

## APPENDIX 8: LOCAL HERITAGE ASSETS

### A. Location map



### B. Unlisted buildings in the Leicestershire County Council (LCC) Historic Environment Record

#### World War II pillbox, Mill Hill

LCC Historic Environment Record MLE 15990

This is a type 22 pillbox built as part of World War Two defences against German invasion. A hexagonal concrete construction, it had a wood shuttered roof supported by an octagonal concrete pillar. It sits on a concrete base.

**Age:** built 1940/1941

**Rarity:** now fewer than 20 to be seen in Leicestershire

**Architectural/aesthetic value:** good example of World War II Type 22 pillbox

**Archaeological significance:** n/a

**Historical associations:** role played in the strategic defence of the nation during the Second World War

**Village landmark:** well-known landmark visible from public footpaths

**Community value:** important source for educating and informing about local connections with Second World War defences.



**War Memorial Institute, 19 Main Street**  
LCC Historic Environment Record MLE 18631

A red brick building in the conservation area in Main Street, built on land donated by the Duke of Rutland. It followed an appeal in 1918 for funds for the erection of a fitting memorial to the twelve men from Stathern, who lost their lives in the First World War 1914-1918. The appeal raised £300 in a fortnight. Thomas Clamp, who lived at The White House, Stathern, was the architect and clerk of works. Mr G. Jackson was the builder.

On the front wall is a tablet inscribed in gilt letters with their names, including Major John Crosby Warren who was killed in action in March 1918. Major Warren's father, also John, laid the foundation stone for the WMI in 1919 in memory of his son. The Duke opened the building on 20<sup>th</sup> May 1920 and the final cost was nearly £630. He said he was glad to see what a substantial class of building the villagers had, and hoped in the future it would be a source of great interest and pleasure to those who lived in Stathern. The original red inverted triangle on the top photograph represents the YMCA who were hugely involved in supporting war efforts. It was later replaced with the WMI name plaque.

A stone memorial from inside the former chapel in Chapel Lane has been placed in the front garden, creating a small memorial garden. The roll of honour board inside the hall was dedicated in 1923. It is one of the few in the country that records all the men and women who served, along with their regiments - whether they lived or died. After World War II, the names of those who served from Stathern were added in a second plaque on the front wall and to the roll of honour.

The Parish Council now owns the property and is a Custodian Trustee, and the hall is run as a registered charity by a volunteer committee of Managing Trustees.

The WMI was intended to be used every evening as a reading and recreation-room and the 'home of a village library, lectures, concerts, whist drives and dances'. Pictured are preparations for a Royal British Legion Christmas lunch.





Inset is the 1953/54 league-winning Stathern Olympic Football Club team with the Roll of Honour board behind them.

The WMI has undergone renovation and extension in recent years. The WMI has been the centre of social life for over 100 years and is a worthy memorial to those from Stathern who fought for their country.



**Age:** 1919; shown on the 1931 Ordnance Survey map

**Rarity:** unique to Stathern

**Architectural/aesthetic value:** yes

**Archaeological significance:** n/a

**Historical associations:** one of many war memorials erected across the country post WWI

**Village landmark:** yes, prominent position

**Community value:**  
popular amenity, historical and heritage



**NWR & GNR railway goods shed, Harby and Stathern Station**  
LCC Historic Environment Record MLE 22807

Harby and Stathern station was on the Great Northern and London and North Western Railway. It opened in 1879 and closed to passengers in 1953.

It was the joint railway locomotive exchange station for goods traffic with GNR locomotives running to the north and LNWR ones to the south. It was situated between the two villages and also served Belvoir Castle. The station yard is now used by local businesses. The goods shed remains together with the linesman's shed.



**Age:** late 19<sup>th</sup> century

**Rarity:** station and railway closed many years ago, but rare for buildings to be still in use

**Architectural/aesthetic value:** large brick-built goods shed with double height wooden doors, typical of Victorian railway architecture.

