HERITAGE STATEMENT

The Black Swan PH,
44 Market Place
Belper
DE56 1FZ

On behalf of: Mr James Brown c/o The Brown Ales Pub Company Ltd



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1.0 Introduction

This statement has been prepared at the request of Amber Valley Borough Council to accompany an application for Advert Consent at The Black Swan PH, Market Place, Belper, DE56 1FZ.

The idea of this heritage statement is to show how we as designers wish to take into account the historical values of not only the building but the surrounding environment to help preserve its beauty and history by designing for a purpose with form and function. We believe as the signage provider that it is important that any changes to the Black Swan are in context with neighbouring streets and surrounding local area. As well as respecting the local area and buildings of Ilkley the changes would also need to fulfil the actual function that was in hand and also work with the existing building.

This heritage statement will access the building in terms of historic and architectural interest and context of the local planning policy with a view to the application to convert and develop the building. This statement will provide a full understanding of the building and its significance as required.

2.0 The Site

2.1 Description

The Black Swan is located on Market Place in Belper and is situated within the Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site and the Belper & Milford Conservation Area. The land in which the pub resides on is owned by The Brown Ales Pub Company Ltd.

2.2 Details & History

2. The Black Swan formerly known as the Nether Swan, was the centre of attractions at the Wakes as it was the goal of the donkey race. The large room over the vaults was reached by a flight of stone stairs outside and on one occasion a donkey arrived at the Black Swan at the head of the race and went up the stairs and putting his head through the window brayed at the crowd below.

An advertisement in a local paper of 1828 states that it was a long established and well known travellers' inn with stabling for thirty horses. At Belper Fair 1745, it is said that a Moss-trooper came to the public room at the Black Swan to stir up the people in favour of Bonny Prince Charlie.

The Upper Swan (upper part of the Black Swan, reached by steps from outside) was well known before 1788 according to an article in the Daily Express of Monday 3 August 1925. The Commissioners for the Enclosure of Common Land met here on 24 and 25 March 1788. The balcony was built around the upper windows of the pub and this was used by politicians to address the people, as were other pubs in the Market Place. In an advert dated 15 July 1823, it states that it has stabling for thirty horses. This stabling was situated in Queen Street.



Fig 2.2.1: Site Plan extract from Google maps of The Black Swan

As the location map shows the site exists on Market Place, in the heart of Belper and attracts a lot of people whether it is locals or visitors.

The building therefore provides guests a place to stay, relax, drink, enjoy some good food and enjoy the hospitality and amenities of the surrounding area.

3.0 Significance of the assets and the settings affected

The design and access statement has set out in evaluation that various assets have been taken into account in the design of the site. Any proposed removals of materials of the existing buildings have been considered in terms of the significance of the building's finishes.

Policy HE7.4 - the desirability of sustaining and enhancing the significance of heritage assets. The proposals have taken into account the importance of the buildings and will take into account the buildings tradition along with its traditional materials. There are no major demolition works within the proposal but where materials are removed, new will be installed to match the existing in best possible way to retain the traditional look, heritage and enhance them both.

3.1 Practice guide with TNPPF

In paragraph 79, the practice guide identifies a number of potential heritage benefits that could weigh in favour of the proposed scheme. These are considered in accordance with the current proposals. The benefits are:

-To sustain or enhance the significance of the heritage asset

The traditional establishments appearance and character will be retained. The only additional signage would be the proposed signwritten display to the timber board in the window recess (Item 4) and the signwritten wall patch (Item 6) although there is

evidence that originally there was a larger signwritten wall patch on the corner so this is a nod to the past See photo below.



3.2 The need for the proposal

Our clients at The Brown Ales Pub Company Ltd find the need to make the stated amendments to the building to sustain the physical features externally of the establishment and to improve the external appearance to benefit the local residents and help sustain the business.

3.3 Benefits of the Proposal

The benefits will allow the business to keep trading and attracting people to the area to stay, drink and dine, thus providing a secure future for the historical building and surround places of interest.

3.4 Is there a risk to the Heritage asset

We believe along with our client that there is no risk with this proposal in regards to the heritage building and its surroundings and feel that this design would not interfere with the overall character and look of the pub which will still remain the same.

3.5 Scale, Design and Materials

When considering any alterations to existing buildings the surrounding context and neighbouring sites must be taken into consideration. Determining important factors within the urban context and maintaining these throughout the design and construction phase achieve this. An easy equilibrium of designs between existing and proposed needs to be established. This is obviously important when the site is surrounded by buildings of a historical nature.

Our overall design will be sympathetic to the site and surrounding environment. The buildings characteristic look has been delicately considered within the design and we feel this alteration would not affect the traditional character of the current building and its position within Belper.

4.0 Conclusion

It is evident that Belper has many traditional values and historical buildings, but it is also a town that has had change over the years with alterations to residential and commercial buildings. The Black Swan itself has also changed with the times to keep up with current trends.

The proposed signage has been carefully considered and we feel that the proposal allows the signage to be refurbished without impinging on the traditional character of the building and its surroundings. All the work will be carried out to the highest standard and all areas affected will be made good to match existing where necessary.

We believe the proposed signage to the existing building will also enable The Black Swan to be a safer and more welcoming and appealing building without tarnishing its historical values.

