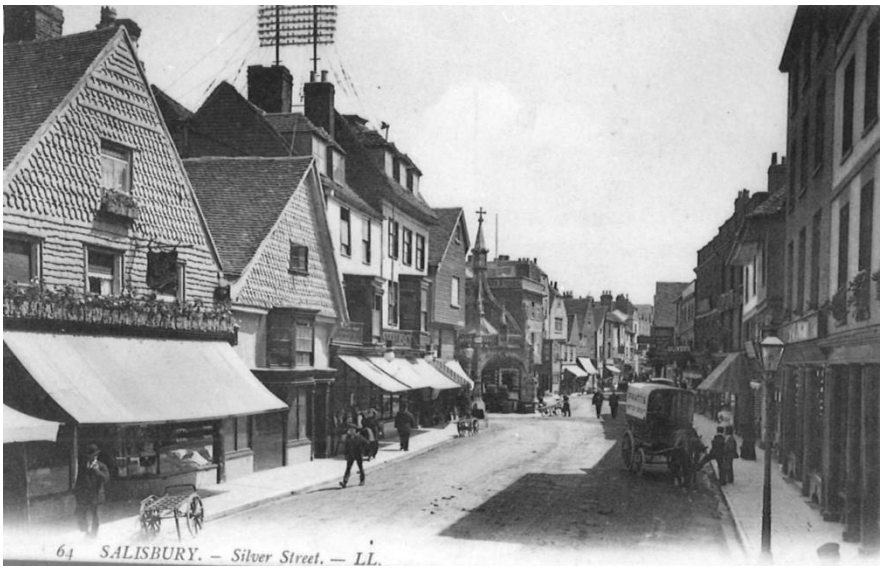


44 Silver Street, Salisbury, Wiltshire SP1 2NE

A Historic Buildings Statement

Report No. B2920

October 2023

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1. Introduction

44 Silver Street is one of a number of buildings, said to be of 15th or 16th century origin edging the site of St Thomas Church in Salisbury. 42 and 44 Silver Street, together are grade II*listed, as it is said the two buildings once formed one house. Also, the listing indicates this house was built in the 15th or 16th century. Further to this, a number of documentary sources suggest that the building is sited in an area once identified as part of the medieval market place in Salisbury. The 15th century Poultry Cross is in close proximity to the west.

Her Majesty's Stationery Office (HMSO), however, state that only no.42 dates to the 15th century, and that no.44 dates to the 17th century. Investigation of no.44 certainly indicates a roof of 17th century date, with no earlier fabric found. It is very likely that the 17th century building would have been entirely timber-framed, either with wattle-and-daub or lath-and-daub infilling. The framing of the gable ends may have been visible if these were decorative, or they may have been plastered. An original chimneystack of clunch survives.

2. Summary of main points

- Grade II* buildings at 42 & 44 Silver Street stated to be of 15th or 16th century origin by Historic England in 1952
- The Royal Commission on Historic Monuments (England) state that no.44 is of 17th century origin in 1977
- First recorded business was a hair cutter in 1871
- Altered in a refit of c1880. The present fenestration and former ornamental tile-hanging may date from this period
- Became a café and restaurant in 1905-1920s with some alteration to the shop front. Extended at first floor into no.46
- Between 1931-1974 there were a succession of different businesses
- In the 1960s the tile-hanging was removed and replaced with stucco
- In 1991 the shop front was replaced whilst occupied by Toni & Guy
- The oldest fabric is seen mainly in the roofspace

3. Instruction

In accordance with instruction by SRP Holdings, a historical building study relating to 44 Silver Street, Salisbury was undertaken in October 2023. The results, incorporated in the following report, present a photographic and textual record of the parts of the building under examination, supported by survey drawings, maps and some notes from documentary sources. This is accompanied by a cautious archaeological interpretation.

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4. Purpose of Document

This document has been prepared for the interest of the owner and to support any future planning application.

5. Acknowledgements

Building Recorders: Survey conducted by Dorothy Treasure, and Peter Filtness at the Wiltshire Buildings Record, Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre, Cocklebury Road, Chippenham, Wiltshire SN15 3QN Tel. 01249 705508 email to: dorothy.treasure@wiltshire.gov.uk

Documentary Research: Louise Purdy at the Wiltshire Buildings Record. The Wiltshire Buildings Record is grateful for the assistance provided by staff at the Wiltshire and Swindon History Centre in Chippenham when preparing this report.

6. Designations

Historic England

On 28 February 1952, 42 and 44 Silver Street, Salisbury together were given a grade II* listing.[1]

The following information is extracted from their listing record:

Details

SILVER STREET 1. 1594 (North Side) Nos 42 and 44 SU 1429 NW 3/318 28.2.52. II GV 2. C15/C16. 2 storeys and attic. Double wide gabled front of timber frame. No 42 tile hung, No 44 stuccoed. The tiles on No 42 in shaped and plain bands. Old tile roofs No 42 has C19 paired sash windows first floor, glazing bars intact. 2 small casements below overhang, modern shop front. No 44 has one flush framed sash in attic and 3 on first floor, later glazing, modern shop front. Rear elevations tile hung No 42, stucco No 44 Irregular sash and casement windows. Originally one house.*

The Poultry Cross and Nos 36 to 52 (even) form a group. The rear elevation of Nos 1 to 17 (odd) Minster Street form a group with the rear elevation of Nos 36 to 52 (even) and with St Thomas's Church, St Thomas's Square.

Ancient and Historical Monuments in the City of Salisbury

In the publication, 'Ancient and Historical Monuments in the City of Salisbury' originally published in 1977 by Her Majesty's Stationery Office, London, details are provided on parts of the City of historic note. Silver Street is included and falls within an area designated as 'The Market Place'.[2] [3]

A plan is provided in this publication of the layout of the Market Place and shows the relevant monuments within it. 42 and 44 Silver Street are two of the monuments, labelled Nos.60 and 61.

Quoting from this publication, 42 and 44 Silver Street are described as follows:

[1] https://historicengland.org.uk - 42 and 44 Silver Street, Salisbury, Wiltshire - listing no. 1243161 and listing national grid reference (NGR) of SU1434429951 [accessed 1 Oct 2023]

[2] 'Market Place', in *Ancient and Historical Monuments in the City of Salisbury* (London, 1977), pp. 59-62. *British History Online* http://www.british-history.ac.uk/rchme/salisbury/pp59-62 [accessed 1 Oct 2023]

[3] 'Silver Street', in *Ancient and Historical Monuments in the City of Salisbury* (London, 1977), pp. 64-65. *British History Online* http://www.british-history.ac.uk/rchme/salisbury/pp64-65 [accessed 1 Oct 2023]

(60) ***House****, No. 42, originally of two low storeys with an attic, but now without the first floor, has timber-framed walls and a tiled roof and probably is of 15th-century origin.*

(61) ***House****, No. 44, of two storeys with an attic, with timber-framed walls and a tiled roof, was built in the 17th century. The gabled S. front has 19th-century sashed windows.*

There is a clearly a discrepancy here, with the Grade II* listing of 42 and 44 Silver Street and there is no acknowledgement that the two buildings might once have formed one house. It is quite possible though that a programme of rebuilding was carried out for some reason in the 17th century in the case of 44 Silver Street, after the original building was sub-divided.

A number of old views of the City Of Salisbury can be found in this publication, which can be viewed online, including one of St Thomas Church, together with 48 to 52 Silver Street, as drawn by W.H. Charlton in 1813.[4]

http://www.british-history.ac.uk/rchme/salisbury

Salisbury Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan

Within the City of Salisbury Conservation Area Appraisal dared 2012, Silver Street falls within Character Area 2, the 'Market Place including Mitre Chequer'.[5]

Within the description of the townscape, it states:

…The formal classical architectural styles of the eighteenth and nineteenth century sit next to the gables and tile-hanging of timber-framed buildings…, often upgraded with the addition of a bay window or sashes. It is this variation, rhythm and architectural embellishment which makes the Market Place such a rich and memorable visual experience…

No one building material dominates the Market Place. The roofs reflect the period of building with mostly red/brown clay tiles to earlier buildings and natural slate to later ones. Brick is seen more than any other material to the facades but there is real variation which is part of the intrinsic character of the Market Place.

7. Notes on the history of 44 Silver Street from documentary sources

Early history of the City of Salisbury

Salisbury is described as a 'quintessential English cathedral city', a relatively new town of the thirteenth century. The decision was taken to locate a new cathedral on a site near the confluence of the River Avon and the River Nadder; away from the original hill fort, now known as 'Old Sarum'. The City grew up around the new Cathedral, with the first main phase of building completed in 1266.[6]

[4] 'Plate 10: Old Views, St. Thomas's Church and Joiners' Hall', in *Ancient and Historical Monuments in the City of Salisbury* (London, 1977), p. 10. *British History Online* http://www.british-history.ac.uk/rchme/salisbury/plate-10 [accessed 9 Oct 2023]

[5] https://cms.wiltshire.gov.uk/documents/s159922/HER09CityofSalisburyConservationAreaAppraisalandManagementPlanMay2012.pdf p. 122 [accessed 1 Oct 2023)

[6] www.history.wiltshire.gov.uk - Salisbury [accessed 25 Nov 2016]

Salisbury became a city with Henry III's charter of 1227 and due to impressive development it was recognised that the City had to be laid out properly. The new city was set out as a grid of five streets from east to west, and six from north to south on the common field of the ancient parish of St Martin. The quarters bounded by the streets within the grid were known as 'Chequers', each with its own name.[7] The north side of Silver Street, where No.44 is found does not form part of a chequer but is still significant as was originally part of the area covered by the medieval market place.

