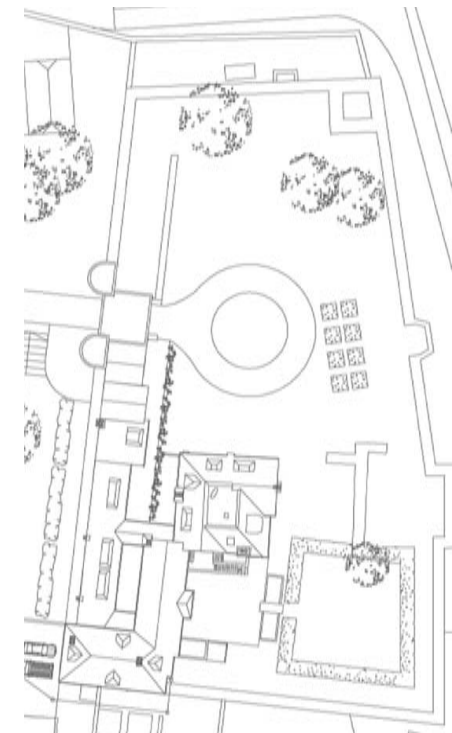


Amberley Castle 6*

PROJECT PROFILE

Client Andrew Brownsword Hotels
Location Amberley, UK
Size / Cost 16 bedrooms / undisclosed
Team Structures - SKM Anthony Hunts
MEP - SKM Anthony Hunts
Historic Impact - Forum Heritage
Contractor - J Reynolds Western



Amberley Castle is a unique luxury hotel located in the picturesque village of Amberley at the foot of the South Downs. The castle is a Grade I Listed Building and a Scheduled Ancient Monument. The 900-year-old castle is enclosed by a 60-foot curtain wall and functioning portcullis. We worked very closely with the client to provide technical advice and support the development of a long-term vision for continual improvement of the hotel, which included works to existing bedrooms, heritage regulatory considerations and a strategy for new build interventions sympathetic to the historic fabric. Our feasibility studies identified opportunities for spa treatment rooms, a wine cellar, an extension to the dining room and a castle wall walk. We were then appointed to provide interior design services for the full internal remodelling of the “Manor House” bedrooms and suites and the complete updating of all bathrooms in the castle wall bedrooms, carefully balancing spatial proportions for each bedroom.

Heritage Considerations

Improvements and permissions to the building were challenging due to its listed status. We liaised closely with English Heritage and heritage consultants to

identify key historic sensitivities through several layers of past interventions. We achieved consent to replace the rotting main oak stair at ground to first floor and the balustrade to first floor landing in the “Manor House” with a new stair in its place by matching the design to a few remaining original Queen Anne newel posts.

“When Amberley Castle became part of the Andrew Brownsword Group, the new owners appointed Consarc Architects to help them raise the hotel to the same standard of quality as their other hotels.”

Liz Pickard, Director, Consarc Architects

The original central separating wall within the “Manor House” was identified as a key heritage feature. For the two first floor bedrooms, we rationalised the existing four en-suite shower/bathrooms into two generously sized bathrooms. We achieved this by blocking one of each of the arched doorway pairs. We expressed the separating wall within the bathroom design, reconciling the requirement for a luxury hotel standard with the planner’s desire for minimal intervention.

Specialist Planning
Feasibility Studies
Technical Advisory

INTERIORS