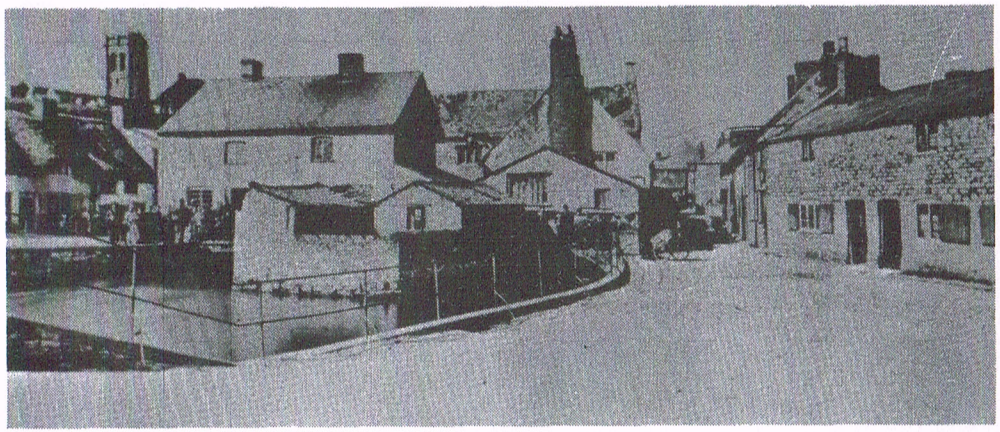
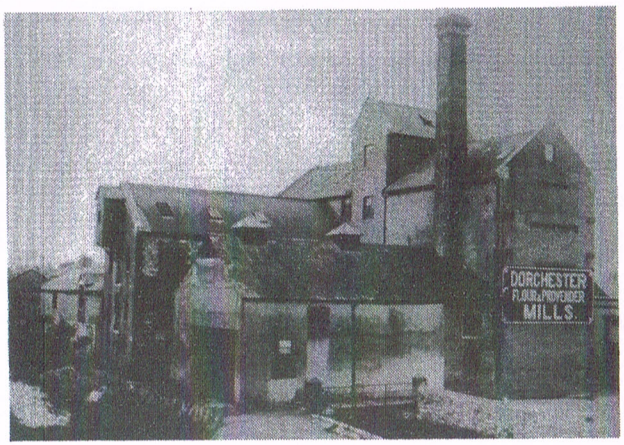
THE OLD MILL



About 1880



Pre-1940

After the 1940 conversion

MILL STREET HOUSING SOCIETY LTD.

Opening of

THE OLD MILL, FORDINGTON

by

RICHARD BEST ESQ of Godmanstone

Director of the National Federation of Housing Associations

on

FRIDAY, 11th DECEMBER, 1987

at

12 noon

Mrs. Mark Williams, President, will introduce Mr. Best

Mr. Richard Best will open the Old Mill

Mr. Maurice Edwards, Hon. Secretary, will propose a vote of thanks.

MILL STREET HOUSING SOCIETY Ltd.
1931 — 1987

The late A. H. Edwards – Founder.

Presidents:
Col. Sir Robert Williams Bt., 1932 – 1943.
Sir Philip Williams Bt., 1943 – 1958.
Mark Williams Esq., 1959 – 1969.
Mrs. Mark Williams, 1969 –.

Secretaries:
A. H. Edwards Esq., 1932 – 1951.
M. A. Edwards Esq., 1951 – 1987.

Chairmen:
Mrs. Thomas Hardy, 1932 – 1937.
Mrs. A. R. Cave, 1937 – 1945.
Miss E. A. Williams, 1945 – 1968.
William Tilley, 1968 – 1969.
Henry Longman, 1969 – 1984.
Major W. N. Hayes, 1984 –.

Architects:
Sydney Jackson Esq., 1932 – 1956.
Messrs Jackson and Stark, 1956 – 1965.
Messrs John Stark & Partners, 1965 –.