**Archaeological Significance:** n/a

**Historical Associations:** provides a link to late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century railway and transport network and history

The railway and station were important to the local community for the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century

**Village Landmark:** n/a

**Community value:** n/a



**Sumner's farm (excluding the listed farmhouse), 2 Main Street  
LCC Historic Environment Record MLE 24087**

Early 19<sup>th</sup> century traditional farm buildings to the rear of Sumner's farmhouse, a listed building. Constructed of golden-brown stone and red brick - a fine example of farm buildings formerly at the heart of village agricultural life.

**Age:** early 19<sup>th</sup> century

**Rarity:** the only example of substantial 19<sup>th</sup> century farm barns in the centre of the village

**Architectural/aesthetic value:** large imposing example of 19<sup>th</sup> century farm buildings

**Archaeological significance:** n/a

**Historical associations:** association with former agricultural life at the centre of the village

**Village Landmark:** impressive barn buildings visible from the footpath on Harby Lane

**Community Value:** n/a; private



**C. Historic buildings and structures identified locally**

**LHA 1. Wall-mounted post box, opposite the junction of Main Street / Chapel Lane**

An unusual post box from the reign of Edward VII. It is set into the wall of an out-building belonging to the house 'Kathlyn' on Main Street.

**Age:** 1901-1910

**Rarity:** one of three post boxes in the village. Relatively rare nationally as it dates from the short reign of Edward VII. Also, a rare round-topped design.

**Architectural/aesthetic value:** n/a

**Archaeological significance:** n/a

**Historical associations:** village and national history coinciding

**Village landmark:** yes

**Community value:** well-used amenity



**LHA 2. Laburnum House, 11 Church Lane**

The original part of the property, which now forms the kitchen and a bedroom of the current building, was built in 1740 as a lace-making workshop (upstairs) with an adjacent office/accommodation room at ground level (now the breakfast room). It produced Nottingham lace using a foot- and hand-operated machine called a Leavers machine.





When lace production became modernised with the introduction of steam-driven Leavers machines, the premises were extended in 1840 by the construction of the large, attached red brickhouse; two lace-makers cottages (demolished 1991); and a large three-storey workshop (now Vale Engineering Works). The large out-of-character window to the right of the front door would originally have been a 'shop window' for the lace displays contained within that room.

An article in [nottsheritagegateway.org.uk](http://nottsheritagegateway.org.uk) states that lace-making was widely carried out in the areas around Nottingham in people's homes using a foot-and-hand-operated machine called a Leavers machine. There was only one such house in Stathern and this is believed to be Laburnum House.

**Age:** built 1740, extended 1840

**Rarity:** only original lace-maker's house in Stathern

**Architectural/aesthetic value:** an imposing red brick building located on a prominent corner of Church Lane close to the church

**Archaeological significance:** includes site of previous lace makers' cottages which were demolished in 1991 and very close to St Guthlac's Church

**Historical associations:** lace-making was an integral part of the local heritage

**Village landmark:** prominent position opposite the church.

**Community value:** now a residential house, but previously a source of local employment




**LHA 3. The Old Reading Room, 15 Church Lane**


The Old Reading Room was only used as a reading room for a short period of time. It was built sometime between 1793 and 1884 because it was not shown on a map entitled Plan of Stathern and dated 1793, but is on the Ordnance Survey map of 1884. According to oral history, in an interview that took place in 1980 with William Hanson Braithwaite (b 1887 and died in 1980), it was owned at one time by his grandfather's brothers, George and John Braithwaite. They introduced the first threshing machine in the area, powered by six horses in a gin. The arched room was a drill shed. These were the first drills for drilling corn in the district.

The cottages were cow sheds. At a later date, these cottages were also used for lace-making as part of the lace-making factory enterprise.




