

HERITAGE STATEMENT

*In Support of an Application for Listed Building Consent
Park Grange, Neville Avenue, Barnsley, S70 3HF*

1. INTRODUCTION & SCOPE OF WORKS

This Heritage Statement has been prepared to support an application for Listed Building Consent at Park Grange, Neville Avenue, Barnsley, S70 3HF. In accordance with Paragraph 194 of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), this document assesses the historical significance of the heritage asset and evaluates the potential impact of the proposed minor operational alterations.

The scope of works is strictly limited to the necessary utility infrastructure upgrade required for the building's continued functional viability. Specifically, the proposal comprises the installation of an externally mounted gas meter (Type U16). The installation has been explicitly designed to preserve the principal elevations of the building. It will be mounted away from the public road, rendering it completely unseen from Neville Avenue. To ensure the installation integrates harmoniously with the existing fabric, the protective gas meter housing box will be spray-painted grey to visually match the adjacent existing render.

2. DESCRIPTION OF THE HERITAGE ASSET

Park Grange (historically recorded as Park House) is a prominent architectural landmark within the locality. The primary structure dates back to circa 1780. The building is a late-Georgian three-story mansion using high-quality local Yorkstone blocks under a Welsh slate hip roof.

Mid-to-late 19th-century modifications introduced a substantial canted Doric portico to the principal entry facade along with large three-light bay windows, reflecting the estate's evolution during Barnsley's industrial expansion. The rear elevations feature later 19th-century two-story utility wings and modern rendered surfaces associated with its 20th-century transitions to institutional and residential care uses. This includes the addition of an external steel and concrete staircase/platform to the East elevation giving access to the side door.

3. ASSESSMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Park Grange holds substantial historic and architectural value at a local and regional level, categorized under the following significance criteria:

- **Architectural Value:** Derived from its classical symmetrical composition, its exceptionally well-preserved stonework, and the high-quality late-Georgian and Victorian craftsmanship visible on its primary elevations.
- **Historic Value:** Linked directly to the socio-economic history of Barnsley, representing the residential elite of the pre-industrial and early industrial eras, specifically its direct association with the Taylor family line.

• **Setting Value:** While the historic orchard and rural boundaries were altered during the 20th century to accommodate the Kendray housing developments, the immediate courtyard setting and the visual profile visible from Neville Avenue remain crucial to understanding its historic isolation and prominence.

4. IMPACT ASSESSMENT & MITIGATION MATRIX

The table below details the proposed works and establishes how the design avoids, minimizes, or mitigates any potential harm to the historic fabric and character of the Grade II listed building.

Proposed Element	Heritage Impact Evaluation	Mitigation Measures	NPPF Compliance Level
Installation of Type U16 Gas Meter (External)	Negligible physical impact. The meter requires minor external surface mounting on a secondary side elevation, involving localized, reversible mechanical fixings.	The meter will be positioned behind the east access staircase, ensuring it remains completely unseen from the principal Neville Avenue frontage. Avoids all primary stone facades.	No Harm / Preserved
External Meter Housing Box	Potential minor visual discordance if left in standard unpainted white or buff GRP finish against the historic building's aged background fabric.	The exterior protective housing box will be spray-painted a specific grey color chosen to match the tone of the existing render on the east conservatory, minimizing visual contrast.	No Harm / Enhanced Integration
Service Pipework Penetration	No fabric penetration required to route the internal gas supply line from the external U16 meter position.	Cadent will run the new pipe in a pre-existing trench to pop up at the new meter location. No pipework will be visible.	Low / Fully Mitigated

5. SUMMARY & CONCLUSION

The proposed utility works represent a minor & highly localized addition to Park Grange. By positioning the Type U16 gas meter box away from public vantage points on Neville Avenue and finishing the housing box in grey to complement the existing render, the project completely preserves the architectural character, symmetry, and setting of the historic building. The works

strictly comply with local planning policies and the statutory duties set out within the NPPF, warranting a favorable recommendation for Listed Building Consent.