Photographic survey of Historic Buildings at 8, Manor Road, Great Bowden, Leicestershire

NGR SK 8172 0151

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Summary

University of Leicester Archaeological Services was commissioned by Mr & Mrs J.E. Miles to undertake a photographic survey of 8 Manor Road, Great Bowden, Leicestershire. Planning permission has been sought to alter the property in two parts; firstly, to demolish a single storey 'lean-to' outhouse to the side of the property and replace it with a two-storey extension and secondly, to add a single storey extension to the rear of the property. The addition of the two-storey extension to the west elevation will include the removal of the brick chimney stack and the partial removal of an original cob wall (the whole wall at ground floor level and an aperture for a doorway at first floor height). The Planning Archaeologist of the Historic and Natural Environment Team of Leicestershire County Council recommended that a photographic record of the building should be completed prior to the commencement of any alterations. The archive will be deposited with Leicestershire County Council (Accession No. X.A100.2008).

1. Introduction

A planning application has been submitted to Leicestershire County Council (08/00609/FUL) for the demolition of a brick-built outhouse and erection of a two-storey side extension and also a single storey extension to the rear of 8 Manor Road, Great Bowden, Leicestershire. University of Leicester Archaeological Services was commissioned by Mr & Mrs J.E. Miles to undertake a photographic record of the historic building prior to the commencement of these alterations. The Planning Archaeologist of the Historic and Natural Environment Team of Leicestershire County Council recommended that a photographic record of the building be undertaken prior to building work commencing.

Number 8 Manor Road is situated to the rear of number 6 Manor Road, in a plot inbetween Langton Road and Manor Road, in Great Bowden, in the District of Harborough (Figure 1). The building is not listed but does lie within the Great Bowden Conservation Area.

No known archaeological work has previously been carried out on the building. The property is depicted on the late 19th Century Ordnance Survey Map, but is likely to have earlier origins.

All work follows the Institute of Field Archaeologists' (IFA) Code of Conduct and adheres to their Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Investigation and Recording of Standing Buildings or Structures. In addition, Leicestershire County Council's Guidelines and Procedures for Archaeological Work in Leicestershire has been adhered to. Understanding Historic Buildings: A guide to good recording practice (English Heritage, 2006) has been used as a basis for defining levels of recording.



Figure 1: Site location with inset showing 8 Manor Road, Great Bowden, Leicestershire.

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2. Aims and Methodology

The aim of the photographic survey was to provide a permanent visual (photographic) record of the building in its current state, prior to alteration, to standards set down by English Heritage (2006).

A preliminary site visit was carried-out on the 10th July, 2008 followed by the photographic survey, undertaken on the 22nd July, 2008. Photographs, in 35mm monochrome negative and colour digital formats covered items 1-9 of the English Heritage guidelines (2006, 14, 5.5). Colour digital photographs have been used to illustrate this report and the monochrome negatives, which form the archive, are listed below (4. Monochrome Photographic Index, p.11).

The proposed development consists of a single detached building and for the purposes of this report the elevations will be referred to as the 'north', 'south', 'east' and 'west elevations. The two elements of building work are referred to as 'The western extension' and 'The north-eastern extension'. Internal rooms will be referred to according to room names located in Figure 2. The scales used in all the photographs are two metre ranging rods.

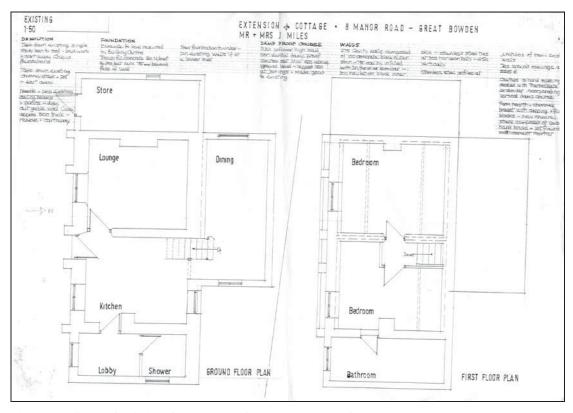


Figure 2: Scan of existing floor plans of 8 Manor Road, Great Bowden (plans provided by the client). North is to the right of the illustration.



