

SHADOW SHOPS OF HIGH ST

High St was once an extension of Bridge Lanes and ran from opposite the Co-Op right up to The Fox and Goose. It was named because of its elevation and not for its commercial nature. Before 1960 the street was densely populated with a scrum of terraced houses and a variety of shops including a painters, a plumbers, an electricians, a gentlemen's outfitters, an upholstery firm, an undertakers, a small house for worship, two lodging houses (for men only), a pub and a bottle plant that sold local lemonade. There were also some public toilets and a telephone box.

The row led on up to The Fox and Goose Pub, which survived the demolition and is now celebrated as being one of the oldest recorded sites in Calderdale. Between the 13th and 15th centuries it was known as the Wynn Inn and during the 17th century as the Litt House. It is famously reputed to have been a brothel during this period. John Butterworth is registered as being the landlord in 1911 though the pub itself was owned by the Grove Brewery in Brearley and later by Whitakers (a Halifax based company who eventually became Whitbread). Today of course the pub is run as a co-operative; the first in West Yorkshire to become so, proving that the old Hebden spirit and striving for self - management is very much still alive and kicking.