

file

COUNTY OF LINCOLN - PARTS OF LINDSEY

R. L. STIRLING
M.T.P.I., A.R.I.C.S., A.M.I.C.E.
COUNTY PLANNING OFFICER



PLANNING DEPARTMENT
COUNTY OFFICES
L I N C O L N
Tel: LINCOLN 24515

Your Ref.

Our Ref. RLS/B/24/2/1

22nd August, 1961.

The Secretary,
Society for the Protection of Ancient
Buildings (Windmills Section),
55, Great Ormond Street,
LONDON, W.C.1.

Dear Madam,

Trader Mill, Sibsey, Lincs.

/

I enclose for your information a copy of a letter which I have today addressed, on behalf of the owners of this mill, to the Ministry of Works. Perhaps you would please let me know as soon as possible whether your Society would be able to make any contribution towards the cost of partial or total restoration of this historic mill, and let me know the names and addresses of any other societies which you think might be able to offer some tangible help to the owners.

Mr. Rex Wailes, who I believe advises your Society on the preservation and restoration of windmills, has spoken to me on several occasions about the state of the Trader Mill at Sibsey and he knows all there is to know about its history and present condition.

I am sure you appreciate that the making of a Preservation Order by the County Council will, if confirmed, do little more than

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[Lincolnshire Crest]

PLANNING

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COUNTY OF LINCOLN - PARTS OF LINDSEY

PLANNING DEPARTMENT
COUNTY OFFICES
L I N C O L N
Tel: LINCOLN 24312



R. L. STIRLING
MAYOR, LINCOLN
COUNTY PLANNING OFFICER

Your Ref.

Our Ref. H15/2/21

22nd August, 1961.

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I shall be most grateful for any advice or help you can give me in this matter to pass on to the owners.

Yours faithfully,

County Planning Officer.

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R.L. Stirling

County Planning Officer.

Copy to The Secretary, Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings,
55, Great Ormond Street, London, W.C.1.

RLS/B/24/2/1

22nd August, 1961.

The Ministry of Works,
Historic Buildings and Ancient
Monuments Department,
Lambeth Bridge House,
LONDON, S.E.1.

Dear Sirs,

Town and Country Planning Act, 1947. Section 30.
Trader Mill, Sibsey. Spilsby Rural District, Lincs.

This mill has been formally listed by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government under the above Section. Upon receipt of a formal notification from the owners, Messrs. Robert H. Crawford and Son Ltd., Frithville, Boston, of their intention to remove the cap and sails, the County Council has made and will shortly be submitting to the Minister of Housing and Local Government, a Building Preservation Order.

This step was taken after discussion and correspondence with the owner and the Ministry whose Mr. D.R. Boon dealt with the matter under reference 2384/11/C.

The Ministry advised that on the question of obtaining some grant towards the restoration of the mill rather than its partial or total demolition, the owner should be asked to approach your Ministry as well as the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings. I

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Copy to The Secretary, Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings,
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RLS/B/24/2/1

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/ have exchanged with the owners of the mill and from these you will
see that they have asked me to make this approach to you on their
behalf. I am also enclosing an estimate which I obtained from
Messrs. Thompson and Son, the Millwrights of Alford, for itemised
expenditure which they think would be necessary in effecting a
completely satisfactory restoration.

You no doubt already have, or could readily obtain, further
information on the historic and architectural merit of the Trader
Mill. I understand it was originally six sailed and one of the
last and largest to be erected in this county. It has now only
four sails and has not been operated for some years. Apart from
Trader Mill, there are now only three windmills with sails and cap
on in Lindsey at Waltham, Alford and Burgh-le-Marsh and these three
are still operating. The County Council, with your Minister's
approval, is making grants towards the cost of tarring and painting
whenever this becomes necessary.

Whether they would be prepared to make any capital contribution
towards the partial or complete restoration of the Trader Mill, would
depend in the first place on their being satisfied that the remainder
of any funds required would be forthcoming from your Ministry or other
interested voluntary bodies, and secondly on their commitments in many
other directions. In general, the Council is sympathetic towards the
maintenance of the few surviving windmills in Lindsey.

