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# **38 Higher Road, Longridge PR3 3SX**

## **Heritage Statement**



## Introduction

This comprehensive heritage statement delves into the historic significance of the property at 38 Higher Road, nestled within the Longridge Conservation Area in Longridge, Preston. With an astute focus on the property's contextual relationship within the unique fabric of Higher Road, this document undertakes an assessment of the proposed architectural rejuvenation. The primary objective is to align the envisioned transformation with local planning policies, fostering a harmonious coexistence with the surrounding environment while elevating the property's impact on the street scene.

## Character of Higher Road

The site in question resides within the heart of the conservation area at Higher Road, a residential avenue, surrounded by a diverse array of historic buildings and green space that collectively contribute to the character and charm of the area, fostering a sense of place deeply rooted in Longridge's cultural and historical identity.

## Historical value and Contextual Significance

Longridge boasts a storied past, characterized by its industrial heritage, rural landscapes, and Victorian-era architecture. The conservation area at Higher Road serves as a testament to this heritage, reflecting the evolution of local craftsmanship and urban design principles over time.

The following heritage appraisal adheres to guidance published by Historic England (2008) and relates specifically to the requirement contained in paragraph 194 of the National Planning Policy Framework (2021), given in the extract below:

"In determining applications, local planning authorities should require an applicant to describe the significance of any heritage assets affected, including any contribution made by their setting. The level of detail should be proportionate to the assets' importance and no more than is sufficient to understand the potential impact of the proposal on their significance. As a minimum the relevant historic environment record should have been consulted and the heritage assets assessed using appropriate expertise where necessary. The appraisal begins by identifying the potential range of heritage values attributed to the site in its spatial context, before evaluating these values and expressing them concisely within a 'statement of significance'. This statement is then used as a basis for assessing the design of new proposals and ensuring that conservation of significance has been prioritised."

## Existing Property

The architectural composition of the existing terraced house showcases a blend of sturdy stone craftsmanship coupled with white timber UPVC windows, harmonising traditional materiality with traditional design elements. To mitigate potential adverse impacts, the proposed design incorporates elements such as sympathetic materials including white render to the walls, a fibre

glass flat roof, and white UPVC windows rejuvenating the existing construction and enhancing the overall aesthetic.

## **The Architectural Proposal**

The proposed rejuvenation project encompasses an approach involving a double-storey extension to the rear of the property which seeks to enhance the functionality of the existing property while respecting the scale, massing, and architectural character of the surrounding conservation area. The design emphasises sensitivity to context, with materials and detailing chosen to complement rather than detract from the area's historic fabric. In evaluating the proposed extension, we have considered its potential impact on the visual coherence, architectural harmony, and heritage significance of the conservation area. Through careful design and siting, the extension aims to integrate seamlessly with its surroundings, preserving the integrity and character of Higher Road whilst reinforcing the area's historic context.

Furthermore, it should be noted that the proposed development will not encroach upon or adversely affect the existing landscaping features within the conservation area, thereby preserving the aesthetic and ecological integrity of the area.

## **Conclusion**

In conclusion, the proposed double-storey extension at 38 Higher Road, Longridge, demonstrates a conscientious approach to heritage conservation, with design elements that respect the area's unique character and architectural integrity. Through collaborative engagement and careful mitigation measures, the development aims to enhance Longridge's cultural heritage while meeting the community's needs. We believe that this project represents a harmonious balance between progress and preservation, ensuring the sustained vibrancy of the conservation area for generations to come. By adhering to principles of contextual design, sensitivity to historic fabric, and community engagement, we aim to ensure that this development contributes positively to the enduring legacy of Longridge's cultural heritage.

