

Heritage Statement

Site History

Holt Croft was the original name for the field where this J D Wetherspoon pub now stands. Sandwiched between a house called Sedge Lynn (demolished to make way for a cinema) and Red Gate Farm (now home to the local library) the site of this pub was developed c1907.

Now a grade II listed building, it was originally a billiards hall built by the Temperance Hall Billiard Company. Several such halls were built in and around Manchester and south London to remove billiards from its normal setting of the public house and further the aims of the Temperance Movement.

The Chorlton hall was designed by Norman Evans, company architect from 1906 to 1910.

It is believed to be the most complete of his designs to survive in the Manchester area.

About the time the billiard hall was built, moving pictures were shown in the area for the first time. One early picture house was based in a corrugated iron mission church on Clarendon Road. Another – known as The Longford Picturedrome – offered a wide range of pursuits, including roller skating.

Chorlton later had three purpose built cinemas. One of them – known variously as the Majestic, Savoy, Gaumont and ABC – stood next door to this pub, and later became a funeral directors.

Temperance Billiard Hall - 1957



Our proposal to install 1no new freestanding illuminated menu case to the boundary fence in the beer garden at this site will not adversely affect either the building itself or the wider locality.

This garden area is already a busy and well-used area of the pub, and the menu case will be visible to passing pedestrians. The height of the sign will be 1864mm overall, so not overly dominant on the street scene. It will be wholly located within the site boundary, so will not cause a nuisance or danger to the public passing by, it will also be positioned tight inside the boundary fence, meaning it will not cause a danger to customers using the beer garden either.