



University of Leicester

Archaeological Services

**A photographic survey of an outbuilding
at Fosse Ltd, Lutterworth Road,
Whetstone Leicestershire
NGR: SP 557 938**

Jon Coward



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**A photographic survey of
an outbuilding at Fosse Ltd,
Lutterworth Road, Whetstone
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NGR: SP 557 938

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For: Fosse Ltd

Checked by

Signed:  **Date:** 05-04-2011

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A photographic survey of an outbuilding at Fosse Ltd, Lutterworth Road, Whetstone Leicestershire SP 557 938

Summary

A level 2 photographic survey was carried out in March 2011 by ULAS for Fosse Ltd. on a mid-Victorian farm outbuilding at Lutterworth Road, Whetstone, Leicestershire SP 557 938. The building is due for demolition in advance of development. The archive will be deposited with LMARS under accession code X.A47.2011 in due course.

Background

The planning and listed building consents are for a new industrial warehouse on Lutterworth Road, Whetstone (Figs 1-2). The work involves the erection of an industrial warehouse incorporating part of the existing industrial building and the demolition of a brick outbuilding related to Whetstone Lodge Farm which appears on the 1884 1st edition Ordnance Survey Map. In view of the fact that the buildings are considered to be of some historical significance and that such buildings represent a diminishing resource in rural Leicestershire, the Senior Planning Archaeologist, Leicestershire County Council recommended that a photographic survey be undertaken to provide a permanent record prior to demolition.

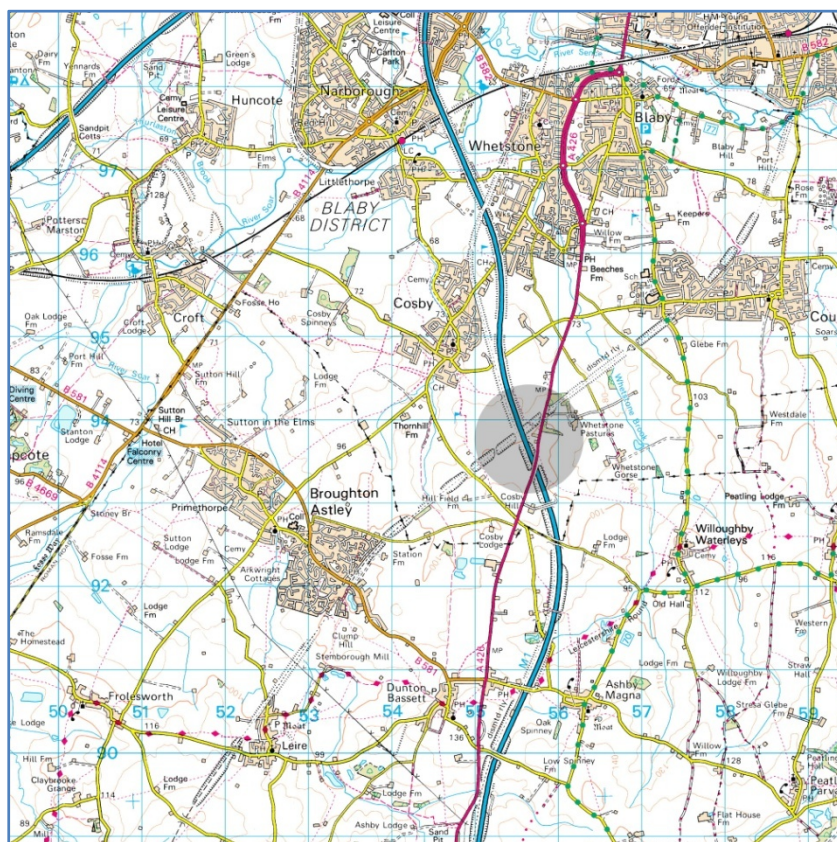


Figure 1 Whetstone Magna, Leicestershire.

Reproduced from Explorer™ 1:50,000 scale maps by permission of Ordnance Survey® on behalf of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office. © Crown copyright. All rights reserved. Licence number AL 100029495

Methods

The photographic record approximated to Level 2 of English Heritage's 'Understanding Historic Buildings' (2006). It included:

Item 1: General view or views of the exterior of the building.

Item 2: The overall appearance of principal rooms and circulation areas.

Item 3: Detailed coverage of the building's exterior appearance.

