



University of Leicester

Archaeological Services

**An Historic Building Photographic
Survey at 49 Main Street,
Great Bowden, Leicestershire
NGR: SP74150 88835**

Andrew Hyam



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**An Historic Building Photographic Survey at
49 Main Street, Great Bowden,
Leicestershire**

NGR: SP74150 88835

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Approved by:

Signed: ...



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Summary

An historic building photographic survey was undertaken by the University of Leicester Archaeological Services (ULAS) at 49 Main Street, Great Bowden, Leicestershire on the 18th of April 2012. The survey studied two small stable buildings fronting onto the original alignment of Main Street. The western part of the range is brick-built and dates to the later part of the 19th century. The eastern range has an ironstone front wall with red bricks on top and to the rear with modifications and rebuilds in the later 19th and 20th centuries.

Under planning application number 12/00110/REM the building will be extensively repaired and rebuilt. The report and archive will be deposited with Leicestershire County Council under Accession Number X.A49.2012

Introduction

In accordance with National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) Section 12 *Conserving and Enhancing the Historic Environment* this document forms the report of an historic building photographic survey on the buildings located at 49 Main Street, Great Bowden, Leicestershire. Under planning permission number 12/00110/REM (reserved matters of 10/01602/OUT) it is intended to partially demolish part of the existing stable buildings and convert and extend them to form an H-shaped single storey domestic dwelling. The new building will retain parts of the present north facing (front) ironstone wall and extend southwards into what is presently used as a large paddock. When considering the planning application the Senior Planning Archaeologist at Leicestershire County Council, as advisor to the planning authority, recommended that, because of the age and location of the building and that the work will alter the current appearance and affect its historic fabric, a suitable level of historic building survey should be undertaken before any alterations take place.

Background

The buildings are located on the south side of Main Street on a small spur left behind when the road was moved to the north over a railway bridge when the Midland Railway and the London and North Western Railway built a junction to the north of Market Harborough in the second half of the 19th century. Great Bowden is located approximately 2km to the north-east of Market Harborough which lies in the south-east of Leicestershire (Fig. 1 and 2).

