



All Change on the High Street

Heritage Open Days
Organised by Salisbury
Civic Society

Shop 11 **Sloanes** 58 High Street

58 High Street is a 15th century building of three storeys with tile hung timber framed walls and a tiled roof. The building was originally jettied at the first and second floors but this is now concealed by an early 19th century tiled facade continuous with the facade of 56, with which it shares many similar features. An early plan (1849) of the two houses shows behind the High street front of the building, a range of rooms, offices and sheds acting as stores and stables. The relatively small frontage concealed a site of considerable depth with an L shape (to the left) enclosing a courtyard. Of particular interest in the plan is the bite taken out of the shop, set back but in line with the entrance, that was used to provide stairs (c 1800) for the next door entrance.

The ground floor has massive beams which are clearly visible. Some access will also be offered to the upper floors which comprise a series of interesting spaces, mighty ceiling joists, other structural timbers and multiple fireplaces. Some rooms may be in use during your visit: please respect any Do Not Disturb signs. On the first floor at the front is an elegant wood panelled room, with carved upright timbers and fireplaces. The whole floor is surprisingly large. If you can, go up to the top floor whose stairwell has large beams and where further rooms may be found.

Recent use of the building

Tenants of 58 over the past 150 years have been many and varied truly reflecting 'All Change on the High Street'. Summerfields, tailors and outfitters, were succeeded by Musselwhites, the fruiterers, and Trite the booksellers. John Harding, architects and surveyors, became the Misses Hardings providing a typing bureau in 1925. The Misses Harding reappear in 1927 offering arts and crafts in number 41 across the road. A brief interlude with the building, occupied by antique dealers, saw the name Harding reappear with Butler as fancy good dealers. The Second World War saw the building devoted to arts and crafts, an association extended from the early 60's by Irene Galpyn who supplied knitting and wool. Renwicks travel agents used the building through the 1970s. Sloanes, the hairdressers, have occupied the premises since 1985. During their tenure they have consciously sought to preserve original features.

