

# Ironmongers, Builders and Plumbers Inspection Covers in Colchester.

August 2018.

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E.J.Russell suggests that the majority of these were produced between the two world wars and were a result of offers to cast personalised covers for a modest order of two dozen from foundry salesmen.

The result is a tangible record in the gardens, pathways and shared passageways of houses of the builder or plumber who worked on the sites.



Appleton & Son Butt Road Colchester



Colchester Building Supplies Ltd



Grimsy Bros builders Colchester



W. Rogers sanitary engineer Colchester & Witham





W Chambers builder Colchester



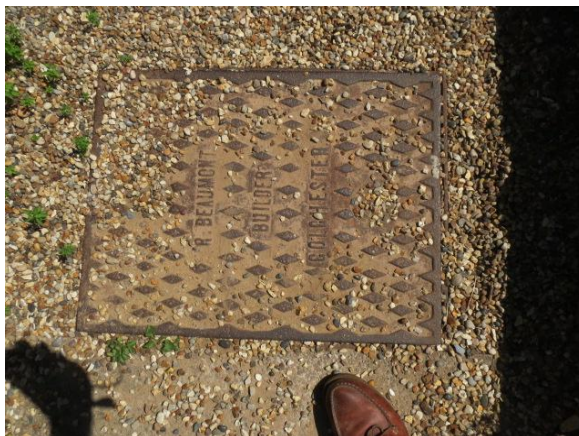
A Diss Colchester



A E Flory builder Colchester



Appleton Smith & Co builder Colchester



R Beaumont Builders Colchester



S.H & W G French Old Road Clacton on Sea





Appleton Moss builders Colchester



Thos Jno Ward Colchester



Nock Bros builders Colchester



E Soames builder Manningtree



Pennick & Taylor Clacton on Sea



R Beaumont & Son builders Lexden



G & R Baker builders Arlesford



C Dobson builders & contractors Colchester





G Dobson & Sons contractor Colchester R W Chandler & Son builders Widford & Chelmsford



Johnstone & Son builders Colchester W Rogers sanitary engineer Colchester

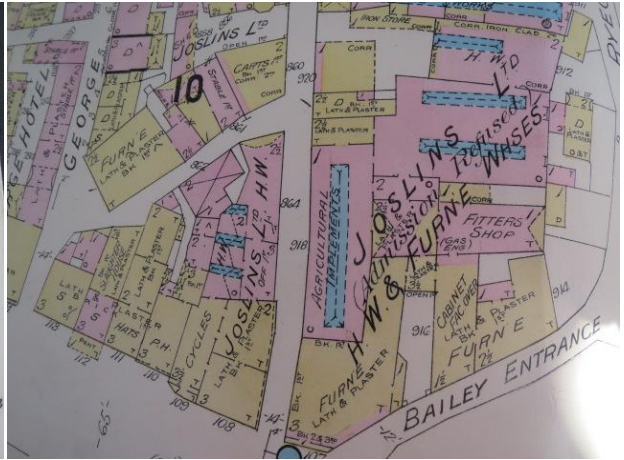


Joslins Ironmongers Colchester Beard & Son Ironmonger Colchester

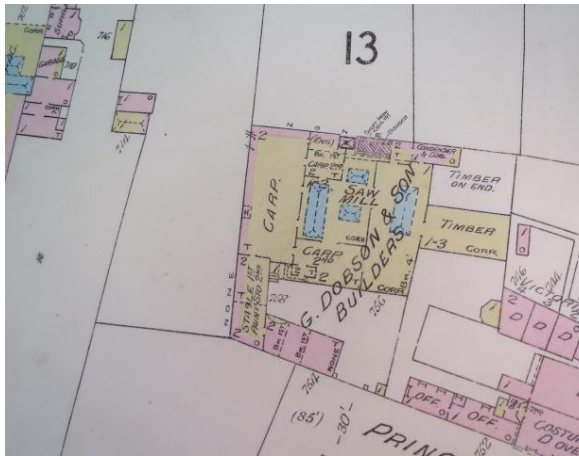




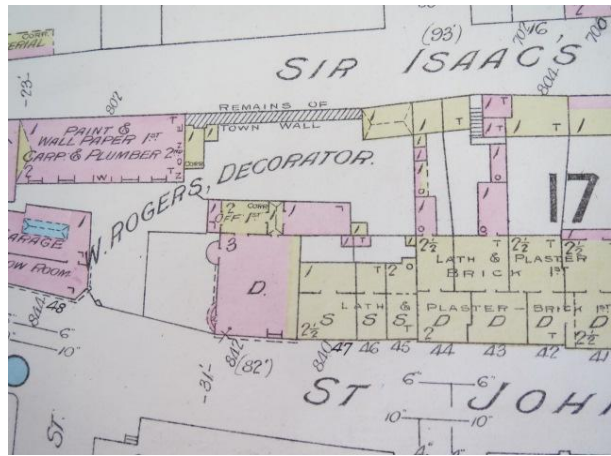
Beard & Son premises .



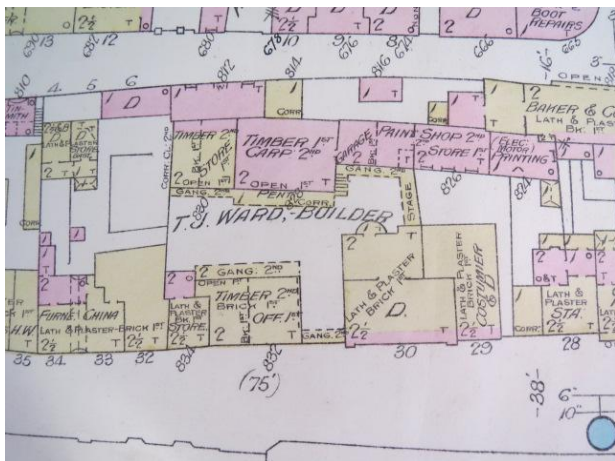
Joslin's High Street premises.



G Dobson & Son builders premises.



W. Rogers Decorators premises.



T J Ward builder premises

“On leaving school, I went to work as an apprentice decorator at Willian Rogers in St John’s Street.

This firm were known as the best decorators in Colchester and the region. They employed an average of about 15 decorators, three or four carpenters, three plumbers two” man Fridays “ whose jobs were small time building ,including forming or repairing drains , and a van driver.

Also there was a secretary and a manager, with Mr John Smith ( a lovely chap ) being the boss .In fact the company was a family company that Mr Smith married into. If I remember correctly I think they had been going for about 130 years when they closed.

I don’t think they were ever into proper full size building but I understand that they had an interest and input into the building of the lovely houses around Lexden Road. The firm had also been popular with High Street stores etc as Rogers were in the town centre when they were required.

The premises of the company are the building that is now a restaurant behind the courtyard in St John’s Street opposite the Playhouse .Going up the circular stairs you were in the workshop area of the decorators, through the door to the right was a carpenters workshop ( with a door onto Sir Isaacs Walk). Turning left at the stairs you went into a store room with a large door,( also onto Sir Isaac’s Walk) and a right turn would take you into the tea room. All of this is now a row of retail premises !

Appleton & Sons were solely a building company and also with a good reputation. Appletons were up a lane on the bend at the top of Butt Road. I believe they were still going when Rogers closed “

Brian Dunt ,St Bartholomew Close ,Colchester. Letter to the Colchester Gazette.

The locations of the various inspection covers can be found in the Colchester Ironwork Survey August 2018. This is a street by street survey in the Borough of the remaining pieces of ironwork including lampposts, drains and manhole covers, inspection covers and bollards etc.