

**TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1991**  
**THE REGISTERED BUILDINGS (GENERAL) REGULATIONS 1991**

To: **Messrs Heron & Brearley Ltd, Kewaigue, Douglas.**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that at a meeting held on the 11<sup>th</sup> April 2003, the PLANNING COMMITTEE of the Department of Local Government and the Environment, in pursuance of its powers under the above Acts and Regulations REGISTERED

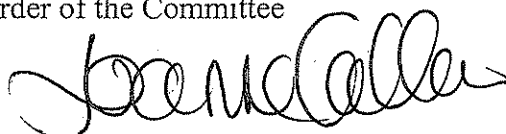
**The Bridge Inn, Bowring Road, Ramsey.**

as represented by the buildings shown outlined in red on the plan hereto attached, in the PROTECTED BUILDINGS REGISTER by reason of its special architectural and historic interest.

THE EFFECT OF THIS REGISTRATION IS IMMEDIATE and prohibits the alteration or demolition of the structure or appearance of any part of the building except in compliance with an obligation imposed by or under any statutory provision or with the prior written consent of the Planning Committee.

Dated this 9<sup>th</sup> day of May 2003

By Order of the Committee



J Callow

Secretary, Planning Committee.

1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Murray House,  
Mount Havelock,  
Douglas,  
IM1 2SF.

**NOTE :**

Rights to request de-registration of the building are provided under the Registered Building Regulations and in summary are that:

Applications in writing for the de-registration of the building may be made by the owners or occupier of, any other person having an interest in the building, within a period of 28 days of service of this notice. Such application should be sent to the Secretary, Planning Committee, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Murray House, Mount Havelock, Douglas, IM1 2SF.

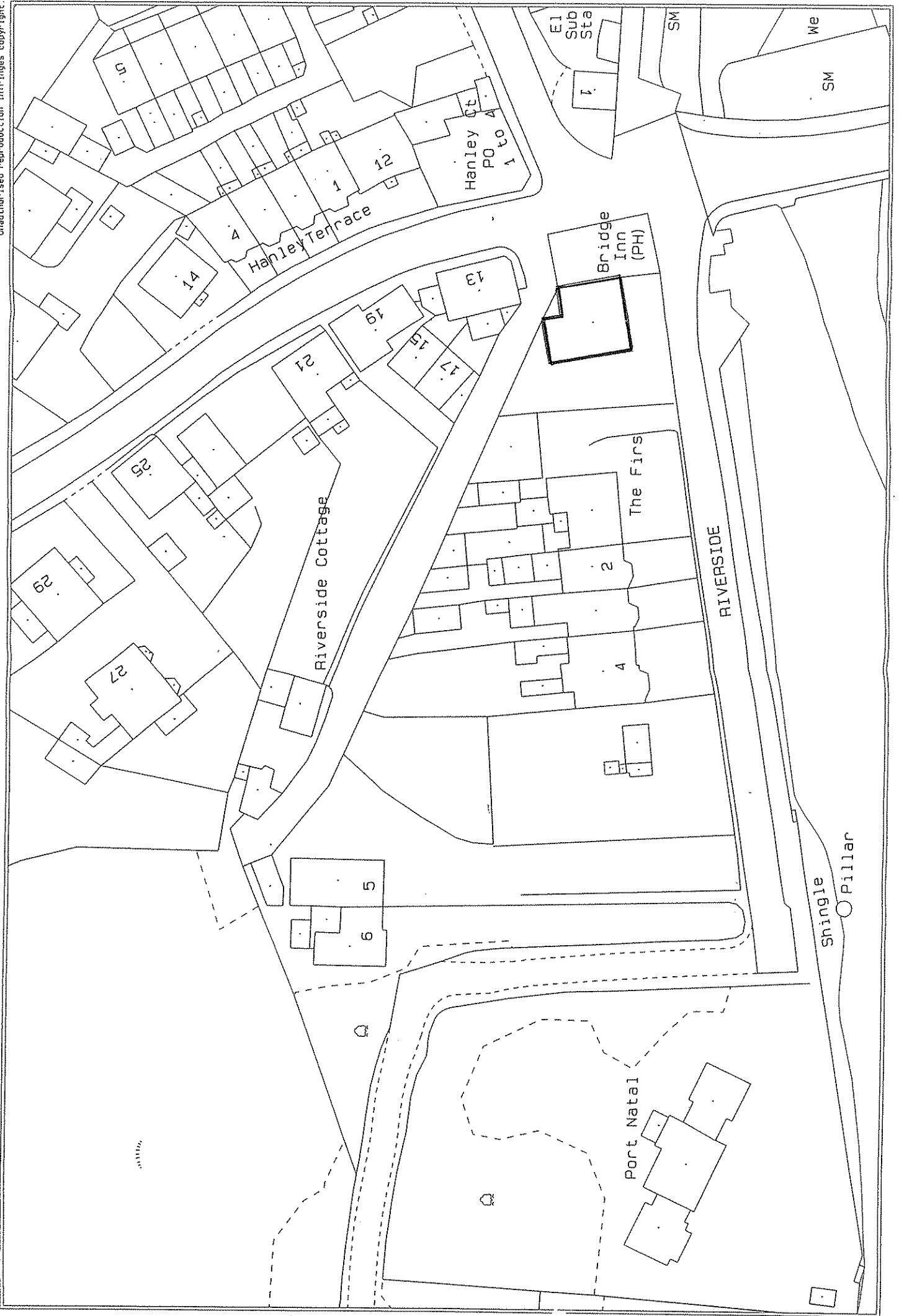
In the event that de-registration is not requested by any party within the 28 day period described above, then de-registration may not be requested within a period of 3 years.

