5th September 2023

**HERITAGE STATEMENT**

**SITE: BRITANNIC HOUSE, REGENT ST, BARNSLEY S70 2EQ**

HISTORIC IMPORTANCE OF THE CONSERVATION AREA

This section describes the Conservation Area and the buildings within it as seen marked in red on the attached plan. I have numbered the Grade II listed buildings on the plan in accordance with the following:

**1)** Grade II

**The Courthouse Station**

**The Courthouse Station, 24, Regent Street, BARNSLEY, S70 2HG**

Court House building. 1861 by Reeves. Ashlar. Welsh slate roof. Two storeys and attic. Italianate style. Six x five bays, on corner site. Near-symmetrical facade has rusticated ground floor and with vermiculated quoins. Doorway to first and fourth bays, the latter with consoles supporting a break in the ground-floor cornice surmounted by the Royal coat of arms. Ground-floor openings all have segmental heads with elongated vermiculated keystones and plain raised architraves. Sash windows with marginal glazing. Tall round-arched first-floor windows are archivolted and have elongated vermiculated keystones and spandrels. Vermiculated panels to the piers between the windows. Sunken aprons and dentilled sills. Six-light casements with circular wooden tracery to the window heads. Deep frieze with paired consoles supporting the heavy modillioned eaves cornice. Between the consoles are small attic windows. Hipped roof. Ornamental ashlar stacks with vermiculated panels, cornices and caps. The right return elevation is similar with two blind ground-floor windows.

Interior: Staircase with decorative iron balusters and ramped wooden handrail. First-floor hall with round-arched bays marked by pilasters and panelled ceiling. The building was converted to use as a railway station building in 1870 and remained as such until 1962.

**2)** Grade II

**PIERS, WALL AND RAILINGS TO FRONT AREA OF COURT HOUSE BUILDING, REGENT STREET**

Piers, wall and railings. 1861 by Reeves. Five square ashlar piers with vermiculated panels and moulded caps, one with ornamental cast-iron lamp standard. Low ashlar wall with rounded coping. Heavy cast-iron railings with bulbous rails and bars. Included for group value.

**3)** Grade II

**Queens Court Business Centre and attached railings to front**

Regent Street, Barnsley, S70 2EG

Former hotel, attached shop and house (Eldon Street) built in late the 1860s for James Fox to designs by Wade and Turner. Shops and billiard room, cellarage and stores (Regent Street) built in 1872 for James Fox to designs by Turner. Narrow infill block between the hotel and Regent Street building built in late 1872. Single-storey range built on south side of rear yard (Regent Street South) in 1873, heightened to two storeys in 1874. Extra storey added to Regent Street block in early to mid-C20; attic storey added to the Regent Street block and former store/warehouse range to its rear in late C20 or early C21.

Reasons for Designation

Queens Court Business Centre and attached railings to front is listed at Grade II for the following principal reasons:

Architectural interest:

\* as a well-designed classical building built of ashlar stone and enlivened by high-quality detailing including pilasters with enriched capitals, window heads and eaves cornice, carved eagles, lions’ heads, an elaborate main entrance with a carved keystone head of Queen Victoria and other keystone heads by the sculptor Benjamin Payler; \* the corner building makes a positive and engaging contribution to the historic buildings on both Eldon Street and Regent Street, and together with the listed former Court House (later Court House Station) frames the view up the latter road which culminates in the Grade II\* War Memorial and aligned tower of the listed Town Hall behind; \* the interior retains good-quality key features, including the mahogany circular revolving door to the panelled and marble-floored main entrance lobby, the main staircase, fluted Ionic pilasters and entablature framing openings off the entrance hall, enriched cornices and ceiling roses, and also original storage benches, shelves and bins in the stone-flagged cellars.

Historic interest:

\* Wade and Turner were a respected Barnsley architects’ practice who designed a number of significant local buildings which are now listed, including the Premises of the National Union of Mine Workers, the Public Baths, and the Oaks Colliery Disaster Memorial.

**4)** Grade II

**17 21 AND 23, REGENT STREET**

Terrace of 4 town houses (No 19 now part of No 17), now offices. Early to mid C19. Dressed stone. Welsh slate roof. Two storeys. Each house is of 2 bays and has entrance to right with panelled jambs and triangular pediment, the doorway to No 19 now part-blocked with window in keeping. Sash windows, some with original glazing bars. Raised sills. Moulded stone brackets to gutter. Tall stone stacks midway down pitch of roof, 2 truncated and 2 retaining cornice and cap.

**5)** Grade II

**13 AND 15, REGENT STREET**

Town house, now offices. Early C19. Hammer-dressed stone. Welsh slate roof. 3 storeys, attic and basement to rear due to sloping ground. 3 bays by 3 bays on corner site. Symmetrical facade. Central doorway (No 15) has panelled jambs, frieze and cornice. A tripartite window to each side (possibly later alterations). Sash windows to 1st and 2nd floors with raised sills. The name "REGENT STREET" is inscribed at the right corner. Moulded stone brackets to gutter. Gable copings with large ashlar parapet at verge. Two stone stacks to each roof pitch. Ashlar stack to right gable. Rear: sash windows, some altered. Right return: symmetrical. Later, central,square stone porch with round-arched doorway (No 13). Sash windows, some with glazing bars. Raised sills. Central 1st-floor window has moulded architrave, frieze and cornice. Single sash window in the pedimented gable. Included for group value.

**6)** Grade II

**14 AND 16, REGENT STREET**

Two handed town houses, now offices. Circa 1825. Dressed stone. Welsh slate roof. Two storeys. Each house is of 3 bays with entrances to left and right in good Doric doorcases with fluted columns and open, modillioned pediments. Semicircular fanlights with radial glazing bars. Tall windows, especially to ground floor, with raised sills. Sashes and some casements. Lower addition to left with carriage entrance and single sash above. Moulded brackets to gutter. Truncated central stack, and second stack in front roof slope on left.

