This building, owned by Shepherd Neame for over three hundred years, is almost certainly one of their oldest public houses. Repairs began in the summer of 1994 with the removal of a thick layer of cement render from the exterior of the property. Considerably more than expected of the timber frame was then revealed. Two distinct phases of historic work were uncovered. The first, the remains of an early hall house, lies within the centre of the property whilst the second, a later three bay cross wing, has been built against the southeast end of the building.

It was discovered that much of the framing was severely decayed and needed urgent renewal and repair. Taking into account the extent and expense of the necessary works to the oak frame, it was suggested, that with a little more effort the medieval facade could be restored and left exposed. Missing timbers could be reinstated and the building brought back to its original appearance, a considerably more attractive proposition than another dull layer of render. With this in mind an archaeological survey of the fabric was undertaken. The information gathered proved essential to the accurate and sympathetic restoration of the building.

Only one bay of the former hall house survives within the present building. Much of the facade of this bay remained, enabling the details of its framing to be reconstructed on paper, and eventually reinstated. A large four light window, once illuminating the open hall, was uncovered behind the later rendering. Rebates on the jambs of this window indicate that shutters (usually hinged in the upper lights) were used to secure the opening against the weather. Fenestration such as this is nearly always found in both the front and rear elevations of medieval hall houses. An early alteration to the hall window is indicated by the squinted mortices on each jamb. These suggest that a projecting bay window, perhaps of seventeenth century date, was added and subsequently removed from the opening.

One principal post, located in the frontage, is all that remains of the cross frame which once spanned the centre of the open hall. A mortice on the inside face of this post indicates where one of a pair of large curved arch braces rose to meet the tie beam. The presence of this cross frame confirms that the hall originally comprised two bays, the missing bay located to the north west. It seems likely that floored wings adjoined the open hall on one or perhaps both sides. Any evidence for these has long since been removed. However the presence of a deep well located in the modern north west end of the building suggests that a service wing once occupied this position.

As with most of these buildings, the open hall has been floored and the tiled hearth replaced by a brick chimney stack. Deep ogee mouldings, terminated by attractive stops, embellish the principal joists of the inserted floor frame. The secondary joists, as intended, remain ceiled by a lath and plaster ceiling. Unfortunately most hall houses, including this one, were only a storey and a half in height. Without further alteration, the roof structure and tie beams of the hall would interfere with the newly formed first floor. In order to avoid this the entire roof has been raised by approximately 4 ft and the tie beams removed.

Birdsmouts atop the former eaves plate, which now lies approximately 4 ft below the present roof line, indicate where the rafters were once located. Many of these rafters, which are heavily soot blackened, have been re used in the new arrangement. In addition to the roof it was also essential to modify the fenestration. Only the bottom half of the hall window was retained, thereby illuminating the new ground floor room. The inserted chimney stack has been altered considerably over the years. It probably began life as a large inglenook, supported by a substantial timber bressumer. One or two small bread ovens were perhaps incorporated to the side or rear.
whilst a smaller fireplace almost certainly heated the upper rooms.

A sizeable two storey, three bay cross wing has been built against the south east end of the hall. The style and construction of this wing, which is jettied on three sides, indicates that it was built before the open hall was floored and converted. It seems likely that this new wing replaces an earlier one associated with the open hall. A large chamber, perhaps the principal bedroom or solar, occupies the first two bays of the cross wing, whilst a smaller chamber occupies the rear bay. Both rooms were originally open to roof, but a ceiling has now been inserted into the principal chamber. An attractive crown post with octagonal shaft and moulded base and capital can still be seen in the roof space above.

The wing has been altered considerably at ground floor level. Brickwork now underpins the jetty along the south east elevation, but the substantial dragon posts and much of the front and rear elevations have survived. Evidence for decorative windows, which incorporated some form of gothic window head, was uncovered on the soffit of the jetty plates along the north east and south east elevations. This fenestration is considerably more elaborate than the plain mullioned windows of the first floor. Shutter grooves are once again visible over these windows. Scars can be seen on the jetty brackets of the street frontage, indicating that a bay window, similar to one added to the front of the hall, replaced the gothic fenestration along the front of the cross wing.

