

# Design, Access & Heritage Statement

**Alan Cole**

Waterside Mill, High Street, Downton, Wiltshire. SP5 3PE

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Prepared by Tailored Wood Ltd



## **Introduction**

Tailored Wood Ltd is a bespoke joinery manufacturer specialising in the external heritage joinery market. It deals mainly with low production numbers for sensitive properties that may be grade listed or within conservation zones.

Tailored Wood takes pride in producing work that is constructed using traditional methods, and ensuring replacement and refurbished joinery projects meet the customers, conservation and planning departments expectations and stipulations.

Tailored Wood is conscious of the architectural and historical value of the materials and accompanying furniture chosen for each project, in addition to the design aesthetic.

Tailored Wood was approached by Alan Cole to assess his current windows and to give professional advice on their restoration. A survey was conducted to establish the current state of the windows, and to advise on the best approach to take.

## **Overview**

Waterside Mill is a Grade II listed former watermill located on The Borough in Downton, Wiltshire. The building originates from the 18th century, reflecting the village's historic reliance on water-powered industry along the River Avon.

Originally constructed as a corn mill, the building was later adapted for industrial use, notably converted into a power station in 1929 by the Southern Tannery Company. It has since been converted into residential use (now a semi-detached dwelling).

Architecturally, the structure is built in brick (English and Flemish bond) with a tiled roof, arranged over three storeys, and retains characteristic mill proportions and fenestration patterns.

### **Existing Joinery**

The existing windows comprise storm-proof casement joinery, which is not considered to be in keeping with the historic character and significance of the listed building. This form of window, typically characterised by outward-opening sashes set proud of the frame, contrasts with the more traditional flush or recessed joinery commonly associated with buildings of this age and type, and therefore detracts from the building's architectural authenticity.

A detailed inspection has identified significant decay to the timber elements, most notably to the bottom rails of the casement sashes. The extent of rot has resulted in the failure of the mortice and tenon joints, undermining the structural integrity of the sashes. As a consequence, the affected windows are now structurally unsound and no longer performing adequately in terms of stability or weather resistance.

### **Proposal**

The proposal for this listed building application is to replace 10 windows within Waterside Mill. These windows are showing signs of significant rot, have lost functionality and are beyond the point of reasonable repair.

Tailored Wood propose the replacement windows should be returned from storm-proof to flush casement windows to restore historical accuracy to the property.

The new windows will house 14mm heritage slimline double-glazed panes. They will utilise solid glazing bars, permitting traditional, individually glazed units with a putty finish.

### **Appearance**

Tailored Wood propose that any replacement joinery adheres to the section sizes and profiles of the adjoining property (The Corn Mill), to return architectural and aesthetic consistency across the building.

Tailored Wood is a specialist heritage joinery manufacturer that prides itself on the bespoke solutions required for this type of property. The replacement joinery would be manufactured in Sapele, a stable hardwood.

### **Scope of Works for the replacement 10 windows.**

The windows would be replicated with replacement, like-for-like, hardwood frames and sashes, rebated to house slimline, heritage, double-glazed units – individually glazed with solid glazing bars and a putty finish. The existing windows will be sympathetically removed and the replacements will be installed utilising wedges, fixings and the appropriate lime mortar.

**Drawings**

Please see full suite of drawings attached.