

KNIGHT

Consulting

ARCHITECTURE – SURVEYING - PLANNING

Design, Access & Heritage Statement

Site: Richmond House, Medwin Walk Horsham RH12 1AQ

Proposal: Proposed Replacement Front Elevation Window/Door and Advertisement Consent

1.0 INTRODUCTION

This statement has been prepared in support of an application relating to Richmond House, Medwin Walk, Horsham, a Grade II Listed Building (List Entry No. 1027513).

The application seeks consent for:

- Replacement of the existing ground-floor window/door arrangement on the Medwin Walk elevation with a functioning entrance door;
- Installation of two **Priory Law** logos above the ground-floor openings, following the location of previously approved signage under application **DC/20/2283** for James-Miller Hair Design;
- Installation of one A3-sized acrylic poster; and
- Installation of one 450mm x 600mm hanging sign.

The proposals are confined to the existing ground-floor commercial frontage and do not involve alterations to the upper floors, roof or principal architectural features of the building.

2.0 HERITAGE AND SITE CONTEXT

Richmond House is an early 19th-century, three-storey stuccoed building with a hipped slate roof, projecting eaves/cornice, pilasters and stringcourses. Its principal significance derives from its historic architectural form, detailing and contribution to the wider historic townscape of Horsham.

The statutory listing identifies the ground-floor frontage as having previously been altered. The application therefore relates to an established commercial frontage rather than the principal historic elevations of the building.

The existing opening already reads externally as a door, including the presence of a letterbox, although it does not currently function as the principal entrance. The proposal would replace this existing arrangement with a purpose-designed

entrance door which would formalise the existing appearance and provide a functional access to the premises.

3.0 PROPOSED WORKS

The existing ground-floor window/door arrangement will be replaced with a functioning entrance door. As the existing arrangement already presents externally as a door, the visual change to the frontage will be limited. The proposal will provide a more appropriate and functional entrance whilst retaining the established character of the ground-floor elevation.

Two Priory Law logos are proposed above the ground-floor openings. Their positioning follows the location of signage previously approved under application DC/20/2283 for James-Miller Hair Design. The use of an established signage location avoids introducing advertising into a new or more visually prominent part of the building.

An A3-sized acrylic poster and a 450mm x 600mm hanging sign are also proposed. These are modest in scale and will provide additional identification for Priory Law without dominating the frontage.

4.0 DESIGN, ACCESS AND ADVERTISEMENT IMPACT

The proposals have been designed to respond to the existing commercial character of the ground-floor frontage and the historic setting of the listed building.

The proposed entrance door will provide a clear and legible access to the premises from Medwin Walk. The hanging sign will be positioned appropriately above the public footway to maintain safe pedestrian movement.

The proposed advertisements are proportionate to the scale of the frontage. The two logos replicate the established location of previously approved signage, whilst the A3 poster and hanging sign are limited in size and will remain visually subordinate to the building.

The signage will not obscure significant architectural features or result in an unacceptable level of visual clutter.

5.0 HERITAGE IMPACT

The proposed works are restricted to the existing ground-floor frontage, which has already undergone alteration. The proposal will not affect the upper-floor windows, pilasters, stringcourses, cornice, roof or other principal historic features of Richmond House.

The replacement of the existing window/door arrangement will have a limited visual impact as the opening already reads externally as a door. The proposal will therefore largely formalise the existing appearance rather than introduce a fundamentally different feature.

The proposed advertisements are also limited in scale and location, with the two logos following the previously approved arrangement under DC/20/2283. The A3 poster and hanging sign are modest additions appropriate to the commercial use of the premises.

The proposals are therefore considered to preserve the special architectural and historic interest of Richmond House and will not adversely affect its contribution to the surrounding historic townscape.

6.0 CONCLUSION

The proposed works represent a modest and proportionate update to the existing commercial frontage of Richmond House to accommodate Priory Law.

The new entrance door formalises an arrangement which already reads externally as a door, whilst the proposed signage follows an established and previously approved signage location. The additional A3 poster and hanging sign are appropriately scaled and positioned.

The proposals avoid the principal historic architectural features of the Grade II Listed Building and are considered to preserve its special architectural and historic interest.

Accordingly, the development is considered acceptable in terms of design, access, advertisement impact and heritage, and consent is respectfully sought.