# CONSERVATION IN NOTTS.

Spring 1983

IN THIS ISSUE

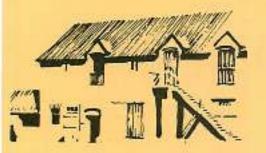
Old White Hart

1 Kayes Walk

The Ragged School

Barton in Fabis,

Dovecote



# NOTTINGHAMSHIRE BUILDING PRESERVATION TRUST LIMITED

The Old Bowls Pavilion, Bridgford Road, West Bridgford, Nottingham NG2 6AX Tel. (0602) 819622 (24 hour answer)

#### The Work of the Trust

The Trust - as a limited company with charitable status - operates within a legal framework, designed to protect buildings of historical and architectural interest and to maintain the character of towns and villages in Nattinghamahire. The Trust was formed in 1965 and has over the past years built a fine reputation for its assistance both financial and technical in nelping preserve the heritage of the County. However in recent years the Trust has lost, because of Government cuttacks, the financial assistance of some of the local councils. The Trust will therefore concentrate on:

- (a) Advising local planning authorities on applications to alter or denolish listed buildings, and on applications affecting conservation areas;
- (b) Presenting evidence on the same issues if and when they come to public inquiry;
- (c) The Trust is anxious to extend its work in two other directions. It is prepared to offer technical advice to Owners who, without proposing to alter a building, wish to maintain its essential character and possibly to restore historic features. Such advice calls for professional knowledge and skills. Owners will therefore be expected to pay a modest charge for such advice. This advice is available not only for buildings listed or in conservation areas, but for any building of age;
- (d) The Trust is particularly anxious to resume its policy, carried out successfully in Windles Square, Calverton of acquiring old buildings, restoring them suitably and then selling. The Trust has limited capital funds for this purpose, but hopes to be able to borrow the additional funds from the Civic Trust or from local authorities.

The Trust has accurulated a large collection of photographs and reports, and they are important for reference. Recently the Trust has surveyed a number of farm buildings because the are often now redundant. They differ from one part of the county to enother, and it is impossible to advise on, for instance, a proposal to convert a barn into a bouse unless its historical character is understood. Recently the Trust has extended this by arranging surveying weekends for members. At these members learn the tachnique of members buildings whilst acquiring a valuable record for the Trust of the important buildings in a perticular village.

#### FINANCE AND ESTABLISHMENT

The Trust depends for its finance on voluntary densions. The largest source of voluntary help is supplied by local authorities. From 1980 and for the foreseeable future, owing to cutbacks in Local Government expanditure, the arount of this help will be much reduced and a greater emphasis on help from private individuals and voluntary organisations will be needed.

The Trust invites subscriptions from those who wish to associate themselves with this work; the rates are as follows:

Individual membership = £2.00 Corporate membership = £2.50 Life membership = £20.00

Much of the work is done by volunteers from the Trust's new beadquarters at the Old Bowle Pavilion, West Bridgford. which the Trust is restoring. If you are interested in finding out more about as please contact Janet Elenkinship at the above telephone number.

## Subscriptions

Our subscription level has stayed the same for many years despite a huge increase in administration costs. The annual subscription turely covers the cost of the newsletter and postage. Our income from local authority grants has been drastically reduced and so we must rely on dramatically increasing our membership to survive. So, please try to enlist a new member this year - leaflets advertising our work are available from the Trust's offices - or why not take out a subscription to the newsletter for a friend who has noved away from the area.

## KEWSLETTER.

Additional copies of the newsletter can be provided either singly # 25p + p+F, or in bulk:-

> 10 copies 50 or more copies

£2.00 post paid £1.75 per 10 post paid

or sent to any part of the U.K. for £1.50 a year.

