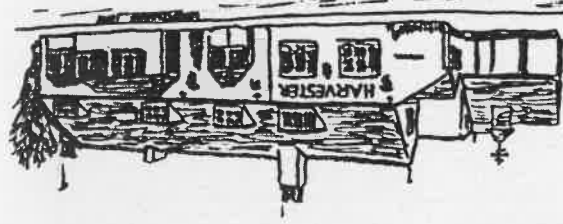


33. Follow the footpath to the footbridge over the river and then to Blythe Road. Turn right then turn left up Church Hill to bring you back to your starting point. This was one of the main routes into Coleshill. The Turks Inn was at the junction of the two roads. Over the brow of the hill was a small lane and the site of Coleshill workhouse and jail. The workhouse was closed in 1830, but the cottages were occupied until 1958 when they were demolished. Workhouse Lane was not the main route into the town. A sharp ascent up Church Hill was the route that led into the Market Place and the hub of the town.

The original bridge was just over half the width of the present one which was widened in the 18th century to accommodate the increase in coaching traffic passing through the town. This traffic increased the town development up the hill and beyond. There were several farmhouses and notable inns including:-

32. the Wheatshar Inn which still remains.



Opposite this was the river ford, which under normal river conditions, could be used for horse drawn vehicles. This was also the site of Cole End flourmill. Floods were commonplace here until the mid 1930's. Alongside the Wheatshar today is an attractive riverside walk.

