midland Railway, passenger and Goods Station
Archaeological interest	
Designed landscapes	
Landmark status	A landmark Victorian building at one of the gateways to the town.
Social and communal value	
Degree of completeness	From all the pictures available the building appears not to have changed since it was built.
Date of inclusion	June 2017

With thanks to Stroud Preservation Trust – www.stroudpreservationtrust.org.uk

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