# The Heritage of the County is in Your Hands

Registered Charity No. 254094
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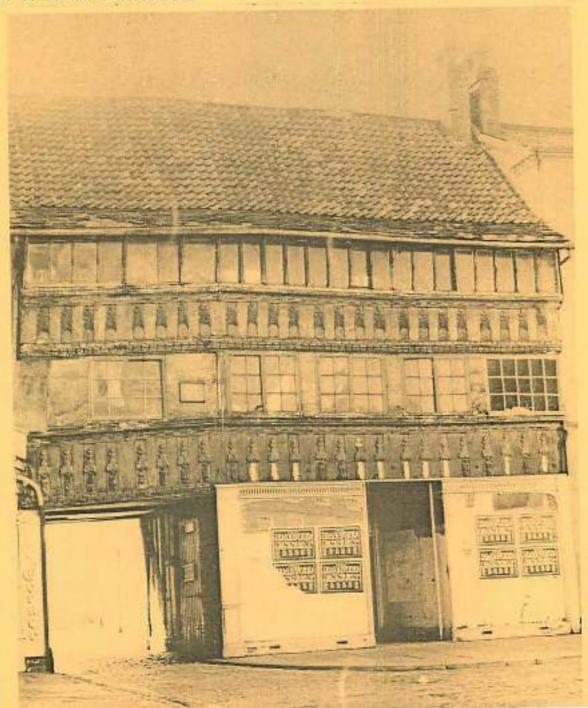
## THE OLD WHITE HART, NEWARK

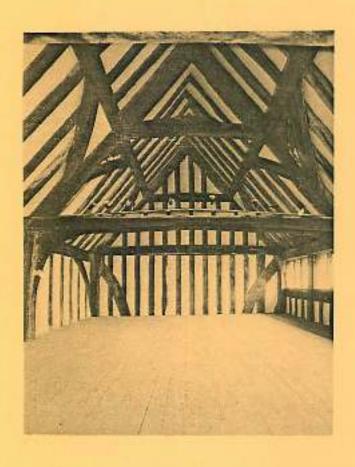
The Old White Hart, Newark, recently restored by the Nottingham Building Society, is one of the most interesting timber framed buildings to survive being one of the few to retain rich mediaeval decorations and colours.

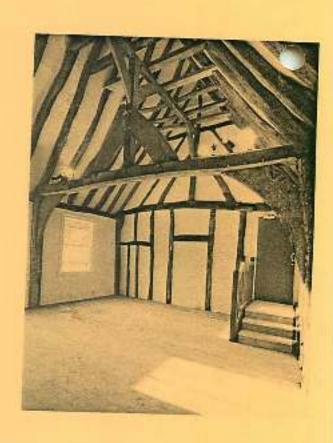
The White Hart complex dates back to the mid 14th century, and was certainly an Inn by 1430, the date of the earliest documentary evidence.

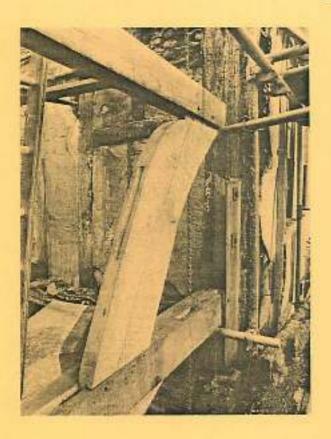
The original Inn buildings have been sold off over the years, the present public house forming a very small percentage of the original property. The premises now owned by the Building Society consist of the remaining mediaeval works and can be divided into four separate sections. The range following the pub yard (the South Wing) together with the small East Wing immediately adjoining the present pub both date from around 1350, the Front Range facing the market place dating from around 1480, whilst the gabled stair turret facing on to the pub yard is possibly slightly later.

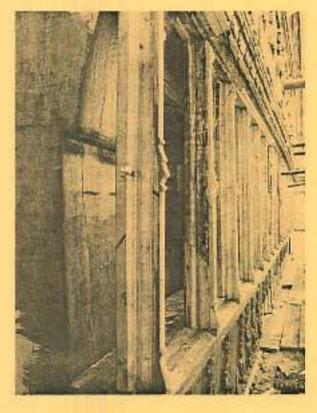
The present restoration works have concentrated on the front range, stair turret and East wing, and were completed in December 1981 at a cost of approximately £280,000. The resulting accommodation provides offices on the ground floor for the Nottingham Building Society whilst the upper floors are about to be let as a restaurant.











Prior to the restoration works, an archeological dig was carried out to the interior of the building, which indicated two previous buildings of the 13th and 12th centuries underlying the present building. Many interesting finds, including fragments of expensive 14th century venetian glass, were removed from the interior of an old garderobe pit descovered against the western wall.

In the restoration, mediaeval materials and techniques were used as far as possible, the use of steel reinforcement being restricted to the minimum required by the Engineers. All timber is oak, used in an unseasoned condition, utilising the correct mortice and tennon joints.

