

**Heritage Statement
Priory Theatre, Rosemary Hill,
Kenilworth CV8 1BN**

The Existing Building

Description of the Heritage Asset.

The Priory Theatre Company is a former Christadelphian/Unitarian chapel on Rosemary Hill near Abbey Fields. The building dates back to 1816 and has been subject to many improvements and extension works over the years including a partial re-built after the devastating fire in the mid-70's. The most recent re-development of the foyer dates to the late 90's altering the façade from majority glass (see figure 1) to the existing today (see figure 2).



Figure 1: Priory theatre front elevation post fire and pre-90s redevelopment.



Figure 2: Priory theatre front elevation post-90s re-development.

The building is not listed whilst being located within Kenilworth Conservation area. It is felt however that the existing façade does not really contribute towards the appearance and character of the Conservation Area

Assessment of impact.

Our proposal comprises of the merging of two existing front window openings into one full height aluminium framed window with a glass Juliet balcony. The proposal has a minor effect on the 90s foyer redevelopment and the building's heritage significance. In addition, the new larger window will revert back to the idea of a more glazed elevation as per the original theatre. See Figure 1.

It is anticipated that the impact will be positive to the appearance within the conservation area as it will provide an improved visual connection between the theatre and Abbey Fields whilst forming an enhanced presence and relationship to the neighbourhood.

Mitigation of impact.

By utilising the existing structural openings to create one enlarged aluminium framed window to match the existing aluminium door it is foreseen that the quality of the proposal will be an overall improvement. The existing door will be refinished to match the proposed windows creating a uniform elevation.

The application and its regard to the conservation area is therefore seen as being positive to the context of the heritage asset.

End of statement

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