

**Name of Pub:** The Peacock

**Are there any explanation of the pub's name or changes of name?:** Named after the original 'Peacock Inn' which the current building replaced.

**Did it have any previous names? :** Londonderry Hotel/ Londonderry Arms after Charles William Vane Steward, the third Marquis of Londonderry, the founder of Seaham Harbour and the owner of several coal mines in the area.

**What did it look like in the past?**



**Image 1** – An early photograph of the former Peacock Inn before its demolition c. 1900

**Image 2** – An early photograph of the former Peacock Inn before its demolition c. 1900

**Image 3** – Photograph of soldiers during World War One with the new Londonderry in the background.

**Image 4** – Photograph showing the new Londonderry early 20th century.

**What does it look like today?**



**Historic England Description:**

Grade II listed

Public house. 1901-2. By HTD Hedley. Sandstone ashlar with granite entrance columns; roof graduated Lakeland slate with lead turrets and ashlar chimneys. Triangular plan. Free Baroque style. 2 storeys, with round turrets one storey higher at N and W corners; 8 bays on E, 5 on S and 9 on NW. All fronts have 2 orders of pilasters, each with plinth, sill string and entablature, and top parapet. Ground-floor windows have hollow reveals and rusticated elliptical heads, the projecting voussoirs rising to the entablature; first-floor windows have round arched architraves with scroll keys rising to entablature. N canted entrance bay has double panelled doors below arched recess with carved decoration below big cyma-moulded key bracket supporting turret, which has 2 levels of mullioned windows below top entablature and ogee dome with disc and spike finial. Similar corner turret over W canted entrance. SE corner entrance has granite column at corner and ashlar half-columns at sides on high plinths, flanking steps up to recessed double door at left; open pedimented gabled dormers on each front of ogee-hipped slated dome. NW front has central double doors in rusticated round arch with long keystone to stone mullion and transom first-floor oriel; open pedimented dormers above central 3 bays, flanked by tall panelled chimneys rising from eaves, each with further flanking dormer; plain parapet over outer bays before corner turrets. S front has central wide entrance with shaped double doors. Etched glass in many windows with inscription LONDONDERRY HOTEL.

**A Summary of Research by John Tunman:****The 'Old' Peacock/Londonderry:**

The block of property on the south side of High Street West, which was originally one continuous block with openings/alleys, ran from Church Lane in the west to Crowtree Lane in the east (see Rain's Eye Plan and First Edition OS Map), may have the origins of built development as early as the 12<sup>th</sup> century. The authors of "An Eye Plan of Sunderland and Bishopwearmouth" (1) suggest that the old Saxon village around The Green may have been destroyed by the Normans, and the village then laid out anew along High Street, with villeins' cottages on either side. The "bottleneck" at the east end (adjacent to the site of The Peacock) is, they claim, typical of village layouts of this type. If this is the case, the site of The Peacock would have been the entry to the village from the east. It is not however being suggested here that the earlier building which housed the original Peacock dated back that far – village houses would have been rebuilt many times over the centuries – but that there could have been development there for eight or nine centuries.

At the time of Rain's Eye Plan it was established as the Peacock. Although named on the plan as "Mr Wilson's premises" an advertisement from 1772, placed by Robert Moor of Durham, stated that "he was prepared to collect and bleach linen and yarn, a receiving place for goods being Mrs Wilson, The Peacock, High Street", thereby confirming its existence. It was a hostelry and coaching inn, with stables located on the other side of Crow Tree Lane (2). It remained known as the Peacock until either 1831 (3) or 1834 (4) when it was renamed The Londonderry in honour of the Third Marquis of Londonderry whose new harbour, at Seaham, opened in 1831.