Restoration of the Artichoke is now virtually complete. It proved possible, due to the limited nature of later alterations and the survival of so much original framing, to reinstate the entire facade of both hall and later cross wing. Traditional limewash has been applied to the completed 'medieval' elevations, providing Chartham with a unique glimpse of past times.

Detling Tudor Gateway
Rupert Austin

This small but attractive brick gateway lies to the south of Detling village at the intersection of the Pilgrims Way with The Street. A survey of the gate, funded by English Heritage, was undertaken during the autumn of 1994 in anticipation of remedial repairs. The gateway almost certainly dates from the second half of the sixteenth century and is an interesting and typical example of the Tudor period.

Soft red bricks, now severely weathered and eroded, were employed using English bond for the construction of the gate. The front face, with its four centred doorway, is embellished by a simple hoodmould and plain semi circular gable. Moulded bricks, comprising hollow chamfers and ovo mouldings, finish the jambs and hoodmould of the doorway in a manner typical of the period. The rear face of the gate is plain with little or no embellishment. Unfortunately the ground level behind the gate has risen slightly, preventing the existing doors from opening.
Apart from some minor repairs, the brickwork has survived the last four hundred years with few alterations. A short length of boundary wall, through which the gate affords access, still survives. This is of roughly coursed flint, with a large quantity of Kentish ragstone in the offset base. Brick coping, with a dentilated lower course, protects the top of the wall from the weather. A mounting block, cut from a large piece of ragstone, can be seen outside the gate.

The door which presently secures the gate is unlikely to be an original feature. Its large single leaf, which is flush panelled and secured by strap hinges, dates perhaps from the eighteenth century. A smaller wicket opening forms the central part of the door, affording access without the need to open the main gate. A selection of wrought iron strap hinges, latches and sliding bolts are still in use on the gate.

Unfortunately it was not possible within the remit of this survey, to delve into the historical background of the site but it seems likely that the gate and boundary wall once enclosed a residence or establishment associated with the Manor of East Court. A modern bungalow now occupies the property behind the wall.
No. 41 High Street, Canterbury
Rupert Austin

The unpromising facade of this building, with its modern fake timber framing, conceals a considerably older and genuine structure. Renovation of the building, used until recently as a shoe shop, provided an opportunity to examine the historic fabric in more detail.

The three storey structure, originally double jettied towards the street, is box framed in the usual manner. A clapped side purlin roof, with windbraces, survives largely intact over the two bay structure. This roof, now twisted and deformed by time and decay, terminates in a gable both to the front and rear of the building. An original window and close studding, now only visible internally, can still be seen in the front gable.

It seems likely, given the presence of an attic window, that the loft was originally floored. Unfortunately this garret space, which may have
been used for storage or sleeping, was removed in order to gain headroom at second floor level. A new ceiling was inserted into the roof space following these alterations.

Very little of the original frontage survives. The 1826 Sidney Cooper print of the High Street clearly shows the original double jettied frontage of this building. Whilst the first floor fenestration has been modernised by this time, replaced by a bay window with sash frames, the second floor appears to retain its original leaded windows. Four lights with square panes are placed centrally within the elevation. Close studding noted during the survey appears, by this time, to have been covered by a layer of lath and plaster. Further inspection of the print reveals that the gable was finished with moulded barge boards plaster. Further inspection of the print reveals that these two features were perhaps embellished with decorative features. These details, in particular the close studding and moulded joists, would have been expensive additions to any building.

A second timber framed building, now almost entirely demolished, was built against the rear of the frontage property. Only a few fragments of this structure survive. The principal corner posts of the two buildings can be seen abutting each other along the east elevation at ground floor level. The extant light well has been inserted at the junction of the two structures.

Numerous alterations have occurred since the building was first constructed. However, considerably more of the historic fabric of 41 High Street survives than was first thought. The building, which was probably constructed in the mid to late sixteenth century, represents a typical example of one of Canterbury’s many timber framed buildings. Although the structure was not framed to the highest of standards, it was still embellished with decorative features. These details, in particular the close studding and moulded joists, would have been expensive additions to any building.