I shall be pleased if you will consider this problem of Trader
Mill, Sibsey, in conjunction with the appropriate officers of the
Ministry of Housing and Local Government and if you will advise me in
due course whether, and to what extent, your Minister would feel able
to give grant assistance for partial or total restoration under the

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I have sent a copy of this letter and the enclosures to the Secretary of the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings at 55, Great Ormond Street, London, and asked whether that Society or any other might be approached for grant assistance with reasonable hope of success. I have also sent copies to the Secretary of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) R. L. STIRLING

County Planning Officer.

The Ministry of Works,
Historic Buildings and Ancient
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Lambeth Bridge House,
LONDON, S.E.1.

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COPY

R. THOMPSON & SON
Millwrights & General Engineers
Alford Lincolnshire.

12th May, 1961.

Mr. Stirling,
County Planning Officer,
County Offices,
Lincoln.

Dear Sir,

We have pleasure in reporting upon our Inspection of the above Mill which we carried out on Wednesday May 3rd. 1961.

The following repairs are necessary to put the Mill in a good state of preservation.

A complete new cap with oak or ash spars which we would suggest should be covered with 20 gauge aluminium sheets.

A complete new fantail with eight skeleton fans, fan shaft and cross, fan shackles and two oak planks on the tail end of the shears to carry the fantail.

As the sails could not be turned we could not get on them to examine them but one sail is hanging with only the sail bolt, the shackles having broken as also is the eyes of the cross arm.

This sail should be taken down also the opposite one to it and re-fixed on to two different arms of the cross. All the shades should be taken out of the sails.

Paint the sails and fantail two coats of best genuine white lead and linseed oil paint and the balcony one coat of black.

The tower brickwork requires pointing outside, the brickwork inside under the curb would have to be re-built if the mill was to work but if one bad place is repaired we think it would last for a considerable time with the top not turning.

The following is a rough estimate of costs which should be revised if any work is to be done.

New top in aluminium	£951-0-0
Two sails taking off and re-fixing and all shades taking out	£156-0-0
New fantail and planks	£725-0-0
Painting and tarring	£181-0-0
Sails not examined but if any required re-newing the cost is approx. £200-0-0 each.	
Estimate for brickwork should be obtained from a bricklayer.	

Yours faithfully,
R. Thompson & Son.

(Sgd.) J.E. THOMPSON.

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COUNTY OF LINCOLN - PARTS OF LINDSEY

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County Planning Officer.

PLANNING DEPARTMENT
COUNTY OFFICES
LINCOLN

Our Ref. RLS/B/24/2/1

29th May, 1961.

Messrs. R.H. Crawford and Son Ltd.,
Agricultural Engineers,
FRITHVILLE,
Boston,
Lincs.

Dear Sirs,

Trader Mill, Sibsey.

Further to my letter of 5th May, I am enclosing for your information the estimate which Mr. Thompson let me have after our meeting on 3rd May. This is a rather alarming sum, but further investigation might show that what needs to be done merely to make the mill wind and weather-tight and preserve its present character, could be accomplished at less cost.

Meantime I have also had a letter from the Ministry of Housing and Local Government which indicates their concern that the mill should be preserved and I enclose a copy of that letter.

After considering the matter at their meeting on 18th May, the County Planning Committee decided that the only immediate course of action they could take would be to make a "Building Preservation Order". This will require submission to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government for confirmation. Notice of the submission will be served upon you before long and you will have the usual rights of making any representations to the Minister. The effect of the Order, as you probably know, is merely that you will require formal permission from the County Council to carry out any works of demolition or substantial ~~improvement~~ ^{alteration} of the mill.

I hope this will give us all further time to pursue the question of raising funds for some restoration work to be done. In this connection you will note in the third paragraph of the Ministry's letter a suggestion that you should write to the Ministry of Works at the address given as well as to the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings. Will you please let me know if you are prepared to do this, or if you would rather I did it on your behalf with possibly a fuller explanation of the circumstances. I should not really be able to raise with the County Council the question of their making a contribution until it is known what funds are likely to be available from both or either of the bodies mentioned above. Perhaps you will also think over and let me know in due course whether, as owners of this historic mill, you would yourselves feel able to contribute something to its maintenance and restoration.

