



Erection of a New Shower Room
at

77 Maltravers Street

Arundel
West Sussex • BN18 9BQ

Heritage Statement

August 2017

Historic Context

Arundel was mainly developed during the Saxon period and was referred to in the Domesday Book in 1086, by which time Arundel had become a flourishing market town and port, with a population of a few hundred. In 1243 Arundel Castle came to be owned by the Fitzalan family and then at the end of the 16th century the castle and Earldom was passed to the Duke of Norfolk. The Dukes dominated Arundel for many centuries and during that time Arundel operated as a busy international port, with ships sailing to and from Arundel via the river Arun to the sea 5 miles away.

During the English Civil War Arundel Castle changed hands three times and at the end of the war it was severely damaged and reduced to a partial ruin. At the end of the 18th century it was rebuilt for the first time and then at the end of the 19th century it was largely rebuilt again as it is today.

Between the Civil War and the late 18th Century Arundel was in a very poor state, however by the turn of the 19th Century it had become a small flourishing market town with a population a little under 1,900. During the 19th century Arundel grew considerably and by 1901 it had a population of over 3,000. The current population is 3650.

The Architecture of Arundel

Arundel is recognised not only by residents but also visitors for its quantity, quality and variety of historic buildings within a relatively small area. The town still reflects much of the shape and character of its medieval footprint although most of the remaining timber framed buildings are hidden behind later facades. Out of around 500 buildings in the Conservation Area, a large proportion is listed, and many of the others are of architectural or historic interest.

Most houses are brick or flint or a mixture of the two, and in a few cases, sandstone is used. A variety of brick colours are found of which red is probably the commonest, but blue bricks combined with red brick in geometric patterns are to be seen on several buildings. Flemish bonded brickwork is the commonest and sometimes it is juxtaposed with English bond to provide a decorative feature. Other brick features are the quoins, emulating stone ones by repeating three long bricks followed by three short bricks and so on up the corner of a building, brick lintels and arches to windows, and modillion eaves cornices (IBP). Flints are found in three forms; unknapped seastone, knapped and square knapped. Some buildings have stuccoed or rendered walls, generally painted white or cream. Roofs are pitched and hipped and covered in hand made tiles or slate. Many doorways are pedimented. The designs range from simple unsupported ones to grandiose pillared porches. Windows are generally painted sash timber, although there are a reasonable number of timber casements. In both, glazing bars are used to divide up the glass areas into smaller panes.

Other materials used in the grander houses are stucco as at 18 and 45-49 Maltravers Street, and yellow brick at 55-57 High Street.

The Historical Development of 77 Maltravers Street

No. 77 Maltravers Street (List Entry Number 1027886) is located on the South side of Maltravers Street. Maltravers Street itself was earlier known as Chepyng Street. The medieval English word chepyng meaning “Long Market Square”. Evidence also supports the existence of a turnpike route along Maltravers Street as suggested by the Toll House at No. 56.

No. 77 is recorded as early 19th Century and the ‘Listed’ features include the brick modillion eaves cornice; three ranges of double hung sash windows with glazing bars and the front door case with its pilasters, fluted capitals and dentilled pediment and framed 6 panelled door.

Although constructed of modular flint with brick dressings, the front is pebble dashed. The roof is slate with red brick chimneys.

In 2008, Planning Consent was awarded for a proposal to demolish an existing UPVC conservatory and bay to the rear of the property and for the construction of a new single storey extension to provide a dining and living area. This addition regularized the rear elevation which had comprised largely of additions of the 1940’s and 1950’s as well as more recently the late 1970’s early 1980’s.

The Proposal

The subject of this pre-application enquiry is the provision of an en-suite shower room to service the master bedroom. Currently, the three bedrooms share a single bathroom and the addition of a much needed en-suite facility could greatly improve the layout of the First Floor. The intention is that the shower room would be constructed at First Floor only – between the walls of No. 77 and the neighbouring property at No. 75. It would span the existing passageway and be supported upon a light weight steel structural frame. This approach would therefore create minimal intervention in terms of the fabric of the original building. It would be accessed via an opening in the external wall of the master bedroom, but otherwise present itself as a free-standing structure allowing continued use of the side passageway connecting the street with the garden below.

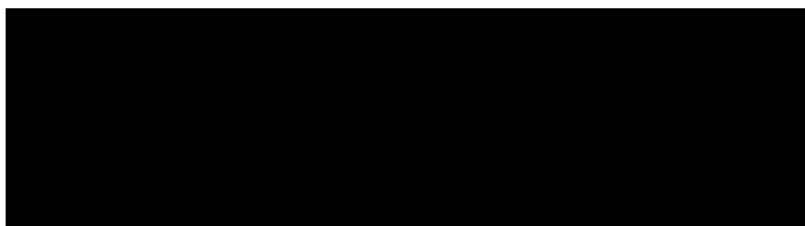
The Photographic Reference Sheet included with this application, indicates examples of similar infills elsewhere in Arundel. The front elevation to the street would appear unchanged and the rear elevation as seen from the garden would appear as a timber boarded garden gate with timber boarding and a small window above.

As the subject of a pre-application planning enquiry the Senior Historic Buildings Advisor undertook to visit the site and to view the proposal within the street scape. It was noted that he had no particular concerns providing the structure was well executed. It was also recommended that the existing bright white front door opening onto the street should be repainted as an egg shell finish in either a broken white or darker tone.

Conclusion

In terms of visual impact, the proposal will therefore have no adverse effect on the street façade of Maltravers Street or from the garden where it would lie – recessed beyond the rear façade of the house.

Mr. and Mrs. Waring have discussed the proposals with their neighbour who lives in No. 75 and who has no objection to the proposal



Victoria Holland RIBA
August, 2017

