date: 28th April 2015

your reference

our reference: JM/H21-0183-15

ask for: Julie-Anne Middleditch

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Mr K Barclay
Greyfriars
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Wisbech
Cambridgeshire
PE13 5NA

SUPERSEDED

Dear Mrs Barclay

Greyfriars, Tydd Gote (Grade II)
Application H21-0183-15: replacement windows

I write in response to the above application. I understand your surprise at the lateness of my initial contact and apologise for not being in touch sooner.

What your application proposes raises two fundamental issues in terms of the architectural and historic interest of the building. Windows are an important record of a building's development over time. Early 20th century windows are in themselves of historic merit and should not necessarily be considered a lesser part of the building's historic fabric. Creating unity is an aesthetic consideration and does not acknowledge the building's importance as an architectural record. The wholesale replacement of windows would therefore potentially harm the building in terms of its significance as an historic asset.

When windows or doors that contribute towards the architectural/historic interest of the building are beyond repair the listed status of the building requires that the replacement is a replica, including the glazing which should be single glazing. Replacing single glazed windows with double glazing in a Listed Building is not something that the Council would support.

I visited Barnsdales last week, whose brochure is included as part of your proposal. They are able to manufacture single glazed windows of the type that you are proposing should repair not be possible. I include the following link only by way of illustrating replica single-glazed leaded light windows. http://www.leadedlights.net/index.html.

As it stands the application would be refused on the basis of the above fundamental issues. There may however be some scope to amend your submission at least in part. My working days are Monday, Tuesday and Friday, 9:30am-2:30pm. Please can you let me know when you/your architect will be available for a site visit. Following the visit, your application will be dealt with as a priority.

Yours sincerely

Julie-Anne Middleditch
Conservation Officer