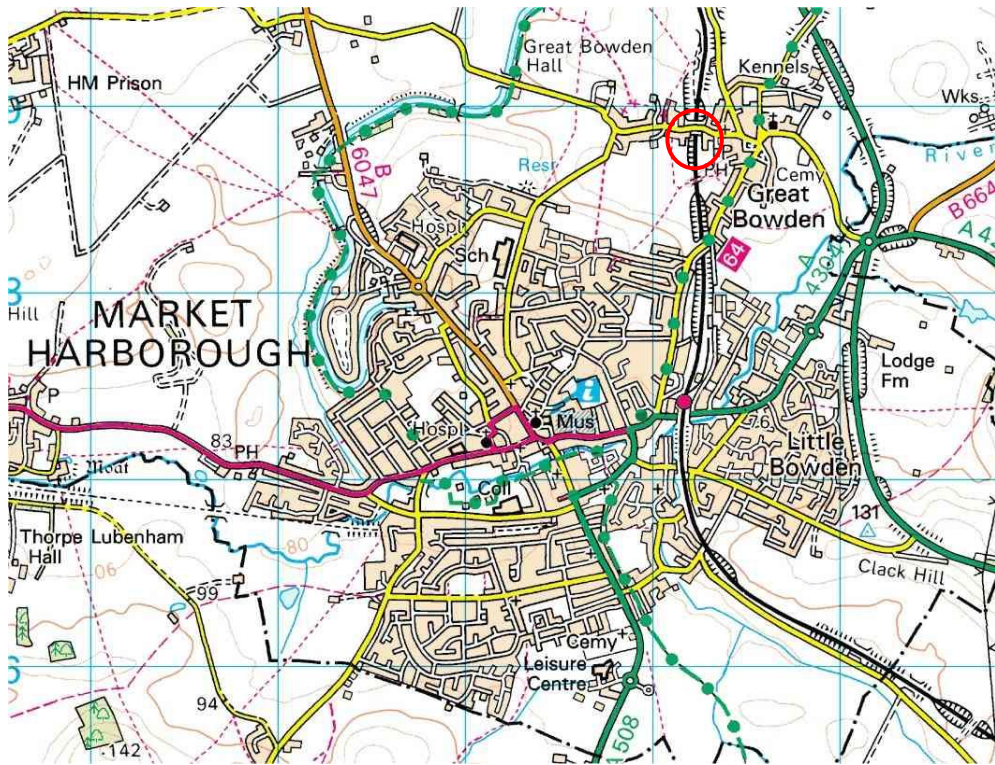


Figure 1. Great Bowden location

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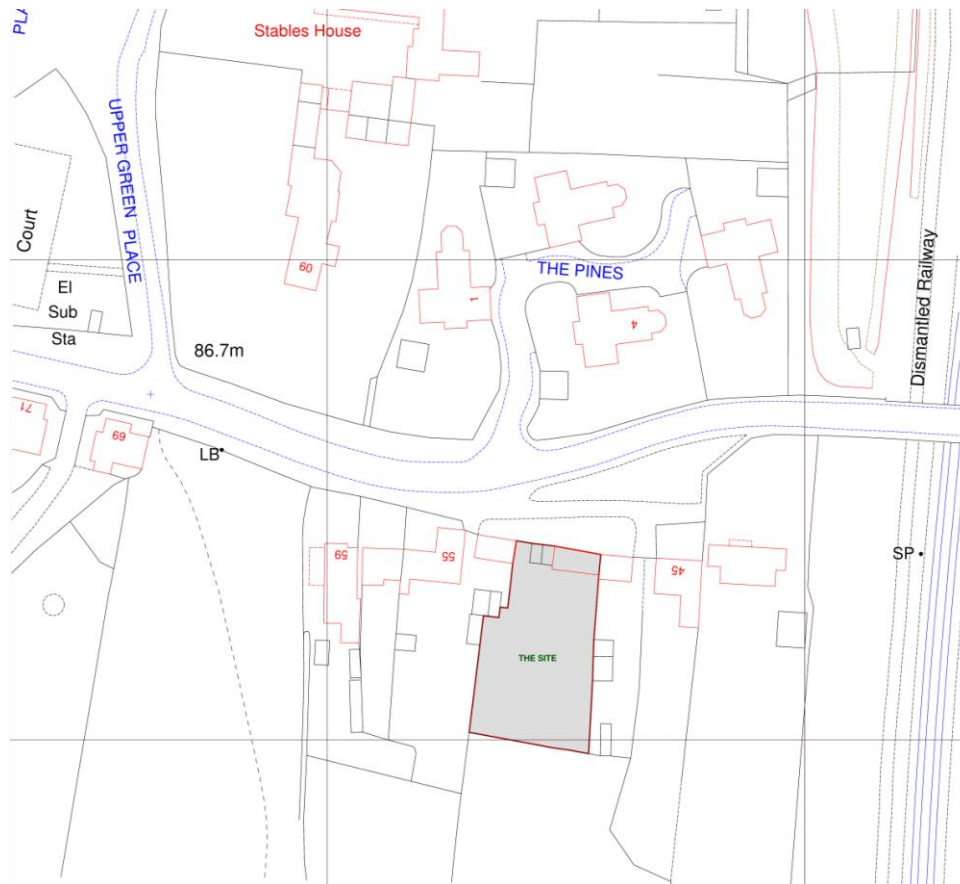


Figure 2. Site location

Plan supplied by Henderson Scott Architects. North to top of plan

The buildings front onto a small grass verge leading on to Main Street and consist of two key ranges as discussed below. To the south of the buildings is a paddock which leads out onto open fields. Until recently the eastern building was used as a stable whilst the western building appears to have been used for poultry.

The earliest available map is the First Edition Ordnance Survey map of 1886 which appears to show a narrow north to south gap between the two buildings. It also shows a range of buildings running southwards from the south side of the eastern building. The two storey cottage, or a building with the same footprint, to the east of the development site also exists at this date. The gap between the two buildings has gone by the time of the 1926 edition but the rear range remains but has been removed by the time of the next issue in 1961. The 1961 edition appears to show the buildings in their present form and layout.

