



# THE WILD BOAR HERITAGE TRAIL

**wetherspoon**

**THE WILD BOAR**

**FREDERICK PLACE**

**SUNDERLAND STREET**

**HOUGHTON-LE-SPRING**

**DH4 4BN**

**0191 512 8050**



**HOUGHTON HERITAGE SOCIETY**

[WWW.HOUGHTONLESPRING.ORG.UK](http://WWW.HOUGHTONLESPRING.ORG.UK)

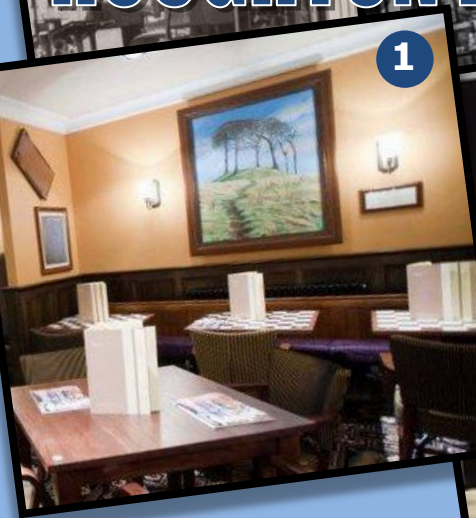
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# HOUGHTON IN OLD PHOTOGRAPHS



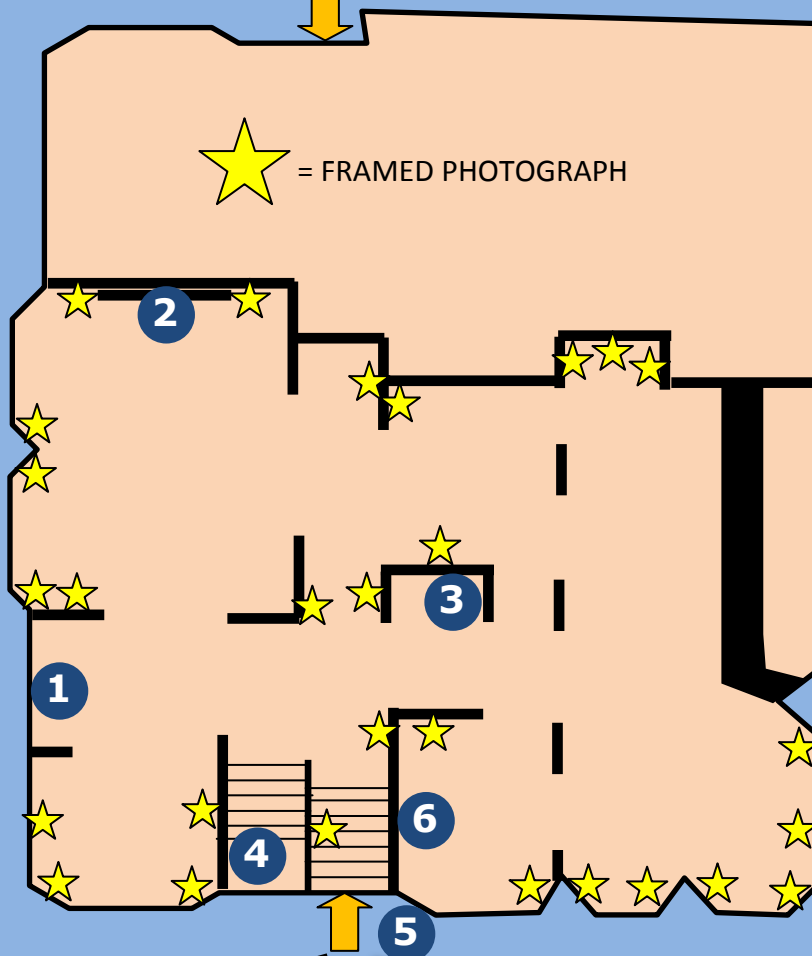
Copt Hill painting



Houghton Feast painting



Metal boar



Houghton Colliery painting



Houghton Feast montage





# THE LEGEND OF THE WILD BOAR

The Houghton-le-Spring crest, featuring the wild boar and oak tree, was adopted from the coat of arms of the Gilpin family in honour of Bernard Gilpin, the Apostle of the North and Father of the Poor, Houghton's most well-known Rector.

At around the time of the signing of the Magna Carter in 1215 AD, Bernard Gilpin's ancestors resided in Kentmere Hall, Westmorland, a long way away from Bernard's arrival in Houghton in 1558.

Richard De Gilpin, who was also known as Richard the Rider, achieved prominence for slaying the 'Wild Boar of Westmoreland' a ferocious porcine which was terrorising local villages and ravaging the land with its tusks.

The Baron of Kendal rewarded Gilpin's bravery and gave him land in and around Kentmere. King John granted Gilpin a coat of arms, which featured the sable (black furred) boar and a crescent moon, on a gold background.





# FROM BUFFALO TO BOAR

Following a massive renovation of the old Buffaloes Club building by J.D Wetherspoon, the Wild Boar honours Houghton's venerable past with framed photographs of Old Houghton, a Houghton Feast photograph montage, as well as specially commissioned paintings of Houghton Colliery and Houghton Feast by artist Nikki Jones.

The building actually dates from the 1960s when it was constructed on the corner of Frederick Place and 13 Sunderland Street, following mass demolition in the area for the A690 dual-carriageway.

The original property was a butchers shop and store, however this was replaced with a purpose built clubhouse for the Royal Antediluvian Order of Buffaloes, known locally as the Buffs (the original Buffs Club had been located opposite but met its fate at the hands of the developers of the A690 dual-carriageway). Houghton Buffs ceased trading on Tuesday September 14<sup>th</sup> 2010 and the Wild Boar opened on Tuesday April 19<sup>th</sup> 2011.