Silver Street

The Victoria County History (VCH) in volume 6 states:

Silver *Street, where the road from the Close turns east to skirt St. Thomas's churchyard, was so named by 1716…It was called Old Poultry in 1424, and Poultry Street alias Minster Street in 1549… The name Minster Street is now confined to that part of the original way passing northwards east of the churchyard to the north-west corner of the Market Place. The houses on the north side of Silver Street and the south end of the west side of Minster Street back upon the churchyard, and, although some have been much restored, still form one of the most picturesque groups in the city. Most date from the 15th and 16th centuries, some with exposed timber framing and others tile-hung.*[8]

Henry Hatcher and Robert Benson writing on 'Old and New Sarum or Salisbury' in a *History of Wiltshire* volume by Sir Richard Colt Hoare dated 1843, make reference to Old Poultry in 1424:

…A similar designation is used in the will of Thomas Yevell, who, in 1424, left to Joanna his wife the tenement in which he dwelt, with the shop annexed, in the street called the Old Poultry, between the tenement late of Thomas Player on the west, and the tenement of Robert Erle on the east.[9]

The Wiltshire Extensive Urban Survey for the City of Salisbury dated 2004 supports the view that the buildings found in Silver Street and Minister Street on the southern and western edges of the site of St Thomas Church are largely of the 15th and 16th centuries.[10]

John Chandler in his book, Endless Street provides an interesting reconstruction of Salisbury Market Place in c.1600 based on his interpretation of descriptive names of designated parts of the market place and information extracted from documentary sources. He refers to a row of buildings in c.1600 between Silver Street and St Thomas Church known as 'Cordwainer Row', where once were found shoemakers' stalls.[11]

Chandler states in relation to the descriptive nature of street names:

A late-medieval visitor to Salisbury might have found, if he had bothered to inquire, that in the course of exploring the city he had wandered from Mealmonger Street into Wineman Street (at the point where it met Bellfounder Street), past Smiths' Row into the Market Place, where he would have seen

[7] www.history.wiltshire.gov.uk - Salisbury [accessed 25 Nov 2016]
[8] 'Salisbury: St Thomas's parish', in *A History of the County of Wiltshire: Volume 6*, ed. Elizabeth Crittall (London, 1962), pp. 81-83. *British History Online* http://www.british-history.ac.uk/vch/wilts/vol6/pp81-83 [accessed 1 Oct 2023]
[9] WSHC - Robert Benson, Henry Hatcher and Sir Richard Colt Hoare (1843)The history of modern Wiltshire : Old and New Sarum, or Salisbury p.94
[10] https://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/archives/view/wiltshire_eus_2009/index.cfm - The Archaeology of Wiltshire's Towns. An extensive Urban Survey. SALISBURY [accessed 9 Oct 2023]
[11] John Chandler (1983), *Endless Street, A History of Salisbury and its people,* The Hobnob Press, Salisbury p. 96-99.

Wheeler Row, Ironmonger Row, Cordwainer Row, Pot Row and Cooks' Row (as well as the still-familiar Butcher Row and Fish Row), before continuing along Carter Street and leaving the city by Tanner Street.[12]

Chandler suggests that the later name 'Silver Street' may have come about due to the later presence of moneychangers or silversmiths in the street.[13]

Pevsner's most recent architectural guide on Wiltshire refers to the north side of Silver Street as follows:

…On the NE corner of SILVER STREET, No.36, a striking if much-restored C15-C16 timber frame, jettied on two sides, with diagonal braces. S gable with fancy bargeboards. It was all under tiles in old photographs. No.38 and 40 are early C18, still timber-framed behind mathematical tiles. Earlier gabled timber frames at No.42-44. Nos. 48-52 were rebuilt in 1471, an impressively tall three-gabled row, twice-jettied both front and back, entirely tile-hung...[14]

The famous English mapmaker and historian John Speed did produce the first street map of Salisbury as part of a county map of Wiltshire in 1611. Appearing on this map is a row of buildings lining the southern edge of the site of St Thomas Church, where Silver Street is now found. It should be noted that John Speed's map provides a stylised representation of the City of Salisbury and therefore one individual building found on the map, may represent several buildings which actually existed. A copy of this map can be seen in John Chandler's book on Salisbury, *Endless Street, A History of Salisbury and Its People*.[15] [16]

Another early plan of the City of Salisbury surveyed and published by William Naish shows the area where Silver Street is located. This map was first published by Naish in 1716 and a later edition published by Benjamin Collins with very few amendments in 1751 (see **Fig. 1**).[17] [18]

[12] Ibid p.109
[13] Ibid p.109
[14] Julian Orbach, Nikolaus Pevsner and Bridget Cherry (2021) *The Buildings of England, Wiltshire* p. 606
[15] http://www.lib.cam.ac.uk/deptserv/maps/speed.html - 62 of 66 Cambridge Digital Library - accessed 23 November 2016
[16] John Chandler (1983), *Endless Street, A History of Salisbury and its people,* The Hobnob Press, Salisbury plate 1.
[17] WSHC - Wiltshire and Swindon Archives - G23/1/164PC - Printed plan of City surveyed by William Naish dated 1751
[18] John Chandler 1983, *Endless Street, A History of Salisbury and its people,* The Hobnob Press, Salisbury p.49

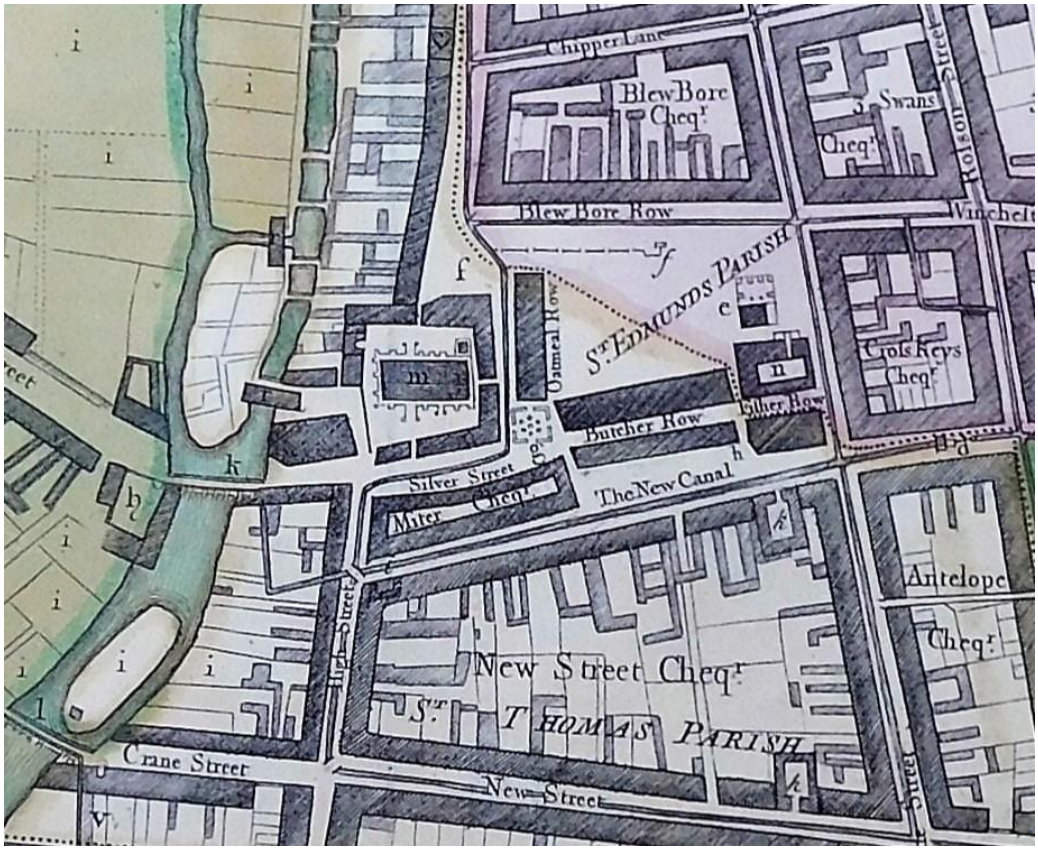


Fig. 1 - Extract from the later edition of the Plan of City of Salisbury published in 1751 (the first edition was published in 1716 by William Naish)

The map references shown on the map in close proximity to Silver Street mean the following:

e - Council House f - Cheese Cross g - Poultry Cross

h - Coal and Wood Market m - St Thomas Church n - The Guild hall and Town Goal

Silver Street can be seen on the Andrews' and Dury's map of Wiltshire dated 1773, along with St Thomas Church and the Market Place (see **Fig. 2**).[19]

[19] WSHC - Andrews' and Dury's map of Wiltshire dated 1773 - sheet 5



Fig. 2 - Extract from Andrews and Dury's map 1773 focussing on the St Thomas' Church, Silver Street and the Market Place.

A plan of Salisbury was printed by James Easton in 1820.[20] Silver Street is again identifiable to the south west of the Market Place (see **Fig. 3**).



Fig. 3 - Extract from Plan of City of Salisbury published by James Easton 1820. Silver Street is marked. No.12 is St Thomas Church, No.13 the Poultry Cross and No.14 the Market Place.

A further plan of the City of Salisbury for the purposes of the Reform Act was published by Gilmour in 1835 shows Silver Street (see **Fig. 4**).[21]

[20] WSHC - Wiltshire and Swindon Archives - G23/1/163PC - Salisbury - Printed plan of city published by James Easton 1820

[21] WSHC - Wiltshire and Swindon Archives - G23/1/165C - Plan of the City of Salisbury with the Boundaries of the Borough as laid down by the Reform Act - printed by Gilmour in 1835



Fig. 4 - Plan of the City Of Salisbury with the Boundaries of the Borough as laid down by the Reform Act dated 1835.