Objectives

The objectives of the historic building photographic survey were:

- To record by photography the building with specific attention given to those elements proposed for demolition, conversion and/or alteration. This work to be undertaken to a standard that will allow the future interpretation of the building within the context for which it was originally designed and which subsequently evolved.
- To produce an archive and report of the results.

Methodology

Black and white 35mm photographs and digital colour photographs were taken throughout the survey. Notes and sketches were also made and scale drawings, supplied by Henderson Scott Architects, were used and annotated where necessary. The specific levels of detail used in the survey followed the guidelines laid down in the RCHME (1996) and English Heritage (2006) specification for photography, which were:

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: 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.

All work followed the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA) *Code of Conduct* (2006) and adhered to their *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Investigation and*

Recording of Standing buildings or Structures (2010). In addition, Leicestershire County Council's *Guidelines and Procedures for Archaeological Work in Leicestershire* was followed.

Results

The single storey buildings have been used as stables and a poultry shed until purchased by the present owner. Measured drawings have been supplied by Henderson Scott Architects and are used as the basis of this report. The drawings show the main features and dimensions of the building but do not show features such as blocked openings and masonry joints (Fig. 3). Key digital photographs are shown in the body of this report with a gazetteer and contact sheet of all photographs taken included in the appendices of this report.

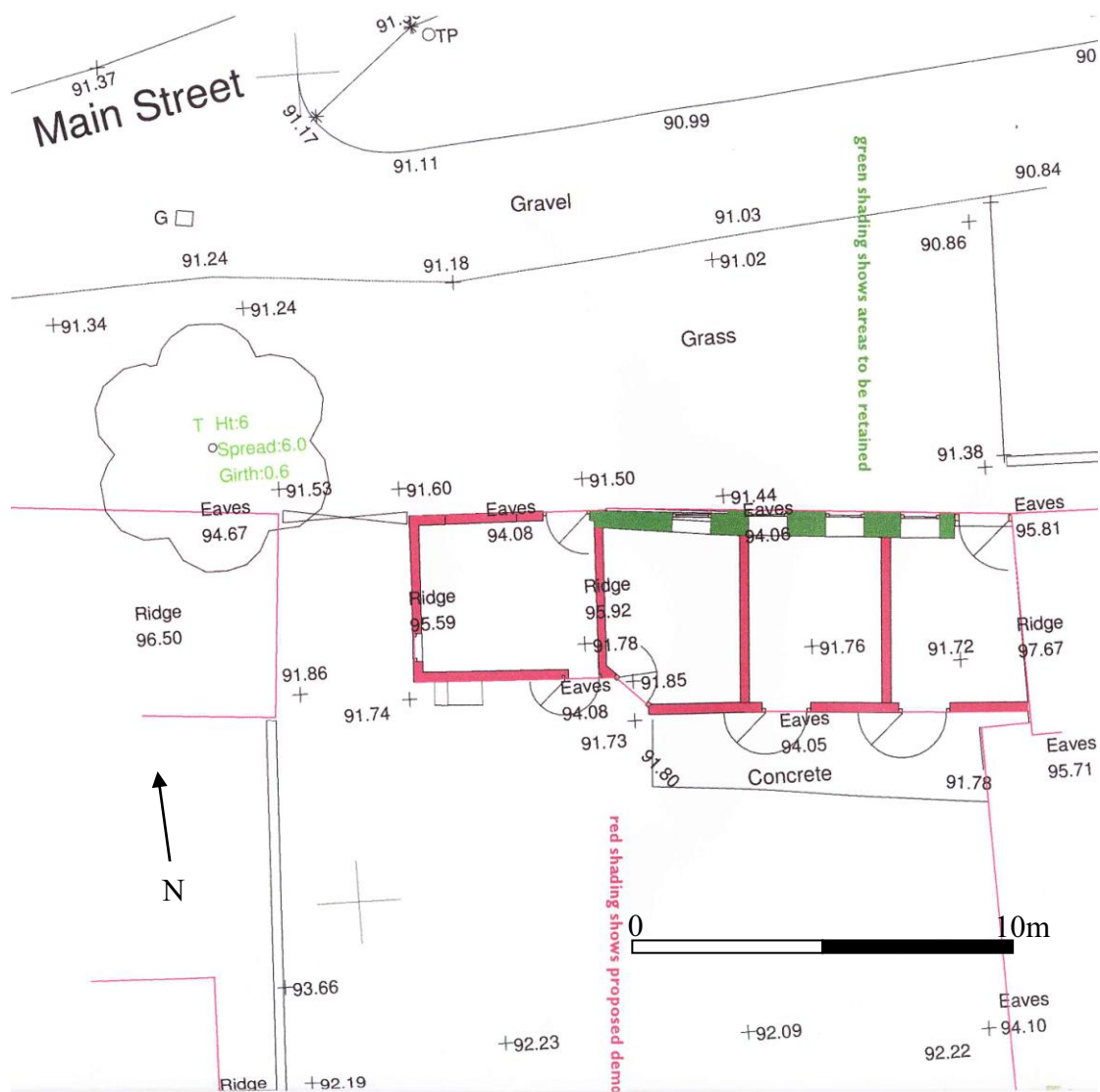


Figure 3. Existing plan of surveyed buildings
 Plan supplied by Henderson Scott Architects
 Red outline shows proposed demolition, green to be retained

The single storey buildings being surveyed consist of two portions. To the east is an ironstone and brick structure with three internal divisions. To the west is a shorter brick-built structure containing a single room (Figs. 4 and 5). Built against the eastern gable end is a brick-built two storey cottage which appears to be of early 19th century origin.



Figure 4. General view of site viewed from Main Street
Looking south-west. Note realigned road curving north to pass over railway to the east



Figure 5. General view of site from rear of paddock
Looking north

The eastern building

North facing elevation

