

Early Fabric in Historic Towns Project - Southwell

12, King Street, La Parisienne, Southwell

OS Grid Reference: SK 7013 5398

Initial Survey: 13/03/2014

Listings:

English Heritage ID No: 242384

Grade: II

Date listed 09/02/1973

Nottinghamshire HER entry: 3.70.102



Maps:

This building is listed on The Tithe and in the Apportionment Book of 1842 [1] as belonging to Mary Dodd and occupied by Henry Dodd. It is described as a house with a yard to the rear. It has been a restaurant for the last 30 years or more. At the time of listing it was called "Ruffles Restaurant".

Description of Building:

Exterior:

The building is flanked at both gable ends by other buildings. It is a rectangular structure, two units long by one unit deep, three stories high and orientated north-east to south-west. The roof is gabled at each end and consists of pantiles. The roof line is lower than either of the flanking buildings and a modern brick chimney is situated at the north-eastern gable, in gable and through the roof line. The cast iron guttering feeds a rectangular water trap at the north-eastern end and also serves the taller no 10 King Street. There is a passage running from the front of the building to the rear at the south-western end of the building.

The north-west facing elevation is brick-faced in stretcher bond with bricks measuring on average two and a quarter inches deep by nine inches long. They appear to be hand-made rather than mass produced machine-made bricks. The whole of the front has been colour washed white.

On the ground floor any building plinth is obscured by a black sill reaching to the bottom of the lower story windows but seems to be confluent with the brick facing. The door is not quite central to the building, being slightly offset to the north-eastern side. The interior floor level is lower than street level by 1 step. There is one square, vertical sash window, three panes above and eight below, to the north-east of the door and a smaller rectangular vertical sash window, three panes above, six below, between the two doors. Above the right-hand side of the larger window there is a small, right-angled iron bracket. The door at south-western gives access to a passage.

The principal door is modern, wooden and rectangular. To the right are two circular metal plates which could be blocked off fans.

On the second floor there are two similar, rectangular vertical sash windows, six panes above and below which have black painted wooden sills. There is a large wooden business sign fixed to the wall and a smaller wooden sign fixed to a wrought-iron frame. The frame in the centre of the building is for the Christmas decorations.

The second floor has two smaller, square vertical sash windows, three panes above and below. These have wooden sills.

Internal:

Inside there is a clearly old, oak beam running north-west south east in the main room, with chamfering and an incised stop at the end. The adjoining joists are also oak. This beam is on the opposite side of the front door to a plastered beam which could be a modern RSJ supporting the upper floor.

The owner claimed that there was originally a staircase in the centre of the building. The north-eastern part of the room was restricted by the intrusion of the next-door property's spiral staircase.

There is a wide, brick-built fireplace which appears to have been reduced in size at a later date and which is topped by an old oak beam at the north east end of the room.

Interpretation:

From the street the building has an old look to it with a narrow top floor, and a low roof-line. From the look and the incised beam stop internally it could be as early as 17th Century in origin. The owner claims that the roof timbers have been replaced and are not old.

It was possibly built as two single unit cottages with the passage door originally the entrance to the more south-western cottage. There is a modern beam supporting the upper floor just to the right of the main front entrance.



Plate 1: The chimney in the north-east gable, viewed looking east.



Plate 2: The north-eastern ground floor window, viewed looking south.



Plate 3: (left) First floor window, viewed looking east.



Plate 4: (right) Second floor window, viewed looking east.



Plate 5: The ground floor dining area showing the fire place, oak beam and painted modern beam, viewed looking north-east.



Plate 6: Incised Stop on the north-west south-east oak beam, viewed looking north-west.



Plate 7: The 1841 Tithe Map, showing the position of 12, King Street, La Parisienne, in relation to its neighbours.

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

