

# THE CITY OF DURHAM TRUST

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18th October 2024

Ms Jess White  
Durham County Council  
Durham County Council Planning Development  
PO BOX 274  
Stanley Co Durham  
DH8 1HG

Dear Ms White,

**DM/24/02310/LB - Flat 1 29B Church Street Durham DH1 3DG**

*Retention of the removal of decayed timber lintels above window and installation of new Naylor R6 concrete lintels and application of lime based render in affected areas and repaint*

While the Trust does not wish to object to this completed work, it does offer comments on the way this work occurred, the finish and future of the building facade.

This Grade II listed late 17thC/early 18thC building is important to the character of Church Street and this part of the Conservation Area. The listing describes the relevant section of the facade as incised stucco.

It is of concern that there is no report submitted of the actual damage and its cause that made the work immediately necessary. The reason for the timber lintel rotting may have been connected with failure of the render, the concern being that this is more widespread. The submitted photograph of the building shows damage to the render sill band linking the upper windows, lack of maintenance of the windows and around the pavement level grating. This may be indicative of further problems.

The piecemeal render repair and painting is leaving a mottled finish to the ground storey and the incised stucco markings are being lost. This leaves the facade looking sub standard and not true to the listing description.

The Trust makes these comments in the hope that they can be raised with the applicant and addressed if the application is approved.

Yours sincerely,

**John Lowe**

Chair, City of Durham Trust