The north facing elevation is the principal elevation and is constructed of coursed ironstone rubble from ground level to window sill height and red brick from window sill to eaves (Fig. 6). On the eastern end is a single wooden doorway surrounded by brickwork filling in what appears to be a later crudely knocked through opening. Four equally spaced wooden framed windows rest on top of the ironstone wall and are surrounded by brickwork laid in a mix of English and Flemish bond. There is evidence of a blocked window in the stonework to the west of the doorway and a blocked doorway can be seen in the centre of the elevation. At the western end the stonework has had an opening partially filled with ashlar limestone blocks and also appears to have collapsed and patched with smaller pieces of ironstone. This wall is leaning outwards and appears to be somewhat unstable. There is little evidence of the possible gap between the buildings shown in the 1886 Ordnance Survey map although the patched stonework may be a remnant of this. The roof is of modern corrugated asbestos sheeting.



Figure 6. East building, north facing elevation
Looking south. 1m scale

South facing elevation

The south facing elevation of the eastern building has been extensively altered in the later half of the 20th century by the addition of a skin of modern brick covering the entire elevation (Fig. 7). The reason for this is not clear although it does now support the south side of the modern roof and may mask any possible scars left by the demolished southern range seen on the 1886 and 1926 OS maps. Two stable doors lead into the east and central rooms whilst a door on the south-west angle of the building leads into the west room. The angle of the door accommodates the change in

width of the east and west buildings. At roof height the increased width of the eastern building roof is covered over with timber planks.



Figure 7. East building, south facing elevation
Looking north. 1m scale

Inside, east room

Internally, the eastern building is divided into three similarly sized rooms with a brick-built partition rising to eaves height between each room. The bricks are laid in an attempt at English bond and the sizes match those used on the north elevation and on the internal skin of the south elevation. Apart from the existing doorway the brickwork on the southern wall has no other sign of any doorways or openings that may have led into the demolished south range. The roof timbers are modern and lightweight (Fig. 8). All of the floors are concrete. A wooden door in the north-east corner leads out to Main Street and a blocked doorway with a wooden lintel is on the eastern gable end suggesting that it may pre-date the adjacent house or that the two buildings were connected. Another blocked doorway is visible in the stonework on the north wall in the north-west corner but does not extend to the brickwork (Fig. 9).



