Officers and Committee - Trust Annual Report 1962

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Vice President	The Very Reverend O.H. Gibbs-Smith, C.B.E.	Dean of Winchester
Vice President	Lady Charlotte Bonham-Carter	
Vice President	Ralph Dutton, Esq., F.S.A.	
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Hon. Secretary	Mr W.D.R. Weller	25 St Thomas Street, Winchester
Hon. Membership Secretary	Mr W.H. Rendell	81 North Walls, Winchester
Committee Members	Mr J. Barrow Simmonds	Abbotts Barton Farm, Worthy Road, Winchester
	Mrs W.J. Carpenter-Turner, J.P.	10 The Close, Winchester
	Mr W.J. Carpenter-Turner, A.R.I.B.A.	10 The Close, Winchester
	Mr M.C. Gardener	Kingsland House, Chesil Street, Winchester
	Mr R.L.P. Jowitt	Gore Grange, New Milton, Hants
	Miss C.A. Kingsmill, J.P.	2 Ranelagh Road, Winchester
	Sir John McNee, M.D., D.S.C., F.R.C.P.	Headbourne Worthy House, Winchester
	Mr R. Sawyer, F.R.I.C.S.	44 St Cross Road, Winchester
	Mr D.J. Smith, F.R.I.C.S.	78 Parchment Street, Winchester
	Mr R.D. Utting, A.R.I.B.A.	Chalk Hills, Crawley, Nr Winchester
	Miss Margaret Wells	St Olafs, Cheriton Road, Winchester

The Necessity for Preservation - Trust Annual Report 1962

There are now many towns up and down the country which look exactly alike, although they may be several hundred miles distant from one another. They have the same shops, the same paving stones, street lamps and characterless buildings. Modern transport and mass production of building materials have succeeded in obliterating local characteristics and destroying essential harmony with the surrounding landscape. Ownership of important property is often no longer in the hands of local residents, and may be designed or altered by people who are unaware of local traditions or history. It can be argued with complete justification that modern business organisation, which is the cause of these changes, brings much cheaper and better service to the residents. On the other hand the Preservation Trust holds that these desirable results can be achieved without destroying the unique character which history has imprinted on the city. This character is something which cannot be re-created and should be preserved for the benefit of tradesmen, residents and visitors alike.

Mr. Garton's Report - Trust Annual Report 1962

One of the most important events of the year has been the issue of the Preliminary Report on Ancient and Historic Buildings and Buildings of Special Architectural Interest by Mr. S. J. Garton, O.B.E., F.S.A., L.R I.B.A., who was before his recent retirement chief investigator at the Ministry of Housing and Local Government.

The City Council is to be congratulated on commissioning this survey and the Trust is anxious to see its recommendations become the declared policy of the City. Where necessary the Trust would like to see the Corporation purchase important properties which are in danger, and then to restore them. Preservation could be made to pay for itself, by subsequently selling the properties when put into sound repair.

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102 High Street - Trust Annual Report 1962

It is sad to report that one of the most disastrous demolitions of recent years has taken place at 102 High Street. This was originally part of an early sixteenth-century timber-framed building, square in plan with a central courtyard, and probably the tallest building, of its kind in Winchester.

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78 & 79 Kingsgate St. - Trust Annual Report 1962

The illustrations are reproduced by photo lithography from the original aquatints by Gerhard Lemke. Original prints can be obtained for the price of 10/- each, half of which will be devoted to the St. Peter, Chesil, Appeal. Orders for the prints should be

addressed to:
The Principal, School of Art, North Walls, Winchester.

