

The Cathedral Church of Our Lady
& St. Philip Howard, Arundel

The West Front, proposed installation of lighting columns

Design & Access Statement

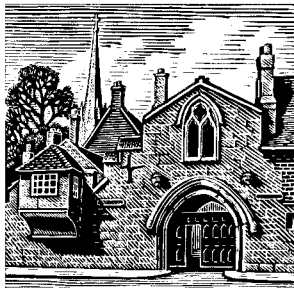
August 2018 – for approval

766-33b: Antony Feltham~King RIBA GradDiplConsAA AABC



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ARCHITECTS

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The Close · Salisbury · Wiltshire · SP1 2EB

principals: Michael Drury RIBA GradDiplConsAA AABC

Antony Feltham-King RIBA GradDiplConsAA AABC

partners: Louise Rendell RIBA DipConsHistEnvRICS

Helen Martin BAHons DiplArch MScCons AABC

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766/33b/ACFK

August 20th 2018

The Cathedral Church of Our Lady & St.Philip Howard, Arundel, West Sussex:

PROPOSED INSTALLATION OF REFURBISHED LIGHTING COLUMNS

DESIGN & ACCESS STATEMENT

1.00 Background:

- 1.01 Arundel Cathedral, built as the Church of Our Lady and St.Philip Neri, was completed in 1873. Its architect was JA Hansom (1803-1882). The Cathedral was built over a three year period at the expense of the 15th Duke of Norfolk, in late 13th century French gothic style. The height of the Cathedral, on its elevated site, vies with the Castle for domination of the town's skyline. The spire and upper stage of the north west tower, shown in the perspective views in the original design drawings, were never built.