From photographs of the building taken in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, prior to redevelopment, it would appear, from the scale, style of architecture and pantile roof, that it was at that time an old village building. It is concluded therefore that it is unlikely that externally it was significantly different in appearance from what it would have been at the start of the end of the 18<sup>th</sup> and start of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, although of course there could have been significant internal alterations and adaptations. However, the immediately adjoining area had undergone profound changes during that century, having initially become more urbanised with development in Crowtree Road and creation of side streets off High Street further to the east. The middle of the century saw the West End Baths and Wash House open just across the road, on the site of the Workhouse, which had relocated to Chester Road (5). As the century wore on, the town centre spread into the surrounding area, bringing more shops, and, between 1882 and 1907 no less than 4 theatres opened within about 100 yards of the pub (6). Possibly the single biggest change affecting the setting of the Peacock/Londonderry was the cutting of a new road running east from High Street into Crowtree Road in the late 1860s. This road, which when built was called George Mathew Road, was part of a series of Improvement Schemes in the locality (7). It had the effect of severing The Peacock/Londonderry and a few adjoining properties from the old village block of which it had been an integral part, and created the triangular site wholly occupied by the Peacock today. Thus it can be seen that, during the 19<sup>th</sup> century, the environs of the Peacock/Londonderry changed significantly, leaving the Peacock/Londonderry and adjacent buildings an island largely reflecting a past time.

Information concerning ownership is fragmentary and not altogether clear. In the late 18<sup>th</sup> century, Rain's Eye Plan informs us they were "Mr Wilson's Premises". George Welford may have owned the inn between 1828 and 1843 (8), during which time the name changed from the Peacock to the Londonderry (3 & 4). Later on Robert Leiper was the owner for 18 or 20 years up to 1883 when it was auctioned (?); he may have been the landlord of the Crown Inn 257 High Street prior to this time (9). William Waddle, described in the 1881 census as a wine and spirit merchant at 1 Bridge Crescent, followed (8). He was still the owner in 1894, when he advertised for a manager for

the Londonderry (10). However, in 1898 the license was transferred to W B Reid (11), who owned a number of other pubs and the following 2 Christmases advertised the pubs to which they had supplied alcohol, including the Londonderry (12).

During the 19<sup>th</sup> century, and certainly in the second half of that century, the Peacock/Londonderry played a very important role in the commercial and administrative life of the town, as well as its more obvious social role. The most frequent non-pub related events at the Londonderry were auctions. There was a great number of these, conducted under various auctioneers, being particularly evident during the 1870s and 1880s (13). It must be concluded from this that there was a room within the premises suitable for the holding of such events, possibly the “spacious Lodge room” referred to when the property was itself auctioned in 1883 (see below). Administratively, and in common with other pubs in the area, the Londonderry was a venue for inquests into deaths which occurred in the vicinity. One particularly unfortunate case was that of a woman who, when a doctor came and said she needed medicine, refused to supply it to her as she could not pay for it. Another doctor was called; he sent to the surgery for medicine, but the woman died before it arrived. In making comment, the coroner was critical of the first doctor, although it was not clear whether the woman would have died in any event. (14).

The Londonderry was also a venue for Lodge and occasional Trade Union meetings. The appropriately named Loyal Marquis of Londonderry Lodge, Bishopwearmouth District Manchester Unity of Oddfellows held fortnightly meetings there during the late 1890s and well into the 1900s (15). At least 34 meetings of this Lodge were reported in the Sunderland Daily Echo. There were additional reports of meetings of the Loyal Phoenix Lodge in the late 1890s and 1892 (16); these again were reported to be fortnightly meetings. With regard to Trade Unions, presumably they too made use of the Lodge Room. In 1890 the Amalgamated Society of House and Ship Painters and Decorators changed the venue for their meetings to the Londonderry from Field House (17), and during a Moulders’ strike in 1894 the striking workers from Doxfords Shipyard held daily meetings in the Londonderry (18).

There was also a Billiard Room, for in 1888 there was a report of an exhibition billiard match between two contestants, who had also played the previous night watched on both evenings by a large audience (19).