The building had suffered severely over the years, as the Victorians, intent to provide the maximum floor sales area during its occupation as a department store, had removed many of the internal features. Elsewhere a party wall with the adjoining bakers shop premises had subsided by approximately 200 millimetres.

Because of this, the complete timber frame structure was suspended off an inserted scaffold, whilst foundations, new sill beams, three new posts and other missing features to the ground floor were replaced. The subsided bay was carefully jacked into position, one floor at a time, working from the roof downwards. Great care was taken during this operation, enabling all the original mediaeval plaster infill panels facing the market place to be retained. These are extremely interesting, consisting of small figures of Saints, with decorative canopies over, all being cast in a hard Gypsum plaster. The Saints are believed to represent St. Anthony and St. Barbara. At first floor, 19th century sliding sash windows were removed and new window mullions inserted to match the six remaining original ones. The second floor mullions are all largely original. At the window heads, replicas of the one remaining panel of original tracery have been formed, cast is synthetic resin, the cost

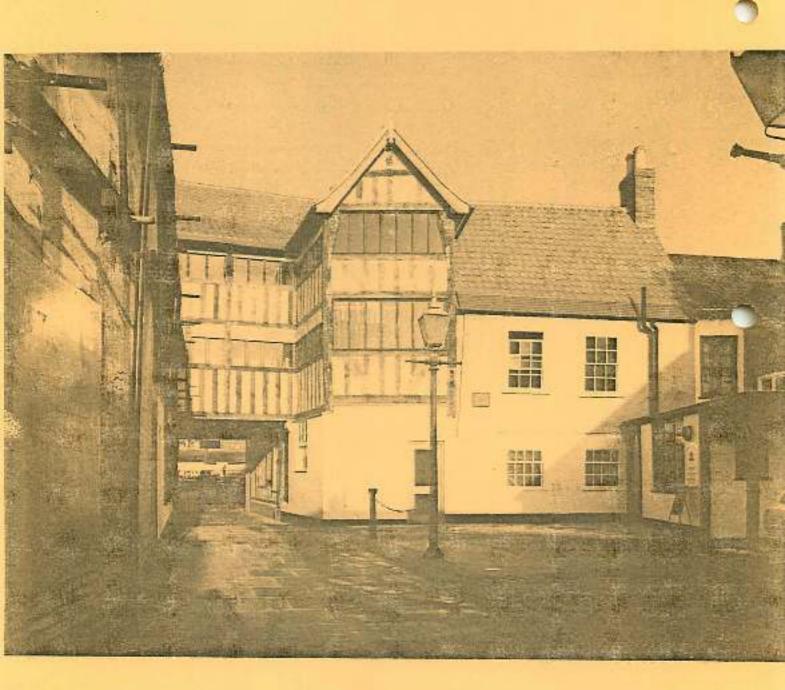
of carved oak being unfortunately beyond the budget. The colour scheme of the front elevation follows closely that evelved by Professor Tristram during the early 1930's. Internally, the minimum of alterations, in an unashamedly modern style, have been carried out to enable the Building Society offices to function.

It is hoped that the next phase of the restoration, the South Wing, will start in the near future; this will be described in more detail in the next newsletter.

Architects - Guy St. John Taylor Associates, Newark.

Quantity Surveyors - Felton & Partners, Nottingham
Engineers - Ove Arup & Partners, Manchester.

Main Contractor - Sol Construction, Nottingham
Timber Frame Sub Contractor - T. Edson & Sons, Plumtree, Nottingham
Photographs by Dave Bower, Photography