Refurbishment of this building, undertaken in the autumn of 1994, necessitated the removal of its external render together with much of the internal plasterwork. Once this had been stripped it was immediately apparent that a considerable part of the earlier Almonry had survived, incorporated within the present building.

Externally it is clear that early fabric, comprising roughly coursed flint, still forms the majority of the frontage elevation at ground floor level. The only major alterations to this flintwork, which is approximately 80 cm. thick, are the inserted bay windows and pedimented doorcase associated with the eighteenth century rebuild. The coursed flintwork now terminates in a fairly neat horizon at the level of the first floor. Later brickwork has been added above this to form the second floor of the eighteenth century building.

The chamfered jamb of an original opening can be seen immediately to the right of the extant front door. This jamb, which is formed from well cut blocks of Caen stone, continues through to the inside face of the wall where it can be seen as a splayed reveal. A second jamb, located internally to the east of the first, was also discovered once plaster had been removed. This disappears into the fabric of the wall in a similarly splayed manner to the first. Unfortunately the south east corner of the building, where the reveal would have emerged, has been repaired externally in modern brickwork. It seems, from the splayed reveals, that these two features were perhaps window openings.

The rear wall of the Almonry building also survives, albeit a little more fragmented than...
the frontage. Most of what remains is below the present ground level, now only visible from within the basement, but some flintwork can still be seen behind the extant staircase at ground floor level. A crude jamb, comprising both Reigate and Caen stone blocks can be seen here. Further Reigate blocks terminate the early fabric in the north east corner of this elevation. Unlike the frontage elevation, which appears to be of one build, the rear elevation seems a little more complicated with at least two phases of early work visible.

Another early detail, the chamfered jams of a blocked opening, can be seen in the west wall of the basement. This feature, which starts approximately 4 ft above the existing basement floor level, presumably continued above the present ground floor. Its square reveal suggests that it was probably a door. It is clear that the floor levels within the building have been altered over the years. The ragged offset foundations of both the front and rear Almonry walls can be seen in the present cellar, indicating that it was created by lowering the floor. Headroom was further improved by raising the ground floor of the eighteenth century building. It seems likely that the Almonry floor was positioned a little above the height of the cellar offset. This position, slightly below the present outside ground level, ties in with the early door visible in the west wall of the basement, its threshold clearly below the existing ground floor.

It seems, from documentary evidence, that the Almonry was originally longer. The suggested door in the west wall of the basement indicates, albeit tentatively, that the building started here. It is clear however that the structure once extended further to the west. Monastery Street is a relatively new thoroughfare and its construction resulted in the loss of the east end of the building. A scar can still be seen in the extant boundary wall adjoining Christ Church College, indicating the original extent of the former Almonry. Once the east end of the building had been demolished it was obviously necessary to build a new end wall. This wall, which now terminates the building, has been constructed in a roughly coursed manner using reused ashlar. The buttress which extends around the north west corner of the building also seems to be of the same build.

The quantity of Almonry fabric surviving within the present structure, albeit fragmentary, was certainly more than expected. Our knowledge of this building, which probably dates from the late thirteenth or early fourteenth century, has increased considerably as a result of these recent observations. The position of the building, some of its proportions, floor levels and the location of several features are now known with greater certainty. This knowledge will contribute to a more accurate reconstruction of this area of Canterbury to be undertaken in the future.
The Mint Yard Gate, Canterbury
Rupert Austin

The remains of the Mint Yard Gate, one of the few surviving examples of Tudor brickwork in Canterbury, can be seen along the east side of Northgate in the wall of the former King’s School Gymnasium. Detailed drawings of the gate were prepared by the Trust during the summer of 1993, before the gymnasium was converted into classrooms (Canterbury’s Archaeology 1993–94, 38–40).

Further work has subsequently been undertaken on the interior after exploratory holes were cut through the modern wall behind the gate in the course of investigations by the King’s School into the feasibility of unblocking the gate to illuminate the room behind. Much of the rear of the gate was uncovered as a result of this investigation, giving some tentative indications of the sixteenth century arrangement.