Item 4: Any external detail, structural or decorative, which is relevant to the building's design, development and use and which does not show adequately on general photographs.

Item 5: The building's relationship to its setting, to other buildings, or to a significant viewpoint.

Item 6: Internal detail, structural and decorative, which is relevant to the building's design, development and use, and which does not show adequately on general photographs.

A summary of the building's type or purpose, historically and at present, its materials and possible date (s).

The archaeological work was undertaken as specified in the WSI (ULAS 2011). All work followed the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA) *Code of Conduct* (rev. 2010) and adhered to their *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Investigation and Recording of Standing buildings or Structures* (2008). In addition, Leicestershire County Council's *Guidelines and Procedures for Archaeological Work in Leicestershire* were be adhered to.

The building was photographed internally and externally using a Pentax K-7 digital camera and Pentax P30 35mm film camera. The film used was Ilford HP5 rated at 400asa. Digital images were shot in proprietary RAW format and converted into TIFFs for the archive. Site constraints meant it was not possible to show the building in its original setting (item 5 of the English Heritage guidelines) due to subsequent manufacturing development on the site; also part of the rear elevation wall was obscured by storage equipment.

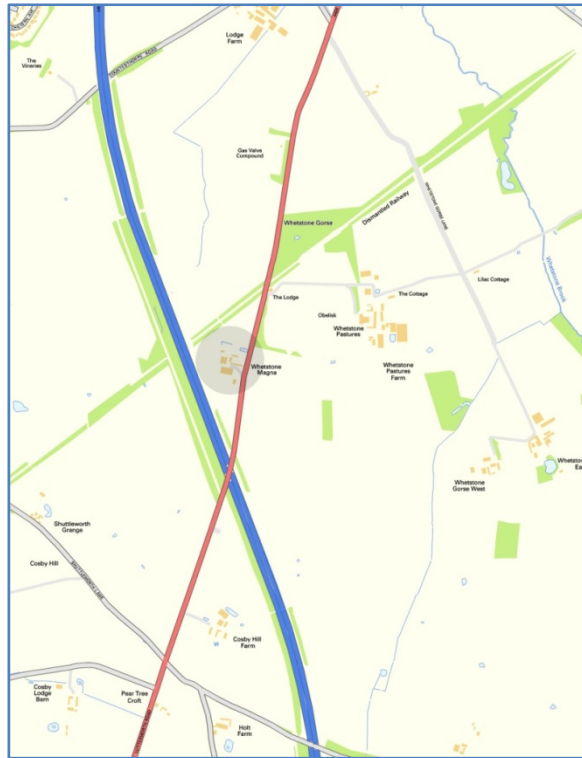


Figure 2 Location of survey

Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right 2010

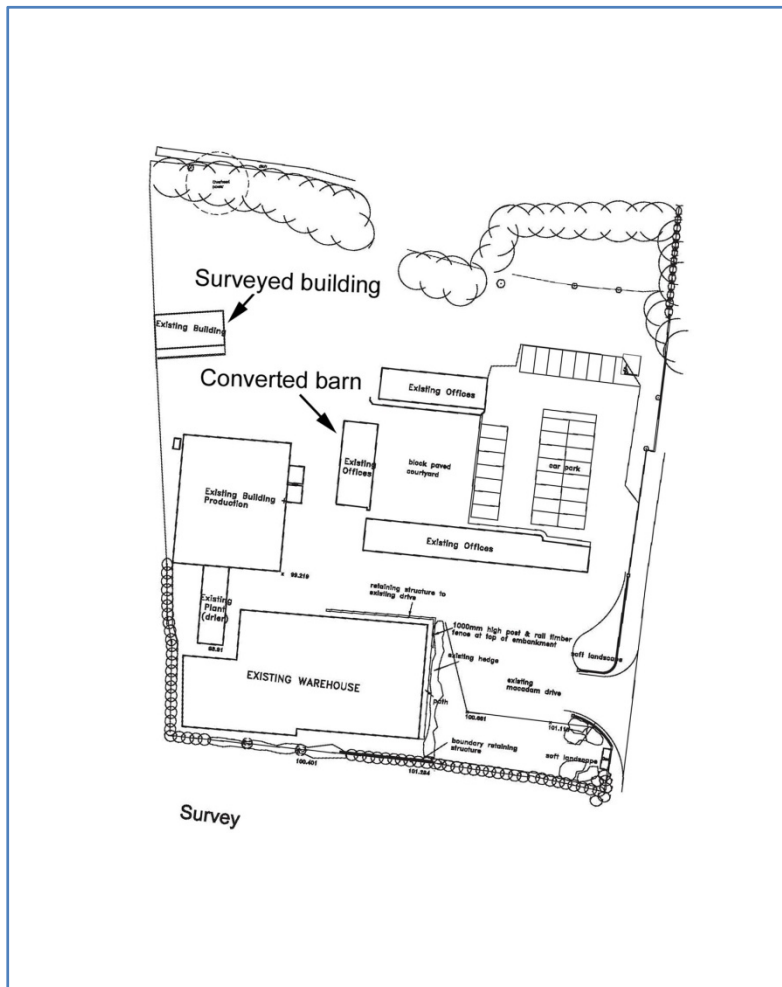


Figure 3 Site plan, north to top
NTS. Based on a plan provided by the developer

Results

References to left and right refer to the building as seen from the front, i.e. Figure 4. RHS = Right hand side)

The building is of simple form. It appears to have started life as some form of open-fronted cart or implement shed. It is brick-built, single-storied with gable ends and Swithland slate roof, dimensions being approximately 12m by 5m. The columns at the front left and centre are bull-nose brick; that to the right hand side adjacent the door is not, but this part has been re-built (Fig. 4). The upper gables have either been re-built or perhaps re-pointed at some time in the past. The right-hand gable has a pronounced lean, and is propped by timber against an adjacent structure. An entrance at the rear, now a window, appears to have been original. The roof is graduated Swithland slate.

