

HERITAGE STATEMENT FOR PROPOSED ALTERATIONS TO WINDOWS AND DOORS AT THE SIDES AND REAR OF DENVILLES HOUSE, 33 EMSWORTH ROAD, HAVANT, HAMPSHIRE PO9 2SN

INTRODUCTION

This heritage statement has been prepared in support of an application for permission to replace the windows and two glazed fire exit doors in the rear portion of Denvilles House, on the east and west sides and north facing rear of the building.

HERITAGE

CONTEXT

Historical Context

The front part of the building, a house, was brick built in the early 19th century with a slate roof. The front (south) is symmetrical with 2 storeys and 3 windows, hipped roof with bracketed eaves. Walling is yellow brickwork in Flemish bond, rubbed flat arches and a stucco architrave (with key) to the central opening. Upper sashes in reveals, wide French windows to the ground floor. The chief feature is a wide portico of 5 bays, 2 bays on the return, with a Doric order of fluted columns, coupled (to each face) at the corners. The doorway has a slender architrave, a fanlight of oval, saltire and curved lozenge design with a 6-flush-panelled door. The building was designated as Grade II Listed in July 1975.

The building was originally a family home, then after the First World War it became the home of Havant High School, which moved from West Street. A number of private owners followed until, in 1976, the House, by now a "Grade II Listed Building" came on the market. 2.5 acres of ground were sold with planning permission for 14 new houses (Pine Grove) and the House, with 1 acre of grounds, in a dilapidated and vandalised condition, was sold to the Langstone Conservative Club who had previously met at Homewell House, Havant.

The house features a splendid entrance hall with an impressive "flying" staircase and a large Drawing Room with fine mahogany panelling formerly in the liner Mauritania. The magnificent pillared portico was rebuilt in the 1980s.

It is set back from Emsworth Road, the main road through Havant, behind a high brick wall.

Aesthetic Context

The front of the property is pleasing to the eye, however the sides and back of the building are less so, consisting of extensions over different periods with subtle changes in design being apparent. The properties surrounding Denvilles House are mainly of recent designs, the nearest buildings of a similar age being 'The Wheelwrights Arms' to the west and 12 Meadowlands to the east.

Communal Context

Denvilles House contributes to the sense of the town of Havant as a historic / well-established market town. The front of Denvilles House makes a positive contribution to that appearance.

THE PROPERTY

History and Development

The main part of the property, which faces onto Emsworth Road, Havant, is believed to have been built in the early 19th century. The property has been extended on several occasions, lastly in the 1970s when Langstone

Conservative Club Ltd applied to extend at the rear of the premises, adding extra area in the room to be used as the Club Bar and building a two storey development comprising a Snooker Room (mainly below ground level), a Card Room and a Function Room above the Snooker Room. Later the Club applied for Change of Use permission to convert the Function Room and 1st floor 'Nanny and Children annexe' of the house into office space to rent to tenants. Later still, the Club applied for Change of Use permission to convert the original annexe back to residential space and this is the situation today.

External Features

The reasons why Denvilles House was listed as Grade II are detailed in the Historical context above. These details apply only to the front of the building and work over time has been sensitive to the front of the property.

The windows in today's Club Room are of different ages and varying design, although all are white painted wood frames.

The windows in the Snooker Room are shallow with white painted wood frames, just above ground level.

The windows in the Card Room are sash, as are the windows of the Gents and Ladies toilets and the kitchen downstairs and the bathroom of the upstairs flat. All are white painted wood frames.

ASSESSMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE

While Denvilles House is a heritage asset, the extent of the fabric that contributes to its heritage significance is essentially limited to the features that contribute to the frontage and in turn contribute to the sense of place that sets Havant as a historic market town.

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