Hewitt&CarrArchitects

Heritage Statement

1 The Walled Garden, Grange Park Drive,
Biddulph
Mrs J Thorneycroft

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Heritage Statement in support of a Householder planning application for an extension to property no.1 The Walled Garden, Grange Park Drive, Biddulph.

"Good design can help to create lively spaces with distinctive character, streets and public spaces that are safe, accessible, pleasant to use and human in scale; and places that inspire because of imagination and sensitivity of their designers."

- By Design, Urban Design in the Planning System; Towards Better Practice (DETR & CABE, 2000).

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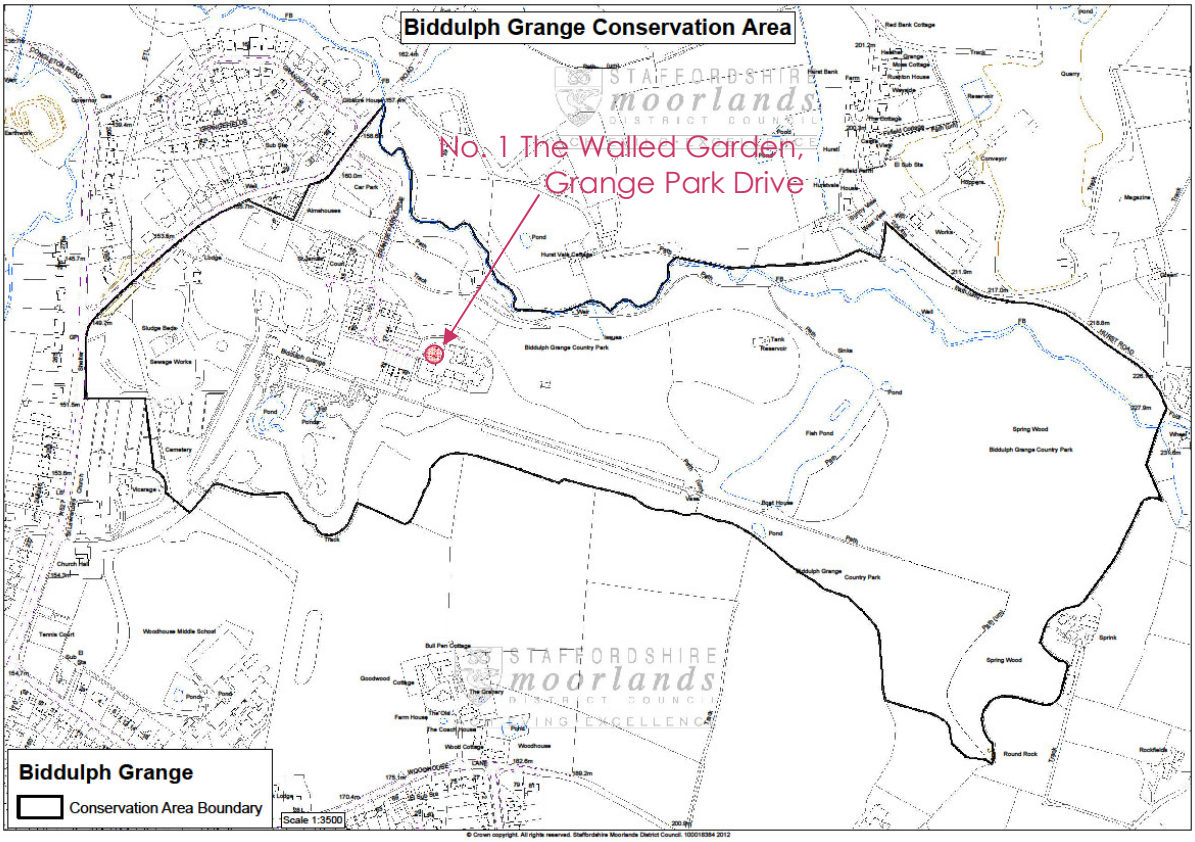
1.0 HERITAGE STATEMENT
Description of the Asset

1.1. No. 1 The Walled Garden, Grange Park Drive is located within the Biddulph Grange Conservation area.



1.2. The Biddulph Grange conservation area includes has a Grade I listed status and includes the National Trust Biddulph Grange Garden, Biddulph Grange Country Park, Spring Wood, St James Court, Mid C-19 Alms-houses and a cemetery.