It was probably inevitable that there would be criminal activity within the pub; this is reflected in a few court reports. There was one case of particular interest. The thief had a stick, the end of which was covered with bird lime. He put the stick on the shelf behind the counter and the bird lime being sticky, managed to get two shillings, a penny and a half penny to adhere to it. This may seem a peculiar action today, though the newspaper headline was “An Old Trick”, suggesting it might then have been a fairly common way of stealing money. The accused was sentenced to a month hard labour (20).

In 1883 the original building was offered for sale by auction, and a description of the internal accommodation was included in newspaper advertising; interestingly, despite the Londonderry being a popular venue for auctions, this was held in the Queen’s Hotel, Fawcett Street. The advertisements described the Londonderry as comprising:

*“Three Spacious Long Bars, having separate entrances from the High-street and Crowtree-road, with splendid Wine and Beer Cellars underneath, thoroughly drained, flagged, and cemented flooring. Smoke Room, Kitchens with all requirements; well-lighted full-sized Billiard Room, Lavatory, and W. C.; spacious Lodge Room; Drawing and Dining Rooms, several excellent Lofty Bed Rooms, together with*

*the*  
**TWO SPACIOUS SHOPS AND PREMISES**

*on the West, as at present occupied by Mr Bertram. Frontage to High-street and Crowtree-road 46 yards, and are within short distance of the Central Railway Station, forming the finest position in the whole Borough.*

*The premises have been in the possession of the present Proprietor for the last 20 years and are free from Ground Rent and are offered to the public owing to his ill-health. Immediate possession will be given” (21)*

The proprietor referred to in the advertisement was Mr Robert Leiper. The Second Edition Ordnance Survey map (1897) shows that the 2 shops to the west of the pub included in the sale were all there before reaching the junction with George Mathew Road and that there was only 1 other property on the island block; this had frontages to High Street, George Mathew Road and Crowtree Road.

**Redevelopment of the building:**

The Council acquired the Londonderry for £14,400 around 1900, owning the remainder of the triangular block on which the present building stands. Their intention was to demolish the buildings to widen High Street and install two sets of tram lines (22). The value of the license, in the overall purchase of the Londonderry, was estimated to be between £10,000 and £12,000 (23). As a prelude to the purchase, the Corporation had already acquired three shops adjacent to it in 1888 with a view to pulling them down to widen the street (24). However, managing the disposal of the license that came with the pub, the value of the site, and its future use all turned out to be controversial.

In March 1900 the Corporation invited tenders for the purchase of the site, and designs for a hotel to be built by the purchaser (25). The Highways Committee recommended that the Corporation dispose of the license, valued at £10,000 (23) to a site for new licensed premises at Pallion (27). This provoked comment as to whether the license should remain on the present site as to sell it for the sum of £10,000 for it to be transferred to another site may not be wise (26). Although the magistrates granted an application by John Duncan, of Duncan and Dalglish, for a license at Pallion, on surrender of the license of the Londonderry Hotel (28), the proposed sale of the license for £10,000 (the amount offered by Duncan and Dalglish) (23) and its transfer to a site in Pallion provoked strong opposition, including from the Temperance movement. This resulted in a case being held in the High Court, which the Council won (29). However, the case was then taken to the Court of Appeal by the Temperance Party, and the ruling this time was in their favour (30).

In the interim, pending the decision of the courts on the acceptability of the actions of the Corporation, the Highways Committee agreed that Messrs Duncan and Dalglish become tenants of the Londonderry upon Messrs Reid and Company quitting (31). Following the decision of the Appeal Court, the Corporation marketed the site for new licensed premises but initially received no offers. Then Duncan and Dalglish submitted a low offer of £8,000, followed by an offer £10,000 from Ernest Vaux but this did not meet the Corporation's specifications. After further negotiations, Duncan and Dalglish increased their offer to £12,250; this was accepted (32). This resulted in "confirmation of a provisional license granted to Mr James Walker for the Londonderry Hotel" (33), and plans for the new premises were approved during 1902 (34).

