

were thirty lodging places in the parishes of St Thomas and St Peter-le-Bailey, accommodating over 300 inmates. By 1861 there were only fourteen, with 149 inmates.²⁵ This concentration was matched by a similar grouping along the Newmarket Road in Cambridge.

In Northampton there were groups of lodging houses in Bridge Street and Broad Lane (Broad Street) in 1851, and by 1861 a greater concentration in the latter area, where there were eight establishments with 93 inmates. In Daventry the chief concentration was in Brook Street and the courts that ran off it, where 90 lodgers stayed in six lodging houses in 1851. On the corner of Court No.2 was a huge establishment kept by Thomas Robinson, which extended through two houses and accommodated 33 inmates. In the court itself, one house was occupied by a bone collector, one by an old iron dealer and one by an umbrella maker, all occupations closely related to lodging houses.²⁶

Lodging houses also flourished in smaller towns. An establishment on Goose Green, Brackley, run by a baker, had seven lodgers in 1851, including a travelling pedlar and a navy, while another on Cross Lane, kept by an agricultural labourer, had fourteen, including two cutlery grinders and a French polisher. At the former in 1861 there were ten lodgers including hawkers of mats and brushes, a saw sharpener and a bonnet maker, while another establishment in the parish of St James, kept by a labourer, had six lodgers. Towcester made its living before 1838 from thoroughfare trade on the Holyhead Road, most of which vanished with the opening of the London & Birmingham Railway in that year, but pedestrian travellers continued to frequent its lodging houses. The Hart family kept the town's principal lodging house in Park Street over several decades. In 1851 William Hart, a coal dealer, accommodated five lodgers. By 1861 the house had passed to his daughter-in-law Elizabeth Hart, who combined keeping the house with lacemaking, and accommodated sixteen inmates on census night. By 1871 she had remarried, to a groom, Charles Dolby, who was described on the enumerator's return as the keeper of the lodging house, which had twenty-one inmates.

There were five lodging houses in Chipping Norton in 1851, one of them, in Church Street, kept by Thomas Bull, a grocer, with eighteen inmates. Ten years later twenty-one people were accommodated in an

²⁵ B. Trinder, *Market Town Lodging House*, pp. 30-31.

²⁶ B. Trinder, *Market Town Lodging House*, pp.18, 28, 31-32.