A collection of photographs and postcards held by Salisbury Museum of Silver Street are available for viewing online.[22]
https://collections.salisburymuseum.org.uk

44 Silver Street

In 1849, poor sanitation from open watercourses in the City of Salisbury resulted in a cholera epidemic. Sewers were constructed by 1854 to replace the watercourses, which were infilled by the 1850s.[23] An open watercourse had run down Silver Street (see **Fig. 1**). In 1854, the Local Board of Health drew up a plan for the purposes of the new sewerage and drainage scheme. This is the first plan found of Salisbury showing details of individual buildings and structures. A reduced plan of the whole of the City of Salisbury is available and then a series of high scale individual plans of different areas of the City (see **Figs. 5a** and **5b**).[24] Silver Street is marked on the reduced plan.

[22] https://collections.salisburymuseum.org.uk [accessed 8 Oct 2023]
[23] John Chandler (1983), *Endless Street, A History of Salisbury and its people,* The Hobnob Press, Salisbury p227-231
[24] WSHC, Wiltshire and Swindon Archives - Salisbury City Council - G23/701/1PC - Local Board of Health plan of City for sewerage and drainage scheme (26 maps in bound volume) 1854 - Salisbury Reduced Plan and one of the individual high scale plans covering the Market Place. Engineering Surveyors - Kingdon and Shearm, Launceston.

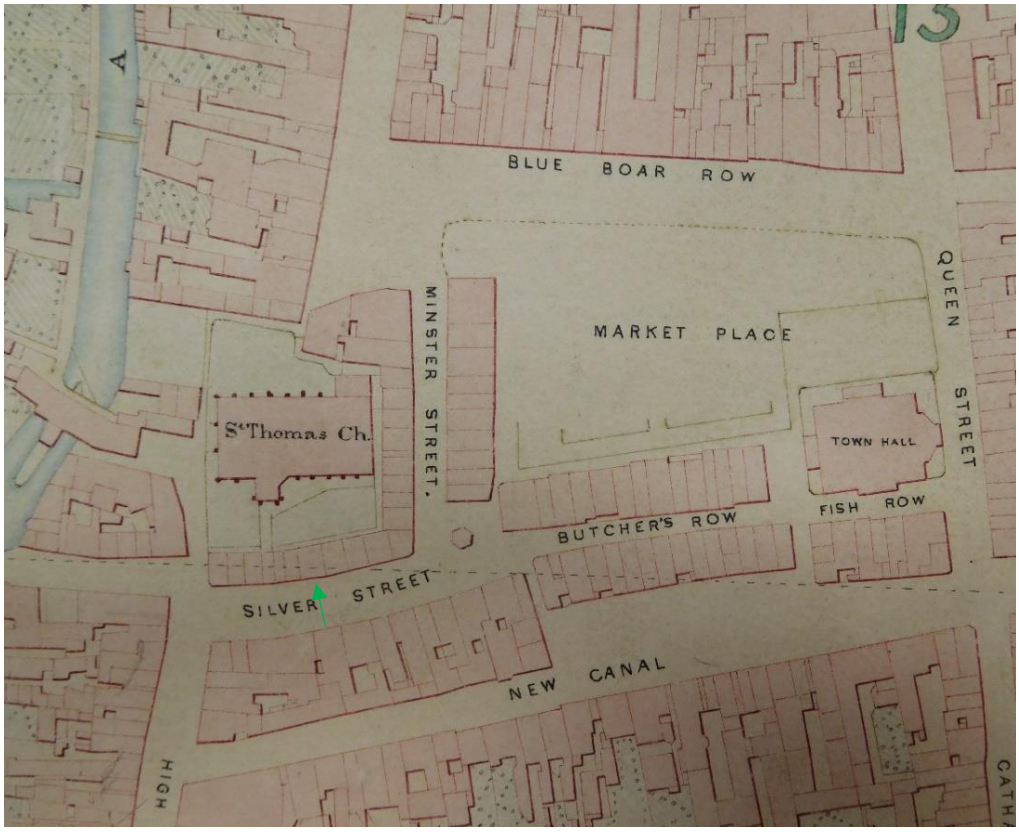


Fig. 5a - Extract from the Local Board of Health plan dated 1854 of the City's new sewerage and drainage scheme (Reduced Plan). 44 Silver Street marked with a green arrow.



Fig. 5b - Extract from the Local Board of Health plan dated 1854 of the City's new sewerage and drainage scheme (from one of the individual high scale plans). 44 Silver Street marked with a green arrow.

Another plan of the Borough of Salisbury dated 1860 was copied from the block plan belonging to the Local Board of Health with corrections and additions.[25] This plan shows again the footprint of the property now known as 44 Silver Street (see **Fig. 6**).

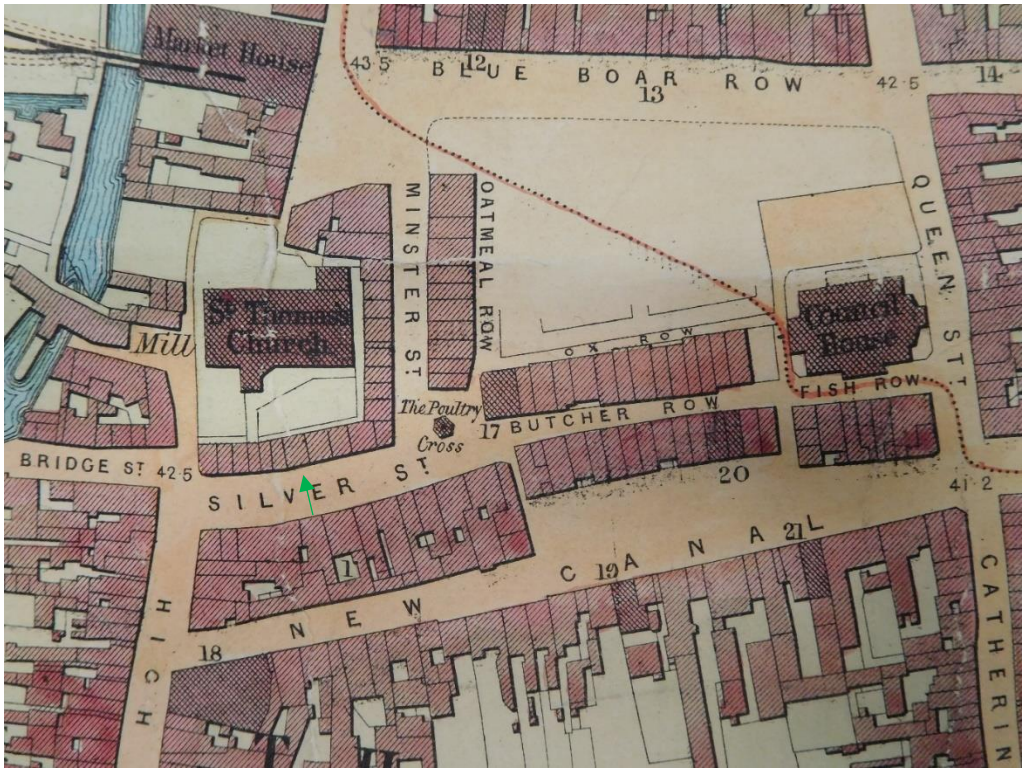


Fig. 6 - Extract from the Plan of the Borough of Salisbury 1860 showing Silver Street

In 1871 the 10 yearly census shows that James Jenkins occupied 44 Silver Street. He was a hair cutter and a perfumer. Jenkins occupied the premises along with his wife, Sarah and two children. [26] Also, in 1861, James Jenkins was a hair dresser in Silver Street and his positioning in the census does suggest he was living close to 44 Silver Street at that stage.[27]

An advertisement in The Salisbury and Winchester Journal on Saturday 27 February 1864 refers to James Jenkins moving into his new premises [44 Silver Street] next door. The advertisement confirms that he was engaged in work as a hair cutter, perfumer but also as an ornamental hair manufacturer [wigs and hair pieces].[28]

The first Ordnance Survey (OS) map found published in 1880 has a 1:500 scale and the survey for it was carried out in 1879 (see **Fig. 7**).[29] It shows in greater detail the footprint of 44 Silver Street.

[25] WSHC - Wiltshire and Swindon Archives - G23/701/4PC - Plan of the Borough of Salisbury copied with permission from the Block Plan belonging to the Local Board of Health with corrections and additions in 1860
[26] https://www.genesreunited.co.uk - 1871 census - the parish of St Thomas, Salisbury [accessed 6 Oct 2023]
[27] https://www.genesreunited.co.uk - 1861 census - the parish of St Thomas, Salisbury [accessed 6 Oct 2023]
[28] https://www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk [accessed 9 Oct 2023]
[29]https://maps.nls.uk - OS map (1:500 scale) - LXVI.15.4 surveyed 1879, published 1880. *'Reproduced with the permission of the National Library of Scotland'.*

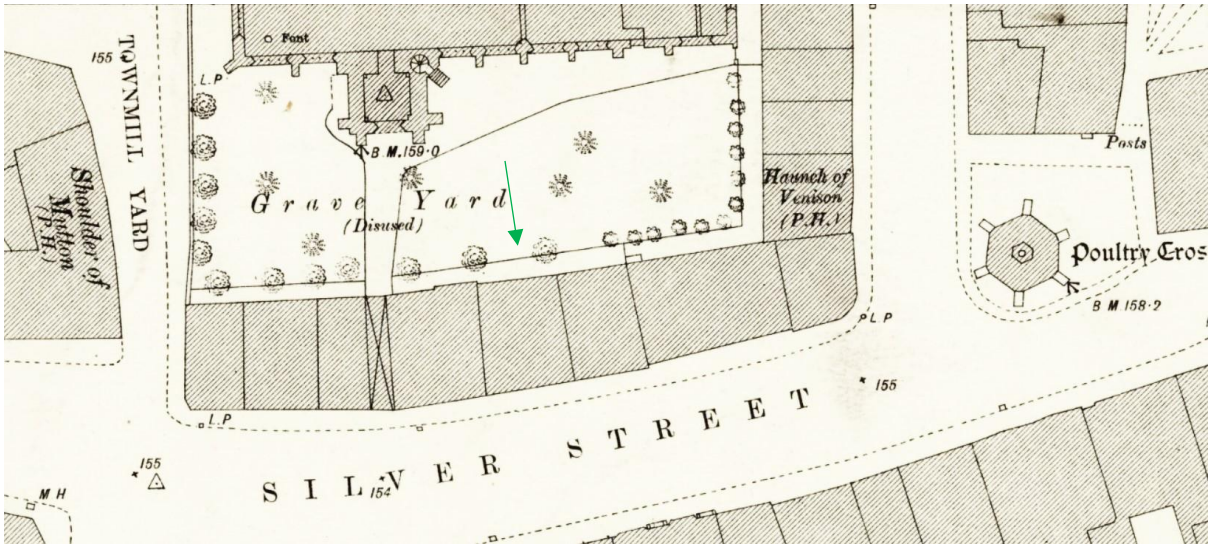


Fig. 7 - Extract from the OS map (1:500 scale) covering part of the City of Salisbury dated 1880. ***'Reproduced with the permission of the National Library of Scotland'. 44 Silver Street highlighted with the green arrow.***

