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Non-Technical Summary

Little Matlock Hamlet has been granted planning permission and listed building consent, subject to a Section 106 agreement, for a development at Low Matlock Wheel, Sheffield.

A desk-based assessment (Aitchison 2001) has identified a complex history of buildings at the site, focusing around a series of water-powered mills on the River Loxley. The earliest documented mill on the site dates from the first half of the eighteenth century. The site was badly damaged and then largely rebuilt following the Great Sheffield Flood of 1864.

The mill buildings on site incorporated the last water-powered steel rolling mill in Sheffield. The mill buildings are grade II listed, while a row of cottages above the mill which partly date from the start of the nineteenth century and survived the flood are grade II listed. The mill buildings and associated water management features are within the area of a Scheduled Ancient Monument.*

South Yorkshire Archaeology Service, advisors to the City of Sheffield Council, requested that archaeological building recording be carried out on buildings, outside the Scheduled Area, which are to be developed. ARCUS was appointed to undertake this recording, and this report details the results of the recording project.

Checked by Project Officer	Passed for submission to client
Date	Date
Kenneth Aitchison <i>Project Archaeologist</i>	Mr James Symonds <i>Executive Director</i>

1 INTRODUCTION

Little Matlock Hamlet, a partnership between the companies of Hawk Estates and Trading Ltd and Major Lease Ltd, have been granted planning permission for alterations to a grade II listed mill building (Sheffield LBC 9A/0237); extensions to a grade II listed row of existing cottages (Sheffield LBC 9A/0234 and Full 99/0233); alterations and extensions to two existing ancillary buildings – for residential use, and up to three areas of new build – for residential use (LBC 9A/0236 and Full 99/0235), subject to a Section 106 agreement. The scheme will include landscaping, works to services and works to the access roads.

ARCUS was appointed by Little Matlock Hamlet to undertake an archaeological building recording required under the planning conditions incorporated in the Section 106 planning obligation on the site.

1.1 Project Aims

The sole aim of this project was to record the historic fabric of buildings to be impacted upon by development.

1.2 Site Location

Low Matlock Wheel (also known as Low Matlock Mill, Lower Cliff Wheel or Boggey Wheel) lies on the north bank of the River Loxley, on the south side of Low Matlock Lane, within the City of Sheffield (SK 309 894), 6km west of the centre of Sheffield (**Figure 1**).

The site consists of mill buildings, a range of cottages and two other free-standing buildings, all of which are on the north bank of the river; the site extends onto the wooded south bank of the river.

2 METHODOLOGY

This phase of archaeological work at Low Matlock Mill involved the recording of the Cottages, the Counting House and the Dam House (also known as the Stable).

2.1 Photographic Record

A general and, where appropriate, detailed photographic record was made of each building.

General photographs of the interior and exterior of each building were required. These were taken with a 35mm camera. Detailed photographs of the areas of the building to be altered/removed were required, where the alterations would affect structures/fittings of historic

interest; these could be taken with a levelled 35mm camera. All photographs were in black and white. All detailed photographs contained a graduated photographic scale. This basic photographic record was supplemented by colour slide photography where colour was an aspect that needed to be recorded.

A photographic register detailing location and direction of each shot was completed (included as **Appendix I**). The positions and direction of each photograph was also noted on copies of the building/site plan (included as Figures *-*).

2.2 Drawn Record

A scale plan of the floor or floors of each building was made. Existing plans were used as the basis for the drawn record; the archaeological project officer ensured that any existing drawings used were accurate; and, where necessary, adjustments or corrections were made. The drawn record shows all features of interest that have been recorded photographically, as well as any other features of historical significance that may not be directly affected by the proposal but which are necessary to put those features in context.

Construction techniques and sequences are appropriately illustrated and described, where visible.

The drawings have been made to RCHME standards (RCHME 1996).

2.3 Staffing

All on site recording (drawn and photographic) was undertaken by Kenneth Aitchison, ARCUS Project Archaeologist. Final illustrations were prepared by Jo Mincher, ARCUS Illustrator.

3 BUILDING CONSTRUCTION AND ASSESSMENT

3.1 Cottages

The cottages are a linear stepped range, located to the north of the mill tail goit, aligned east-west and consisting of (from the west) a two-storey barn, two conjoined three-storey houses and a further (taller) three-storey house. The buildings are built in coursed rubble sandstone, rendered on the front elevation, with brick ridge and gable stacks and Welsh slate roof coverings. They are listed (grade II); the list description is included as Appendix III.

The original buildings did not have kitchens (Aitchison 2001, 12), and so they may have

originally functioned as bunkhouses for mill workers.