I shall be glad to give you any further help or advice and meet you again to discuss this matter further.

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County Planning Officer.

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The County Planning Officer,
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Dear Sir,

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We have read Messrs. Thompsons quotation and agree that it is for rather an alarming sum. Have you considered inserting an advertisement in the Contract Journal asking for quotations? We think there must be others who do or would undertake this kind of work with the possibility of their having more up-to-date equipment than Thompsons for doing the job and so could do it for a smaller figure.

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RLS/B/24/2/1
MD/LMA-W.

2nd September, 1961.

R.L. Stirling, Esq., M.T.P.I., A.R.I.C.S., A.M.I.C.E.,
County Planning Officer,
County of Lincoln - Parts of Lindsey,
Planning Department,
County Offices,
Lincoln.

Dear Mr. Stirling,

Trader Mill, Sibsey, Lincs.

Thank you for your letter of the 22nd August, and for the details you have sent me regarding the Trader Mill at Sibsey. As you no doubt know, the Windmill Section of the Society has been much concerned for the future of this mill for a long time. We also very much appreciate that the making of a Preservation Order will do little more than postpone the issue.

This is a case which I know would commend itself to the Committee, but when I say this, I must point out that our funds are extremely limited and particularly at the present time, when we are still faced with the responsibility of raising £3,000 for Cranbrook Mill in Kent and £1,000 for Horsey Mill in Norfolk, both are mills which have been repaired.

However, it may be that my Committee would be able to suggest other sources of financial aid and I will place the matter before them. It may well be that they will consider that this is a case which warrants a public Appeal.

The Society will undoubtedly be prepared to support your application to the Historic Buildings Council. I shall look forward to writing to you again, although there may be some delay owing to the fact that the Committee is on vacation.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs. M. Dance,
Secretary.

RLS/B/24/2/1

MD/LMA-W.

2nd September, 1961.

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Yours sincerely,

[signature]

Mrs. M. Dance,
Secretary.

RL



MINISTRY OF
HOUSING AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Whitehall, LONDON S.W.1

Telegrams: *Locoplan, Parl, London*

Telephone: **ABBey 7041**, ext. 274

Our reference: 2384/11/G2

Your reference:

26 October, 1961.

Dear Mrs. Dance,

Town and Country Planning Acts, 1947 to 1959
The County of Lincoln, Parts of Lindsey
(Sibsey) Building Preservation Order, 1961

It has been decided to confirm the above-mentioned order in respect of the Trader Mill, Sibsey. No objections to the order were received.

The order has been modified so that it controls only those alterations or extensions which would seriously affect the character of the building.

Yours sincerely,

S Amate

pp. Mrs P. L. G. G. G.

Mrs. M. Dance, M.B.E.,
The Society for the Protection of
Ancient Buildings,
55 Great Ormond Street,
W.C.1.

[Seal in top left corner]

MINISTRY OF
HOUSING AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT
Whitehall, London S.W.1
Telegrams: Locaplan, Parl, London [italicised]
Telephone: [italicised] ABBey 7041 ,ext. 274

Our reference: [italicised] 2384/11/C2

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pp. Mrs P.I. [Gosling]

[M]rs. M. Dance, M.B.E.,
The Society for the Protection of
Ancient Buildings,
55 Great Ormond Street,
W.C.1.

MD/BDV

9th January, 1962.

Arnold Taylor, Esq.,
Chief Inspector,
Ministry of Works,
Ancient Monuments Department,
Lambeth Bridge House,
S.E.1.

Re: Trader Mill at Sibsey.

Dear Mr. Taylor,

You may perhaps know that just before he died, Mr. O'Neill was making efforts to secure that the Trader Mill at Sibsey was taken under the guardianship of your Ministry.

Recently the mill has been in some danger, but fortunately it is now under a Building Preservation Order. This, as you will well know, does not ensure the lasting preservation of the mill, and as it is one of the most important in the country, the Committee of the Windmill Section is anxious to investigate what might be done. In the view of the Section the only satisfactory solution is, as originally proposed, for the mill to be held by your Ministry.

