



ENGLISH HERITAGE
NORTH WEST OFFICE

29 NOV 2012

FOR THE
ATTENTION OF

Mr Adrian Dowd
Ribble Valley Borough Council
Planning Department, Council Offices
Church Walk
CLITHEROE
Lancashire
BB7 2RA

Direct Dial: 0161 242 1413
Direct Fax: 0161 242 1401

Our ref: P00196920

28 November 2012

Dear Mr Dowd

**Notifications under Circular 01/2001, Circular 08/2009 &
T&CP (Development Management Procedure) Order 2010**

TOWNHEAD, SLAIDBURN, LANCASHIRE, BB7 3AG
Application No 3/2012/0860

Thank you for your letter of 15 October 2012 notifying English Heritage of the above application.

Summary

Townhead country house in Slaidburn, Lancashire is a Grade II* listed building within the Slaidburn Conservation Area. The property, consisting of a main dwelling, outbuildings and associated agricultural structures, has been unoccupied and on English Heritage's register of Historic Assets of risk for many years. Its condition worsened rapidly to the point where the house was in danger of major structural failure. A recent programme of repair and renovation by the property's new owner is now almost complete.

English Heritage Advice

English Heritage cannot comment on certain conditions associated with the planning permission and listed building consent for Townhead, namely those pertaining to the agreement of details or the provision of information and recording work to the Local Planning Authority.

However, following a site visit (on 21 November 2012) we can confirm that the house and its ancillary structures has been restored to a very high standard using conservation principles. Original materials (including areas of ceiling plaster, decorative coving and interior woodwork) have been retained wherever possible and patch repairs using sympathetic materials have been carried out elsewhere. The



SUITES 3.3 AND 3.4 CANADA HOUSE 3 CHEPSTOW STREET MANCHESTER M1 5FW

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significance of the Georgian house has been successfully preserved while modern elements have been sensitively introduced. Mr Staples has invested an impressive level of funding and effort in achieving what we regard to be exemplary results.

We look forward to removing the entry for Townhead from the register of Historic Assets at Risk at the next (2013) annual review.

Recommendation

Within the bounds of English Heritage's remit we are pleased to discharge the conditions associated with the planning and listed building consent for Townhead.

It is not necessary to consult us again on this application. Please send us a copy of the decision notice in due course. This will help us to monitor actions related to changes to historic places.

Yours sincerely

Cathy Tuck

Historic Environment Adviser

E-mail: cathy.tuck@english-heritage.org.uk

Mr Robert Staples, Townhead, Slaidburn



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