On Saturday 2nd October 1880, an advertisement appeared in the Salisbury & Winchester Journal showing the transfer of James Jenkins' business at 44 Silver Street to Edward Smith. It was clear that Smith was to continue the hairdressing business. Following a refit, there were now separate rooms for ladies and gentlemen each fitted with hot and cold water shampooing apparatus. There was 'hair brushing by machinery' and 'singeing' on offer. He was selling a range of hair wash tonics, creams and restorers along with perfume, other hair accessories and toiletries. He was also continuing the manufacture and sale of wigs and hair pieces.[30]

In 1881, the 10 yearly census shows Rebecca Lydia Smith, his widowed mother as head of household at 44 Silver Street. Edward Smith lived with her and was recorded being a hair dresser and perfumer. Two other siblings residing there, worked in the business alongside him. [31]

The first 25 inch OS map covering Silver Street in Salisbury was surveyed in 1879 and published in 1881 (see **Fig. 8**).[32]

[30] https://www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk [accessed 9 Oct 2023]
[31] https://www.genesreunited.co.uk - 1881 census - the parish of St Thomas, Salisbury [accessed 6 Oct 2023]
[32] https://maps.nls.uk - OS map of Salisbury - 25 inch scale - sheet LXV1.15 - surveyed in 1879 and published in 1881 [accessed 8 Oct 2023]



Fig. 8 - 25 inch OS map published in 1881. *'Reproduced with the permission of the National Library of Scotland'.*

In 1891, the census shows Mrs Smith still living at 44 Silver Street but working herself as a hairdresser and perfumer. An assistant in the salon/shop lived with her. Edward Smith was living elsewhere.[33]

Edward Smith was still involved in the business as he was named in an advertisement for a hair piece known as the 'new double pin curl' manufactured on the premises at 44 Silver Street, Salisbury. The advertisement appeared in the newspaper, 'Irish Society' on Saturday 12 September 1891. Edward Smith was described as being a hair manufacturer in the advertisement.[34]

In 1899, Rebecca Smith died and her household furniture and effects were auctioned on 13th May of that year.[35]

The second 25 inch OS map covering Silver Street in Salisbury was published in 1901 (see **Fig. 9**).[36]

[33] https://www.genesreunited.co.uk - 1891 census - the parish of St Thomas, Salisbury [accessed 6 Oct 2023]
[34] https://www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk [accessed 9 Oct 2023]
[35] https://www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk - The Salisbury Times - Friday 12th May 1899 [accessed 9 Oct 2023]
[36] https://maps.nls.uk - OS map of Salisbury - 25 inch scale - sheet LXV1.15 - revised in 1900 and published in 1901 [accessed 8 Oct 2023]



Fig. 9 - 25 inch OS map - revised 1900, published 1901. *'Reproduced with the permission of the National Library of Scotland'.*

A newspaper advertisement appeared in 'The Gentlewoman' on 14th April 1900, referring to a change of business owner from E. Smith to Messrs Raymond. The advertisement was again marketing wigs and hair pieces referred to as 'Ornamental Hair'.[37]

The next census shows James Wadey was now heading up a family at 44 Silver Street in 1901. He is recorded as being a hairdresser's manager supported by a hairdresser's assistant who lived with them. [38] It is assumed he worked for Messrs Raymond.

On Friday 12th January 1906, an advertisement appeared in The Salisbury Times for the Café Nicholas and restaurant at 44 Silver Street. Clearly the premises had changed hands. Also, the proprietors, the Nicholas Brothers were wedding cake specialist. The cosy tea rooms were separate to the restaurant.[39] An early advertisement in The Salisbury Times shows that the Café Nicholas opened in June 1905.[40]

Kelly's trade directory for Wiltshire dated 1907, indicates that 44 Silver Street then became a café and was occupied by the Nicholas Brothers who were also grocers and postmasters in Wilton Road, Salisbury.[41] It was known as 'Cafe Nicholas'.

A photograph held by the by the Wiltshire Buildings Record shows the café in the early 20th century (see **Fig. 10**). A further photograph taken of Silver Street around this time can be found online in the Salisbury Museum collection.[42]

https://collections.salisburymuseum.org.uk/object/SBYWM:2005.29.208

[37] https://www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk [accessed 9 Oct 2023]
[38] https://www.genesreunited.co.uk - 1901 census - the parish of St Thomas, Salisbury [accessed 6 Oct 2023]
[39] https://www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk [accessed 9 Oct 2023]
[40] https://www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk - The Salisbury Times - Friday 16th June 1905 [accessed 9 Oct 2023]
[41] WSHC - Trade Directory of Wiltshire dated 1907 - Salisbury
[42] https://collections.salisburymuseum.org.uk/object/SBYWM:2005.29.208 [accessed 8 Oct 2023]



Fig. 10 - Café Nicholas, 44 Silver Street in the early 20th century (the building is to the far left in the photograph)

The Inland Revenue survey covering the City of Salisbury indicates that Sarah Jenkins was the owner of the building and confirms that the premises were occupied by the Nicholas Brothers.[43] Sarah Jenkins was probably the elderly widow of James Jenkins, the hairdresser and perfumer. This suggests that James Jenkins who occupied 44 Silver Street since at least 1861, either took out a long lease on the building or bought its freehold. A James Jenkins of 19 Elm Grove Terrace, Salisbury described as being a gentleman who died in 1895, whilst a Sarah Jane Jenkins, a widow of 36 London Road, Salisbury died in 1911. In both cases, probate was handled by Harry Thompson Jenkins a bank manager (retired in 1911).[44]

Kelly's trade directory for Wiltshire dated 1911, indicates again that 44 Silver Street was a café and there is no indication in the census, the same year that anyone was resident in the building. The publication also confirms that the property was still occupied by the Nicholas Brothers.[45] [46]

Kelly's trade directory for Wiltshire dated 1923, indicates again that 44 Silver Street was a café but occupied now by Frederick A Nicholas a baker who also occupied 65 Castle Street, Salisbury.[47]

A photograph held by the by the Wiltshire Buildings Record dating from probably the 1920s shows that the Nicholas Brothers had a number of strands to their business 'The Café Nicholas' at 44 Silver Street. Signage is advertising cooks and caterers, tea rooms and a restaurant (see **Fig. 11**). By this

[43] WSHC - L8/1/167 (register) and L8/10/66 (map) - Inland Revenue Survey of 1910 - Salisbury (south of Clarendon) (1163 - 2643)
[44] https://www.ancestry.co.uk - England & Wales, National Probate Calendar (Index of Wills and Administrations) 1858-1995 - James Jenkins and Sarah Jane Jenkins [accessed 9 Oct 2023]
[45] WSHC - Trade Directory of Wiltshire dated 1911 - Salisbury
[46] https://www.genesreunited.co.uk - 1911 census - the parish of St Thomas, Salisbury [accessed 6 Oct 2023]
[47] WSHC - Trade Directory of Wiltshire dated 1923 - Salisbury

stage, it can be seen that the business had extended into the first floor of 46 Silver Street. Additionally, the shop front had been altered by the Nicholas Brothers since they took occupation of the premises in the early 20th century (see **Figs. 10** and **11**).

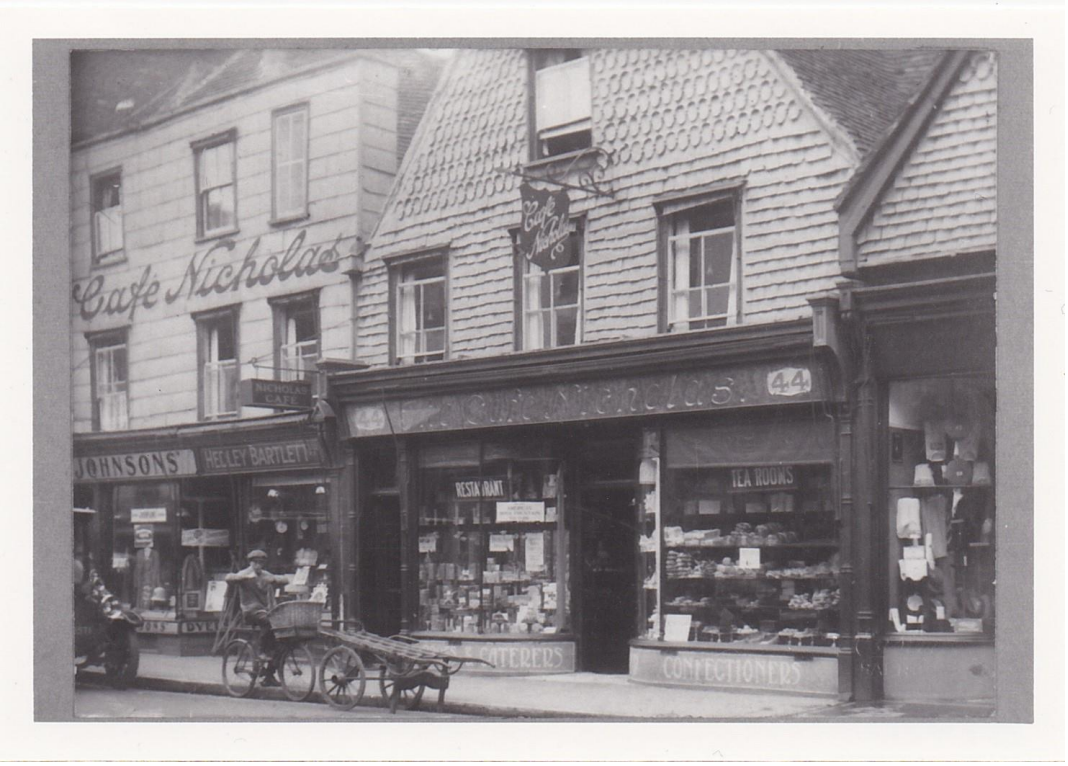


Fig. 11 - 44 Silver Street in the 1920s still known as The Café Nicholas with a restaurant and tea rooms. The business extended into the first floor of 46 Silver Street.