The building has been converted into a workspace by sealing off the open front with a stretch of timber wall incorporating a run of windows. There may have been more pillars at the front of the original building (and internal divisions) as the span between the uprights, whilst fine for a modern RSJ, appears too wide for the timber lintel which would have originally spanned the front. The inside of the roof has been boarded and plastered, the apex still open. None of the wall is visible on the interior: all brickwork etc has been plastered over, and so any removed divisions cannot be discerned. Two small rooms, one of which is a toilet, have been created at the right hand side; these may be refurbished versions of divisions original to the building, as they are served by two small windows in the RHS gable which could be original.

The majority of these sorts of buildings are mid-late 19th century and this example would seem to be on the earlier end of that date range, as it displays a couple of unusual features. Firstly, most were built with Welsh slate rather than the Swithland used here; the use of Swithland slate declines rapidly after the 1840s due to the mass import of cheaper, lighter, and easier to lay Welsh slate. However, its use here may reflect the demolition of another building in the farmyard and re-use of its roofing material, or it may have been put on even more recently, as the gables appear to have been re-built.

The other slightly incongruous feature to this building is the roof structure. The author would normally expect to walk into a building like this to see a king post truss roof, braced at the joints and bolted through the bottom of the tie-beam, in heavy section machine-cut Baltic deal, with a ridge piece. This roof is a different design, being a principal/collar/tie beam truss with raked struts. Twin purlins are cleated to the backs of the principals, and the apex lapped; no ridge is used. Moreover, as far as can be seen, the roof is entirely pegged, with no visible nails, braces, or bolts. The whole is assembled from heavy section sawn Baltic deal (note shipping marks in Fig. 10), giving the appearance of a roof truss of contemporary material made in a somewhat archaic form. It is in fact the same basic form of truss as the roof of the later 18th century threshing barn adjacent, (now converted to offices; Figs 11 and 12), albeit without the diagonal wind braces. There may be some deliberate aesthetic effect desired here (perhaps unlikely in a utilitarian cart barn), or perhaps there was a traditionally-trained farm estate carpenter still at work.

Selected images from the archive



Figure 4 Front elevation



Figure 5 Left hand gable



Figure 6 Rear elevation



Figure 7 Right hand gable



Figure 8 Pier at front showing bull-nose bricks



Figure 9 Roof structure. Looking to RHS



Figure 10 Junction of tie beam, principal and purlin. Rear of LHS truss



Figure 11 Collar and apex. LHS truss.

