



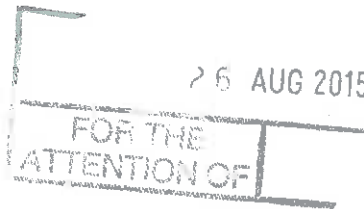
Historic England

NORTH WEST OFFICE

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

Direct Dial: 0161 2421424

Our ref: P00472312



25 August 2015

Dear Mr Dowd

**LAND ADJACENT TO SOUTHPORT HOUSE, SAWLEY ROAD, SAWLEY,
LANCASHIRE, BB7 4LE**

Application No 3/2015/0509

**Arrangements for Handling Heritage Applications Direction 2015 &
T&CP (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015**

Thank you for your letter of 7 August 2015 notifying Historic England of the above application

Historic England Advice

The now ruined Sawley Abbey was founded in 1147 by William de Percy and dedicated to St Mary and St Andrew. It was of the Cistercian order and was originally built in a woodland clearing beside the River Ribble. The abbey was suppressed in 1536 following the dissolution of the monasteries. The remains of the abbey and the area of surviving earthworks within the abbey precinct are scheduled and the standing structures are also grade I listed. This makes the site one of the most important heritage assets nationally and of international importance.

The proposal is for the erection of a single dwelling on the site of former hen sheds, adjacent to the grade II Southport House and directly to the south of the Scheduled and grade I listed Sawley Abbey.

The new dwelling would have a minimal impact on the setting of the grade I listed Sawley Abbey and in parts would enhance the site through the removal of the hen sheds. The choice of a contemporary architectural idiom helps maintain the historical authenticity of the village of Sawley and the quality of the design helps reinforce local distinctiveness. The success of the scheme will rely on the quality of the detailed design which should be agreed in consultation with your conservation officer. To assess the impact of the scheme on the setting of Sawley Abbey we recommend that you use the advice in our *Setting of Heritage Assets Good Practice Advice Note*



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

Telephone 0161 242 1416
HistoricEngland.org.uk



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(<http://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/gpa3-setting-of-heritage-assets/>).

The development site lies just to the south of the boundary of the abbey precinct and beside Southport House. The name Southport is suggestive that one of the gatehouses of the abbey might have been positioned at this site. The site therefore has the potential for archaeological remains. The County Archaeologist should be contacted to inform the creation of an archaeological mitigation strategy prior to any development.

Recommendation

We would urge you to address the above issues, and recommend that the application should be determined in accordance with national and local policy guidance, and on the basis of your specialist conservation advice. 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

Alice Ullathorne

Assistant Inspector of Historic Buildings and Areas

E-mail: alice.ullathorne@HistoricEngland.org.uk



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