



All Change on the High Street

Heritage Open Days
Organised by Salisbury
Civic Society

Shop 20 **Maul's** 3 Fish Row

Fish Row is so called because it was the section of the market devoted to the sale of fish. As the market developed, different sections of the market became specialised areas, probably before the rows of buildings were constructed (Fish Row, Butcher Row) on this part of what had been the larger earlier market place.

Originating in the late 15th century the building has jettied facades onto Fish Row and New Canal. New canal was known as the Ditch and operated as the main (open) sewer for the city, running along the middle of the street. The building may have served as two different businesses as holes in the central frame and truss of the building suggest a continuous vertical partition from ground to roof.

The Fish Row facade was altered by the removal of a pent roof over a modern shop front and the construction of a new gable and window set 1200mm in front of the original jettied facade. During renovation work in 2004 shop fittings were removed, exposing the medieval frame. Marks in the rafters were noted showing that the shop was one of an identical pair. On the north side the girding beam extends through and beyond the original facade suggesting that the building had a balcony at first floor level or a canopy to protect the goods on sale at street level. Of particular interest is the large central smoke hood of more than 4 square metres. This is particularly large and suggests a possible use as a smoker for preserving fish.

History

In the late 15th century the building was a merchant's shop. Salisbury was known as an important fish market in England in the late medieval period, importing fish from Southampton and Poole. In the 1860's the premises were a Chemist's shop. Trade journals used as wallpaper were discovered during a 2004 renovation. It has also been used by a pork butcher, a poulterer, florist and as a Salvation Army hostel. From the 1930's Harold Batt, a corn merchant, occupied the premises until the 60's and was then replaced by ladies fashions, children's wear, gift and card shops, a leather shop, a tea shop and a deli cafe: a very wide range of uses!

Following a considerable amount of internal restoration, it is now home to a family run independent wine and cheese bar; Maul's wine and cheese bar. It is a popular nightspot which brings continental Europe to modern day Salisbury and makes full and effective use of the historic features of the building both downstairs and upstairs.

Make sure you go upstairs to appreciate the old beams and rafters on the first floor.

