

Heritage Statement for Repainting of exterior and Proposed Signage Replacement at 15 Gun Street, Reading RG1 2JR

Site: 15 Gun Street, Reading, RG1 2JR

Designation: Grade II listed building (List Entry Number: 1104501)

This Heritage Statement has been prepared in support of an application for re-painting of exterior (like to like) and replacement of signage using the existing materials on the listed premises at 15 Gun Street, Reading. It examines the building's heritage significance and assesses how the proposed signage impacts that significance.

Historic and Architectural Significance

Heritage Category:	Listed Building
Grade:	II
List Entry Number:	1113492
Date first listed:	14-Dec-1978
List Entry Name:	15 Gun Street

A public house, constructed during the C17, altered during the early C19 and further altered and extended during the late C20. The building is currently in use as a restaurant.

It is a mid-19th-century structure forming part of Reading's historic east-west thoroughfare, within Reading Central Conservation Area. Distinguished by its traditional brick façade, segmental-arched windows, decorative cornice, and original shopfront proportions, it embodies local commercial heritage. The building's contribution to the uniformed street elevation is a key component of its special interest.

Description of the Proposal

The proposal involves re-painting of exterior (like to like) and replacement of signage using the existing materials (i.e., timber with painted lettering, steel sheet, steel board) with new text and colors, finished in a colour scheme that complements the building's historic character.

No structural alterations to the historic fabric of the building are proposed beyond the minimal fixings necessary to install the signage.

Assessment of Impact on Heritage Significance

The proposed signage is designed to be sympathetic to the building's historic character, keeping the existing and appropriate materials, scale, and placement. Fixings will be minimal and reversible, with no damage to original architectural features.

The proposed location aligns with traditional signage positions and does not obscure or detract from key architectural elements. The design draws on traditional styles

and is intended to enhance legibility while maintaining the visual integrity of the listed façade.

Justification and Conclusion

The signage is required to support the ongoing commercial viability of the premises, which is consistent with the building's historic use as a Thai restaurant and bar. The design and materials have been carefully selected to respect the significance of the listed building and its setting.

In conclusion, the alteration deems minimal as the design keeps the existing materials. The proposed signage is text/lettering alteration and will have a negligible impact on the special architectural and historic interest of the listed building and is considered to preserve its character and appearance in accordance with Section 66 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 and relevant local and national planning policies.