

Summary

Midland Archaeological Services (MAS) have been commissioned by WatersHomes to undertake a Level 2 Historic Building Survey of The Old Greyhound Inn, Main Street, Aslockton, Nottinghamshire, NG13 9AD, henceforth called the site (figs.1, 2).

1.0 Introduction

Rushcliffe Borough Council have given permission for the: (i) *change of use; external alterations to former public house and outbuildings to form two dwellings; erection of one pair of semi-detached dwellings, and four detached dwellings and garages; formation of vehicular access from Main Street.* (ii) *Internal and external alterations; partial demolition and extensions to former public house and outbuildings to form two dwellings, 14/00002/FUL & 14/00020/LBC.*

Permission is subject to conditions: (6) *The developer hereby permitted shall not commence until an archaeological scheme of treatment has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Borough Council and the scheme shall be implemented in accordance with the approved details [To ensure that any archaeological remains are recorded and to comply with policies GP1 (Sustainable Development), GP2 (Design and Amenity Criteria) and EN7 (Sites of Archaeological Importance) of the Rushcliffe Borough Non statutory Replacement Local Plan].*

This document summarises the results of the historic building recording and the historical research undertaken. It has been prepared by the author in accordance with the agreed written scheme of investigation and relevant regional and national guidance.

2.0 Definition of Historic Building Recording

The definition of historic building recording is ‘*a programme of work intended to establish the character, history, dating, form and archaeological development of a specific building, structure, or complex and its setting, including its buried components on land or under water.*’¹

*Level 2, this is a descriptive record, made in circumstances similar to those of Level 1 but when more information is needed. It may be made of a building which is judged not to require any fuller record, or it may serve to gather data for a wider project. Both the exterior and the interior will be viewed, described and photographed. The record will present conclusions regarding the building’s development and use, but will not discuss in detail the evidence on which these conclusions are based. A plan and sometimes other drawings may be made but the drawn record will normally not be comprehensive and may be tailored to the scope of a wider project.*²

¹ Institute For Field Archaeologists 2008

² Understanding Historic Buildings A guide to good recording practice English Heritage 2006

3.0 Legislation

The National Planning policy Framework (NPPF 2012) states: *Local planning authorities should make information about the significance of the historic environment gathered as part of plan-making or development management publicly accessible. They should also require developers to record and advance understanding of the significance of any heritage assets to be lost (wholly or in part) in a manner proportionate to their importance and the impact, and to make this evidence (and any archive generated) publicly accessible. However, the ability to record evidence of our past should not be a factor in deciding whether such loss should be permitted.*³

4.0 Location

Aslockton is located c.27km south-west of Newark Upon Trent in the administrative district of Rushcliffe.

The site is located at the junction of Main Street and Abbey Lane, Aslockton, NG13 9AD and centred on SK 74170 40008 and lies at 21m AOD.

The underlying geology of the immediate site area comprises of Fluvial Sands and gravels and Upper Mudstone with subordinate indurated beds of Dolomitic Sandstone and Siltstone.⁴(figs. 1,2).

The site is within the Aslockton Conservation Area.

³ National Planning Policy Framework 2013

⁴ British Geological Survey 1996



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Fig.1 Site Location Scale 1:12500

5.0 Methodology

This document has been prepared in accordance with current best practice and with specific regard to:

- National Policy Framework, 2012 (NPPF).
- Understanding Historic Buildings: A guide to good recording practice, English Heritage
- Institute for Archaeologists (IFA) Code of Conduct (2012)
- Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Standing Building Recording (Institute for Archaeologists, 2008)
- Management of Research projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE, 2008).

Aims and Objectives

The aim of the project was to preserve by record the fabric and setting of the building prior to the approved alterations, by:

1. The production of a drawn record
2. The production of a photographic archive
3. The production of a written narrative

Site Recording

The Photographic record was undertaken in 35 mm format in both monochrome and, colour transparency. It included detailed shots of the elevations, interiors, significant constructional elements, and general photography placing the building in its existing landscape setting.

The drawn record was based upon drawings supplied by the client. These were checked for dimensional accuracy and amended to record architectural and constructional details where necessary. These details were further described in accordance with standard architectural and constructional terminology.

The buildings were inspected internally and externally where safe access was possible. Parts of the buildings contained stored materials which restricted access in places, along with damaged and missing flooring throughout the upper storey of the main building and unsafe access above the cart store building.

Archive creation

On completion of the fieldwork, all photographic films were processed by a specialist laboratory and scanned at a resolution of 600 dpi for selective inclusion within this report.

