

Heritage Statement

Property: Willow Cottage, Nuthampstead, Royston, Hertfordshire, SG8 8ND

District: North Hertfordshire, Grid Reference: TL 40258 3468, Historic England List Entry Number: 1175608

The village of Nuthampstead has been classified as a category C rural village beyond the green belt. It is at the far eastern end of North Hertfordshire. It shares a lot of characteristics with north-east Essex and south Cambridgeshire. The Village has ancient historic interest, <https://northhertsmuseum.org/> states that the first time Nuthampstead is recorded as a name place was in the twelfth century. The Village is perhaps best known today as the temporary residence of some 300-US Airmen during the Second World War, the 55th Fighter Group and later the 398 Bomber Group.

Willow Cottage is a heritage asset and is listed under the Planning (listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990, for its special architectural / historic interest. It is a Grade II Listed Building, and was first listed 03 June 1987. The original age of the building is unknown but it is listed as early C18, Altered C19 and extended in C20. The building is timber frame and rendered with exposed red brick to gable end, the remainder of the building was rendered with cement in the 1980s, and in 2020's the concrete was removed and was lime rendered. In the 21st Century a vestibule to the front of the building, a small entrance room next to the existing outer door was added. This vestibule extension has cedar shingle tiled pitch roof and is now the main front entrance to the property.

We request permission to install an Electric Vehicle (EV) charging point at Willow Cottage. Our request is to install the EV Charger to the vestibule extension at the front of the property, to the exterior left hand wall. This part of the building as mentioned above is of modern construction in the 21st Century and therefore ensures that the overall buildings special architectural and historic interest is preserved. This is to enable the transition to low-carbon transport in line with both local and national sustainability objectives which includes:

- UK Governments Net zero by 2050 target and the ban on new petrol and diesel cars by 2035.
- National Planning Policy Framework which encourages measures that mitigate climate change, provided heritage significance is preserved.
- Hertfordshire County Councils climate Change and Sustainability Strategy, which promotes the adoption of electric vehicles and supporting infrastructure

The charger is for personal residential use and will be modest in scale, neutral in colour and will be hidden behind rose bushes and shrubs to the front, to minimise visual impact from public viewpoints and to avoid damage to the older historical parts of the building. Cabling will be routed along existing service lines to reduce any intrusion. The proposed installation will have a negligible impact on the buildings historic and architectural significance. No loss of historic fabric or features is proposed. The visual effect is limited, the charging point will be positioned behind shrubs and will not detract from the buildings character.

The installation of the EV charger is proportionate and allows the building to remain functional to its domestic residents in the 21st Century. It supports national and local sustainability policies whilst also preserving the buildings special interest. We consider that the proposal satisfies the statutory duty under Sections 16 (2), and 66 (1) of the Planning and (listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990, causing no harm to the significance of the heritage asset.

Feature	Description	Significance	Proposed Works	Possible impact	Justification / Mitigation
EV Charger	Installation of charging point for electric vehicle	Low	Installation of EV charger to exterior left hand wall of modern construction (21 st Century), vestibule at front of property	Low impact, does not affect old heritage part of building. Charger will be hidden behind shrubs.	Meet Net Zero targets. Meets National planning policy framework re climate change. Meets Hertfordshire County Councils climate Change and Sustainability Strategy