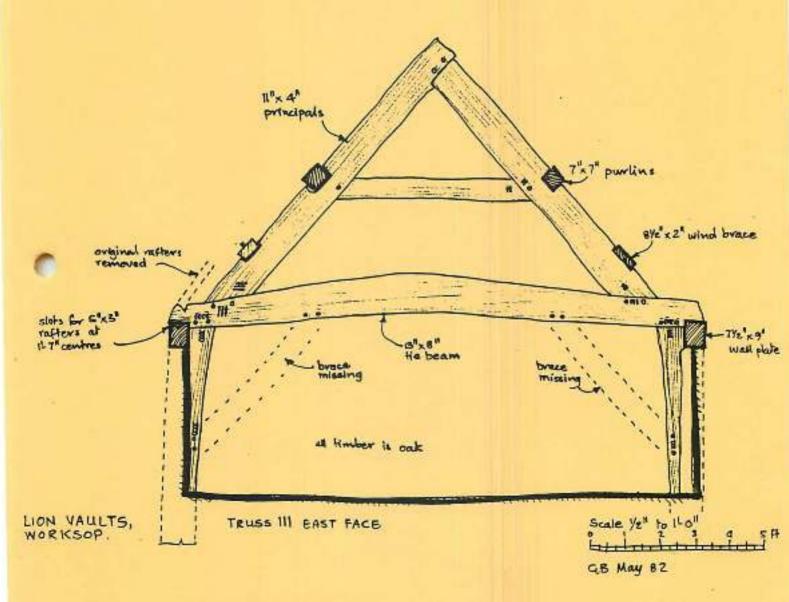
#### THE LION VAULTS, WORKSOP

A party of enthusiastic volunteers from the Trust spent some time on one or two weekends cleaning and recording the timbers of an interesting little building called the Lion Vaults at the rear of the newly re-opened Lion Hotel, Bridge Street, Worksop.

The Vaults has been completely altered at ground floor level over the years, but upstairs under an outer casing of later brickwork a virtually complete two bay oak frame probably of 17th century date still survives.

The new owner of the hotel is hoping to make an upstairs bar of the Vaults when funds permit. The Trust wishes him well with this project and hopes that the oak frame will be retained unspoiled with its natural finish exposed to view.

#### G. Beaumont



## SPRING MEETING

Wednesday May 11th 1983

at

1 Kayes Walk, The Lace Market, Nottingham

7 o'clock p.m.

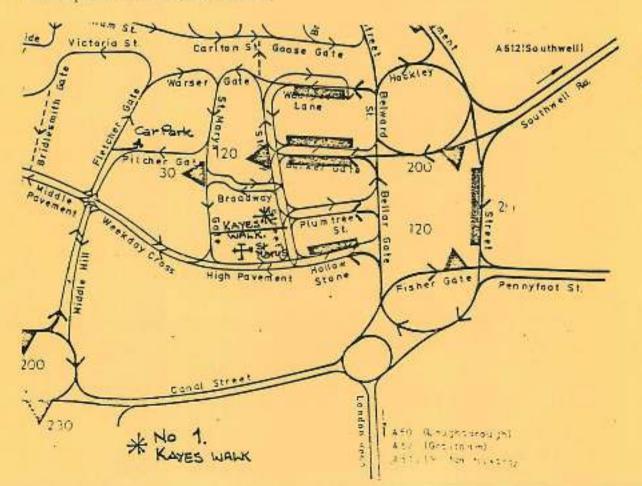
R.S.V.P.

A meeting has been arranged at 1 Kayes Walk in order that members might enjoy a Spring get-together and also have the opportunity of seeing the excellent restoration and conversion done by Robert Cullen and his Associates in making this building into their offices.

We have a cordial invitation to inspect all three floors and afterwards to see an Audio Visual presentation by the City Planning Department illustrating the restoration and renewal taking place in the City and in particular the Lace Market.

Numbers will unfortunately be restricted to about 70 and it would be appreciated if you would return the enclosed form as soon as possible in order to make sure of a place.

Following this announcement is an article written for us by Robert Cullen giving an outline of the history of the building in the context of the development of the Lace Market.



1 Kayes Walk, The Lace Market Nottingham runs between St Mary's Gate and Stoney Street on the north side of St Mary's Church.

It is named after the Rev. Sir Richard Kaye Bart LLP who died in 1805, and number 1 is built on the site of Plumptre House, one of the finest Georgian houses of that time demolished to make way for Broadway and the lace trade.

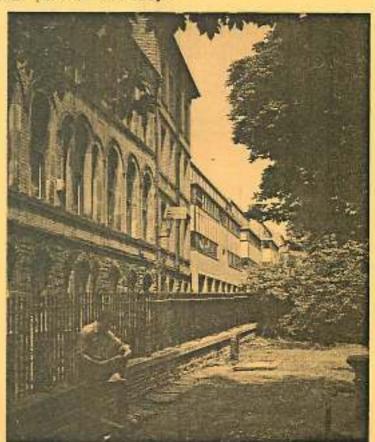
No. 1 Kayes Walk (10,000 sq ft gross) has been given a new life and is fully restored with grants from the City and DOE as offices, conference centre and studio/gallery. Two of the rooms are for hire, tel. 584840, the basement as an exhibition, conference or seminar room for up to 70 people and the top floor as an adjunct for reception, ancillary exhibitions or entertaining. The top floor has a magnificent view over the church of St Mary and the Trent Valley. The basement is very quiet, well ventilated and has projection and audio-visual equipment available.

