

Heritage Statement for Listed Building Application for 'Blue Plaque' Scheme at 62, St Edward Street, Staffordshire.

Introduction

62, St Edward Street is situated within the Leek Central Conservation Area, an area blessed with many fine buildings, much of which are listed or are of architectural interest.

The property is Grade II Listed – a copy of the listing is attached within this statement.

Leek and District Civic Society have assessed this property as being an important building within the town, not only for the fact that it is one of the oldest surviving properties, but also because of the previous owners (being prominent town merchants) and for the important visitors that they hosted.

The Preacher John Wesley visited in 1774 and William Morris of the Arts and Crafts Movement also visited between 1875 and 1877.

Proposal

The proposal is to affix two 400mm diameter, 12mm thick resin plaques, using the bed joint for the screw fixings – their positions are shown on other details contained within this application.

The plaques will be wall mounted using two stainless steel fixings as stated.

The wording of the first plaque will be: **'Home of Thomas Wardle, Dyer and Printer for Liberty & Co. and Elizabeth Wardle, who established Leek Embroidery Society here 1879 – visited by William Morris between 1875-1877'.**

The wording of the second plaque will be: **'Home of Joshua Strangman, Quaker and Button Merchant – visited by Preacher John Wesley in 1774'.**

Design Issues

The position of the plaques have been assessed given the existing openings and down pipes, etc. on the front elevation - It is felt that the fixing of the plaques in the positions shown will not affect the significance of this listed building.