

The Rising Sun, Sun Street, Billericay, Essex. CM12 9LN. Heritage Statement for the former public house. 12 12 2014.



2013 Google earth. Location of The Rising Sun in Billericay.



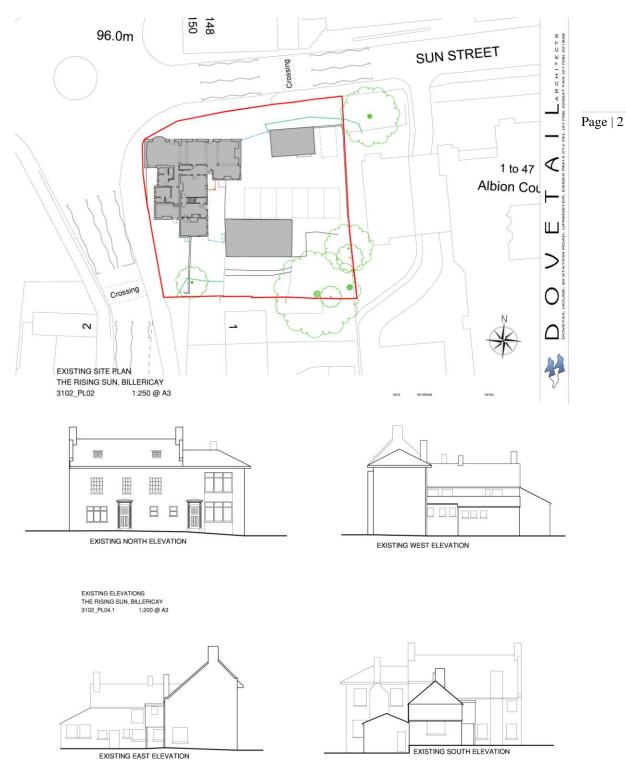
2013 Google earth. Detail of the site.

Location.

The Rising Sun, Sun Street, Billericay, Essex. CM12 9LN. NGR. TQ6736194225. The former inn is situated on the junction of Sun Street with Laindon Road.

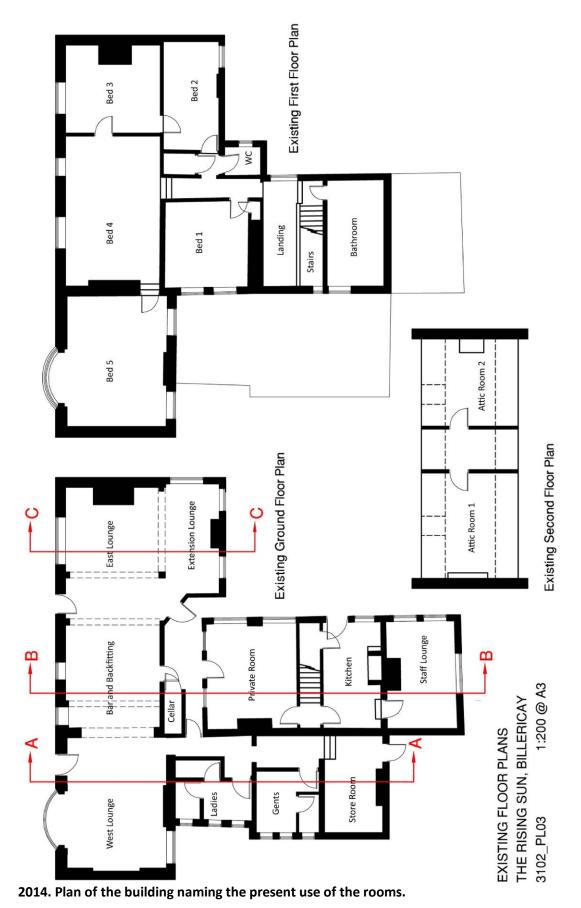
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2014. The Rising Sun plans and elevations as existing. Dovetail Architects.





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Listing

The Rising Sun is not a Listed Building neither is it in line of site of another Listed Building.



Image from British Listing Buildings showing the location of the Listed Buildings nearby.

