

# PERIOD House plans

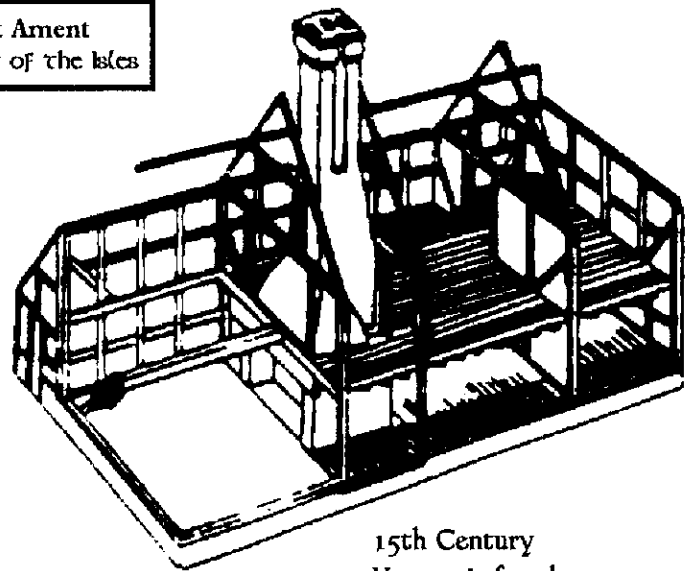
By Robert Ament  
BARON ROBERT of the Isles

While many of us might desire to experience our own version of historic architecture by constructing replicas of our favorite type of building, we often find ourselves up against the thorny problem of actual versus theoretical construction details as well as a lack of accurate plans from which to work.

Sometimes things have a rather roundabout way of happening. One of my hobbies has been the construction of accurate 1/12 scale Victorian dollhouses. Late last year I noticed an advertisement in one of the hobby magazines for...*"Beautifully drawn and scaled plans to create your own architecturally accurate 1/24 or 1/12 classic English buildings of the 15th & 16th centuries. Complete with tips on which materials to use, construction methods and finishing for best results. Each pack contains complete plans, a short history of the building, finishing tips and hints on materials."* This seemed to be a perfect chance to get my hands on something accurate that could be used in both my hobbies.

The three timber-framed buildings shown in that original advertisement were a Yeoman's farmhouse and Wealden farmhouse of the 15th century and a late 16th century market hall. Later ads mention a fourth timber-framed building but do not identify it. The price quoted in the original ad was £14.99. Since it was just before Christmas and considering the fact that my bank wanted a \$25 fee and 10-14 days to process a money order in Pounds Sterling, I decided to pass up the offer. Shortly after the first of the year I saw another ad for the same plans but now the price was stated as \$24.95 including Post and packing. Checks will be accepted and should be made out to B. Caine and mailed to the name and address in the box to the right. This seems to be the perfect chance to get a set of accurate plans whether you want to build in 1/12 scale for A&S use or in full size.

The illustration at the upper right is taken from the advertisement and shows the Yeoman's



15th Century  
Yeoman's farmhouse

farmhouse for which I have ordered plans and will report on when they arrive.

For those lucky enough to be able to travel abroad, there now exist several living-history museums which consist of period buildings whose mere survival is no small miracle in itself, let alone finding the public or private funds for their conservation and restoration. One of these is the Wealden (Weald and ?) Downlands Museum in England, where these rare survivors are being gathered in an attempt to make this architectural heritage available to the general public and not strictly an archaeologist's preserve.

I still haven't given up my dream of owning my own castle—when Ed Mc Mann comes knocking at my door, check in hand, I'll worry about building that recreation of Restormel—but until that happens I'm going to have to content myself with something just a little less magnificent but certainly more affordable.

***BC Miniature Buildings - Send to :***

**B. Caine  
17 Elmcroft Place  
Westergate  
West Sussex PO20 6XL  
United Kingdom**