<b>Age:</b> built sometime between 1793 – 1884	
<b>Rarity:</b> it housed the first drills for drilling corn in the district	
<b>Architectural/aesthetic value:</b> end cottage with attractive arched window	
<b>Archaeological significance:</b> n/a	
<b>Historical associations:</b> involved in the lacemaking enterprise The first drills for drilling corn in the district were stored here The first threshing machine in the area, powered by six horses in a gin, operated from here. Used for a short period of time as a reading room	
<b>Village landmark:</b> n/a	
<b>Community value:</b> n/a	

#### LHA 4. K6 red telephone box, Main Street

Interesting example of a K6 box (designed by Giles Gilbert Scott, 1935) because it was installed here in 1986 in response to a local campaign for a traditional design to replace the previous facility, rather than the modern KX100. Now owned by the Parish Council and turned into a library.	
<b>Age:</b> 1936 – 1968 (design); here since 1986	
<b>Rarity:</b> only phone box in the village	
<b>Architectural/aesthetic value:</b> British cultural icon	
<b>Archaeological significance:</b> n/a	
<b>Historical associations:</b> n/a	
<b>Village landmark:</b> yes	
<b>Community value:</b> village amenity	

#### LHA 5. Former butcher's shop, 27 Main Street

A late 18 <sup>th</sup> century corner cottage row, red brick (partly rendered). In use commercially for c.150 years, as Post Office, butcher/abattoir (Miller Bros.), bakery and shop. Change of use in 2020 to residential.	 
<b>Age:</b> partly late 18 <sup>th</sup> century (on 1793 map); as a shop since 1870s	
<b>Rarity:</b> n/a	
<b>Architectural/aesthetic value:</b> n/a	
<b>Archaeological significance:</b> n/a	
<b>Historical associations:</b> history of Stathern's rural economy and society	
<b>Village landmark:</b> corner position at the prominent junction of Blacksmith End and Main Street	
<b>Community value:</b> n/a	



### LHA 6. The Gote, Church Lane

The area opposite the north church entrance and next to the Engineering Works is known locally as the Gote. It was probably a settling pond for the small brook flowing off the escarpment and through the village. The word “gote” is based on the Old English word meaning “to pour” and has various dictionary definitions to include a channel for water, a flow of water or a sluice. The word “gote” probably describes the whole watercourse. There is a record of maintenance in 1666 and the brook was culverted under the road in 1923.

**Age:** presumed early medieval origin and function

**Rarity:** unique locally

**Architectural/aesthetic value:** n/a

**Archaeological significance:** n/a

**Historical associations:** recorded in churchwarden’s accounts Volume 2, 1666. A visible record of hundreds of years of local use for watering, washing livestock and washing clothes

**Village landmark:** yes

**Community value:** historical and heritage



### LHA 7. Stathern Primary School, Water Lane

Popular and valued primary school attended by children from a wider area than Stathern. It was previously the Stathern Board School and had 35 children initially. It is now a local authority run school and, since an extension was built in the late 1990s, there is now capacity for 119 children and there are circa 100 on the roll. It sits in the centre of the Conservation Area close to the church, Old Rectory and playpark.

**Age:** 1845, with extensions mid-19<sup>th</sup> century and 1990s

**Rarity:** thirteen village schools survive in the Vale of Belvoir; others have been converted to residences or demolished

**Architectural/aesthetic value:** brick, stone & slate construction in numerous phases, with wings and porches set and various angles; the main style is Victorian Gothic / Arts & Crafts

**Archaeological significance:** n/a

**Historical associations:** 150 years+ of village history, with comprehensive records of children and village life from 1868. Records the history of formal education in the area, from National School and Board School to tripartite system (1950s) and LEA control

**Village landmark:** yes

**Community value:** for generations of local children and the community



### LHA 8. The Plough Inn, Main Street

Originally built as two workers' cottages that were eventually knocked through as one private dwelling, but then changed to a public house. It is thought by the current owners that it was a coaching lodge at this time.

**Age:** origin circa 1600-1700

**Rarity:** only public house now operating in Stathern

**Architectural/aesthetic value:**

**Archaeological significance:** n/a

**Historical associations:** n/a

**Village landmark:** yes

**Community value:** as the only public house left in the village, it is an important social space for the local community. Its function room is also used by many groups for village meetings, including Stathern Parish Council, Stathern Horticultural Society and Stathern Women's Institute.



