

BOROUGH COUNCIL OF KING'S LYNN & WEST NORFOLK

KING'S LYNN AND WEST NORFOLK AREA MUSEUMS COMMITTEE

**Minutes from the Meeting of the King's Lynn and West Norfolk Area
Museums Committee held on Monday, 16th June, 2025 at 2.00 pm in the
Council Chamber, Town Hall, Saturday Market Place, King's Lynn PE30 5DQ**

PRESENT:

Borough Councillors

Councillors Bubb, de Whalley, and Kemp

County Councillors

Councillors Bambridge and Chenery of Horsburgh

Ex-Officio Non-Voting Members

Councillor Kybird – Norfolk Joint Museums Committee

Officers

Oliver Bone – Lynn Museum

Robin Hanley – Norfolk Museum Service

Tim FitzHigham – Borough Council of King's Lynn and West Norfolk

Portfolio Holder

Councillor Lintern – Portfolio Holder for Culture and Events

1 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR 2025 TO 2026

RESOLVED: Councillor Bubb was appointed Chair for the Municipal Year 2025 to 2026.

2 APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIR FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR 2025 TO 2026

In the absence of nominees from the Norfolk County Council representatives coming forward, the Committee appointed a Borough Council representative as Vice Chair.

RESOLVED: Councillor Kemp was appointed Vice Chair for the Municipal Year 2025 to 2026.

3 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Borough Councillor Bland, Mr Davison, Councillor Ward, Norfolk Joint Museums Committee and Lindsey Bavin, Manager of True's Yard Museum.

4 **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 10 March 2025 were agreed as a correct record.

5 **MATTERS ARISING**

There were no matters arising.

6 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

County Councillor Bambridge declared an interest in item 8 as she was a Trustee of True's Yard Museum.

7 **REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT HEAD OF MUSEUMS**

[Click here to view the recording of this item on YouTube](#)

The Curator of the Lynn Museum introduced the report on the King's Lynn Museum activities in the period from March to May 2025. A copy of the report is attached to the minutes.

The Committee's attention was drawn to the following areas of the report:

- 1) Exhibitions and events at Lynn Museum
 - 1.1 Current Exhibition *Woof: A Celebration of Dogs*
 - 1.2 Forthcoming Exhibition *May the Toys Be with You*
 - 1.3 Family events
 - 1.4 Family Trails
 - 1.5 Mini Museum
 - 1.6 Coffee Mornings
 - 1.8 Warm Wednesdays
 - 1.9 Pewter Workshop
 - 1.10 National Lottery Open Week
 - 1.11 Forthcoming events

The Curator of the Lynn Museum invited questions from the Committee in relation to those areas of the report, as summarised below.

The Chair, Councillor Bubbs referred to the Warm Wednesdays and asked what heat source was used in the Lynn Museum. The Curator

of the Lynn Museum explained they had gas boilers which provided a wet central heating system within the Museum.

The Chair, Councillor Bubb raised a further question and asked if there was any scope for putting any solar panels on the roof of the Lynn Museum. The Assistant Head of Museums explained it would be difficult to install solar panels on the roof of the Lynn Museum as it was a Grade 2 Listed Building.

The Vice Chair, Councillor Kemp referred to the Borough Council's scheme around decarbonising public buildings and asked whether air source heat pumps could be installed to the perimeter of the Lynn Museum. The Assistant Head of Museums explained the space was not managed or controlled by them and did not think it was realistically possible. In terms of decarbonisation, the Assistant Head of Museums explained that over the years they had replaced the gallery lighting with LED lighting.

The Committee's attention was drawn further to the following areas of the report:

- 2) Newman Legacy project**
- 3) Other Museums developments**
 - 3.1 Publicity and promotion**
 - 3.2 NMS Teaching Museum Trainees**
 - 3.3 Retail offer at Lynn Museum**
 - 3.4 Object Photography**
 - 3.5 Volunteers**
 - 3.6 Baines Publication**
 - 3.7 Study visit to see the Lynn Museum's doll collection**
 - 3.8 Finds Identification and Recording Day**

Councillor de Whalley referred to the Newman Legacy project and asked how many more records there were to update and how much longer the project would take. The Curator of the Lynn Museum confirmed the Aikman's Yard collections facility was progressing well and added that a number of rooms had been done. The Curator of the Lynn Museum commented that he would find out the precise figure and share with the Committee after the meeting.

Councillor de Whalley raised a further question and asked if they were looking at ways to making the Aikman's Yard stored assets more accessible. The Curator of the Lynn Museum explained they were looking at including more of the artwork at the Town Hall in King's Lynn to ensure there was more on public display and added they were looking at other creative ways to have more on display.

The Portfolio Holder for Culture and Events, Councillor Lintern advised that following a meeting, they were looking to set up a Working Group to look at that specific area.

The Assistant Head of Museums added that they were exploring more opportunities in terms of other venues where there was the appropriate level of security and environment to make collections more accessible. He advised the team were working on plans for an exhibition next year at the Lynn Museum to celebrate the work that had been going on down at Aikman's Yard.

The Chair, Councillor Bubb asked if it was possible to consider opening Aikman's Yard to the public. The Assistant Head of Museums advised there were challenges around that building in terms of making it suitable for public access particularly because of fire restrictions. He added that the Norfolk collection centre which was housed at Gressenhall had larger objects from across the service including material from King's Lynn that was available for the public to view.

In response to questions from the Vice Chair, Councillor Kemp, the Assistant Head of Museums advised there was a lot of material that whilst significant in terms of King's Lynn heritage and of value to researchers, would not necessarily lend themselves to public display. The Assistant Head of Museums explained there was no other space in the Lynn Museum to store collections from Aikman's Yard.

The Portfolio Holder for Culture and Events, Councillor Lintern commented that the discussions around the collections at Aikman's Yard would be addressed through the new Working Group and would hopefully provide some answers in the forthcoming months.

The Chair, Councillor Bubb asked if they had found anything exciting from the Finds Identification and Recording Day. The Curator of the Lynn Museum explained that previously someone had brought in a Bronze Age gold torc which was one of the best enquiries they had received.

The Committee's attention was drawn further to the following areas of the report:

- 4) Borough Council partnership working**
- 5) Learning & Outreach**

Councillor Kybird referred to Norfolk County Council's proposal for a single unitary and asked how they would be addressing the service level agreements. The Assistant Head of Museums explained that at this stage, they did not have the information but commented that King's Lynn had worked really closely with District Councils as a joint service and over the years the service level agreement in King's Lynn had been very effective.

Councillor de Whalley asked how challenging it was to ensure the content was compatible with the curriculum and syllabus and whether it was becoming more challenging to engage with schools. The Assistant Head of Museums commented that NMS had a good track

record of maintaining and developing engagement with schools and sustaining numbers of school visits. The learning teams across NMS were effective at working with local teachers to continually review and re-evaluate the programmes which were being offered. He added they also offered small bursaries to help schools with transport costs.

The Assistant Head of Museums provided an update on the Kick the Dust project.

In response to a question from Councillor de Whalley, the Assistant Head of Museums explained they were pulling together a programme to track young people who had reached the age of 25 to stay with Kick the Dust to provide mentoring and buddying support to other younger people.

County Councillor Chenery of Horsburgh asked if they had linked into the Norfolk and Suffolk Foundation Trust. The Assistant Head of Museums commented that with the new project coordinator coming in, this would be a good opportunity to develop those links with the Norfolk and Suffolk Foundation Trust.

In response to a question from the Vice Chair, Councillor Kemp, the Assistant Head of Museums confirmed he would see if a theme around the future of Local Government would be something the project team would be interested in taking forward.

The visitor figures were circulated to the Committee at the meeting and were noted. A copy of the visitor figures is attached to the minutes.

RESOLVED: The Committee noted the report.

8 **TRUE'S YARD REPORT**

[Click here to view the recording of this item on YouTube](#)

County Councillor Bambridge commented that they currently had four part time staff but advised that it run very well and had lots of activities going on.

RESOLVED: The Committee noted the report.

9 **STORIES OF LYNN AND TOURIST INFORMATION CENTRE VISITOR FIGURES**

The visitor figures for the period March to May 2025 were noted. A copy of the visitor figures is attached to the minutes.

10 **UPDATE ON THE GUILDHALL**

[Click here to view the recording of this item on YouTube](#)

The Borough Council's Cultural Officer, Tim FitzHigham presented the item and provided the Committee with an update on the Guildhall. A copy of the presentation is attached to the minutes.

In response to a question from County Councillor Chenery of Horsbrugh, the Cultural Officer explained there was very little biographical information about Shakespeare but there was far more evidence that Shakespeare was in King's Lynn in the 1590s.

County Councillor Bambridge asked what the timescales were to finish the works on the Guildhall. The Cultural Officer was continuing to engage with their neighbours and hoped to finish in 2027.

In response to comments and questions from Councillor de Whalley, the Cultural Officer confirmed he would try to find a place within the Guildhall to present the plaque from the College of West Anglia of the George and the Dragon. In terms of solar panels, these were looking to be placed on the south facing roof of the White Barn and confirmed you would not see them from the main courtyard.

The Committee thanked the Cultural Officer for his enthusiasm and work on the project.

11 **ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA**

There were none identified at the meeting.

12 **DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the King's Lynn and West Norfolk Area Museums Committee was scheduled to take place on 15th September 2025 at 2.00pm in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Saturday Market Place, King's Lynn.

The meeting closed at 3.57 pm



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KING'S LYNN & WEST NORFOLK AREA MUSEUMS COMMITTEE

16 June 2025

Item No.

KING'S LYNN MUSEUMS REPORT

Report by the Assistant Head of Museums

This report provides information on King's Lynn Museum activities in the period from March to May 2025

1 Exhibitions and events at Lynn Museum

1.1 Current Exhibition *Woof: A Celebration of Dogs* Tuesday 1 October 2024 – Sunday 29 June 2025



Woof: A Celebration of Dogs exhibition opened at Lynn Museum on Tuesday 1 October. This show has been curated in-house drawing upon natural history, archaeology, art and social history collections. The majority of the items exhibited are from the Lynn Museum reserve collection, supplemented with internal loans from Gressenhall, Norwich Castle and the Norfolk Costume and Textile collections, from national collections and from private individuals. The Tate Gallery has loaned three artworks for the exhibition, including pieces by David Hockney and Sir Edwin Landseer. The Kennel Club has loaned *England Expects*, a painting by Maud Earl of two Toy Bulldogs, an extinct breed.



England Expects, a painting of two Toy Bulldogs by Maud Earl on loan to Lynn Museum from the Kennel Club

The exhibition is aimed at a family audience with themes including:

- *Origins of the dog* - a natural history focus, featuring a taxidermy wolf and dog skull.
- *Early dogs* - archaeological collections including a Roman gold ring with blue glass intaglio and an Egyptian painted panel.
- *Working like a dog* - dogs as working and competing animals.
- *Canine companions* - domesticated dogs.

