

Statement of Significance: ALL SAINTS CHURCH, HOUGHTON
LAWN MOWER SHED IN CHURCHYARD

Guidance on completing this form can be found on the ChurchCare website at
<http://www.churchcare.co.uk/churches/guidance-advice/statements-of-significance-need>

This document must be accompanied by the Standard Information Form 1A

Section 1: The church in its urban / rural environment.

1.1 Setting of the Church

How does the setting out of the church contribute to its landscape / townscape value and to its significance?

All Saints Church Houghton, Hampshire is of early English style, dating from the first half of the twelfth century. It is by far the oldest building in the parish and dominates the centre of the village.



North side of the church building, as seen from the churchyard.

1.2 The Living Churchyard

What is the significance of the natural heritage of the site?

The extensive churchyard has a landscape of memorials dating back many centuries and continues to be used for burials.

The churchyard is well maintained by volunteers of the church congregation and areas are left to grow naturally, to encourage wildlife activity; be-fitting its rural location.

1.3 Social History

What is the historic and present use of the church and churchyard by the congregation and wider community? How does this contribute to its significance?

The church is in continual use both for worship and social events.

1.4 The church building in general

Provide a description of the church.

As detailed in 1.1

1.5 The church building in detail

Assess the significance of either each historical phase of the building or of each area within it. For example, north aisle, south chancel elevation, Norman tower

Much of the Church we see today retains its medieval integrity with the addition of a 19thC steeple and changes to the roof structure.

Please refer to the full listing, attached.

1.6 Contents of the Church

Provide a description of its contents and their significance. It is reasonable to group these if there is a contemporary scheme which is significant as such, for example one could say a complete scheme of 18th-century furnishings, of high significance.

19th century pews are in situ and in recent years a new peal of 6 bells were introduced or restored.

1.7 Significance for mission

What are the strengths of the building as it is for worship and mission? What potential for adapted and new uses does the church and its setting already have with little or no change?

Apart from regular use for worship and ceremonial occasions the Church is also used for concerts and plays.

Section 2 : The significance of the area affected by the proposal.

2.1 Identify the parts of the church and/or churchyard which will be directly or indirectly affected by your proposal.

The proposed small-scale shed will be discretely situated as shown on accompanying plans, in the north-west corner of the churchyard.

2.2 Set out the significance of these particular parts.

The shed will be set below the level of the dividing wall between the old and new part of the churchyard. This area is partly used for composting and disposal of surplus green material.

There are no burial markers, tombs or headstones within the area of the churchyard proposed. The dividing wall is a red brick wall, likely 19th Century with small buttress piers at either end. It is of relatively low significance and will not be affected by the proposed works. It will help to conceal the shed from the main church building, lessening any potential impact of the shed on the overall character of the churchyard.

Section 3: Assessment of the impact of the proposals

3.1 Describe and assess the impact of your proposal on these parts, and on the whole.

This will have no adverse effect on this or any other part of the churchyard.

The shed will help to 'tidy' and improve the composting area in which it is to be positioned and will ensure that lawnmowers and other tools required for good maintenance of the churchyard, is concealed and well organised.

3.2 Explain how you intend, where possible, to mitigate the impact of the proposed works on the significance of the parts affected and the whole.

The new shed is relatively small and clad in tanalised softwood with a felted roof. It's height will be slightly higher than the brick wall, so the top part of the shed will be visible. However, the brick wall, behind which the shed will sit is approx. 100 metres from the south side of the main church building. The visual impact will therefore be minimal on those visiting the church building or a burial within the churchyard.

The area in which the shed will be positioned is set behind a brick wall, will be sited so as to be non-visible from the ancient burial ground adjoining.



Area to be cleared of vegetation, composting bins to be removed and shed positioned in area behind the wheelbarrow in this photograph. Such items will then be stored within the new shed, improving the presentation of this part of the churchyard.



Brick wall, behind which the shed will be positioned, roughly in position of the composting bin in this photograph. The area will be tidied and wheelbarrow stored within the shed.



Note that the burial markers stop at vegetative boundary on east side of area currently used for composting and green waste. No burial markers in close proximity to proposed shed.



Looking from far north-west corner of churchyard, within composting area, to church beyond. The red brick dividing wall will help to conceal the small shed from the main churchyard on the other side.

Sources consulted

List the sources consulted

None – no local authority planning permission will be required.