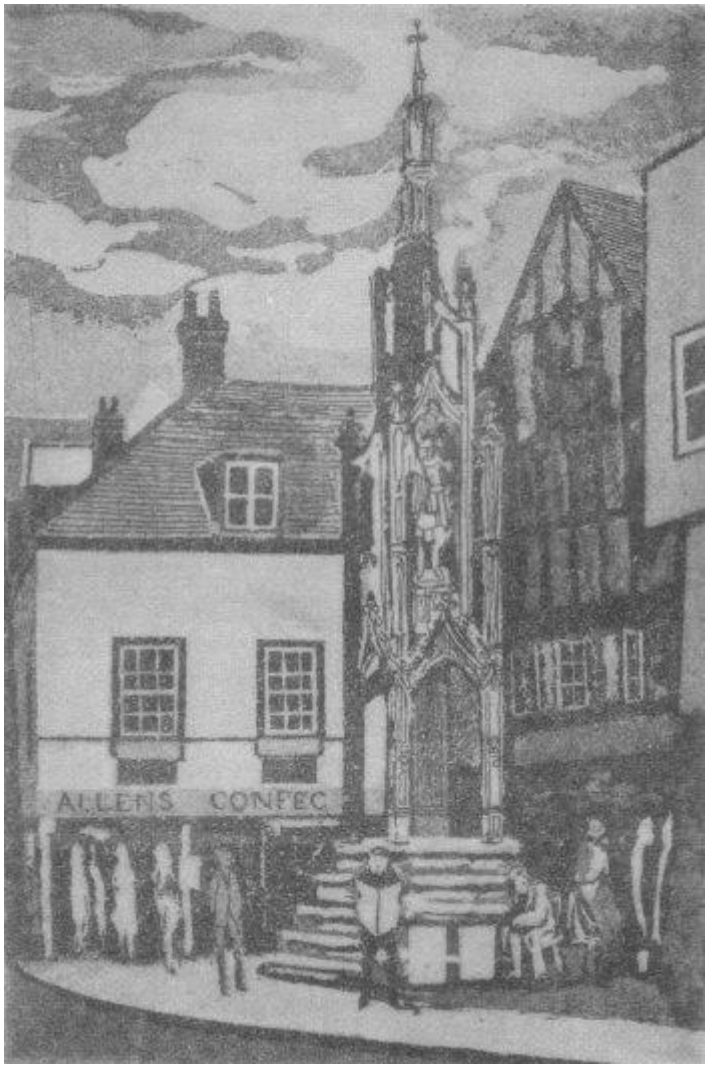
Many years ago the property had been divided, the western half now being a jewellers shop and hotel. This part has a false half-timbered frontage, which is quite unlike the original, whose true character is discernible in the narrow passage on the western side. The half which has just been demolished, after years of neglect, had a typical country town frontage dating from about 185o. It is true that the front had been much cut about with later additions, and that there was much decayed timber within, nevertheless the Trust holds the opinion, that if the will had been present a very good restoration could have been achieved. Other similar buildings of the same date or earlier have been very successfully restored in Winchester.

The only merit of the shop at present under construction is its attempt to be inoffensive. A good restoration would have been more suitable for the business which will be carried on there.

The Trust made an urgent appeal both to the owners and the Corporation not to proceed with the demolition, but this went unheeded. Ironically enough the Corporation had just received Mr. Garton's report in which 102 High Street is listed as one of the buildings which "If the architectural heritage of Winchester is to be maintained, must be preserved without fail or question." Peter Symonds once lived in the building, whose site goes back to the earliest history of Winchester and is known as the Manor of God Begot.

Danger - Trust Annual Report 1962

78 & 79 Kingsgate St. The illustrations are reproduced by photo lithography from the original aquaints by Gerhard Lenke. Original prints can be obtained for the price of 10/- each, half of which will be devoted to the St. Peter Chesil Appeal. Orders for the prints should be addressed to: The principal, School of Art, North Walls, Winchester



41 & 41A Kingsgate St.

The two illustrations by Gerhard Lemke show two important sites which are threatened. The Trust is pleased to report that the owners of No. 41 and 41A High Street at the west end of the Pentice are fully aware of the importance of their site and the Trust is co-operating to advise on a scheme for their restoration. These buildings are also on Mr. Garton's list of buildings which must not be lost on any account.

The second site relates to Nos. 78 & 79 Kingsgate Street, on the south side of Kingsgate Arch. Mr. Garton describes this as the area of the greatest concentration of unspoilt architecture outside the Cathedral Close. He recommends that these two houses should, amongst others, be transferred from Grade III to Grade II of the Section 30 list.