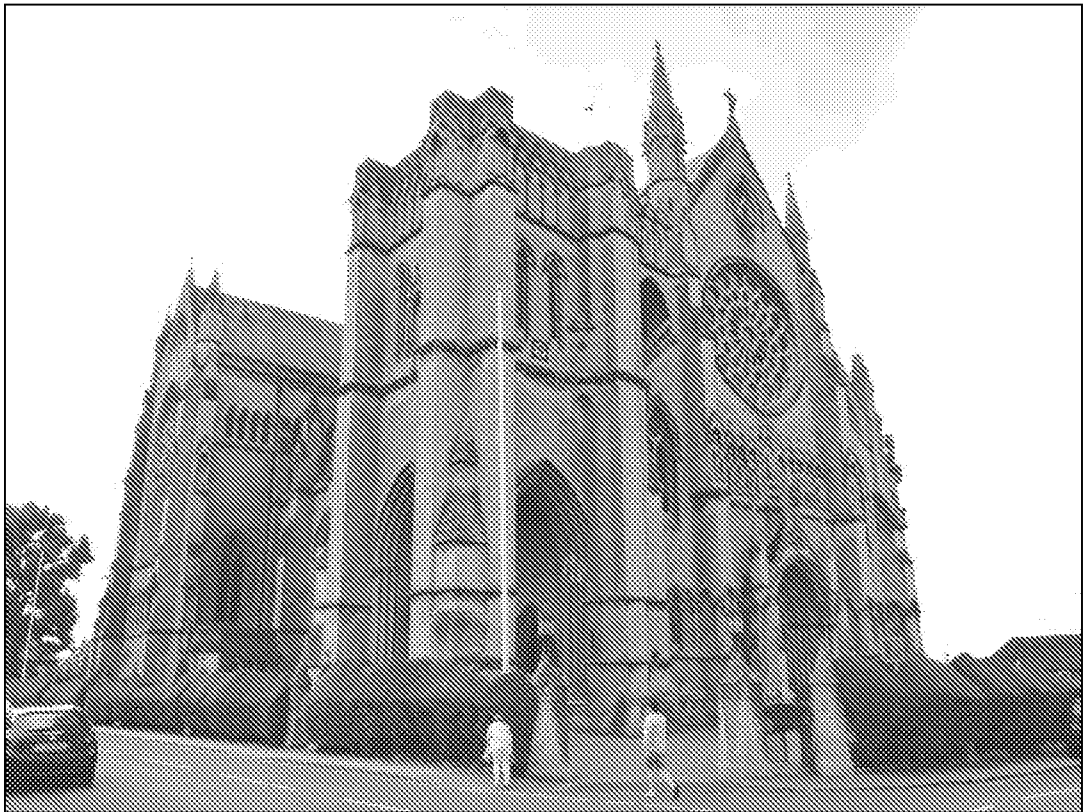


above: Cathedral Church building seen from the south across the Arundel rooftops

- 1.02 Externally, the Cathedral is faced in 'Stoke Ground' stone from the Box Hill quarries at Bath. Carved work is by Farmer and Brindley. Internally the dressings are also in Bath stone, this time from Corsham Down. The pavements are Hopton-Wood stone, banded with Purbeck marble. The Cathedral is vaulted throughout, in 'clunch' (chalk), with Bath stone ribs. Stained glass by Hardman decorates the eastern arm, the transept gables and the western rose window.
- 1.03 The Cathedral building is founded on approximately 1.8m (6') of fill material, atop around 20m (60') of brown sandy clay. A borehole sunk adjacent to the southern confessional booths by the previous surveyors (Knight Frank & Rutley), noted this arrangement, suggesting that this material '*...is probably a washed-down deposit from the surrounding ground, possibly into an old swallow hole in the chalk stratum.*' (KF&R report 1991). The original specification for the construction of the Cathedral is silent on matters of below ground construction, but an article in the 'Tablet' dated July 5th 1873 states that the foundations of the tower are 60' deep and rest upon solid chalk. The tall tower and spire arrangement which was originally design by Hansom was never completed.
- 1.04 Cathedral House and the Sacristy that links it to the south transept of the Cathedral were being constructed at the time the church was opened. The materials used are similar.
- 1.05 The interior of the Cathedral Church building saw a considerable number of changes in the hundred years that followed its completion. An early pulpit and a baldachino were amended, the former by the introduction of a massive sounding board. The baldachino was replaced with a five-arched screen, the central arch being larger than the others and accommodating the high altar. The pulpit changed again. A stone design by Hardman & Co remained unrealised, the wooden pulpit that eventually replaced the original being dismantled in 1968, giving way to twin stone ambos that flank a new high altar position in the chancel arch.
- 1.06 The organ was built by Hill and Son and was in place when the church was completed although it was not originally intended for Arundel (St John's Catholic Church, Islington being the original client). It was considerably altered by the original builders in 1890.
- 1.07 The Church of Our Lady and St Philip Neri became the Cathedral when the Diocese of Arundel and Brighton was established in 1965. The 1968 reordering described above resulted, the Bishop's throne taking the old high altar position.
- 1.08 In 1970 the Venerable Philip Howard, Earl of Arundel, was declared a Saint and in 1971 his remains were transferred from the Fitzalan Chapel in the parish church to a new altar tomb in the north transept of the Cathedral. In 1973 the dedication of the Cathedral was changed to that of 'Our Lady and St Philip Howard'.

2.00 The Cathedral boundary treatment

- 2.01 Consent was granted on 15.12.14 to replace the boundary yew hedges around the northern and western sides of the Cathedral grounds, with ironwork railings, designed to follow the pattern of railings removed for the war effort during WWII. The railings have not been installed, but the first stage of the project was carried out in 2015, with the completion of the replica iron gates at the main entry point to the Cathedral grounds (see below). As work has commenced on the work covered by the consent, the permission remains 'live'.



