

THE MALT HOUSE IN RED LANE

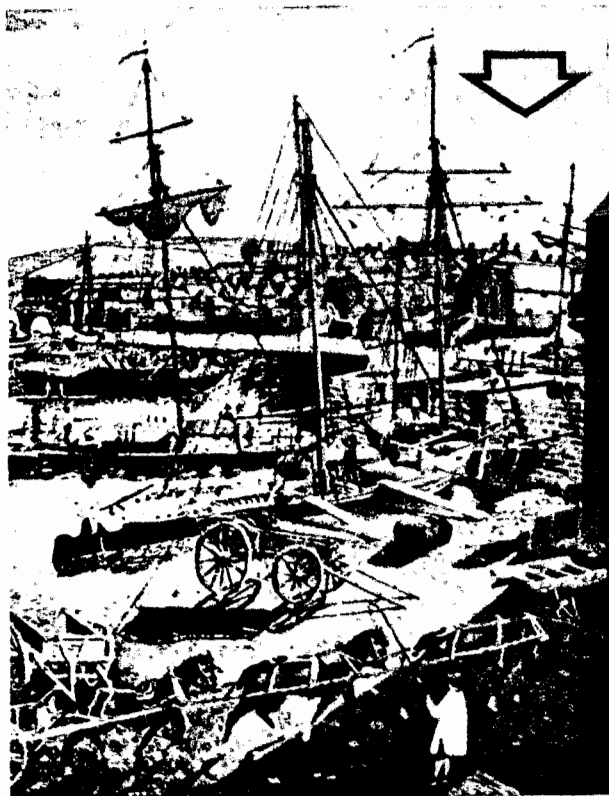
39

TEWKESBURY

Arising from the GSIA walk round Tewkesbury, reported in the 1971 Journal, a group of members measured and recorded the old malt house in Red Lane on February 27th 1971, by kind permission of the Tewkesbury Town Clerk, Mr K.E.S.Smale.

The measurements were taken under the direction of Mr Neville Crawford. A photographic record was made by Mr J.F.Bayes and Mr B.J.Roberts, two of their photographs are reproduced overleaf. The rough drawings and measurements made by GSIA members were worked into finished drawings by Mr M.G.Jones, and are here reproduced.

The Malt House is shown, named as a granary and malt house, at the far right of a picture of Tewkesbury Quay in 1804, and may be compared with the building as it stands today,



in the photograph on the following page. The front appears to have been altered or truncated, and the side elevation is more readily recognisable. It has not yet been possible to trace names of past owners of the building when it was operating as a maltings, but there was a malster William Jordan in Quay in 1820, which may possibly refer to the same building.

Tewkesbury has a long history of Malting. A horse driven brewing mill is recorded in Quay Lane in 1540 (V.C.H.), probably for grinding malt. In 1608 there were 14 maltsters in the town and a by-law was passed

specifically about the waste from malt houses, In 1647 an entry in the Pfeoffee Book, the account book of the Giles Geast charity, states -

"This yeare, Ireland was in parte reduced that divers of our townsmen sent mault to Dublin and sold it for 30s the barrell."

The trade continued during the 18th century and in 1781 there were 45 malt houses in the town, Bennett in his "History of Tewkesbury", 1830, says that -

"The malting business was one of the principal sources of wealth to the inhabitants for some centuries: the trade is still very considerable, though it is of much less importance than formerly".