Scope of this Heritage Statement

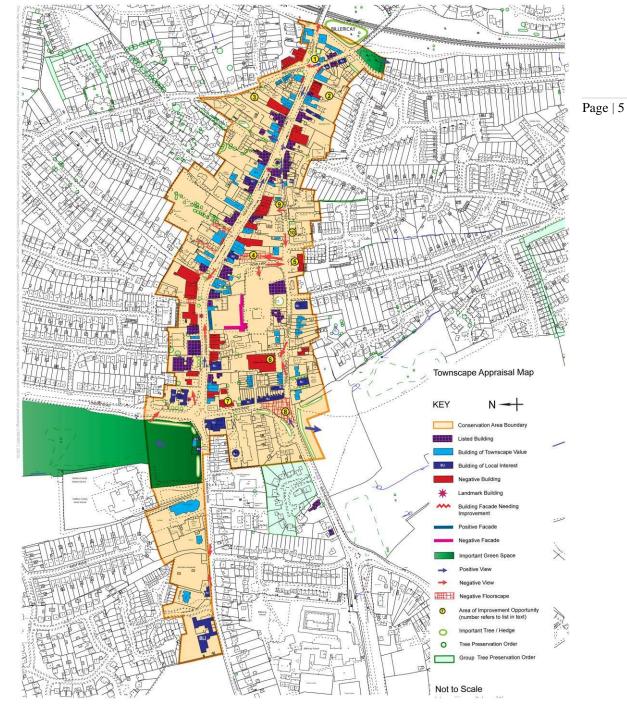
The Statement deals with the historical status of the Rising Sun and provides a general commentary on its history, fabric and evolution. The Rising Sun is not a Listed Building. The building is recognised in the Billericay Conservation Area Character Appraisal 2011 by Basildon Council as being a 'Building of Local Interest' situated within the Conservation Area. The Townscape Appraisal Map is reproduced on the next page.

The house is associated with two other buildings set in the car park. The Function Room was erected between 1896 and 1922 (map evidence) and is EC20th in character and most likely post WW1. The Store appeared on the site in the same period but is very LC19th or EC20th in character but highly altered.

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2011. Townscape appraisal map by Basildon Council.



Description of the House.



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The northern elevation pictured on 11 12 2014.

The House was examined thoroughly inside and out on the 11 12 2014 and the following summary description composed:

The house has been subjected to two major phases of modern alterations. The first in the 1930's introduced stained glass to the windows and added Art Deco features throughout including fireplaces and panelled doors. The second was in the 1970's or 80's when the craze for sports bars saw the wholesale removal of walls and fittings in order to install a large central bar and backfitting.

The original house, demarcated by the high shouldered brick gables and large chimney stacks is not shown on the 1777 map by Chapman and Andre. The house was symmetrical about the Regency style doorcase and retains its early small pane 8/8 and 6/6 sash windows with milled glass on the upper storey. The lower windows have mid 1930's casements with elegant stained glass lights with shield motifs.

While the end walls are made of handmade red and brown bricks the building was originally timber-framed and elements of the frame remain visible inside in the attic rooms and corridors. The early roof is made of paired elm rafters visible in the roofspace but the roof has been comprehensively rebuilt in the C20th altering the pitch to a steeper line. The dormers are of C19th origin (seen in photographs) but were replaced in the 1930's.

The building has been extended to the west and to the south. The two storey western extension visible from the road and forming the corner of the building is built over a deep well formed C19th brick cellar and also appears to have been built of brick.





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The western elevation.

The extension roof has a low pitched, fully hipped grey slate clad sawn softwood structure which has been comprehensively rebuilt in the LC20th with an asphalt membrane and new repair timbers. The northern elevation of the extension has a two storey bay window projection added in the 1930's judging by the internal fabric.

The rear of the house has a long range with a central chimney stack and another in the gable end probably added in the LC19th or C20th as the shaft deviates to avoid the ridgepiece of the grey slate roof. A slender timber-frame is visible in part of the upper corridor but the rear range has been heavily altered, the ground floor rebuilt in brickwork and the roof completely replaced in the M-LC20th.



The southern elevation.



