



RUMBOLD'S HILL, MIDHURST **Starting from mini roundabout**

Rumbold's Hill, East Side
Homefires, Expressions and No 2
Also previously occupied by Lamb and
Glue, Elec Contractor



Grade II 21/82

One building, two shops and premises over. This building has the date '1672' painted on it. C17 timber-framed building with plastered front. Tile-hung gable. Tiled roof. Sash windows with glazing bars. Two small C19 shop windows. Two storeys. Three windows.

Listing NGR: SU8856721468

[Left portion now occupied by Envy Hair Salon]

Rumbold's Hill, East Side
414 and 415, Rumbold's Hill



Grade II 21/81

Cowdray Estate numbers which are not necessarily consecutive though the houses adjoin. One building. Early C19. Red brick and grey headers in Flemish bond. Slate roof. Glazing bars intact. Pair of doorways with projecting cornices on brackets. Two storeys and attic. Four windows. Three dormers.

Listing NGR: SU8857221475

Wheatsheaf Public House, corner of Rumbold's Hill and Wool Lane

Listing Date: 18 June 1959
Grade: II 21/80

Public House. This building occupies a prominent position in an angle between Rumbold's Hill and Wool Lane. C17 timber-framed building with plaster infilling and the first floor of the east front oversailing, ground floor rebuilt in coursed stone, now painted. Tiled roof. Casement windows. Two storeys. Three windows. The north front has been refaced with stucco in the C19. Central chimney breast. Long niche on east side of it with pointed top and rectangular sunk panel above. Bay windows flanking the niches with corbels below them. Three windows. South front stone rubble with tile-hung gable.

Listing NGR: SU8858821491



Extract from the Sussex entries of the **Victoria County History**:
"The Wheatsheaf Inn at the point of junction between Rumbold's Hill and Wool Lane has also been much altered, but shows 17th-century framing in the jettied upper story of its east side."

West Sussex CC served an enforcement order on Mr John King, the boss of Horsham Brerwers King & Barnes, ordering him to replace two chimney pots. Mr King had them removed from the northern end of The Wheatsheaf Inn in Rumbolds Hill. A builder had advised him that the chimney pots were unsafe and might topple off the roof and kill someone. "Take them away," said Mr King, forgetting that it was a listed building.



Mr King elected to challenge the order, representing himself at a public hearing. He claims the pub is not of special architectural or historic interest. WSCC described the pots as antiques. Mr King said that putting back the old ones or replacing them with others could be dangerous for the public.

The above was taken from an undated newspaper-cutting in our possession, unfortunately undated and unaccredited. Presumably Mr King won the day, because today The Wheatsheaf has no chimney pots! Does anyone know the year this happened?



In 2014 the inn keeper of the Wheatsheaf gave **Peter Sydenham** an inside tour of his use of the space in the former Catholic Church next door. The church had been purpose-built on the stage-coaching yard where the horses had been looked after. The original church had its altar at the south end. With the influx of more children at the Convent school, in the 1930s, and soldiers from Poland, it became too small. A mezzanine floor was added, hence the modern windows at the top of the walls, back and front. After the new Catholic Church was built in Bepton Road the pub started using the building. The mezzanine level was filled in to make an upper floor, used as a pool room. The existing kitchens go into the ground floor of the church. The original holy water niche at the western interior wall is still there.

Extract from Midhurst Heritage No. 4 (2005): In the Middle Ages The Wheatsheaf stood at the top of Rumbolds Hill; beyond was the muddy lane to Bepton. It sates from the 1530s, perhaps earlier. Known then as Le Cornerhouse, it was leased from the Knights Hospitallers by the priory at Easebourne. It gave shelter and medical help to the hundreds of pilgrims visiting the chapel in West Street, en route to the shrines of St. Richard at Chichester or of St. Swithin at Winchester. The house was partially rebuilt in 1627.

Rumbold's Hill, East side
21/79 Premises occupied by Lamb and
Glue Electrical Contractor
[Left-side now occupied by
Expressions Hair;
right-side now residential.]



18.6.59
(Formerly listed as Premises on east
side immediately north of No 1 Wool
Lane)

GV II

One building, two shops. C17 timber-
framed building with first floor jettied
on
brackets and tile-hung. Ground floor
stuccoed. Tiled roof. Shallow bay of
small
panes in the centre. Modern shop
front at each end. Casement
windows. Two storeys. Three
windows.

Listing NGR: SU8860121508

At one time the left-side was a china shop, run first by Mrs
Waller and later by Mr Clark. The story is told that one day a
bull wandered into the china shop (a cow, actually) but was
persuaded to leave without causing damage – or leaving a
calling card! **Margaret Bentall** says the cow belonged to her
father, who chased after the cow when it fled from the
slaughterhouse. And it did leave a pancake!]
[Strugnells, electricians, were also there at one time.]



Rumbold's Hill, East side
Asha Tandoori Restaurant

Grade II 21/78

House and restaurant. C18. Stone,
now painted. Stringcourse. Tiled roof.
Most
glazing bars intact. 2 storeys. 3
windows. Included for group value.

Listing NGR: SU8860421519



[Formerly The International Stores, Tai Tong Chinese Restaurant, and Graham Standing, electrical goods; now occupied by C J Hampshire]



Photos from the Charles White Collection. [The man on the bike? "My Dad" says **Sue Smethurst**. "Antony Clue." "Mine too!" says **Jenny Quinnell**. "My Uncle Tony" says **Peter Clue**.]

