

HERITAGE AND DESIGN STATEMENT

The complex now called St Georges Court was built in the 1830s as the Melksham Union Workhouse. In 1945 it became part of the newly created National Health Service as St Georges Hospital. It was grade two listed in 1988.

In 2001 it was converted into 25 individual dwellings of various shapes and sizes. More than 300 windows at St Georges Court reflect both its size and its long and varied history. The windows in this application appear to have been installed more than 15 years ago, as both the current and previous owners say they were present when they bought the leasehold.

Window 1 is in the bedroom and window 2 in the en-suite on the first floor of flat 18, located on the north facing elevation of courtyard 4.

They are high quality hard wood windows and were designed to blend in with the multi-pane Georgian design used throughout the the complex. Both windows have a 12 pane appearance, using false spacing bars. The en-suite window has obscured glass for privacy.

It is presumed that the windows which were replaced were similar to the remaining single-glazed bedroom window at flat 18, which could date from the building's original role as a workhouse or the later hospital.

Only a close inspection from a ladder would show that the current windows are double-glazed. They were installed without any other disturbance to the historic fabric of the building.

Within courtyard 4, the view of the windows is limited by the bin store opposite and by trees. From outside the complex, one window is just visible from St Georges Road, near the far corner of the main car park.

HISTORIC ENGLAND OFFICIAL LIST ENTRY

<https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1262030?section=official-list-entry>

Grade two listed as St Georges Hospital - 31 August, 1988

List entry number 1262030

DESCRIPTION

Work house, now hospital for people with learning disabilities. 1836-1838 for Melksham Union, by H.E. Kendall. Limestone ashlar front, dressed limestone to rear ranges, Welsh slate roofs with brick stacks. Classical front range with four rear ranges arranged in a cross. Three-storey, nine-window front. Central three bays break forward with pediment, central 6-panelled door with pediment on corbels, aluminium windows replacing sashes with keystone and plain architrave either side and three windows to side bays.

First floor has nine windows with keystones, second floor has nine with corbelled sills and no keys, corbelled eaves and pediment. Single-storey flanking wings with aluminium windows. Rear of main range has aluminium windows. Three-storey wing attached to centre rear of main range and running back to octagonal three-storey block at axis of cross; three-storey, nine-bay ranges run parallel to front range and a two-storey nine-bay range continues to rear, shorter two-storey or single-storey wings attached to ends of main ranges. All rear ranges have sashes or fixed windows with glazing bars, cast iron rainwater goods.

Interior altered, but retains some original joinery, staircases. Built as a workhouse under the 1835 Poor Law Act for the Melksham Workhouse Union; original layout unaltered - front range contained boys' and girls' schoolrooms, board room in centre part, rear wings and yards for accommodation of men and women in separate blocks, kitchen and dining areas in central wing to rear. Single-storey buildings contained workshops stables and low building on east side contained cells for vagrants.