

Longmace House and 8a High Street, Arundel

Heritage Statement

Longmace House is situated in and fronts Mill Lane which is located in the centre of the Town toward the bottom of the High Street.

Mill Lane, we understand once served as a primary access road East toward the castle But was subsequently closed as a through road and replaced at the turn of the 20th century when the original buildings of the Post Office site were redeveloped in their mock tudor style.

Longmace House and 8a High Street are now one property but there is no immediate record as to their evolution as such.

The property formed part of the Fitzalan and latterly the Dukes of Norfolk domination and development of the town.

The origins of the property date back to the mediaeval period and it probably remained as a 'cottage' style timber framed building until the end of the 18th century. Historians record that following the end of the civil war in the mid 17th century that Arundel castle lay in ruins and the town remained small and impoverished for many years.

The property was occupied by a watchmaker Archibald Lasseter in the 19th century and in fact, in 1851, the road corner between the High Street and Mill Lane became known as Lasseters corner. It is still recognized and referred to as such. A watchmaker is recorded in the town through the 17th and 18th centuries so it is likely that this was the use of a part of this property for quite some period.

The building has been much altered over time we suspect significantly around the early part of the 19th century when the town was a small but flourishing market town and port.

In recent years the building has been subject to a number of planning applications dating from the late 1970s' with consents varying from residential to office and shop. Considerable internal remodeling was completed in the 1970-1980 period and the layout now remains.

The adjoining premises comprise A3 restaurant A2 office\retail and A1 retail.

There is no intent to alter the current layout and this application is solely for use classification change.

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