

# Heritage Statement

Lewis Lane, Cirencester

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# 01 Introduction

## Purpose

Quattro Design Architects have been engaged with Gloucester County Council to provide the architectural design for the refurbishment of Cotswold Social Care Office, Lewis Lane, Cirencester.

This document has been prepared to support the documentation submitted for the additional works required in the refurbishment of 14 Lewis Lane, which is a grade II listed Building.

This submission is further to the previously submitted and approved application: **23/00095/LBC**

This document details the design rationale behind the additional works and demonstrates how the applicant is intending to create an improved workspace for the staff, whilst impacting the existing building as little as possible.

## Project Team

The project team is comprised of the following parties:

Quattro Design Architects

Gloucester County Council

Speller Metcalfe

Burnley Wilson Fish Consultancy

## Location and Context

The Cotswold Social Care Office is located in Lewis Lane, Cirencester, a small market town within Gloucestershire. The surrounding area comprises of mixed used buildings, which include small businesses and residential housing.

## Description

The property on Lewis Lane is within the Cirencester South Conservation Area. Dated 1879 existing Grade II listed Cotswold Social Care Office (former School) is coursed and roughly dressed stone with ashlar quoins and dressings; stone-coped tile roofs with blue tile bands; ashlar stacks. Plan: Former School rooms, with assembly hall projecting to front, built on a U-plan with masters' houses projecting either side and linked across front by low wall with railings. Jacobethan style. Central hall and flanking rooms of one storey. Hall has conical vents to roof with ridge parallel to front and continued as a hipped outshot to front broken by 3 gables with floating cornices over stone mullioned and transomed windows. Lower room blocks each have similar windows to flanking gables of right-angle wings, that to right having arched doorway set beneath tower with mullioned lantern



windows surmounted by spirelet; each wing has additional outer entrance bay, with lower ridge parallel to assembly hall, smaller fenestration and gabled entrance bay with finial coping and arched doorway. Rear and side elevations in similar style with cross-gables and similar fenestration. Interior includes open timber roofs and paneled doors. Subsidiary Features: 2-storey masters' houses each have similar 2- above 3-light windows to gable facing road, and similar fenestration to the inner elevation with cross gable to rear adjoining schoolroom. Low plinth wall to front surmounted by plain cast-iron railings with 3 cast-iron gates flanked by piers of a robust and simple design. A quite early and skillfully articulated example of a school in the Jacobethan style.

## 2.0 Design

### 2.1 Proposed Ceiling Works - designated as Group Space (R068)

Other than the structural elements to support the existing ceiling we are proposing to over-board the ceiling finishes. This is to preserve the existing ceiling as much as possible.

It has been determined that to replace the damaged area sufficiently enough to ensure longevity of the new finishes, will mean that most of the ceiling in the hall would have to be removed.

This is not a practical solution for the current project and so the alternative of over-boarding is the preferred alternative. It creates a cleaner look, while preserving the original ceiling behind, and reducing the time and cost involved.

### 2.2 The proposal Lighting

The original design proposal stated that the lights would be replaced on a like-for-like basis but with modern versions of the luminaires. Current regulations for lighting prevent us from doing this, and so a proposal has been put forward where we are to use the same types of luminaires, but in a larger quantity.

This will ensure that all areas of the building are sufficiently illuminated, avoiding unnecessary safety issues. We do not have any possible alternative options available for this.

### 2.3 Acoustic Proposals

The use of the rooms within Phase 4 revolves around children, teens, and families. There will naturally be a lot of noise through activities with younger children in the front of the building, and youths in rear.

We are looking to employ the use of the same acoustic panels used throughout the previous phases of works across this site. They will greatly improve the environment by reducing the reverberation within the proposed areas, while maintaining a neutral palette should the use of the rooms change in the future.

Designs with alternative shapes and colours were explored but proved far too expensive. Given that the Solo Squares are now used throughout the building, it makes sense to continue their use and have continuity across all areas.