req.

c.c.:-

- Mr T.P. Whiteway, Town Clerk, Ramsey Town Hall and Library, Ramsey.
- Director of Manx Museum and National Trust, Kingswood Grove, Douglas, Isle of Man;
- Advisory Council for Planning and the Environment, 52, Alberta Drive, Onchan, Isle of Man.
- Mr. C. S. T. Nixon, Partington, Nixon & Kinrade, Agents for the owners 7-9 Drinkwater Street, Douglas, IM1 1AT

Scale 1:500



## THE BRIDGE INN

### Survey Report

Originally a robust solid Victorian building of 2 storeys plus cellars and attic, it has had its Ground Floor altered to create an open plan space. The First Floor has also undergone substantial re-arrangement and now houses the Manager's Flat.



The Bridge Inn – river front



Right-hand, Bowring Road, side elevation

It is situated on a pronounced 'hump' in the ground, essentially part of an artificial embankment enclosing the river.<sup>1</sup>

Thus the cellar is only half buried with enclosing retaining-wall surrounds to the full-length sash windows. The ground slopes away at the west (l.h.) side and the back down to the level of Bridge Lane.

It is a three bay building with the main front to the river although the main entrance is on the r.h. side facing Bowring Road.

Basically a "U" shaped plan, with two unequal but adjoining legs, at some time, quite long ago, I feel, it has had the corner between the two unequal projections filled-in but only at ground floor level, with a triangular structure with a lean-to roof. This now forms part of the open-plan, ground floor public bar.



Rear view

<sup>1</sup> Clifford Teare, whose family have lived and worked in this vicinity for very many years, says that tradition has it that the pub was built first and then the ground heaped-up around it. It could well be true as part of building of the then new bridge.

It has 12 light sliding sash windows on all ground floor and main upper floor elevations. Only the first floor windows on the projecting longer leg of the "U" have their glazing bars omitted. The attics have paired, tall and very narrow windows on each gable piercing the chimney breasts. These are also sliding sashes, divided into 4 to match the rhythm of the lower main windows. All the divided windows have, stone like, projecting cills.

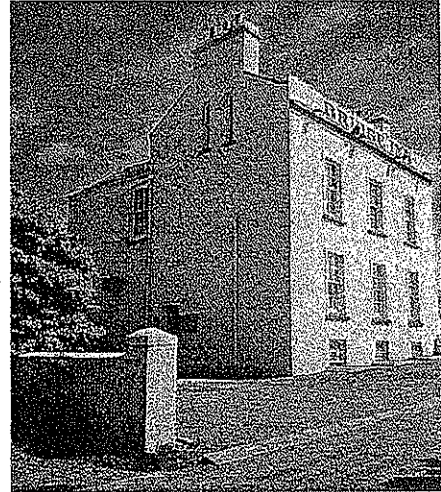
There is a simple, plain cornice across the top of the front elevation which seems to have deminished somewhat from that indicated on earlier photographs with a plain parapet above which now carries the Hotel's name, as it did in some early photos though others show it as a banner below the 1<sup>st</sup>. floor windows.

The roofs are of Welsh slate with blue clay ridges and small cement verge-cappings.

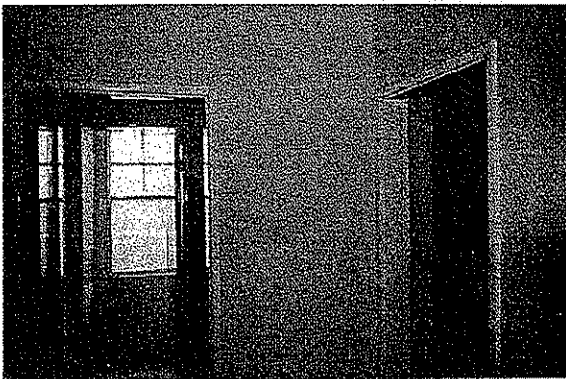
The whole building appears gray in the earliest photographs, looking almost like exposed stonework with wide cement reveals. Now and for some time past it has been cement rendered and painted, currently cream, with narrow, white painted cement bands around the windows and with chimney cappings, verges, cornice and cill picked out in red/brown.

The roadside elevation sports a wooden name board and two other board signs, all in matching red/brown.