A wear pattern, created by the constant opening and closing of heavy oak doors, can be seen on the rear face of the gate. Several ridges are visible suggesting that the doors were perhaps replaced, rehung or simply moved a little on their pins over the centuries. A rebate, which once accommodated the doors, still survives behind the south west jamb.

However, no fabric survives beyond that contained within the frontage of the present nineteenth century building. Any suggestions about the gateway’s original form can therefore only be speculative. It is possible that an oak floor once ceiled the carriageway, with perhaps a chamber above. Perhaps the gate was part of a larger building. But we can only guess as to the possibilities.

Nettlestead Gatehouse
Rupert Austin

An archaeological survey of this unusual structure was undertaken during the summer of 1994, in advance of a proposed conversion to form an office. Measured drawings were prepared, with the aid of rectified photographs, to a scale of 1:20. The project was funded by English Heritage.

The gatehouse, which is presently unused, leads to Nettlestead Manor House, a country house containing much historic fabric. Although the manor of Nettlestead is first mentioned in the Domesday Book, the earliest fabric visible is the vaulted thirteenth century undercroft. Many alterations to the manor house were undertaken over the years. Reginald de Pympe, who died in 1438, remodelled most of the building in the new Perpendicular style during the early fifteenth century. Further work was undertaken in the late sixteenth century when the manor was acquired by the Scotts. The final restorations and additions were completed in the 1920s.

It is likely that those responsible for the works on the manor house had a hand in many of the alterations to the gatehouse. On 18th April 1962, a devastating fire which totally destroyed an adjoining eight bay barn, caused some damage to the gatehouse.

The building measures approximately 86 x 52 m. at its base and nearly 11 m. in height and comprises a timber framed upper storey and a stone lower storey. A narrow carriageway passes beneath its south end, whilst a small chamber lies to north. This chamber, entered via a small door from the road, was presumably occupied by a gatekeeper or porter.

The masonry walls of the lower storey, built from roughly coursed local ragstone, measure a little over 80 cm. thick. The walls appear to have been constructed using a crude clay based mortar and are externally relatively plain. Apart from the narrow shouldered arch to the chamber, the only worked stone of note is restricted to the jambs on the outside west elevation of the gate. The battered plinth beneath each jamb gives way to a wide but shallow wave moulded chamfer. This moulding, which starts from a simple broach stop, rises to a large shouldered block beneath the timber framing above. Several of the original iron hinge pins survive in the rebates behind these jambs. Not surprisingly the original doors that once hung on these pins have long since disappeared. The positions of three blocked windows can be seen, albeit with difficulty, in the external fabric of the gate. Only those in the front and rear elevations at ground level appear to be original.

Two buttresses are located against the corners of the rear, east elevation. Only the northern buttress appears to be original. The fabric around the south buttress shows that it has been stitched in at a later date. The hollowed soffit beneath the lower edge of each chamfer block on the northern buttress is a feature not repeated on the later inserted buttress.

Most of the north elevation, apart from the corner buttress, is a modern rebuild. The two windows,
Building Recording

and surrounding stonework (which is merely a thin skin applied to a conventional brick wall), are clearly of nineteenth century date, though a small section of earlier masonry can be seen beneath the ground floor window. This masonry may well be an early rebuild of the north wall following the partial demolition of the gatehouse in the sixteenth or seventeenth century.

A narrow doorway with shouldered arch and splayed reveals in the north wall of the carriageway, affords access to the interior of the chamber. The shallow indent in the side of the west jamb (which
presumably made a door handle or latch more accessible) and a hole for a pin in the east jamb, show that a door once secured the chamber. Once inside, the blocked windows observed externally are more easily seen. They originally had splayed reveals and chamfered timber lintels and have been modified over the years. A floor has been inserted into the chamber at a later date and a third window punched through the front wall of the gatehouse in order to illuminate the upper chamber.

