



JAMES CAMPBELL ASSOCIATES LTD

CHARTERED ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES



**Campbell House
173 Rochdale Road
Firgrove
Rochdale
OL16 3BN**

Tel: 01706 354888

Mob: 07817 623183

Email: admin@jamescampbellassociates.co.uk

Web: www.jamescampbellassociates.co.uk

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JUSTIFICATION STATEMENT

**JUSTIFICATION STATEMENT FOR THE USE OF RESIDENCE 9 UPVC WINDOWS IN A
GRADE II LISTED COTTAGE AT 8 WILDHOUSE LANE, MILNROW.**

1. Introduction

This statement provides a detailed justification for the proposed installation of **Residence 9 UPVC windows** at 8 Wildhouse Lane, Milnrow, a Grade II listed cottage. The intention is to replace existing windows with **Residence 9 timber-effect UPVC windows** to maintain the aesthetic integrity of the building while enhancing energy efficiency and sustainability.

Residence 9 windows offer a modern solution that can emulate traditional timber windows and meet conservation standards without compromising the historical character of the property.

2. Background and Existing Condition

8 Wildhouse Lane is a Grade II listed cottage, recognised for its historical and architectural significance, with traditional stone walls and features typical of rural Lancashire cottages. The existing windows may include original timber frames, but it is likely that over time, some windows have deteriorated due to age, weathering, and lack of maintenance.

The current windows present several issues:

- **Deterioration:** Some of the timber frames are suffering from rot and decay, requiring constant repair and maintenance.
- **Energy inefficiency:** The single glazing of the current windows leads to significant heat loss and does not meet modern energy efficiency standards.
- **Poor condition:** Some of the existing windows may have been replaced over time with inappropriate designs or materials, leading to inconsistency in appearance.

The objective is to replace the windows in a manner that both preserves the building's heritage and provides modern performance benefits.

3. Why Residence 9 UPVC Windows?

The **Residence 9 window system** is designed specifically to replicate the appearance of traditional timber windows, while offering the benefits of modern materials. Key characteristics include:

- **Authentic timber appearance:** The design and detailing of Residence 9 UPVC windows are modelled after traditional 19th-century timber windows. The frames are flush with the external facade, and the wood grain effect gives a highly realistic finish, making it difficult to distinguish from natural timber.
- **Conservation standards:** The Residence 9 system was developed to meet the requirements of conservation areas and listed buildings, where strict rules often apply to the visual impact of replacement windows. These windows are accepted in many listed properties across the UK due to their ability to closely mimic original timber windows.
- **Slimline double glazing:** The system can accommodate slimline double glazing, improving thermal efficiency while maintaining a similar appearance to single-glazed timber windows. This upgrade helps the cottage meet modern energy performance requirements without detracting from its historical character.

- **Low maintenance:** Unlike timber, which requires regular painting and upkeep, Residence 9 UPVC windows are maintenance-free. This ensures that the aesthetic appearance of the property can be maintained long-term without the need for costly repairs or frequent repainting, reducing the risk of neglect over time.
- **Durability and longevity:** UPVC windows are significantly more resistant to weathering than timber. The frames will not warp, rot, or fade, ensuring the long-term preservation of the building's appearance.

4. Heritage and Aesthetic Considerations

The primary concern with replacing windows in a Grade II listed building is ensuring that the historical and architectural integrity is preserved. The following points justify how the Residence 9 UPVC windows can achieve this:

- **Visual authenticity:** Residence 9 windows have been carefully designed to replicate the delicate details of traditional timber windows, including flush sash designs, detailed joints, and authentic glazing bars. The use of mechanical joints and authentic wood grain patterns ensures that the replacement windows will closely match the original appearance.
- **Conservation compliance:** Many listed buildings and properties in conservation areas across the UK have successfully incorporated Residence 9 windows due to their sensitive design. They offer the opportunity to balance the need for modernisation with heritage preservation, providing a solution that meets both planning regulations and modern standards.
- **Reversibility:** One of the key considerations in heritage building interventions is reversibility. Although Residence 9 UPVC windows are designed for long-term durability, they are installed without altering the original stone openings or the architectural fabric of the building. If future needs arise, the windows can be replaced or removed without permanent changes to the cottage.

5. Energy Efficiency and Sustainability

Listed buildings often face challenges in improving energy performance due to restrictions on materials and design changes. However, improving energy efficiency is crucial for both environmental sustainability and the comfort of residents.

Residence 9 windows provide:

- **Increased thermal insulation:** With double glazing and improved seals, the Residence 9 system provides superior thermal performance compared to single-glazed timber windows. This helps reduce energy consumption, aligning the property with modern sustainability goals.
- **Reduced heat loss:** The enhanced U-value of Residence 9 windows significantly reduce heat loss through the windows, contributing to the overall thermal efficiency of the building. This leads to lower energy costs and a reduced carbon footprint.
- **Noise reduction:** The double-glazed design also offers improved acoustic insulation, which can benefit the occupants by reducing external noise.

6. Conclusion

The installation of **Residence 9 timber-effect UPVC windows** at 8 Wildhouse Lane provides a balanced solution, offering the durability and energy efficiency of modern materials while maintaining the visual and historic integrity of this Grade II listed cottage. These windows respect the building's architectural character, while providing significant improvements in terms of energy performance, low maintenance, and long-term sustainability.

Given the careful design and heritage-specific features of the Residence 9 system, the replacement windows will make a positive contribution to the preservation and continued use of this historic building. The proposal is in line with conservation best practices, providing a high-quality, sensitive approach to upgrading the windows in a way that enhances both the building's aesthetic and functional aspects.