The Shakespeare, Canterbury

Canterbury City Council





Heritage Potential provided heritage advice to support the proposed internal and external refurbishment of the Grade II listed Shakespeare Inn and the Grade II* listed Wine and Coffee House (now one premises), located at 40 Burgate in Canterbury.

The Shakespeare Inn and the Wine and Coffee House stand in the very heart of Canterbury which is an area of considerable historic interest, including a great variety of heritage assets. Situated just opposite the Canterbury Cathedral, both listed buildings lie within the Canterbury City Conservation Area, an Area of Archaeological Importance, and the buffer zone for the UNESCO World Heritage Site. The buildings are interconnected through an enclosed external courtyard, known as Angel Court.

The heritage assessment, provided by Heritage Potential, comprised of archival research, a site inspection and planning history research. These elements have informed the detailed assessment of significance and the evaluation of the potential impact of the proposed works. As a result, the majority of works were directed to the main pub trading area, which had been subject to greater C20 development, including the conversion of its former off-sales unit, whilst ensuring only low intervention, complimentary elements were included in the Wine and Coffee House.

A thorough Heritage Statement was produced to support the various alterations, including internal refurbishment and reordering, updating of the Angel Court trading area, the introduction of a new signage scheme with external illumination, and the refurbishment of the site's two shopfronts.

The overall scheme significantly enhances the interior and exterior appearance in a holistic manner, in order to future proof this popular city centre pub. Consequently, the Planning Permission, LBC, and advertisement applications were successfully approved under delegated powers.