Design & Access/ Heritage Statement
June 2011

Unit G1, Wren Nest Mill, Glossop

Chris Betteridge MRTPI

Iceland Foods Ltd

Matthews & Goodman
incorporating Edmund Kirby

Property Advisers

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 This Statement of Significance has been prepared by Matthews & Goodman in support of a planning application for the installation of a new louvre to the rear elevation at Unit G1, Wren Nest Mill, Glossop.

2. APPLICATION PROPOSAL

2.1 As identified above the application proposal is for the installation of a new louvre to the rear elevation of Wren Nest Mill to facilitate the introduction and use of a new air-conditioning system.

2.2 The applicant is a supermarket operator who sells a range of convenience goods. In order to provide the range of products the store will accommodate a number of freezers and chiller cabinets which give off a certain amount of heat and can result in creating an uncomfortable working and shopping environment. The proposed louvre and associated air-conditioning equipment is necessary to provide a suitable environment within the store.

2.3 The proposed louvre will be coloured grey gloss (RAL 7024) to ensure it matches with the existing windows and will not be noticeable.

3. SIGNIFICANCE

3.1 Wren Nest Mill is a grade II listed building. It was originally a cotton spinning mill constructed around 1840. It is constructed of course millstone grit and ashlar dressings with stone slate and modern tile roof. The building was fire damaged by arson in 1996 and a further fire in 2007.

3.2 In a wider context the Wren Nest Mill is set in the Wren Nest Conservation Area west of Glossop town centre.

3.3 The Conservation Area Appraisal identifies that terraces dominate the area and the contrast between the scale of the residential properties and the Mill. In relation to Wren Nest Mill the Appraisal identifies its utilitarian character with a strong rhythmical pattern of window openings.

4. ASSESSMENT

4.1 The application proposal has been designed to meet the applicant's requirements, in terms of their business operation, whilst maintaining the significance of the building and maintaining its character.

4.2 The proposed new louvre, utilises an existing window opening in the building. The proposed new louvre will replace two sections of a window on the rear elevation of the building. The louvre will be coloured grey gloss (RAL 7024) as discussed with Officers prior to submission to ensure it matches the windows.

4.3 The part of the window the louvre replaces is non-original and does not have a physical impact on any elements of historical significance.

4.4 The louvre will be visible on the rear elevation of the building. However, the louvre is minimal in size and will be coloured to ensure it blends with the wider elevation to be barely noticeable.

4.5 The application does not propose any alterations to the accesses to the building.

4.6 The application proposal is compliant with Saved Policy 22 which requires the form and character of listed buildings to be retained in any alterations and Saved Policy 17 which requires external materials to be sympathetic to the listed building.

4.7 The application proposal maintains the significant elements of this Grade II listed building maintaining the character of the building whilst providing alterations which meet the applicant's requirements.