NORTH STREET, MIDHURST, East side

North Street, East Side
Cullens

Grade II    21/1
Listed 26.11.1987
Listing NGR: SU8863721603

[Formerly Pescods and Cullens; right-hand side Disking (computers)]
[Now 'Stepping out' and 'Sophisticated Hair']
North Street, East Side
Barclays Bank and Boots Chemists

Grade II
One building, originally a coaching inn. Dated 1667 and probably a timber-framed building, but refaced and much altered, particularly the Bank. Stuccoed, the bank roughcast with stone Bank frontage and window dressings. Tiled roof. Modern casement windows. Carriage archway on ground floor between the premises.
Boots premises have an original C18 shop window with central doorway and bay on each side retaining their glazing bars. South wall coursed rubble with projecting chimney breast. Similar chimney breast on north wall partly concealed by the next house. 2 storeys and attic. 4 windows. 2 gabled dormers.
Listing NGR: SU8866421653

Extract from the Sussex entries of the Victoria County History:
"A shop and bank premises next south is modernized but has a date 1677 and shows old timber-framing and a moulded ceiling beam inside."
North Street, East Side
Tudor View

[Now Henry Adams Estate Agents and Help the Aged Charity Shop. Serenity Beauty Room over Adams; a residential flat over the charity shop. The photo shows the Tudor origins at the side with a Georgian front tagged on.]
(Formerly listed as George Gale, Wine Merchant and the Midhurst and Petworth Observer, Keats Estate Agent and Help the Aged Charity Shop)
(Previously listed as premises immediately south of Angel Hotel)

Listed 18.6.1059; amended 26.11.1987
Grade II 21/3
One building, 2 shops. C17 or earlier timber-framed building with the timbering and close-studding exposed in the north wall but refronted with stucco in the C18. Parapet. Tiled roof. Glazing bars intact above ground floor. Doorway with fluted pilasters. C18 shop front to south of this of 2 bays with frieze and moulded dentilled cornice. 2 storeys. 4 windows.
Listing NGR: SU8865121672

[Alan Smith: “My first days at school were at Appletreewick, a small private school set up in two rooms above what is now the estate agents next to the Angel car park, Keats Martin.” - Midhurst in Living Memory]

Grade II
Listing NGR: SU8869221670

https://www.midhurstsociety.org.uk/
Extract from the Sussex entries of the Victoria County History:

“The south side of it has five bays of 16th-century timber-framing with close-set studding with curved struts to the story-posts. The 18th-or 19th-century street front is plastered.”

North Street, East Side
The Tuck Shop

[Now 'Blown Away' and 'The Olive and Vine']

Author H. G. Wells lodged in the building, which event is commemorated by a plaque.
Grade II

Shop with accommodation over. Probable C16 timber framed building with inserted early C17 chimney stack reclad in early C19 to rear and early C20 to front. Front elevation now clad in curved tiles to first floor with pebbledashed ground floor. Tiled roof with staggered early C17 brick chimney stack. 2 storeys and attics 4 windows. Gabled doormers with casement windows, bargeboards and ceramic finials. 4 3-light casements with glazing bars only to upper parts on first floor. In the centre of the first floor is a plastered rectangular panel depicting a vase with vine and grapes. Ground floor has 3 canted bays under a bellhang and 2 doorcases with wooden brackets. Large right hand shopfront has panels of stained glass. Rear elevation is partly red brick in Flemish bond with some black headers and partly stone with brick dressings. Interior has 4 timber framed bays with C16 frame including gunstock jowled posts and curved braces to midrail. First floor lounge has early C17 brick fireplace and spine beam with lambs tongue stops. Top of staircase has early C17 polygonal finial to newel post. Ground floor has 2 inch chamfered beams.

Listing NGR: SU8865821703

Ye Olde Tea Shoppe

(Extracts from notes made by Ann Ballantyne, Muriel Carrick, Catherine Hassall and John Magilton: "Midhurst" - CDC, 2001)
In Autumn 1992 refurbishments to Ye Olde Tea Shoppe revealed part of a wall painting to the right of the fireplace on the ground floor and later in the year a fragment of a further painting was noted on the first floor at the back of the building. Ye Olde Tea Shoppe lies on the east side of North Street. It directly abuts the pavement, forming the middle section of an original three-bay building and extends into part of a later wing on the east side. Midhurst Travel is accommodated in the south bay of the original building and part of the Tuck Shop is in the north bay. The first floor of the tea shop is residential accommodation and the room above Midhurst Travel is an office.

All three premises have a tile-hung facade and symmetrical bay windows which, on casual inspection, suggests a single building, but closer examination reveals that the northern end of The Tuck Shop is part of a separate structure. The Midhurst Tithe map of 1841 indicates that this curious amalgamation had taken place by that date although the facade is later, dating to around 1900.

These notes concern the timber-framed building which stretches northwards from The Angel to the south jamb of the Tuck Shop door and a timber-framed wing behind it. Specifically, they examine the relationship of the ground-floor wall painting in Ye Olde Tea Shoppe depicting an episode in the Old Testament story of Naboth's Vineyard and one on the first floor showing the head of a (?) dog, to building phases. The building was examined on two days in November 1999.

The original building of three unequal bays parallel to the street frontage. That it was so suggests that, at the time of its construction, competition for frontages was not so severe that the common gable-end-on plan needed to be adopted. As it occupied the whole of the plot frontage, access to the rear must have been via a back lane; perhaps through the passage to the south, now part of The Angel, or a narrow passage to the north. The building did not follow the usual late-medieval open hall plan, and the lack of such a feature suggests construction post-1550.

