



ROYAL
COMMISSION
ON
THE HISTORICAL
MONUMENTS
OF ENGLAND

34922

Holly House, High Road
Barrowby
Lincolnshire

October 1995

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ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF ENGLAND

HISTORIC BUILDING REPORT

34922

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ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF ENGLAND

LINCOLNSHIRE

NBR No: 86662

BARROWBY

NGR: SK 882 364

HOLLY HOUSE, HIGH ROAD

SUMMARY

This is a two-storeyed hall and cross-wing house of coursed rubble sandstone construction with ashlar dressings dating to the mid to late 17th century. The shorter, east - west, range comprised on the ground floor the hall to the east with entrance and stairs to the west. It is likely that the hall range originally continued beyond the line of its present east gable. The wing provided originally three rooms on the ground floor; from the south a heated parlour, kitchen and unheated services. The accommodation on the first floor of the house provided four rooms, corresponding to the ground floor layout. There is no visible evidence for original heating on this floor.

Circa 1800 the hall was truncated to the line of its present east gable and a stack built into its north wall providing fireplaces both for the hall and first floor room above. The two first floor bedrooms, over the parlour and kitchen, were provided with fireplaces with basket grates.

In the mid 19th century the original entrance, at the west end of the south front of the hall range, was provided with the present surround and a new staircase, with a small cellar below, constructed in the original entrance hall. Windows, with Gothic style glazing bars, were inserted into the existing fenestration pattern in the south and east walls of the hall range and the south end of the east wall of the wing at this date.

In the mid 19th century the original kitchen was converted into a dining room and the northern half of the wing was subdivided into two rooms. The northern room formed the new kitchen, was heated by a stack in its north gable, and the southern room was a pantry.

During the late 19th the building was re-roofed with paired common rafters with upper collars supporting Welsh slates, and the east gable of the hall and south gable of the wing were hipped.

REPORT

Mid to Late 17th Century

This is a two-storeyed hall and cross-wing house of coursed rubble sandstone construction with ashlar dressings dating to the mid to late 17th century. The ground floor accommodation in the east-west range comprised the hall to the east and entrance lobby and stairs to the west with a single chamber above. That on the ground floor of the north-south range comprised, from the south, a heated parlour, a kitchen and a service end (later subdivided) with three rooms on the first floor. The original windows, where they survive in the south, east and west walls have cyma hood moulds.

The principal entrance to the building is now by a door at the west end of the south wall of the hall range and it is likely that this door respects the original entrance. The hall is reached off the east side of the present entrance lobby, and it is possible that originally the hall continued beyond the line of its present east gable as the original plinth is carried around all the existing wall faces with the exception of this gable. Furthermore the two window surrounds in the east gable are stylistically later in date, though original to this elevation, and there is no surviving evidence for the original fireplace position in the hall. It is possible that this fireplace was housed in the now demolished east end. The southern window lighting the hall is original but its sill has been lowered at a later date.

It is probable that the southern ground floor room in the wing formed the original parlour. It is heated by a fireplace in its north wall and lit by a four-light mullioned window in the south gable and by a window in the east wall. The latter window has original chamfered jambs and its size suggests that it was originally a three-light mullioned window (mullions subsequently removed). There was a small single-light window in the west wall (now blocked): possibly a fire window.

The central room on the ground floor of the wing was heated by a fireplace (now blocked) in the south wall. The depth of the projecting stack in this room suggests the possibility that it could have housed a cooking hearth and therefore that this room formed the original kitchen. It is lit by a five-light mullioned window in the west wall.

It is likely that the northern half of the ground floor of the wing formed a single unheated room. There is no visible evidence that the north end of the ground floor of the wing was originally sub-divided by masonry walls and there is no evidence in the soffits of the two original transverse beams that either had a timber-framed partition. Both beams are chamfered with scroll stops. This room is lit by two three-light mullioned windows in the west wall but the rest of the fenestration has been altered at a later date. Although the decorative detail of this room was of relatively high status, its original use is unclear.

The position of the original stairs has been lost but it is probable that they rose from the entrance lobby - as at present. There is a single-light window (reduced to the present size at a later date) in the north wall and a single light window in the south wall. The position of these windows relative to the floors indicates that they may have lit the intermediate and first floor landings respectively.

It is likely that the layout of the first floor respected that arrangement of the rooms on the ground floor with chambers over the hall, parlour, kitchen and service end. There is no visible evidence for the provision of original heating in any of the first floor rooms.

The room over the hall is lit by a two-light mullioned window (mullion removed) in the south wall. That over the parlour is lit by a two-light mullioned window (mullion removed) in the east wall and by a four-light mullioned window (now blocked) in the south wall. The chamber over the kitchen is lit by a four-light window in the west wall. The rest of the fenestration in the wing is later in date. The form of the original roof is uncertain due to subsequent alterations.

Circa 1800

At this time the hall range was reduced to the line of its present east gable. Both of the corners of the east gable of this range and the jambs of the two windows are roughly quoined. The lintels of the ground and first floor windows in the east wall have detailing consistent with this date with the voussoirs forming a slight arched-head with a raised keystone.

At this time the present stack on the north side of the hall range was inserted, providing fireplaces on the ground and first floors. The three first floor bedrooms, over the hall, parlour and kitchen were provided with cast iron grates - the latter two having basket grates.

19th Century

In the mid 19th century the original entrance was provided with the present entrance and single-light window at the west end of the south wall of the hall range. The door has chamfered jambs and a four-centred arched head with plain spandrels. The window has a rectangular cyma moulded architrave. It is likely that the fenestration in the south and east walls of the hall range and the south end of the east wall of the wing was altered at this date. These windows reflect the form of the inserted door surround with the glazing bars forming Gothic-style pointed arched heads with plain spandrels to either side.