**7)** Grade II

**The Old Courthouse, 12, Regent Street, Barnsley, S70 2EW**

County Court. 1871 by T. C. Sorby. Ashlar. Welsh slate roof. Italianate style. Two storeys and basement. Seven x four bays corner site. Near-symmetrical facade, with rusticated ground floor and end bays of first floor. Square-headed basement windows. A flight of stone steps leads to the main entrance in bay seven in Doric portico which has deep parapet with cartouche. Double, panelled door. Square-headed sash windows in deep newels with cut voussoirs and dropped keystones.

The first floor is in the form of an Ionic colonnade with pilasters (to the blind end bays) and engaged columns, between which are five round-arched windows with balustrade beneath in architraves with pilasters and console keystones. Two tiny lights in the frieze. Full entablature with panelled and balustraded parapet. Hipped roof. Ornamental ashlar stacks with dentilled cornice and rounded caps. The left return is similar with entrance to left and two ground-floor windows. Three first-floor windows with square heads and triangular pediments on console brackets. Tiny lights in the frieze.

**8)** Grade II

**8 AND 10, REGENT STREET, 2, EASTGATE**

Nos 8 and 10 including No 2 Eastgate GV II Offices. Dated 1895. Ashlar. Welsh slate roof. Free classical style. Three storeys. 6 bays to Regent Street, 5 bays to Eastgate. Nos 8 and 10 (on Regent Street), are handed and separated by a rusticated pilaster. Each has a central doorway in a moulded architrave and an open segmental pediment, on ornamental brackets and an enriched tympanum, that to left bearing date. The square-headed ground-floor windows (apart from single window to bay 6) were formerly tripartite, now with mullions removed. Aprons to No 10; windows to No 8 enlarged. 1st and 2nd floors: bays 3 and 4 have 3-light canted oriel windows. Square-headed, unequal sash windows in raised surrounds, those to 1st floor with ornamental heads and steep triangular pediments, those to 2nd floor with moulded heads and fleur-de-lys enrichments. Dentilled eaves cornice and deep parapet. Tall ornamental ashlar stacks. The Eastgate elevation is similar with central doorway with open, scrolled pediment, and tripartite windows to left and right. To the far right is an elliptical-arched carriage entrance with moulded surround and alternately blocked voussoirs. lst- and 2nd-floor canted oriel windows to bays 2 and 4.

**9)** Grade II

**9, REGENT STREET**

Council offices. Circa 1880. Ashlar. Welsh slate roof. Classical style. Three storeys. 5 bays to Royal Street, one rounded corner bay and 4 bays to Regent Street. Entrance in corner bay with fanlight, pilaster jambs and cornice on shaped, enriched brackets. Double panelled door. Entrance in 4th bay of Regent Street facade is round-arched with spandrel treatment, small cornice and c1970 door. All windows are square-headed sashes with moulded architraves, slightly taller to ground floor. Cornices between floors. Moulded eaves cornice and deep panelled parapet. Included for group value.

**10)** Grade II

**5 AND 7, REGENT STREET**

Offices. Dated 1867. Ashlar. Welsh slate roof. Free Classical style. Three storeys. Terraced facade, each property of 2 bays. Each has entrance to right with fanlight, elongated keystone (that to right dated), and pilaster jambs. Paired sash windows with pilaster jambs and round-cornered, moulded heads. Ground-floor cornice. Round-arched lst-floor sash windows on sill band have moulded heads, pilaster jambs cornices, and are paired to left bay of each property. Square-headed 2nd-floor sash windows, on sill band, with pilaster jambs, arranged as before. Moulded eaves cornice. Included for group value.

**11)** Grade II

**THE OLD POST OFFICE (BETWEEN NUMBERS 3 AND 5 REGENT ST)**

The Old Post Office (between Nos 3 and 5) GV II Former Post Office, now offices. 1881. Ashlar facade,brick sides. Welsh slate roof. Italianate style. Three storeys. Symmetrical 4-bay facade. Rusticated ground floor. Elaborate square-headed portals to left and right, with double, panelled doors and coved, grooved jambs. Each has large modillioned cornice on elaborately-scrolled brackets and is decorated with lions' heads and floral bosses. Two large ground-floor, square-headed sash windows. 1st-floor sash windows are square-headed with moulded architraves and triangular pediments on scrolled brackets. Sill band with turned balusters under each window. Moulded band above 1st floor. Square-headed 2nd-floor sash windows in moulded architraves on sill band. Deep modillioned cornice.

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THE CHARACTER AND APPEARANCE OF THE CONSERVATION AREA

Regent Street is vibrant and a commercial area of Barnsley in that it is home to firms of solicitors, accountants, financial advisors, chartered surveyors and estate agents. Most of these properties have quite large signage as well as window graphics. The estate agents have windows full of pictures of properties. I have included relevant pictures to show this.

THE PROPOSAL FOR ADVERTISING

The signage for our main entrance is significantly set back from Regent Street itself and can only be viewed when one is stood directly in front of our office. I do not believe it is visible from elsewhere on Regent Street and therefore I do not feel this harms the setting of the Listed Buildings.

The window graphics that are proposed have little detail other than our logo and simple descriptions of the type of work we do. They are not ‘busy’ looking graphics with lots of detail on them. Again I do not feel they harm the setting of the buildings on the street, I feel they compare well to other graphics which are on other buildings on the street. Again please see pictures attached.

For the reasons stated above I feel that the proposal would preserve the appearance of the Conservation Area and not be considered to be incongruous within its context, or considered too dominant a feature of the street.

Dawn Stones

Practice Manager

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