



Heritage Statement to support LBC & AC application for the existing signage at The Garrison public house, corner of George Yard and 1 Hanson Street, Barnsley, S70 2HZ

May 2025





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Figure 1: The Garrison public house view from Hanson Street. The George Yard elevation of the Grade II listed former warehouse shows the “The Garrison” sign fixed to the façade.





1 Introduction

- 1.1 This heritage statement has been produced to support a retrospective LBC application to Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council (BMBC), for the approval of installation of signage to The Garrison public house, a grade II listed building. It was commissioned by the applicant the Garrison through its agent Hirst Architects Limited.
- 1.2 The property, a former warehouse dates from the late 18th to early 19th century, and over the years has been used for many different purposes including the manufacture of footwear, a chocolate shop, the stabling of horses, a linen warehouse and the printing of local newspapers.
- 1.3 The building is currently a licensed sports and live music venue.

2 Location and Setting

- 2.1 The Garrison is prominently located at the corner of George Yard and Hanson Street, a mostly domestic scaled pedestrianised area of two and three storey stone buildings in Barnsley town centre. It is located behind Barnsley Civic theatre, originally built in 1877 by Henry Harvey as the Barnsley Mechanics Institute and Public Hall.

3 Heritage Designation

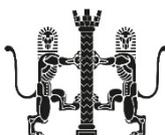
- 3.1 The former warehouse, now pub, is a grade II listed building, which was first listed in January 1986. The official entry reads:

Late C18 - early C19, though 1st bay is of a different build. Altered 1873. Tooled stone. C20 asbestos roof. 3 storeys, 7 bays. The main entrance (bay 5), the entrance in bay 2 and ground-floor windows to bays 4 and 6 are of the 1873 date and are of more finely-dressed stone. The main entrance is round-arched with pointed hoodmould and has a beehive motif with foliage support. The hoodmould stops have initials "C" and "R". The jambs are panelled with foliated capitals. The ground-floor windows to bays 4 and 6 have similar jambs, deep moulded cornices, and the latter has 2 lights with shouldered heads and is dated 1873. Large C20 entrance to left. Bay 3 has loading-door to 1st floor. Assorted casements and sashes with glazing bars and plain surrounds to 1st and 2nd floors. The right corner is rounded. Later addition at rear with flat roof.

<https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1191618>

4 Existing Records

- 4.1 The first recorded map of the property is Surveyed: 1850, Published: 1852. (Railway revision to c. 1855). The interesting aspect is that it shows a smaller footprint than today. The following map Surveyed: 1888, Published: 1889 shows that the property was extended, relating to alterations made in 1873.



