



Surrey Heritage Awards 2019

Nomination 5: Manor Cottage

Shere, Guildford Borough

Summary

Manor Cottage is a 15th to 16th century timber framed house in the centre of Shere with a modern extension to the rear

Project

The project sought to repair the building using traditional materials and techniques. Manor Cottage was in a poor condition as a cement and sand render on the property was causing rot by not allowing historic materials to breathe. The rising level of the pavement had also caused problems with damp on the front wall.

As part of the project, the owner carried out much of the work himself taking the opportunity to learn about traditional techniques. This included removing the harmful render, repointing the existing brickwork and carrying out repairs to the timber framing. A French drain was installed outside the front of the property and a drop kerb reinstated to improve drainage. As part of the work the early 20th century extension was replaced in oak and was designed to complement the existing building and provide a modern kitchen.

Initial Comments

The judges felt this was a well-conceived and executed conservation project led by a hands-on owner who was keen to understand and learn how to use traditional materials. In the long term the works should improve the condition of the building by preventing damp and rot.