The exhibition has generated some helpful publicity. Below are links to features about *Woof*:

[Woof: A Celebration of Dogs - Lynn Museum - Norfolk Museums Service](#)

[Woof! Norfolk exhibition celebrates dogs in art and history - BBC News](#)

[Woof in King's Lynn - Art History News - by Bendor Grosvenor](#)

[BBC Radio Norfolk - BBC Radio Norfolk, Woof: Celebrating dogs through the ages](#)

1.2 Forthcoming exhibition

May the Toys Be with You

11 July 2025 - 31 May 2026



The next exhibition at Lynn Museum, opening in July, will be *May the Toys be with You*. The exhibition showcases one of the UK's finest collections of vintage Star Wars toys and original cinema posters from 1977-1985. It is a celebration of the now highly collectable vintage toy line and of the iconic design work and art of the Star Wars movies. This exhibition will open at Lynn Museum on 11 July and run until 31 May 2026.

The exhibition is aimed at developing audiences and is an opportunity to showcase aspects of the Lynn Museum collections including toys and games.

1.3 Family events

The museum continues to offer events and regular family trails during holiday periods. On the 29 May, the nautical themed *Ahoy Captain!* event attracted 57 Children, 4 under 4s and a total of 88 visitors.

1.4 Family Trails

Trails are provided at the museum for children and families to enjoy an exploration of the museum. The Easter holiday trail offered at the Lynn Museum in the reporting period, *Egg-cellent Easter Eggs* (05/04/25 - 22/04/25) was accessed by 93 visitors.

1.5 Mini Museum

Lynn Museum continues to provide regular activities for our youngest visitors through the monthly mini museum programme. Activities are delivered by the museum's learning team. These have included:

- *Pets* (20/03/2025) with an audience of 15 children and 28 participants in total.
- *Easter Chocolate eggs* (17/04/2025) with an audience of 13 children and 26 participants in total
- *All at Sea* (15/05/2025) with an audience of 22 children and 36 participants in total.



1.6 Coffee Mornings

The monthly themed coffee mornings continue to be offered at Lynn Museum, normally attended by about 15 – 30 people. During the reporting period there

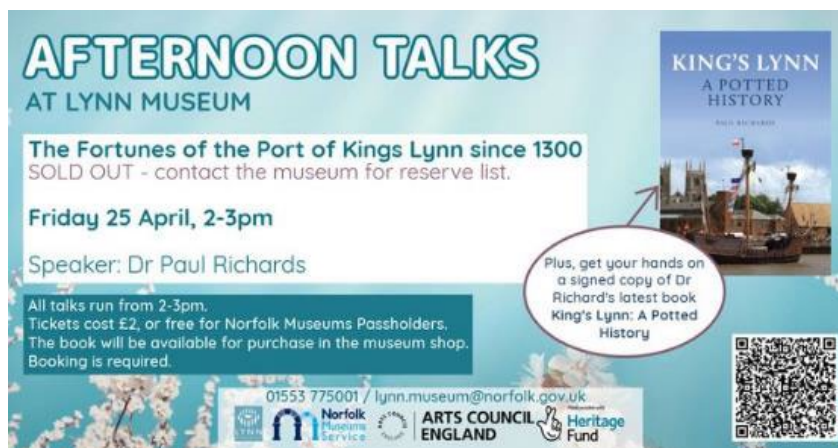
have been three coffee morning with themes of 'Wartime', 'Romans' and 'Hanse'.



1.7 Talks Programme

The Museum normally receive audiences of around 20-30 people for the Friday afternoon talks.

- *Dogs at War* (28/03/2025) with Nigel Amies which received an audience of 26.
- *The Fortunes of the Port of Kings Lynn since 1300* (25/04/2025) by Paul Richards which received an audience of 24.
- *Promoting the Dog through Photography* (30/05/2025) by Heidi Hudson of the Kennel Club which received an audience of 15.



1.8 Warm Wednesdays



Warm Wednesdays
at Lynn Museum
every Wednesday
until the end of March

10.30am-12.30pm
1.30-3.30pm

No need to book
No questions asked

As part of a countywide initiative to support public health over the winter period, Lynn Museum offered Warm Wednesday sessions for people to find a welcoming space to socialise through the winter months.

1.9 Pewter Workshop

On the 10 May Lynn Museum offered a pewter workshop for adults with an audience of 10 adults.

1.10 National Lottery Open Week



On the 15 March as part of National Lottery Open Week, 22 visitors enjoyed an Introduction to Seahenge Tour led by Beth Kierman. This event promotes the National Lottery Heritage Fund, a key partner for Norfolk Museums Service.

1.11 Forthcoming events

Forthcoming events for Lynn Museum may be seen here: [What's on at Lynn Museum - Lynn Museum - Norfolk Museums Service](#)

2 Newman Legacy project

As previously reported, the Lynn Museum has benefited from a legacy given specifically for the museum's use provided by the late Eric and Rita Newman. The Newmans were siblings who had retired to Congham near King's Lynn with interests in local history and helping children learn. Norfolk Museums Service is very grateful for the Newmans' generosity.

Newman Assistant Curator Jan Summerfield and Newman NMS Teaching Museum Trainee Alice (2024-2025) and Newman Museum Trainee Ros (2025-2026) have been working on the cataloguing and documenting material in the museum stores, as part of a planned programme of collections management work supported by the Newman legacy. To date 15,055 records on the museum's MODES catalogue database have been updated.

3 Other Museum developments

3.1 Publicity and promotion

The Lynn Museum continues to develop its social media presence, with Twitter and Facebook and now Instagram accounts being actively used and

maintained by staff. The museum's X (Twitter), Facebook and Instagram accounts may be seen here:

[Lynn Museum \(@Lynn_Museum\) / X \(twitter.com\)](#)

[Facebook](#)

[King's Lynn Museum on Instagram • Photos and videos](#)

As well as digital delivery, the museum has maintained strong links with local media outlets including the *Lynn News*. Staff continue to contribute to a fortnightly *Picture This* column, with a focus on local drawings, engravings and paintings.

A variety of films linked to Lynn Museum are available on the museum's YouTube Channel, here: [Lynn Museum - YouTube](#)

A number of online exhibitions are available through the Google Arts and Culture platform: [Lynn Museum, King's Lynn, United Kingdom — Google Arts & Culture](#)

3.2 NMS Teaching Museum Trainees

One year-long paid traineeships are offered as part of the Norfolk Museums Service Teaching Museum scheme, principally funded through the NMS Arts Council England National Portfolio Organisation programme. For 2024-25 we have had Newman Teaching Museum Trainee, Alice Ochocka working on the Newman collections project at the museum. We also have the Curatorial West Trainee working at both Thetford and Lynn Museums, Anna Heffron. Both Anna and Alice have made valuable contributions to the work of the museums service.

Following the end of their traineeships in April, Alice is now working for the British Museum at their store near Reading and Anna is working at Ancient House Museum, Thetford on the Lottery-funded Prince Frederick's Thetford Museum project.



3.3 Retail offer at Lynn Museum

The museum team continues to develop the retail offer at Lynn Museum working with the NMS Retail Manager Hat Johnson. A recent project has been to develop a range of cards and other merchandise using designs from the Taylors seed shop business of King's Lynn.

Taylors seed catalogue from 1923

3.4 Object Photography

In March staff at Lynn Museum spent a second day working with photographer David Kirkham to take new pictures of items on display in the main gallery at the museum. These images will be shared through the Norfolk Collections website, social media, museum website and in other ways as part of the work to engage with the public with collections knowledge.



New photograph of a souvenir cup and saucer with transfer print of Hunstanton (above) from the collections on display in Lynn Museum.

The Museum's MODES catalogue record (right) now includes this new photograph.

KILLM : 1971.19.13	cup	
Child's cup and saucer; white porcelain with views of Hunstanton transfer printed on cup and saucer, including lighthouse and cliffs, people and boats		
ObjectIdentity		
Number	KILLM : 1971.19.13	
RecordType	item record	
OtherIdentity (assigned number)		
Number	KL.19.971	
OtherIdentity (previous number)		
Number	C.68	
NumberOfItems		
Identification		
ObjectName (simple name)	cup	
Keyword	cup	
ObjectName (full name)		
Keyword	porcelain	
Keyword	child's cup	
Classification		
Keyword	2.66	
System	SHIC	
Classification		
Keyword	domestic life	
Keyword	food and drink	
System	NMS	
Classification		
Keyword	C Ceramics	
System	KILLM	
BriefDescription	Child's cup and saucer; white porcelain with views of Hunstanton transfer printed on cup and saucer, including lighthouse and cliffs, people and boats	
Production		
Date		
Place		
Description		
Material	porcelain	
Keyword	porcelain	
Measurement		
Part	cup	
Dimension	height	
Reading	60	
Value	mm	
Unit		
Measurement		
Part	cup	
Dimension	diameter	
Reading	62	
Value	mm	
Unit		
Measurement		
Part	saucer	



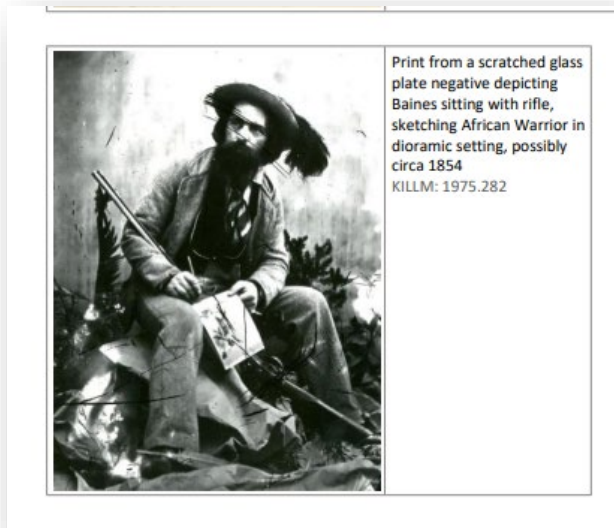
Above are new photographs of 19th century Rush trial ceramics (left) and a medieval bone counter (right) found in the 1966 archaeological excavations in King's Lynn at All Saints Street. Images from of an object photography session of display objects taken in early March.

The Norfolk Museums collections site may be seen here:

[Norfolk Museums Collections - Museums Collections - Norfolk Museums Service](#)

3.5 Volunteers

Four collections volunteers have now completed a 12-week programme to scan paper collections and add information and images to the Modes database supervised by NMS staff. The volunteers met in the museum offices at the Town Hall on Wednesday mornings from January to April.



3.6 Baines Publication

(Left) Example of information supplied for the museum catalogue by Dr Stevenson using the information from the Norfolk Collections website.

The Museum team is currently working with Dr Michael Stevenson on a project about King's Lynn-born Thomas Baines. Dr Stevenson is creating a complete record of the artist's work for publication. He wrote to

us from South Africa to say he is "very thrilled to see how much material you have now online, and in the last few days I worked through the 1600-odd items tagged Baines." Dr Stevenson has supplied us with helpful comments, corrections and updates for the museum records which have proved very valuable. The online catalogue of Baines pictures is thanks to the work of the Lynn Museum volunteers who have scanned the collection of drawings and other art work.

3.7 Study visit to see the Lynn Museum's doll collection.

In April, staff facilitated a visit from a group interested in the museum's doll collection led by former Christie's Head of Dolls and Toys, Olivia Bristol. This was an opportunity to learn from specialists and update the museum's records.

Group visit to see the museum's doll and toy collection. On the table is a rare paper doll from the 1820s.



3.8 Finds Identification and Recording Day



Found an archaeological object?

Have you found an interesting metal object, coin or piece of flint or pottery? Bring it along to show us!

