



Certificate of suitability for Matthew Bruges's house...1744

To His Majesties[sic] Justices of the peace acting for the Hundred of Whorlesdown in the County of Wiltshire

We whose named are hereunto subscribed inhabitants within the parish of Steeple Ashton with Semington do humbly Certify that the new Dwelling House of Matthew Bruges in Semington is conveniently Situated there for a Victualling House and that he is of Good reputation and that the same house is well accommodated for Entertainment of Travellers and therefore we are Willing that he may be granted a licence for keeping the said Victualling House if Your Worships please to grant it. Witness our Hands the 23rd day of February 1744

M. Jarvis, Chappel Warden

Edmund Lewis, Overseer

J. Matow Drinkwater

John Twining

Robert Mattock

OPC NOTES

A victualing house or ale house was a licensed premises (often a dwelling house) permitted to sell ale and food to travellers. They offered no overnight accommodation which separated them from the inns and public houses of the period.