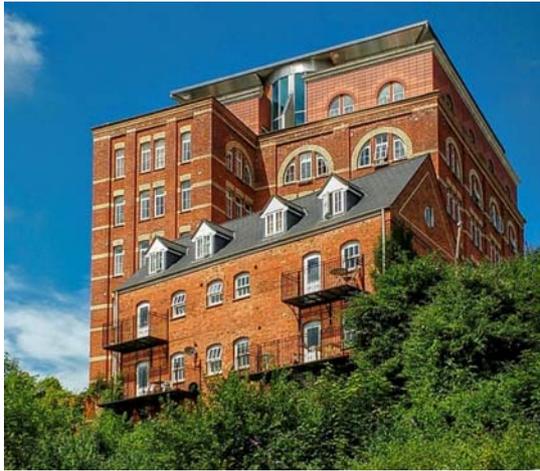


Stroud Town Council Local Heritage Asset List

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| Cheapside, Hill Paul, GL5 3BL | |
| Historic Building | Conservation Area: Stroud Station Stroud Town Centre NDP area |
| Factory, now flats | List entry number SLHA0001 |



Description

A brick and stone, 6-storey, former clothing factory, built 1898-1900 for Williamson & Tratt, occupied from 1902 -1989 by Hill Paul and Co.. It was the first electricity-powered factory in the south west. The architect was Vincent Lawson, who worked locally in the Arts and Crafts style. He was the husband of the then owner of the Imperial Hotel, Stroud. Large and imposing stone surround to front entrance; modern etched glass above the door. The north facing front elevation includes 4 stone pilasters falling from original roof line to a floor and a half below, 6 ball finials on the original cornice and a working clock with stone surround; all the decoration on this façade is in stone. In contrast, all the decorative features to the west, east and the rear, such as sills, surrounds and string courses, are in buff brick; there is a decorative brickwork detail below the cornice, with the bricks laid in intersecting, projecting triangles. The polychromatic brickwork design is by Henry A. Cheers of Teddington (Middlesex); executed in Stonehouse brick according to Pevsner. The projecting tower to the rear was a toilet and stair block. A landmark building, close to Stroud station and visible from many points in the town. Hill Paul closed as a factory in 1989 and was rescued from demolition after a campaign by the Hill Paul Regeneration Group in 2000/2001. It was redeveloped as flats and two dramatic new top floors added as enabling development for the restoration of the building.

Sources

Stroud Civic Society (2017), Projects, Hill Paul:

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Stroud Local History Society, People and Places Index, Companies Local, Hill Paul

<http://www.stroudlocalhistorysociety.org.uk/people-places/companies/hill-paul/>, viewed 6 June 2017

Treverton Jones, T, (2005), Memories of Stroud, Stroud: The History Press Ltd
Verey, D and Brooks, A (2002), The Buildings of England, Gloucestershire 1: The Cotswolds, New Haven and London, Yale University Press (p.664)

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| Selection Criteria | |
| Age | Good example of early 20th century factory. |
| Architectural and aesthetic value | Solid yet decorative building by local Arts and Crafts influenced architect, V A Lawson. |
| Evidential value | Evidence of the development of the textile industry, so important to the town since the 15th century, from cloth production to clothing production. |
| Historic association | Associated with important local firms, Williamson & Tratt and Hill Paul and Company. |
| Landmark status | A landmark, close to Stroud Station and visible from many points in and around the town. |
| Social and communal value | It has value as evidence of the economic and industrial history of the town. Its survival is also evidence of successful social action and campaigning, a theme in Stroud's recent history. Without the Save Hill Paul campaign, it would have been demolished. |
| Degree of completeness | The body and details of the exterior is complete, despite the modern window frames and extra floor. |
| Date of inclusion | June 2017 |

With thanks to Stroud Preservation Trust – www.stroudpreservationtrust.org.uk

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