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Idover Demesne Farm, Dauntsey, SN15 4JJ

Design statement for the partial removal of external and internal walls.

1.0 Introduction

1.1 This statement has been prepared to accompany a Listed Building Consent application for the partial removal of external and internal walls to grade II listed Idover Demesne Farmhouse following a catastrophic fire in May 2023. The interiors, stone slate covered roof structure, window frames and glazing of the building has been destroyed with only the external masonry remaining intact, although also damaged from the effects of the fire.

1.2 An initial structural assessment was undertaken in June 2023 to determine requirements for a support scaffold and propping which have since been installed. A further inspection via a MEWP was conducted in August 2023 to provide the opportunity for closer assessment of the remaining structure and its condition. The conclusion was that further removal of the high-level building fabric is required.

2.0 Why are the works required?

2.1 The remaining external masonry is vulnerable and gaining access internally is currently unsafe. Partial removal of historic fabric and clearance of debris internally is required to be carried out by a demolition contractor to allow a full assessment of the condition of the fabric and structure, to inform pre-application proposals with the local authority.

3.0 Proposal

The following works are required to stabilise the historic fabric and enable internal access:

3.1 External Walls

3.1.1 The partial removal of masonry walls as shown on drawings SK2, 3, 4 and 5.

3.2 Internal Walls

3.2.1 The removal of 500mm from the top courses of the main east-west walls. See SK1 and the structural engineer's report.

3.2.2 The removal of the section of first floor wall down to ground floor ceiling level. See SK1 and the structural engineer's report.

3.2.3 Internal debris lying on the floor of the building* Any items of architectural interest will be set aside by the demolition contractor for inspection by the design team.

4.0 Summary

4.1 Careful dismantling works are required to stabilise the remaining fire damaged fabric at Idover Demesne Farm. The extent of removal is considered the minimal necessary to enable safe access into the fire damaged building to allow structural and building fabric conditions surveys to be undertaken.