The barn and two central houses are shown on a map dating from 1815; the easternmost is not shown on any maps before 1864 (Aitchison 2001, 7, 8). They all survived the flood in 1864.

Before development work commenced, the barn did not have a physical upper floor; access was through a taking-in door to the south.

Very few (if any) original fixtures and fittings survive in any of the buildings; development work has revealed stone fireplaces in the two central houses at ground floor level (photograph 02/06).

The barn roof is supported on a central pattern-book king-post truss, with overlapping purlins. The roof over the two central buildings is supported on overlapping purlins; no trusses are visible, and so they are presumably hidden within internal walls. Several of these purlins show details of having been reused (photographs 02/07, 02/09).

At the time of the survey (August 2001), the easternmost house retains banisters and panelling dating from c.1900 (photographs 02/10 and 01/11).

At the time of the survey (August 2001), development work has included the insertion of a first floor to the barn, and extensions behind all of the buildings.

All of the floor plans (from pre-development base plans) are included as Illustrations 3 - 6. Photographs 01/26 - 01/31 and 02/14 are external record shots; photographs 01/36, 02/06 - 02/11 show internal details.

3.2 Counting House

This building is on the north of the mill tail goit, to the south-east of the cottages. A building with a differently shaped footprint is shown in approximately this location on the 1868 map, but no building is shown on the 1898 map. This building is shown on the 1905 map (Aitchison 2001, 12). It is thus post-flood in construction, and dates from the very end of the nineteenth or very start of the twentieth century.

The building is a two-storey construction, with a small offshut to the east. The walls are completely rendered, making it impossible to determine what stone was used in its construction.

Internally, the building has been heavily remodelled in the late twentieth century, and no original fixtures or fittings appear to survive.

At the time of the survey (August 2001), no development work had been undertaken in this building.

Two rooms on the ground floor were inaccessible. These are marked on Illustration 7.

Ground and first floor plans are included as Illustrations 7 and 8. Photographs 01/23 - 01/25 and 02/13 show external views of the building; no internal photographs were taken.

3.3 Dam House (*aka* Stable)

This building stands on the north side of the tail goit, below the level of the cottages. As with the Counting House (3.2 above), cartographic analysis shows that this building was constructed between 1898 and 1905 (Aitchison 2001, 12), and thus post-dates the flood. It is stylistically late nineteenth century / early twentieth century.

The Dam House is a two-storey construction, with no physical first floor; two windows open to the east at this level, and a taking-in door opens to the north. Behind this door (and attached to the roof above) is the wooden furniture of a hoist (photograph 01/35).

The building is a single-phase build, in roughly dressed sandstone. A sliding door opens to the east; there is also a single window at this level. Lintels remain (see photograph 01/33) that show that there were formerly another window at this level to the east, and a central doorway. Three blocked windows formerly opened to the west.

A small triangular fireplace in the south-east corner has a short flue above, not extending for the full elevation of the wall (photograph 01/35).

At the time of the survey (August 2001), no development work had been undertaken in this building.

Plans of the ground floor and first floor are included as Illustrations 9 & 10. Photographs 01/32 - 01/33 show external views of the building; photographs 01/34 - 01/35 show internal details.

4 COPYRIGHT

ARCUS will assign copyright to Little Matlock Hamlet upon written request, but retains the right to be identified as the author of all project documentation and reports as defined in the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988* (Chapter IV, s.79).

5 BIBLIOGRAPHY

Aitchison, K. 2001. *Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment of Low Matlock Mill, Loxley Valley, Sheffield*. Unpublished ARCUS report 597.1.

RCHME (Royal Commission on the Historic Monuments of England). 1996. *Recording Historic Buildings: a descriptive specification* (3rd edn).

ILLUSTRATIONS

APPENDIX I: PHOTOGRAPHIC REGISTER

Film	Frame	Description	Direction (Facing)
01	23	Counting House exterior	E
01	24	Counting House exterior	W
01	25	Counting House exterior	S
01	26	Cottages exterior	W
01	27	Cottages, easternmost, exterior	N
01	28	Cottages, east of centre, exterior	N
01	29	Cottages, west of centre, exterior	N
01	30	Cottages, westernmost, exterior	N
01	31	Cottages exterior	E
01	32	Dam House exterior	S
01	33	Dam House exterior	W
01	34	Dam House interior, detail of taking-in door and hoist	NE
01	35	Dam House interior, detail of fireplace	SW
01	36	Cottages interior, westernmost 1 st floor detail of roof truss	W
02	06	Cottages interior, west of centre, ground floor detail of fireplace	NW
02	07	Cottages interior, west of centre, 2 nd floor detail of purlin	W
02	08	Cottages interior, east of centre, 1 st floor detail of fireplace	E
02	09	Cottages interior, east of centre, 2 nd floor detail of purlin	SE
02	10	Cottages interior, easternmost, ground floor detail of panelling	S
02	11	Cottages interior, easternmost, 1 st floor detail of banister	N
02	12	Dam House exterior	SW
02	13	Counting House exterior	SW
02	14	Cottages exterior	NW