Despite the above decision, an editorial in the Sunderland Daily Echo in 1902 suggested that, looking at the site after the original buildings had been demolished, "if only we had a Richard Grainger, Baron Hausmann, or Joseph Chamberlain" the site could be used as a "great square, four times the width of High Street, flanked by noble buildings instead of the comparative shanties which at present raise their irregular heads". The editorial went on to say this square could make a meeting place, market place and a site for public monuments (35).

#### **The Londonderry/Peacock post redevelopment:**

The new building, designed by Decimus Headley and built by D & J Ranken (36) was a grand, bold piece of civic architecture, with high floor heights, built mainly of sandstone, and in a Free Baroque style. This in both style and scale was quite a contrast to the many vernacular village houses still in the vicinity. However it was not alone in this, as this part of the town had been and continued to be undergoing major changes to accommodate the needs of the growing town. New buildings in the vicinity included music halls, one of which, the People's Palace was just over the road to the Londonderry, and with the magistrates' court and fire station yet to come. Today, the building remains externally largely as it was when built, but it suffered minor damage to the roof and windows during World War Two (37). Also, extensive alterations were made to the internal arrangement of the building during the 1940s (38).

The new premises were, as noted previously, owned by Duncan and Dalglish of Swinburne Place, Newcastle. They remained the owners until 1966 when Bass took over, then in 2003 Mitchell and Butler of Birmingham (39). In 2016, it came into the ownership of the MAC Trust, a charity operating in the immediate area with the aim of regenerating it as a focus of creative activity (40) (41). It re-opened in 2017, reverting to the original name of the Peacock, operated by Pub Culture, which was formed to run the venture and part owned by Paul Callaghan, Chair of the MAC Trust (42).

Despite its size and grandeur, the replacement building does not seem to have had the same wide range of functions as its predecessor – at least not from newspaper reports. It clearly had a Billiards Room, probably upstairs, as in 1915 notice was given of a billiards match for which tickets were "6d, and 1s reserved. 3d. refreshments allows each ticket" (43). Nearly 40 years later, there was an advertisement for the sale of three full size billiard tables from the Londonderry; possibly by this time there was little demand for the game (44). Little else is known about its use, but from the 1980s onwards the first floor was a disco, initially known as "Reflex" and later "Flares" (NB dates

to be determined). Since 2019, the Peacock has been a music venue, operated by the Futureheads lead singer, Barry Hyde, and his business partner, Don Donnelly (45).

As an incidental piece of social information, it would seem that the amount paid a barmaid at the Londonderry in 1909 was 18s per week. This came out during a court case concerning the unfair dismissal of a barmaid. The barmaid in question had every third Sunday off, but when this fell on Easter Sunday (one of the busiest trading days of the year) and she did not turn in, she was sacked (46).

There were few reports of criminal activity involving the Londonderry. One, of interest, was in 1918 when a charge was brought against the licensee Richard William Duncan, of allowing gaming on licensed premises. It transpired that he was engaged on "government work" and not at the premises, having brought in a manager. The Bench were satisfied there was not sufficient evidence to convict and the case was dismissed. They did, however, indicate that the landlord ought to see that the place was better supervised (47).