A small and relatively recent break in the joists above the upper room of the chamber affords access to the upper storey of the gatehouse. This structure, which is entirely timber framed, comprises three bays with a crown post roof. Both internal cross frames are open indicating that the upper storey has always been a single room. The fire of 1962 damaged much of the framing; many of the timbers, in particular the studs and rafters, are missing whilst those remaining are severely charred.

Only the two crown posts, their braces and the collar purlin survive in the roof space. The octagonal shafts of the crown posts give way to moulded capitals and bases of square section. Many of the original birdsmouths are visible on the surviving eaves plates, locating the positions of former rafters. Unfortunately the south and north plates are missing or obscured. It is therefore not possible to tell whether the roof originally terminated in a hip, a gable, or whether the structure continued further in either direction. Mortices and peg holes on the heavily cambered tie beams beneath the crown posts suggest that a ceiling was once inserted beneath the roof space.

A double light window, complete with decorative tracery window head, still survives in the central bay of the west elevation. A groove, intended to take a sliding wooden shutter, runs the length of this bay beneath the eaves plate. A similar window once occupied the same bay in the opposite elevation, but this was replaced in the seventeenth century by a glazed three light window. A sequence of peg holes and a faint weathering pattern on the external faces of the principal posts suggests that a mid rail was once attached to the outside of the chamber. It seems that this mid rail also functioned as a cill for the fenestration. The cills of both windows have since been replaced by new timbers.

The joists of the floor frame oversail the carriageway and adjacent chamber beneath. Two substantial bressumers support the common joists along with the framing of the upper storey as it spans the roadway beneath. A centrally located bridging beam provides additional mid span support for the joists which oversail the front bressumer to form the jetty.

Smaller wall plates and joists continue the floor frame over the adjoining chamber. A short trimmer truncates four of these joists, forming an opening for a ladder or stairs against the west wall of the chamber. This original opening appears to have been blocked following the construction of the upper room in the chamber below. It seems that until recently, when the extant hole was cut, no access was provided between the lower masonry storey and the upper timber framed storey of the gatehouse. Perhaps access to the upper storey,
Building Recording

No. 19 The Precincts, Canterbury
Rupert Austin

This small house, which stands alone at the south east corner of the Green Court, was recently stripped out prior to refurbishment. A considerable amount is already known about the development of this building which was studied by the Trust some years ago. However, previously unseen fabric was revealed during the present works. In particular, a fine fifteenth century roof over the gatehouse and an early thirteenth century floor over the former necessarium drain.

Externally the building seems relatively straightforward with only two obvious phases of construction visible. A nineteenth century house, its exterior walls constructed in a suitably ‘medieval’ style, seems to have been built against an earlier fifteenth century gatehouse to the east. This gatehouse, known as Prior’s Gate, is now an integral part of the property. Once inside however, it is clear that the building has a considerably more complicated history.

The present building sits above the ruins of a twelfth century necessarium. Fragments of this monastic building can still be seen above ground to the west of No.19 where they adjoin a ruined dormitory known as the Great Dorter. The remains of the vaulted drain beneath this necessarium have been incorporated into the basement room of the present house. Elements of the south wall of the necessarium have also survived, now fossilised in the south elevation of the house. Extensive alterations to the necessarium were undertaken by Prior Henry of Eastry in the late thirteenth century. A passage connecting the Green Court to the cloisters, now called the Dark Entry, was cut through the east end of the building during these works. Two trusses and other fragments...
of an early scissor braced roof, almost certainly associated with these alterations, still survive within the present nineteenth century roof space. These timbers rest on the surviving section of the necessarium wall along the south elevation of the present building.

The present gatehouse, which remains largely unaltered, was almost certainly built by Prior Chillenden in the early fifteenth century. The roof and associated corbels of this gatehouse match closely work known to have been undertaken by Chillenden on the night passage. Above the gateway, which now forms part of the adjoining house, lies a small chamber. This chamber, which may have been used as a private study, contains an attractive fireplace with decorative lintel.

