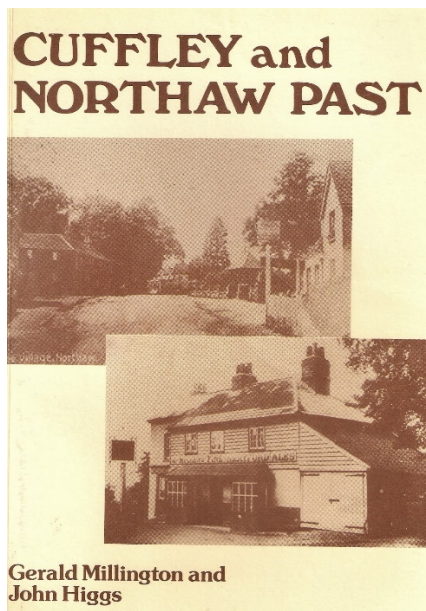


6/2019/0415/LAWP Land at Hook Wood Hook Lane Northaw EN6 4DA
Certificate of lawfulness for the continuation of development of three dwellings with associated garages

Dear William

This year is the 125th anniversary of Northaw and Cuffley Parish Council. Consequently research is being undertaken into the history of the Parish. We hold a rich archive of historic photographs including two of Hook Cottages which was formerly Northaw's workhouse. Our dated photographs do not correlate with the information in the planning application, that the cottages were demolished in early 1975. Whilst the photographs made available by John Higgs, a highly respected local historian, may not be legally conclusive evidence, they may add weight to other information which is submitted to you.

This book in the Parish Council collection (pub 1985, also available in Cuffley Library) shows the Hook cottages in 1975.



Hook Cottages, formerly Northaw Workhouse, 1975: By 1783 the Parish Vestry had opened a Poor House in this building. In 1789 John Ripplin, former licensee of the Two Brewers, was Master of the workhouse which during its existence averaged 12 inmates. It was "Well situated in a place called the Hook, to which a sufficient quantity of ground for a garden and a run for a cow had been allotted". In 1834 Northaw workhouse was grouped with Hatfield and all its inmates were moved there. The building was converted into four cottages and eventually sold in 1862 to Mr. Acworth at The Hook. The proceeds were used to pay for the building of the first water tank on the village green.

The developer has stated that 1975 is the year in which the cottages were demolished and witness statements (statutory declarations) have been provided to that effect.

However a further photograph from the Higgs historic photographs' collection (custodians Cllr Dace and Mr Brian Warren) show the derelict cottages in 1986. The photograph is one of a collection of over 400 all of which were titled and mounted for various displays for the Millennium and have been in storage in Cuffley since. It is notable that in the 1986 photograph the trees branches are mostly bare of leaves so this is later in the season than the 1975 photograph. The branches also extend further upwards and across the frontage of the derelict building. Consequently the photograph has to be somewhat later than that of the 1975 picture.



NORTHAW WORKHOUSE in a state of dereliction 1986



This undated photo of Hook Cottages is included in the applicant's Planning Statement. This does not show the cottages immediately preceding the time of their demolition. At the time of this photograph the walls of the cottages are ivy covered and have not been renovated with external render as shown in the 1975 photograph.

I hope that this information will be of some assistance to your investigations

Kind regards

20 The Meadway

Cuffley

Herts EN6 4ES