All field notes and drawings were checked for completeness and ordered into a documentary archive based on the requirements of the receiving museum. The basic archive includes:

1. Annotated site plans and elevations
2. 2 no photographic registers
3. 26 no building recording pro-formas
4. The Written Scheme of Investigation
5. The Report

A basic archival study was undertaken to elucidate information to place the building in its historical context. This was undertaken broadly with regard to the *Standard and Guidance for Desk-Based Assessment*.⁵

This comprised the search of published and archival material within a radius of 500m of the site, with data from further afield included where considered relevant to establishing baseline conditions. National, regional archives and collections were examined for relevant historical information, in published and unpublished sources, from the following sources:

- www.heritagegateway.org.uk

⁵ Institute for Archaeologists 2011

- www.listedbuildingsonline.co.uk
- www.british-history.ac.uk
- www.genuki.org.

6.0 Archaeological/Historical Background

The name 'Aslockton' is of early medieval origin and means 'Farmstead or village of a man called Áslákr'.⁶

Archaeology of the prehistoric period has been recorded throughout the Aslockton Area. Just over 1km west, a Neolithic flint scatter and stone axe were found, while 1km west an enclosure of uncertain date is known from aerial photography (ADS, 2006).

Just over 0.5km to the north, an Anglo-Saxon burial was discovered in 1893, while to the north is the medieval church of St Thomas. A motte and bailey castle with associated fishponds and a hollow way are also known just to the east of the church (ADS, 2006).

Closer to the site, just to the east at the former church hall site, monitoring work in 2007 recorded a Saxon ditch and sherds of 13th century pottery.⁷

7.0 Description

Setting

The site is accessed off of Main Street and which forms the eastern perimeter. The Old Greyhound Inn and its associated stabling form a U shaped courtyard area to the south- east of the site, with parking to the north and a large grassed area to the west. (figs. 1, 2, 3, 4, plates 1, 69-80).

⁶ Mills A.D., 1993

⁷ Williams S., 2007



Plate 1: The Old greyhound Inn looking north-west across from Main Street.

8.0 Results

This section summarises the observations of the fabric record illustrated in the (figs. 3, 4, plates 1-82). The survey was undertaken by the author on the 1st August 2014.

Each building was allocated a separate name in relation to its original intended use, while each room was allocated a separate number for ease of reference. The room number is consecutive and identified by a prefix 'G', commencing with rooms throughout the ground floor and 'F' throughout the first floor.

The Old Greyhound Inn Exterior (figs. 3, 4, plates 69-79).

The principal building forms an L shaped structure comprising of two storeys built of (8.46" x 3.15" x 4.33") red brick in Flemish Bond with lime mortar, although much of this has been re-pointed with Portland cement over the years, while the north facing gable is whitewashed with a modern masonry paint. The roof is gabled to the front and rear and under clay pantiles, with a sailing course of brick work to each gable and a dentilation course to the main elevations at eaves level. Within each gable there is a brick stack, each one having a water tabling course of brick and two clay pots fitted.

The east facing elevation has four large square windows fitted with timber Yorkshire sliding sash casements, each comprising of 24 lights. Each window has a plain stone cill, the two ground floor windows also having a splayed stone header.

The north facing elevation has two windows, two to each storey, although the lower storey casements are no longer present. Those within the upper storey comprise of an 18 light Yorkshire sash to the east of the elevation and a two casement, one opening four light window to the west.

Within the south facing elevation there are a series of windows at first storey level, each one being a Yorkshire sash comprising of 8 lights. Much of the ground storey of this elevation is obscured by a series of contemporary brick extensions including a large rectangular single storey structure to the south-west constructed from red brick in Stretcher Bond with a gabled single pitched roof under clay pantiles. Set within the bottom left hand corner of the south facing gable is a small rectangular casement window of 6 lights with a top opening casement of 2 lights.

The Old Greyhound Inn Interior Ground Storey (figs. 3, 4, plates 2-34).

G1 Entrance Corridor

The entrance corridor is a modern rectangular addition which runs parallel north-west-south-east along the south facing elevation of the rear wing of the building and gives access to G2, G3, G4, G9 and G14. Its fixtures and fittings are contemporary, the floor is tiled with plain skirting, the walls are plastered whilst the ceiling has a textured plastered finish.

G2 WC

Rectangular in plan with contemporary fixtures and fittings, floor is carpeted with plastered and painted walls and ceiling.

G3 WC

Rectangular in Plan with contemporary fixtures and fittings, floor is carpeted, whilst the walls are tiled, the ceiling plastered.

G4 WC

Rectangular in plan with contemporary fixtures and fittings, floor is carpeted, whilst the walls are tiled, the ceiling plastered.