Considerable alterations to this area of the precincts were undertaken in the sixteenth century following the Dissolution. What remained of the necessarium was divided into smaller houses. Many alterations, in particular the construction of timber partitions and new roofs must have been undertaken in order to convert the old twelfth century necessarium into separate lodgings. When the Parliamentary survey of 1650 was undertaken all these lodgings were still in use, the easternmost house, now No. 19, was occupied by a Mr Lambe. Most of these dwellings were demolished in the nineteenth century; only the easternmost structure remained. This was tidied up and converted into the building standing today.

Two areas of early fabric were uncovered during the recent campaign of refurbishment. Once the modern softwood floorboards at first floor level in the entrance hall were lifted, wide oak floorboards were discovered beneath. These boards, which were in an advanced state of decay, were pegged to the oak joists beneath. This floor effectively ceils the remains of the vaulted necessarium drain in the basement beneath. In its original arrangement a row of stalls would have been positioned over the vault allowing excrement to fall into the drain below. Clearly the extant oak floor, which contains no openings or apertures would not allow this to happen. It seems unlikely therefore that this floor is contemporary with the original twelfth century necessarium. It is suggested that this floor belongs to the thirteenth century alterations undertaken by Prior Henry of Eastry. With the newly formed ‘Dark Entry’ passage cut through this end of the building, the former drain had surely ceased to function. It seems reasonable that the stalls above and adjacent to the passage were removed and the vaulting ceiled with a new floor at this time.

Timber framing was also discovered beneath lathe and plaster in the west wall of No. 19. It was originally thought that this entire wall was of nineteenth century date, but the framing appears to be of a late medieval date and is clearly part of the post Dissolution alterations. It is almost certainly one of the party walls dividing the former

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*The fifteenth-century gatehouse roof.*
necessarium into separate lodgings. The exterior face of this wall is now clad with a thin skin of nineteenth century flintwork.

Once the lead had been removed it was clear that the original fifteenth century gatehouse roof had survived. It comprises three gently 'pitched' tie beams housed atop the principal wall plates. Two ridge beams, which in turn support the common rafters, are tenoned between the tie beams at their apex. Secondary inner wall plates support the lower ends of the common rafters. Cogged housings atop these secondary plates prevent any outward movement of the rafters and subsequent sag in the roof. Grooves for thin boards can be seen on the sides of the rafters. These boards, now missing, prevented the weather from entering beneath the eaves and filled the gaps between the rafters in a visually pleasing manner. Short posts, located on decorative corbels, support the roof structure from below. Curved brackets rise from each of these posts to the tie beams above. Cavetto mouldings, which rise from broach stops on the bases of the posts before running contiguously along the wall plates and tie beams, embellish the principal timbers of the roof.

Considerably more historic fabric survives within the walls of No. 19 than was previously thought, dating from the twelfth right through to the nineteenth century. The fifteenth century roof was certainly the most interesting element uncovered and recorded. Its value as a piece of medieval carpentry is further enhanced by a fairly confident association with Prior Chillenden and subsequent date.

**H**

**Wye Water Mill**  
Rupert Austin

The remains of the water mill at Wye form just one part of a large and complex building. Many phases of fabric, the earliest may date from the fifteenth century, survive within the present building. The mill, which is located on the east bank of the River Stour, lies between the village centre and the railway station to the west and it is intended to convert the building into a youth hostel. An archaeological assessment of the building was undertaken during the month of September 1994, in advance of proposed repair and restoration. No measured survey was undertaken, but the location and arrangement of historic fabric identified during our inspection was indicated on plans and elevations prepared by the architects.

The earliest component of the property, now fossilised within the centre of the building, seems to be the remains of a medieval hall house. The
diminutive size of the surviving bay suggests a modest structure rather than an elaborate and substantial Wealden.

A second two storey timber framed structure, dating perhaps to the seventeenth century, is located to the north of the hall. Its roof, best seen from the second floor of the mill, survives almost unaltered beneath the later Georgian building. Much of this has been constructed from reused medieval fabric.

A third timber framed building, dating perhaps to the early eighteenth century, lies to the west of the earlier hall house. This barn like structure, which clearly predates the existing nineteenth century mill, was perhaps associated with an earlier mill on the site. Whatever its former use, it certainly continued life as an ancillary mill building following the construction of the new mill in the nineteenth century.

