In 1963 when the Gravesend Stonemasons were given the task of restoring the stone work at Knole,

Cyril Haysom whose forebears have been stonemasons for many generations, was sent in charge.

He has worked continuously at Knole since that time, during which a large proportion of the

stone work has been repaired or replaced. Not only has his work and that of other members of

his team been admired by all who have seen it, but the care and devotion he has shown,

especially in preserving all that can be preserved, has been exemplary.

He has made many discoveries which have a bearing on the manner in which this great house

developed from the modest manor house it was in the 15th century. These discoveries, backed

by archaeological theories which he has himself put forward, have radically influenced the

experts in this field and still have a marked influence on current ideas about the original

house which are still the subject of conjecture. He has conducted a number of specialist

groups around the work at Knole and all have been struck by the feeling he has for the house

and with the care he has lavished upon it.