1.3. The Biddulph Grange Garden is a 19th Century Victorian Gardens including 'discrete world gardens' that feature influences from China and Egypt. The Garden was developed by James Bateman and his wife, who lived in the former vicarage house, in collaboration with Edward Cooke. In later years the house was destroyed by fire and rebuilt in 1923 as a hospital, as it was used until the 1980's. Alterations to the house and gardens took place from the 1960's with increasing neglect and vandalism. The National Trust acquired the site in 1988 and an extensive period of restoration was completed in the 1990's

1.4. Biddulph Grange is situated north of Biddulph. The area boundary is defined by the A527 to the west, further roads to the north, Spring Wood defines the east boundary. The ground is rising to the north towards Biddulph Moor.

1.5. The entrance is flanked by Grade II listed wall and railings with a 20th Century lodge on the South approach to the principal building. The Principal buildings was a vicarage house that was retained by James Bateman in 1840, which was altered to a large yellow-brick italianite mansion. After a fire the house was rebuilt ibn 1896 as a sandstone ashlar mansion in the English Baroque style. The garden front includes three main storeys featuring ten bays. The early 20th Century building extends east of the house.

1.6. The main gardens and pleasure grounds lay to the south of the main house. The world image garden, featuring a collection world plants, garden buildings and microclimates. To the east a terrace projects towards a Grade II listed bastion, looking east across Dahlia Walk. Many features and garden buildings within the Biddulph Grange gardens feature a Grade II listing such as The Prospect Tower, The wooden footbridge and a wooden Chinese Temple.

1.7. A small park east of Biddulph Grange embraces Spring Wood. A fishpond lies within the Western part of the wood. The Obelisk Walk runs 450m east through the park.

1.8. Mid-19th Century Almshouses (Grade II Listed) to the north of the conservation area feature a red brick with polychrome brickwork friezes. With symmetrical front of flanking and 2 storey gables.

2.0 HERITAGE STATEMENT
Assessment of its Significance

2.1. Biddulph Grange Conservation area is significant in the preservation of an historical Victorian designed Garden with world influences in the planting features and garden buildings.

2.2. It is important that the Country Park is maintained as it embraces the preservation Spring Wood, a fishpond and the public use of the Obelisk Walk that runs 450m through the park.

2.3. Recent housing developments within the conservation area are subservient to the dominant historic landscape where the layout and design is in keeping with the 19th Century on site developments. It is important that future developments within the area to remain respectful to its historic significance.

3.0 HERITAGE STATEMENT
The Design Concept

3.1. The proposal is to extend no.1 The Walled Garden, Grange Park drive. The proposal is for a single storey lean to extension to the front of the dwelling that will increase the size of the dining room and hallway.

3.2. The materials of the extension will match that of the existing house at No.1 The Walled Garden. The materials currently existing are sympathetic to the local heritage as they express subtle details. With red brick details expressed between the windows, the upper corners and towards the lower levels. Light toned stone lintels feature above the windows, this also links to the other buildings featured within the conservation area. Traditional hanging wall tiles and roof tiles are also featured upon the existing house.

3.3. The extension is proposed in a location where it will benefit the householder whilst also creating minimal impact to the dwelling due to the proposal having a small footprint of 7.4m².

4.0 HERITAGE STATEMENT
The Impact

4.1. We believe that the proposed extension will not impact the conservation area.

4.2. The materials and details used upon the extension will match the existing. This will create a positive effect as it will enforce the connection that the house as to the traditional buildings within the conservation area.