The front 'public' entrance consists of a pair of narrow, half glazed doors with matching side-lights and 3 light fanlight above. There is another door on the l.h. elevation giving access via a half-landing at a mezzanine level twixt cellar and ground floor. There is also a barrel-drop on the same elevation directly into the beer cellar.



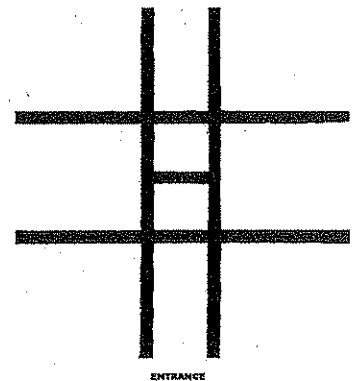
Left side and river front view



In the cellars

the central intersection facing both to the Public Bar on the right and the Saloon Bar on the left.

The basic internal plan of the building is a double "H" thus: though on the ground floor most of these walls have been taken out and replaced by beams. The service area of the Bar sits in the



Outside the adjoining plot to the west, once seemingly occupied by buildings and garden, has been totally cleared and is now all given over to car-parking. There remains only a very small fenced-off enclosure at the north-west apex of the property forming a small yard for the storage of empty crates and beer kegs.

**Assessment.**

The Bridge Inn makes a very important contribution to the *bridge-head* both because of its design and its robust setting on a slight (artificial) rise and forms a nucleus which would be sadly missed were it to be demolished. In a nutshell, it's importance is one of GROUP VALUE and may possibly be worthy of Registration on this factor alone.



A more modern photograph of the Bridge Inn

A careful look at the 1869 Ordnance Survey map tells us quite a lot. At that date the building was an "L" shape, so we can deduce that the r.h. rear projection was earlier than the longer, l.h. one and may perhaps be part of the original. It also appears on Photos 5 & 7

The later r.h. extension appears in Photos 3 & 6

The buildings and walled-in gardens/yards shown on the map alongside the left flank of the Inn must have been low structures and though they can be faintly discerned in Photo 4 and some trees in Photo 6, they have now completely gone.

Note also on the map the walled-in area on the river front with a gate leading to the side of the low building.

It is also interesting to note the gated entrance to what was to become "Port Natal" and that only the first dwelling, with its prominent side entrance portico, had then been built.

Constance Radcliffe tells us that an Inn was operating in the old Ballachrink farmhouse on the site of the house now known as "Eskdale" immediately above the present North Ramsey Post Office; the house occupier by Marjery Freer in 1711. The Licensee of this Inn between the late 1830's and the early 1840's was Margaret Christian nee Quayle, who was the heiress of the "Eskdale" property, and whose husband, William Christian Rheynn Traie, had inherited lands along the present Windsor Mount and in the Shipyard area. On her retirement in the 1850's, the new Bridge Inn was built opposite<sup>9</sup> by Daniel Callow, a Ramsey mason & builder who installed his daughter Eleanor Christian as the first Landlady. She seems to have been succeeded by Margaret Sutherland nee Joughin.

Other early occupiers, taken from the Census Returns, include:

1851 Census:	Margaret Christian Innkeeper <sup>10</sup>	
	William	son - farms 20 acres
	Isabelle	daughter 24 yrs
	Thomas	son - joiner 21 yrs
1871 Census	William Christian Innkeeper	
	Margaret	14yr old daughter & housekeeper for the family (!)
		3 sons & 1 other daughter
		Elizabeth Stowell general servant
1881 Census	William Kermeen Licensed victualler	
	Jane	wife
		2 sons 2 daughters
1891 Census	Thomas A Kermeen	hostler
	Ester E.	wife
	Gertrude M.	baby
	John Rothwell	gardener
	Jane Kermeen	Licensed Victualler (Also in Brown's Dir 1894)
	Mary	daughter dressmaker
	John James	son painter's apprentice
	Mary A. Williamson	domestic servant
	Bertha Surrage(sic)	granddaughter 6 yrs.
	Florence A.	granddaughter 1yr
	John Watson	lodger - woodcarver

The next edition of brown's Directory lists William Henry Surridge as Licensed victualler.

<sup>8</sup> MANX INNS A pub crawl through history - Suzanne Cubbon - Amulree Publications, Laxey 1998

<sup>9</sup> RAMSEY SHINING BY THE SEA - Constance Radcliffe - Desktop Publishing Services 1989 pp238-40

<sup>10</sup> This information seems to conflict with that of other sources.

The next edition of brown's Directory lists William Henry Surridge as Licensed victualler.

In 1972 Falcon Brewery Ltd submitted plans encompassing most of the present internal layout alterations (PA 34159)

Present owners Heron & Brierley Ltd







BRIDGE INN

BRIDGE INN  
BREWERY

mao *Score* RECOMMENDED ESTABLISHMENT

# BRIDGE INN

LOUNGE  
BAR  
OKELLS  
PRIZE WINNING  
ALES

POOL  
DARTS  
SATELLITE  
TV.



**BRIDGE INN**