G5 Lounge Bar

Square in plan and accessed from G7 to the north. The fixtures and fittings within this room are mainly of a contemporary nature, carpets, wallpaper, plain skirting's, dado rail, ceiling finish and coving. The fireplace insert is of Art Nouveau design, although difficult to ascertain if it is a modern copy, the small window within the south-west corner appears to be original, although the remaining window casements are missing. The entrance door is of traditional Victorian four panel design, the two top panels being glazed.

G6 Cupboard

Small rectangular under stair cupboard with T & G cladding and traditional ledged style door.

G7 Access Corridor

Small rectangular access corridor leading off of G9 via a half glazed contemporary fire door and giving access to G5, G6, G8, and a small rectangular cupboard to the north and the upper storey, as well as the front entranceway, the latter being hung with a traditional four panel door with three light rectangular fanlight above. The remaining fixtures and fittings are mostly contemporary.

G8 Snug

Square in plan with a small fireplace located centrally within the north facing gable wall and with a plain alcove either side. The fire surround and hearth are constructed from red brick in Stretcher Bond with Portland cement and would appear to be a more contemporary creation of perhaps what was originally in-situ. Leading from either alcove are a pair of wooden L shaped in-built settles with high backs, the timber species being an unknown quantity due to the modern finish applied. To the south-east corner of the room is a timber panelled niche type cupboard opening and situated to its immediate right is a fixed upper sash 12 light casement window above a lead sheeted counter top, the pair forming a serving hatch from G7. The fixtures and fittings are mostly contemporary, albeit for the four panelled Victorian style door, counter arrangement and settles which are most likely contemporary with this part of the building.

G9 Main Bar

Rectangular in plan with contemporary fixtures and fittings throughout, the window frames are not present, while fake beams have been applied to the dividing wall between this room and G8, the skirting and dado rail are plain.

G10 Store

Rectangular bar counter formed to the west of G9 and constructed from contemporary T & G panelling, with a small square serving hatch to the south connecting the bar with G1.

G11 Store

Square in plan and accessed from G10. The fixtures and fittings are contemporary, plain skirting, door frames and plastered ceiling, the walls are mostly tiled with some painted plaster, while there are two boarded up window openings within the north facing wall and an entranceway with modern security type door giving access east into the parking area.

G12 Store

Rectangular in plan with a concrete floor and plastered whitewashed walls, fixtures and fittings comprise of shelving and a fitted cupboard and sink to the south-east corner. There are no external openings but an access way via a small flight of steps giving access to G13 to the west.

G13 Store

Rectangular in plan with a concrete floor, plain skirting and whitewashed plastered walls, while a pair of double security type doors give access to the parking area to the north.

G14 Access Corridor

Rectangular in plan with a tiled floor, textured plaster walls, plastered ceiling, plain skirting and door frame hung with a traditional four panel Victorian style door. This area allows access to both G15 to the west and G1 to the east.

G15 WC

Rectangular in plan with contemporary tiled floor and walls, plastered ceiling, plain skirting and door frame, the latter being hung with a traditional Victorian style four panel wooden door.

G16 Old Bowling Alley

Rectangular in plan with a timber floor, textured plaster ceiling, plastered walls and waist height T & G wainscot panelling throughout. Some of the roof trusses have been exposed throughout the ceiling area.

The Old Greyhound Inn Interior 1st Storey (figs. 3, 4, plates 49-68).

F19 Bedroom

Square in plan and accessed off of F22. The floor comprises of (4 1/4") wide boards with plain contemporary skirting throughout, the walls and ceiling are painted white plaster. There are two Yorkshire sash windows present, each with 24 panes, while the fireplace in the south facing gable has an early/mid 20th century wooden mantle and surround, although the grate has been replaced with a modern electric fire. The entrance doorway has plain mouldings and is hung with a hollow construction door of mid/late 20th century origin.

F20 Bedroom

Square in plan and accessed off of F22. The floor comprises of (4 1/4") floor boards with plain contemporary skirting, the walls being covered in modern wall paper, while the ceiling is plastered. Located within the front elevation is a 24 light Yorkshire sash window, while the fireplace located within the north facing gable has been blocked up and papered over. To the north-west of the room, along the wall adjoining F23 a

small linear walk-in cupboard and alcove has been constructed F21. The door into this room is of hollow construction and mid/late 20th century in origin.

F21 Cupboard

Rectangular in plan with (4 1/4") boarded floor with plastered walls and ceiling, the entrance door is of mid/late 20th century origin and of hollow construction.

F22 Hallway

Rectangular in plan with (4 1/4") boarded floor and plain skirting, textured plastered walls and ceiling. Along the rear elevation there are two windows, each comprising of one fixed and one opening casement and 12 lights each in total. This hallway gives access to the entire 1st floor and staircase.

