

## HERITAGE STATEMENT

The house, believed to be constructed in its present form in the early nineteenth century is constructed in a mixture of chalk and brickwork with external walls varying in thickness from 450 to 600 mm. The building is of symmetrical elevation of two storeys and attics, surmounted with clay pantiles, with wooden sash windows to the front elevation.

It is the original farm house which originally served the 28 hectare arable land area known as Mere Farm situated to the northern end of Burton Fleming. The property overlooks Burton Fleming pond/mere to the West and is bounded to the South by Hall Farm, to the East by Mere Farm Cottage and to the North by Scenic View Caravan Park.

With the death of the owner of the whole area known as Mere Farm, the property was divided into three separate titles: the current farmhouse, Mere Farm; Mere Farm Cottage (including The Hayloft holiday let cottage) and Scenic View Caravan Park.

The private access road to the North elevation allows the owner of Mere Farm Cottage right of access to their property.

This application applies to the original farmhouse, known as Mere Farm, which is Grade II listed (from drive-by listings of 1985).

The listing describes the property as being early 19th Century, and specifically mentions the windows and front door on the West Elevation. A desk top survey has revealed no further information regarding the history of the property or when it might have been built.

The internal layout of the existing property is shown to a scale of 1:100 on the Ground Floor Plan. The property is a three storey, six bedroomed house. The three floors are linked by a single central enclosed stairway with a secondary stair serving 2 bedrooms and a bathroom.

This application includes external wooden gates to the drive on the right hand side of the house (adjacent to the West elevation) and are proposed for security and privacy (the property having been burgled previously by thieves climbing over the existing 5-bar gate).

The proposed gates are similar in design to gates shown in attached historical photographs. The photographs show the West Elevation of Mere Farm house with full height timber gates on the drive.

The 2200 mm high gate posts are proposed to be 150 mm x 150 mm softwood with a single, stainless steel fixing glued 100 mm into the wall of the south elevation. The proposed 1650 mm high gates to be of simple, timber, tongued and grooved boards with a flat top to the gates in keeping with the age and style of the house and similar in style to other properties in this area. The gates will be finished in a heritage green linseed oil paint with black, metal ring handles for opening and closing. The hinges are metal strap hinges, mounted on the rear of the gates.

This application also proposes to remove the 2 double glazed Upvc windows (installed by the previous owner) and the outside light on the North Elevation - at the request of the Conservation Officer.

This application proposes to replace the windows with 2 single glazed timber windows in the same style as those on the West elevation, and to remove the outside light and not replace it at this time. The windows will be of solid wood construction with integral solid wood glazing bars, rebated for the 4 mm glass panes, puttied in a traditional manner.