



HERITAGE STATEMENT IN CONNECTION WITH REPLACEMENT OF THE LEAD BOX GUTTERS AT WHITEHAVEN CASTLE (FLATT WALKS), WHITEHAVEN, CUMBRIA, CA28 7RA

Introduction

This heritage statement has been prepared by Storm Tempest on behalf of Home Group to support an application for listed building consent to carry out like for like replacement works to the existing lead box gutters.

Description of the heritage asset

The building to which this application refers is Whitehaven Castle, Flatts Walk, Whitehaven, Cumbria, CA28 7RA. The property was given a Grade II listing in 1949 when the building was used as a hospital or infirmary.

Initially Constructed in 1769 by Sir John Lowther as his own residence. 3 storeyed stone building of symmetrical design, battlemented. Centre block has semi-circular 3 storeyed turret containing centre 3 windows. Each end of facade has projecting rectangular tower. All windows have labels but new glazing.

Assessment of significance

The castle is providing significant contribution to the appearance of Whitehaven and holds significant architectural interest.

Design concepts for the proposal

This application relates to the existing lead box guttering along the North Elevation. The current welted lead joints, flashing/upstanding details are defective and allowing water ingress to the flats along this section. We therefore believe the application is justified because of the improvement it will give to the resident living in the properties. Replacing the lead with code 5 lead including neoprene expansion joints will prevent further issues relating to the water tightness of the building and will avoid continuous repairs overtime.

To keep in line with the character of the building, the proposal seeks to replace the lead covering with like for like lead to maintain the aesthetics of the building, but inclusion of the neoprene expansion joints to prevent the water ingress issues.

Impact of the proposed development

The overall impact of the proposal will be minor. Replacing the lead box gutter covering, like for like, will improve the habitability of the property. The impact of the replacement covering will not be negatively affected by the works as the proposed covering uses like for like lead which will be in line with the overall building aesthetics which are linked to its Grade II listed status.