Could we therefore ask if this case can be re-examined. We should all be most grateful if this were possible, and look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,


Mrs. M. Dance
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MD/BDV

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Yours sincerely,
[signed MD]
Mrs. M. Dance
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MINISTRY OF WORKS
INSPECTORATE OF ANCIENT MONUMENTS AND
HISTORIC BUILDINGS

Lambeth Bridge House, LONDON S.E.1
Telex 22221 Telegrams: Travaux, London
Telephone: RELiance 7611, ext. 1105.

Our reference:

Your reference:

15th January, 1962.

Dear Mrs. Dance,

Thank you for your letter of 9 January about Trader Mill, Sibsey.

We are in touch with the County Planning Officer and have explained the terms on which the Ministry might be able to assist the preservation of the mill by way of grant. I think there is little doubt that a grant would be forthcoming if contributions were also offered from other sources, and in this connection I wonder what the prospects are of financial assistance from the S.P.A.B.?

I know that the possibility of our taking the mill over was considered shortly after the war, but there was a change of ownership and nothing came of it. As things are to-day, the conditions for accepting new monuments in guardianship are necessarily very much more stringent, and we therefore hope that ways and means may yet be found of preserving the mill in private ownership, and preferably as a working concern.

Yours sincerely,

A. Taylor

Mrs. M. Dance,
Society for the Protection
of Ancient Buildings,
55 Great Ormond Street,

W.C.1.

[Seal in top left corner]

MINISTRY OF WORKS
INSPECTORATE OF ANCIENT MONUMENTS AND
HISTORIC BUILDINGS
Lambeth Bridge House, London S.E.1
Telex 22221 Telegrams: Travaux, London [italicised]
Telephone: [italicised] RELiance 7611, ext. 1105.

Our reference: [italicised]
Your reference: [italicised]

15th January, 1962.

Dear Mrs. Dance,

Thank you for your letter of 9 January about Trader
Mill, Sibsey.

We are in touch with the County Planning Officer
and have explained the terms on which the Ministry might
be able to assist the preservation of the mill by way of
grant. I think there is little doubt that a grant would
be forthcoming if contributions were also offered from
other sources, and in this connection I wonder what the
prospects are of financial assistance from the S.P.A.B.?

I know that the possibility of our taking the mill
over was considered shortly after the war, but there was
a change of ownership and nothing came of it. As things
are to-day, the conditions for accepting new monuments
in guardianship are necessarily very much more stringent,
and we therefore hope that ways and means may yet be
found of preserving the mill in private ownership, and
preferably as a working concern.

Yours sincerely,
[signed A Taylor]

Mrs. M. Dance,
Society for the Protection
of Ancient Buildings,
55 Great Ormond Street,
W.C.1.

Man of Works

We have no funds but we think best method of approach would be if the owner & the Lundy CC would each be prepared to give one third & the HBC to give a third. There is no chance of working the Mill again as she was allowed to stand on the death of the owner she has lost her trade & there is no one to work it.

The present owner has an agricultural machine business & Rex W is quite sure he would maintain the mill & he feels he could persuade him to meet one third of the cost if the other two thirds are guaranteed.

Brook Mill try & get it drawn or photographed by NBR

Saunders
ask her if she could let us have a sight of the record & if could we borrow negatives to make R. Wakes
Royal Institution of Cornwall

Westleton Mill
Sunddale & when he can go
Send copy of letter to Mr. Lightfoot

Min of Works

2 [underlined]

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The present owner has an agricultural [wacker] business & Rex W is quite sure he would maintain the mill & he feels he could persuade him to meet one third of the cost if the other two thirds are guaranteed

Birch Mill try & get it drawn or photographed by NBR

[Saundery]

Ask her if she could let us have a sight of the record & could we borrow negatives to make R. Wailes Royal Institution of Cornwall

Westleton Mill

Smithdale & when he can go
Send copy of letter to her. Lightfoot

COPY. Mrs. Dance for information

FW/B/LMB

Dictated 22nd November, 1963

Typed 25th November, 1963

Dear Mr. Stirling,

Sibsey Mill

Further to my letter of October 26th we were grateful for your permission to quote your memorandum on Windmills to Lindsey County Planning Committee in our Annual Report (of which a copy is enclosed) and for the help Mr. Bruce gave to Miss Brown on this.

