

The Forge Pyecombe - New Windows to Outbuilding

Heritage Statement



Assessment of Heritage Significance

The proposed alteration is to an outbuilding associated with the Forge in Pyecombe. This building is not listed but is located in a conservation area.

When consulting the Historic Environment Record (HER), no results were found relating to the main house (the forge) or the outbuilding.

The forge is located in the Pyecombe Conservation Area within which the following features contribute to the character of the Conservation Area:

- the attractive grouping of buildings around the Church Hill/School Lane cross- roads;
- the 12th century parish church with its surrounding stone wall;
- the presence of trees, hedges, banks and walls around and between the buildings;
- views into and out of the village; and

- the use of traditional building materials such as flint, tile hanging, render, clay roof tiles and roofing slates.

The windows proposed to be changed overlook the South Downs Way and Parish Church of the Transfiguration and cemetery beyond which is grade 1 listed (1025593).

Assessment of Impact

As outlined above, no changes to listed heritage assets are proposed. It is however anticipated that the change in windows will marginally impact the conservation area and the setting of the Parish Church of the Transfiguration.

In terms of the conservation area, no changes are proposed to the grouping of buildings, any trees, walls or vegetation. A traditional palette of materials will be maintained, with render to the outbuilding and new painted timber windows. Views from the church and Church Hill/South Downs Way will be marginally altered as the new windows will have different dimensions and paint colour.

Justification and Mitigation

The number of windows will remain the same, however the size is proposed to be changed. The existing windows are small and wider than they are tall, dating them as more recent than those of the forge itself.

Upon assessing the surrounding buildings, it would appear that the conservation area has no distinct style of window shared across the area. The forge itself has casement, cottage, sash and french doors visible from the public realm. Others also have more recent double glazed windows. Therefore, a traditional casement type of window is proposed which should not appear more modern than any other windows in the area, and sit comfortably among the varied window types seen in the area.

The proposed windows are timber inward opening windows which ensure the opening frames do not project from the back frame and the windows are set into the wall. These are then to be painted to match those of the forge to help visually tie these together. Panes of glass are taller than they are wide, as recommended by SDNP guidance on windows.

Overall, the windows will marginally impact the conservation area. The new windows should also be more appropriate and in keeping to a heritage setting by way of their materials, dimensions and style than the existing.