The Finds Identification and Recording Service from Norfolk County Council will be at the museum to take a look at your material and talk to you about recording it

Saturday 29 March 2025
11am-1pm and 2pm-4pm
Lynn Museum

www.norfolk.gov.uk www.lynnmuseum.norfolk.gov.uk www.finds.org.uk

Lynn Museum continues to offer finds identification and recording days in partnership with Norfolk County Council's Finds Identification and Recording Service. Two days a year are offered, one in March and one in October. These days offer a valuable chance for the NCC Finds team to connect with finders of archaeological material. Significant material can then be recorded for the county database.

4 Borough Council partnership working

The delivery of NMS services in King's Lynn & West Norfolk continues to operate under the terms of the current Service Level Agreement (SLA) with the Borough Council. Under an extension to this agreement, NMS continues to provide curatorial and conservation advice, support and an enquiry service for those Borough collections currently held in the Town Hall including fine art and Civic Regalia.

NMS staff continue to support Borough Council colleagues with the development and delivery of relevant cultural and heritage projects across the Borough, including ongoing support for Towns Fund projects including the Guildhall project. A number of NMS staff support the ongoing work of the Guildhall project team and NMS is also represented on the Guildhall Project Board.

Newman Curator, Dayna Woolbright, has contributed to the work on the St George's Guildhall project Interpretation Strategy and to various events and exhibitions, working with Jane Hamilton Learning and Engagement Officer in the Guildhall Team. Currently Dayna is supporting the interpretation work in liaison with design and display contractors PLB Ltd and is writing information for pull up banners.

Norfolk Museums Service continues to support the Borough Council with the delivery of the NLHF-funded Stories of Lynn project focussed on King's Lynn Town Hall. NMS manages the Stories of Lynn Learning & Engagement Officer post, which is co-funded by the Borough Council and the NLHF Kick the Dust:

Norfolk project. Elizabeth Joice, the postholder is currently on maternity leave and Holly Spidy is her maternity cover.

A recent project at Stories has been the curation of an exhibition to mark the centenary of Florence Ada Coxon's time as King's Lynn's first Lady Mayor. Dayna Woolbright has been working with colleagues at the Town Hall to look back at Florence Ada Coxon and also to celebrate the contributions of women leaders in the Borough in 2025. This display and associated activities in March linked with International Women's Day on 8 March.



Display at Stories of Lynn featuring the contributions of Florence Ada Coxon and other women leaders in the Borough.

King's Lynn-based staff have worked with Kate Thaxton, Curator of the Royal Norfolk Regimental Museum and Sam Wiggins, NMS Teaching Museum Trainee on an exhibition at Stories of Lynn to mark the 80th anniversary of VJ Day.



His Royal Highness, the Duke of Gloucester with Norfolk Museums Service Curator, Kate Thaxton at the opening of the 'Surviving the Railway' exhibition at Stories of Lynn.

On Friday 21 March His Royal Highness The Duke of Gloucester, was welcomed to Stories of Lynn, based next to King's Lynn Town Hall, to open a new exhibition, *Surviving the Railway: Memories of Far East Prisoners of War*. The exhibition marks the 80th anniversary of VJ Day on 15 August this year.

His Royal Highness was shown round the 'Surviving the Railway' exhibition in the company of Kate Thaxton, Curator of the Royal Norfolk Regimental Museum and Mr Charles Barratt, DL, the Chairman of the Far East Prisoners

of War. The display explores the experiences and legacy of Royal Norfolk Regiment soldiers who became prisoners of war following the fall of Singapore in 1942 and were subsequently put to work on the notorious Thai-Burma railway, otherwise known as the 'Railway of Death'. Among the objects and photographs shown to His Royal Highness was a new Roll of Honour, commemorating all who served in the Far East in the 4th, 5th and 6th battalions of the Royal Norfolk Regiment.

For further information and photographs please follow this link:

[His Royal Highness The Duke of Gloucester visits new exhibition in King's Lynn | Borough Council of King's Lynn & West Norfolk](#)

NMS Newman Curator, Dayna Woolbright continues to support the Borough Council on collections management advice and support. A recent example was the protection of artwork in the Town Hall for a recent planning committee meeting.

The Lynn Museum's current free admission period runs from 1 October 2024 until the end of March 2025. This free admission period is provided under the terms of the Service Level Agreement between the Borough Council and NMS. From April – September, there is an admission charge of £6.30 for adults, £5.30 for children. Details can be seen here: [Lynn Museum admission prices - Lynn Museum - Norfolk Museums Service](#)



Norfolk Museums Pass

The Museums Service continues to offer the Norfolk Museums Pass which offers free admission all 10 Norfolk Museums locations for a whole year.

5 Learning & Outreach

School visits

Lynn Museum continues to offer a range of school workshops run flexibly to accommodate different teachers' needs. Typical sessions include the Anglo-Saxons, Vikings, Romans and Iceni, Bronze Age and Seahenge, Stone Age, the Second World War, Ancient Egyptians, and Homes Long Ago.

School sessions normally follow a pattern of a carousel of different activities with children learning in a variety of styles. Delivery of sessions is normally undertaken by a mix of museum staff and freelance costumed interpreters.

The following link for teachers explains what is on offer at Lynn Museum for pupils at Key Stage 2.

[Key stage 2 education at Lynn Museum - Norfolk Museums](#)

Lynn Museum learning staff continue to work closely with Stories of Lynn in the running of joint school workshops on topics such as Maritime Life, Lord Nelson, Captain Vancouver, Crime and Punishment, Frederick Savage and the Lynn Mart, the Great Fire of London and Floods and Flooding.

6 Kick the Dust update

Following the successful conclusion of the National Lottery Heritage Fund funded 'Kick the Dust' project, Norfolk Museums Service (NMS) secured additional funding through an Arts Council England NPO Uplift award for the period 2023-27. This funding is 'place' focused targeting young people in Great Yarmouth, King's Lynn and Thetford, in partnership with organisations working with vulnerable young people aged 13-25 years.

This additional funding will enable young people to participate in high quality cultural and heritage activities that develop their creative and digital skills and potential, as well as prepare them for the workplace.

During the period 2023-26 NMS is also receiving funding from Norfolk County Council (NCC) Public Health to support 'Kick the Dust' activities that focus on the mental health and wellbeing of Norfolk young people.

NMS is partnering with Norfolk Library & Information Service (NLIS) to deliver this exciting programme of activity strengthening partnership working between museum and library staff, increasing levels of cultural engagement by young people in a sustained way, through the successful 'Kick the Dust' approach to youth engagement that uses the three-stage progression model of '*Player-Shaper-Leader*'. The programme is aimed at those in the three priority places aged 16-25 years, with opportunities for 13–16 year-olds to engage as part of the progression framework.

The key aims of the new 'Kick the Dust' project continue to be to:

- develop transferable work-related skills with the aim of supporting more working age young people into employment, training or further learning;
- develop digital skills linked to creative industries to address the digital skills gap in heritage and cultural sectors;
- increase young people's creative skills and for young people to gain a range of new cultural experiences;
- encourage an appreciation of the history and culture of their local communities;

- to measure impact on young people's skills, confidence and mental health and wellbeing through a strong and robust evaluation framework.

Young people work alongside professionals to develop their transferable work-related and creative skills, through the co-production of activity and events, volunteering and work experience operating at a level that meets their needs. Feedback from young people shows that they value the skills they develop as part of the project with the top 5 skills being cited as: problem solving, digital, communication, team working and creativity.

Participation numbers:

Since the start of the ACE funded "Kick the Dust" project (June 2023) there has been:

- 4,297 interventions
- 1,467 individual young people
- 2,724 hours of quality activity.
- 97% of the activities were face to face, the other sessions being offered online with young people in the principal target areas.

Participation between October 2018 and April 2025:

- 5,993 young people engaged in 18,050 interventions
- 9,793 hours of high-quality activities delivered across Norfolk
- 74% of all activity designed and led by young people
- Youth Board established for 18-25 yr olds with 12 Youth Ambassadors operating at strategic level

This blended approach offers a wider range of opportunities for young people to engage in heritage:

- 19% of activity was at Player level (to introduce new young people to the project)
- 59% at Shaper level (longer term project with young people determining the content)
- 23% at Leader level (long term engagement – young people leading projects, acting at governance level, mentoring staff)
- 73% of all activity involves young people in leading and designing projects

Breakdown of activity taking place in each area:

- 25% (187 opportunities) in Kings Lynn, (including Gressenhall),
- 27% (201 opportunities) in Thetford
- 21% (158 opportunities) in the East (covering Great Yarmouth, Cromer)
- 24% (175 opportunities) in Norwich
- 3% (17 opportunities) outside of area and 4 other opportunities for our online work experience programme targeted at Thetford and Kings Lynn young people.
- 77 volunteering opportunities have been provided, with 3 young people taking on the role of Project Assistant and 12 as a Young Ambassador.

- Of all delivery, 80% involves young people being part of a long-term group, providing them with a deeper understanding of heritage and allowing them to explore their identity, develop their skills and confidence and embed themselves more in their local communities, a key aim of ACE.

The young people have access to all of NMS sites and can visit with a friend or family member for free during their engagement for that year, using the free pass which forms part of the 'Kick the Dust' offer.

We continue to deliver a blended training offer for all staff and volunteers who support youth engagement in NMS. Staff input to the training programme will be formulated as the project progresses and needs are identified. YMCA Norfolk will deliver the Mental Health First Aid training September and October as an accredited course and the Mentoring and Coaching course in November 2025. All of the Kick the Dust team have undertaken training in Arts Award to add additional value to the programme enabling young people who have limited experience of gaining a qualification in arts to achieve.

Our offer to support young people around the important theme of mental health and wellbeing is on-going and is now measured through the evaluation framework using data from the young people's feedback forms as well as narrative evaluation the results of which form part of this report. Working with colleagues in NCC Public Health and NCC Performance and Governance teams we have been able to interrogate the data around impact on mental wellbeing and match this to the interviews with the young people engaged in the narrative evaluation programme. The data shows that 33% of individual young people who have taken part in 'Kick the Dust' identify as having a mental health issue showing the need for this programme, although this continues to slowly decrease as young people engage more with the programme. A further 9% identify as having a physical disability which requires additional support for them to access the programme. Through a systematic approach to evaluation, in partnership with Norfolk Library and Information Service, the team can demonstrate the impact on mental health on those taking part and the young people can monitor their progress through the programme in relation to skills, confidence and mental health.

NMS and NCC continue to work together through the 'Making Creative Futures' group, chaired by the 'Kick the Dust' Project Coordinator, where members from across Children's Services and Norfolk Public Health identify ways to engage the hardest to reach and most vulnerable children and young people. The focus is on mental health and wellbeing and accessibility for young people facing multiple barriers to engagement. This group acts as the vehicle to share best practice, ideas and resources.

