

MANCHESTER VICTORIA STATION

Station Approach
Todd Street
Manchester
M3 1WY

Northern Railway

Heritage statement
3205/DA001 Rev 0

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Manchester Victoria Station, Network Rail Media Centre <<https://www.networkrailmediacentre.co.uk/news/free-toilets-and-better-facilities-as-part-of-gbp-1m-manchester-victoria-investment>>

1. INTRODUCTION

PURPOSE OF THE DOCUMENT

This document is in support of a new railing to the rear of Platform 2 at Manchester Victoria Station, to protect station users from the OLE (Overhead Line Equipment). This will replace temporary fencing, with a traditional style steel fence; homage to the heritage of Manchester Victoria Station. As well as this, metal plate covers on the pavement along Victoria Street Approach are proposed to be replaced with new pavement lights, designed to reflect the original. Existing pavement lights are also proposed to be refurbished, again, design to reflect the original.

The proposed works are on a site of historic and architectural significance, and is therefore protected with a Grade II listing.

This statement was considered in conjunction with the design proposal, in order to achieve conservation and enhancement of the historic building.

This heritage statement has been prepared on behalf of Northern Railway to accompany an application for planning permission made to Manchester City Council for the construction of a new railing adjacent to Platform 2 in Manchester Victoria Station (PP reference: PP-09915787). There are also proposed pavement lights replacing existing metal plates.

The Proposals aim to create a protective barrier, which simultaneously blends with its context of the historical station and make the space behind the platform a more inviting space.

It is intended that this Heritage statement is read in-conjunction with the documents supplied as part of the planning application.



Victoria Station, Platform 12, June 1953. Sourced from Manchester Evening News, originally sourced from Manchester Local Image Collection at Manchester City Council URL <<https://www.manchestereveningnews.co.uk/news/nostalgia/victoria-station-manchester-history-pictures-11502841>>

2. HISTORY

HISTORICAL EVOLUTION

Manchester Victoria Station, one of the three mainline railway stations in Manchester city centre, also accommodates a Metrolink tram stop. The station boasts an impressive 146 metre façade iron and glass canopy, as well as its Edwardian neo-Baroque façade.

The grade II listed station first opened its doors in 1844 with just one platform, gradually expanding to 17 platforms by 1909. Operated by Northern Rail, Victoria creates local and regional rail links in Northern England, including Manchester Airport, Rochdale, Leeds, Liverpool and Newcastle.

Victoria Station was made Grade II listed in 1988, due to its Edwardian neo-Baroque façade, sandstone ashlar office blocks and period features.

Between 1992 and 1996 Manchester Arena was connected to the station.

Major renovations on Victoria Station began in April 2013, with the electrification of lines, a new roof, new platforms, restoration of listed features, improved accessibility and upgraded retail units. The station was opened in October 2015, after the £44 million upgrade. The new 15,000 square metre roof, designed by BDP, is made from ethylene tetrafluoroethylene (ETFE), a strong plastic, the same used to make the domes at the Eden Project in Cornwall.

3. HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

GRADE II LISTING

Manchester Victoria Station was listed as Grade II under the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990. The building was first listed in 1988, with the most recent amendment in 1994. The following is an extract from the full listing:

Victoria Station including concourse to rear with restaurant and booking hall (Formerly Listed as: VICTORIA STATION APPROACH Canopy at front of Victoria Station)

GV II

Railway station. Original block to Hunt's Bank Approach, 1844, for the Manchester and Leeds Railway Company (also used by the Liverpool and Manchester Railway Company), altered and greatly enlarged 1909 by William Dawes for the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway Company; altered. Sandstone ashlar office blocks with slate roofs; cast-iron train sheds with slate and glazed roofs. Office blocks form L-plan, the original building on a north-east/south-west axis, and the much larger addition at right-angles to its north end. 1844 block in Italianate manner, now 2 storeys (originally one storey) and 7 bays wide, with square-headed doorways to left and right, arcaded windows to both floors of the centre, other windows with architraves and cornices. 1909 block in neo-Baroque style, 4 storeys and 31 bays plus rounded corner at south-east end; with channelled rustication to ground and 1st floors, pilasters to 2nd and 3rd floors, moulded cornice, and balustraded parapet interrupted by wide segmental open pediments over the 2nd, 6th, 19th and 29th bays, and upstands with clocks over the 4th bay and the curved corner. Round-headed windows and doorways to ground floor protected by delicate iron and glass canopy displaying names of one-time destinations in Art Nouveau lettering; windows to upper floors mostly square-headed and mullioned, but including oriels at 2nd and Venetian windows at 3rd floor of the pedimented bays. Fine surviving interiors to this part, including panelled booking hall, restaurant with stained glass dome and mosaic lettering, bookstall with mosaic decoration, map of Lancashire and Yorkshire railway system in tilework, etc.

