

Heritage Statement

Planning Application for signage at:

**Cavendish Arcade
The Crescent
Buxton
SK17 6BQ**

Ref: HPK/2011/0432

Significance of the historic area that will be affected.

The area in which the proposed signage will be located is within a Heritage site, this area is dominated by The Crescent. The Crescent comprises of a mixture of hotels shops and once baths. The Crescent in many ways represents the heart of Buxton, even though it is not a focal point in the main views.

Our focus is on the east side of The Crescent. This area is dominated by a series of highly decorative frontages, incorporating cast iron canopies that wrap around Grove Parade and The Colonnade, with scrolled spandrels, fretwork frieze and iron cresting above roof level. This continues in the arched windows, stone balustrade and alternating urns and lobed finials along the parapet of Cavendish Arcade, which with its heavily articulated frontage is one of the most ornate buildings with this part of Buxton.

This area of The Crescent was the hot baths. The hot baths were first developed in 1818, but its appearance is unrecorded. In 1851 it was decided to redevelop the Hot Baths; the building was designed by Henry Currey.

The Hot Baths were constructed in mainly cast-iron and glass. In 1864 the Hot Bath Colonnade was developed as a series of shops approached from Grove Parade. In 1900 this building was remodelled, the cast-iron arcades were removed and the elevations were re-fronted in ashlar with arcading from the local Nithen quarry. In 1909 an arcade, an elegant cast-iron canopy, was added around the building (of which only the east side survives). The Hot Baths eventually closed to the public in 1963, and were left redundant for many years before being redeveloped as a shopping arcade – Cavendish Arcade – when a new barrel-vaulted, stained glass roof was erected in 1985.

Existing signage

The existing signage that The Cavendish Arcade has in place at this current time does not do the building justice. The canopies above both entrances adjacent to the road named The Crescent conceal the buildings original features. The supporting wires for the canopies create unnecessary visual noise. The current directories and banners that are adjacent to The Crescent and The Terrace roads are out dated, the colour schemes do not complement the building or its surrounding.

Impact of proposed work will have on the historical area.

The proposed new signage will re-awaken the building; the colour scheme will enhance and complement the structure, and the surrounding areas. The new entrance signs will define the architectural curve above each of the arches. The simplicity of the directories ties in with the structure well and are easy to navigate for the general public. The projecting sign and banners will give a minimalist effect; they will be easily read and identified from a distance and be well balanced in its environment. The corner sign will bring more attention to the interesting curve of the building and enhance it.