



Surrey Heritage Awards 2019

Nomination 6: Lythe Hill Hotel
Chiddingfold, Waverley Borough

Summary

Lythe Hill Hotel is a Grade II* listed hotel which comprises of a 15th century Wealden Hall House with a late 16th century wing. The wing has notable decorative timber framing which is a particularly rare feature in Surrey.

Project

Despite its outward appearance, much of the decorative framing was in a very poor condition having suffered from rot or beetle infestation. Other areas had been replaced by a painted cement render which was causing significant structural issues leaving part of the hotel unusable.

To ensure works were carried out on a minimal intervention basis, drawings were produced showing which timbers need to be repaired or, in many cases, reinstated. In particular, most of the gable needed to be rebuilt. Much of the lathe and plaster infill had been replaced inappropriately in brick and concrete in the past. New panels were constructed with wood wool and lime render to allow the building to breathe.

Initial Comments

Judges noted the scale of the project and commended efforts to retain as much decorative timber as possible. The detailed records kept of the project were also remarked on as this would help inform any future repair projects.

