

## Heritage Statement

For 9 High Street Hythe Hampshire SO45 6AG

Planning Application 23/11137.

Hythe is a small town in Hampshire on the shore of Southampton Water. The settlement of Hythe has been recorded since as early as 1293 and has been a crossing point over Southampton Water for centuries. Until the start of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century, Hythe was a small fishing Village.

The Hythe Ferry ('Hitheferye') first appears on maps dated 1575. The first mention of a proposed pier is in an 1844 Act of Parliament, but it's not completed until January 1<sup>st</sup>, 1881. The historic electric trains arrive in 1922 and have continued to operate ever since. That's almost 450 years as a landing stage between Southampton and the New Forest.

Hythe is steeped in maritime history and today, visitors can still enjoy a panoramic view of the boats and passing ocean liners from stylish Hythe Marina, as well as loads of other things to do. Hythe has witnessed some legendary maiden voyages such as the Titanic in 1912, the QE2 and, more recently, the superliners.

This charming town, where contemporary style combines effortlessly with vintage classics, is a mecca for shoppers; the bustling high street is crammed with an array of boutique shops and restaurants reflecting the town's unique atmosphere.

Hythe and Debden Purlieu had a population of 19843 in the 20231 Census.

The unit that this application refers to is in the Main High Street and recently has been an Estate Agents for a few Years. The shops 7 and 9 were rented by the estate Agents and when they closed down Countrywide estate Agents kept the two units who had separate owners. No 9 the unit we are discussing was purchased on 12/06/2019 in September 2021 Countrywide stopped trading but put the shop on the market, the shop closed and remained closed from that date. Around October 2021 Connells estate agents bought them out but kept the shop closed, they continued to market it with no luck. The lease expired in August 2022; so in August 21 the shops were put back to individual premises August 2023. Number 9 was then completely renovated.