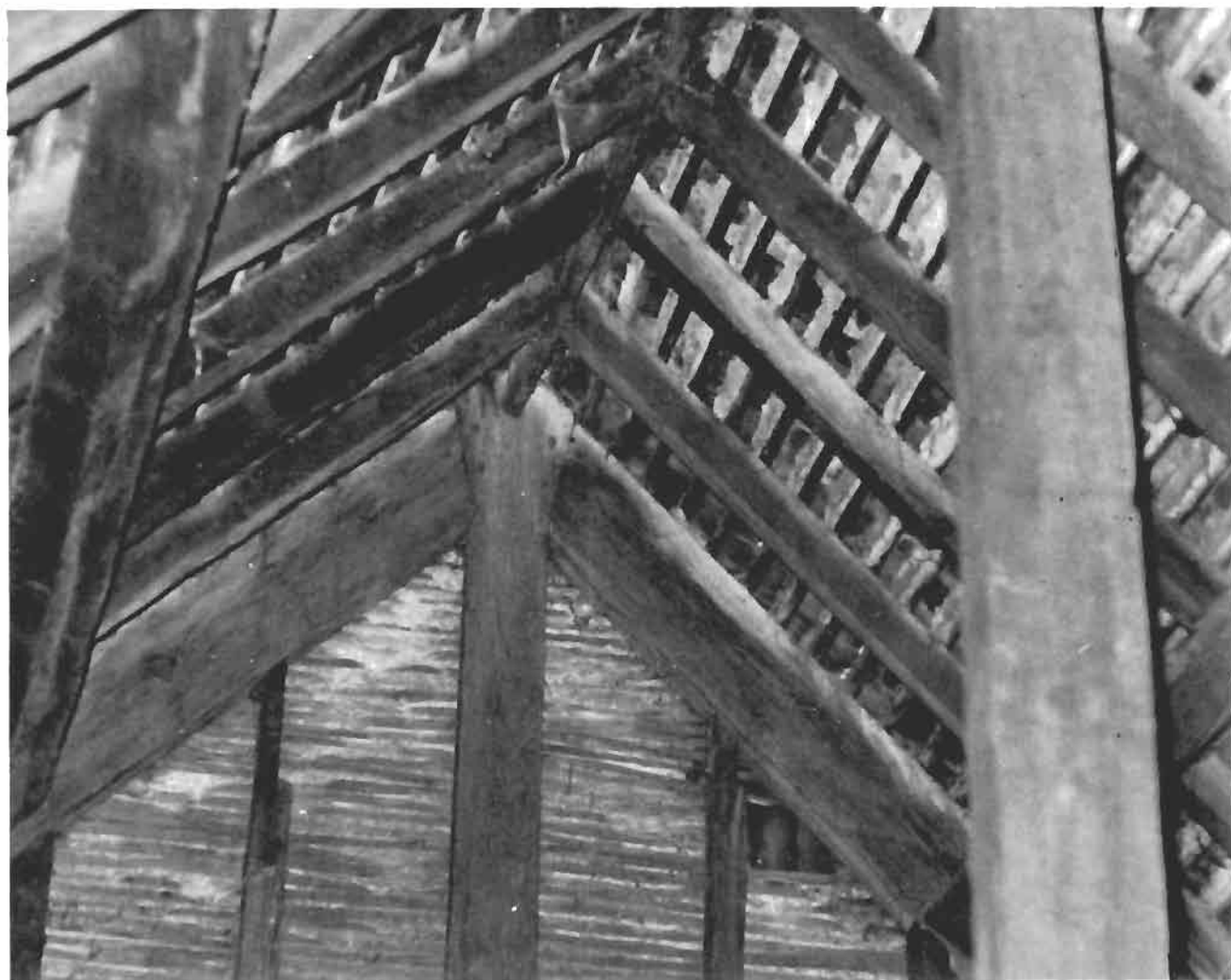
Although the trade began to decline in the 19th century, there were still 26 malt houses run by eleven maltsters in 1842 (V.C.H.) The same number of malsters were named in 1852, but only two in 1870 (Kelly's Directory)

The first O.S. Map 25inch edition shows a malthouse in St. Mary's Lane as well as the building which now houses the Fitz Hamon Art's Centre on Mill Bank, which was once the Abbey Barton, and the large malthouse between Station Street and the railway. The building in Red Lane was not so marked at that time and neither was the malthouse between the Oldbury Mills and the High Street, which still stands, though in a very dilapidated condition.

Above. The Malt House in Red Lane, seen from the River.

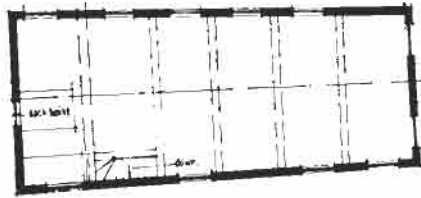
Below. Interior, showing upper storey and roof timbers.



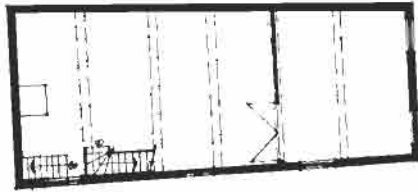


Malt-man from George Dodd's
"Days at the Factories".
1843.