Figure 8. East building, roof and partition detail
Looking west from eastern room



Figure 9. East building, eastern room
Looking north-east. 1m scale.
Note blocked doorways in north-eastern and north-western corners marked with arrows

Inside, centre room

The centre room is quite plain with only two windows and a blocked doorway on the north wall (Fig. 10). As in the eastern room the blocking of earlier features is only visible in the stonework up to sill height indicating that the modification pre-dates the brick modification.



Figure 10. East building, centre room
Looking north-west. 1m scale

Inside, west room

As noted earlier the doorway is set on an angle between the two buildings. The window has been boarded over and the repaired stonework can be seen to the west. Bricks have also been used in the patching process (Fig. 11). This wall has separated from the west gable end and is moving outwards.

The western building

North facing elevation

The north elevation is built entirely of red-bricks laid in a Flemish garden wall bond. It has a wooden doorway on the east side and a bricked-in window on the west (fig.12). The wooden framed window has a substantial wooden lintel with stop chamfers. The roof appears to be the original one and is covered with pan tiles. This elevation is on the same alignment as the eastern building.



Figure 11. East building, western room
Looking north-west. 1m scale. Note patched stonework



Figure 12. West building, north facing elevation
Looking south. 1m scale

West facing elevation

The western gable end brickwork matches that of the north and south elevations. It is pierced by a single wooden framed window on the southern side of the gable. There is no evidence of any other blocked openings.



Figure 13. West gable end
Looking north-east. 1m scale

South facing elevation

The south facing elevation has a single doorway on the east side. Two lengths of timber have been let into the wall approximately 0.75m above present ground level (Fig. 14). These have evidence of metal hooks being attached to them and could be to hold riding tack or equipment. They do not penetrate through the wall to the inside. A low brick and stone mounting block has been built against the wall.



Figure 14. West building, south facing elevation
Looking south. 1m scale

Inside

Inside the single room of this building the floor is made from red bricks over rammed earth. The doorway on the north wall has its original hinges and other ironwork (Fig. 15). The bricks blocking the window appear to be modern. An assortment of thick Victorian bricks and thinner hand-made bricks has been used to make the east gable wall (Fig. 16). The different bricks make up random courses at all heights in the wall suggesting re-use from elsewhere rather than building on an earlier wall.

The roof has the purlins tenoned into the principal rafters with a narrow board serving as the ridge (Fig. 17). The rafters are carried on the backs of the purlins whilst the tie bars are attached to the principals by an iron strap on their underside. The principals sit on a chamfered block of wood projecting out from the wall plate.



Figure 15. West building, north wall
Looking north-west. 1m scale



Figure 16. West building, east gable wall
Looking east at the different sizes of bricks used. 1m scale



Figure 17. West building roof detail
Looking west

Discussion

The two buildings appear to form a remnant of a larger complex which probably belonged to the adjacent property. The eastern building has undergone a number of phases starting with the ironstone portion which had a number of modifications to its doors and windows. This was followed (probably before 1886) by an extensive rebuilding in brick and in which only the lower portions of the front, north, wall were retained. It seems likely that the rear range, which was demolished between 1926 and 1961, was built at this time. When the rear range was demolished it would appear that the south wall was skinned with the modern bricks seen today. These bricks look likely to date from the late 1950s and thus give a date for the demolition work and for the re-roofing with corrugated sheet.

The western building has only one apparent phase and, with the materials used and style of roofing timbers, would seem to date from the mid to late 19th century. The use of earlier bricks within the east gable wall is probably an example of careful recycling.

Archive

The archive consists of:

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This report,

2 contact sheets of digital photographs,

1 CD of digital photographs plus this report,

2 CD's of digital photographs in .tif format
Contact sheets of 30 black and white 35mm photographs,
35mm negatives,
handwritten notes taken during the survey.
2 photographic record sheets (combined for digital and black and white).

Publication

A summary of the work will be submitted for publication in the *Transactions of the Leicestershire Archaeological and Historical Society* in due course. A record of the project will also be submitted to the OASIS project. OASIS is an online index to archaeological grey literature.

