HERITAGE IMPACT STATEMENT

Whitworth Park, Oxford Road, Manchester

1.0 Introduction

1.1 This statement forms part of a planning application for the installation of a new pedestrian gate into the Whitworth Park. The Whitworth Park is located close to Heritage Assets which are Grade II Listed Building on the adjoining Whitworth Art Gallery. Drawing number 031AA-7305-A001 shows the locations of the heritage assets and the proposed gate.

1.2 This statement is to be read in conjunction with the drawing numbers 031AA-7305-A001, A002 and A101, which accompany the application. Appended to this statement are existing photographs of the site and materials to be reinstated:

1. Appendix 1 shows photographs of the site and surroundings.

2.0 Proposal

2.1 Planning permission is sought for the installation of a new gate and gateway to the park boundary railing on Denmark Road close to the rear of the Whitworth Art Gallery.

2.2 The additional gate has been requested by the Whitworth Art Gallery to allow this gate to be controlled (locked) by the park. The gallery will then be responsible for locking the larger double gates which are a sculpture by Simon Periton called “The Outsider / The Insider”.

3.0 Identifying the Heritage Assets.

3.1 WHITWORTH GALLERY.

List entry number: 1246569.

SJ89NW OXFORD ROAD, Chorlton-On-Medlock 698-1/4/615 (West side) 03/10/74 Whitworth Gallery

GV II

Art gallery. c.1895-1900, by J.W.Beaumont; altered. Red brick with bands and dressings of matching terracotta, green slate roofs. Roughly rectangular plan with 2 towers and a large porch projecting to the front plus short wings to left and rear. Free Jacobean style. Two storeys over basements, 1:1:9:1:2 windows; with semi-octagonal pilasters to the corners finished as short Baroque turrets with colonnades, plinth, 1st-floor sill-band, stylised corbel tables, moulded cornice, and parapet. The 9-bay main range has a projected ground floor with cornice and balustraded parapet which sweep out over a large semi-circular porch with

a screen of paired stone Ionic columns and stone frieze, mounted on 4 semicircular steps; round-headed windows to the curved wall in this porch, small 3-light windows to the straight sides of the projection; cross-windows at 1st floor except the centre which has a slightly bowed 6-light transomed window with a balustrade in the parapet (flanked by raised gold lettering "WHITWORTH" "GALLERIES"). The towers flanking the main range have tiered canted oriel windows and low top stages with corner pinnacles and pyramidal roofs. The end bay to the left and the 2 bays to the right have cross-windows to both floors, the lower larger and set in segmental-headed recesses. All windows have small-paned glazing. Small white lantern on roof ridge, with pedimented faces.

4.0 Assessment of Impact and Mitigation.

4.1 The proposal to install a new gate will be made to match the existing in material and appearance. The gateway above the new gate is the reinstatement of one which was removed as part of the Gallery extension works. There are two existing entrances with the arched gateway. One of which matches the proposal, see photo 5 in appendix 1.

5.0 Conclusion

5.1 The new gate and gateway will match other existing entrances into the park. Thus positively contributing to the character, appearance and setting of the Grade II listed building.

Christopher Thorley
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Appendix 1.

Photographs



Photo 1. View from Denmark Road



Photo 2. View from inside park looking out onto Denmark Road



Photo 3. The Outsider / The Insider sculpture gates by Simon Perition (as viewed from Denmark Rd)



Photo 4. Existing gateway to be reinstated



Photo 5. Example of existing gate and gateway at Moss Lane East entrance