### LHA 9. The Beeches, 35 Main Street

Large double-gabled stone house built in 1884 for the Braithwaite family, and which was part of the dairy. Stathern, like many Vale of Belvoir villages, had a dairy making Stilton cheese. It opened in the 1890s and closed in 1940. Henry Morris started the dairy and came to live in Stathern in 1900. The dairy was next to the house.



Adjacent, and at the bottom of Red Lion Street, was a piggery and the pigs were fed the whey from the cheesemaking. During the Second World War, soldiers were billeted in the house. After the war, the dairy buildings became a meat processing plant and the owners lived in The Beeches. The dairy buildings have now been demolished, but the house remains as a private dwelling.

**Age:** 1884

**Rarity:** unique style, no other like it in Stathern

**Architectural/aesthetic value:** large imposing house in garden with copper beech providing focal point in centre of village

**Archaeological significance:** n/a

**Historical associations:** connections with local cheese-making industry

**Village landmark:** yes – large house in centre of village

**Community value:** n/a





## LHA 10. The Red Lion Inn, Red Lion Street

Traditional Inn on a courtyard site with significant historical connections. Current building believed to be largely a 19<sup>th</sup> century rebuild on earlier footprint. All rendered, with an applied plaque (pub name) since at least early 20<sup>th</sup> century.

**Age:** 17<sup>th</sup>/18<sup>th</sup> century origins with 19<sup>th</sup> century rebuild and later additions.

**Rarity:** n/a

**Architectural/aesthetic value:** notable structure and excellent example of its type

**Archaeological significance:** n/a

### Historical associations:

Used as a focal point, public house and meeting place in Stathern for more than 300 years.

It has an important association with the Enclosure of Stathern; it was at the Red Lion Inn that the meeting took place in August 1790 to determine the Enclosure Plan (which still exists), and to appoint three commissioners by statute. The three commissioners appointed were the Duke of Rutland, Peterhouse College and the proprietors.

The inn has long been associated in village folklore with Colonel Francis Hacker (of Stathern Hall). During the Civil War (1642-1651), Colonel Hacker was a prominent Leicestershire Parliamentarian who, upon the arrest of Charles I, was given the task of guarding the King during the trial. He supervised the execution proceedings on 30<sup>th</sup> January 1649. His exact role in the death and execution warrants is unclear as his copy of the death warrant is lost, but when the Commonwealth drew to a close and Charles II was crowned, Colonel Hacker was thrown into The White Tower and accused of regicide. The death warrant retrieved from Stathern Hall was sufficient evidence to send the Colonel to the gallows on 19<sup>th</sup> October 1660.

Local folklore also suggests that Colonel Hacker's remains were returned to Stathern. However, there is no substantial evidence for this, and it seems unlikely even though there is a reference in Peirson's History of Stathern that "our present clerk tells me that he heard a former clerk say that he had been told that Colonel Hacker's remains were buried just outside the chancel door". After Hacker's death, Stathern Hall was demolished.

**Village landmark:** in a prominent position on entry to the village from Toft's Hill. Its location is central to four main areas of the village being situated close to the school, the church, the cemetery and is next door to the village playpark.



**Community value:** currently listed as an asset of community value (ACV). Many local fundraising events have used the facility in the past, such as the annual Village Summer Ball, annual Party in the Park and Stathern Duathlon. Due to its close proximity to Stathern Cemetery (on Toft's Hill) and the church, it is an ideal place to meet before and after a service. The parents of children who attended the school used the Red Lion Inn car park to drop off or collect children for over fourteen years until it closed in recent years. It was also a venue of choice for local groups, such as the Jazz Group and the Ramblers.



**LHA 11. Vale Engineering Works, Church Lane**

This imposing red brick building was originally commissioned in the 1840s. The present building dates from the 1880s and was built for the brothers John and George Braithwaite as a purpose-built lace-making factory. It also housed a miniature power station which supplied electricity to the whole village back in 1926. It was the innovative idea of the then owner, Mr Green, who brought the first electricity to the village with his brother-in-law, Mr A Whitfield.



