

Heritage Statement _ Connecting Unit 6 and 7, The Old Fox Yard, Stowmarket, IP14 1AB

The old fox yard is a former coaching inn that was converted to a series of commercial lets approximately 30 years ago. Previous to this conversion the spaces were used together and there were routes through the buildings. For example there was access at first floor level from the inn at the front (now unit 8), through unit 7's first floor and into the first floor of unit 6 (which was previously the ball room/ dining space of the inn). The remnants of this route are still visible in unit 7 but the route is now obstructed by stairways servicing the individual units. On the ground floor there is also historic evidence of openings between the two units, which have since been blocked-up. Again, the existing stair of unit 6 also blocks the former opening.

Existing Fabric:

The dividing wall between the two units is masonry at ground level and timber frame at first floor level. The masonry wall has a newer cement plaster and painted finish.

Proposed openings:

The proposed openings will remove a small amount of historic fabric in the areas identified on the plans and in the DAS photos. The proposal will re-link these two spaces which historically would have been linked.

Impact on the heritage asset:

A small amount of historic fabric will be removed to undertake the proposal, however this is weighed against the re-linking of the two spaces which historically would have had access between them. On balance the proposal has little to no impact on the historic asset but will result in an optimisation of the building's use.