The present principal open well stairs which rise from the entrance lobby, were inserted at this time and a small cellar was created below the stairs.

In the mid to late 19th century the original northern, service, end of the wing was sub-divided. On the ground floor the new accommodation

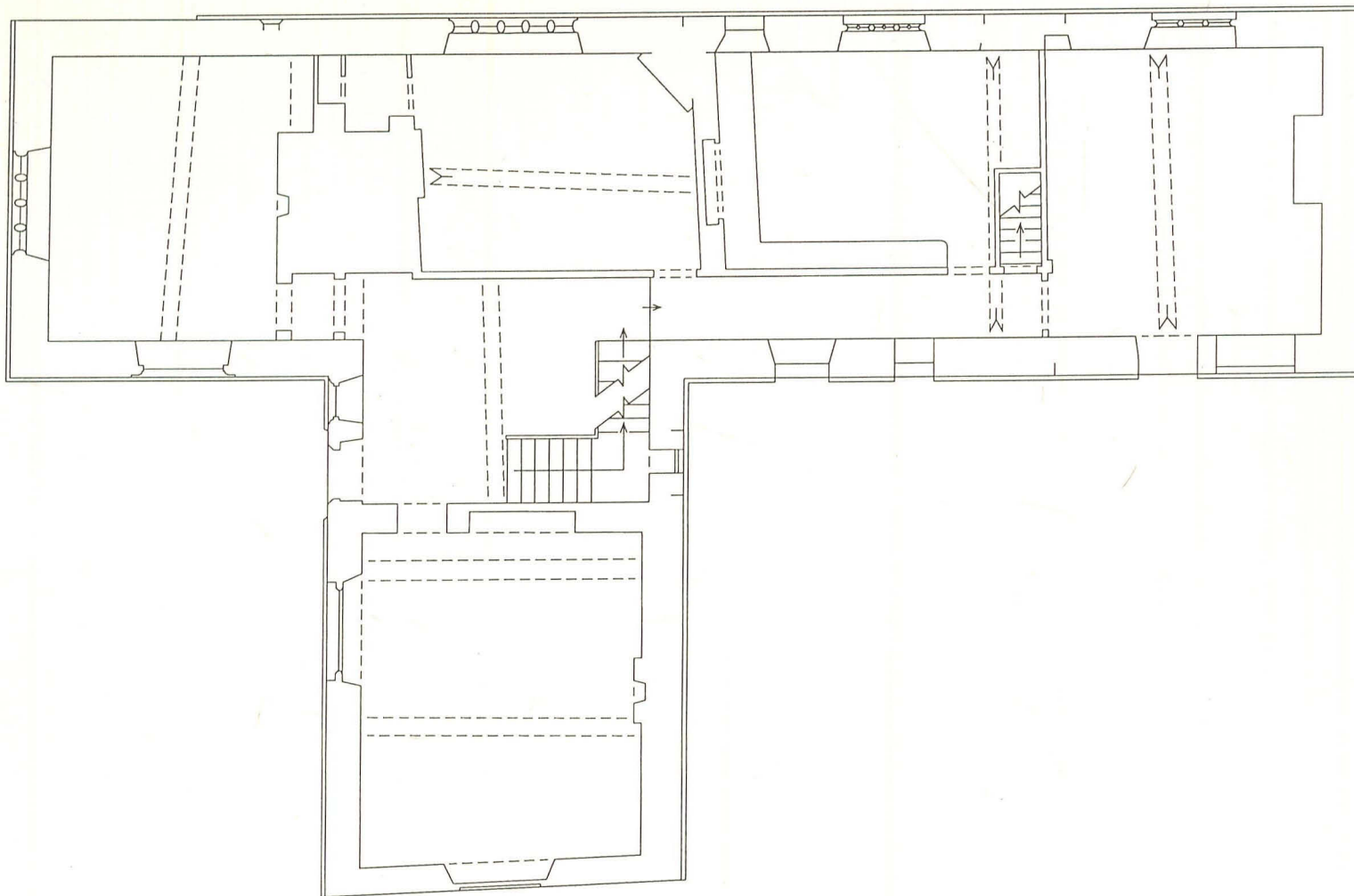
comprised a kitchen to the north with a pantry to the south. The kitchen was heated by a fireplace (subsequently blocked, its flue utilised by the aga range placed in front of it) in the north gable. A door was inserted in the east wall at this time. A corridor was formed along the east side of the wing connecting the new kitchen with the entrance lobby. A pantry was created on the west side of this corridor. It retains its stone shelves along the south and east walls.

Service stairs were inserted at the east end of the north wall of the pantry. These stairs rose in a straight flight to the first floor. Three unheated service rooms were provided at first floor level over the original service end of the wing.

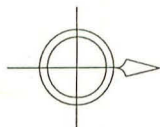
It is probable that the original kitchen, to the south, was converted into a dining room at this time. It was provided with a new fireplace in the south wall. Its wooden surround has corner roundels which are stylistically mid 19th century in date. Wooden dado panelling was inserted around the walls, and a display cabinet was built into the north-west corner of the room.

During the late 19th century the building was re-roofed with paired principal rafters, each with a nailed collar, and was hipped at the east gable of the hall and south gable of the wing. Two rows of side purlins support a Welsh slate roof.

Visited May 1992 by Garry S Corbett and Bernard Thomason
Report by Garry S Corbett
Plan by Bernard Thomason
35mm Photography by Garry S Corbett
Surveyed May 1992



Ground Floor



Holly House
Barrowby
Lincolnshire

Surveyed: May 1992
Drawn scale: 1: 50
Drawing: 1 of 1
NBR No: 86662
Grid ref: SK 882 364

