



Banqueting Hall Window Alton Towers

Design and Access Statement

This design and access statement has been prepared on behalf of Alton Towers Resorts Operations Limited to accompany an application for listed building consent for the removal, restoration and reinstatement of the Banqueting Hall window glazing panels and stone surround at Alton Towers Resort, following its deterioration over time. The statement has been prepared in accordance with Communities and Local Government 'Guidance on information requirement and validation' published in March 2010.

The statement covers the key design principles and concepts applied to the proposed restoration and should be read in conjunction with the Pugin, Hardman and Powell report.

Context

The window is located within the Banqueting Hall at Alton Towers Resort. As part of the main Towers building, the Banqueting Hall is located in the south western part of the site as illustrated in the site location plan (ref: CL3224-034). The window is located on the north western side of the Banqueting Hall, and is registered as Grade II* listed.

Amount

The window consists of 27 transomed lights in 3 tiers of 9 lancets, overlooking the park and illuminating the dining room. Each pane will be removed and restored.

Layout

The window was designed by Pugin as set out in his watercolour, circa 1850. The detailed design depicts armorial bearings on the upper two tiers, with highly decorative painted flower motif backgrounds. On the bottom tier the glass is plain quarry with only decorative cusp heads, designed to allow views over the park and illuminate the other significant features of the Banqueting Hall. Restoration work will cover each pane with the whole window being removed and transported to Hardman's studio in Birmingham. Following restoration the panes will be reinstated in the exact same positions, maintaining the original layout and design of the window. The proposed restoration works includes the repair of the stonework surrounds and sills, and the implementation of secondary glazing to preserve the glass pane restoration.

Scale

As the Condition Report and Conservation Recommendations state, the proposed restoration works will ensure the scale of the window is retained.

Landscaping

The restoration work to the window will not alter the existing landscaping.

Appearance

A list of the processes proposed to be used in the restoration of the Banqueting Hall window is included in the enclosed Condition Report and Conservation Recommendations and application form. As the method statement and covering letter state the entire window will be restored with no replacement, serving only to enhance and restore the existing panes.

Access

There will be no change to access. Limited scaffolding will be used to remove and reinstate the panes, but this will not result in a material affect on public access.

Significance of Heritage Asset

As previously mentioned, the window is located in the Banqueting Hall inside the Grade II* listed "Alton Towers". It is a significant feature and is referred to within the listed building document for the Tower building. This application seeks to restore and enhance the window, reinstating the heritage value of the window that has been deteriorating over time. The window contributes significantly to the historic character of the Banqueting Hall, which Alton Towers Resorts wish to see protected and enhanced.