

21 September 2010

Dear Graham

Application reference: 2010/2080

Address: Stable block adjacent to Mansion Lodge, Springfield Park, London E5 9E

Comments

The application is for the repair and renewal of the existing building, including works to elevations and roof, in order to make the building weather tight. It is understood that these works form part of the Buildings Plan as set out in the Springfield Park Management Plan 2010 – 2015 (updated 2009), prepared by Hackney Council.

The Hackney Society welcomes this Listed Building Consent application for essential external works to the Stable block, adjacent to Mansion Lodge.

Mansion Lodge, or 'White Lodge' as it is also referred, is a substantial detached early-mid 19th century villa which is listed at Grade II on the List of Buildings of Special Architectural or Historic Interest. The construction of the stable block appears coterminous with that of the villa and falls within its curtilage for the purpose of the Listed Building Consent application. Both the Lodge and the Stable block are located in the south-west corner of Springfield Park, which features on the Register of Parks & Gardens of Special Historic Interest at Grade II.

The Stable block is an important aspect of the social and architectural history of the Lodge. The visibility of the brick construction of the Stable block and its modest proportions provide an appealing contrast with the stucco finish of the grander main house and the stables are part of the composition of buildings on the site, which speak of a prosperous time in Hackney's history. Largely unaltered, the Stable block is an interesting survival deserving of the sensitive programme of works proposed.

The Society observes that the application does not propose alteration to the existing plan of the Stable block, or to any elevation of the building. Substantial alterations, if proposed, would require full justification and are unlikely to be supported by the society.

Conclusion

The Society supports the application and considers that the proposals for the external works would return the Stable block to a weatherproof state in a way which preserves the special historic interest of the building. It is the first stage in enabling a viable and beneficial community use to be found for the property, an ambition which is fully endorsed by the society.



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I would be grateful if you could acknowledge your receipt of these comments.

Yours sincerely

Sebastian Knox
For and on behalf of the Planning Sub-group

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