**Age:** circa 1880

**Rarity:** an original purpose-built lace-making factory, the only one in Stathern

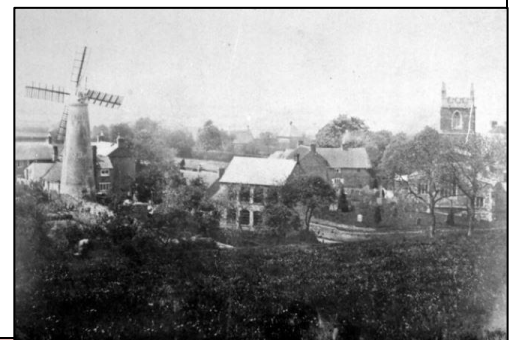
**Architectural/aesthetic value:** a substantial 'factory' over three storeys; local brick, arched windows, slate roof

**Archaeological significance:** n/a

**Historical associations:** important evidence for the rural component of lace-making (usually associated with Nottingham). Operational 1840 - 1914

**Village landmark:** remaining relatively unchanged, it serves as a monument to the local heritage of lace-making and also to the introduction of electricity into the village

**Community value:** now operating as a small engineering works, providing local employment



**LHA 12.1 -12.3 St Guthlac's churchyard gates**

Three wrought iron pedestrian gates into the churchyard at the south, west and north entrances. The north gate, near the Manor House, also has an adjacent 'kissing gate'. The south gate has an overthrow and lantern holder.

**Age:** late 19<sup>th</sup> /early 20<sup>th</sup> century

**Rarity:** survived the WW2 requisition of metal, unlike most Victorian iron fences and gates etc. in the village and throughout the country

**Architectural/aesthetic value:** attractive and characterful.

**Archaeological significance:** n/a

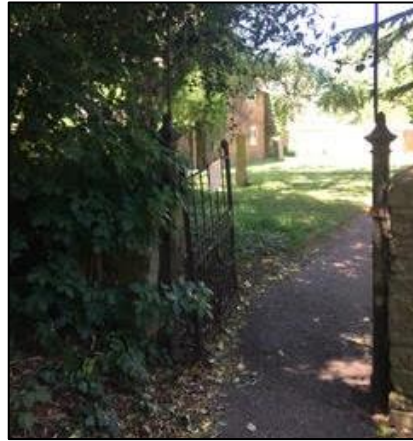




**Historical associations:** there have been gates at the church since at least 1639 when the churchwarden's accounts Volume One record 'payed for a lock for the yard gate'. The present examples were installed to keep livestock out of the churchyard

**Village landmark:** yes

**Community value:** n/a



### LHA 13. Preserved dovecote wall of the old Chapel, 9 Chapel Lane

The preserved north wall of the former chapel is the remains of a stone dovecote (probably linked to a nearby medieval chantry where Chantry House stands (Grade II listed ref 1074995)).

It is believed that Methodist preachers came to Stathern in the late 18<sup>th</sup> century when John Wesley visited Bingham and they started using the former dovecote as a makeshift chapel. A chapel was built in 1825 when Mr Guy of Plungar gave the land. The chapel was extended in 1832 and 1956.

It was in regular use for services and Sunday School and later Friday Club until the early years of the 21<sup>st</sup> century and was converted into a private dwelling in 2011.

**Age:** preserved wall of former dovecote believed to date back to 17<sup>th</sup> century and chapel built in 1825

**Rarity:** medieval dovecote wall and site of former chapel

**Architectural/aesthetic value:** chapel was an integral part of the village at the end of Chapel Lane with paved walkway leading to it

**Archaeological significance:** n/a

**Historical associations:** preserved dovecote wall associated with medieval chantry house; former Methodist chapel - an important part of the village heritage

**Village landmark:** n/a

**Community Value:** now a private dwelling, previously used as a place of worship and as a meeting room for a children's club and Mothers and Toddlers group