Target audiences: (some young people fall into more than one category) as of 22/4/25

- FE/HE – 34%
- YMCA clients – 10%
- Secondary schools – 27%
- Young people with mental health issues – 33%
- SEND – 12%

- Outside of mainstream education – 26%
- NEET – 27%
- Looked after children and adopted living those at home - 3%
- Care Leavers – 2%
- Young Carers – 2%
- New arrivals and refugees – 4%
- Pregnant young mums and teenage parents – 0%
- Other groups – 24%

In terms of how young people find out about 'Kick the Dust', the 'Kick the Dust' website is being used effectively with 26% of young people finding out about the project through the updated web pages (['Kick the Dust' - Norfolk Museums](#)) and 15% through social media posts; 23% through a family member or friend, 30% coming via one of our partner organisations and 20% having already taken part in a previous 'Kick the Dust' project. As more young people join having taken part in a previous 'Kick the Dust' project this is impacting on questions relating to knowledge and understanding of heritage and job roles within NMS with 66% stating that they are aware of different job roles in NMS ahead of starting a new project although on reflection following their engagement this rises to 88%.

As young people move through 'Kick the Dust' the impacts on their confidence and mental health and wellbeing increases. 13% of all young people have been part of 'Kick the Dust' since May 2023, 8% for 6 months to a year, 28% for 3-6 months and 51% under 3 months.

Impacts on mental health and well being

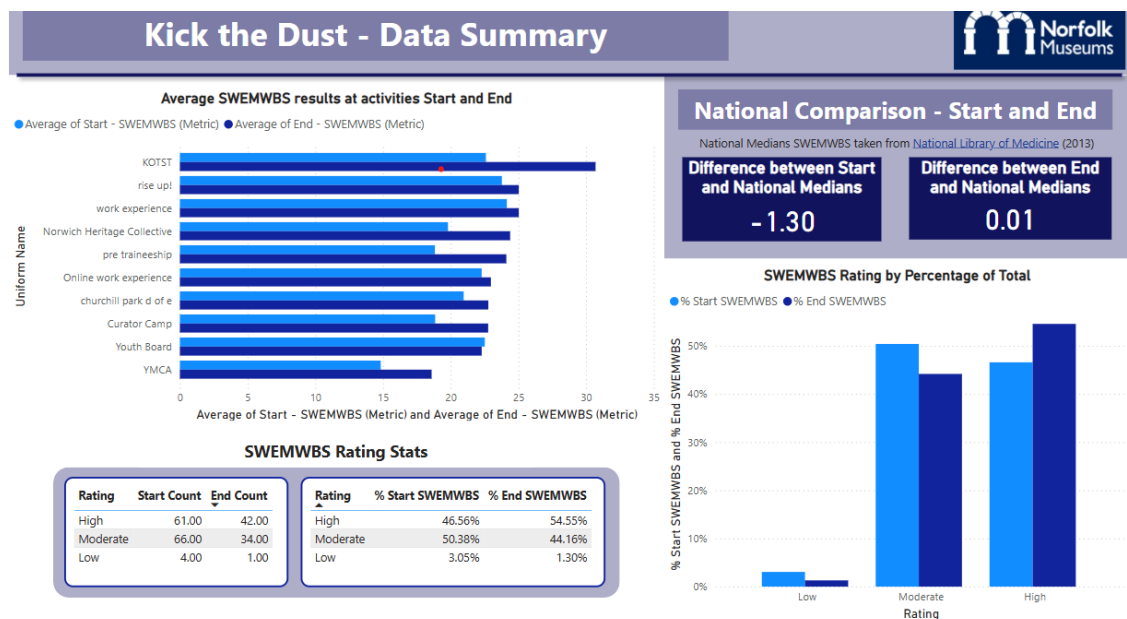
The new young people's feedback form includes the 78 positively worded items from the Warwick-Edinburgh Mental Well-being scale for assessing a populations' mental well-being.

From the Young People feedback forms, following their involvement in 'Kick the Dust', 85% strongly agreed that this had had a positive impact on their mental health and wellbeing. An additional question has been added to identify young people with neurodivergent tendencies and is showing that since March 48% of young people engaged in 'Kick the Dust' identify as neurodivergent which is significant when designing new activity in terms of additional barriers these young people may face.

The following graph highlights the impact on young people's mental health and wellbeing using the Warwick-Edinburgh Mental Wellbeing Scale (SWEMWBS) from the responses given by the young people between June 2023 and January 2025 who completed Part 1 and Part 2 of the young people feedback forms. Part 1 is completed at the start of the programme and Part 2 at the end, following a one-to-one session with the Project Worker. Using a Dashboard, we can track progress and although this relates to a smaller number than those engaging in the programme, it provides a good benchmark for future delivery.

The graph shows the difference between Norfolk young people at the start and end of their engagement against the National Average (2013 research). At start our young people were -1.30 BELOW the National Average and at end they are +0.01 ABOVE the National average. This is based on 208 responses between September 2023 and March 2025.

Data to end March 2025 (based on 208 responses)



The graph shows more young people are in HIGH mental health bracket at end than at the start of their engagement which correlates to the data from the narrative evaluation with 85% stating that 'Kick the Dust' is having a positive impact on their mental health and wellbeing.

Additional data shows that activities at Shaper level, where young people meet weekly and over a long period of time, give the most impact. In addition, the pre traineeship programme shows significant impact on those who have progressed through Kick the Dust onto this paid 10 hour a week for 10 week programme.

From the additional questions asked of the young people, the programme continues to meet their needs and is helping them see themselves in a museum or heritage setting. 88% state the programme had gone above their expectations and 100% state they felt welcomed and respected by staff and volunteers.

The following percentages are for those strongly agreeing or agreeing with each statement. Unless stated otherwise, the remaining percentage for each question answered fell into the 'neither agreed nor disagreed' response for each statement.

- 100% of all young people strongly agreed that the museum was a safe space for young people like themselves who were struggling;
- 98% strongly agreed they were given a voice that was listened to (2% said they were but only some of the time);
- 81% strongly agreed that they understood heritage better than they had done before taking part
- 80% strongly agreed that following their engagement heritage was more relevant
- 68% strongly agreed that heritage represented young people like themselves;

- 88% stated they now had a greater understanding of museums and the job roles available with 82% strongly agreeing that they felt there were jobs for them in the sector (only 2% disagreed);
- 87% strongly agreed that the skills they had acquired would be useful to them in the future (2% disagreed);
- 78% strongly agreed they felt more connected to their local community than previously, which is one of the aims of the project (6% disagreed);
- 56% agreed that their involvement had helped them to explore and feel more connected to their own identity and heritage (9% disagreed);
- 85% stated they were now more likely to volunteer (5% disagreed).

Summary

'Kick the Dust' is a three-stage journey, with young people developing transferable work-related skills including digital skills and gaining experiences that they would struggle to find elsewhere, to support them in securing employment. Whilst young people cite being involved in curation and creating exhibitions as the main areas they have enjoyed, it is through these activities that they hone their skills and understanding of the workplace, which will help them secure employment longer term.

Our aim as we move forward is to support more working age young people to progress into employment, training, or further learning and long-term volunteering.

The strong partnerships that have been developed through 'Kick the Dust' provide a strong base on which to build, bringing new young people into museum and library spaces.

Success comes in many guises. Former participants and Young Ambassadors have since progressed into employment or onto further and higher education, having gained the confidence to move towards their goals. One of our former YMCA young people and 'Kick the Dust' trainees has progressed onto an Access Course at Norwich College with a view to applying for university in 2025.

"Kick the Dust' has played such a key part in my life and helped me secure employment when most doors were closed to me, giving me the skills and confidence to move forward. It is like being part of a family'. 'I have now been offered a place on an access course to help me realise my dream of going to university next year" Jazz, Youth Ambassador

Another former YMCA young person and 'Kick the Dust' trainee has secured a full-time permanent position in the Norwich Visitor Services team. Both young people cite 'Kick the Dust' for giving them the confidence to take these steps. Two of our online work experience members have progressed into a heritage related position out of area stating that the opportunity to gain additional heritage related experience had made a difference to their confidence in interview.

'Through KTD and what I've learnt along the way since, the opportunity massively helped with my self-confidence, self-worth, enjoyment in my day to day life and also in my professional development.' Millie former trainee and now NMS staff member

Our recent trainee who followed the 10 hour a week pre-traineeship programme has successfully completed this and secured a Learning Assistant role at Ancient House Museum saying:

'Working with the learning team at Norwich Castle was so fulfilling and has confirmed the passion I feel around museums. Thanks to all the experience I've gained through my time at THC Youth Group, moving into becoming museum staff has felt like a natural progression, and it's made me realise that working in museums, and in particular museum learning teams, is something I seriously want to pursue moving forward.'

To support this young person going forward 'Kick the Dust' are piloting a structured paid placement one day per month over the next 10 months to hone his delivery skills.

7. Visitor figures

Visitor figures for the period will be circulated at the meeting

8. Recommendations:

That the Area Museums Committee notes the report

Report Contact:

Dr Robin Hanley

Assistant Head of Museums (Head of Service Delivery)

Shirehall, Market Avenue, Norwich NR1 3JQ

Tel: 01603 493663 e-mail: robin.hanley@norfolk.gov.uk

NORFOLK MUSEUM SERVICE
Visitors by Museum and County Total

			APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	YEAR TO DATE	TOTAL	
NORWICH	Castle Museum	2023-24	13,471	9,922	10,889	12,590	15,391	10,647	11,597	7,256	6,079	6,031	8,576	10,031	23,393	122,480	
		2024-25	8,942	9,907	7,932	11,031	13,015	11,590	12,883	9,042	7,742	10,504	15,214	10,972	18,849	128,774	
		2025-26	11,818	11,485												23,303	23,303
	Norwich Castle Study Centre (Shirehall)	2023-24	106	53	126	92	101	75	63	79	178	58	150	118	159	1,199	
		2024-25	119	213	130	161	32	21	57	19	33	0	0	7	332	792	
		2025-26	0	0												0	0
	Museum of Norwich	2023-24	1,589	1,378	1,241	2,064	2,059	2,381	1,824	1,329	821	1,244	1,707	1,863	2,967	19,500	
		2024-25	1,666	1,603	1,754	1,837	1,983	2,055	1,820	1,359	1,144	986	1,273	1,192	3,269	18,672	
		2025-26	1,377	1,059												2,436	2,436
	Strangers Hall	2023-24	468	522	453	1,185	1,699	962	850	770	470	0	387	1,093	990	8,859	
		2024-25	484	785	705	766	626	1,122	719	749	846	5	432	1,202	1,269	8,441	
		2025-26	703	663												1,366	1,366
SUFFOLK	Tolhouse Museum	2023-24	475	196	207	346	1,145	1,104	367	15	0	199	53	82	671	4,189	
		2024-25	420	474	66	312	980	986	285	37	20	51	65	62	894	3,758	
		2025-26	436	278												714	714
	Elizabethan House Museum	2023-24	1,156	1,017	881	1,338	1,622	1,817	1,237	79	98	0	3	170	2,173	9,418	
		2024-25	1,163	1,422	1,095	1,102	1,326	1,788	953	98	0	0	0	9	2,585	8,956	
		2025-26	831	957												1,788	1,788
	Time and Tide	2023-24	2,451	2,235	2,508	3,083	3,350	3,701	2,502	2,053	1,773	1,498	1,907	2,582	4,686	29,643	
		2024-25	2,774	3,024	2,973	2,767	2,799	2,944	2,228	1,704	1,181	1,276	1,686	1,981	5,798	27,337	
		2025-26	1,699	2,228												3,927	3,927
	Cromer Museum	2023-24	1,046	1,223	1,357	1,426	2,163	1,436	1,230	0	0	189	643	262	2,269	10,975	
		2024-25	1,266	1,524	1,574	1,788	1,804	1,513	1,050	161	34	142	114	198	2,790	11,168	
		2025-26	1,398	1,499												2,897	2,897
WEST	Lynn Museum	2023-24	1,358	1,171	1,445	1,446	1,887	1,774	2,228	2,228	1,944	2,162	3,481	2,757	2,529	23,881	
		2024-25	1,564	1,586	1,446	1,937	2,462	1,938	2,598	2,248	1,193	1,369	2,492	1,921	3,150	22,754	
		2025-26	1,356	1,494												2,850	2,850
	Ancient House Museum	2023-24	650	635	686	1,466	676	959	693	832	721	730	1,066	929	1,285	10,043	
		2024-25	798	922	1,380	1,524	971	590	876	1,077	573	589	478	676	1,720	10,454	
		2025-26	632	887												1,519	1,519
	Gressenhall Farm & Workhouse	2023-24	5,840	4,363	7,648	4,788	6,653	5,768	5,408	1,585	1,245	206	646	5,760	10,203	49,910	
		2024-25	5,744	5,831	9,679	5,496	6,273	5,931	5,269	1,989	733	204	841	5,329	11,575	53,319	
		2025-26	6,545	5,591												12,136	12,136
	Norfolk Exhibition Programmes incl. King's Lynn Town Hall SLA	2023-24	263	883	568	130	360	1,395	523	274	204	30	228	159	1,146	5,017	
		2024-25	0	281	362	376	56	12	18	338	167	104	338	164	281	2,216	
		2025-26	260	254												514	514
		2022-23	28,873	23,598	28,009	29,954	37,106	32,019	28,522	16,500	13,533	12,347	25,806	52,471	295,114		
		2023-24	24,940	27,572	29,096	29,097	32,327	30,490	28,756	18,821	13,666	15,230	22,933	23,713	52,512	296,641	
		2025-26	27,055	26,395											53,450	53,450	
		TARGET															



