Former National Ordnance Factory

Local Heritage Asset Register

Berridge HA613



Status:	Recommendation to add
Age:	
Conservation Area:	No
Date added to the list:	
Condition:	

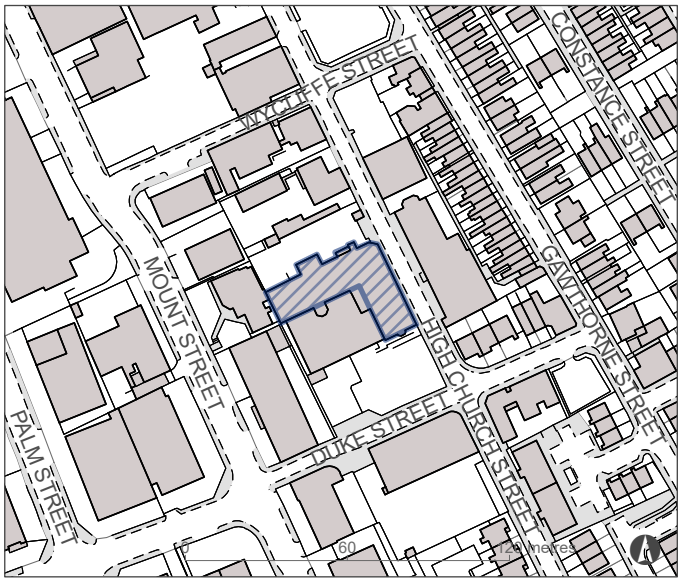
Assessment against Local Criteria

1. Age: Victorian Lace Factory repurposed as a ordnance factory at the end of the First World War 2. Quite heavily altered so would not be locally listable on the basis of the value of the Victorian Lace Factory; however, the historical association with events on an international stage through the use as an Ordnance Factory elevates the building to Local List value

Reason for Designation

Much altered Lace Factory but recommended for inclusion in the list because of its historical association with events on an international stage in the First World War

Local List Proposal



Description

New Basford National Ordnance Factory was established after a lace factory was taken over under the Defence of the Realm Act in December 1917. It was set up to produce a new type of gun for the battlegrounds of the First World War; the 37mm (1.5 pounder) required by the Air Force. This was initially developed by the Coventry Ordnance Works but manufacture on a large scale required additional premises. A lace factory was taken over at New Basford, which occupied a floor space of 40,000 feet. It was strongly built but old, poorly lit and badly ventilated. Considerable alterations were required. The work of dismantling the equipment in the old factory began at the end of 1917, new plant was installed in February 1918, and manufacture began in May. The first two guns were not completed until mid October so the factory had hardly got under way by the time the Armistice was signed in November.

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Additional Description:

The chief difficulty had been a lack of skilled labour and a prolonged development period as a result. Nonetheless manufacture continued until 31st March 1919. At the end of 1918 the factory employed 400 people of whom 160 were women. The capital expenditure by the government was £199,000.(1-2). The lace factory is shown on the 1882 OS Map (1:2500) at SK55984213 and must have been built before that date. The footprint of the buildings to each side of High Church Street on the modern OS map (1:2500, 2012) closely match those on the 1882 map indicating that the original factory buildings are still extant.(2) The building does still survive, but with a later substantial extension. A date stone above the doorway on High Church Street marks the year 1872. Sources (1) The Official History of the Ministry of Munitions: Volume VIII Control of Industrial Capacity and Equipment (2) The National Monument Inventory – NMR_NATINV-1572889

Heritage category:	
Asset type:	
Original use:	
Current use:	
Currently occupied:	
Architect, style / material:	
Condition:	

Part of a group of heritage assets:

Associated with historical events or people:

Is it associated with any buried remains or archaeology? If so please describe:

How is it of importance to the local community? :

Selection Panel Date:	Date added to the list:
03/06/2019	

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