The third 25 inch OS map covering Silver Street in Salisbury was published in 1925 (see **Fig. 12**).[48]

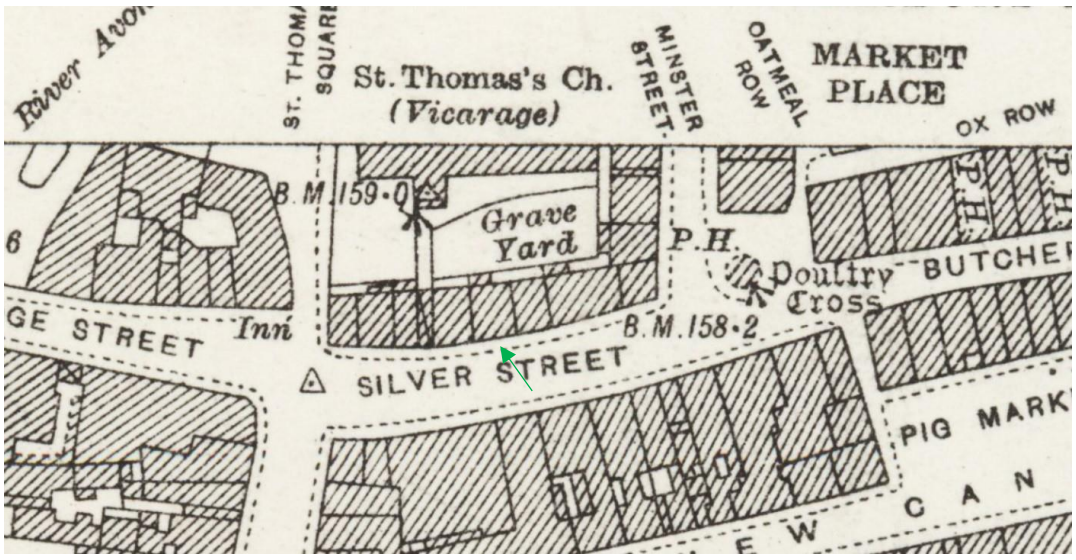


Fig. 12 - 25 Inch OS map published 1925. 'Reproduced with the permission of the National Library of Scotland'.

[48] https://maps.nls.uk - OS map of Salisbury - 25 inch scale - sheet LXV1.15 - revised in 1923-24 and published in 1925 [accessed 8 Oct 2023]

Kelly's trade directory for Wiltshire dated 1931, indicates that 44 Silver Street was occupied by Freeman, Hardy & Willis Limited, boot & shoe dealers.[49]

Kelly's trade directories for Wiltshire dated 1935 and 1939, show that 44 Silver Street was now occupied upstairs by Lemon & Merry, civil, military & ladies' tailors and breeches makers. They also occupied 46a Silver Street. Whilst the ground floor was still occupied by Freeman, Hardy & Willis.[50]

Several photographs from around this time can be found in the Salisbury Museum image archive found online. Two of the images are of the same photograph, but the quality of reproduction varies.

https://collections.salisburymuseum.org.uk/object/SBYWM:2008L.1.250

https://collections.salisburymuseum.org.uk/object/SBYWM:2012R.9.1463

https://collections.salisburymuseum.org.uk/object/SBYWM:2008L.1.245

https://collections.salisburymuseum.org.uk/object/SBYWM:2005.29.207

https://collections.salisburymuseum.org.uk/object/SBYWM:2009R.1.1387

Two of the photographs have been dated to having been taken between 1926 and 1935. Some of these photographs confirm that 44 Silver Street was occupied by Freeman Hardy and Willis and Lemon & Merry by this stage.[51]

A further 25 inch OS map covering Silver Street was published in 1939 (see **Fig. 13**).[52]

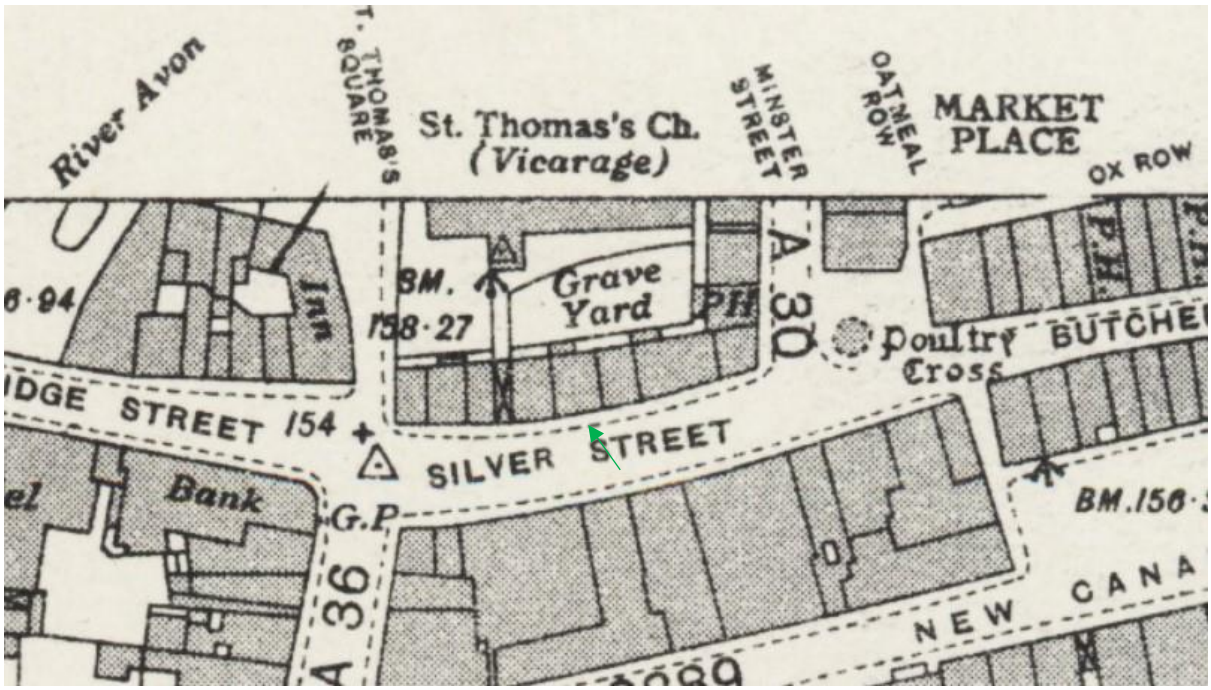


Fig. 13 - OS 25 inch map published in 1939. *'Reproduced with the permission of the National Library of Scotland'.*

[49] WSHC - Trade Directory of Wiltshire dated 1931 - Salisbury
[50] WSHC - Trade Directories of Wiltshire dated 1935 and 1939 - Salisbury
[51] https://collections.salisburymuseum.org.uk/object/SBYWM:2008L.1.250 [accessed 8 Oct 2023]
[52] https://maps.nls.uk - OS map of Salisbury - 25 inch scale - sheet LXV1.15 - revised in 1937 and published in 1939 [accessed 8 Oct 2023]

Kelly's Directories of Salisbury and neighbourhood between 1950 and 1956 continue to show that Freeman, Hardy & Willis occupied the ground floor whilst Lemon & Merry was located on the first floor and at 46a Silver Street. By 1959 and through to 1974, Freeman, Hardy & Willis only occupied 44 Silver Street.[53]

During the tenure of Freeman Hardy & Willis, the hung tiles on the front facade of 44 Silver Street were removed and replaced with stucco. Further to this, the signage was updated. Photographs held by the by the Wiltshire Buildings Record dating from probably the 1960s show the front and rear elevations when Freeman, Hardy and Willis occupied the premises. The front façade can be seen to be partially stucco, whilst the rear elevation is fully stucco (see **Figs. 14a** and **14b**).