TRUE'S YARD FISHERFOLK MUSEUM REPORT

Report by Museum Curator

June 2025

1. Temporary exhibitions and events at True's Yard Fisherfolk Museum

1.1 Exhibition Programme.

Exhibition Room: The History of the Timber Trade in King's Lynn launched on 13th February by Stuart Newman, the managing director of SETRA.

Old Smithy: Throughout June - 20th anniversary Exhibition: Discover Hanse.
4th July-30th August – Art in the Yard.

1.2 Summer Art Exhibition

Our annual art exhibition theme for 2025 the title will be 'Art at the Yard'. The official launch is 4th July by James Wild MP and run until 30th August. We will be inviting those connected to True's Yard Fisherfolk Museum including trustees, volunteers, vice presidents and students to submit work. The aim of this exhibition is to demonstrate that art is for all.

1.3 True's Talks

Our autumn programme will launch on 25th September and will run to 13th November. 8 talks all by local speakers. Subjects include medical care in WW1, Art and the Industrial Revolution, how museum exhibitions have evolved over time and more. All talks will take place on Thursdays between 1pm and 2pm. They remain free to attend and are being streamed online via Zoom, which can be booked via the Museum's TicketTailor page.

<https://www.tickettailor.com/events/thenorthendtrust>

1.4 Pat Midgley Memorial Lecture

The speaker for the 11th Pat Midgley Memorial Lecture will be David Petts. Provisional date 13th November at King's Lynn Town Hall. Title TBC.

1.5 A Victorian Experience: North End Guided Walks Programme

We have relaunched our rebranded North End Guided Walks as 'A Victorian Experience' and we now have an online booking system for our walks. Tours on Wednesday and Friday 13:00-14:30. £5pp and include a hot drink.

Other Museum Developments

2. Events

June

5th June Launch of Discover Hanse Exhibition

14th June Hanse Festival

18th June Midsummer Dinner

July

4th July Art Exhibition Opening

6th July Sea Sunday

16th July to 3rd August Festival of Archaeology

August

10th August Alison's Fundraising Tea Party (Queen Street)

16th August Cold Meats and Salad (FOTY)

September

5th September Dr Anderson's Garden Party (King Street)

14th September Heritage Open Day

From 25th Sept True's Talks autumn series

October

28th October Halloween activities

November

4th November TYFM Dinner in Memories of Sailors and Fisherfolk at Duke's Head Hotel

13th Nov Pat Midgley Memorial Lecture at King's Lynn Town Hall

29th November Ghost Hunt

3. Fundraisers

3.1 The Mayor's Charity of the Year

We are grateful to the Mayor Cllr Paul Bland for his support and for selecting us alongside the King's Lynn Sea Cadets his 2024/25 chosen charities. The date for the presentation of funds raised is still TBC.

3.2 Friends of True's Yard

We are most fortunate to have an active and supportive Friends group. They have recently helped the Museum with funds towards emergency electrical repairs and a new coffee machine.

4. Partnerships

4.1 Hanse Festival 20th Anniversary Celebration

We have worked with the Borough Council Tourism department and Steele Media on fringe events as part of the festival. Our primary contribution apart from the events listed below is an exhibition which will run throughout June titled 'Discover Hanse' charting the history of the town and the Hanseatic League. Formally launched by the Deputy Mayor on 6th June.

5. Learning and Outreach

5.1. Activities

Half Term Activity Days

Under the Sea Activities 27th May

Previously we have utilised a drop in model but after feedback from previous activities days, we decided to change tactics. The majority of attendees were arriving at the same time resulting in families having to wait for activities to be available. To combat this we decided have capped bookable spaces for our morning and afternoon sessions and utilise a trail so that there was something to do should participants require extra time.

We have had excellent feedback from this new method as children were able to get more of a qualitative experience and it had less of a conveyor belt feel.

Hanse Festival (14th June)

- 10:30am – 13:00 Pirate Takeover-pirate treasure quest, pirate crafts and activities and in the cottages to hear Pirates Love Underpants! £2pp
- Maritime tour from 11am, starting at the Vancouver Statue and ending at True's Yard for tea. Free to attend.
- Amber workshops 10.00, 12noon and 14.00 for those who fancy having a go at making amber jewellery - no experience required. £15pp
- Sea shanty festival 14:00-17:30. . Join Stuart Green for a sea shanty workshop followed by a performance of well-known sea shanties by the Blakeney Old Wild Rovers £5pp or Family Ticket £10.

5.2 Oral History Project- Capturing Memories

Our Oral History Committee is hard at work capturing new oral histories and so far 19 new stories have been recorded (last report 18) but the focus has been largely on cataloguing and organising the existing collection into the same format.

5.3 Social Media

Currently the Museum's Facebook page has 2.5k followers; Instagram 475 Followers (last report 474). Our TikTok has 202 followers. We are slowly making the transition from Twitter to Blue Sky.

6 Visitor Numbers

Visitor Numbers for the year 24/25: 11,701.

7 Resource Implications

Grants

None.

8 Recommendations

That the Area Committee note the report.

Originator of report:
Lindsey Bavin
Museum Curator
True's Yard Fisherfolk Museum
Tel: 01553770479
e-mail: info@truesyard.co.uk

Stories of Lynn and Tourist Information Centre Visitor Figures

Stories of Lynn

Month	Total entries	Cumulative	Schools
Mar-25	572	9736	131
Apr-25	646	646	84
May-25	714	1360	197

Tourist Information Centre

Month	In Person Enquiry	Telephone Enquiry	Email Enquiry	Overseas Visitors	Pontoon Enquiry	Accommodation Enquiry	Tourism Pack sent out
Mar-25	872	165	43	0	21	0	17
Apr-25	1063	116	42	5	25	0	15
May-25	1005	141	32	5	13	0	15



ST. GEORGE'S
GUILDHALL

EST. 1406

Minute Item 10



Preserving the past, embracing the arts, and building a future

St George's Guildhall and Creative Hub King's Lynn

Preserving the UK's Oldest Working Theatre



ST GEORGE'S
GUILDHALL

EST. 1406

31



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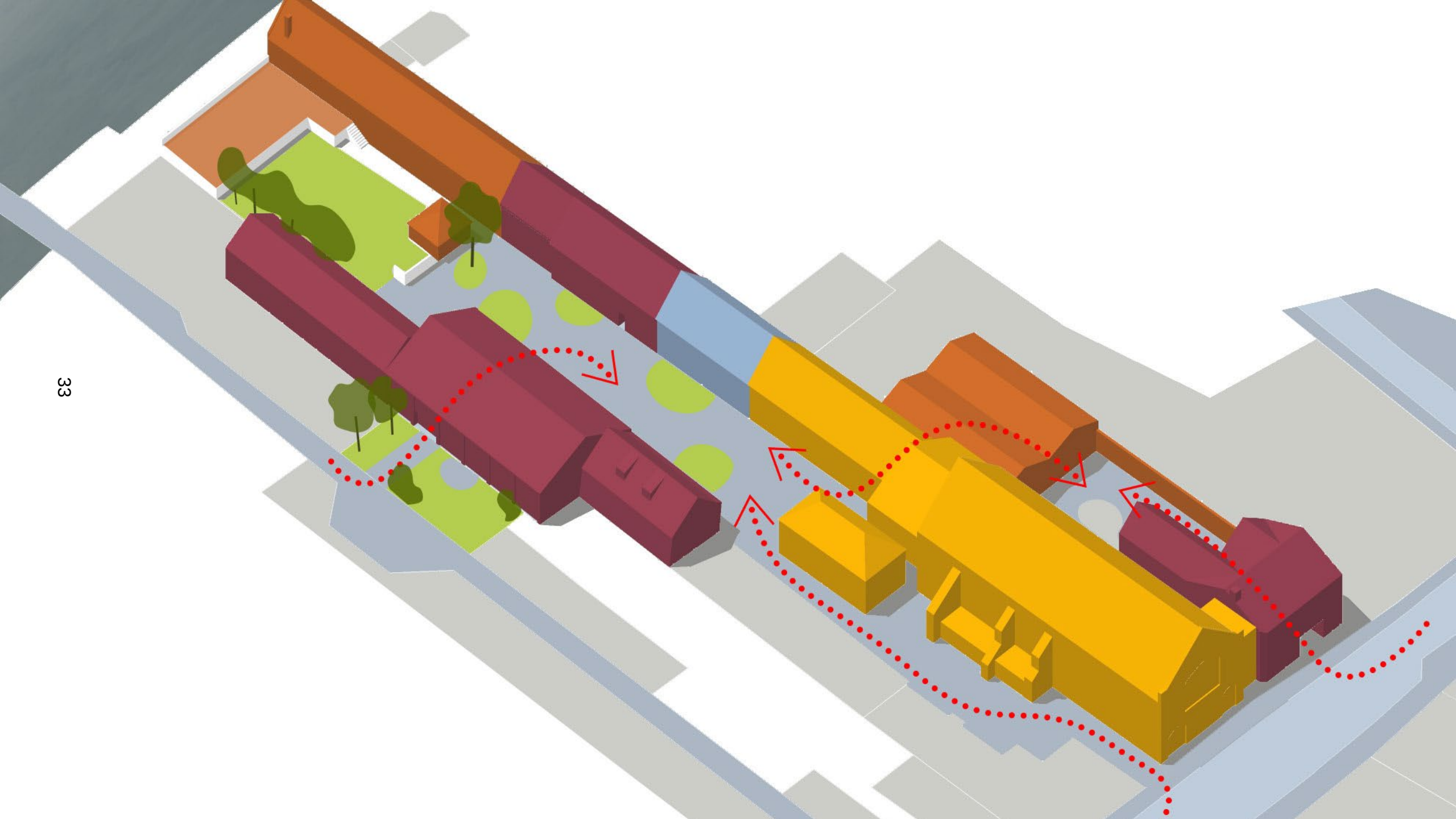