Source: Historic England, <<https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1254725>>



Victoria Station, passenger control office, 1957. Sourced from Manchester Evening News, originally sourced from Manchester Local Image Collection at Manchester City Council
<<https://www.manchestereveningnews.co.uk/news/nostalgia/victoria-station-manchester-history-pictures-11502841>>



Victoria Station, 1970. Captured by B Waitkinas. Sourced from Manchester Evening News, originally sourced from Manchester Local Image Collection at Manchester City Council
<<https://www.manchestereveningnews.co.uk/news/nostalgia/victoria-station-manchester-history-pictures-11502841>>

NATIONAL PLANNING POLICY FRAMEWORK (NPPF)

Section 16/127: Conserving and enhancing the historic environment

Planning policies and decisions should ensure that developments:

(a) will function well and add to the overall quality of the area, not just for the short term but over the lifetime of the development;

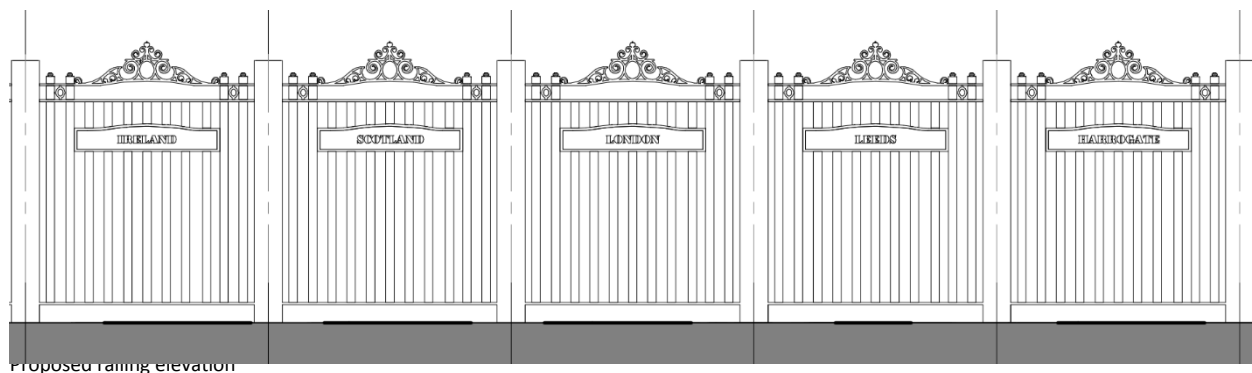
(b) are visually attractive as a result of good architecture, layout and appropriate and effective landscaping;

(c) are sympathetic to local character and history, including the surrounding built environment and landscape setting, while not preventing or discouraging appropriate innovation or change (such as increased densities);

(d) establish or maintain a strong sense of place, using the arrangement of streets, spaces, building types and materials to create attractive, welcoming and distinctive places to live, work and visit;

(e) optimise the potential of the site to accommodate and sustain an appropriate amount and mix of development (including green and other public space) and support local facilities and transport networks; and

(f) create places that are safe, inclusive and accessible and which promote health and well-being, with a high standard of amenity for existing and future users; and where crime and disorder, and the fear of crime, do not undermine the quality of life or community cohesion and resilience.



Proposed railing elevation

4. DESIGN

We have considered our design against the historical significance of Manchester Victoria Station. As outlined in our Design & Access statement, the proposed railing is inspired by the design of the iron and glass canopy fixed to the façade where the Victoria Station Approach Entrance is located. This pays homage to the history of Manchester Victoria Station, displaying the names of various popular destinations, such as Scarborough, York, Leeds and Harrogate.

The implementation and refurbishment of pavement lights along Victoria Station Approach Entrance will illuminate the listed sandstone façade, drawing attention to the original ornamentation, creating a landmark.



Victoria Station Approach Entrance Façade. Sourced from Google Maps