A scheme was put forward by the owners to demolish these two dwellings, to set back the building line, and rebuild houses with garages at street level. One would have thought that the inadvisability of manoeuvring cars in and out of garages close

to a difficult corner and narrow archway would have daunted the promoters of the scheme. The Trust was pleased to note that the project was rejected by the City authorities. The future of this very important site, however, is still in doubt. While the houses have no outstanding architectural merit, they are extremely important when considered in relation to their surroundings. They have been neglected for many years and allowed to stand empty for a considerable period with defective roofs.

St. Peter Chesil - Trust Annual Report 1962

The Committee is very pleased to report that efforts to save this church have been successful in so far as half the money required for restoration has been collected, and a start made on the repairs to the fabric. The work has been divided into two phases, and it is hoped that the Dramatic Society, who will eventually have the building for their activities, will be able to use the restored aisle during the coming winter.

The Trust would like to thank all those who have contributed to the fund, whether by direct subscription or by the support of events, to reach the present total of over £3,500.

Thanks also are due to those who have organised events in support of the appeal. This has been most encouraging. The Ministry of Works has made a grant of £500 towards the cost, but before the second phase can be completed another £3,500 will be required to reach a total of not less than 7,000.

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79 High Street - Trust Annual Report 1962

No. 79 High Street will have to be demolished. It is a fine example of an early nineteenth-century trademan's house and shop. It has for many years formed a most attractive entry to the High Street after passing the Westgate Arch. This building, however, is not constructed in brick, but is an example of the application of mathematical tiles, to a wooden framework. In course of time the timber has deteriorated through wood worm and rot, until it is now beyond repair. The site will become part of the re-development of the whole of the west of the City including the new law courts.

Canon Street - Trust Annual Report 1962

Residents in Canon Street were perturbed to receive letters from the Ministry of Housing and Local Government earlier in the year informing them that their properties had been removed from the Grade II list of Section 3o of the Town and Country Planning Act of 1947. The Trust called a meeting at the Friary Hall and

quickly investigated the position with the Ministry. It was learned that in dealing with arrears of work the Ministry was acting on a recommendation made some years ago, that certain houses should be removed from the Grade II list and put on the Grade III list. The Trust and Residents were pleased to learn that the letters received from the Ministry did not mean that there was any threat to the houses in Canon Street.

It must be noted, however, that since the list of scheduled buildings was prepared, great improvements have taken place in Canon Street and the houses now present quite a different aspect from that of the immediate post war period. They are now an excellent example of what can be achieved by local residents who are attracted by the older type of house and enjoy making them suitable for present day conditions.

Gas Storage - Trust Annual Report 1962

The Preservation Trust gave full support to the City Council in their fight against the plan of the Gas Council to store gas under Chilcomb and parts of the City. The withdrawal of the Bill in Parliament was a very satisfactory result to this ill-conceived project.

Westgate Arch - Trust Annual Report 1962

The Trust approached the City Council with a view to improving the appearance of the Westgate Arch by repaving the course of the old road through the Arch. It is felt that the present paving has the effect of isolating the Arch which should be used on ceremonial occasions. The City Council received the proposal sympathetically and agreed to put the suggestion before their consultant architect. The considerable expenses prevented any immediate action from being taken.

Advantages of Membership - Trust Annual Report 1962

Never before has the Trust been able to offer Members so many activities throughout the year. The Committee is particularly grateful to Mrs. Carpenter Turner who gave three lectures on the High Street and has followed these by six guided tours in different parts of Winchester, so that Members have been able to learn a great deal about their City. All have been very well attended showing the keen interest which exists in Winchester on the question of preservation.

The Committee would also like to express their warm appreciation to the Hampshire Field Club, the Historical Association and the Winchester Society who have all invited Members of the Trust to attend lectures connected with the history of

Winchester. Thanks are also due to Mr. Benson Ansell, the County Architect, who gave a very important illustrated lecture on "Building High in Winchester."

The most urgent reason for joining the Trust, however, remains quite simply in the necessity of having a large body of informed opinion, aware of the importance of maintaining the character of the City. The larger the membership, the more effective will the Trust become. All those who are really concerned about the future of Winchester are asked to become Members.