F23 Bedroom

Square in plan with (4 1/4") floor boards and plain skirting, the entrance door being of hollow construction and 20th century origins, the walls and ceiling being plastered, some contemporary wall coverings are present. there is one window present, this comprises of one fixed and one opening casement, each casement comprising of 9 lights each.

F24 Bathroom

Rectangular in plan with (4 1/4") boarded floor and plain skirting, the walls and ceiling are plastered, the latter with a textured finish, some of the walls are also half tiled with contemporary tiles, whilst some modern sanitary ware is present, the entrance door is of mid/late 20th century origin and is half glazed.

F25 Bedroom

Rectangular in plan with (4 1/4") floorboards and a plain skirting throughout, the walls and ceiling are plastered while the entrance door is of hollow construction and mid/late 20th century origins. There is one window present comprising of two casements, one opening, each with two lights and a small in-built cupboard to the immediate right as you enter the room.

Stable Exterior (figs. 3, 4, plates 79-82).

The stable block is located approximately three metres south-west of the principal building and parallel with Main Street, it comprises of a main stable building with an associated cart store/loft and helps to form the U shaped courtyard area.

The building is rectangular in plan and built from red (8.46" x 3.15" x 4.33") brick in a variation of Flemish bond with lime mortar and comprises of a single storey stable with associated cart store/hay loft. The roof is gabled and of trenched through purlin construction with king post under clay pantiles with a brick stringer course at the gable and dentilation course at eaves level on both the west and east facing elevations. The south facing elevation is half painted with a contemporary masonry

paint, whilst the north facing gable has a large entrance/pitch hole fitted with a vertically planked timber door at 1st storey level. Located within the west elevation of the stable is a large entrance with segmented brick arch above and limestone hinge points set within brick jambs, the door is of vertical planked construction and gives access to the stable. Either side of the entrance is a small rectangular window comprising of simple wooden fixed casements, although now boarded up.

To the left of the stable entrance but partly integral with the building is the two storey cart store. Central to its west elevation is a large double span entrance with a segmented brick arch above and limestone hinge points set within the jambs, the latter being canted on their interior faces.

Stable Interior (figs. 3, 4, plates 35-48).

G17 stable

Rectangular in plan with a brick floor and exposed brick walls which are in part whitewashed, the roof timbers are exposed. Along the north-east-south-west wall are a set of four intact stalls comprising of timber partitions, brick and timber troughs with timber mangers. To the north there is a partition wall which separates the stable from the adjacent cart store/loft, at 1st storey level within this gable is an entrance into the loft space.

G18 Cart Store/Loft

Square in plan with a brick floor and exposed brick walls which are in part whitewashed, the ceiling joists are exposed, although the trap entrance to the loft above no longer exists.

9.0 Discussion and Conclusions

The buildings which form the layout of the Old Greyhound in range between the 18th and 20th centuries.

The original layout of the building would have primarily consisted of the rear north-west-south-east wing which includes; G9, F22, F23, F24, F25 and which represents an earlier 18th century farmhouse building. This was subsequently added to with a purpose built pub building to the front during the early 19th century, a fact which is well attested. Subsequent alterations and additions have also been made to both parts of this building during the late 19th century and throughout the 20th century, with some re-arrangement of the internal layout of the rear wing throughout the first floor (F23, F24, F25), these rooms more than likely originally consisting of two main rooms (F23) and (F24, F25 combined) leading from F22. At some stage the rear wing has also lost its centrally placed chimney stack which would have passed through the ridge. Other alterations are more evident, these are those situated along the rear and north-west of the building (G1, G2, G3, G4, G11, G12, G13, G14, G15, G16).

The stable complex would have been constructed probably at the same time as the front of the principal building. No external or internal alteration appears to have been undertaken throughout this building.

As a whole the original farmhouse structure has undergone extensive alteration over the years and retains very little of its original plan, fixtures and fittings, although its small serving hatch to the south-west does remain in-situ. The later 19th century wing does appear to retain most of its original layout along with some fixtures and fittings, for example the serving hatch, whilst both wings of this building are in a poor state of repair. The stable building retains mostly all of its original layout, fixtures and fittings, albeit for the later replacement of doors and its state of repair is as a whole generally good.

10.0 Acknowledgements

Midland Archaeological Services would like to thank WatersHomes for this commission. Thanks also go to the Archaeological Officer for Nottinghamshire County Council Dr Chris Robinson for advice prior to the undertaking of this project.

11.0 Site Archive

An archive of written, drawn, photographic and object elements is in preparation and will be deposited at a suitable receiving museum within six months of the completion of this report.

12.0 References

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