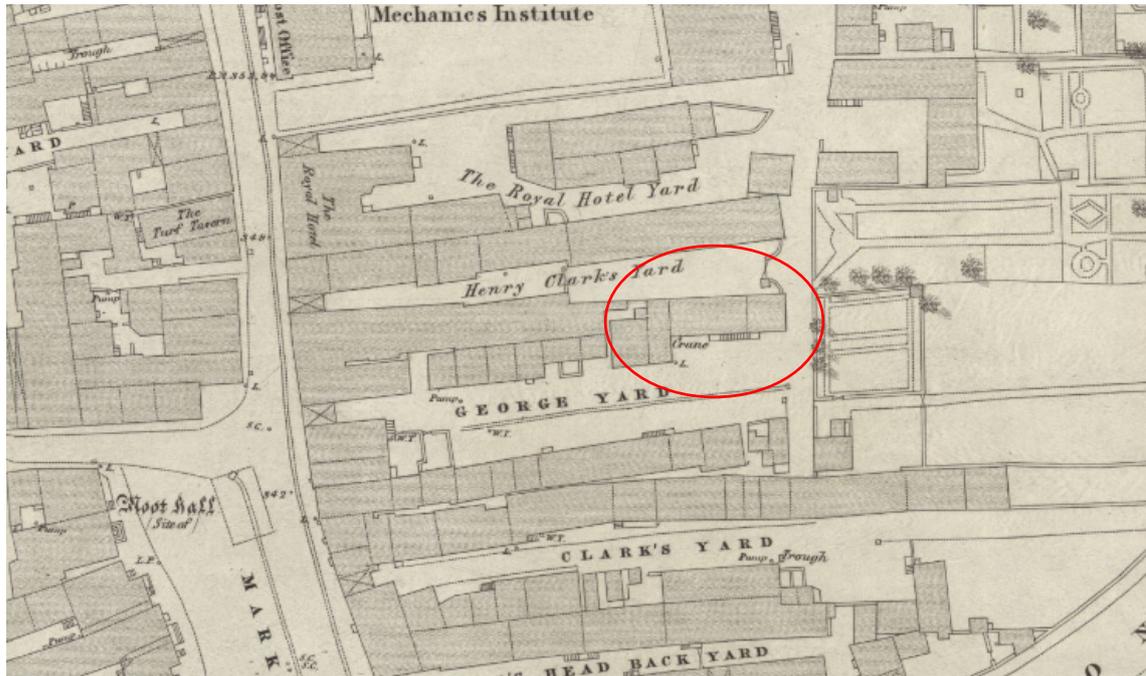


Figure 2 : Map 1852, showing original footprint

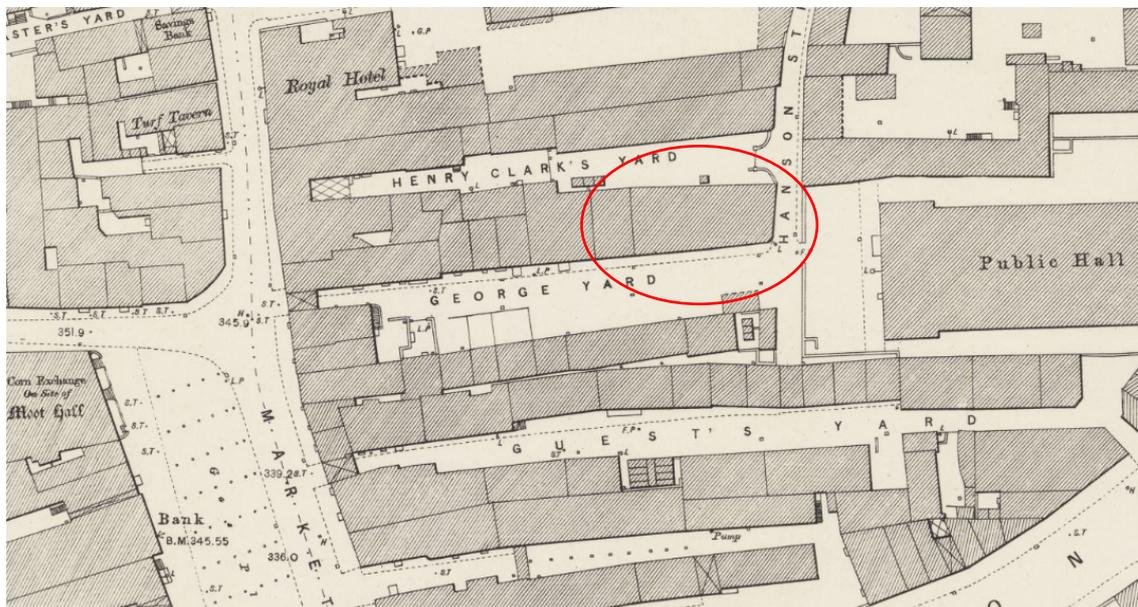


Figure 3 : Map 1889, showing building footprint extended to the current street building line. These alterations are detailed in the listing statement





Figure 4 : The current demise has further extended with a modern extension to the north of the site

5 The Building

- 5.1 The building is constructed of tooled sandstone with a three-storey, seven-bay frontage, retaining characteristic Georgian-Victorian warehouse features such as robust stonework, segmental-arched loading bays, and an ornate round-arched main entrance (bay 5) added in 1873.
- 5.2 A modern extension to the north side of the listed building closing off Henry Clark's Yard was completed in circa 1999.

6 Statement of Heritage Significance

- 6.1 There is some heritage significance in the social history relating to external features of the building. In the book *The Vanishing Relics of Barnsley* (1996), author Gerald J Alliot draws attention to the building's decorative features:

...an old linen warehouse with a beehive carved in the stone above the doorway, together with the initials C.R. and the date 1873. Who was C.R. and why a beehive?

Joseph Rollinson owner of shoe and boot makers in George Yard decided that it was time to have a trade name so he called his shop 'The Beehive', a name that was to become a household name throughout Barnsley and Yorkshire.

Charles Rollinson (son of Joseph) bought the old linen warehouse. He altered the front of the premises the following year and the doorway with the Beehive Motif, Charles' initials and the date were added at this time.

The shop had, in 1838, an earlier claim to fame when it was occupied by William Ask, a watch and clockmaker who...set up, over the shop, the first illuminated clock ever seen in Barnsley.



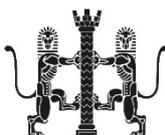


Figure 5: Beehive motif over the front door

- 6.2 George Yard takes its name from the George and Dragon Inn, now shops... Sited in the yard were several cottages and business premises. Collectively the buildings create a distinct streetscape. The building's architectural and historic significance lies in its well-preserved industrial character and its role in Barnsley's commercial history as a versatile warehouse. These qualities give the building its special interest as identified in the listing description and justify its protected status.