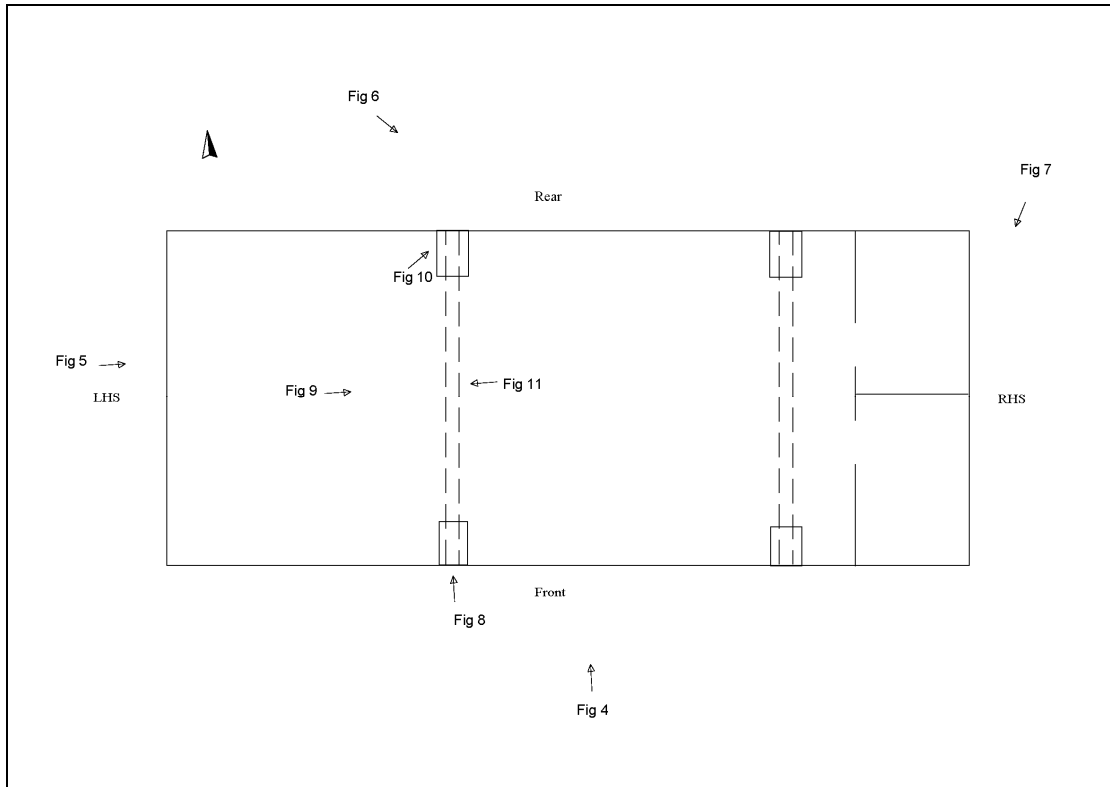


Figure 12 Position of figures 4-11 in this report



Figure 13 Later 18th century converted barn to the south-east, looking W.
Slate roof visible to rear RHS is that of the surveyed building



Figure 14 Roof structure of converted 18th century barn

Archive

The archive consists of the digital image files on DVD, digital contact sheets, monochrome film and associated contact prints, and a plan of the building showing position and direction of all photographs taken. It will be deposited with LMARS under accession code X.A47.2011 in due course.

Acknowledgements

The project was managed by Vicki Score and carried out by Jon Coward of ULAS. ULAS would like to thank Miles Hillman of Fosse Ltd for his assistance during the course of the project.

Bibliography

IfA, 2010 *Code of Conduct*

IfA, 2008 *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Investigation and Recording of Standing buildings or Structures*

Leicestershire County Council, *Guidelines and Procedures for Archaeological Work in Leicestershire*.

ULAS 2011, *Design Specification for Historic Building Photographic Survey and watching brief Lutterworth Road, Whetstone (SP 5573 9382)*.

Appendix 1: Oasis Record

INFORMATION REQUIRED	EXAMPLE
Project Name	Fosse Ltd Lutterworth Rd Whetstone Magna
Project Type	Building survey
Project Manager	Vicki Score
Project Supervisor	Jon Coward
Previous/Future work	Previous: watching brief. Future: watching brief
Current Land Use	Manufacturing
Development Type	Manufacturing
Reason for Investigation	PPG16
Position in the Planning Process	As a condition
Site Co ordinates	SP 557 938
Start/end dates of field work	1 st April 2011
Archive Recipient	LMARS
Height min/max	not known
Study Area *	0.5 ha
Finds	None

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