

OldAerialPhotos Provide Crucial Evidence for Homeowner

A homeowner has used historic aerial photography to provide crucial evidence to support a planning application and overturn the local council's plan to place a tree preservation order on trees within his garden. Bluesky supplied the historic aerial photography, complete with certificates of authentication, from their OldAerialPhotos archive providing factual and unbiased evidence to support the homeowner's claim that the trees in his garden were in fact self seeded and did not historically form part of neighbouring woodland.

"We acquired the property several years ago when it was uninhabitable and virtually derelict," commented homeowner Stuart Whelan, "and then since when we have spent a considerable amount of time and money bringing it back to its former glory – a fact that has been appreciated by our neighbours as it has a prominent position within the village."

Mr Whelan continued, "When we submitted the planning application for a garage within our garden to Rushcliffe Borough Council we assumed it was just a formality. However when this was refused, on the grounds that the site was considered woodland, we were very concerned. If we allowed the classification to stand it would seriously impede on our ability to use the land as garden and continue with our regeneration of the site."

The Bluesky images formed part of a seventy three page document presented by Mr Whelan to the Council outlining his objections to the 'woodland' Tree Preservation Order. The images from 1978, 1991, 1999 and 2007 clearly show both the property and garden falling into a state of disrepair with adjacent woodland gradually 'taking over' the garden.

"The Council simply couldn't argue with the photographic evidence placed before them," concluded Mr Whelan. "The images were therefore instrumental in achieving an agreement with the Council and the order was changed from a blanket ban to a group order naming specific trees. This provides protection for the trees we love yet allows us to use our garden as a garden."

The imagery supplied by Bluesky forms part of historically important archive that includes some of the earliest commercial aerial survey images, military photography from World War II and many national archives. Offering a record of most major UK cities and towns, transport and utility infrastructure and commercial property developments, the images are an invaluable resource for anyone with a personal or professional interest in local studies, genealogy, boundary disputes, environmental land use research or town planning.

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Notes to editors

About OldAerialPhotos

OldAerialPhotos is a division of Bluesky International Ltd. Holding the largest collection of historically significant commercial aerial photos in the UK, OldAerialPhotos' remit is to preserve, enhance and make these archives available. OldAerialPhotos understands the national importance of such images as a unique record of the development of the UK and has a mission to continue to make them accessible for future generations.

Visitors to www.oldaerialphotos.com can search by simply entering a postcode, address or grid reference. Detailed search results, including the age and ground coverage, of every image that matches the search criteria are displayed and the visitor can choose to purchase a hard copy print, digital image file or photopack which includes historical and current day photos as well as certificates of authentication.

www.oldaerialphotos.com

About Bluesky

Bluesky is a UK-based specialist in aerial imaging and remote sensing data collection and processing. An internationally recognised leader with projects extending around the globe, Bluesky is proud to work with prestigious organisations such as Google, the BBC and Government Agencies. Bluesky has unrivalled expertise in the creation of seamless, digital aerial photography, 3D landscape/cityscape visualisations and prints and also runs a national mapping centre, providing digital mapping, satellite imagery and aerial photography including ultra-high resolution imagery of cities and towns.

www.bluesky-world.com