

# THE VICTORIAN SOCIETY

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1958  
2008

Campaigning for Victorian and Edwardian architecture and other arts

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Your reference: 7016/JJ  
Our reference: 2008C/05/006

23 May 2008

Dear Ms Jury

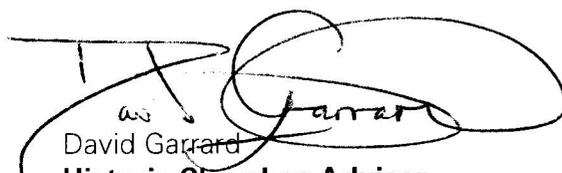
## **St Laurence's Church, Brundall, Norfolk (Grade II\*, medieval, extended 1898 and 1962-3) – proposed extension**

Thank you for your letter and enclosures of 29 April 2008, notifying the Victorian Society of proposals concerning the above church. These were discussed by our Southern Buildings Committee at its May meeting, and I now write to convey the Committee's response.

St Laurence's is a modest two-celled medieval church, extended to the north in 1898 and to the west in the 1960s. The current proposals would retain the arcade of the Victorian north aisle, but would replace the aisle itself with a very large new worship area, with the old church acting as a narthex chapel.

Although this would involve the loss of substantial 19<sup>th</sup>-century fabric, we feel that the principal issues here concern the impact of this very large extension on the original medieval building. The 1898 aisle is a sensitive addition to the church but is not of outstanding significance in its own right; more important than the loss of this element is, we feel, the danger of overwhelming the small medieval church in new development. On this issue, however, we must defer to the views of the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings.

Yours sincerely

  
David Garrard  
Historic Churches Adviser

Cc. Catherine Cullis, SPAB  
David Eve, English Heritage  
Jean Gosling, Norwich DAC  
Gareth Hughes, Broadland DC