3.00 The current proposal

- 3.01 This proposal emerges as a result of the confluence of a number of issues:
- The amenity lighting within the Cathedral grounds requires updating.
 - The curved stone bench immediate in front of the west doors of the Cathedral requires protection from impact by cars and other vehicles using this area.
 - Arundel Castle has de-commissioned some historic lighting columns which can be refurbished and re-used within the Cathedral grounds to fulfil the requirement created by the two above points.
- 3.02 The current lighting within the Cathedral grounds results in some dark spots and it is proposed that installing the four new lighting column as proposed will assist in this respect, making the grounds safer at night and during the darker months, for those accessing the southern side of the Cathedral complex.
- 3.03 The curved stone bench opposite the Cathedral west doors, was constructed in 1999 as part of the hard landscaping. The bench existed without incident for over ten years, but it has been badly damaged by moving vehicles at least three times in the past few years. In the light of these incidents, it is proposed that positioning two of the four new lighting columns to either side of the stone bench will help to illuminate the bench, to highlight its presence, and will also physically protect the bench from damage by cars manoeuvring in that area. The other two proposed locations enable the lighting columns to illuminate the route through to the Cathedral Sacristy.



above: Curved stone bench opposite west doors, repaired by stonemasons following damage caused by reversing vehicles.

- 3.04 The Cathedral has been offered the use of four historic cast iron lighting columns by Arundel Castle. These are no longer needed in the Castle grounds and are available for re-used. They are currently stored in the Castle estate office yard.

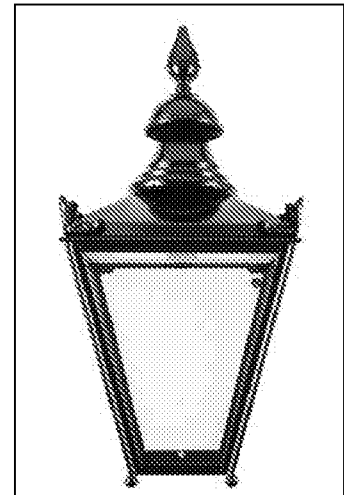


above: Four lighting columns in store in the Castle grounds.

below: The column sections to be re-used.



3.05 The columns measure around 2.75m from the ground level to the collar. It is proposed to work with Sugg Lighting from Horsham to install new 'heads' onto the columns, as the existing heads are in poor shape and, in terms of electrical safety and the control of the spread of light, new heads are preferable. These will be the from Sugg 'Windsor' range (see image to the right), appearing as a smaller-scale version of the Sugg columns recently installed as the street lighting around Arundel. The total height of the column luminaires will therefore be around 3.6m (12') from ground level to the base of the 'top-knot', which appears to be an appropriate scale for the context of the Cathedral site.



3.06 The small scale of the proposed new lighting columns is illustrated by the 'proposed' elevational drawings. Drawing 766-33-13 shows the elevation of the Cathedral with the lighting columns in situ. This drawing reflects the current arrangement, with the yew hedging in place along the boundary. Drawing 766-33-14 shows the elevation of the Cathedral with the columns in place, in the context of the consented boundary railings, which will be installed at some point in the future, budget permitting.

3.07 In relation to control of light emerging from the heads of the columns, the relevant inner glass faces of the heads will be fitted with blanking film to avoid glare entering neighbouring properties.

4.00 Conclusion

- 4.01 In conclusion, it is suggested that this proposal provides a suitable and dignified way to re-used historic lighting fittings which would otherwise be discarded. Using them in the locations suggested provides an answer to two ongoing problems associated with the use of the western end of the cathedral grounds, ie providing safer levels of illumination for those who use this area, and providing an appropriate way to demark the curved stone bench and the end of the flight of steps leading to King Street.
- 4.02 This proposal affects the setting of the listed building and the conservation area. Such proposals for the Cathedral fall within the remit of the Roman Catholic Historic Churches Committee (HCC) under Ecclesiastical Exemption. Therefore formal Faculty approval from the HCC will be sought in parallel with a planning application to Arun District Council. The Faculty in effect takes the place of Listed Building and Conservation Area Consent.

Antony Feltham~King RIBA GradDiplConsAA AABC
Cathedral Architect, St. Ann's Gate Architects LLP, Salisbury 20.08.18

relevant drawings:

766-33b-301_Location plan as existing
766-33b-302_Block plan as existing
766-33b-303_Site plan as existing
766-33b-304_West elevation as existing
766-33b-311_Site plan as proposed
766-33b-312_West elevation as proposed with hedges
766-33b-313_West elevation as proposed with railings