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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE AND IMPACT

Proposed Works	Significance of historic fabric/area affected	Impact of proposed work on the historic fabric.
To install a copy of the 'Windows' written upon by Mary Queen of Scots and others back into the Old Hall where it was originally sited in the 16th Century. This will be done by replacing an existing window panel in the entrance to the Old Hall with an engraved window, copied from the written copy of the window which is kept in the Portland Papers at Longleat. The engraved area on the glass panel will be approximately 900mm x 540mm, with further engraved acknowledgements along the bottom. (see photograph)	The property, now a hotel, is within a conservation area and was originally built in 1572 by the Earl of Shrewsbury. Although rebuilt and redesigned many times since then, the original building survives encased within the alterations. The sighting of the replica window is in the newer 18th century front extension of the building near the entrance. There is no record of where or how the writings were situated. It is assumed, from the way the writings were recorded that they would have spanned a number of small panes possibly spread over more than one window. As this is not replicable, a single window is used.	Buxton occupies an important place in Elizabethan history with this unique record of the Scottish Queen's sojourn at the spa. It was fairly common practice amongst people to leave messages and poems on windows. Apart from the Queen, writings were left by the Earls of Leicester, Sussex, Pembroke the Countess of Essex, Frances and Anne Talbot, amongst others. This extensive collection of window writings found in one place is unique and a valuable record. Of the 39 entries, 16 were written by Mary during her five visits to Buxton. The benefits of this work will be: Educational; to provide students with a faithful copy of Elizabethan window writing in the language of the day. Tourism; Mary Queen of Scots holds an enduring fascination for people from around the world. Archive; the writings in Latin, Greek, English, French and Italian are a nationally significant record. The project has been developed with the assistance of Ros Westwood, curator of Buxton Museum, Sarah Brown, Director of York Glaziers Trust, Cathy Shrank, Professor of Tudor and Renaissance Literature at Sheffield University, Dr Kate Harris, curator at Longleat House Library and the endorsement of the Buxton History Society.