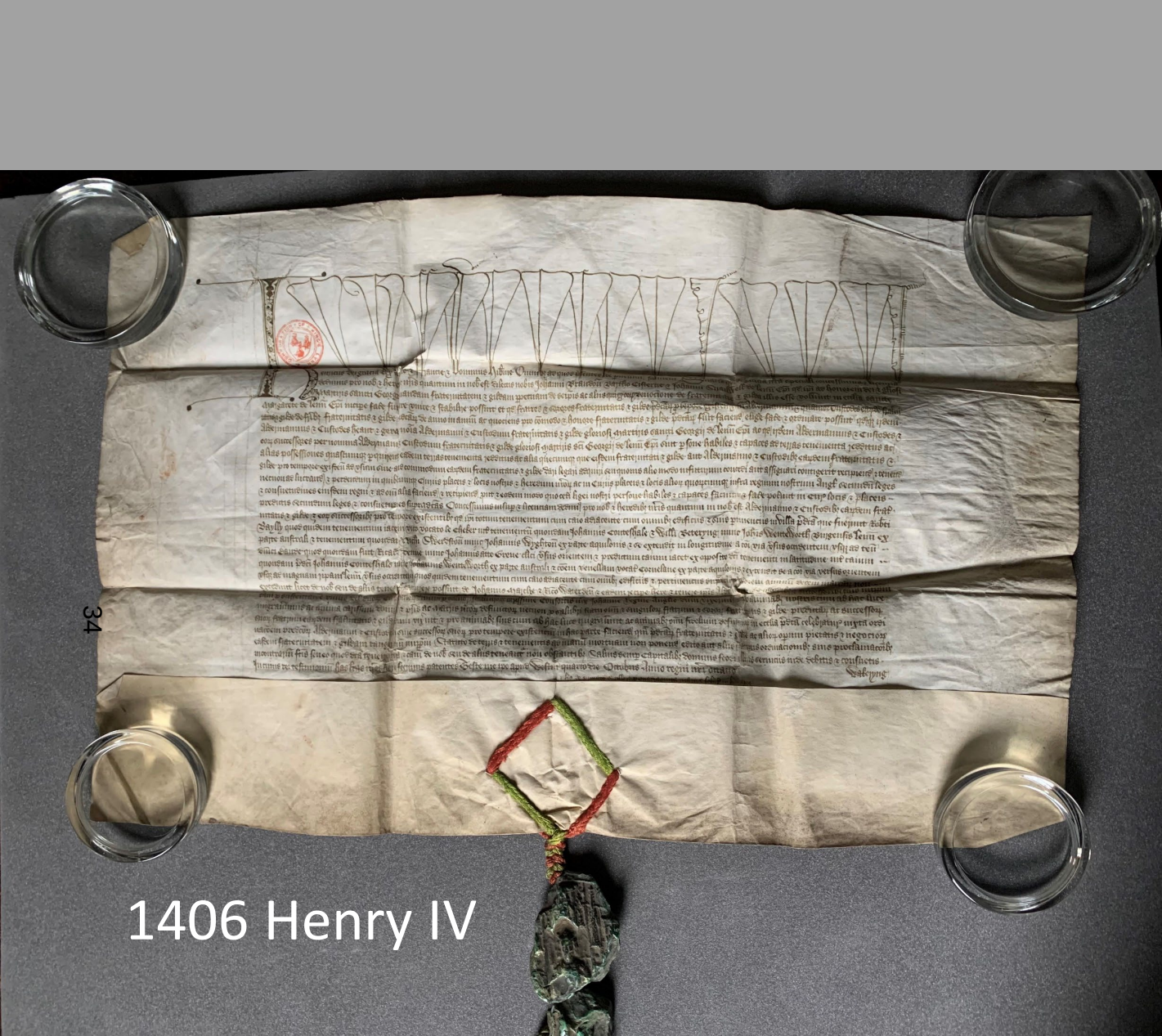
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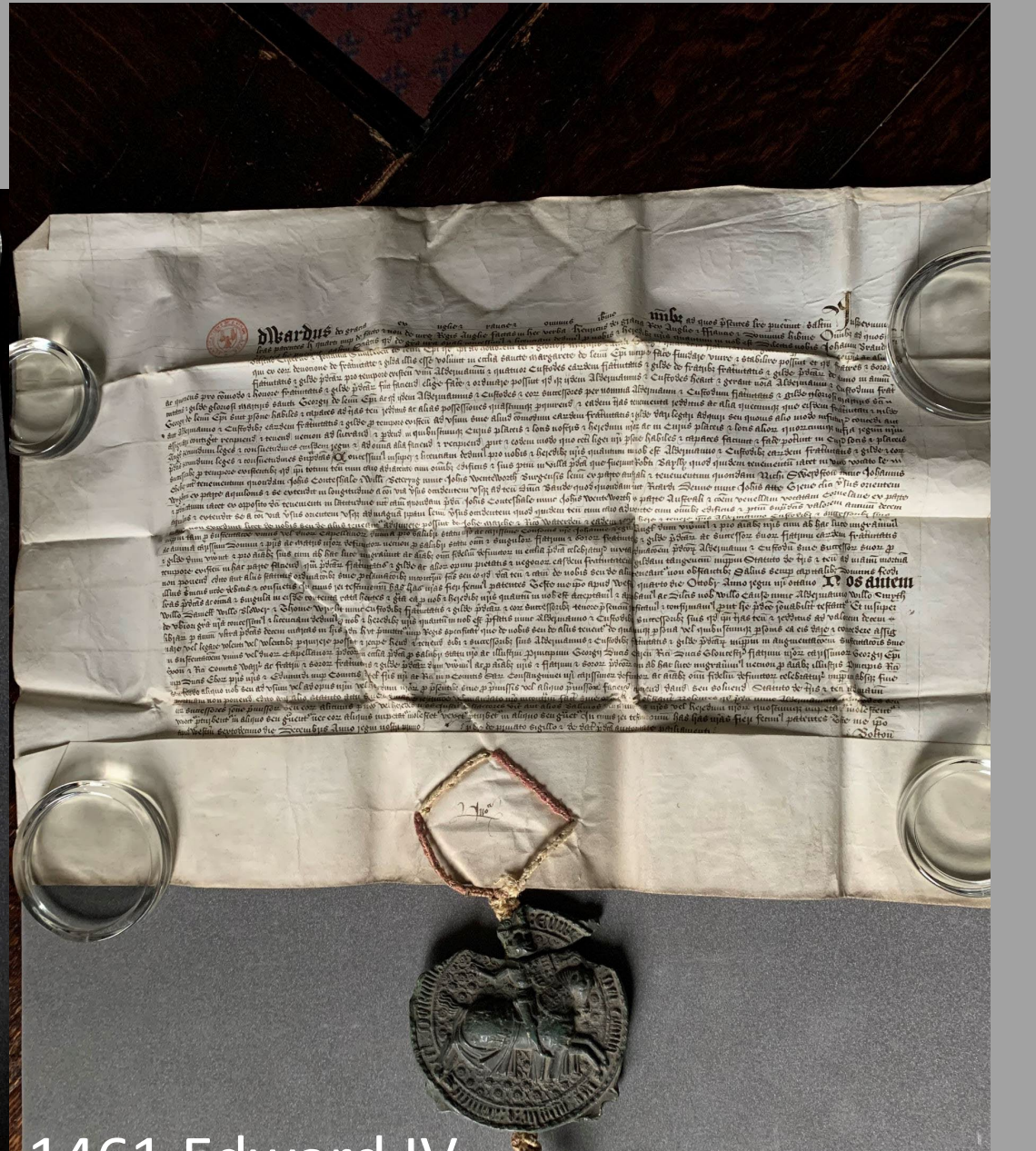
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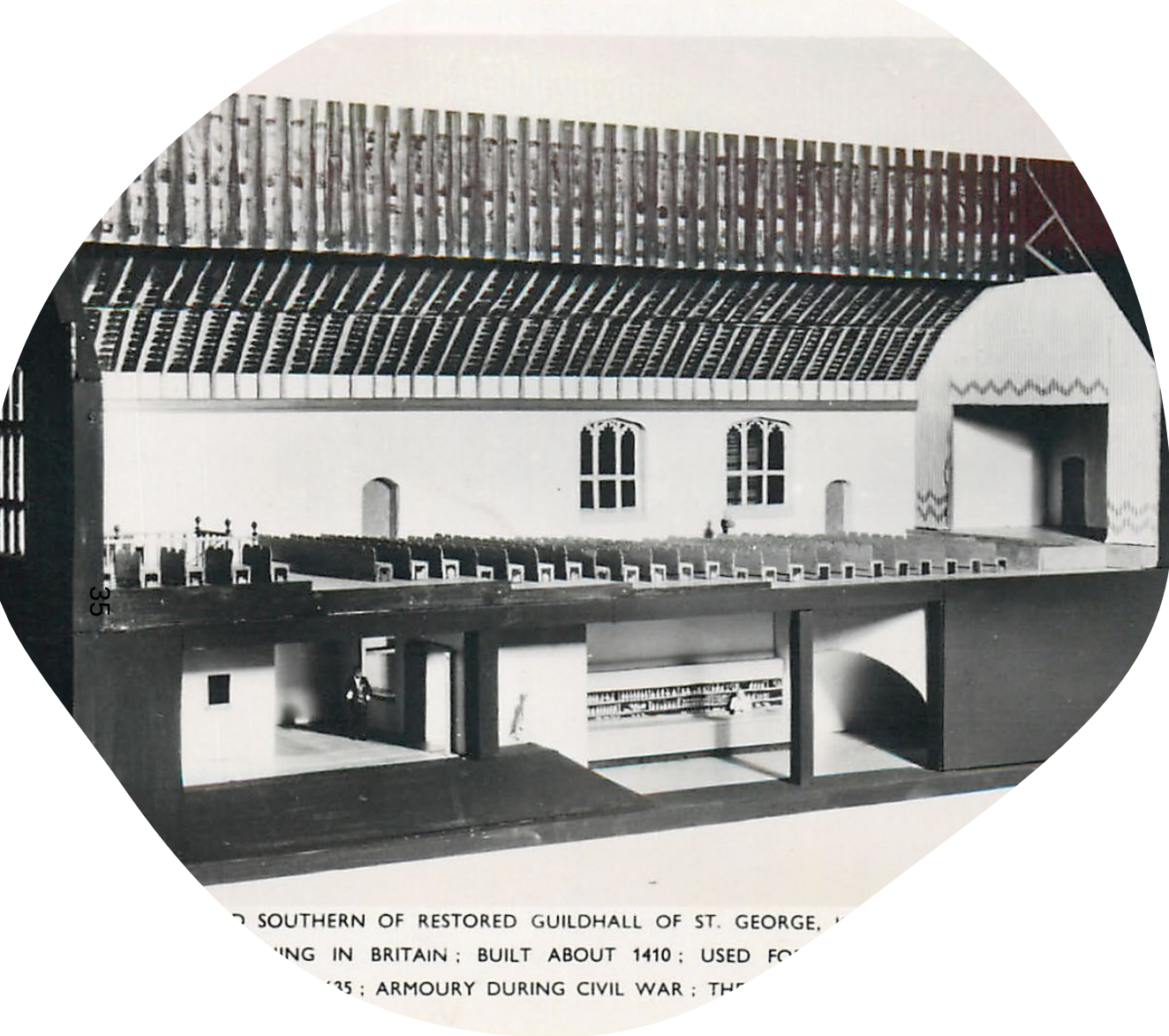




1406 Henry IV



1461 Edward IV



SOUTHERN OF RESTORED GUILDHALL OF ST. GEORGE,
 IN BRITAIN; BUILT ABOUT 1410; USED FOR
 135; ARMOURY DURING CIVIL WAR; THE





GEORGE'S GUILDE
(A.D. 1407)
KING'S LYNN
NORFOLK
WHERE SHAKESPEARE'S COMPANY
ACTED IN 1595

Minutes of King's Lynn Corporati
is agreed by Mr. Mayor

in the life and simple man
in the Hospitall.
Played by the Children of the Kings
Maiesties Reuels.
VVritten by ROBERT ARMIN, seruant to the Kings
most excellent Maiestie.

