

Bygone Buses

of
NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

NN-HA4
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HAMP. H & Sons 32 Sheep Street NORTHAMPTON

The long established Northampton furniture and removals business of H Hamp & Sons applied to Northampton Borough Council Watch Committee for a Hackney Carriage licence in 1914. This application was granted on 7th July 1914 and it gave Hamp & Sons the right to operate a motor charabanc provided they charged a minimum fare of 3d within the Borough.

Hamp & Sons were early operators of motor vehicles and had used horse-drawn wagons since the last century. Presumably the firm must have owned a charabanc at the time of making the application but no information about the vehicle has so far come to light. A month before the outbreak of the first World War was probably not the best time to commence a passenger carrying operation and no doubt the vehicle worked for only the one season, after which time it could well have been adapted to lorry form to cater for Hamp's main business.