#### References:

- (1) "An Eye Plan of Sunderland and Bishopwearmouth 1785-1790 by John Rain" reproduced and edited by Michael Clay, Geoffrey Milburn and Stuart Miller p 55. Published 1984 ISBN 0 85983 187 6
- (2) Ibid p 27
- (3) Ibid p 27
- (4) see 'Story Timeline' on the pro forma for the Peacock
- (5) Sunderland and Durham County Herald Friday March 18<sup>th</sup> 1859 page 5 col f; Village Atlas 11.7 pp 504-507
- (6) Village Atlas 11.9 pp 511-514
- (7) Tyne and Wear Archives ref: 209/48 (?); NB Details published in the London Gazette November 20<sup>th</sup> 1866
- (8) A Historic Look at the Pubs of Bishopwearmouth- Ron Lawson
- (9) Whelans Directory 1856
- (10) SDE 10/04/1894 p 2 col 1
- (11) SDE 02/03/1898 p 3 col 2
- (12) SDE 04/12/1899 p 1 col 5; similar ads in 1898
- (13) For example SDE 16/11/1877 p 2 col 4; SDE 24/08/1882 p 2 col 3 and very many others
- (14) SDE 28/10/1893 p 4 col 3
- (15) SDE 07/08/1890 p 3 col 3 as an example
- (16) SDE 13/06/1892 p 3 col 4 and 2 other reports
- (17) SDE 27/02/1890 p 2 col 5
- (18) SDE 19/07/1894 p 3 col 3
- (19) SDE 27/01/1888 p 4 col 1
- (20) SDE 14/10/1890 p 4 col 3
- (21) The Auction was advertised in the SDE 20/07/1883 p 2 col 3 and on 9 other dates
- (22) SDE 26/07/1901. This is a lengthy article about a meeting of the Council covering various matters relating to the disposal of the site, but including reference to it having been purchased to demolish the building to widen it to allow trams to run on it.
- (23) SDE 23/08/1900 p 4 cols 2 & 3
- (24) SDE 20/10/1888 p 3 col 2
- (25) SDE 19/03/1900 p 2 col 5
- (26) SDE 09/08/1900 p 2 cols 5 & 6
- (27) SDE 04/08/1900 p 3 col 1
- (28) SDE 21/09/1900 p 4 cols 3 & 4
- (29) SDE 08/05/1901 p 6 col 1
- (30) SDE 06/06/1901 p 3 col 1
- (31) SDE 24/10/1900 p 4 col 4
- (32) SDE 26/07/1901 p 6 cols 1 & 2
- (33) SDE 10/10/1901 p 3 col 6
- (34) SDE 06/01/1903 p 3 col 4

- (35) SDE 26/05/1902 p 2 col 7
- (36) SDE 06/01/1903 p 3 col 4
- (37) The Pubs of Bishopwearmouth Ron Lawson p 53
- (38) Information from Pro Forma
- (39) The Pubs of bishopwearmouth Ron Lawson p 53
- (40) Seagull City ([wp.sunderland.ac.uk/seagullcity/keel-square](http://wp.sunderland.ac.uk/seagullcity/keel-square))
- (41) <https://www.mactrust.org.uk/>
- (42) Chronicle Live 04/05/2017
- (43) SDE 15/02/1915 p 6 col 7
- (44) SDE 16/06/1952 p 15 col 6
- (45) SDE 15/10/2019
- (46) Sunderland Public Houses, Alan Brett p 29 (Black Cat Publications, 2003. (ISBN 1 899560 46)
- (47) SDE 18/10/1918 p 3 col 4

**Map regression:**



- Map 1** – Rain’s Eye Plan c.1785 [accessed via Sunderland Antiquarian Society].
- Map 2** – 1857 Ordnance Survey Map (25”) [Accessed via Sunderland Antiquarian Society].
- Map 2** - 1897 Ordnance Survey Map (25”) [Accessed via National Library of Scotland].
- Map 3**– 1919 Ordnance Survey Map (25”) [Accessed via National Library of Scotland].
- Map 4** - 1946 Ordnance Survey Map (25”) [Accessed via National Library of Scotland].
- Map 5** - Modern Ordnance Survey Map (25”) [Accessed via Historic England, Search the List].