AN
APOLOGY
For Actors.

Containing three briefe
Treatises.

- 1 *Their Antiquity.*
- 2 *Their ancient Dignity.*
- 3 *The true use of their quality.*

Written by *Thomas Heywood.*

Et prodesse solent & delectare.

LONDON,
Printed by *Nicholas Okes.*
1612.

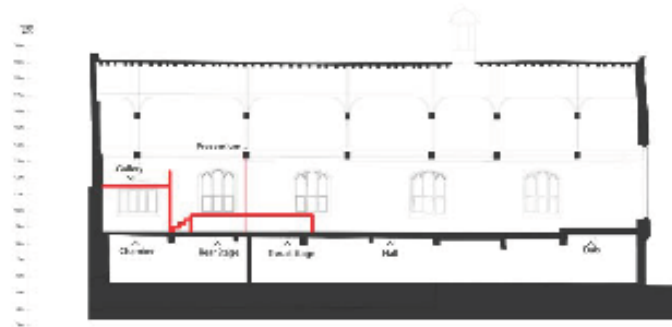


Timeline of Theatre use at St George's Guildhall

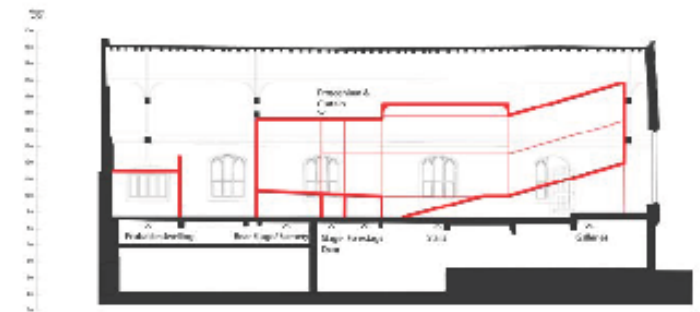
39



1406 - possibly Elizabethan



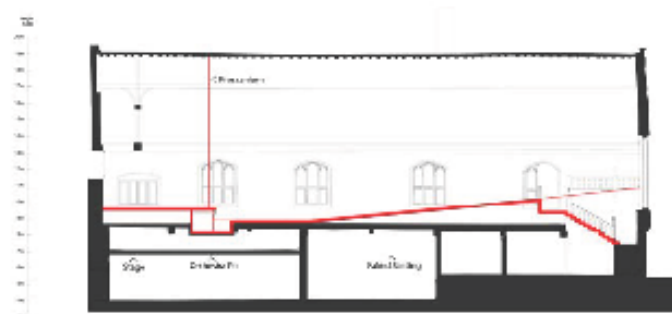
Elizabethan - 1766



1766 - 1953



1953 - 1962



1962 - 2025

Guildhall medieval floor discovery



... probably the biggest expanse of original medieval upper floor flooring surviving in Britain - Dr Jonathan Clarke

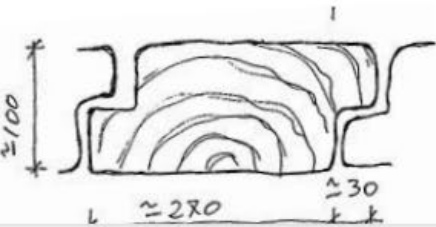
The majority of the original first-floor structure survives, consisting of the unusual construction of bridging beams and floorboards only. Instead of joists spanning between the bridging beams and boards then laid on top of the joists, the floorboards are laid directly upon the bridging beams. This arrangement is only structurally possible because of the massive thickness of the floorboards which thus effectively act as floorboards and joists; it would perhaps be more correct to call these joist-floorboards. The boards are further secured by being rebated along their edges to lock into the adjacent board and pegged at their ends into the bridging beams.

The very nature of this floor construction is intrinsically very robust; medieval upper floors of the more typical joist and floorboard, or lime ash, floor arrangement tend to have the relatively thin floorboards which are replaced over time as the boards are damaged, split and fail, while lime ash floors crack or can suffer wholesale failure.

Because of its construction, the upper floor of St. George's Hall is thus one of the largest expanses of timber flooring from the medieval period to have survived in Britain.

The reason for using this method merits further consideration. Other comparable buildings, such as St Mary's Guildhall, Boston, have conventional floors of bridging beams, joists and (replacement) boards, while the other main surviving guildhall in King's Lynn has a vaulted support for the floor. That the timber was used so generously at St George's suggests that a plentiful supply of thick section timber was available to the builders.

FAS



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Culture

Floorboards (Possibly) Touched by Shakespeare Are Found in Theatre

Boards dating to the 15th century were found during renovation at St. George's Guildhall. However, some Shakespeare experts are not certain the playwright touched them.

Stage that once hosted William Shakespeare found, claims Norfolk theatre



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HUMAN RIGHTS

50-Year-Old Oak Stage Linked to Shakespeare Discovered in Oldest Medieval Guildhall

by Adigun • 4 days ago



Archaeologists uncover 'Shakespeare' doorway in Norfolk theatre

Archway in St George's Guildhall probably led to dressing room used by Bard and visiting players when in King's Lynn



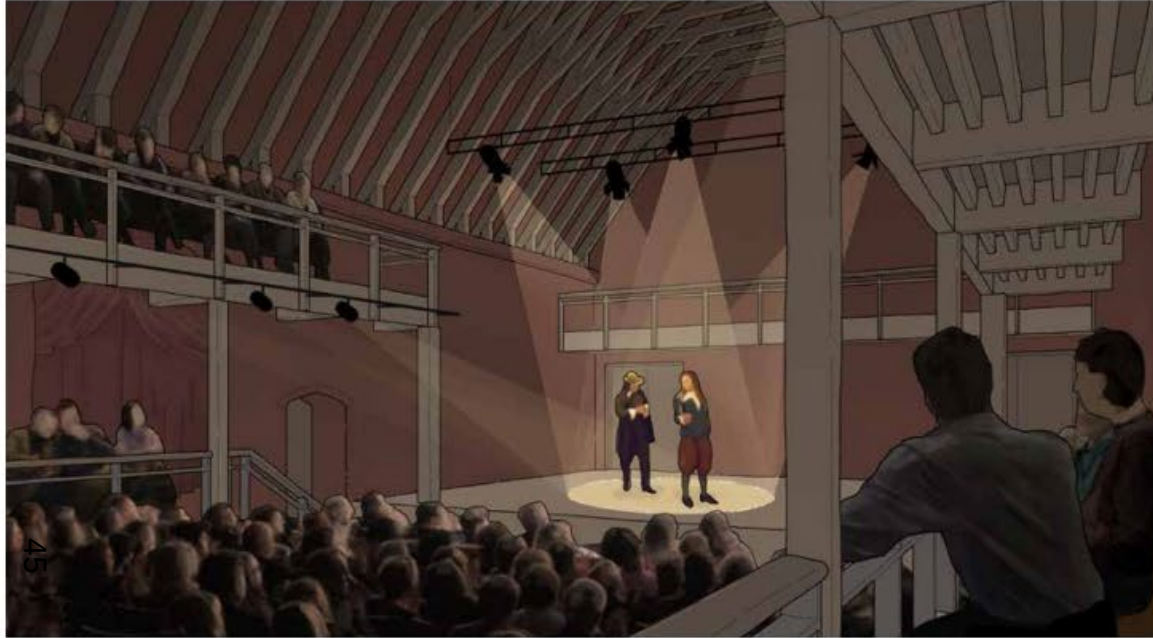
📷 The top of the 15th century archway uncovered behind a wall in St George's Guildhall, King's

450million
people in
12 months

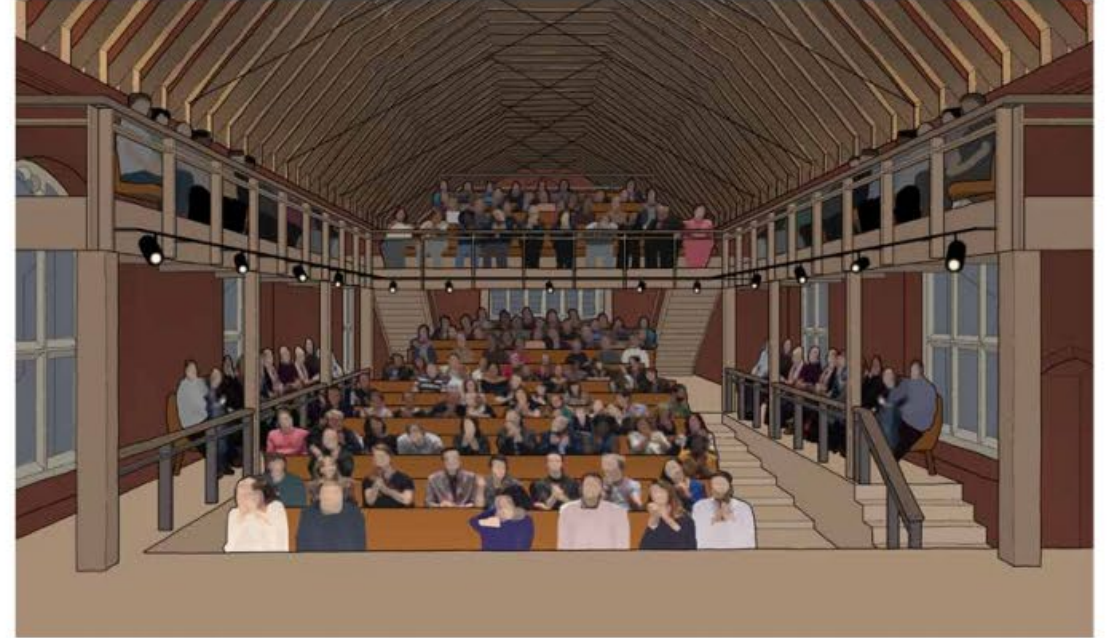




Guildhall (Main Hall)



