

HERITAGE STATEMENT

21 CHURCH STREET, RIBCHESTER

AREA

From the late eighteenth century Ribchester became a local centre of handloom weaving. There had been linen weaving from at least the early seventeenth century, when specialist linen weavers were recorded. By the late eighteenth century, the domestic weavers had switched to cotton, and a large number of houses with loomshops had been built. Many of the houses in Church Street, opposite the White Bull Inn for example, had loomshops and date from the last quarter of the eighteenth century, though many were probably rebuilds of earlier houses.

Nos 16-22 Church Street had attic loomshops but there is little evidence for the use of cellar loomshops.

The area today is predominately residential with the exception of a public house which is located opposite, although currently unoccupied for the past 18 months. At street level the properties are similar in appearance, however the rear of the properties differ substantially with variations to windows, stonework, extensions and rendering.

HISTORY OF BUILDING

The property is grade II listed forming part of a block booking of 6 residential properties and dates back to 1798. The property was once the village bank, during which period numerous changes are believed to have occurred to the property. In 2007 an extension was added to the rear of the property, like many of the adjacent properties. Consent was gained during 2010 to infill a redundant doorway. A further consent was gained to replace a window on the first floor.

OTHER PROPERTIES IN AREA

Neighbouring properties form part of the group grade II listing. Other properties within and outside of the group listing have had modifications of varying significance.

PROPOSAL

The intent is to replace a rotten timber window (which is beyond repair) on the second floor with another timber window of the same design but to use double glazing; the design will therefore be sympathetic to the character of the building. Internally the window is at low level, therefore safety considerations need to be taken into account.

In accordance with the Ribchester Conservation Area Management Guidance the external painting of the frame will be white (the same colour as existing).

IMPACT

With the exception of the double glazed glass, the window will visually be the same as the existing and will therefore not compromise the existing aesthetics of the building. It is intended that the window sits in exactly the same position on the current opening, including its alignment to the external wall finish. Due to the height of the window, the double glazing will not be noticeable except at close proximity (internally) and will therefore not be visible from any public viewpoint. As the window is not original to the building there will be no loss to any original feature.