

**Design & Access Statement  
For  
Mr & Mrs Perriss  
West Town House  
Woodway Road  
Sibford Ferris  
Banbury  
OX15 5RF**

1. Appraising the context.
  - Mr & Mrs Perriss purchased West Town House in 2002 and refurbished the period house to the current form.
  - Mrs Perriss has had Multiple Sclerosis for many years and is now in a position where a wheelchair will be required to get around.
  - This application seeks to provide additional and better disabled facilities whilst maintaining the character of the original building.
  
2. Identifying the Design Principle.
  - West Town House is a stunning period house set in beautiful gardens and benefits from stunning views.
  - Mr & Mrs Perriss have enjoyed the house over the years whilst Mrs Perriss has still been mobile.
  - Mrs Perriss still wants to enjoy the beautiful setting and views whilst having the facilities to provide wheelchair access without harming the house or the surroundings.
  
3. Identifying the Access Principals.
  - The current En-suite bathroom is down some narrow steep steps with low ceiling and lack of suitable handrail.
  - West Town House is a period property that has been extended over time and benefits from the character of low ceilings and random steps with differing levels, wherein lies the access principal to provide easier access for Mrs Perriss to circumnavigate around the house with the aid of the wheelchair lift from ground floor to the proposed first floor disabled wet room and level access to the principal bedroom.
  - There is currently a stair lift in the house which is intrusive and detracts from the stunning period features of the house. The chair lift will not provide wheelchair access and soon to be redundant.

#### 4. Creating the Design Solution.

- The proposed extension is designed to blend in with the existing main building and retain the existing character of West Town House, whilst providing disabled facilities and maintaining the existing breakfast room that provides so much pleasure to Mr & Mrs Perriss to view the stunning views to the North East.
- The proposed lift requires a minimum floor to floor height that cannot be accommodated within the main house, and therefore the proposed extension will provide the required platform to provide a wheelchair lift and level access to the principal bedroom, and specifically designed disabled wet room.

#### 5. Creating the Access Solution.

- The external access arrangements to West Town House will remain unchanged from the original.
- West Town House already benefits from having a level entrance to the side lobby and generally level access around the ground floor of the house other than some simple temporary timber ramps.
- The Wheelchair lift will be encased in a stud partition with a door to match the rest of the house and therefore will not detract from the period character of West Town House.