

Heritage Statement

for

Parker House

2B, Church Street

Leek

Staffordshire

ST13 6AB

Heritage Statement for Listed Building Application for 'Blue Plaque' Scheme at Parker House, 2b,Church Street, Leek, Staffordshire.

Introduction

Parker House is situated within the Leek Central Conservation Area and is classified as a Grade II Listed Building – a copy of the listing is attached within this statement as Appendix 'A'. It sits at the top of the Market Place on Stockwell Street and is part of an important grouping.

According to recent dendrology part of the property dates from 1512-1514 and under the auspices of Dieulacresse Abbey, situated nearby, served as a moot house and possibly for wool storage, which was one of the main industries of the time. The accuracy of the dendrology was undertaken under the supervision of Dr Faith Cleverdon.

The one time Thomas Parker was born here in 1667 (after which it takes its name) – a similar plaque has been erected over 2, Church Street to commemorate this fact.

It is well documented that an early visitor to the property was one 'Bonnie Prince Charlie' (Bonnie Prince Charlie in the Staffordshire Moorlands by H. Bode published 1986) – this document records that he arrived in Leek on 3rd December 1745 on his way down to London. He again visited Leek on his retreat back north on 7th December 1745.

Leek and District Civic Society have assessed this building (and its immediate neighbours) as being an important part of Leek's built heritage and history (given its former occupant).

Proposal

The proposal is to affix a 400mm diameter, 12mm thick resin plaque, using the bed joint for the screw fixings – its position is shown on details contained within this statement, using a photograph superimposed with a sample plaque.

The wording of the plaque will be: **'In 1745 Bonnie Prince Charlie stayed here at this end of the Ancient Market Place on his advance and retreat to seize the English Crown'.**

Design Issues

The position of the plaque has been assessed given the existing openings on the front elevation - It is felt that the fixing of the plaque will not affect the significance of this listed building.

Robert L McGuinness MRICS – Chartered Surveyor

Principal – RLM Associates

6th February 2018

APPENDIX 'A'

LEEK

SJ9856NW CHURCH STREET
611-1/4/35 (North side)
13/04/51 Nos.2, 2A AND 4

GV II

House or row of cottages, now in use as shops. Probably early C17. Some timber-framing internally, but substantially of stone, with red plain-tiled roof.
EXTERIOR: 2 storeys, 4-window range. Inserted shop window to left of wide chamfered archway, and 2 late C19 shop fronts to right, separated by a doorway with chamfered stone architrave and lintel, inserted or recut in C19. Single 3-light wood casement window to left above, and stone mullioned windows of 3 and 4 lights beyond, all in moulded architraves, probably C17. End and rear wall stacks.
INTERIOR: not inspected.

Listing NGR: SJ9838956619

Entry Name: 2,2a and 4, Church Street
Listing Date: 13 April 1951
Grade: II
Source: Historic England
Source ID: 1268645
English Heritage Legacy ID: 461610
Location: Leek, Staffordshire Moorlands, Staffordshire, ST13
County: Staffordshire
District: Staffordshire Moorlands
Civil Parish: Leek
Built-Up Area: Leek
Traditional County: Staffordshire
Lieutenancy Area (Ceremonial County): Staffordshire
Church of England Parish: Leek St Edward the Confessor
Church of England Diocese: Lichfield



The plaque is 400mm in diameter and made of resin, being 12mm thick - there will be two number stainless steel screw fixings, using existing mortar bed joints between the stones.

Wording around the side shall read 'Leek and District Civic Society' as shown. The main text will read 'In 1745 Bonnie Prince Charlie stayed here at this end of the Ancient Market Place on his advance and retreat to seize the English Crown' as shown.

Font style to be Blue Plaque K-Type.

DETAILS OF PLAQUE IN CONNECTION WITH 2B, CHURCH STREET, LEEK. APPENDIX 'B'.