Acknowledgements

The fieldwork was undertaken by A R Hyam. The project was managed by Dr P Clay.

Bibliography

English Heritage 2006, *Understanding Historic Buildings. A guide to good recording practice*. London: English Heritage

IfA 2006, *Code of Conduct*

IfA 2001, *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Investigation and Recording of Standing buildings or Structures*

Leicestershire County Council generic brief for Historic Building Photographic Survey.

RCHME 1996. *Recording Historic Buildings; A Descriptive Specification Third Edition*, Royal Commission on the Historical Monuments of England

ULAS 2012. *Design Specification for Historic Building Photographic Survey and archaeological attendance at 49, Main Street, Great Bowden, Leicestershire SP 7415 8884*

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22.04.2012

Appendix 1 Digital Photographs



49 Main St (1).jpg



49 Main St (2).JPG



49 Main St (3).JPG



49 Main St (4).JPG



49 Main St (5).JPG



49 Main St (6).JPG



49 Main St (7).JPG



49 Main St (8).JPG



49 Main St (9).JPG



49 Main St (10).JPG



49 Main St (11).JPG



49 Main St (12).JPG



49 Main St (13).JPG



49 Main St (14).JPG



49 Main St (15).JPG



49 Main St (16).JPG



49 Main St (17).JPG



49 Main St (18).JPG



49 Main St (19).JPG



49 Main St (20).JPG



49 Main St (21).JPG



49 Main St (22).JPG



49 Main St (23).JPG



49 Main St (24).JPG



49 Main St (25).JPG



49 Main St (26).JPG



49 Main St (27).JPG



49 Main St (28).JPG



49 Main St (29).JPG



49 Main St (30).JPG



49 Main St (31).JPG



49 Main St (32).JPG



49 Main St (33).JPG



49 Main St (34).JPG

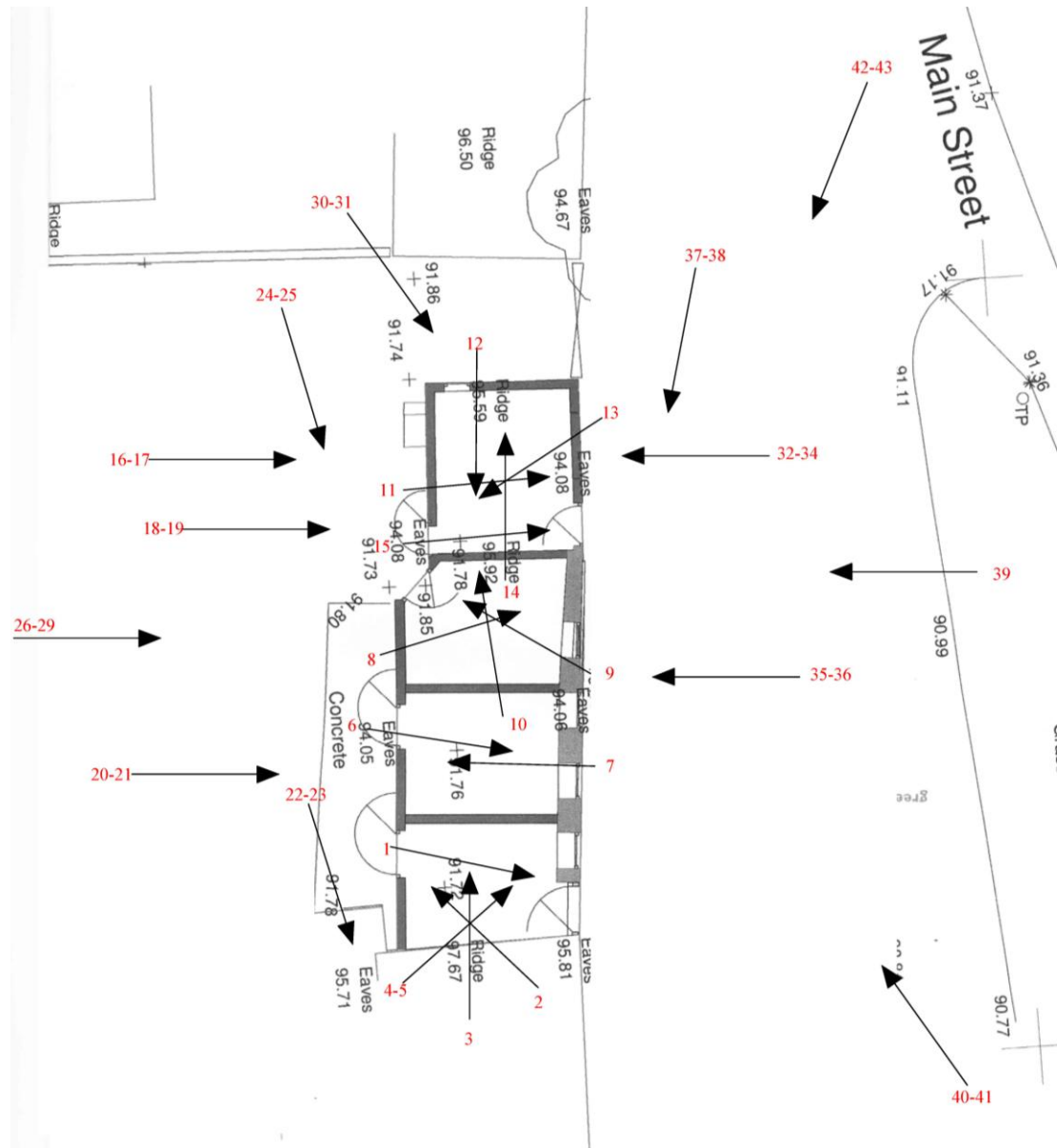


49 Main St (35).JPG



Appendix 2 Photo gazetteer and plan

35mm Photo number	Digital photo number	Description	Facing	Scale
1	1	East bldg. Eastern room	NE	1m
2	2	East bldg. Eastern room	SW	1m