APPENDIX II: PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD



01/23 Counting House exterior, facing E



01/24 Counting House exterior, facing W



01/25 Counting House exterior facing S



01/26 Cottages exterior facing W



01/27 Cottages, easternmost, exterior facing N



01/28 Cottages, east of centre, exterior facing N



01/29 Cottages, west of centre, exterior facing N



01/30 Cottages, westernmost, exterior facing N



01/31 Cottages exterior facing E



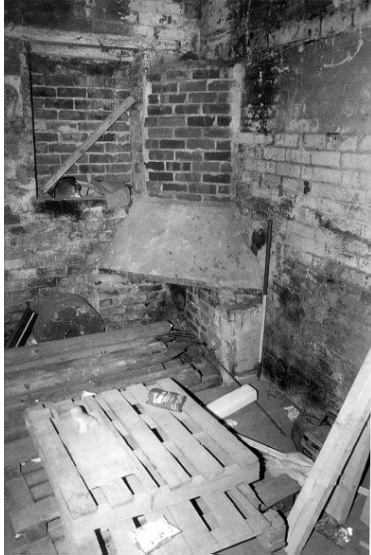
01/32 Dam House exterior facing S



01/33 Dam House exterior facing W



01/34 Dam House interior, detail of taking-in door and hoist facing NE



01/35 Dam House interior, detail of fireplace facing SW



01/36 Cottages interior, westernmost 1st floor detail of roof truss facing W



02/06 Cottages interior, west of centre, ground floor detail of fireplace facing NW



02/07 Cottages interior, west of centre, 2nd floor detail of purlin facing W



02/08 Cottages interior, east of centre, 1st floor detail of fireplace facing E



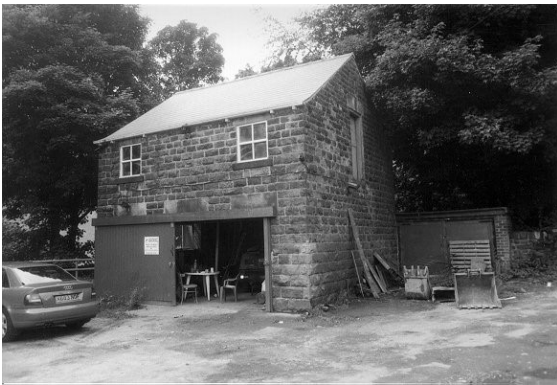
02/09 Cottages interior, east of centre, 2nd floor detail of purlin facing SE



02/10 Cottages interior, easternmost, ground floor detail of panelling facing S



02/11 Cottages interior, easternmost, 1st floor detail of banister facing N



02/12 Dam House exterior facing SW



02/13 Counting House exterior facing SW



02/14 Cottages exterior facing NW

APPENDIX III: LIST DESCRIPTION

BRADFIELD

SK 38 NW

564/14/10012

LOW MATLOCK LANE

River Dale House and River Dale
Cottages

12.1.2000

GV

II

Terrace of houses with attached outbuilding. c1800 or earlier, with mid-late C19 and early C20 alterations. Coursed rubble sandstone, rendered on the front elevation, with brick ridge and gable stacks and Welsh slate roof coverings. Linear stepped range, aligned east-west, with 2 storeyed stable with overloft to west end, and taller advanced dwelling to east end. FRONT (south) ELEVATION: 2 storeys with attics, 8 bay range with 2 double-fronted houses to centre of range with a taller house to the east end with doorway to left side and canted bay window to right. Coupled sash windows without glazing bars above canted bay, single sashes to both floors above door. 3 light casement windows to centre houses, with square bay window with sashes to right of door of right-hand house. Former stable to west end with quoined corner, massive surround with bonding stones to main doorway and taking-in door above. INTERIORS: East end house with interior remodelled c1900, including contemporary hearth surround, doors and panelling. The 2 other dwellings are plainly detailed with simple hearth surrounds and central dog-leg stairs. HISTORY: The houses provided accommodation for workers and the site manager of the nearby water-powered rolling mill which was destroyed by the Sheffield Flood of 1864, when a reservoir dam at the head of the Loxley Valley failed. The River Dale House and River Dale Cottages, which formed part of a small industrial hamlet at Low Matlock survived the catastrophe, being sited on higher ground. A terrace of early C19 houses forming part of the setting of Low Matlock Rolling Mill (item 14/48) and a significant component of a small rural industrial community in the Loxley Valley, an important location representative of the development of Sheffield's water-powered metal working industries in the C19.

