

Conservation Response.

Date: 15/05/2023.

File/Application ref: HPK/2023/0085.

Case Officer: Pet Twigg.

Proposal: 'Application to remove existing 'George Mansions' sign from the building.

Address: George Mansions, St Johns Road, Buxton, Derbyshire, SK17 6XW.

Dear Pet,

Objection.

The application looks to sanitise the principal elevation of GII George Mansions by removing its nameplate. I acknowledge the physical signage or item may possibly be a post-war intervention, however the name forms part of the character and therefore identity of this historic building. The Historic England listing entry is titled thus. Without, I fear it will appear completely anonymous and no longer have any legibility in the public domain noting its historic social standing in the vicinity.

In addition to this, I am concerned it will effect the building's visual appeal and interest as many similar hotels or former historic accommodation in the vicinity also retain nameplates, this therefore forms part of the uniformity of the town and Conservation Area. Further, I do not believe a generic contemporary metal plate often found at high-rise blocks is appropriate for the ground floor entrance and would advise more exploration into this item. This may also need a separate Listed Building Consent application depending on the level of intervention here.

To conclude; I am not confident giving what is a 18thC building '*a more contemporary appearance*' falls wholly in line with Conservation guidance, and do not feel removing part of the building's historic identity is an honest approach. As such I cannot support this scheme as it currently stands.

Regards,

Miss E Holland.
Conservation Officer.