The City of Nottingham's policy of encouraging thi restoration and conservation of the Lace Market is just beginning to counter the decay and dereliction which was becoming so apparent a few years ago. Undoubtedly if Nottingham is to have a healthy commercial future, the Lace Market, located within the inner ring road and three minutes from the Old Market Square, has a significant role to play.

The large lace warehouses convert very well into offices, studios, workshops and sometimes dwellings. A mixed central area use is the policy of the City councillors and officers and each case is looked at in detail on its merits against this general strategy.

The buildings built in the Lace Market between 1840-1870 are robust and have survived use and misuse until today. Properly restored, they will last for at least another 100 years and provide a real sense of continuity in the Lace Market. It is inevitable that as lorries get larger and technology changes, particularly handling, the buildings will no longer be suitable as warehouses and factories. New uses have to be found which will suit the buildings and also provide a good mix and sound commercial base to ensure the continued prosperity of this part of the city.

Robert Cullen.



## THE RENAISSANCE OF THE NOTTINGHAM AND REESTON CANAL

Five years ago the Nottingham Canal was a murky backwater, a relic of a bygone age and an object lesson of industrial decline. Commercial traffic had ceased and the warehouses along its banks were largely empty. The towing paths were muddy and depressing and rusting signs prohibited public access. But despite its shabbiness, the Canal still had great character. Its very neglect meant that many interesting arteficts had survived and there existed an exiting potential for improving the environment along the Canal and opening up the towing paths to the public.

The Nottingham Canal had been completed in 1796 and linked the Trent at Trent Bridge to the Cromford Canal at Langley Mill. It was built to serve the collieries of the hinterland. The Trent Navigation Company meanwhile built the Beeston Canal and Beeston Lock to the Nottingham Canal at Lenton Chain. The two Canals allowed Trent Navigation barges to avoid dangerous stretches of the river and eventually it was the Trent Navigation rather than the colliery traffic which became the most important. The early prosperity of the Canal was shortlived but even after the coming of the railways in the 1840's, it still carried much traffic and as late as the early years of this Century, the Trent Navigation Company built a vast red brick Warehouse off Wilford Street. After the first World War, road transport took even more of the Canal's trade and in 1936, the Lenton Chain to Langley Mill section of the Canal was abandoned. Commercial traffic on theremainder of the Canal finally petered out in the 1960's.

The Nottingham Civic Society first drew attention to the potential of the Canal in their report in 1974 and in 1977 the City Planning Officer put forward proposals for improvement.

Committee members were taken for a trip along the Canal which was a great success. It was decided that the City Council should take over the care, control and maintenance of the towing path from the British Waterways Board and this was agreed in 1980. Meanwhile, the City Council undertook land-scaping of the Carrington Street to Wilford Street section of the towing path as part of the Inner Area Programme. This first phase of the towing path improvements was completed in 1980 and subsequently the stretch from Wilford Street to Lenton Lane has also been landscaped and paved. The next phase of work will be between Carrington Street and London Road. The agreement with the British Waterways Board has opened up to towing path to public access and new access points have been constructed along the canal. It is now possible to take a six mile walk from Trent Bridge to Beeston Lock through the little known parts of Nottingham which are well worth exploring. The City Planning Department has published an illustrated history and guide of the Canal (price 30p) which points out the interesting features along the way.

Concurrently with improvements to the towing path, the City Council has been able to establish a Canal Museum in one of the most interesting of the old canal warehouses. The Fellows Morton Clayton Company was, in the latter period of the 19th century, the main carrying company of the Canal's network and had one of its largest depots at Nottingham. Their warehouse on Canal Street dated from the 1880's. This four storey red brick building has a fine double pitched roof with lantern lights and cast iron columns. It is entered by a basin off the Canal, which allowed two barges at once to be unloaded directly into the warehouse. This fine building was acquired by the City Council in the 1950's but by 1978 was disused and under some threat of demolition. The City was able to save the building through the Inner Area Programme, which funded the renovation and conversion of the upper three floors to provide new industrial units. The ground floor with its internal basin has become a Museum tracing the history of the Canal, the River and the archaeology of the Trent Valley. It has proved extremely popular in its first year of operation.

