

A Heritage Statement

18 St Mary's Garden, Worsbrough Village, Barnsley, S70 5LU.

1. Introduction

A Planning application is being submitted for rear additions to a relatively contemporary (late C20) existing dwelling to replace and extend a prior/defective conservatory that will be removed to enable the proposed works. The dwelling is towards the southern edge of the Villages' Conservation Area and the Council requires a heritage statement to appraise the conservation implications of the works.

Worsbrough dates to the 7th century can be found in the Domesday Book and was formally an urban district of the West Riding of Yorkshire comprising 3 parishes, St Mary's and the village, the historic centre of the district and the Bridge surrounding the parish of St James' and the Dale and the parish of St Thomas'.



As can be seen from the above map extract, the site, identified by the blue triangle, is on the southern fringe of the villages' conservation area to the south-east of the villages' main listed buildings to the centre of the village mainly along the primary axis of the village, Worsbrough Road as it travels in a predominantly north-eastern direction between Birdwell and Worsbrough Bridge and within this cluster the predominant listed building is the Grade I listed medieval parish church of St Mary's, a church established in its current form in the 12th century with 14/15th century alterations and additions although evidence of Saxon stonework suggests an earlier building stood on the site.

The conservation area also embraces the surrounding areas of mainly residential uses along the historic route of the Worsbrough Road. The village has also seen the introduction of more contemporary residential development which includes St Mary's Garden itself and The Cloisters and other notable buildings in the near vicinity include Home Farmhouse and adjoining barn and the Old School and School House, now village/church hall/rooms to the immediate North of St Marys and the village pub, The Edmunds Arms.

Worsbrough is seen as one of the numerous villages within the local plan area where only limited development has been identified with the main focuses for development being the urban area of Barnsley and the surrounding principal towns.

2. The Proposal.

The host building is a late C20 detached residence occupying an intermediate plot on the southern “leg” of St Mary’s Garden, which has a broadly east-west axis on the fringe of the local conservation area to the south-east of the centre of the village and has been the subject of a conservatory addition to rear/south and what was the integral garage has been converted to a home office/study and downstairs toilet and shower.

The scheme of extension and alteration includes additional family/living accommodation downstairs which includes a new/enlarged kitchen, which in turn enables the creation of a separate utility in the space vacated by the kitchen together with a separate dining area and split-level morning/garden room towards outer end of extension and upstairs a new ensuite master bedroom and enlarged 2nd bedroom are also enabled.



Photo 1. Shows the current presentation of host building and its neighbours to the wider conservation area to the north of the plot and, with the alterations and extensions being to the rear of the property, effectively the proposed presentation of the building, to assist the final evaluation of the proposal and although this will lie with the relevant planning case officer in architectural/heritage terms this view seems to illustrate that although the buildings are relatively contemporary, their traditional scale and form of masonry walls under tiled pitched roofs, are of limited impact upon the villages conservation area

3. Conservation Area Impact

In the immediate area on St Mary's Garden there is a contemporary street scene aesthetic with a collection of relatively modern two storey and single storey dwellings to northern edge and western flank and in the wider conservation area there is a fairly inconsistent street scene with there being buildings of varied architectural character and vintage, varying from the Medieval C12 church of St Mary's through the late C16-C17 Old School/House to the C18 Home Farmhouse and C20 housing on, for example, The Cloisters to the north-west of Worsbrough Road as can be seen on the following photos.





Photo 2 illustrates the contemporary single storey dwellings to western flank of St Mary's Garden and this is followed by Photo 3, showing two of the primary listed buildings in the Village, those being St Mary's Church and Home Farmhouse; Photo 4 shows the Old School and School House and more traditional cottages opposite and Photo 5 brings together the contemporary residential development of The Cloisters and the village pub, The Edmunds Arms and clearly illustrates the varied street scene in the village and its associated conservation area

The proposed rear extensions with matching and reduced eaves heights and apexes and a substantial proportion of single storey at reduced garden level seem to have no adverse impact on the conservation area with the works not being directly visible to public realm nor the wider conservation area with it being relatively varied in the locale and with the proposals being subservient to the host building. The proposal will also be entirely compatible with the domestic use and contemporary setting of the building consistent with this predominantly residential area. Also the proposal has no impact upon the historic road pattern in the area and is compatible with the local planning objective of limited development in existing villages in the Borough.