The building is covered with a sizeable Mansard roof (named after Francois Mansart 1598–1666). It is an unusual form for a timber framed structure in this region and may well prove to be an early example. The use of a Mansard, designed to give better headroom within the roof space, suggests that the first floor, which lies close to the eaves, is a contemporary feature.

Although it is difficult, with all the equipment and most of the fittings removed, to ascertain the former arrangements within the building, a few general observations can be made. Clearly most of what remains relates to the final arrangement of the mill before it fell into disuse. A sack hoist, which rises through the trimmed joists of both floors, was located in the front bay. Once hauled to second floor level the grain was either dragged into the adjoining mill through an opening let into the end wall or fed through to ancillary machinery located on the first floor. This equipment would have been fairly lightweight as the joists beneath are not sufficiently sturdy to support large millstones. The positions of driveshafts, transmitting power from the wheel to this equipment, can be determined by scars and fittings on the first floor joists. Further hoppers and chutes at first floor level fed the processed material through to the ground floor.

A substantial Georgian building, built in brick around the existing structures, constitutes the fourth major building phase on the site. Its period details suggest a date in the third quarter of the eighteenth century.

Externally the symmetrical frontage suggests nothing unusual. Once inside it is clear that only the eastern half of the building is in fact of new build. The existing timber framed structures on the site have in fact been concealed behind the western half of the Georgian facade. The difference in level between the old and new floors has, not surprisingly, caused complications. The windows of the new facade run, rather awkwardly, across both the first and attic floor joists of the earlier timber framed building behind.

Despite many later alterations, much of the original Georgian interior survives. A pleasant dog leg staircase, lit by a round headed window, leads from the ground floor hall up to the first floor. Its slender balusters with urn or vase bases rest on the shaped brackets of each step. An elaborate pedimented doorcase, with cupboard behind, is
Building Recording

positioned at the head of these stairs. The front room at first floor level contains perhaps the only original fireplace in the building. The dentilated moulding beneath the mantel shelf matches closely that of the room cornices. The reeded frieze below the shelf with applied motif all look typically Georgian. Many of the original mouldings and six panel doors survive throughout the building.

The fifth and last major addition to the site was the construction of a new three storey mill. Its upper storeys are timber framed whilst the ground floor has been built in brick, presumably for strength. Weatherboarding seems to have clad the external faces of the framing from the outset. This nineteenth century structure, which presumably replaces an earlier mill, was built against the ancillary timber framed building behind. The workings of the two structures, which are connected at each level, were clearly linked.

All the machinery, including the millstones, has long since been removed from the interior. However, the undershot water wheel, now missing its buckets, still survives in the west end of the building. This wheel comprises three cast iron frames, each with eight tapered radial arms bolted to a central hub. The penstock, used to control the amount of water entering the wheel, also remains. Sluice gates (built by W. Weeks & Son, Maidstone 1869) positioned upstream of the mill, channel water into the head race which runs beneath the ancillary building behind the mill before entering the wheel chamber. The tail race leaves the mill through an arched brick opening in the front wall before rejoining the Stour a few yards downstream. Several millstones, all approximately 45 inches in diameter, can be seen incorporated into paving behind the building.

A single storey extension, located to the south and slightly offset from the earlier hall, seems to have been built at similar time as the nineteenth century mill. Its brickwork, in Flemish bond, clearly butts the mathematical tile applied to the south west corner of the earlier Georgian building. A large open fireplace, located against the south wall, suggests that the extension was used as a kitchen.
This illustration was prepared, at the request of Canterbury City Council, following a survey of the building last year (Canterbury’s Archaeology 1993–94, 40–43). It shows two medieval structures discovered within the property during refitting and refurbishment. The earliest building, to the front, probably dates from the second half of the fifteenth century, the second is slightly later. A narrow lane, now completely enclosed by later fabric, once passed between the two buildings. It is hoped this drawing, which will eventually be displayed on the premises, will aid the public in their understanding of the timber framing that has been exposed and restored as a result of the works.