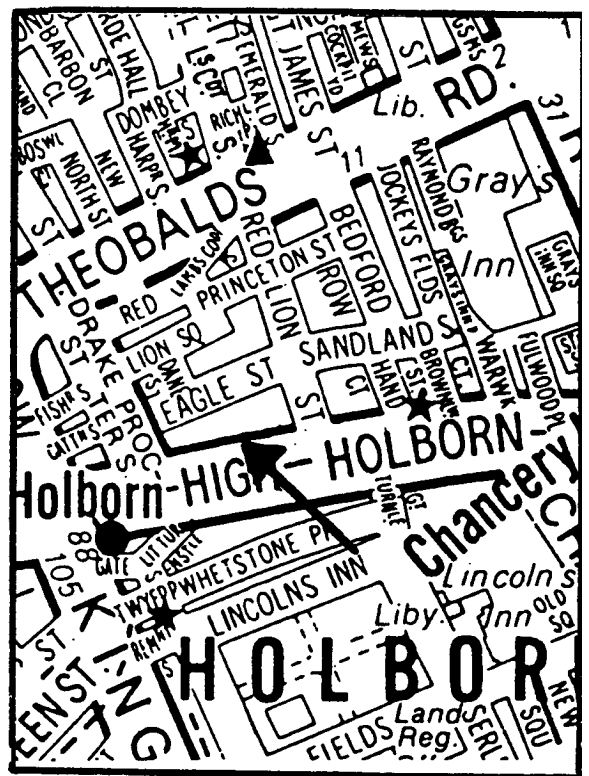


Rocques Map 1746 - Dean Street, High Holborn

Looking at the more likely Dean Street we see that Eagle Street and Red Lion Street are still there but all the area facing High Holborn and immediately to the West of Red Lion Street (and covering Dean Street) became one block of buildings. Pigots Commercial Directory of 1822-23 lists both Dean Streets but gives no detail



High Holborn to-day

However, one thing is certain and that is that Richard was brought up in that part of London which has been described as 'The Infernal Wen' and in an age of enormous upheaval and increasing stress. A London with enormous areas of filth and squalor. Dean Street was in that notorious poverty stricken and criminal area which included Seven Dials, the Fleet River, Newgate and the Rookery of St Giles etc. Here were rabbit warrens of mean narrow streets, alley ways, courts and yards consisting of slums without sanitation or running water, innumerable public houses and cheap lodging houses inhabited by the destitute thieves of every sort, pickpockets, coiners and prostitutes, many of whom were in their teens and not a few even younger, whilst thousands just lived and slept on the street.