

Heritage Statement – Installation of Solar Photovoltaic Panels to 1 The Bank, Stoneleigh, Coventry

1. Significance of the heritage asset

The proposal site is a grade 2 listed cottage which is part of Circa C17 timber-framed range of cottages, fronted in red brick in C18/19. Red brick infill panels to the timber-framed east gable end wall. Steeply pitched plain tile roof with gabled ends. Two storeys, three window range. Circa early C19 3 light casements with glazing bars and two plank doors. The ground floor openings are segmentally arched. Two brick ridge chimney stacks.

The property is located within a conservation area of the historical village of Stoneleigh. To assist with the proper protection of historical buildings and their settings the Stoneleigh conservation area was first introduced in 1967 and was extended in 2001. This is to protect the character of all the buildings whether listed or not within the Conservation Area. There is one Scheduled Ancient Monument, and no Historic Parks or Sites of Special Scientific Interest within the Stoneleigh Conservation Area. Stoneleigh Bridge is a Scheduled Ancient Monument at the entrance to the village.

References - English Heritage's statutory list, Warwick District Council Site.

2. Proposed works and their impact on the asset

It is proposed to install 20 solar photovoltaic panels to the pitched roofs of two outbuilding which are situated within the curtilage of the listed property, in the configuration shown within the roof plan drawing provided with the planning application.

There will be no impact on the fabric of the listed building as the proposed works will not be carried out directly on the listed property but on outbuildings which are within the curtilage of the listed building.

The installation of the panels will have no impact on the setting of the listed building when viewing the main elevations as the proposed works will be carried out on outbuildings which are not listed.

There will be no impact on to the setting of the conservation area as the solar panels will not be visible from the public domain.

The solar photovoltaic panels will only be visible from within the property boundaries therefore they create little impact on the actual appearance of the listed property from within the property boundaries.

The proposed works will allow the property to become self sufficient and more environmentally friendly by lowering the carbon footprint of the property while not affecting the visual aspect of the historical property or it's setting.

3. Mitigating factors incorporated into the development

To attempt to minimise the little impact of the development on the listed building and most particularly it's setting, the following aspects have been incorporated into the design of the development:

i) Choice of precise location

The panels have been located specifically to minimise the number of positions from which they will be visible. The panels will not be visible from the public domain due to their positioning on the property. The location of the panels being on the outbuilding within the property site means that the listed building will not be directly affected by the installation.

ii) Choice of panels

It is intended that Monocrystalline panels will be used in the installation. These panels have been selected for their low visual impact. The panels have a black frame, black cells and black back sheet and therefore are more inconspicuous than other types of panels.