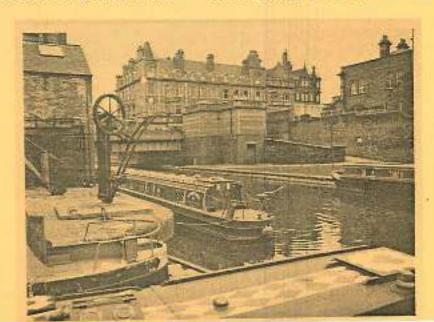
To complement the facilities of the Museum, the City Council leased the former offices of the Company and the stables, on the opposite side of the courtyard, to Whitbread East Pennines Limited who have very imaginatively converted these buildings to provide a pub and restaurant. This scheme has recently won Civic Trust and Business and Industry Panel Commendations.

In order to help protect and enhance the character of the Canal, a Conservation Area has recently been declared covering the stretch between Carrington Street and Castle Lock, which includes many of the most important buildings and features of the Canal. The Conservation Area extends to the Midland Station and along parts of Castle Boulevard to Watson Fotherfill's former Baker and Plumb building. It is hoped that Conservation Area status will help sucure further improvements to the many interesting buildings in the area. It also serves to underline the great importance that the Nottingham Canal has in the history of the City.

Although a lot remains to be done the Canal has successfully taken on a new life for recreational uses. The new marina off Castle Boulevard will encourage yet more use of the Canal, which can now be seen as a great asset to the City.

Adrian Jones Nottingham City Planning Department

Photographs from the Public Relations Officer







## MEASURING WEEKEND

#### Saturday 14th May, 1983

In previous years the Survey Group has recorded vernacular buildings and attempted to discover if a local tradition can be found within a village group, and by necessity has required an extended period before results could be published.

This year is is intended to survey in detail one or possibly two significant buildings so that Trust members who are unfamiliar with the techniques of recording can be actively involved. It is hoped to explain how traditional building methods have influenced the design and planning of the buildings and by discussion evaluate the historical development from the information available. The presentation of the surveys will be considered later, possibly with a demonstration and slide presentation illustrating alternative methods at the Old Bowls Pavilion.

All are welcome, and so that final arrangement can be made with the owner of the buildings to be studied, it would help if you would telephone the writer to verify numbers, before 2nd May, 1983.

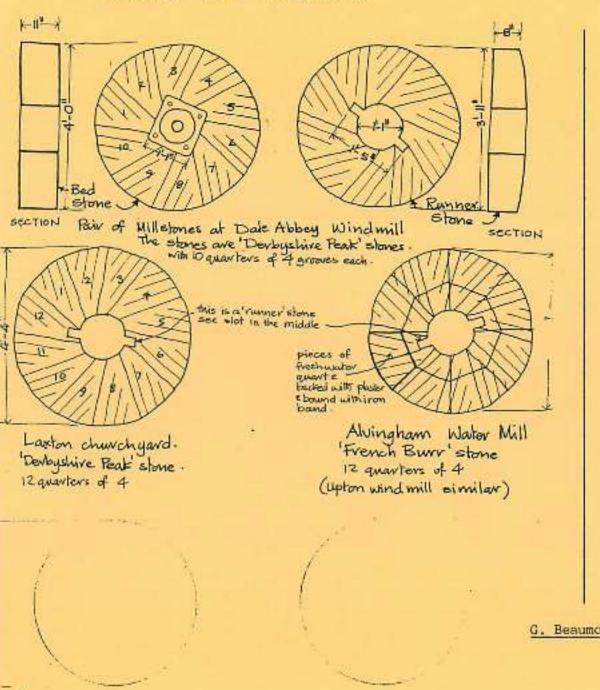
Bryan Cather Plumtree 4680

PLANT SALE

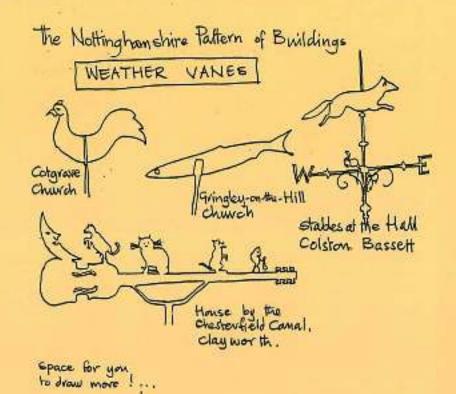
in aid of N.C.C.P.G.

