



HERITAGE STATEMENT

The George
Hever Court Road
Singlewell
Gravesend
DA12 5UQ

On behalf of: M&B



Morgan Signs & Design Ltd
Unit 10B
Springvale Industrial Park
Union Street
Bilston
West Midlands
WV14 0QT

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1.0 Introduction

This statement has been prepared at the request of Gravesham Borough Council to accompany an application for Advert & Listed Building Consent at The George, Hever Court Road, Singlewell, Gravesend, DA12 5UQ.

The idea of this heritage statement is to show how we as designers wish to take into account the historical values of not only the building but the surrounding environment to help preserve its beauty and history by designing for a purpose with form and function. We believe as the signage provider that it is important that any changes to Ye Shakespeare are in context with neighbouring streets and surrounding local area. As well as respecting the local area and buildings the changes would also need to fulfil the actual function that was in hand and also work with the existing building. This heritage statement will assess the building in terms of historic and architectural interest and context of the local planning policy with a view to the application to convert and develop the building. This statement will provide a full understanding of the building and its significance as required by policy HE6, HE7 and HE10 of PPS5.

2.0 The Site

2.1 Description

The George is located on Hever Court Road, in the village of Singlewell and is a Grade II listed building.

The land in which the pub resides on is owned by M&B.

2.2 Details & History

2. The front elevation is outwardly C18 but there is a timber-framed portion to the rear. 2 parallel ranges. The front range is of 2 storeys, the ground floor painted brick, the 1st floor pebble-dashed on the front elevation and plastered on the side elevation. Tiled roof. 5 sashes with verticals only. 2 doorcases with pedimented hoods over. The rear range is weatherboarded with a slate roof and 1 sash window to the side elevation. To the rear is a 2 storey timber-framed portion at right angles.

Orchard House, Corner Cottage, Chapel Farmhouse and the George Inn form a group.



Fig 2.2.1: Site Plan extract from Google maps of The George PH

As the location map shows the site exists on Hever Court Road, in the heart of the village of Singlewell and attracts a lot of people whether it is locals or visitors to the village. The pub therefore provides guests a place to relax, drink, enjoy some good food and enjoy the hospitality and amenities of the surrounding area.

2.3 The National Planning Policy Framework objectives are to:

1. Deliver sustainable developments by ensuring policies and decisions recognise that heritage assets are a non- renewable resource, taking into account the wider, social, cultural economic and environmental benefits of heritage conservation.
2. To conserve heritage assets in a manner appropriate to their significance by ensuring that " decisions are based on the nature, extent and level of that significance, investigated into a degree of proportionate to their importance.
3. To improve knowledge and understanding of the past by capturing evidence from the historic environment and making this publicly accessible.

2.3.1 Policy HE6 requires applicants to provide 'a description of the significance of the heritage assets affected and the contribution of their setting to that significance'. This will enable an understanding of the potential impact of the proposal.

2.3.2 Policy HE7.2 requires local authorities to take into account the nature of the significance of the asset and the value which it holds for this and for future generations.

3.0 Significance of the assets and the settings affected

The design and access statement has set out in evaluation that various assets have been taken into account in the design of the site. Any proposed removals of materials of the existing buildings have been considered in terms of the significance of the building's finishes.

Policy HE7.4 - the desirability of sustaining and enhancing the significance of heritage assets. The proposals have taken into account the importance of the buildings and will take into account the buildings tradition along with its traditional materials. There are no major demolition works within the proposal but where materials are removed, new will be installed to match the existing in best possible way to retain the traditional look, heritage and enhance them both.

3.1 Practice guide with TNPPF

In paragraph 79, the practice guide identifies a number of potential heritage benefits that could weigh in favour of the proposed scheme. These are considered in accordance with the current proposals. The benefits are:

-To sustain or enhance the significance of the heritage asset

The traditional establishments appearance and character will be retained. The only changes will be to redecorate the exterior of the building along with implementing new and refurbished external signage.

3.2 The need for the proposal

Our clients at M&B find the need to make the stated amendments to the pub to sustain the physical features externally of the establishment.

3.3 Benefits of the Proposal

The benefits will allow the pub to keep trading and attracting people to the area to drink and dine, thus providing a secure future for the historical building and surround places of interest.

3.4 Is there a risk to the Heritage asset

We believe along with our client that there is no risk with this proposal in regards to the heritage building and its surroundings and feel that this design would not interfere with the overall character and look of the pub which will still remain the same.

3.5 Scale, Design and Materials

When considering any alterations to existing buildings the surrounding context and neighbouring sites must be taken into consideration. Determining important factors within the urban context and maintaining these throughout the design and construction phase achieve this. An easy equilibrium of designs between existing and proposed needs to be established. This is obviously important when the site is surrounded by buildings of a historical nature, particularly when the building itself is listed.

Our overall design will be sympathetic to the site and surrounding environment. The buildings characteristic look has been delicately considered within the design and we feel this alteration would not affect the traditional character of the current building and its position within Singlewell.

4.0 Conclusion

It is evident that Singlewell is a traditional village and has many historical buildings, but it is also a village that has had change over the years with alterations to residential and commercial buildings. The George itself has also changed with the times to keep up with current trends.

The proposed alteration has been carefully considered and we feel that the proposal allows the pub to be refurbished without impinging on the traditional character of the building and its surroundings. All the work will be carried out to the highest standard and all areas affected will be made good to match existing where necessary.

We believe the proposed alterations to the existing building will also enable the pub to be a safer and more welcoming and appealing building without tarnishing its historical values.