

Heritage Statement for 68 Sydney Road, Haywards Heath

1. Introduction

This assessment evaluates the proposed two-storey side and rear extension at 68 Sydney Road, Haywards Heath, within the context of its location in a designated Conservation Area. The objective is to demonstrate that the development preserves and enhances the character and appearance of the Conservation Area.

2. Site Context

68 Sydney Road is a residential property situated in Haywards Heath, West Sussex. The area is characterised by a mix of architectural styles, contributing to a varied street scene. The property is located within The Heath Conservation Area, highlighting the importance of sensitive design to maintain the area's historical and architectural significance.

3. Conservation Area Character

The Heath Conservation Area encompassing Sydney Road is noted for its historical significance and architectural diversity. Key characteristics include:

- **Architectural Styles:** A blend of Victorian and Edwardian-era buildings, alongside more contemporary structures.
- **Materials and Features:** Predominant use of traditional materials such as brick and hung tile, with features like bay windows, decorative bargeboards, and period detailing.
- **Street scene and Layout:** Tree-lined streets with uniform building lines, contributing to the area's aesthetic.

4. Proposed Development

The proposal entails constructing a two-storey side and rear extension to 68 Sydney Road. The design aims to enhance the property's functionality while respecting the architectural integrity of the existing structure and the surrounding Conservation Area.

Design Considerations:

- **Materials:** The extension will match the existing, including brickwork and roofing tiles, ensuring seamless integration with the original building.
- **Scale and Massing:** The extension's proportions have been carefully considered to ensure it remains subordinate to the main dwelling, preserving the existing building's prominence.
- **Fenestration:** Windows and doors will reflect the style, materials, and proportions of the existing openings, maintaining visual consistency.
- **Roof Design:** The extension will feature a pitched roof that aligns with the existing rooflines, preserving the property's architectural coherence.

5. Impact Assessment

The proposed extension has been designed to minimise its impact on the Heath Conservation Area:

- **Visual Impact:** By positioning the bulk of the extension setback from the front elevation, towards the rear and the modest changes to the front elevation matching the neighbouring property at 74 Sydney Rd, the proposal preserves the local character.
- **Aesthetic approach:** The use of matching materials and sympathetic design elements ensures the extension complements the existing structure and surrounding buildings.
- **Preservation of Character:** The development respects the established building lines and spatial relationships.

6. Conclusion

The proposed two-storey side and rear extension at 68 Sydney Road has been thoughtfully designed to enhance the property's functionality while preserving and enhancing the character of The Heath Conservation Area. By adhering to principles of

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sensitive design and appropriate materials, the development aims to contribute positively to the architectural diversity and heritage of The Heath Conservation Area.

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