Our Chairman, Mr. Baker brought up the question of the Trader Mill at Sibsey at the Annual Meeting of the Society, as we had the benefit of Mr. Rex Wailes' help there and it was agreed that the Society should make every effort to support a scheme to raise funds. Our difficulty is to find somebody who will undertake the responsibility for the Appeal, as from this office point of view it is just one more straw. Further, the Editor of the Lincolnshire Standard has promised full publicity and you may already have seen an article and photograph in last week's issue.

It is hoped, therefore, that you will include help for the Mill in your estimates in the hope that Ministry and voluntary funds may also be forthcoming.

Yours sincerely,

R.L. Stirling, Esq.,
County Planning Officer
County Offices, Lincoln

(signed) FLORA MURRAY

Hon. Secretary

encl.

COPY. Mrs. Dance for information

FM/B/LSS

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R.L.Stirling, Esq.,
County Planning Officer
County Offices, Lincoln

Yours sincerely,
(signed) FLORA MURRAY
Hon. Secretary

encl.

Extract from a letter from:

Barry Davis,
56, Altmore Avenue,
East Ham, E.6.

dated. 14. 4. 64.

Trader Mill, Sibsey, Lincs.

"Basically derelict, now and deteriorating rapidly. Has lost its fan and has only four sails."

Extract from a letter from:

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"Basically derelict now and deteriorating rapidly. Has lost its fan and has only four sails."

MD/JAP

9th September 1974

D.J. Codling, Esq.,
5 Albert Road,
STAMFORD
Lincs.
PE9 2EA

Dear Mr Codling,

You wrote to me earlier this year, and I realize I have not made a reply to your very kind suggestion, regarding Sibsey Mill. I should mention that when the list of mills open to the public was prepared, Sibsey Mill was taken into consideration, but we were asked not to include it for the time being. Next year it should appear when all the work is complete. This goes also to the question of the time of opening. Nothing can be done until all the work is completed.

However, I have taken note of your enquiry, and will be writing to you again.

Yours sincerely,

p.p. Mrs. M. Dance
Secretary

MD/JAP

9th September 1974

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PE9 2EA

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Yours sincerely,

p.p. Mrs. M. Dance

Secretary

5 Albert Rd.,
STAMFORD.
Lincs.
PE9 2EA
22.5.74.

27 MAY 1974

Dear Mrs Dance,

I was very pleased to receive my copy of the list of open days for mills which seems to be longer than the last. I am sure that this is very gratifying to the officials of the section who have done so much to create interest.

I was however, disappointed to find no mention of Trader Windmill, Sibsey (Near Boston), Lincs. Some time ago restoration work was started on this mill and when I passed near it a few months ago, the external appearance suggested that with the exception of work on the fan-tail the outside work was complete. I understood that the work was being carried by the Department of the Environment as a tribute to the mill-wrights, of which Sibsey Trader was a very good example of their work. A few weeks ago I wrote to the Department about several ancient monuments about which I am interested and also asked if the opening date of the Trader Mill had been decided. (I assumed that it would be opened regularly to the public, cf Saxted Green Post-Mill). In their reply however, the Department said that the mill is in private ownership and not in the care of the Department. If it is true that the restoration was carried out by the D. of E., or with their help, would not the owners be under some obligation to open the mill on occasion?

Perhaps the Section would care to take this matter up ?, with a view to persuading the owners to make some arrangements for showing the mill to the public.

Yours sincerely,

D.J. Bodling.

Mrs M. Dance,
Hon. Secretary,
Wind and Watermill Section,
The Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings.,
55 Great Ormond St.,
LONDON WC1N 3JA.

5 Albert Rd.,

STAMFORD.

Lincs.

PE9 2EA

22.5.74

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55 Great Ormond St.,
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