[Further extensive and detailed architectural notes omitted.]

If the short stretch of wall bearing the Naboth painting was to link the central bay of the original building through to the east wing, it suggests the wish or need for a room of considerable size. Whatever its purpose, the wall with the Naboth painting makes no sense in terms of the original three-bay structure and it must therefore belong with the wing which has the 'dog' painting on its first floor. The paintings need not be contemporary with each other, nor are they necessarily contemporary with the building of the wing.

Domestic wall paintings seem to have been at their most fashionable in the later 16th and early 17th centuries. The big event in Midhurst around the time of the paintings' execution was Elizabeth I's visit in 1591 to Cowdray as part of her usual 'summer progress'. This was an edgy event as Midhurst borough was, like its Lord, Viscount Montague, staunchly Catholic and therefore potentially seditious. Any connection with the Naboth painting is perhaps tenuous but, assuming the painting to post-date 1591, the occasion could have given the artist a glimpse of the latest dress fashions in court circles.

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In 1660 it was described as two messuages called the *Bush* and the *Harrow*. In 1672 there is reference to a brewhouse which may have served both. In 1695 there is a description of a burgage messuage anciently called the *Bush*, later the *Rose and Crown*, but no mention of the *Harrow*.

[Further extensive descriptions of conveyances and assignments omitted.]

**Further observations (by The Midhurst Society):**

*One can only speculate as to the reason for the Naboth painting, but perhaps the then-owner wanted to send out a signal that property cannot be taken unlawfully. A message for the Viscount? In the biblical story, King Ahab desired the vineyard owned by Naboth, but the Mosaic law of the day forebade the permanent selling of land. Queen Jezebel framed Naboth for blasphemy and treason. Along with his two sons he was stoned to death, following which the King could take possession of the vineyard without opposition.*

*God’s justice was served by the killing of Jezebel (her corpse being devoured by dogs) and the ending of Ahab’s line (with the killing of his son). If that’s not a warning, what is?*

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**North Street, East Side**  
**The Harrow**

*Grade II; listed 26.11.1987*

House. C17 or earlier timber-framed building with the timbering and plaster infilling exposed in the north wall but refronted in the C18 with coursed stone rubble with red brick dressings, quoins and stringcourse. Casement windows.

Doorway with modern tiled sloping hood and door of six fielded panels. Two storeys. Three windows.

Listing NGR: SU8867021734

[Believed to have been a pub between 1660 and 1761. By 1796 it was a tenement with malthouse, brewhouse, woodhouse, stable-yard and appurtenances.  
Research by Tim Rudwick.]
North Street, East side
Christine, Rothermere,
and the Crusty Loaf
[Then 7 Fish Restaurant and Rico’s café; now Restaurant closed, and Fitzcanes Cafe]

- Grade II 26.11.1987
One building, 3 shops. Probably C17. Lobby entry house, the north half rebuilt. The south half of the front is stuccoed, the north half coursed stone rubble with red brick dressings and quoins. Modern casement windows. Recessed doorway with pilasters, projecting cornice and panelled reveals. Two storeys. Six windows.
Listing NGR: SU8867721766

At one time, the waiting room for the bus station

Anecdotal: “Christine” was a shop selling ladies clothes and lingerie, perhaps in the 1970s or 1980s. Might have been Christine Perret?]

[Jeni Robinson: “Next door to Christine was a tea room called The Willow Plate. Both premises were owned by the Perrets and Ted ran the tea room! Lovely couple!”]

[Photo of Rothermere Antiques provided by Ian Wegg.

The rear boundary of Rothermere or Christine adjoins North Street Car Park. In the 17th century it was a 2-storey building with attic. Two separate 2-storey extensions were added in the 18th and 19th centuries. In the 20th century a single story extension was added (with infill) and later still, a conservatory. It adjoins a similar property, and the central chimney suggests that originally they formed a single house.

The 18th century extension sits behind the earliest part of the building, entirely timber-framed with vertical tile-hanging to the roof gable. The 19th century extension has a brick-built fronted first floor, supported on a part timber-framed ground floor. The roof gable has vertical tile-hanging.
In a planning application dated May 2004 reference is made to successive attempts to cover over earlier or original surfaces after each alteration, such that the timber-framing was largely concealed. Only one room appeared to have survived largely in its original form: the rear first-floor room of the mid-19th century extension. With its ceiling built up into the roof space, “this lofty, generously-proportioned drawing room contrasts with all the others in having an Italianate approach. The white marble chimneypiece appears original, as do the doors and mouldings.”

North Street, East Side
137, Iron Gates Cottage

Grade II   26.11.1987
House, formerly two cottages. C17 timber-framed building with some thin timber-framing exposed at the rear but refronted in the C18 with uncoursed stone rubble with red brick dressings and quoins. Tiled roof. Casement windows. Two storeys. Two windows.
Listing NGR: SU8867621784

[This was the original gatekeeper’s cottage at Cowdray when the gates were located in North Street. The horse trough to the left of the photo isn't listed, but perhaps it should be. It exhorts users (horses?) to 'drink and pray'!]

Extract from Sussex entries of the Victoria County History:
“Farther north a stone-built cottage with brick dressings and a central chimney-stack with pilasters is of the late 17th century.”

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