Figure 3: Scan of existing elevations (provided by the client).

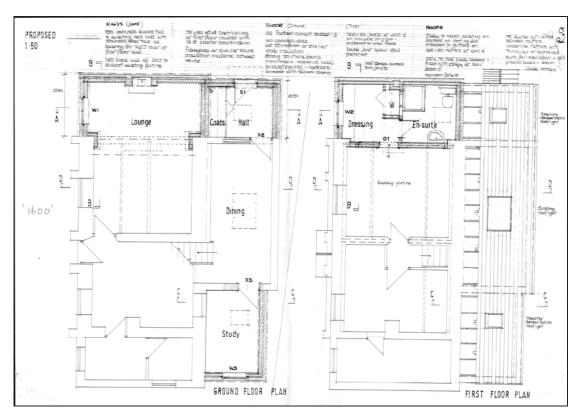


Figure 4: Scan of proposed floor plan of 8 Manor Road, Great Bowden (provided by the client).

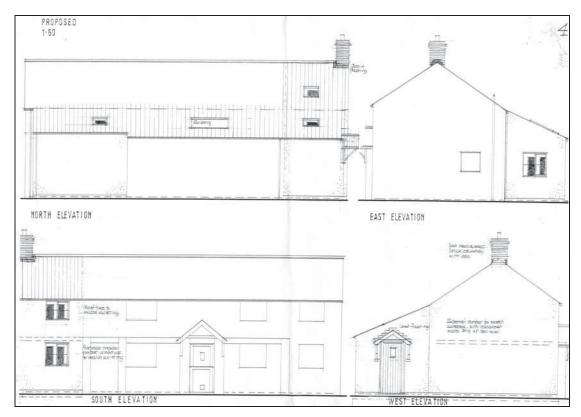


Figure 5: Scan of proposed elevations (provided by the client).

Description of the Building

Selected colour digital photographs have been used to illustrate the following description of the building.

Number 8 Manor Road, Great Bowden is a detached dwelling. It was originally a 'two-up two-down' cob built cottage with central staircase, although modern decoration obscures much of the original build. Along the western elevation a single storey brick 'lean-to' outhouse was added, probably in the late 19th century. The two-storey extension to the east of the building is difficult to date, but may well have been an improvement implemented at the same time as the single storey extension to the rear, the re-roofing of the whole property (including re-roofing the 'lean-to'), and the replacement of all window frames. These renovations would appear to be modern, and may even include the exterior rendering and the addition of supporting brick 'columns' (buttressing) to the front of the house.

The western extension

The brick outhouse at the west end of the south elevation (Plate 1) will be demolished, and replaced with a two-storey extension. The chimney stack will be removed and rebuilt in the new western elevation. The remainder of the south elevation will remain unaltered.

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Plate 1: The principal (south) elevation of the cottage. The outhouse is to the left of the picture. The right-hand end of the cottage has already been extended.

Plate 2 shows the south elevation of the outhouse. It is brick built in a Flemish bond (now painted). The outhouse door is constructed of tongue-and-groove timbers with a simple wrought iron door handle with thumb latch. The lintel is a simple squared timber. The disturbed brickwork above the lintel suggests this opening was a later addition. It is conceivable that this replaced a smaller window.



Plate 2: South elevation of the 19th century lean-to that will be demolished.

The outhouse was built up against the house with little attempt to blend the join (Plate 3). The cob wall narrows with height, while the brick wall continues straight up. The top of the outhouse therefore projects out from the main building.



Plate 3: The join between the brick 'lean-to' and cob walls of the original cottage.

The existing western elevation (Plate 4). The outhouse has a wooden door similar to that on the southern elevation. Much of the brickwork is obscured by ivy.



