

## Ledbury's new library is now open

Written by Steve Glennie-Smith

Monday, 09 March 2015 17:10 - Last Updated Wednesday, 11 March 2015 10:44

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Ledbury's new library opened today. The restoration that took place over the last 4 years is impressive. Unfortunately, the weather on Opening Day was very dull, but despite this many people came to have a look. The public entrance is now on the south wall (ie. the one facing towards New St.) - as shown below (this photo was taken the next day, 10th March, which shows it in a much better light):-



The entrance door leads to reception in the Great Hall (left, below). This was in danger of collapse as early as the 18th century, when the present outer brick wall was built. The original Tudor windows (right, below) haven't let in daylight for around 250 years. They were covered up when the façade was built between 1769 and 1771.

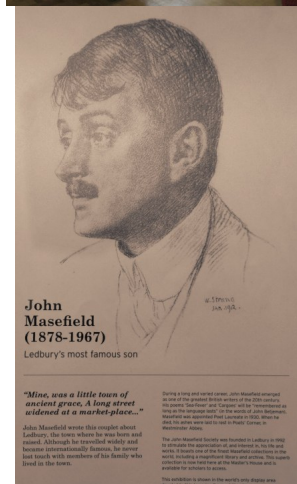


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Main library in the Tudor north wing and a plaque commemorating John Masfield



Timeline in the passage that was the St. Katherine's surgery waiting area

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Many oak doors are facsimiles of the originals, including contemporary latches



Another of the main (photo by the late Marcus Morris)



Obtaining the right (restoring) is the first step. The next step is to find the right materials and techniques to use



The building is a good example of the restoration (photo by the late Marcus Morris):-



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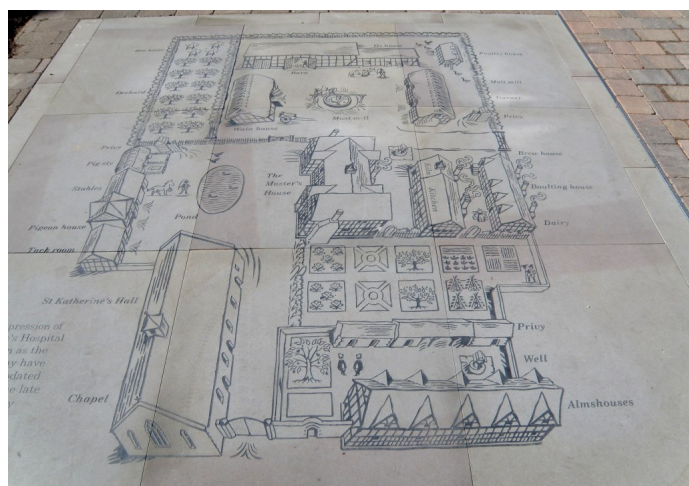


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Master and his brother Edward Cowper, who was born in the south façade commemorating the original



**Welcome to Master's House!**

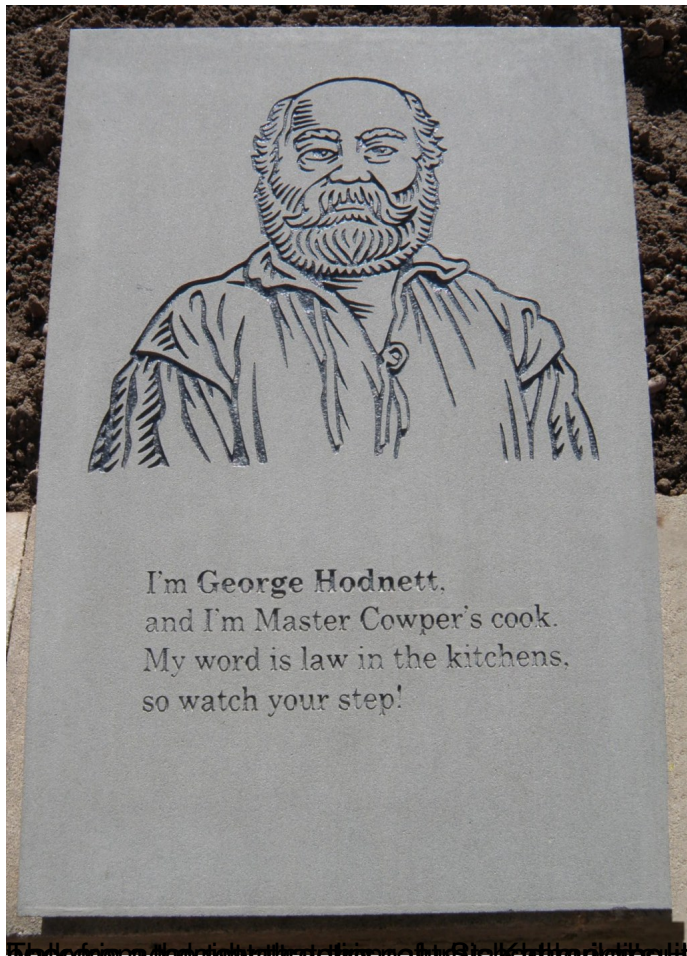
I'm **Edward Cowper**, Master  
of St Katherine's Hospital,  
and this mansion house is my  
home. Step inside and have  
a look around.

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the fake bricks to the wall that will also as you