

**Woodford Green United Reformed Church
4 High Elms Road Woodford Green Ref 201851**

**Heritage Statement to prepared in support of Planning Application
for 2 Nos. Proposed car park Barriers**

Heritage Asset

This building is identified under the Natural Heritage List for England as identified on the Historic England online database.

It is identified as follows:

Heritage Category:

Listed Building

Grade:

II*

List Entry Number:

1081029

Date first listed:

22-Feb-1979

Statutory Address:

UNITED FREE CHURCH, HIGH ELMS

Significance of Heritage Asset

Church. Built 1904 by Charles Harrison Townsend.

A good example of a church built in the Arts and crafts style with some attractive detailing as follows:

- Red brick, yellow terracotta dressings.
- Plain Tiled roof and side aisles finished in standing seam copper.
- Cruciform plan. Aisled 5-bay nave with thermal windows to clerestory.
- Short transepts. Apsidal north west chapel. Projecting south west porch.
- West end with large round-headed niche enclosing two thermal windows with pair of segmental headed doorways below.
- Thermal windows to aisles, transepts, and clerestory, flush mullions.
- Flying buttresses.
- Interior: barrel vaulted with brick and terracotta transverse arches rising from square marble clad piers.
- Semicircular arcade arches.
- Marble cladding to aisle walls.
- Gallery to west end.

Setting of Heritage Asset

Location

Statutory Address:

UNITED FREE CHURCH, 4 HIGH ELMS

The building or site itself may lie within the boundary of more than one authority.

County:

Greater London Authority

District:

Waltham Forest (London Borough)

Parish:

Non Civil Parish

National Grid Reference:

TQ4003192185

The Church Building is sited adjacent Woodford Green Primary School to the North with a well wooded strip of open land between. Open land also lies across the Road (High Elms) to the East

On the South side No 3 is also a grade II listed early 19th century 3 storey house

On the West side is a large block of 4 storey apartment/flats.

The site is tightly constrained and mainly given over to car parking and hard surfacing (tarmac) It is accessed directly from High Elms Road via 2 crossovers and entrances between a low brick boundary wall which runs along the back edge of the pavement.

Immediately outside the Church, designated carparking bays are demarcated in the road between the crossovers. On the opposite side of the road there are double yellow lines.

History of the Building

Opened in 1904 as the Woodford Union Church, the church was built by Charles Harrison Townsend, a distinguished Arts and Crafts architect who also built the Bishopsgate Institute, the Whitechapel Art Gallery and the Horniman Museum.

In 1944 the congregation was joined by the Woodford Congregational Church when their church building was destroyed by a bomb, and together they formed the Woodford Green United Free Church in 1946.

A refurbishment in 1963 added a memorial chapel and ceiling paintings, and a further major refurbishment in 1991 reduced the size of the sanctuary, allowing for a number of smaller rooms to be cut out for flexible use and the Church's service to the community, including facilities for wheelchair users. A new organ, built by Peter Collins using parts of the original one of Brindley and Foster of Sheffield, was dedicated in 1993

The asset was previously listed twice also under the London Borough of Redbridge under List entry 1357630. This entry was removed from the List on 17 January 2018.

The asset was previously designated as Grade II. This was up-graded to Grade II* on 24 February 1987.

Legacy

Legacy System number:

204815

Legacy System:

LBS

Legal

This building is listed under the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 as amended for its special architectural or historic interest.

Details of Proposal and impact on Heritage asset

This statement is to be read in conjunction with the planning application submission drawings ref 2146 P01A,P02A,P03A and planning statement which identify the proposals for installation of 2 new automatic swing up and down 5m long barriers. This also sets out the reason behind the application.

As illustrated on the drawings the proposed location of the new barriers is immediately inside the low front boundary wall just within the site at the point of each side entry into the existing car park.

The installation of these barriers will require some minor trenching in the tarmac surface to allow for installation of the electric supply and loop cable which will all be reinstated on completion.

The impact on the existing building (asset) itself will be minimal, just a small amount of internal discreet cabling to connect to the existing consumer unit. Externally the building will remain unaffected. The appearance of the barriers is such that they comply with current safety legislation to aid visibility.