Rumbold's Hill, East Side
The Alliance and Leicester Building
Society
and Knight Insurance (Midhurst)

Grade II 21/77

House and shop premises. C18. Red brick. Tiled roof. Glazing bars intact above ground floor. Modern shop front. Two storeys. Three windows centre one false. Included for group value.

Listing NGR: SU8860521530



[Now occupied by Churchill Clocks]

Rumbold's Hill, East Side
E J Tomes
and Regency Building Society

Grade II 21/76

One building, two shops. C17 or earlier timber-framed building with the timbering exposed on first floor of north wall. This oversails with painted brick infilling.

Ground floor below refaced with stone rubble. The street front is plastered. Tiled roof. One window retains glazing bars. Others modern. Modern shop fronts.

Two storeys. Two windows.

Listing NGR: SU8860821537



[Now occupied by Sea Change and Nationwide Building Society]

Rumbold's Hill, East Side
Sussex County Building Society
and Rumbold's House



[Northern end now a Tea Room known as Tilly's]

Grade II 21/75

One building, now a house and shop or office. The exterior dates from the early C19 but the building is probably much earlier. Stuccoed front, very steeply-pitched hipped tiled roof. Small projecting bay on first floor. Glazing bars otherwise intact. Doorway in moulded architraves surround with projecting cornice. Modern shop front to north of this. South wall stone and tile-hung above. Two storeys. Two windows.

Listing NGR: SU8861221545

Rumbold's Hill, East Side
The Old Surgery
Corner of Knockhundred Row [south
west side] and Rumbolds Hill East Side.
Formerly listed as Bristol and West
Building Society

Grade II 21/23

House. C17 building, refaced in the
C18 and altered in the C19. Two
gables containing attic windows.
Ground floor stuccoed, above
roughcast and modern timbering.
Tiled roof. Sash windows without
glazing bars. Doorway with pilasters
and flat hood on brackets. Included
for group value.

Listing NGR: SU8862321581



[Now residential – entrance in
Knockhundred – and Midhurst Denture
Services]

RUMBOLD'S HILL, MIDHURST West Side



Rumbold's Hill, West Side
The Egmont Public House
Formerly listed as The Egmont Arms



Listed 18.6.59

Grade II 21/83

Public House. 1800 circa. Stuccoed. Hipped slate roof. Glazing bars intact.
Ground floor windows have round-headed openings but are actually square-
headed behind the openings. Glazing bars intact. Doorway with engaged
columns, pediment, semi-circular fanlight and door of six fielded panels.
Carriage archway through ground floor at south end. Two storeys. Five
windows.

Listing NGR: SU8855321482

[Now residential - but not much has changed, except that the function room, the single-storied building between 'the Eggy' and the bank, has gone. Replaced by a two-storied house. At one time known as the New Inn.]



The mother of HG Wells lived for a time at the New Inn. This from: *H.G. Wells Another Kind of Life* by **Michael Sherborne**

'Sarah [Neal] had been born on 10 October 1822 in Chichester, where her parents ran the Fountains Inn. In her late twenties she had worked as a lady's maid to an army officer's wife, travelling around England and Ireland. In 1848 when her younger sister died, she quit to look after her mother, who was suffering from long-term ill health. By then the Neals had moved to Midhurst to run the New Inn and, after a couple of years in this pleasant West Sussex town, Sarah found a new appointment. However, the household was too High Church for her ('almost Roman Catholic') and after three months she moved to Uppark, a country house on the South Downs eight miles from Midhurst. Here she became a trusted upper servant, attending to the needs of Lady Fetherstonhaugh's younger sister, Frances Bullock. In June 1851 the Uppark gardener left and, fatefully, was replaced by one Joseph Wells.'

Rumbold's Hill, West Side
 Regency House
 Formerly listed as Regency House
 West Sussex Carpet Company Ltd

Grade II 21/84

House or shop. Early C19. Red brick. Modillion eaves cornice. Tiled roof. Glazing bars intact on first floor. Bay at north end of both floors. Modern shop fronts to south of this. Two storeys. Four windows.

Listing NGR: SU8858421532



[Now Hays Travel; northern end Seventh Heaven (formerly Vanilla Hill)]

[This was a drapers shop run by Harry Smith until he handed over to Mr R B Robertson in the 1920s. **Mr Robertson's son Andy** remembers that the left side was for drapery, haberdashery and hosiery; the right side children's clothes and dresses, hats, and corsetry. Speciality: 'Directoire knickers'! There were five members of staff to attend to customers, with the cash desk controlled by Miss Ridout. At the rear of the showroom sat Doris with her sewing machine, carrying out repairs for customers. In the photo are Mr Robertson, his assistant Jean, and Constance Gray (who lived on the premises with the family). Living accommodation comprised of three rooms at the back and nine rooms on the first floor – two of which were stock rooms.]



Rumbold's Hill West side
 Nos 413 and 416



Grade II 21/85

Cowdray Estate numbers which are not consecutive, though the houses adjoin. One building. Early C19. Red brick and grey headers in Flemish bond. Eaves cornice. Tiled roof. Glazing bars intact. Two doorways with reeded pilasters and low rectangular fanlights and between them two small bays, probably shop windows originally, with a continuous cornice over the whole.

Listing NGR: SU8858621545

[Up until the 1950s (and beyond?) the house on the left was a sweet shop, run by the Misses Annie and Bertha Glazier; the house on the right was occupied by Mrs Petter.]