There is little or no difference in the general footprint of the block of which the Peacock originally formed part between the depiction on the Rain’s Eye Plan and the 1<sup>st</sup> edition OS map of 1857. Both show the original building as part of a triangular block of property forming part of a larger block on the south side of High Street running as far west as Church Lane. This would have been part of the original ‘organic’ form of the village, probably dating from the Middle Ages (see separate notes). However, in detail, the Rains Eye Plan appears to show a rear yard accessed from Crowtree Lane and labelled ‘MrWilson’s Premises’, whereas the First Edition OS shows the block as significantly built over, suggesting that between the 1780s and 1850s the property had been added to, or possibly rebuilt. From the photo of the original Peacock, the latter seems unlikely. The First Edition map does not identify it as an Inn or Public House. In the late 1860s, as part of a Town Improvement Scheme in the locality, a new east-west link between High Street West and Crowtree Road, originally known as George Mathew Road, was cut through, involving some demolition and severing the Londonderry (as it was by this time known) from the remainder of the village block of which it had once formed part. Mapping of 1887 shows the original ‘Peacock Inn’ (noted simply as ‘Public House’) located at the tip of a broadly triangular plot of land and adjoining 3 other buildings. There is no Ordnance Survey mapping evidence available for the period between 1897 and 1919, however at some point in the intervening years, the original

pub and adjoining buildings had been demolished and replaced with the current building. The mapping between 1919, 1946 and modern OS mapping shows very little change to the plan form of the building, other than a small infill to the southern elevation.

**Location:** The pub is located in the center of Bishopwearmouth on a prominent, triangular plot of land with elevations fronting Crowntree Road, George Mathew Road and High Street West. Historically, the pub was located in close proximity to Public Baths and Wash Houses, the Empire Theater, King's Theatre and Palace Theatre, a police and fire station and several other Public Houses including the Dun Cow. Though the pub was once surrounded by such high status buildings, it now sits in relative isolation and as such, has become a land mark building.

**How long has it been a pub?:** The current building has been a Public House since 1901/2 when it was commissioned for local brewers Duncan & Dalglish from Newcastle upon Tyne. The current building replaced a Public House (The Peacock), which is suggested to have dated to the 18<sup>th</sup> century.

#### **Who worked here?**

The following information has been extracted from Ron Lawsons Pubs of Bishopwearmouth (2019).

**Owner** – Executors of the late William Waddle

#### **Trade Directory:**

##### **Now Demolished Building:**

##### **(The Peacock)**

1772 – Mrs Wilson

1819 – Mrs Butcher

1820 - ? Young

1821 – Mrs Burnip

1828 – William Dunn

1828 – 31 – George Welford

##### **(The Londonderry)**

1831 – 43 – George Welford

1844 – 51 – John Pattinson

1852 – 59 – John Sidgwick

1861 – Mrs. Harriet Sidgwick

1864 – John Pyle

1865 – 83 – Robert Leiper

1886 – 87 – William Waddle

#### **License Holder:**

Aug 1887: William Bruce Reid

Aug 1888: Mathias Waddle

Apr 1898: George Bell

Dec 1900: James Walker

#### **The Londonderry Hotel**

Sep 1901: Application for the provisional grant for premises about to be constructed by Duncan and Dalglish and a site upon which parts of Londonderry Hotel and adjoining properties a present stand, bounded by High Street West on the North and West, by George Mathew Road on the South and Crowtree Road on the East.

Oct 1901: Provisional Grant Confirmed

Dec 1904: Declared final

**Owner** – Duncan and Dalglish Ltd., Newcastle.

#### **License Holder:**

Sep 1901: James Walker

Oct 1906: Richard Wylam Duncan

Feb 1954: Ralph Henry Thompson Carr

May 1956: John William Hunter Carr

Jan 1963: Robert Bilclough

Nov 1963: William Richard Bass

Jan 1965: James Nelson Cairns

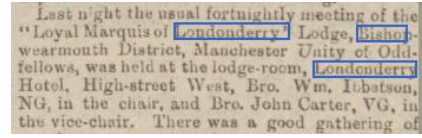
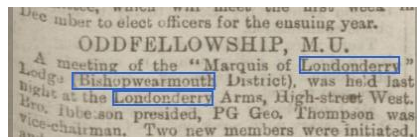
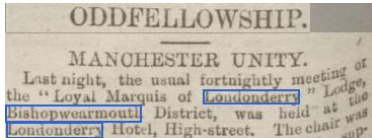
Sep 1966: Cecil Frederick Cull

