Design & Access and Heritage Statement

Application address:
Yew Tree Cottage, Shurnhold, Melksham, Wilts., SN12 8DG

Prepared on behalf of P. Cairns

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Site Description

Yew Tree Cottage is a Grade II listed family Home in Shurnhold, Melksham. It has three floors and three double en-suite bedrooms. The cottage is part of Shurnhold House which was divided into four separate cottages over 20 years ago.

The proposal is for the installation of a wood burning stove, flexible flue and 30cm chimney pot. Drawings have been provided with the application showing the existing and proposed fireplace and chimney.



Figure 1 Front view of Yew Tree Cottage

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Figure 2 Existing Chimney - location for proposed 30cm Buff coloured chimney pot



Figure 3 Location of the proposed wood burning stove in the kitchen fireplace

Historic Significance

Yew Tree Cottage is part of Shurnhold House, a grade II listed building first listed on 29th September 1950. The statutory address is listed as Shurnhold House, 18, Bath Road, national grid reference ST8976864577.

Architectural and Artistic Significance

Historic England describe the site:

"House. Early C18, renovation of c1900. Rubblestone, stone slate roof with coped verges and ashlar stacks with moulded caps. L-plan. Entrance front of 2-storeys and attic, 4-windows. 6-panelled door to left of centre has staff-moulded case and C20rustic porch, to right is 2-light C19 flat-mullioned window and early C20 square 3-light bay windows are to left and right sides. First floor has three 2-light beaded mullioned windows and one 2-light cyma-mullioned window with drip mould; all are casements with leaded glass of c1900. Two attic gables to sides have 2-light cyma mullioned windows with casements. To right is rubblestone single storey billiard room ofC1900 in C17 style with reused 4-lightcyma-mullioned window with drip mould. Left return is 2-storey, 5-windowwith door to right in chamfered case with flat stone hood on brackets, windows are three 2-light cyma mullioned windows to left with one single cyma moulded casement, and one 2-light cyma mullioned window to right; all with drip moulds. First floor windows are 2, 3 and 4-light mullioned casements, all restored. To rear are rendered extensions of Cl9.Interior: room to right of front door has bolection-moulded fireplace, two other stone fire places are Tudor arched with cornices. Billiard room of c1900 has reused large stone Tudor fireplace with carved spandrels, recessed panels below cornice with rosettes and pilasters to sides with leaf capitals; provenance not known."

Since being listed, Shurnhold House has undergone significant remodelling to divide the property into four separate cottages. Photographs and elevations have been provided to illustrate the appearance of Yew Tree cottage before and after the proposed development. It should be noted that the property is screened by trees and cannot be seen from the roadside.

The proposed log/multi fuel burning stove has been chosen to be more efficient and cleaner burning than the existing fireplace in the kitchen. It is also high quality and ornate design, fitting well with the interior of the cottage. Drawings have also been provided showing the work required to the chimney to install a flexible flue. This is a necessity for a safe and affective multi fuel burning stove. Log burning stoves have already been installed in neighbouring cottages within the listed Shurnhold House. These stoves do not negatively impact the historical significant or internal features of the properties.



Figure 4 Proposed Wood/multi fuel Burning Stove



Figure 5 Log Burner installed in The East wing, Shurnhold House



Figure 6 Log burning stove installed in The East Wing, Shurnhold House



Figure 7 Neighbouring property in Shurnhold House with log burner installed

The chimney pot has been purposefully chosen to compliment the colour of the stone of Shurnhold House, and the other chimney pots already situated. It is of high quality design and does not detract from the overall appearance or historic significant of the property. It could even be argued that the addition of the chimney pot on the neighbouring chimney has improved the overall look and feel of the chimney.



Figure 8 Proposed 30cm Buff coloured chimney pot



Figure 9 View of neighbouring Chimney pot already in-situ to the left of the property