HISTORY OF STAPLE INN: SOME FURTHER READING


First main history of Staple Inn, its constructors, first and succeeding occupants by the then President as the Institute commenced its residence of Staple Inn Hall for its office in November 1887.


The author recalls destruction of Staple Inn by V1 flying bomb in August 1944. Photograph 1944.


Study of the front Holborn facade to Staple Inn and the Hall as an example of restoration efforts in respect of original construction and timbers. Illustration of elevation, n.d.


This photograph of the Old Hall is dated after restoration work to the roof timbers during 1922-1923.


The President, Archibald Day, formally announces that the Institute is to establish its own offices at Staple Inn Hall, by agreement with the owners, the Prudential Assurance Company.


Commemorative brochure celebrating the return of the Institute of Actuaries to the Hall and offices, restored as near to its original construction after suffering total bomb damage in August 1944.

Numerous photographs of Hall and office interiors, as restored, 1955.


Account of formal offices for the Institute of Actuaries from 1848 until it entered Staple Inn Hall in 1887, its residence there from 1887 to 1944, venues used from 1944 to 1955, then from its return in 1955 to date (1973). Restoration work against ‘Death watch’ beetle with insertion of steel girders was undertaken in 1922-1923; then to the front Holborn facade in 1936.


Report on the celebrations for the Institute’s return to Staple Inn Hall after the completion of restoration work following wartime destruction of the Hall.


Leaflet promoting the actuarial profession and Staple Inn restored as the home of the Institute, 1856.


Outline of the last full refurbishment of the Hall since 1955 by the architects overseeing the project.

These texts may be consulted in the Institute of Actuaries Library at Staple Inn.
Summary of Archibald Day’s history of Staple Inn, from his Presidential Address of 1887 - here prefaced by Charles Dickens’ description of Staple Inn in *The Mystery of Edwin Drood*, c. 1870.

Library: EZG/6 pam / Irn (224)
Illustration by J. Crowther of the Hall interior including central dais, 1882.

Report at the President at the Ordinary General Meeting of 26 February, 1923 of the Institute’s return to Staple Inn following restoration work to the roof timbers after damage by ‘Death Watch’ beetle.

Library: EZG/6 erm (223)

Report of direct bomb attack on Staple Inn Hall, August 1944, with first-hand witness accounts and extent of damage to interior furnishings and artefacts. Four photographs of the damaged Hall appear between pages 138 and 139.

Library: EZG/6 Irn (228)
This history includes how the Institute first established offices at Staple Inn in 1887 and undertook its responsibilities to care for, maintain and restore the building. At this time of its history, the Institute had to continue its business at alternative venues following the war destruction of the Hall in 1944 only to return 11 years later in 1955. Illustrations of Staple Inn exterior, the Hall interior, (p. 136 - duplicate of Yearbook 1929-1930 photograph), gifts, memorial and furnishings.

History of Staple Inn and its relationship as daughter Inn of Chancery to Gray’s Inn. This paper is the reading given by Charles Sparrow Q.C. revived as a tradition from Staple Inn’s day as an Inn of Chancery.

Detailed genealogical account of the tenants of Staple Inn mainly recounting the period before 1887 serving the wool-trade, custom officers of the Ordinance, then initiates to the law at the Inns of Court. Etching of the Old Hall interior, p. 104.

Contains description of Staple Inn until 1944 including floor plans for periods 1903-1944 and 1956.

Library: EZG/6 erm (215)
First dedicated history of Staple Inn and its first proprietors - first records of the address dating 1232, then an assembly point for the wool trade (staple being the term for wool) in the 14th century, its residence from 1581 by entrants to the legal profession up until the time when the Institute of Actuaries continued its role as a home for a profession based on scientific learning. Illustration of Staple Inn Hall interior (p. 76).