7 Impact of Proposals

- 7.1 The existing signage under consideration, is a vertical sign reading "The Garrison", installed on the principal front elevation of the building. This sign takes the form of a slim, rectangular panel mounted flush to the stone façade, oriented vertically. It has a white background with the pub's name painted in black lettering running down the panel. The sign is positioned between the first- and second-floor windows on the front wall, to the left side of the main arched doorway.
- 7.2 The signage is non-illuminated and has no moving or digital components – it is a simple, traditional painted board sign. The method of fixing appears to be with a few small masonry anchors or screws, likely into mortar joints, securing the sign to the wall. Overall, the white vertical sign is visually restrained and clearly serves to identify the building as a public house named "The Garrison" without overly advertising or cluttering the frontage. The fixing holes, if the sign were removed in future, would be small and easily repairable, rendering the installation fully reversible without permanent alteration to the listed structure.





- 7.3 We believe that the sign's visual impact to be neutral to slight. It is proportionate in size and maintains visual harmony with the facade. The white background and black lettering are in keeping with traditional pub signage. It does not obscure any architectural features and is consistent with the town centre Conservation Area's character. Our opinion is that the presence of the sign does not detract from the special architectural or historic character of the former warehouse.
- 7.4 Retention of the “The Garrison” sign is sought on the grounds that it causes no harm to the heritage significance of the listed building. The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) requires that alterations preserve or enhance significance. Here, the impact is negligible, and the sign supports the ongoing viable use of the building as a public house, which aids in its long-term conservation.
- 7.5 At the local level, Barnsley Local Plan Policies HE1, HE2, and HE3 support sensitive alterations to listed buildings. The sign complies with these policies and with the Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) on Advertisements, being modest, sympathetic, and reversible.



Figure 6: Existing Signage for Retention



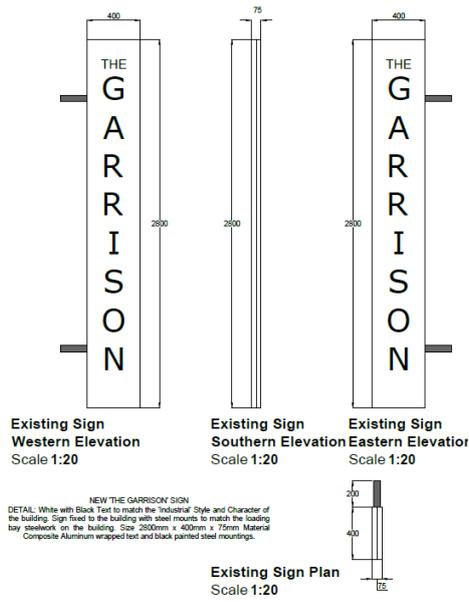


Figure 7: Signage Drawing

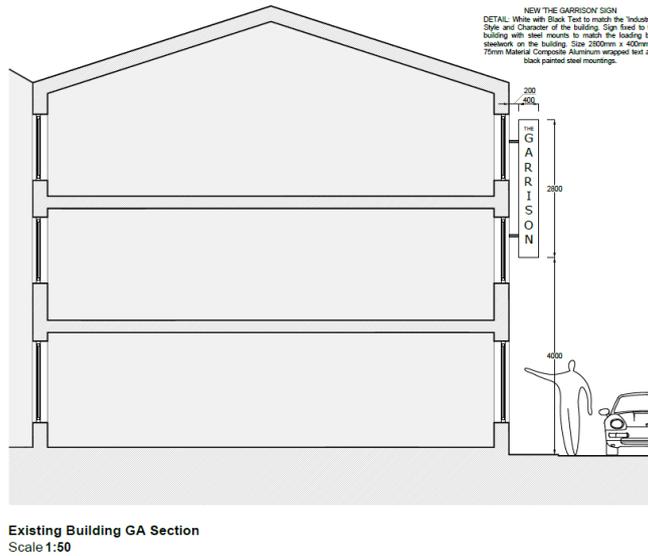


Figure 8: Signage Drawing in Context of the Building Section





Existing Front Elevation / Street Scene
 Scale 1:50

Figure 9: Front Elevation with Sign

Yours sincerely,

Luke John Hirst BA(Hons)Architecture MArch ADPPA ARB RIBA
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Sources:

- Historic England List Entry No. 1191618 – Warehouse Building at East End (The Garrison, George Yard, Barnsley)
- Barnsley Council, Supplementary Planning Document: Advertisements (2019)
- Barnsley Local Plan (2019) – Policies HE1, HE2, HE3
- National Planning Policy Framework (2021/2024) – Section 16: Conserving and enhancing the historic environment
- CAMRA Barnsley Pub Guide – Historical notes on The Garrison (George Yard)
- The Vanishing Relics of Barnsley – Gerald J Alliot

