

CHEVENING HOUSE, SEVENOAKS, KENT, TN14 6HG
APPLICATION FOR LISTED BUILDING CONSENT
PROPOSED ALTERATIONS TO HOUSE MANAGER'S FLAT (EAST SERVICE ROOMS)

Heritage Design and Access Statement

1 Site

Chevening House is a Grade I Listed building in the setting of a Grade II* Listed gardens and park. It is presently occupied by the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs for official and private uses.

2 Background and Listed Building Assessment

The Tudor core of Chevening House dates from 1564; it was remodelled in 1630-35, and forms the nucleus of the present central main block. The 17th century revised plan and elevations were much influenced by the contemporary works of Inigo Jones. The 1st Earl Stanhope added pedimented east and west side projections, the East and West Wings and the Quadrants linking them to the main block in 1721-30.

In 1776 a rectangular, flat roofed, attic floor was superimposed on the main house and in 1789-98 drab mathematical tiles were fixed to the whole exterior. Later the sash window bars were removed. The main house remained in this state until 1970-75, when it was extensively renovated and the exterior was remodelled to once again encapsulate its 1760's splendour. At this time the mathematical tiles were removed from the elevations which were refaced in red brick and the 1776 attic floor was dismantled and a new slate pitched roof with a central lead flat was constructed in its place.

To the east of the East Wing, the main domestic service rooms and associated yards serving the house are situated. These are principally single storey buildings, date from the early 19th Century, and include the old laundry and its drying yard at its eastern end. The proposed alterations are situated within this group of buildings, and face north in to the Yard, and west on to the Kitchen Yard. The two storey and single storey buildings are used as a House Manager's Flat.

Chevening House and the Chevening Estate are designated heritage assets (Chevening House Grade I listed List Entry No 1085853; Chevening Park and Garden Grade II* listed List Entry No 1000258). There are other designated heritage assets on and around the site.

Although much altered, the core of the existing house remains and contains 18th century interiors. The special interest of the house and its setting within the parkland and garden and within the Chevening Conservation Area is a key contributor to its significance.

3 Proposal

To form an internal door opening at ground floor between an existing single storey workshop and sitting room accommodation; to take down a modern timber constructed external porch and replace with a replacement timber external porch, as part of the refurbishment of the House Manager's Flat.

The proposed alterations are to the eastern main domestic service rooms and include a two storey building and an adjacent single storey building with mono-pitched roof abutting the western wall. Proposed alterations:-

- To form a new internal door opening in the masonry wall separating House Manager's sitting room and existing workshop. A new painted internal four-panel door will be fitted in the new door opening.
- To take down a modern timber boarded external porch on the north external wall and replace with a new timber boarded external porch extending the existing footprint by approximately 500 mm.

4 Impact on the Listed Building

The proposed external porch replaces a modern porch; there will be no impact to the listed building. The new internal door opening in the workshop internal wall will provide internal access within the flat to a neighbouring room. There will be some loss of historic fabric. A review of earlier maps indicate that the east service rooms have undergone extensive alterations including extending of the single storey building (formerly the china scullery) into the west yard to open onto the eastern passage. This extension into the east passage is a modern alteration.

There will be no impact on the external areas of the building or on the wider setting of the building within the Conservation Area. The impact of the proposed works will be less than substantial harm.

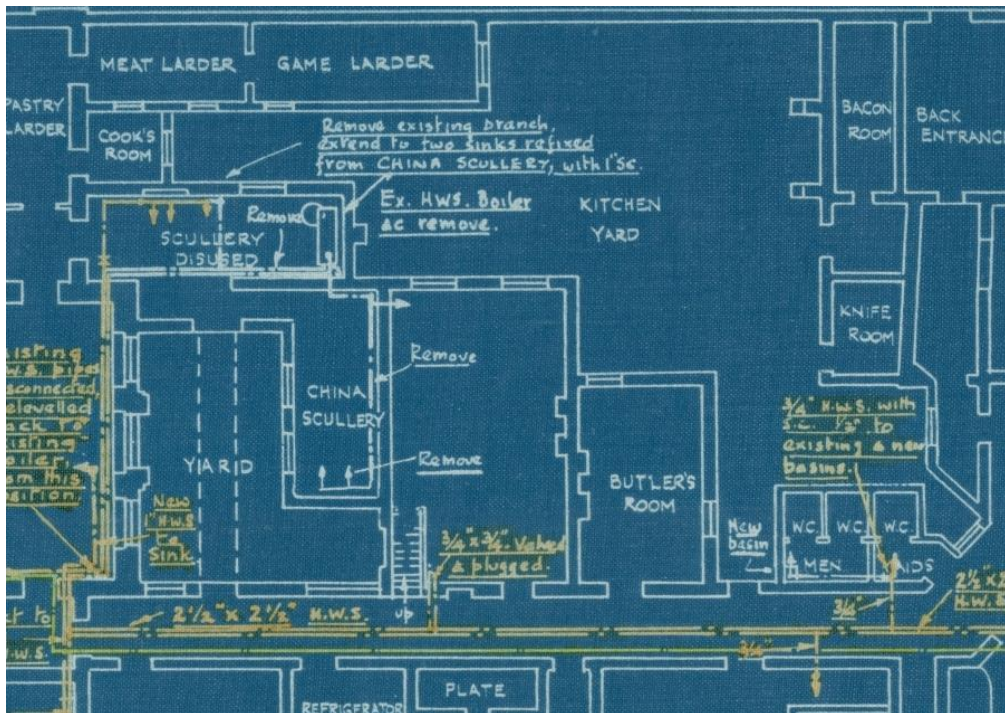
5 Supporting Photographs



Ph1
Existing Workshop
(formerly China Scullery)



Ph2
North facing modern external timber porch to be taken down and replaced



Ph3
Plan of East service rooms dated c.1955