

**C. Consultation responses from
English Heritage and Campaign for
Protection of Rural England.**



ENGLISH HERITAGE

SOUTH EAST REGION

104 SEP 2008

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Mr G. Whitehouse
GWP Achitects
Fairfield House
49 Fairfield Road
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West Sussex
RH15 8QB

Direct Dial: 01483-252044
Direct Fax: 01483-252001

Our ref: PA00007994

Your ref: GW/PS/2353/x

2 September 2008

Dear Mr Whitehouse

Request for Pre-application Advice

**PROPOSED HERITAGE/VISITOR CENTRE, MILL ROAD, ARUNDEL, ARUN,
WEST SUSSEX, BN18 9PA**

Thank you for providing us with the designs for this proposed building. I am very sorry that it has taken so long for our answer to reach you.

As you will know from our conversations, the general form of the building has been discussed already with Pauline Carder who has been keen to keep us informed. Therefore the architectural concept comes as no surprise, and we are content with it in relation to the setting of the Priory ruins, and of the Castle. You need to be aware that we have recently commented adversely on the proposals for the football ground, so we are looking carefully at buildings in this zone of the town: that proposed building would be much larger, of more assertive appearance, and more prominent in views from and to the Castle, as well as further from the existing built area. Obviously, in the case of your building, we would need to re-assess our advice were it to become larger, or to shift within the possible range of locations.

You have I believe spoken to Keith Weston on the form the foundations might take. He has recommended a pile foundation, and predicted that the piles need not be very wide. I trust you are content with this, since it conditions our archaeological comment from Richard Massey, Inspector of Ancient Monuments, which I reproduce below.



EASTGATE COURT 195-205 HIGH STREET GUILDFORD SURREY GU1 3EH

Telephone 01483 252000 Facsimile 01483 252001
www.english-heritage.org.uk

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Incidentally, you mention in your original letter the possibility of a comment from Virginia Hinze in respect of the Registered Landscape. As she has now retired, I am making the assessment on her behalf, and can be confident, I believe, that she would not have had any further comment to make, since what applies to the Castle as a building also applies to the Park in this instance.

Richard comments as follows:

In assessing the archaeological interest of the proposed development area, the significance of the section of river frontage adjacent to the castle walls and historic town centre is clearly paramount. The current course of Mill Road suggests the development of a necessary axis of movement dictated by the constraints of river and castle. As a probable early element in the street plan of the town, this significance is likely to have been reflected in considerable development from the C11/C12 onwards, of which the Priory ruins are a surviving element. Proximity to the river at this point suggests possible development of wharves and river frontage. This suggests at least medium archaeological potential within the area concerned, although this assumption should be qualified by a mapping regression exercise. In this location there will certainly be a favourable prognosis for the survival of organic remains, timber structures and palaeoenvironmental evidence.

Identified flood risk is likely to require raising of a ground floor to estimated height of 600mm above existing ground level. Foundation design will clearly be contingent on the results of geotechnical survey, although flood risk provisions here will clearly favour preservation *in situ* of archaeological remains. Keith's speculation regarding possible adverse implications of rafted foundations suggests that a ground beam construction supported on low diameter piles may be appropriate. Supervised geotechnical investigation will provide a limited understanding of the geoarchaeological/archaeological character of the site, much of which is likely to considerably antedate the Med period. This should be qualified by geophysical survey, followed by an iterative, targeted evaluation exercise with a view to optimising piling design and density as a strategy for archaeological mitigation. It is suggested that the longer term impact of piling on any significant water-logged contexts should be monitored.

Please get back in touch if you require assistance in planning the investigations, and as your proposals mature.



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Yours sincerely

David Brock

Team Leader

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Copy: Mark Taylor, County Archaeologist



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WEST SUSSEX, BN18 9PA**

Request for Pre-application Advice

Information Provided

GWP Architects: Drawings 2353/100, SK01 and unnumbered freehand sketches

Letter of 16 May 2008

Published Guidance

N/A



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Registered charity number 265028

Patron
Her Majesty The Queen

President
Lord Egremont

9 July 2008

Dear Mr Knight,

Thank you for inviting me to see your plans for the proposed new "Heritage" development in Mill Road, Arundel.

The design gives excellent utilisation of the site and will be in sympathy with the architecture of the existing buildings around the site.

You advised that the construction will be in flint and brick, rather than solely brick as shown on the plan, and that the roof will be in grey metal with ridging to reflect the roof on the main castle buildings. You also confirmed that the round "sentry box" structure in front of the development will not be built.

In view of the above, we have pleasure in confirming our approval of the plans and hope that you will obtain all the necessary funding to enable it to be built in the near future.

Roy Haycock
Chairman

Mr P Knight
Norfolk Estate
Estate Offices
Arundel BN18 9AS