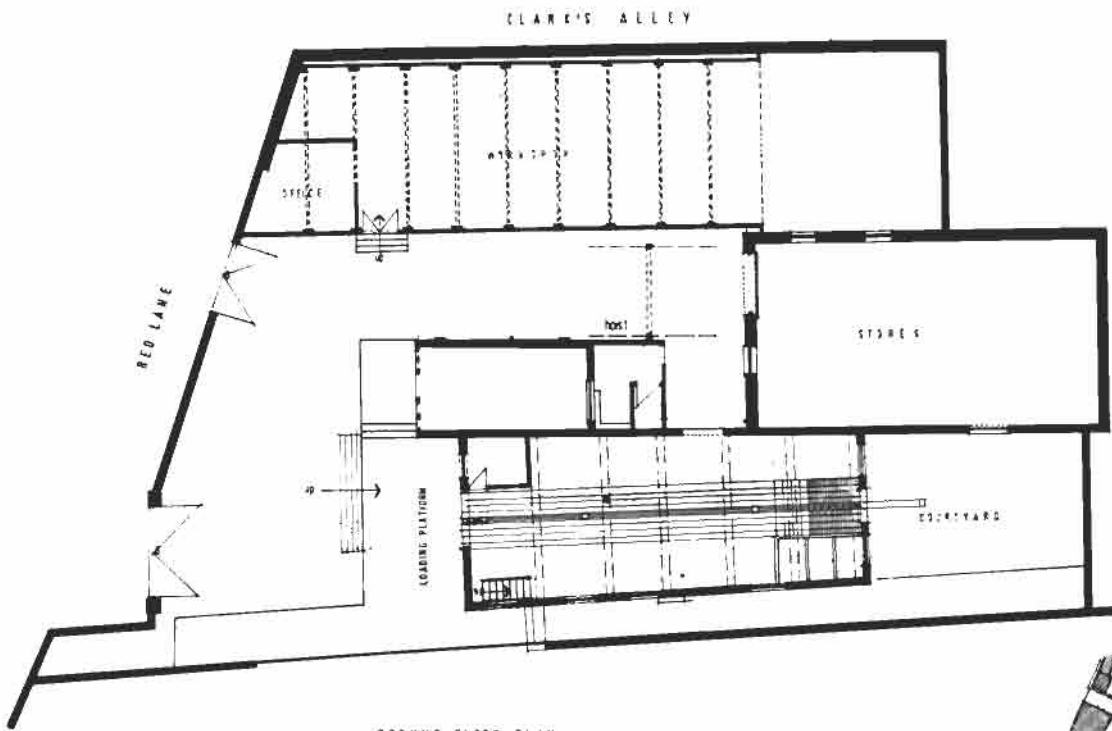




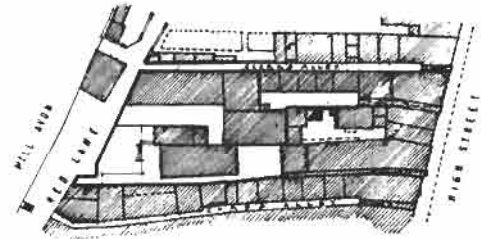
ATTIC PLAN



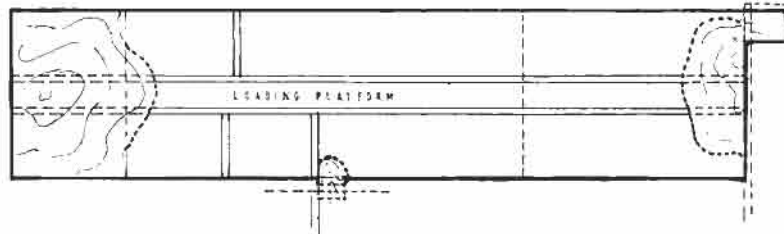
FIRST FLOOR PLAN



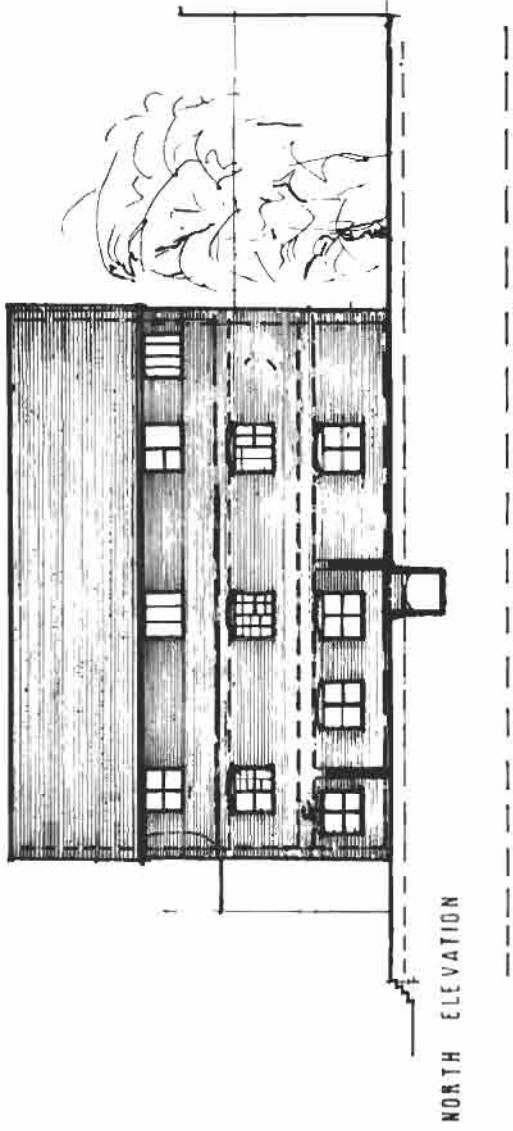
GROUND FLOOR PLAN.