Historic mapping indicates there was a building in the plan of the current Store Room in the Victorian era but the present building has been thoroughly revamped in the C20th. The unit containing the toilets was built between 1922 and 1937 but has again has been modernised. The outshot with the catslide roof containing the Staff Lounge was built between 1937 and 1955.

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The original house was soon extended to the rear. The eastern elevation.

On the eastern elevation it can be seen that the original house was soon extended to the rear and large scars in the roughcast render clearly show this. It is likely this was done in the EC19th as care has been taken to extend the plat band and the parapet gable in the same style. At this time it was a common alteration to accommodate new stairs and corridors to create private rooms. A chimney stack on the rear indicates that there was a separate rear room which is now part of the open plan East Lounge.

Also on the back of the house is a free floating cubicle which contains a WC still retaining its unhealthy lead pipework of the 1930's.



Historical Photographs.

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Sun Street 1914

*All images from 'Billericay: A Pictorial History' by Roger Green

1914. The Rising Sun and Eclipse Cottages. Looking E.



1922-37. The Rising Sun. The house on the RHS was demolished between 1922 and 37.





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1960's (judging by the cars and traffic lights). Looking W.



2014. Shortly before the Rising Sun Closed.

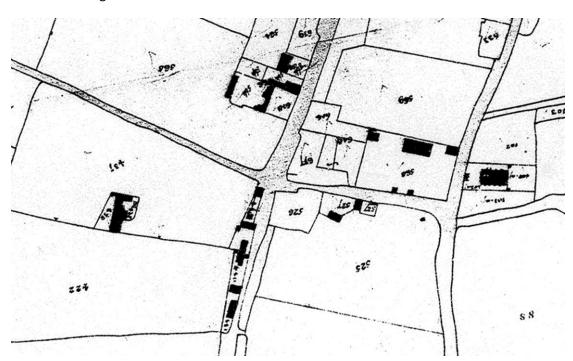


Topographical Survey from Maps



1777 Chapman and Andre's Map of Essex.

There is a building set well back on the plot in 1777 which does not correspond with the current building.



1838 Tithe Award Map for Great Burstead. ERO D/CT 63. (Reoriented to north).

The 1838 Tithe Award Map is a huge disappointment as it does not show the buildings of the Sun Inn. The Listing notes that plot 526 Sun Inn and Garden was owned by Thomas Spitty Esquire and occupied by Samuel Barker Kirkby (and not Crisp Molineux Harridge who was resident between 1822 and 1841 being recorded in the Pigot's Directories).

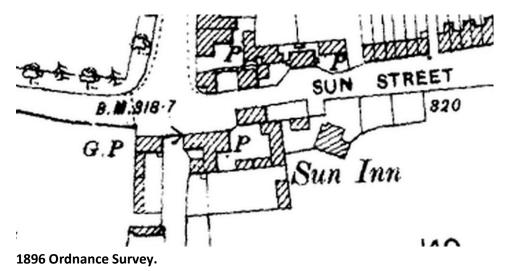
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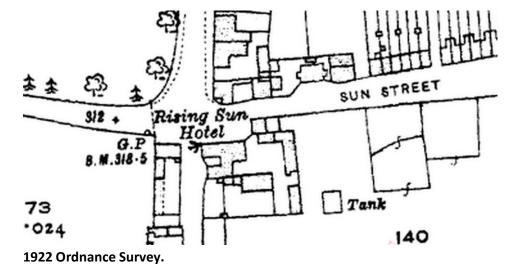
1876 First Edition Ordnance Survey

In 1876 the building is labelled as the Sun Inn and occupies a very similar plan to that of today. To the south is a landscaped garden. To the NE is a building on the roadside that can be identified as 'Eclipse Cottages'.

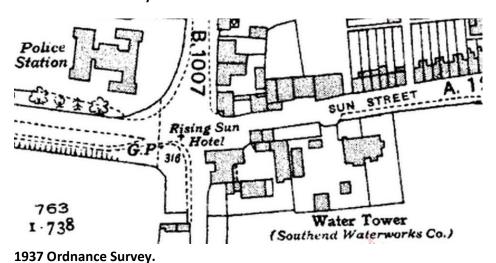


The 1896 OS map implies that the Sun Inn was a much larger complex than today.