Sep 1977: Glynn John Benson

Jan 1979: Ronald Jackson  
 May 1989: Robert Frederick Boyle  
 Sep 1992: Richard Kaigg  
 Sep 1996: Geoffrey Porteous  
 Jan 1998: David Martin

### Who drank here?

From a search on the British Newspaper Archives, it appears as though one of the main clients at the Londonderry in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century were the Manchester Unity Oddfellowship who often held their fortnightly meetings at the pub.

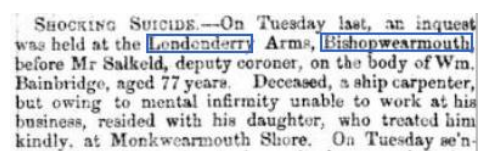
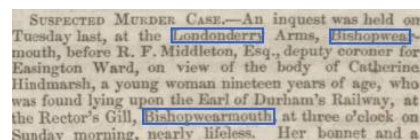
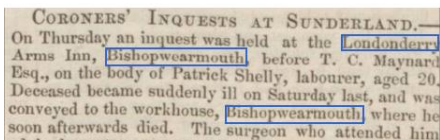


**Image 1:** Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 1888 – Sunderland Daily Echo and Shipping Gazette [accessed via British Newspaper Archive].

**Image 2:** Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> October 1890 – Sunderland Daily Echo and Shipping Gazette [accessed via British Newspaper Archive].

**Image 3:** Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> June 1890 – Sunderland Daily Echo and Shipping Gazette [accessed via British Newspaper Archive].

It also appears as though the pub was often used for coroners inquests throughout the 19<sup>th</sup> century, and although this does not provide us with answers as to who drank here, it perhaps suggests that the Londonderry was a well known location that played a key role in the civic life of Bishopwearmouth.



**Image 1:** Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> November 1847 – Newcastle Guardian and Tyne Mercury [accessed via British Newspaper Archive].

**Image 2:** Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> July 1846 – Newcastle Guardian and Tyne Mercury [accessed via British Newspaper Archive].

**Image 3:** Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 1845 – Evening Mail [accessed via British Newspaper Archive].

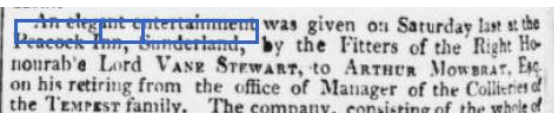
**Brewery link:** The Londonderry pub was commissioned by the brewers Duncan & Dalgligh from Newcastle upon Tyne, who were active in brewing, pubs and hotels as well as wine and spirits. The company had 22 licensed premises and The Londonderry was possibly one of the earliest for the company. From 1907 Bass had a large share in the company and from WWII they had a majority stakehold.

### Story timeline

All Images accessed via British Newspaper Archives:

**18<sup>th</sup> Century** – Around this time period, 'The Peacock' is constructed and is Bishopwearmouths principal coaching inn.

**1772** – Advert for Robert Moor of Durham, stating 'He was prepared to collect and bleach linen and yarn, a receiving place for these good being Mrs. Wilson, The Peacock, High Street'.



**August 1819 – Morning Chronicle:** Report of an 'Elegant entertainment' at the Peacock Inn.



**ELIZABETH WELFORD,**

*(Widow of the late George Welford, Innkeeper,)  
LONDONDERRY ARMS,*

**BISHOPWEARMOUTH,**

**B**EGS leave most respectfully to tender her sincere acknowledgements to the numerous friends of her late husband, and to the public in general, for the kind support he received from them during the many years he carried on business in the above Inn, and begs leave to inform them that she intends to carry on business in the said Inn, on her own account; and, by strict attention to business, she sincerely hopes to merit a continuance of that support so liberally conferred on her late husband.