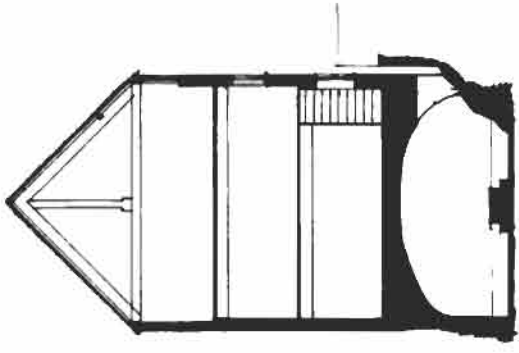
1500TH KEY PLAN



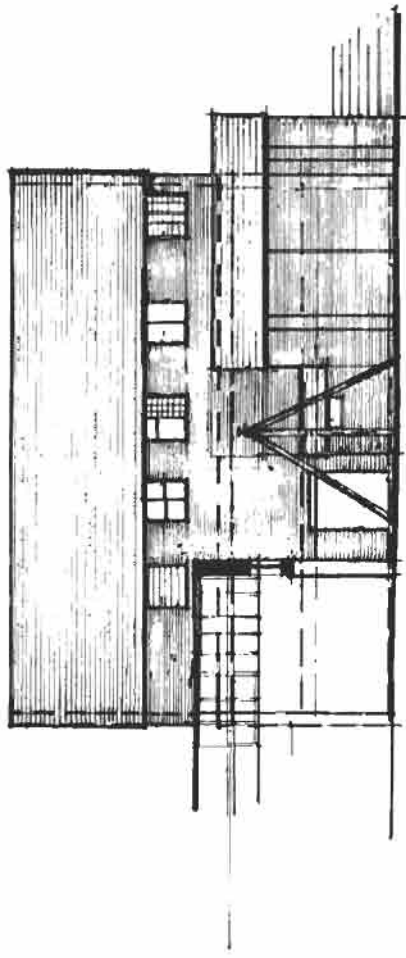
BASEMENT



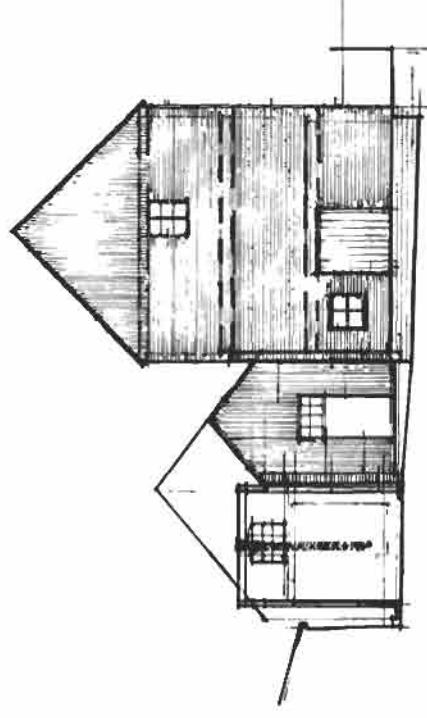
NORTH ELEVATION



CROSS SECTION.



SOUTH ELEVATION.



WEST (RIVER) ELEVATION.