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Wiltshire Council
Where everybody matters

Design & Access Statement Questionnaire

You are required to submit a design and access statement for all householder applications for planning permission and/or listed building consent where the site lies:

(1) Within a conservation area; and/or
(2) Within the Avebury and Stonehenge World Heritage Site; and/or
(3) Where the building to be altered is a listed building.

This is because these three historic designations are valued as 'heritage assets' and the Council has a duty to carefully manage any changes proposed to them.

The purpose of a design and access statement is to explain the design principles and concepts that have been applied in order to ensure that the impact of the development on the significance of the heritage asset is fully assessed. This questionnaire has been designed to help you think through the implications of your proposal and to provide the information the Council needs to help determine your application. It must be completed and submitted with your application.

(A) Understanding the impact of the works on the significance of the heritage asset

1. For applications for development in a conservation area, explain what impact the proposal will have on the character and appearance of the area;

As the building in question was quite heavily modified before the terrace of buildings was listed and before the conservation area was designated making the proposed changes to the building would I believe have a beneficial impact on the building and area as a whole. The building was pebble ashed prior to the listing and the windows altered and now has a mixture of windows comprising of crittall and wood framed. Allowing these changes would provide a cohesive appearance for the building and reflect those of the buildings in the immediate area.

2. For applications for listed building consent, explain what impact the proposal will have on the special architectural or historic importance of the building. Where any part of the fabric of the building is being removed or altered, explain the significance of that part of the fabric in relation to the special interest of the building and why it is necessary to remove or alter it.

The building is a grade 2 listed building and was listed due to its association with the Wilton Royal Carpet Factory, with this terrace being homes for weavers at the factory. The terrace is made up of a number of dwellings that were all modified and changed in some way before the listing was granted and therefore I do not believe that allowing these changes would affect the significance of the building

3. For applications for development in the World Heritage Site, explain what impact the proposal will have on the setting and appearance of the World Heritage Site and on any archaeology likely to be disturbed by the works.

N/A

(B) The approach to the design of the works

4. Please explain the principles behind the design of the proposal - what are you trying to achieve and how does the layout, floorspace and scale of the development relate to the site and its surroundings? Where an application relates to an extension to a listed building, explain how the design takes account of the setting of the listed building.

This application relates to only upgrading the current windows to allow for sympathetic double glazing. The house sits on the major through road of the town, when constructed this road would have been a quiet road. Now the road is extremely busy and congested with constant traffic noise especially from large lorries. This means that for most of the day it is impossible to enjoy the rooms at the front of the building. Secondary glazing has been installed but this does not combat the issue. Fitting the double glazing would mediate the noise to a level which would mean we could use the rooms in the front of the building . The current windows are of different materials and changing to one homogenized design would enhance the appearance. The proposed window material would reflect the timber heritage of the building and has been approved to be used in conservation areas across the country

5. What materials and design features are proposed and how do these relate to those used on the existing property and its surroundings?

the proposed material of Flush sash casement windows are the latest generation of uPVC windows. They offer the realism of a traditional pre-1932 timber window combined with 21st century thermal benefits. These materials would reflect the current timber windows, however these would be a change to the current crittall windows in the kitchen although this windows designs for the kitchen would have the same appearance as the current crittall windows.

6. Are any landscaping features (walls, hedges, fences) being removed, altered or provided? If so, please provide details (and ensure that these are shown on the plans submitted with the application)

N/A

(C) Consultation

7. Have you consulted any of your neighbours or any other interested parties about your proposals? If so, please give their details and a summary of their comments and how you have addressed these in the final design of the proposal

As mentioned the buildings on the terrace have all been modified to a very large extent, with buildings having extensions, loft conversions with skylights etc. Speaking with the neighbors (allow some are renters and not the property owners) no one has voiced objections and are immediate neighbors whose courtyard backs on to our kitchen would be delighted if the crittall windows were upgraded as they are a bit of an eyesore from her courtyard.

(D) Access

8. What changes to the existing access arrangements to the property are proposed and will these facilitate access for the disabled? Where the works affect the exterior of a listed building, please explain how the special architectural or historic importance of the building has been taken into account in the design of any alterations to the access to the building.

N/A