

Heritage Statement

Project: Installation of a Bypass Separator at Whiteknights Park, University of Reading

Introduction

This heritage statement accompanies the planning application for the installation of a bypass separator on the University of Reading's Whiteknights Campus.

The purpose of this statement is to assess the potential impact of the proposed development on the heritage assets within and around the site.

Site Description

The Whiteknights Campus, formerly Whiteknights Park, is a significant area within the University of Reading, known for its historical and ecological value.

The parkland, which dates back to the 18th century, includes a variety of heritage assets such as listed buildings, historic landscapes, and archaeological sites.

The area is characterized by its mature trees, open spaces, and the Whiteknights Lake, contributing to its picturesque and tranquil environment.

Proposed Development

The proposed development involves the installation of a bypass separator, which is essential for improving the site's drainage and environmental management.

The bypass separator will be located on the grassed area to the West of Wessex Hall on the existing drainage route taking runoff from car parks and buildings to the lake.

Outline scope of works:

- Provide protection to trees and landscaping, as per Arboricultural Method Statement
- Excavate for new interceptor. Excavation to be a maximum size of 4m x 3m on plan and 2.5m in depth.
- Install new interceptor and connect to existing drainage run.
- Backfill excavation and make good with topsoil and seed to match surrounding grassed area.
- Install new 700mm diameter inspection chamber to allow for future maintenance of the interceptor.
- Remove all temporary protection and reinstate any damaged areas

Heritage Impact Assessment

Visual Impact:

The bypass separator will be installed below ground. Once the grass has been reinstated the only visual change will be an additional inspection chamber cover at ground level.

Historical Significance:

The installation of the bypass separator will not affect any listed buildings or structures of historical significance within Whiteknights Park.

Ecological Impact:

The installation process will be carried out with minimal disruption to the existing flora and fauna. The bypass separator will contribute to the overall environmental sustainability of the park by improving water management and reducing the risk of flooding.

Conclusion

The installation of a bypass separator at Whiteknights Park has been carefully planned to ensure that it does not adversely affect the heritage assets of the area.

The development will enhance the environmental management of the park while preserving its historical and ecological value.

We believe that this project aligns with the University of Reading's commitment to maintaining and enhancing its heritage sites.