

ANTHONY SHORT & PARTNERS LLP

Architects & Historic Buildings Consultants

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F03 Parker House Leek
24th July 2019
Gill Bayliss
Conservation Officer
Staffordshire Moorlands District Council

Statement of detailed construction;
Dear Gill,

A review meeting was held at Parker House with Roger Warrillow and Robert McGuiness on the 11th July 2019.

The structural frame including the oak structural supporting frame has been reassembled. The main west gable truss has been secured and the reinstalled first floor properly and effectively supported. The north frame has been reassembled and repaired using oak.

Our client has obtained a loan in order to help him cover the cost of restoring the timber frame using traditional construction materials that match those found on site. He wishes to restart the repairs and reinstatement.

Pleased find attached the detailed drawings of the internal English seasoned oak structural frame, which has mortice and tenon joints which have been traditionally fixed with oak pegs. We have shown details of the proposed window openings which are a reinstatement of the windows that were originally in place as evidenced by remaining mortice holes.

1. The leaded light detail is shown on the drawings and will be the same as the glazing detail of a restored 3 light window at landing level on the main stairway.
2. The drawings show the reinstalled stair in the original location; an adjustment has been made accommodating the depth of the new inner structural frame.
3. The external panels will be renewed to match the remaining original construction on the west gable; oak split lath and horsehair reinforced hydraulic lime render. Expert advice will be sort on the type of render mix used during the 16th/17th century.
4. The new internal structural oak frame mirrors the timber construction of the outer frames and will be fully finished using an insulating hemp brick inset into the frame, which will be skimmed with a breathable lime plaster and breathable lime-based paint.

Following structural collapse caused by a fundamental loss of fabric due to wet rot behind applied cement render; the disassembled north oak frame was viewed and inspected at

our site meeting with you, held at 3pm on the 5th September 2018; it was agreed that the frame could be reassembled using existing and matching new oak frame components.

The renewal of components was kept to the minimum that was necessary to enable the north frame to be reconstructed. Seasoned English oak was used to splice in repairs and to replace structural eaves and sill frame components.

Urgent action was required to ensure that the roof structure and the main west gable elevation remained in place.

The north frame is already in position. There is limited external scaffold in place as present and a temporary weather protection covers the external elevation, making further survey work difficult. The extent of the repair will be clear once the repairs have been completed and the frame becomes visible once more. We can provide, from our photographic record evidence of the former condition of the north frame, render, structural rot and necessary like for like repairs. The provision of this illustrated report could be a condition of any LBC after the works have been completed, so that there is a comprehensive record.

It is important that the work on this building is restarted whilst Roger retains the ownership of the property as he has shown his competence and willingness to 'do the right thing' in terms of reinstating this valuable historic remain. We would ask that you allow this application to be validated and duly considered based on the information provided.

Mark Parsons RIBA AABC

Conservation Architect

Asapllp/24th July 2019