



FAO: Planning Department,
Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council

Ref: 6/2018/1635/OUTLINE
Date: 09/07/2018

HISTORIC BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION ADVICE

Dear Sir / Madam,

RE: Historic De Havilland Grass Runway, Ellenbrook Fields, Hatfield Business Park, Hatfield, Herts

The heritage advice set out below is with regard to a planning application for outline permission for a sports club for an air sports playing field; the relocation of a community based airfield with runway and support facilities from Panshangar Aerodrome to de Havilland's Original Grass Runway; and the construction of a community park around the perimeter.

The application site is located on land to the west of Hatfield Business Park, on the Original de Havilland Grass Runway Site. The site forms part of what was formerly Hatfield Aerodrome; a private airfield and aircraft factory established in 1930 by Geoffrey de Havilland. As such, the site forms an important part of Hatfield's aviation history and is considered to be a non-designated heritage asset for the purposes of planning. The site is located adjacent to the Grade II listed Astwick Manor and in proximity to a number of other designated heritage assets.

As acknowledged by the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), heritage assets are an irreplaceable resource, the significance of which can be harmed or lost through alteration or destruction of the heritage asset or development within its setting. In accordance with Section 12 of the NPPF, any formal application should be accompanied by a Heritage Statement which describes the significance of any heritage assets affected by the proposal, including any contribution made by their setting, and the impact of the proposal upon that significance.

A Heritage Statement, which considers the impact of the proposal upon the setting/significance of any relevant heritage assets, has not been submitted to support this application. I would therefore recommend that this application is refused as it has not addressed paragraph 128 of the NPPF.

A Heritage Statement should consider the impact of the proposal on the significance of the following designated heritage assets:-

- Astwick Manor (British Aerospace Technical School), Grade II Listed (List Entry UID: 1101043);



- The Flight Test Hangar, Offices, Fire Station and Control Tower, British Aerospace, Grade II* Listed (List Entry UID: 1376561);
- Listed building group at Popefield Farmhouse, Grade II Listed (List Entry UIDs: 1103025, 1172843, 1172843);
- Milepost approximately 70 metres east north east of the Three Horseshoes Public House, Grade II Listed (List Entry UID: 1347182);
- Three Horseshoes Public House, Grade II Listed (List Entry UID: 1172839);
- Listed building group at Oak Farmhouse, Grade II Listed (List Entry UIDs: 1347179, 1175602, 1103006); and
- Old Forge Cottage, Grade II Listed (List Entry UID: 1348162).

This list is however not exhaustive and a Heritage Statement should provide a full assessment which considers all heritage assets potentially affected by the proposal.

In conclusion, it is recommended that this application is refused as the applicant has not provided a Heritage Statement as required by paragraph 128 of the NPPF.

Yours sincerely,

Hannah Rae
Historic Buildings Consultant
Place Services

Note: This letter is advisory and should only be considered as the opinion formed by specialist staff in relation to this particular matter