1931 Society formed by the late A. H. Edwards, to cater for need identified through his work for the interdenominational Mill Street Mission.
Mrs. Thomas Hardy appointed the first Chairman.

1932 First four three-bedroomed houses built in Kings Road.
Colonel Sir Robert Williams Bt. agreed to become the first President.

1933 Six three-bedroomed houses built in Kings Road.

1934 Eight houses built in Hardy Avenue.

1935 Became a Founder-Member of the National Federation of Housing Associations.

1936 Seventeen old cottages in Mill Street purchased and modernised.

1938 Four self-contained flats built in Hardy Avenue.

1940 Roller Flour Mill purchased in Fordington and converted into nine self-contained flats and one shop.

1941 Old cottage in Mill Street purchased and renovated.

1942 Old Vicarage, Fordington, one time home of the Moule family, purchased and converted into five flats.

1943 Nine further cottages in Mill Street purchased.

1944 Cottage at Charminster purchased.

1946 Stables adjoining Old Mill converted into two houses.

1947 One house in Kings Road purchased.

1948 Nos. 25, 26 and 27 Mill Street purchased and virtually rebuilt, also Nos. 37 and 38 Mill Street and No. 60 High Street, Fordington.

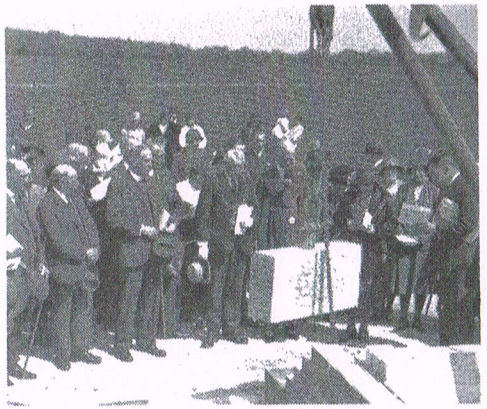
1948/49 Society entrusted with the building of five houses as the Dorset Regiment War Memorial, two in Sherborne, one at Upton, Poole, one at Broadmayne and one at Dorchester.

1950 Two more cottages in Mill Street purchased.

1951 The founder, A. H. Edwards, died. His son was appointed Honorary Secretary.

1952 Planning started for the redevelopment of Mill Street.

1953 Title deeds of the Dorset Regiment War Memorial Houses formally transferred to the Society.



The Laying of the Foundation Stone by Mrs. Thomas Hardy of the first house to be built in 1932.

1954/56 Programme of modernisation and improvement undertaken.

1958 Five cottages at eastern end of Mill Street sold to Town Council for redevelopment.

1959 Old Vicarage flats, Fordington, modernised.

1960 Eighteen cottages in centre of Mill Street sold to Town Council for redevelopment.

1961 Second Dorset Regiment War Memorial house built in Dorchester from proceeds of sale of the Broadmayne house.

1962 Modernisation programme proceeding.
Contract signed for erection of 12 self-contained flats, to be known as Mill Stream House.
House at Glyde Path Road sold.

1964 Mill Stream House completed and formally opened by the Lord Lieutenant of Dorset, Colonel Sir Joseph Weld.

1967/68 Planning started to demolish Old Vicarage and erect 12 self-contained flats on the site, to be known as Fordington Hill House.

1972 Fordington Hill House completed and opened by the Mayor of Dorchester Councillor Leslie Phillips.

1973 Nine garages built on land in Holloway Road opposite the Old Mill.

1978/79 Four flats in Hardy Avenue substantially improved and enlarged.

1982 Planning to remodel and enlarge the Old Mill started.

1984 Substantial funds made available by the Housing Corporation on long-term mortgage.

1987 The work on the Old Mill completed. It now comprises 17 self-contained flats and a Warden's House.

Mill Street many years ago.

The Society now owns 37 houses, 4 bungalows and 45 flats.
The present value of the Society's properties for insurance purposes is £2.36 million.
The present waiting list totals about 40 applicants.