Fig. 14a - Front elevation of 44 Silver Street in the 1960s when occupied by Freeman, Hardy & Willis

[53] WSHC - Kelly's directories of Salisbury and neighbourhood dating from 1950 to 1974



Fig. 14b - Rear elevation of 44 Silver Street in the 1960s when occupied by Freeman, Hardy & Willis

In 1977, a Goad plan covering the City of Salisbury indicates that Freeman, Hardy & Willis still occupied 44 Silver Street.[54]

A planning application and a request for listing building consent was made in 1991 in regard to 44 Silver Street to elevate the front of the building and replace the shop window. Toni & Guy, hairdresser was now occupying the property as a lessee. The shop window was replaced and a new fascia board with the name Toni & Guy was inserted (see **Fig. 15**).[55] [56]

[54] WSHC- Goad plan for the City of Salisbury dated 1977

[55] WSHC - G29/7/8/1/1682 - Replacement of shopfront, 44 Silver Street, Salisbury; Mr. P. Smith; S/91/1488; Grade II* Listed - 1991

[56] https://development.wiltshire.gov.uk/pr/s/planning - S/1991/1487 and S/1991/1488 [accessed 9 Oct 2023]



Fig. 15 - Front elevation of 44 Silver Street in the 1990s when occupied by Toni & Guy

A Goad plan of the City of Salisbury dated 2018 shows that Toni & Guy were still the occupiers of 44 Silver Street in that year.[57]

In 2023, under new ownership, planning permission and listing building consent has been sought to replace the south elevation with an oak framed jettied wall with rendered infill panels and to carry out internal alterations to facilitate change of use of upper floors to a hair salon.[58]

[57] WSHC- Goad plan for the City of Salisbury dated 2018
[58] https://development.wiltshire.gov.uk/pr/s/planning - PL/2023/05303 and PL/2023/05066 [accessed 9 Oct 2023]

8. Comments

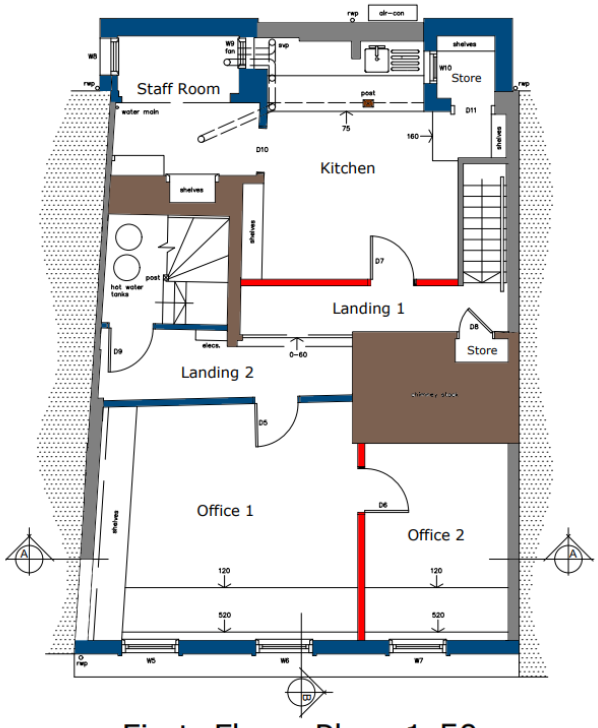
From the documentary statement of a refit in 1880, and observation of the available physical fabric, it appears that the front wall of 44 Silver Street has likely been taken down and rebuilt at that time **(page 13, para 1)**. It was not possible to determine any survival of earlier fabric on the ground floor due to alterations and modern fittings. No earlier elements were observed in the south gable wall at first floor through the recent openings made in the modern hardboard, nor at roofspace level where the purlins belonging to the 17th century roof appear only to rest on the later studwork of the south gable **(fig.51)**. It is very likely that no.44 presented a timber-framed gable onto Silver Street. Almost none of the original fabric remains to make a firm judgement on the form of the gable: it may have had decorative braces, or it may have been plainer with studs and a plastered finish.

The rear (north) gable wall retains some elements of the 17th century build at first floor and in the roofspace. At first floor the only features observed were a single full-height sawn hardwood post with redundant mortices on the north side of the kitchen **(fig.28)**. This corresponds to the position of the rear wall prior to an infill between two projecting c1880 closets; three storey on the west side, and two storey on the east. The earlier rear wall is indicated by a dashed line in the annotated first floor plan with the single post marked **(page 23)**. At roofspace level some residual studding, blackened with soot, is visible behind the planked cladding of c1880. The joint between the old roof and the north gable wall is concealed behind the later horizontally-planked cladding **(fig.48)**. The building was heated, perhaps from the start, and a large clunch chimney stack remains on the east side **(fig.48).** At ground floor the stack has been removed.

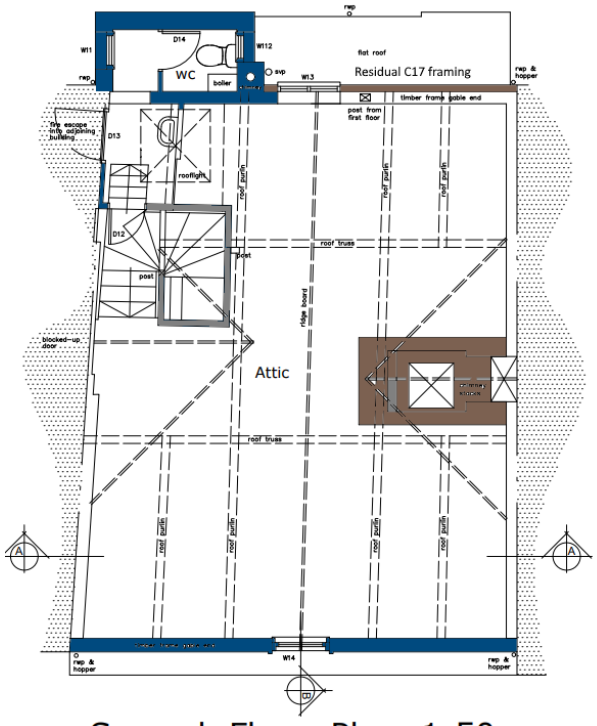
Observation of the roof fabric indicates an earlier 17th century 3-bay roof running north/south with staggered subsidiary bays connecting east and west, which may be secondary considerations during the building of the roof. A doorway once connected the roof-spaces of nos. 44 & 46, now blocked **(fig.59)**. There was no communication with the roofspace of no.42, and some boarded cladding of the 18th century remains on that side **(fig.63)**. The upper part of the roof structure has been removed, apparently due to an incendiary fire. Some earlier timbers show sooting. Interestingly, the blackening occurs on the timbers after the lath and plastering was removed **(figs.54 & 58)**. The overbuilding is much later, perhaps later 20th century.
On the west side of the roof is an octagonal newel stair which appears to be in situ. The stair guard is made up of reused timber studs, made visible through stripping of the lath and plastering. It may be a later addition to the stair head as there looks to be at least one 18th century-looking timber with an ogee moulding.

At first floor and roofspace level there are substantial remains of a c1880 scheme, almost certainly dating from a refit by Edward Smith who took on the hairdressing business at that date. Walls and partitions are clad in narrow painted matchboarding. The two- and three-storey extensions to the rear appear to date from this date. There is an awkward junction between the two builds at attic level, the foot of the north gable end truss projecting into the floor **(fig.44)**. At first floor level some anaglypta dados and cornices outlining the 1880s divisions are still in situ **(figs.25 & 27)**, as well as small closet-like extensions at each end of the north side. These evidently projected out from the back wall and had side windows, now blocked in by subsequent infilling between the two **(figs.31 & 33)**. The late 20th/early 21st century refitting is at ground floor, with some additional partitions on the first floor. None of the east end stair core undercarriage is visible, and it is not known whether this relates to the c1880 refit, or earlier.

9. Annotated plans



First Floor Plan 1:50



Second Floor Plan 1:50

10. Description

Exteriors

At the time of the site re-roofing was underway. The exterior was obscured under scaffolding and light screening, front and back **(figs.16 & 17)**.





Figs.16 & 17 Front and rear elevations at the time of the site visit

Ground Floor

Brief inspection. No visible historic features.

First Floor

The first floor is divided into two rooms at the front, one smaller, one larger. Previously one continuous room fronting the road. Approximately 20 years ago or so, a plasterboard partition was inserted to form two rooms, one smaller to the east, one larger. The present 2x2 sashes are later 19th century/early 20th century, the westerly window with a new lower sash, and the upper dividing bar removed.

A low modern cladding at window sill level has been introduced at the same time as the partition, and opening up shows the previous matchboarded partition and brown-painted skirting still in situ **(figs.18 & 19)**. This skirting sits on a raised strip of floor 75cm wide and 12cm deep. The hole cut in the modern boarding of the front wall in the smaller east room shows a later 19th century sawn softwood nailed frame with plastering on expanded metal lath **(fig.18).** On the exterior side of this plastering is asbestos tile[59]. A hole cut in the modern lining of the east wall adjoining no.42 shows a moulded dado rail with anaglypta panels below, probably of the later 19th century **(fig.19).**

[59] Verbal reference: Gerald Steer





Fig.18 C19 softwood frame ***Fig.19 Anaglypta lining to east wall***

Opening up of the floor shows that the narrow softwood joists measuring 18cm x 5cm are deeper than the step. Below the narrow joists is a ceiling level approximately 25cm down from the plinth, all suggesting the floor level has been raised, perhaps in tandem with the front wall alterations **(fig.20)**. A steel I-beam is visible within the front wall, finishing about 30cm above the plinth level **(fig.22)**. This is visible at each end of the front elevation. Also visible is a modern section of tie rod parallel to the front elevation, just below the 13cm width softwood floorboards. An older section of tie rod is seen below **(fig.23)**. This is at right angles to the upper tie, and appears older. It rises from the front wall and seems to run to a further I beam making up the leading edge of the plinth.

A hole cut into the boarded ceiling shows a substantial deep, narrow hardwood joist with lath and plaster marks just above the present ceiling, perhaps 17th century **(fig.24)**.





Fig.20 Plinth with metal frame seen in eastern front room ***Fig.21 West front room and plinth***

A corridor runs between the front and rear rooms **(figs.25 & 27)**. The elaborate anaglypta cornice and ceiling bands respect the rear wall of the front rooms, and continues on the west side partition to the attic stair into the present kitchen area. The north partition forming the north side of the corridor between the passage to the attic stair and kitchen appears to be of later date. Further anaglypta dado visible lining the south wall **(fig.26).** This suggests a reorganisation, perhaps around the 1880s when a refit was made.