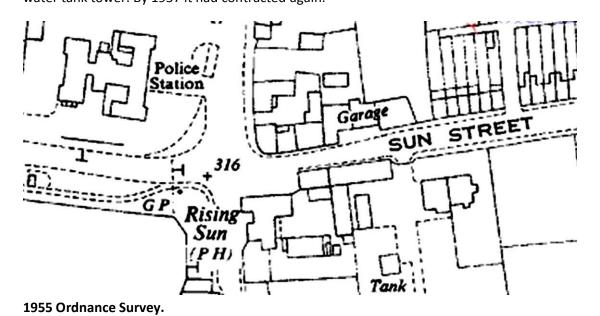




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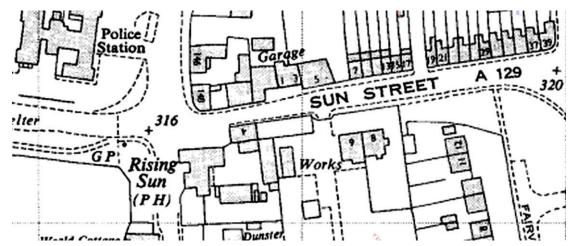


By 1922 the site was known as the Rising Sun Hotel and had lost some of its land to build a water tank tower. By 1937 it had contracted again.



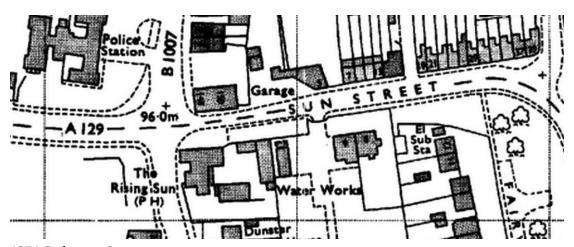
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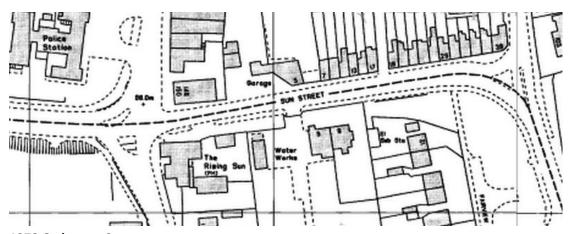


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1967 Ordnance Survey.



1974 Ordnance Survey.



1978 Ordnance Survey.



History.

The building has been reviewed by Councillor Jim Devlin who notes:

The Rising Sun, which opened in 1810 (reference?), was originally owned by the Billericay Brewery based at the Crown Inn which stood where Crown Yard is today. When the Billericay Brewery was sold at auction at the Black Boy in Chelmsford on 29th January 1830 the Rising Sun was sold as an individual lot.

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Before the coming of the railway the Rising Sun's position at the crossroads of the road to London and Southend made this an ideal position to take advantage of the coaching trade and it was said to be an inn of some standing.

The pub changed hands again in 1898 and the sale catalogue described the pub as "Exceptionally well situated where all carriage and bicycle traffic must pass."

The building has also been researched by the Dead Pubs Society who notes that the first recorded landlord was Crisp Molineux Harridge who was resident between 1822 and 1841 being recorded in the Pigot's Directories.

The 1838 Tithe Award notes that plot 526 Sun Inn and Garden was owned by Thomas Spitty Esquire and occupied by Samuel Barker Kirkby.

The 1876 and 1896 Ordnance Survey maps label the building as the Sun Inn and by 1922 it is shown as the Rising Sun Hotel.





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General Phase Plan.

Summary of Significance

The Rising Sun is recognised as a Building of Local Interest and lies within the Conservation Area. However it does not meet the criteria to be Listed as the loss of original fabric and the high degree of alteration, especially in the C20th preclude it from this status.

The exterior has changed little since the 1930's and earlier photographs show the main cosmetic changes were the adding of stained glass windows. To the south the sanitary arrangements were improved by degrees as befitted its status as an hotel.

Acknowledgements

I am indebted to Andrew Cooke and Mark Stevens of Dovetail Design architects for engaging me to record the building and for providing the architect's drawings.

Bibliography

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