APPENDIX IV: BRIEF FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL BUILDING RECORDING

1) Building Recording - The Cottages and Stables are to be recorded before any (additional) works are undertaken to them. Recording of the Counting House should be undertaken once this has been stripped of modern fittings/alterations, but before any further work takes place.

The appropriate level of recording for these buildings is:

1.1) Photographic Recording -

A general and, where appropriate, detailed photographic record is to be made of each building.

General photographs of the interior and exterior of each building are required. These can be taken with a 35mm camera (a Medium or Large format camera can also be used). Detailed photographs of the areas of the building to be altered/removed are required, where the alterations will affect structures/fittings of historic interest; these can be taken with a 35mm camera (a Medium or Large Format camera can also be used), with perspective control. All photographs are to be black and white. All detailed photographs must contain a graduated photographic scale. This basic photographic record is to be supplemented by colour slide photography where colour is an aspect that needs to be recorded.

A photographic register detailing (as a minimum) location and direction of each shot must be completed. Position and direction of each photograph is also to be noted on a copy of the building/site plan.

1.2) Drawn Record

A scale plan of the floor/floors of each building is to be made. Existing plans (e.g. plans submitted with a planning application) may be used as the basis for the drawn record; it is the responsibility of the archaeological contractor to ensure that any existing drawings used are accurate; if not, to make any necessary adjustments or corrections. The drawn record is to show all features of interest that have been recorded photographically, as well as to show any other features of historical significance that may not be directly affected by the proposal but which are necessary to put those features in context.

Construction techniques and sequences should be appropriately illustrated and described, if visible. Typical features of interest may include tool marks left over from the preparation of structural timbers, carpenters' marks, etc.

1.3) Post-Recording Work and Report Preparation

Record photographs are to be printed at a minimum of 5" x 4".

A fully indexed archive is to be compiled consisting of all primary written documents, plans, photographic negatives and a complete set of labelled photographic prints. Labelling should be in indelible ink on the back of the print and should include: film and frame number; date recorded and photographer's name; name and address of feature/building; national grid reference. Photographic prints should be mounted in appropriate archival stable sleeves.

A short written report should be produced detailing who undertook the recording, when the work was done, where buildings are located, what recording was undertaken and why the work was required. The report should also include detail of the alterations/demolition to be undertaken and an assessment of the importance of the feature/building to be affected. A discussion of the construction sequence of the building should also be included.

The report illustrations should include as a minimum, a location map at not less than 1:2500, a site plan at not less than 1:500 and plans of an appropriate scale of the floor/floors to be affected. A complete set of photocopies of all the photographs (of at least laser copy standard), appropriately labelled or captioned, are to be bound into the report and referenced as necessary. The photographic record plan must also be included.

A copy of this brief should be bound into the back of the report.

1.4) Submission and deposition of archive

The completed archive, including the final report, should be deposited with the following institution:

Sheffield City Archives
52 Shoreham Street
Sheffield
South Yorkshire
S1 4SP

3) Monitoring

The South Yorkshire Archaeology Service will be responsible for monitoring. A minimum of one week's notice of the commencement of fieldwork must be given so that arrangements can be made.

Any alterations to this programme of work found to be necessary during the lifetime of the project will be discussed and agreed with the South Yorkshire Archaeology Service.

4) Submission of reports

A copy of the completed reports should be submitted to Anthony Brownlow of Little Matlock Hamlet and to John Proctor of Sheffield City Council Development Control.

A copy of each should also be submitted to the South Yorkshire Archaeology Service, Howden House, 1 Union Street, Sheffield, S1 2SH for inclusion into the South Yorkshire Sites and Monuments Record.

As well as a printed copy of the reports, an electronic copy of all files produced are to be provided in text (ASCII) format and submitted to SYAS.

5) Publication & Dissemination

A summary of the results, of an appropriate length, will be prepared and submitted for inclusion in the South Yorkshire Annual Archaeology Review, accompanied by illustrations. Text to be submitted as ASCII, illustrations as .tiff files (scanned at 300 dpi and saved as black & white line art for diagrams, greyscale for photos).

Provision for publication of the results in an appropriate regional or national journal, if appropriate, will be allowed for.

Provision will be made for publicising the results of the work locally, e.g. by presenting a paper at South Yorkshire Archaeology Day and talking to local societies, etc.