

4. Heritage Statement

The Old School is listed grade II and described as

“One building, originally the village school and the schoolmaster's house. T-shaped mid C19 Gothic building. Faced with flints. Tiled roof. Casement windows. Pairs of trefoil-headed lights on the ground floor. Gabled dormers above. Two storeys. Four windows.”

5. Heritage Impact Assessment

This application seeks to replace items (roof windows and stove flues etc) that were inserted at the time of the conversion (98/00279/FUL) in areas that are not readily visible to the Public (North facing roof slope and between existing roofs).

The replacement roof windows are of a conservation style approved for use on a large number of listed buildings in the area and fitted within the same openings as the existing with no need to remove any of the existing roof structure.

The flue pipes while visible above the roof level, appear to be in the same location as the flue pipes they replaced and are not unduly prominent when viewed in context. The black finish is an improvement on the existing grey finish of the old flue pipes, an example of which can be seen above a roof light serving No 2.

The Kitchen was constructed at the time of the conversion (98/00279/FUL) and included a stone mullion window with glazed metal frames that was designed to match the existing windows. Similarly, the North window of the Living Room was altered in 1998 to reduce the cill level and provide light to the ground floor room.

The secondary glazing has been fitted adjacent to the inside face of the stone mullions of each of the windows fixed between the jambs of modern stud lining probably insulated lining installed at the time of the conversion in 1998, and are arranged as 3 sliding openers to match the 3 opening lights of the existing windows and are barely perceptible when seen from the outside.

The louvered timber ‘plantation’ shutters have been installed inside the secondary glazing with fixings to the modern plastered linings only, follow the same opening pattern as the existing windows and do not detract from the external appearance of the window.

6. Dark Night Skies

The existing roof windows had not been of a design that blinds may be easily installed. The proposed roof windows are of a type that includes a standard range of blinds that are easy and simple to fit.

The proposals include the installation of manually operated blinds to the two new roof windows to limit the amount of light up-spill from these existing roof openings.

This represents a significant improvement over the previous windows that are incompatible with most blind systems.

The louvered ‘plantation’ shutters provide a means of shading that is more likely to be used more often than curtains (particularly when in Kitchens) and thus reduce light spill from the existing windows at night.