



SAVING A HISTORIC PROPERTY FROM FLOODING

Waterproofing and Flood Protection for a Period Watermill, Kent

FLOOD DEVASTATION

When it comes to flooding, nothing can prepare for the devastation and destruction that is caused by flood waters inside a property.

For the owners of this historic watermill in Tunbridge Wells, Kent, this prospect became a reality after winter storms brought high levels of rainfall to the area.

The flood was the result of a perfect storm of environmental and geographical conditions. The property itself is built into a bank and earth-retaining, making it more at risk from ground water penetration. Furthermore, the parallel access road is also 4-metres higher than the ground floor level.

Lastly, the stream that traditionally powered the old mill is directed through the bank and under the access road via 1-metre wide concrete pipes. During periods of heavy rainfall these pipes can restrict the flow of water downstream, creating a serious flood risk for the adjacent mill.

In the aftermath of the New Years flood, the owners needed a permanent solution to protect themselves and their property.



Previous flooding caused extensive damage internally



The location of the historic watermill and its proximity to the stream put the property at high risk from future flood events



The overflowing stream had previously completely flooded the ground floor of the property

Saving a Historic Property From Flooding

Waterproofing and Flood Protection for a Period Watermill, Kent

PROJECT SCOPE

Following the floods, the property underwent a full strip-out as part of the insurance restoration. The owners then approached Newton Specialist Contractor [Stonehouse](#) to design, install and guarantee a flood-resilient system to protect their home.

Stonehouse are no strangers to [protecting properties from flooding](#), so they were the ideal contractor to deliver a permanent and maintainable solution.

THE SOLUTION

The first step was to reduce the old building's permeability and decrease the potential water ingress during future floods. Stonehouse applied water-resistant plaster to all brick walls, linked to the concrete floor with Newton's cementitious waterproof barrier membrane, [HydroCoat 103 2K](#).

The second form of defence was a full internal [CDM System](#), known as cavity drain waterproofing. This maintainable solution used a combination of the [508R membrane](#) to provide robust protection on the walls, and [520 eco Floor membrane](#) to give a high drainage capacity across the floor.

Captured water is directed to three [Titan-Pro sump chambers](#) cast into the floor, each containing two [NP eco 750 pumps](#). The system has a potential pumping capacity of over 1,500 litres/minute, with three Newton battery back-up systems delivering complete peace of mind in case of power outages.

THE RESULT

The complete and guaranteed system, alongside new flood-resistant doors, has provided reassurance to the owners, keeping their home completely dry during further flood events.

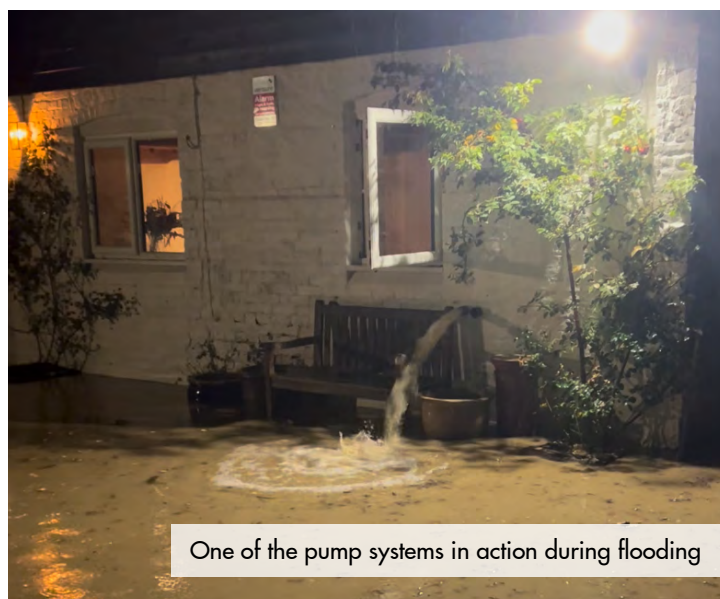
"From a position of hopelessness after our flood, Stonehouse's innovation, professionalism and good cheer has really helped us have faith in our house again."



The CDM System was installed throughout the ground floor



20mm floor membrane provides a high drainage capacity



One of the pump systems in action during flooding



And after flooding - the property stays dry

Saving a Historic Property From Flooding

Waterproofing and Flood Protection for a Period Watermill, Kent

FEATURED PRODUCTS

- [HydroCoat 103 2K](#) - High-performance cementitious coating, capable of resisting extremely high positive or negative pressure
- [508R Membrane](#) - Heavier and stronger than standard 8mm cavity drain membranes, providing additional durability and the ability to act as a barrier to both water and gas
- [520 eco Floor Membrane](#) - 100% recycled cavity drain floor membrane with a 20mm depth, delivering high drainage capacity for when large volumes of water are expected
- [Titan-Pro Pump System](#) - Specialist sump and pump system, specifically designed for use with the Newton CDM System.
- [NP eco 750 Pumps](#) - High performance, 750W ground water and clean water pump that can discharge up to 360 litres per minute. A key component of the Titan-Pro pump system.



The CDM system provides complete protection against water

NEWTON SPECIALIST CONTRACTOR



stonehouse

Newton Specialist Contractors

We recommend that our systems are installed by one of our nationwide network of Specialist Basement Contractors (NSBCs). Trained by us, NSBCs offer a full guarantee on the design and installation, and can act as Waterproofing Design Specialists.



A new screed was poured over the floor membrane