

Early Fabric in Historic Towns Project - Southwell

9 King Street, The Admiral Rodney Hotel, Southwell

Grid Reference: SK 7011 5400

Initial Survey: 26/03/14

Listings:

English Heritage Building ID:

242403

Grade:

II

Date Listed:

09/02/73

Nottinghamshire HER entry: 3.70.121

Maps:

The 1841 Tithe Map [1] shows the position of

The Admiral Rodney as no. 91 describing the premises as an inn, yard and garden. There was a clear passage way for horse and carts all the way around the building, the covered gate way now forming the main entrance to the pub. The owner and landlord at the time was J.T. Bradshaw. There is a detailed history of the Saracen's Head in Roger Dobson's book entitled Southwell Inns and Ale Houses [2].



Description of building:

The premises consist of an early 18th century L shaped building with later 19th and 20th century brick additions. The frontage and ridge line runs parallel with King Street in a south-west to north-east direction. The front unit is a single room deep the roof having a steep slope. There are blue roll top ridges and blue Welsh slates only to the King Street side of building, clay hog back ridges and clay pantiles to the remainder of the L shape roofs. On the King Street side there are 2 gabled dormers, lead to shallow pitched roofs and side cheeks. Disturbance to the uniformity of the roof slates provides evidence of possible earlier central stack that has been removed, plus the raising of all of the front roof area. There is a parapet wall to eaves with concealed gutter on the front with a moulded wooden soffit. It is metal lined.

The building is of brick construction and smooth rendered to front and part of right hand side gable. There is a stone projecting plinth to the base of walls. The gable on the north-east elevation is rendered with a modern 20th century window in the roof space inserted between the diaper work of blue brick. On the left side there is a modern timber portico type entrance door installed during the 1990s. There are plaster decorative quoins on the front corners and rendered strings above first and ground floor windows. On the first floor there are 4 timber vertical sash windows of Victorian appearance consisting of single sheet top and bottom with stone sills. The 3 ground floor windows are in the same style. The entrance door is double width in a recessed porch with timber beam over and is where there was a passage way to allow access to the rear for horse and coach. (There is some sign of building movement. Left hand jamb to opening with chamfered arris. ?)

The 2 storey rear projection that runs north-west (perpendicular to the road) has a single gable dormer with a shallow pitched roof and cheeks with 4 section modern timber window [unit 1]. The top of the wall is dentilated below the guttering, the lower half is colour washed white and there is a lean-to extension. The exposed brickwork is English- Garden Wall bond. The first floor windows are made of timber, the nearest to the road are 2 York horizontal sliders with 1 modern 3 casement window into new brickwork opening towards the back. On the ground floor there is one timber vertical 2 part sash window, 4 panes in total in the back wall and 2 five section square leaded windows in the lean to extension which has a slate roof [unit2] .

Between the two units running in a north-west south east direction there is a 2 storey flat roof extension [unit 3]. On the north-east face there is a single storey decorative entrance with squint wall and flat roof [unit 4].

To the rear there is a later large 2 storey extension with slate roof with a north-west ridge line. There is a wide narrow chimney stack in the south-west facing gable. On the south-west facing wall only, there is a blue brick string course, 3 bricks deep and one brick with initials **W.S.S.** inscribed near to the side of outer upstairs window in yard area. The bricks below this string course have been colour washed white and there are a couple of modern windows and a door. Above the string course there are 4 tall 9 over 9 vertical sash windows [unit 5]. At some time, there has been a smaller 1 and ½ story building continuing in the same north-west direction but the top of this has been removed leaving a modern single story, flat roofed extension with small, modern timber framed windows in the rear and side walls and the most north-west end [unit 7].

In the north-west rear yard area there is a 2 storey old brickwork addition to the main building. The roof is pantiled [unit 8]. Finally, there is a small 2 storey building constructed of old random bond brickwork to the walls and a bricked up window and new chimney attached. The roof is constructed with clay pantiles with dentil course to eaves [unit 9]

Interpretation:

This is a complex building which has undergone several phases, alteration and extension over the years. The rendering on north-east facing gable and front of the building may conceal original diaper work. The misalignment of slates on the south-east facing roof could indicate the location of a central stack, now gone, and the slates replaced pantiles to front to appear more fashionable. The front parapet and rendering and cornice where all possibly done at this time. Brickwork to gable with diaper work follows through on the L shape with dentil soffit, indicating this L shaped building is original.

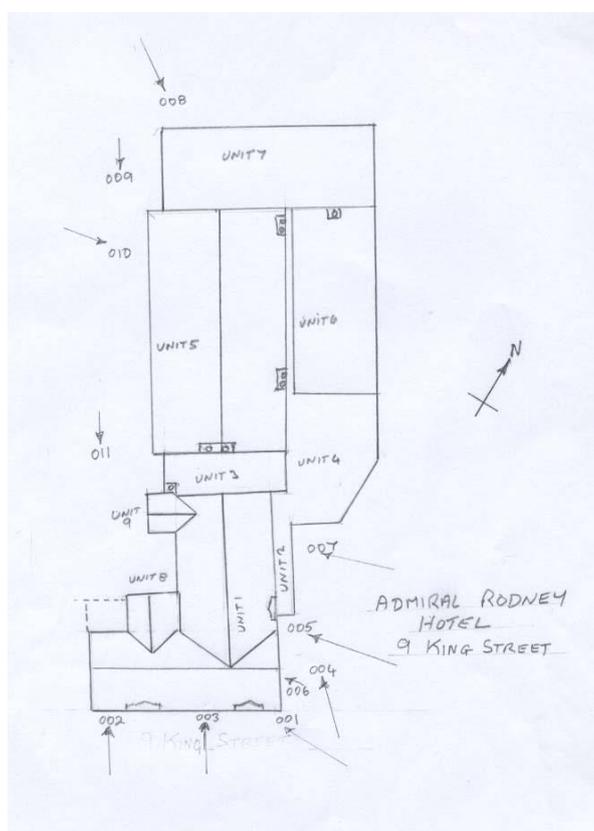


Plate 1: Plan of the Admiral Rodney

Plate 2: The south east facing side, viewed looking north-west.



Plate 3: The north-east gable, showing the 1990s door, and the rear projection, viewed looking west-north-west.



Plate 4: The north-east gable showing the diaper work of blue stone, viewed looking west-north-west.



Plate 5: The rear court yard viewed looking south-south-east.



Plate 6: The rear of the front unit showing where the passage way for horse and carriage would have been, viewed looking south-south-east.



Plate 7: The inscribed brick on the rear extension, viewed looking east.



Plate 8: 1841 Tithe Map, plot 91 with a clear carriage way to the west of the Admiral Rodney

[1] Ref: Nottinghamshire County Council: Nottinghamshire Archive: AT123 1b/1c

[2] Southwell Inns & Alehouses, Roger Dobson, Nottinghamshire County Council, 2008



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