

## Vicar's Hall



An interior view of the Vicars' Choral (Priests') Hall. Built at the end of the 15th. Century; called at this time the Vicars' "Mansion". (Credit Francis Steer for this photographic print. The Chichester Papers Number 12. 1958). It shows entry doorways, windows and niches. The latter where Vicars' (Priests'), in the ancient past, isolated themselves' for religious contemplation, penance, meditation and prayer. The enclosing shutters are missing but remains of old iron hand wrought hinges still exist in the stone framing. The oak unique wood roof framing and timber construction is mostly original; with some repairs over time. The beams 'Cruck' in form (an early name for 'crown') and are hewn by hand. They are supported at the sides with large corbels. There are central 'King Posts'; these support the center purlin with angled supports. The rafters are set for 'Mansard' form and joined by side purlins. The walls of stone are interspersed with interesting openings and doorways, some with various periods of architectural design features.