A Coffee Morning and Plant Sale is to be held at the Old Bowls Pavilion on Saturday May 14th from 10a.m. to 12 p.m. in aid of the National Council for the Conservation of **Plants and Gardens**. This is the kind of occasion which we can usefully hold here at the pavilion, with the Trust receiving a donation. Anyone wishing to make use of our premises should contact Mrs Blenkinship at the office address.

### RECORD THAT MILLSTONE



space for you to record 2 more millstones!



G. Beaumont

#### THE RAGGED SCHOOL, NOTTINGHAM

The Trust's attention was recently drawn to a building of some interest on the fringe of Nottingham City Centre, concern being expressed that it was vacant and becoming derelict. The building in question was the so called 'Ragged School'. Investigations have revealed an interesting, if chequered history and more importantly hope for a better future. The City Council, the owners, have agreed to sell the building and the new owner to proceed with a scheme for its restoration. We understand that grant aid could be available from the city for some of this work. In addition the Planning Committee have asked the D.O.E. to list the building and an extract from this letter is reproduced below for members interest.

The building now referred to as 'The Ragged School' was erected in 1858 by the Nottingham Town Mission, a charitable Church based organisation dedicated to promoting scriptural education and general schooling for the poorest classes in the town. The schooling of the 'ragged children' was seen as a way of lessening crime, saving souls, and providing the rudiments of educational and social training. The building stands on the junction of Brook Street and Gedling Street approximately a third of a mile from the city centre.

The Nottingham Town Mission was founded in 1839. The Ragged School was established to provide care and education to the children of the poor and destitute who prior to the 1870 Education Act, would otherwise receive for formal education. In Nottingham the Town Mission was one of two Ragged Schools, the other being a now demolished building on Glasshouse Street. For 20 years the building provided a base for the Nottingham Town Mission.



#### ANSWERS TO THE CHRISTMAS PUZZLE

1. Laxton; 2. Inglenook; 3. Newel; 4. Bunny; 5. York

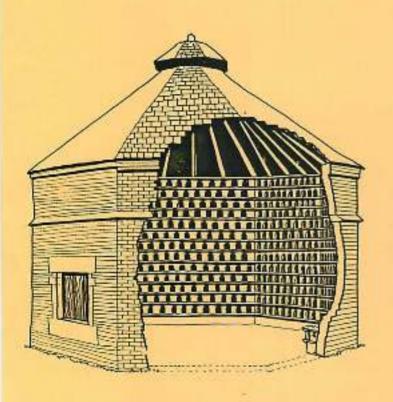
6. Crucks; 7. Rufford; 8. Ogee; 9. Solar; 10. Sibthorpe

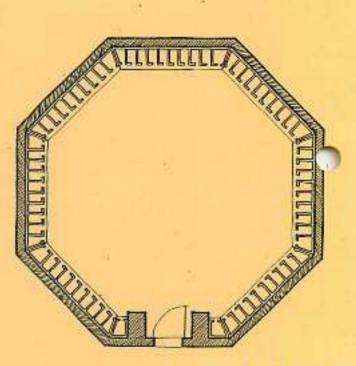
Giving LINBY CROSS

#### BARTON IN FABIS, DOVECOTE

The Trust have offered a grant of £500 towards the repair of the only octagonal dovecote in Nottinghamshire. It was built in 1677 by William Sacheverell and still stands today in the farmyard at Manor Farm, Barton in Fabis.

The 300 year old walls are in narrow red hand-made bricks and the interior contains about 1200 plaster nesting boxes with an inscribed date of 1677, the initials W.S., amd the Sacheverell coat of arms. The nesting boxes were made in pre-cast sections about 10ft long of gypsum plaster and aggregate with reinforcement of reeds. the sections are joined together with narrow joints of fine white plaster.





211111111

DOVECOTE AT MANOR FARM , BARTON-IN-FABIS

SKetch Ground Floor Plan . Scale 14" to 1"-0"