



Young Heritage Hunters

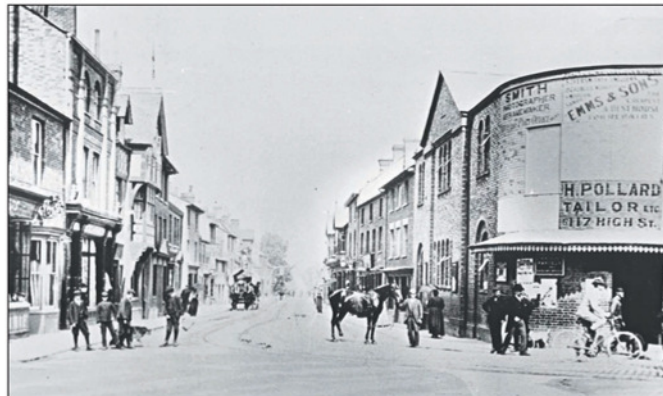
History on the High Street



Market Square, Stony Stratford



High Street Stony Stratford



Corner of the High Street and Wolverton Road

Year 2: Visit to Stony Stratford

The history of Stony Stratford goes back to beyond Roman times with a market charter dating back to 1194. The Roman road of Watling Street runs through the middle of the town. It became a key stopping point for stage coaches until the coming of the railways and motor car led to a decline.

Stony Stratford is an attractive market town and many traces of history can be seen on the High Street. There are buildings from a number of eras from stone to brick built. There are also two historic

former coaching inns called The Cock and The Bull. As these were major stopping off points, the inns became good places to catch up on news and gossip. It is believed that these inns give their name to tall tales 'Cock and Bull stories'.

John Hooton was a stable lad at the Bull Inn. He was convicted of stealing and sent to Australia in 1822. In 1840 he received a conditional pardon which meant that he could be free if he never returned to England. He married and had children. A member of his family researched his story.