

## The Hardmans' House Access Statement

- The Hardmans' House
- 59 Rodney Street
- Liverpool
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### Introduction

- A mid-terrace Georgian house in the vicinity of the Anglican Cathedral which was the home and studio of Edward Chambré Hardman and his wife Margret. There are level streets immediately in the vicinity but there are some slopes and a hill nearby. Accessible entrance is through the Reception building on Pilgrim Street and through the garden to the rear of the property. The garden has a pathway with a slight incline.
- There is good mobile phone reception across most of the site.
- Assistance dogs are welcome throughout the property.
- Light levels are kept low in the house to protect the collection from irreversible light damage.
- Visitors will be requested to hand over large bags to be stored in the house in order to protect the collection.
- Due to the size of the house, tour groups are limited to a maximum of 6 visitors and timed tours.
- The tour lasts for 90 minutes and covers all floors of the property.
- The house has four floors (including a basement level) and access to these floors is by a single staircase with a handrail. Due to the historic nature of the house, there is no lift at the property. (14 stairs from entrance to first floor, 3 stairs from first floor landing to living quarters, 5 stairs from first floor landing to second floor, 13 stairs from second floor landing to third floor, 7 stairs from the third floor landing to fourth floor and 12 stairs from the ground floor down to the cellar).

### Arrival & Parking Facilities

- There is an A-Board at the front and rear entrances of the property as well as a sign on the entrance porch to the front of the property when the house is open to the public. There are also finger post signs on nearby streets to signpost pedestrians to '59 Rodney Street'.
- There are no dedicated car-parking spaces at this property. Local public facilities are available nearby. There is limited pay-and-display parking on Rodney Street, Pilgrim Street (the reception entrance is located on Pilgrim Street) as well as a larger car park at the nearby Anglican Cathedral (approximately 0.2 miles away from the reception entrance). The Anglican Cathedral car park has 14 designated spaces for disabled visitors; the surface of car park is tarmac, and the overspill car parking is block paved.
- Visitors are required to go to Visitor Reception on Pilgrim Street to either book a tour or collect their pre-booked tickets before they go to the main visitor entrance on Rodney Street to begin their tour.

## WCs

- There is an accessible toilet in the visitor reception at the rear of the property.
- The toilet is 45 cm x 80 cm wide.
- The accessible WC is right hand transfer.
- There are no adult changing facilities but baby changing facilities are available. The WC has an automatic hand drier, tile floor and ceramic facilities and is lit by artificial light in the form of a halogen bulb.

## Visitor Reception (including a small retail space)

- The building has plastered walls as well as a tiled floor and textile mat.
- The entrance is via Pilgrim Street which is a relatively level street.
- The entrance door is 85 cm wide and opens inwards to about 90 degrees. The door is quite heavy and so staff can assist with opening the door if required.
- The reception desk is 105 cm high and there is a lower section which is 80 cm high for greeting visitors.
- The area is lit by natural light (windows to the front and back of reception) as well as artificial spotlights in the ceiling.
- There are two chairs available which have low armrests and the seat is 40cm high.
- There is an induction loop available at the reception desk.
- There are no wheelchairs available for loan due to the small size of the house.

## House

- The house is approximately 30 meters from the reception building and is accessible through the garden at the rear of the property.
- The garden path has a slight decline on the tarmacked section of the path and has a handrail on one side. The paved section of the path is flat.
- The door into the rear of the house is manually operated and opens inwards. Staff/volunteers can assist with opening the door if required.
- The main visitor route is via the front entrance on Rodney Street (once visitors have collected their tickets from Pilgrim Street). This entrance (100 cm wide) has three stone steps with a handrail into the vestibule of the house. There is then a further three wooden steps (without a handrail) through a door (75 cm wide) into the house.
- The rooms are mostly of a domestic size and so there are few echoes from hard surfaces.
- The rooms are lit with a variety of different methods such as natural light, ceiling lights, standard lights and spotlights, dependant on the needs of the room.
- There are four floors in the house: basement, ground, first and second (as well as quarter landings). These floors are accessible via a single staircase with a handrail.
- There are some narrow corridors and doorways in the house. In particular, these include the entrance to the basement level, which is 65 cm wide, entrance to the Ground Floor Office (70 cm); this is the accessible route into the ground floor spaces.
- The majority of the rooms in the upper floors, and some in the ground floor of the house are quite small, which means that there is limited space for turning wheelchairs easily in some of the rooms. There are seats without armrests in some of the rooms for visitors to use around the house.

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- The property is accessible by tours guided by volunteers only and there is an induction loop available.
- There is a large print and Braille guide available as well as a virtual tour.
- There are quiet areas where people can sit if they don't want to do the same amount of the visit as other members of the group, such as the garden. There are some rooms in the house that people can use to wait in, between tours, but please be aware that a member of staff or volunteer will need to be in attendance for reasons of fire and security and so it would be helpful to know in advance if this would be required so that we can make sure we have enough staff available.

## Garden

- There is a small garden to the rear of the property. The pathway to the back of the house is across a path of tarmac and flagstones. There is a slight slope to the tarmacked section of the pathway and there is a handrail in the wall to assist.
- The rest of the garden consists of a series of flower beds, with a tarmacked and paving slab pathway leading to a stone garden bench.

## Contact details for more information

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- **Date: 13 April 2021**

## Map

