



HERITAGE STATEMENT

Summerseat Methodist Primary School
Rowlands Road
Bury
Lancashire
BL9 5NF

For



EPWORTH
EDUCATION TRUST

APRIL 30, 2023
SUMMERSEAT METHODIST PRIMARY SCHOOL
Sebastian Whalley

1. Introduction

Summerseat Methodist Primary School is a mixed-gender primary school located in Bury, Lancashire, England. It is located in a rural setting on Rowlands Road, catering for students aged 4-11.

The school was founded in 1840, with the present building being opened in 1863 by the Methodist mill owner, John Robinson Kay. The school originally served the children of the mill working community.

The school is adjacent to Summerseat Methodist Church, built in 2004 to replace the former church building which was demolished 30 years earlier. The church features a high stone frontage and a stained-glass window featuring a cross design.

The Brooksbottoms and Rowlands Conservation Area lies to the west of the Village of Summerseat, 2 ½ mile north of central Bury within and around a widening of the Irwell valley. The special interest associated with the Summerseat Conservation Area arises from two distinct character areas, the first of which being the older part of the settlement containing a mixture of eighteenth and nineteenth century stone terraces and detached buildings, and the later a development from the cotton industry, made up of small rows of terrace houses.

The conservation areas physical character comes from its close relationship with the River Irwell which has served as an invaluable source of water and power to the village as well as shaping the development of the settlement.

2. Brooksbottoms and Rowlands Conservation Area



Map of Brooksbottoms-Rowlands indicating the location of the Conservation Area.

3. Property Description

3.1. Summerseat Methodist Primary School

The existing school building was opened in 1863 and is situated in the central Rowlands section of the Brooksbottoms and Rowlands Conservation Area, off Rowlands Road.

The Primary School building was built in the old sandstone quarry next to the chapel and consisted of a large central room with a transverse wing across each end and was lit by large windows set high up to avoid distraction, with a reasonably sized playground.

3.2. Other Listed Buildings Within the Curtilage

3.3.2. Former Railway Goods Shed

Heritage Category: Listed Building

Grade: II

List Entry Number: 1392323

Date First Listed: 27-Nov-2007

Statutory Address: Former Railway Goods Shed, Rowlands Road

3.3.3. Peel Hall

Heritage Category: Listed Building

Grade: II

Listed Entry Number: 1163712

Date First Listed: 09-Aug-1966

Statutory Address: Peel Hall, Newcombe Road

3.3.4. Brooksbottom Mill

Heritage Category: Listed Building

Grade: II

List Entry Number: 1356822

Date First Listed: 30-Jul-1979

Statutory Address: Waterside Road, Summerseat, Bury

3.3.5. Summerseat House

Heritage Category: Listed Building

Grade: II

List Entry Number: 1067246

Date First Listed: 29-Jan-1985

Statutory Address: Summerseat House, Newcombe Road

4. Assessment of Significance

The school building is an important building within the Summerseat setting for both its occupiers and the local community. The building owners fully understand the importance and significance of the building.

The proposal to extend the building will enable the school to provide an improved and much needed educational facility. The staff and pupils will benefit from; functional toilet facilities as health and hygiene should be a priority, particularly for children with special educational needs. The ramped access will ensure that accessibility to and from the building will be brought in line with the Equality Act 2010.

5. Design Principles & Appearance

The proposed works include:

- a) Extension of the existing secondary entrance porch to house the school office and reception.
- b) In line with Building Regulations 2010, Approved Document Part M - A tarmacadam ramp will be installed to ensure level access at the door threshold.
- c) Provide and install aluminium door and window systems in keeping with the original style of the building and as per previously granted planning permission (app no. 69245). Installation will be in line with Manufacturer's specification, details and recommendations. Reynaer's SL68 Aluminium Slim Line System.
- d) External façade will reflect the existing using locally quarried sandstone slips to the outer skin. And the existing arched window opening being retained and copied on Elevations A & B.

All works are to be carried out in accordance with the drawing details as provided.

6. Impact of the Proposal

The proposal will have an impact on the external appearance of the building; however, this impact will be minimal as it is on the rear elevation. The proposed extension is in keeping with the building's existing architecture.

The building currently features a single-storey porch which is used as a secondary entrance, and it is the intention of the school to create a new accessible reception entrance at this location. The existing porch features will remain to the exterior, including the arch-shaped window.

Additionally, the school building is set back 40m from Rowlands Road, with only the front elevation being visible from the street, meaning the aesthetic impact of the proposal is minimal.

Summerseat Methodist Primary School is only used during normal access hours, with the only other interaction coming from the adjacent Church.

7. Design and Access Statement

A supporting Design and Access Statement has been provided separately with this planning application.