Fig.22 Steel I-beam in front wall above the level of the floor

Fig.23 Gap in plinth of west room showing two stages of iron ties



Fig.24 Deep joist above ceiling, west room





Fig.25 Corridor between front and rear rooms looking west

Fig.26 Anaglypta dado, painted white





Fig.27 Corridor between rooms looking east to stair Fig.28 Isolated post in kitchen

There are few features of note in the kitchen/staff room area, excepting a plain squared post with redundant mortices on the east side **(fig.28)** and rebates on the north side **(figs.29 & 30)**. This post is all that remains of the back (north) wall before it was extended north, first by two narrow closets at each end of the rear elevation, and then an infilling between forming part of the main kitchen at a later date. 1x1 sash windows remain as borrowed lights looking into the central section on either side **(figs.31 & 33)**.





Fig.29 Mortice and part remaining tenon on east face ***Fig.30 Moulded north face with rebates***

The west narrow bay has some black-painted timber visible in the ceiling **(fig.32)**.







Fig.31 1880s 1x1 narrow sash ***Figs.32 & 33 1880s matchboarded lining and bottom-hung vent***

Attic floor

Reached by a newel stair at the west end of the corridor **(fig.34)**. None of the deep joists making up the ceiling of the first floor appear to have been cut to accommodate this stair, and it appears primary to the build. The octagonal newel rises continually from the first floor to level with the top of the stair guard. Some of the lower treads look original, but the upper carriage has been boarded in. Visible treads and risers look like later replacements. The stair was evidently enclosed and the present studs, which are reused timbers from an earlier structure, have redundant mortices, mouldings and signs of lath and plastering **(figs.39 & 40)**. This upper structure may have been added subsequently. Part of this stair guard frame closest to the top of the stair are lengths of ovolo- and ogee-moulded timbers dating to the 17th and possibly early 18th century. The timber directly over the stair has recesses for iron stanchions and has evidently come from a framed opening **(fig.38)**.



Fig.34 Newel stair at west end of corridor



Fig.35 Boarded under-carriage



Fig.36 Moulded reused rail with remains of seating for window mullion



Fig.37 Ogee-moulded reused rail at head of stair



Fig.38 Redundant mortices for studs and diamond-set stanchion in rail at head of stair

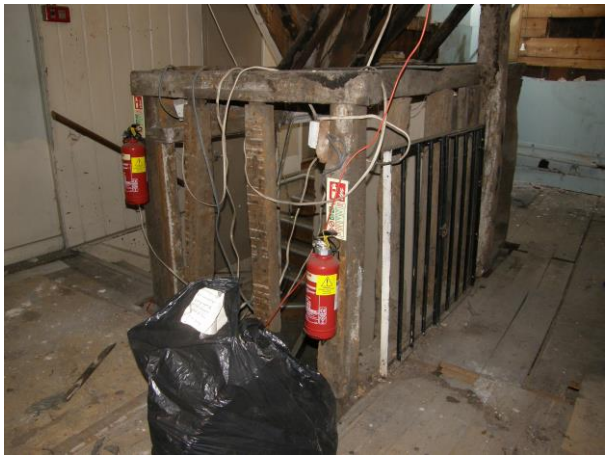


Fig.39 Stair head looking north



Fig.40 Stair head looking south

The floor of the attic is of narrow 17cm softwood boards throughout, probably a replacement for a small section of 26cm-wide hardwood boards at the back of the attic. The front wall has been entirely reconstructed in the late 19th/early 20th century and is of a light softwood frame with panels reinforced by strutting **(figs.50 & 51)**. Lit at the front by one large 2x2 sash with short horns. Moulded architrave surround. At a later point the wall has been reinforced with metal bars. The back gable wall is lit by a side-sliding sash within a largely reconstructed frame – some blackened studs are glimpsed through gaps in the horizontal boarded lining **(figs.52 & 53)**.

On the west side of the roof at the rear is a late 19th skylight with ventilation holes which gave light to the staircase. The treads and risers of the staircase are late 19th/early 20th century **(fig.43)**, softwood as are the fittings at the rear bathroom and extension WC. The WC is awkwardly reached by stepping over the foot of the truss **(fig.44)**.





Fig.41 Part of 19th century, possibly 1880s remodelling at rear

Fig.42 Possible 1880s ceiling





Fig.43 Upper part of stair with right-hand fork leading to later 19th century north extension

Fig.44 Later 19th century north extension reached over foot of boxed truss



Fig.45 Late 19th century boarded cladding



Fig.46 Section of matchboarding at foot of stair

Notes on roof structure

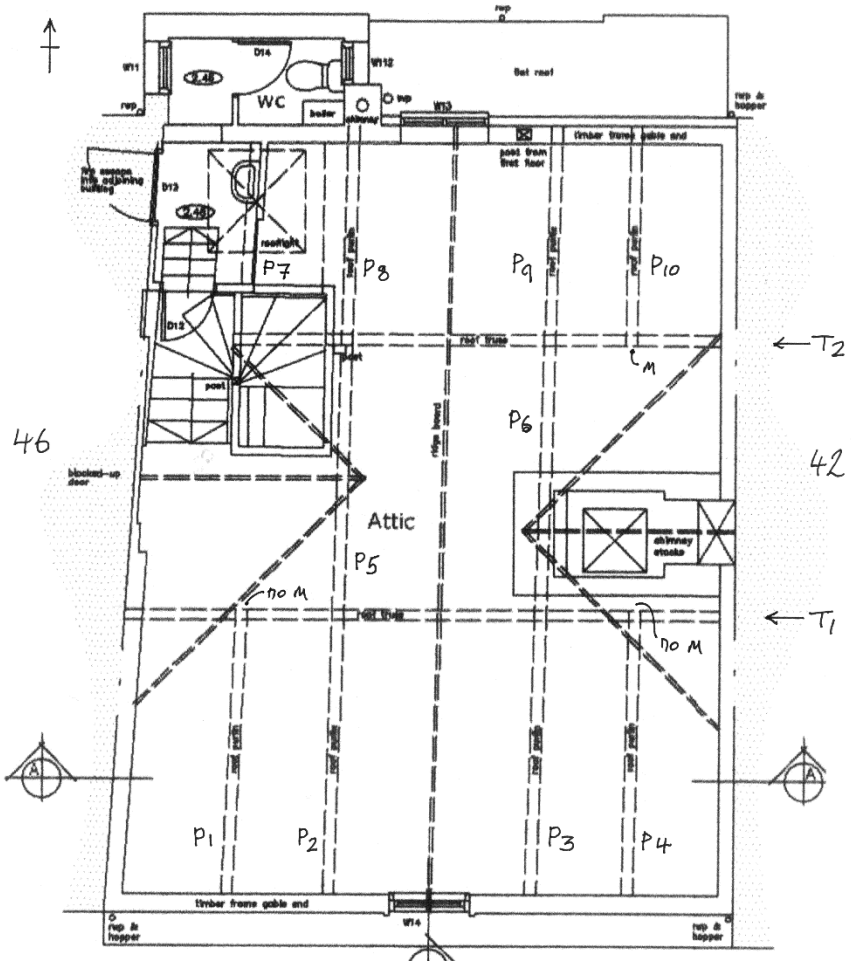


Fig. 47 Diagram of roof structure
(based on a drawing by Gerald Steer, Chartered Architect)

General

The roof of 44 Silver Street is a double-pitched structure with a ridge running front-to-rear (respectively south to Silver Street and north, to St Thomas' Churchyard), and single large gables at either end. To the rear there is also a two-storey extension to the property, but this only rises to the gable level on the west side stopping at approximately eaves level with a flat roof.

On each side of the main ridged roof is a subsidiary wing with a lower ridge and double-pitched, conjoining to similar ridges on the neighbouring properties, no. 46 to the west and no. 42 to the east.

An internal doorway exists in the west side of the subsidiary wing opens, presumably, into the matching roofspace of no. 46. No such doorway exists for the eastern wing to no. 42. The question is discussed (below) as to whether these two subsidiary wings to the main roof of no. 44 are contemporary or later additions.

The whole of the historic roof structure of the main roof has been truncated and removed from a point slightly above the collar/upper purlin level, including sawing through all the principal rafters **(figs.48 & 49)**. Above this level are modern common softwood rafters from an over-built roof.

The second-floor structure of no. 44 is at approximately tiebeam level although no actual tiebeams could be seen and it seems quite possible that the roof was tied using only the deep floor joists of the floor structure, which runs east-west across the span.

The main roof structure comprises two trusses (T1 and T2), dividing the roof into 3 bays. The two trusses are very similar and clearly contemporary, comprising principals and collar. The collar is at a relatively high level, allowing sufficient headroom beneath for people to move freely about the roofspace (attic).

The southern two bays are 3.3m long, but the northern bay is only 2.4m. The central bay accommodates the subsidiary roofs coming in from the neighbouring properties on each side, but this correspondence is approximate only, not an exact alignment. The central bay also accommodates on the eastern side a large clunch-stone stack, diminishing in steps **(fig.48)**. On the west side of the bay the newel staircase rises, enclosed by a heavy timber-frame partition, now without its lath and plaster infill.

There is no truss in the southern end wall, which comprises a modern later 19th century lightweight frame onto which the purlins apparently simply rest **(figs.50 & 51)**. The northern end wall appears similar but is largely obscured by boarding etc and could not be inspected. Some blackened earlier studs, perhaps of 17th century date, are glimpsed in the gaps **(figs.52 & 53)**.

The northern and the southern bays have two tiers of butt purlins. The central bay has only an upper tier, offset slightly lower than the purlins adjacent to it. The purlins are butted to the principals, mortised and single-pegged using traditional carpentry.

The common rafters have been totally replaced above the upper purlin tier by modern softwood rafters. However, below the upper purlins many of the primary common rafters survive. They are mortised into the upper purlins, without pegs, and then run uninterrupted down across the back of the lower purlin, being only very slightly notched over it. Some of these primary commons are clearly re-used timbers.



