

Culture Team
2-4 Cockspur Street
London SW1Y 5DH
www.culture.gov.uk

Tel 020 7211 2366
Fax 020 7211 6130
ian.dunlop@
culture.gsi.gov.uk

Emily Gee
Heritage Protection Department
English Heritage
1 Waterhouse Square
138-142 Holborn
London EC1 2ST

Your Ref UID 165326 and 165980
Our Ref

08 February 2010



PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS) ACT 1990 BUILDINGS OF SPECIAL ARCHITECTURAL OR HISTORIC INTEREST

Slough Town Hall, Bath Road, Slough, SL1 3UQ

With reference to the adviser's report dated 2nd February 2009 provided by English Heritage that recommended that the above building be added to the statutory list, I am now in a position to advise you of the Secretary of State's decision.

The Secretary of State has now completed his consideration of all the evidence, including taking into account advice from English Heritage, and the representations of others, and has decided that Slough Town Hall is not of sufficient architectural or historic interest to merit listing protection under the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990.

The Secretary of State has considered the evidence for and against listing Slough Town Hall against the rigorous criteria contained in the English Heritage Law and Government Buildings Selection Guide. The Guide states that, 'With inter- and post-war town halls, greater survival rates demand rigorous selection: architectural interest will be the principal determinant in assessing modern examples across the range'.

The Secretary of State finds that, although Slough Town Hall is a significant civic building designed by two of the leading architects of municipal buildings of the era, the building itself is not remarkable for its planning, features or technical aspects. The Secretary of State has taken note of English Heritage's advice – in particular the description of subtle architectural qualities – but is persuaded by the evidence provided by others that the quality of the building's architecture is not of special interest.



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The Secretary of State acknowledges the advice of English Heritage that the survival of the original decoration in the building's public spaces and the clock tower designed by Reg Butler and situated on the roof of the building, means that Slough Town Hall has decorative elements that deserve careful consideration. However, the Secretary of State feels that the lack of decorative work outside of the public spaces means that, overall, Slough Town Hall does not possess a level of decoration that merits listing protection.

The Secretary of State acknowledges the strong arguments presented on both sides on this case. On balance, the Secretary of State believes that Slough Town Hall does not reach the level of architectural or historic interest required to be added to the statutory list.

Yours Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ian Dunlop', written over a circular stamp or seal.

Ian Dunlop
Heritage Protection Branch