3	3	East bldg. Roof details	W	
4	4	East bldg. East room. North door detail	N	1m
5	5	East bldg. East room. North wall blocked door	NW	1m
6	6	East bldg. Centre room.	N	1m
7	7	East bldg. Centre room.	S	1m
8	8	East bldg. West room	NW	1m
9	9	East bldg. West room.	SW	1m
10	10	East bldg. West room gable end detail	W	
11	11	West bldg. North wall	N	1m
12	12	West bldg. East wall brick detail	E	1m
13	13	West bldg. South wall	SE	
14	14	West room. Roof detail	W	1m
15	15	West room. North door detail	N	1m
16	16-17	West bldg, outside. South elevation	N	1m
17	18-19	West bldg, outside. South elevation door detail	N	1m
18	20-21	East bldg, outside. South elevation	N	1m
19	22-23	East bldg, outside. Joint with adjacent property	NE	1m
20	24-25	Oblique shot of all bldgs	NE	1m
21-22	26-29	General view from south	N	1m
23	30-31	West gable end	NE	1m
24	32-33	West bldg, outside. North elevation	S	1m
25	34	West bldg, outside. North elevation lintel detail	S	1m
26	35-36	East bldg, outside. North elevation	S	1m
27	37-38	East bldg, outside. North elevation oblique shot	SE	1m
28	39	General view of north elevation	S	1m
29	40-41	General view of north elevation	SW	1m
30	42-43	General view of north elevation	SE	1m



Location of photographs taken during survey.
North to right of picture

Appendix 3 OASIS information

Project Name	49 Main Street, Great Bowden, Leicestershire
Project Type	Photographic Survey
Project Manager	P Clay
Project Supervisor	A Hyam
Previous/Future work	No previous, watching brief during development
Current Land Use	Agricultural
Development Type	Conversion to domestic dwelling
Reason for Investigation	As a condition
Position in the Planning Process	As a condition
Site Co ordinates	NGR SP 74150 88835
Start/end dates of field work	18.4.2012
Archive Recipient	LCC
Study Area	100m ²

ULAS Contact Details

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