

Early Fabric in Historic Towns Project - Southwell

Verne House, 62 King Street, (David Hall's Funeral Directors) Southwell, NG25 0EH

Grid Reference: SK 7025 5404

Initial Survey: 04/03/2014

Listings:

English Heritage Building ID: 242397
(as 2 Burgage Lane)

Grade II

Date Listed: 09/02/1973

Nottinghamshire HER entry: 3.70.115

Maps:

Number 62 appears on the Tithe Map of 1842 (plot 28) [1] at the north east end of

King Street. It is shown as a with a long rear extension. At that time it was owned and occupied by George Adamson and is described as a "house and yard". In the early 1920s it was described as private houses in Reminiscences of Southwell in the early twentieth century by R E Hardstaff. At some point it became known as Verne House, the name plate being above the present entrance door.

King Street is the main thoroughfare through the centre of Southwell and used to be known as Farthingate.

Description of building:

The property is at the south-west end of range of buildings with an access drive on the opposite side. This building is attached to no. 64 but the ridge line and eaves are lower. The original 2 bay unit is one room deep and 2 storeys with a later 2 storey extension to the rear creating a double pile 2 rooms deep. A clear/staggered line join from the valley roof shows the different phases of building. There is no chimney to the original phase but there is a chimney in the gable wall of the secondary phase. A relatively new single storey out-shut has been added at the rear. The building faces north and has 2 cross shaped ties plates visible which gives evidence of an unstable building at some time. The front is rendered brick with a plat band (string course) delineating the stories. The south west gables display a wide variety in brick size on the front range and larger, more recent brick on the rear range with several clear joints showing different phases. The front roof is slate and the rear roof is constructed with pantiles. It has decorated eaves which form a dog tooth dentilation pattern.

At the front, the original door with a curved top has been in-filled, but the boot scraper has been retained. A new entrance has been inserted into the north-east end of the face with a plain straight top and side window.

The 3 windows are 20th century replacements. At the bottom of the gable end there are bunter sandstone anomalies in the brick sill.

The easterly interior partition wall between nos. 62 and 64 was originally the exterior wall of no.64. It is a fine example of a timber framed wall built on top of a stone foundation wall. Clearly visible are the wall posts and beams and a good selection of carpenter's marks along with the carpenter's identification mark (circle).



Interpretation:

This building has undergone a number of different building phases. Internal investigation has revealed that phase one of this building was constructed mainly of brick adjoining the external gable end of no. 64. This timber framed gable, clearly visible in the entrance hall and stair case and roof space of no. 62 consisted of substantial tie beam truss with close studding and is probably built on a stone plinth to account for the sloping ground level. Phase 2 extension range to the rear, with its gable end, is post 1842 (Tithe Map) although a long extension, one bay deep, is pre 1842 . The phase 3 out-shut added later.



Plate 1: Front elevation, viewed looking south-east



Plate 2: Southwest gable, viewed looking north east



Plate 3: South-west facing gable showing sandstone anomalies, viewed looking north-east



Plate 4: In-filled door, boot scraper and new entrance, viewed looking south-east



Plate 5: Building line between the two phases on the south-west gable, viewed looking north-east



Plate 6: Detail of brick work in phase 1 gable in showing restructuring, viewed looking north-east



Plate 7: Interior view of timber frame and studding of number 64 viewed looking north-east in 62's entrance hall.



Plate 8: Carpenter's mark on joint 4 showing the 4 straight lines and a circle, viewed looking east.



Plate 8: 1841 Tithe Map, plot 28 is no. 62 King Street

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