Fig.48 General view looking north with T1 nearest the camera



Fig.49 General view looking south with T2 nearest the camera





Figs.50 & 51 Details of south gable showing late C19 sawn softwood structure with wedged raking strutting and bolted metal strap



Fig.52 North gable end



Fig.53 Older hardwood stud possibly in situ

Detailed comments

Southern bay

Purlin P1 – 130 x 150mm. Purlin is butted, mortised and single-pegged to T1, but appears to only rest on the studwork of the south wall (secret nailed?). Common rafters, typically 100 x 100mm, run down past the outer edge of P1, only slightly notched. Many commons have vacant redundant mortises indicating re-used timbers.

P2 – 130 x 160mm. As P1, butted, mortised and single-pegged to T1. Common rafters mortised into the purlin's soffit (no pegging visible – without pegging this is an inherently weak form of joint and many have pulled).

P3 – 130 x 155mm. Common rafters as described, but these are not re-used, typically 70 x 100mm (i.e., smaller than the re-used ones on the west side).

P4 – as P1

Truss T1. Principal measured at floor level, 140 x 210mm. No tiebeam. On the western side the foot of the principal can be seen through a hole in the floorboards to terminate without any tiebeam; the foot abuts a deep floor joist running west-east to which it is presumably nailed. The principals measure 120 x 180mm above the collar, i.e., they diminish slightly as they rise, a normal practice. Both principals are sawn off above collar level. The collar is 100 x 200mm, with a very waney upper face but flat soffit. Collar is single-pegged to the principal, reinforced on the western principal by an iron bolt. No carpenter's marks seen at this joint (or elsewhere). The collar is braced by short, curved knee-braces to the principals. The braces are 220 x 550mm and are affixed to the principals and collar by heavy iron nails - no pegging seen.



Fig.54 The southern bay, looking east; the C20th rebuilt front wall is visible on the right





(left) Fig.55 The common rafters mortised into the upper purlin tier (right)

Fig.56 The common rafters notched over the back of the lower purlin



Fig. 57 The collar of Truss T1, looking north. The truncated ends of both the principals of T1 can be seen, as can the modern over-roof structure. Below and in front of the collar is a later strengthening timber



Fig.58 The eastern side of T1 showing the collar pegged to the principal, the sawn-off top of the principal, and the collar knee-brace (behind the strengthening timber)

Central bay

On the west side, purlin P5 is generally, as P2. The joint where P5 abuts the principal of T1 has been reinforced by added timbers and a large iron strap, but the housing for the abutting is visible and

clearly primary. P5 is offset lower than P2. The joint where P5 abuts T2 is again a traditional butt housing, mortise, and single-pegged. The top face of P5 has a line of mortises for common rafters, of which some remain, now truncated. One at least of these common rafters is re-used, and measures 90 x 130mm, laid flat. The soffit of P5 also has a continuous line of vacant mortises for common rafters running down, presumably to a lost lower purlin tier and thence the floor. This strongly suggests the subsidiary ridge running west to no. 46, and the newel staircase, are later insertions into an otherwise simple double-pitched roof on the subject property.



Fig.59 The partitioning for the newel stairs, with the confusion of timberwork above it. The doorway from no. 46 is visible at the end of the short subsidiary roof. The upper face of P5 is visible (upper left), with vacant mortises for upper common rafters



Fig.60 The line of vacant mortises in the soffit if purlin P5, indicating lost common rafters which when present would prohibit the existence of the western subsidiary roof

There is no **lower purlin** on the west side of this central bay. The site where such a purlin might have abutted truss T2 to the north is now obscured by a confusion of timbers relating to the truncation of the foot of T2 for the staircase, and the addition of the timber partitioning for stair enclosure. However, the site where such a lower purlin might have abutted T1 to the south is readily observable, and here it can be seen that there is no mortise or peg-hole for such a purlin; this suggests the subsidiary roof to no. 46 was not a later addition but was anticipated when the trusses were cut (a conclusion which conflicts with that drawn above).

On the eastern side, purlin P6 is generally as P5. The top face of the purlin has, like P5, a line of mortises for the common rafters, of which some remain (now truncated). Its soffit also has a line, as far south as the stack, of vacant mortises for lost common rafters running down to a lost lower purlin tier and thence the floor. One at least of these common rafters survives, now jointed to the valley rafter, and can be seen to be re-used, measuring 90 x 130mm and laid flat. This suggests the subsidiary roof running eastwards to no. 42 was, like that running west to no. 46, a later insertion.





Figs.61 & 62. The central bay, here seen on the eastern side. The principal of Truss T2 has a mortise and peg-hole for a missing lower purlin, yet (right) there is no such accommodation on the foot of T1

As on the western side, there is no lower purlin on the east side of this central bay. Evidence for its existence is contradictory - the site where such a purlin might have abutted truss T2 to the north has, very clearly, a vacant mortise and peg-hole for such a lower purlin. The site where such a lower purlin would have abutted T1 to the south is also readily observable, and it can be seen that here there is no mortise or peg-hole for such a purlin. The presence of the stack on this side of the bay might mean there was only a short lower purlin south from T2, embedded at its southern end in the stack. Whether this is correct or not, it is clear that for this eastern side, just as for the western side, there is a direct conflict of available evidence on the question of whether the two subsidiary wings are contemporary with the main roof, or later additions.

To the rear (east) of the stack, and separated from it by approximately 300mm, is a brick and stud partition. This forms the end of the short subsidiary wing extending out to no. 42. Embedded into this partition is a surviving C16th truss forming part of no. 42. Both principals of this truss can be seen, and significantly each has a large mortise for a windbrace running west, i.e., into what is now the subject roofspace. Furthermore, the collar is also visible; it is cambered and carries on both sides a clasped purlin, now sawn off. The principal/collar joint is a mortise and is single-pegged. On the north side the purlin projects a few cm before its sawn-off end and within this distance is a peg-hole for a common rafter; the peg-hole was itself sawn in half when the purlin was truncated. There is therefore no doubt that the double-pitched roof of no. 42, ridged east-west, previously extended over what is now no. 44 in a configuration which was replicated and continued by the subsidiary roof structure of no. 44 when it was constructed.

The apex of the C16th truss is bridled and double-pegged; there is no primary ridge piece.

The rough brickwork and small area of boarding now separating the two properties where these two roofs meet is infilling into rough studwork nailed to the collar and principals. There is a gap in this brickwork through which it is possible to see a second brick partition some 300mm deeper into no. 42.



Fig.63. The C16th roof truss of no. 42 is visible in the nail-on stud and brick partition in the eastern subsidiary roof. This view looks east, with the chalk stack of no. 44 on the extreme right.





Figs.64 & 65. Details of the roof truss of no. 42, showing (left) the collar clasping the sawn-off purlin, and (right) the windbrace mortise showing the roof originally extended into what is now no. 44 Silver Street, the subject property.

Northern bay

Truss T2 – generally, similar to T1 except as noted the eastern principal has a vacant mortise and peg-hole for a lower purlin south into the central bay, unlike T1 which there is no such accommodation for this purlin running north.

On the western side, as noted above, the foot of the principal has been sawn off to accommodate the staircase.

Purlin P7 – largely hidden by later partitioning etc at both its northern end, in the end wall, and at its southern end by T2.

P8, P9 and P10 – generally, as described for the southern bay.



Fig.66 General view of Truss T2 looking north



Fig.67 Detail of the knee-brace supporting the collar on the eastern principal of T2; this brace is ogee-shaped.

Span distances measured are approximately:

Wall of no. 46 (gable of subsidiary roof) to wall of no. 42 (gable of subsidiary roof) – 7.26m
Eaves to eaves (across floor) - 6.50m
Between lower purlins – 4.74m
Between upper purlins – 2.55m

Pitch of roof approx - 48 deg.

Interpretation

Dating. The roof uses traditional carpentry for example in the jointing of the collars, the purlins and the common rafters, although in places this is supported by iron nailing, apparently primary. Timber sizes are not generous but are adequate, and some timbers (certainly some common rafters) have been re-used. Finishes are workmanlike but unsophisticated and not decorated. The knee-braces are not a common feature, perhaps related to the (apparent) lack of proper tiebeams and hence need for additional restraint to prevent spread.

This evidence would accord with a date in the first half of the C17th.

Are the two side roofs primary, or later insertions? The evidence noted above is equivocal, indeed directly conflicting, and no firm interpretation is offered. This may be a case of a genuine change of intention during the construction process. It is noted that the western subsidiary roof is sited centrally within the bay but that to the eastern side is not; the two subsidiary roofs are not necessarily contemporary with each other, and one might be primary and the other secondary.

Furthermore, there is the question of the purpose for these two subsidiary roofs. The western roof does appear related to the newel staircase in that it gives generous headroom exactly where it is needed, so this probably dates from the date of the stairs, themselves a later insertion. The present facility for intercommunicating with the roofspace of no. 46 may be an added bonus and not a reason for its construction.

The subsidiary roof to the east is harder to account for. It does not intercommunicate with the roof space of no. 42 and seems never to have done – the presence of the stack effectively rules that out. It does align exactly with the truncated roof of no. 42, indeed it effectively continues that roof, and may therefore have been something perhaps required as an obligation to that neighbour. There would also have been minor benefits from constructing this eastern wing in that the new chalk stack could be made to rise centrally though the new subsidiary ridge, and also in avoiding a long gully gutter running the whole depth of no. 44, but these are useful side-benefits rather than justification.

Whatever their purpose, the side subsidiary roofs appear not to have been intended when construction began, but they well have been built by the time construction was completed.

The roof structure to the eastern neighbour, no. 42, is earlier, at least C16th, as already noted.

Subsequent alterations have included the total truncation of the historic roof just above collar level, including sawing off of all 4 principal rafters, and the replacement of many common rafters. There is also some evidence for a fire in the roof space.