Plate 4: The west elevation including the outhouse and the modern single storey extension to the rear of the property (left of the picture).

The roof rafters of the outhouse have been inserted into the cob wall. The upper portion of the gable end of the house is brick built. The whole has been rendered, so there is little visible architectural detail, but it is conceivable that the upper brick portion of the wall was added when the building was re-roofed.



Plate 5: The top of the cob wall on the western elevation joining the upper brick segment gable wall, just above the roofline of the outhouse. The red brick chimney stack with modern pot were presumably added when the cottage was re-roofed with pan tiles.

The interior of the western elevation (Plate 6) shows the brick chimney stack, the cob wall and the brick upper portion of the wall. A doorway will be inserted where the chimney currently lies.



Plate 6: Interior wall of the western elevation (bedroom 1), showing the cob wall joining the upper brick gable end of the house, and the brick chimney stack. Note the roof purlins are timbers kept 'in the round'.

Plate 7 shows the interior of the outhouse. Much of the lower portion of the cob wall will be removed to enlarge the existing lounge (Figure 2 & Figure 4).

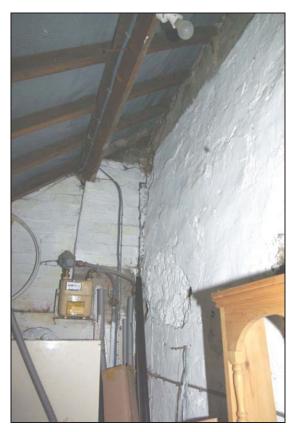


Plate 7: The interior of the outhouse showing the rendered end of the cob wall (the exterior western elevation of the original cottage).

The north-eastern extension

The single storey build seen on the right of Plate 8 is to be extended to encompass the full length of the northern elevation (see Figure 2 & Figure 4). The window seen to the right of the picture (Plate 8) will be enlarged to form a door opening. The window aperture in the original build (centre of the photograph) will remain unchanged.



Plate 8: The north-east corner of the property showing the original cottage (centre) and extensions to the east (two-storey, left of picture) and north (single storey, right) elevations.

Plate 9 shows the join between the original cottage and the extension to the two-storey to the eastern elevation.



Plate 9: The original north wall of the cottage with replaced window joining the two-storey east elevation.

4. Monochrome Photographic Index

Photograph No Elevation Description

001	South	Principal elevation from the south-east
002	South	Principal elevation from the south-east
003	South	Detail of south elevation of the outhouse
004	South	Detail of south elevation of the outhouse
005	West	General view of the exterior of the outhouse
006	West	West elevation of the outhouse
007	West	West elevation of the outhouse
008	West	Outhouse roof meeting western elevation of the original cottage
009	West	Outhouse roof meeting western elevation of the original cottage
010	N-east	Corner of original cottage and single storey rear (modern) extension
011	N-east	Corner of original cottage and single storey rear (modern) extension
012	N-east	North rear wall of original cottage
013	N-east	North rear wall of original cottage
014	N-east	North rear wall of original cottage
015	N-east	North rear wall of original cottage
016	West	Interior of outhouse
017	West	Interior of outhouse
018	West	Interior of outhouse
019	West	Interior of outhouse
020	West	Interior of outhouse
021	West	Interior of outhouse
022	West	Interior of outhouse
023	West	Interior of Bedroom 1
024	West	Interior of Bedroom 1
025	West	Interior of Bedroom 1
026	West	Interior of Bedroom 1

6. Archive and Publication

The site archive comprises:

36 colour digital photographs26 monochrome negative and contact prints photographic indexa copy of this report

This will be deposited with Leicestershire County Council with Accession number X.A.100.2008.

A summary of the results of this report will be submitted to the editor of *Transactions* of the Leicestershire Archaeological and Historical Society for inclusion in the annual summary of archaeology in Leicestershire and Rutland.

7. Bibliography

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