Londonderry Arms, Bishopwearmouth,  
20th January, 1835.

January 1835 – *Durham Chronicle*: Innkeeper at the Londonderry Arms, George Welford, dies and his widow Elizabeth ‘intends to carry on business in the said Inn on her own account’

**CORONERS' INQUESTS AT SUNDERLAND.**

On Thursday an inquest was held at the Londonderry Arms Inn, Bishopwearmouth, before T. C. Maynard Esq., on the body of Patrick Shelly, labourer, aged 20. Deceased became suddenly ill on Saturday last, and was conveyed to the workhouse, Bishopwearmouth, where he soon afterwards died. The surgeon who attended him

November 1847 – *Newcastle Guardian and Tyne Mercury*: Coroners inquest held at the Londonderry on the body of a laborer.

**SUNDERLAND POULTRY SOCIETY.**

**T**HE LAST MEETING will be held at the LONDONDERRY ARMS, BISHOPWEARMOUTH on THURSDAY NEXT, at Eight o'clock p.m., being the last day for Entries of New Members. All persons interested are requested to pay up their Subscriptions forthwith, as the Books will close this week.

December 1874 – *Sunderland Daily Echo and Shipping Gazette*: Sunderland Poultry Society meet at the Londonderry.

**W**ANTED, a YOUTH, about 15 years of age, to make himself generally useful in the wine and spirit trade, and to attend to billiard table; reference required. Apply to Londonderry Arms, High-street, Bishopwearmouth.

31<sup>st</sup> December 1879 – *Sunderland Daily Echo and Shipping Gazette*: Job advert is put out in local newspaper for a ‘youth’ to ‘make himself generally useful’.

**MAC-ORVILLE** will pass through Easington to the Old Peacock Inn, Bishopwearmouth, on Wednesdays; and will be at Boldon at Night. He will be at Mr Hugh Justice's Stables, Newcastle, on Thursdays, and remain there till Monday.

April 1937 – *Newcastle Courant*: Famous race horse, Mac-Orville stops by at ‘The Old Peacock Inn’. By this point, the name had changed to The Londonderry, but this article suggests this was not well known yet.

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SDE 06/01/1903 p 3 col 4

SDE 06/01/1903 p 3 col 4

SDE 06/06/1901 p 3 col 1

SDE 07/08/1890 p 3 col 3  
 SDE 08/05/1901 p 6 col 1  
 SDE 09/08/1900 p 2 cols 5 & 6  
 SDE 10/04/1894 p 2 col 1  
 SDE 10/10/1901 p 3 col 6  
 SDE 13/06/1892 p 3 col 4  
 SDE 15/02/1915 p 6 col 7  
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 SDE 16/06/1952 p 15 col 6  
 SDE 16/11/1877 p 2 col 4  
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 SDE 19/07/1894 p 3 col 3  
 SDE 20/10/1888 p 3 col 2  
 SDE 21/09/1900 p 4 cols 3 & 4  
 SDE 23/08/1900 p 4 cols 2 & 3  
 SDE 24/08/1882 p 2 col 3  
 SDE 24/10/1900 p 4 col 4  
 SDE 26/05/1902 p 2 col 7  
 SDE 26/07/1901 p6 cols 1 & 2  
 SDE 26/07/1901. This is a lengthy article about a meeting of the Council covering various matters relating to the disposal of the site, but including reference to it having been purchased to demolish the building to widen it to allow trams to run on it.  
 SDE 27/01/1888 p 4 col 1 SDE 14/10/1890 p 4 col 3  
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 The Auction was advertised in the SDE 20/07/1883 p 2 col 3 and on 9 other dates  
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<b>Completed by: Caitlin Osborne (TDR Heritage) and John Tunman</b>	<b>Date: 9/9/22</b>
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