

Project Ref: 308-06

July 2026



ALFRED H KNIGHT

DESIGN & ACCESS STATEMENT

Erection of external plant/machinery *in relation to Phase 1B internal remodelling works.*

APPLICANT: Alfred H Knight Ltd

ADDRESS: Unit K31-C
Acornfield Road
Knowsley Industrial Park
Kirkby
Knowsley L33 7AS

AGENT: Mersey Design Group Ltd



BRIEF:

The Alfred H Knight Group provide services to the global mining, refining industry and commodities market in the sampling and analysis of metalliferous commodities to enable trade. With its head office and main laboratory facilities based at Kings Business Park, Prescot L34 1PJ, the laboratory estate also encompasses 3 other satellite laboratory operations in proximity to Kings Business Park. This includes Unit K31-C, where Phase 1A has already been completed (granted under ref. 23/00363/FUL on 06/07/2023) to expand their laboratory facilities

This planning application relates to Phase 1B of the development, which comprises further internal expansion of the facility and associated operational areas within the existing building. The proposals also include limited external works in the form of additional extraction to support the expanded facilities.

SCOPE:

Located on the west side of Acornfield Road, the warehouse is a recently constructed unit for which planning permission was granted under ref. 20/00688/FUL on 10/02/2021. Phase 1A works have been implemented to provide the initial instrument, workshop and welfare accommodation together with associated external plant to the southern elevation. Phase 1B continues the approved phased approach and comprises internal alterations to accommodate an additional instrument, with no change to the established use of the building.

VEHICLE / PEDESTRIAN ACCESS:

There are no changes to existing access arrangements. Existing vehicle access to the north of the unit is retained, together with existing car, cycle, disabled and HGV parking provision. Existing pedestrian access points, fire exits, roller shutter doors and loading facilities remain unchanged. The proposals have no impact on access, circulation or highway safety.

PROPOSALS:

Phase 1B comprises internal alterations to accommodate a further instrument accommodation within the existing building envelope. The works are required to support the continued operational expansion of the facility.

EXTERNAL WORKS:

Limited external works are proposed comprising:

- Installation of additional extract ducts and associated minor plant to the north elevation
- Designed to match the form, appearance and detailing of the ducts installed under Phase 1A to the southern elevation



The external works are functional in nature and represent a minor extension of the existing servicing strategy for the building.

DESIGN / APPEARANCE:

The proposed external additions are modest in scale and are located on a servicing elevation of the building.

The design approach maintains consistency with Phase 1A works and the wider building design.

Given the context of Knowsley Business Park, where modern industrial units commonly incorporate external servicing infrastructure, the proposals are considered appropriate and in keeping with the character of the area.

The works will not result in any material change to the appearance, scale or massing of the building.

SUMMARY:

Phase 1B represents a modest continuation of the approved phased development at Unit K31C.

The proposals:

- Provide further internal laboratory expansion
- Introduce limited additional external ducts to the north elevation
- Do not alter access, parking or site operations
- Maintain the established industrial character of the site

The development is considered to be acceptable in design terms and consistent with the previously approved scheme.

INFORMATION TO ACCOMPANY THE APPLICATION:

<u>Document Reference</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Author</u>
AL(E)01	Existing Layout Plan	MDG
AL(E)02	Existing Elevations	MDG
AL(2)01	Proposed Layout Plan	MDG
AL(2)02	Proposed Elevations	MDG
AL(9)01	Location Plan	MDG
Design and Access Statement.pdf		MDG
Photo 1 - existing Phase 1A extract duct ozone.pdf		MDG
Photo 2 - existing Phase 1A chiller hood.pdf		MDG