Sketch view of Guildhall courtyard theatre



Sketch view of Guildhall courtyard theatre looking out from stage

Examples of similar courtyard performance spaces



St George's Guildhall : Vision for the future



St George's Guildhall : Vision for the future

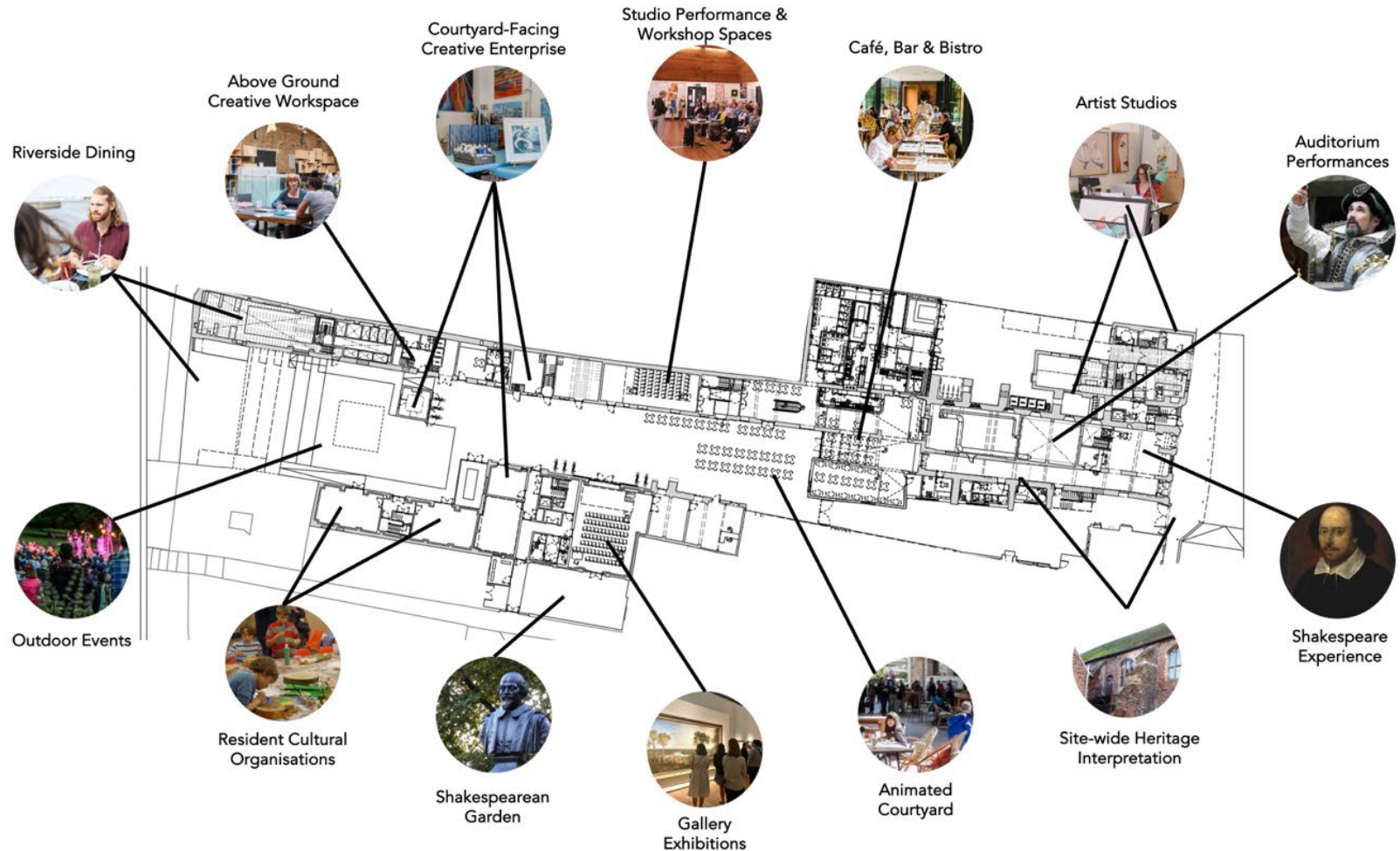


A Sustainable Business Model for the future

- **Business Plan:** mix of revenue to attract visitors, provide flexibility and resilience.
- **Long-term Operating model of CIO**
Optimum benefit longer term of fundraising, tax benefits, operational flexibility and resilience.

Direct Benefits and Outputs:

- £2m turnover new business.
- World Class interpretation offer.
- Employing 34 equivalent FT roles.
- 77,000 Unique visitors to site.
- 10,300 Educational visitors.
- Assist 60 entrepreneurs be ready to succeed.

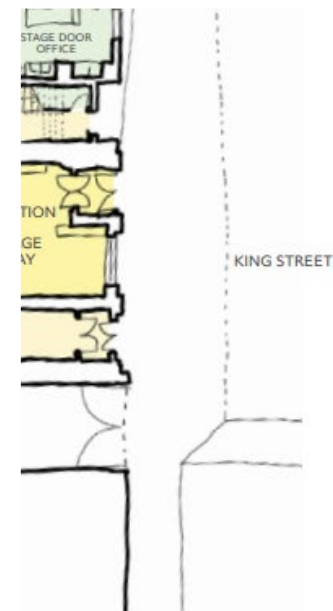


Proposed Ground Floor Plan





und level)



Sketch view of Guildhall King Street facade & new ground floor window into reception area



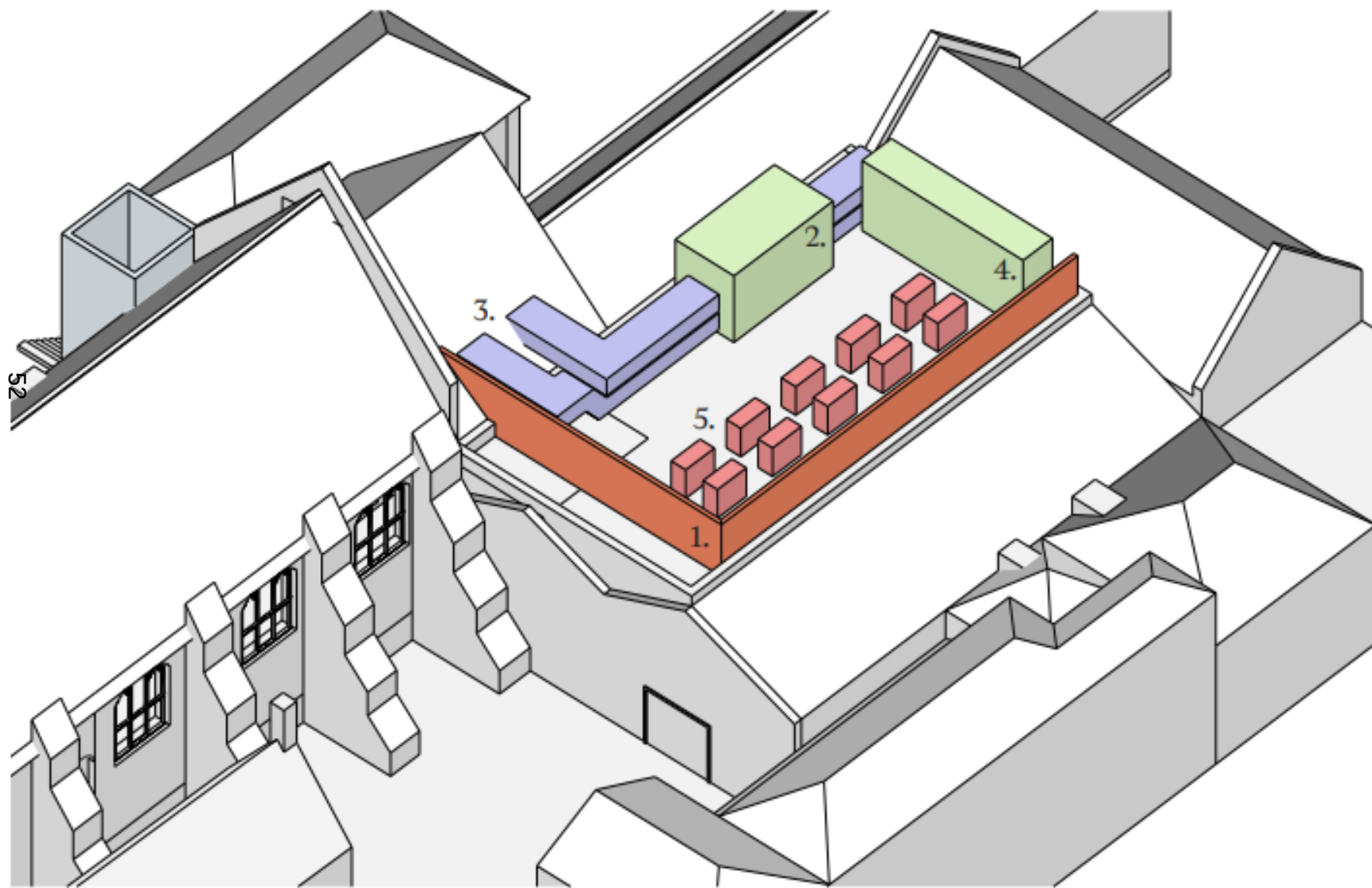
Entrance passageway from street entrance & reception to the foyer at the centre of the site

Creative Hub

Shakespeare Barn ENERGY CENTRE



Roof Level Plant Area



1. Two metre high visual and acoustic plant screen

2. Air handling unit
(Serving up to 400 people between Guildhall and Undercroft spaces)

3. Ductwork

4. Kitchen extract

5. Air source heat pumps
(Accounting for one third of the heat load for the whole complex)



ACTIVITIES

FREE

SHAKESPEARE'S BIG BIRTHDAY BASH

Sunday 23rd April 2pm
U Feature film "Gnomeo and Juliet"

Day in a Day this August
St George's Guildhall!



Thursday 3rd August
10.30am-2.30pm

Reluctant Dragon

SHAKESPEARE'S BIRTHDAY
ST GEORGE'S GUILDHALL
APRIL AND
MAY 2023

4PM

Saturday 22nd April 2pm
PG Feature film "Bill"

ST, KING'S LYNN PE30 1HA



In collaboration with:
National Trust

Saturday 22nd April at 7pm
Free talk 'Eating With Shakespeare'
by Brigitte Webster

www.stgeorgesguildhall.com

Dragon Festival

Saturday 4th November

St George's Guildhall, King's Lynn

From 12 noon

Activities for all ages!

FREE

- Crafts
- Weapons
- Live shows



MEDIEVAL
MURDER
MYSTERY
WEDNESDAY 25 OCTOBER
10.30AM - 12.30PM

A FAMILY-FRIENDLY
MURDER
MYSTERY
EVENT
INSPIRED BY
WILLIAM
SHAKESPEARE'S
HAMLET



Quiz costumed characters as you take part in activities.
Find the clues and vote on the verdict.

£3 per child, accompanying adults free.
To book visit www.guildhall-events.co.uk

St George's Guildhall Theatre, 29 King Street, King's Lynn PE30 1HA

Come and be a volunteer, we'd love to hear from you
guildhall@west-Norfolk.gov.uk



Questions or thoughts?

www.stgeorgesguildhall.com



**ST. GEORGE'S
GUILDHALL**

EST. 1406

St George's Guildhall and Creative Hub King's Lynn Preserving the UK's Oldest Working Theatre



Funded by:

Borough Council of
King's Lynn &
West Norfolk



HM Government

Partners:



Norfolk
County Council

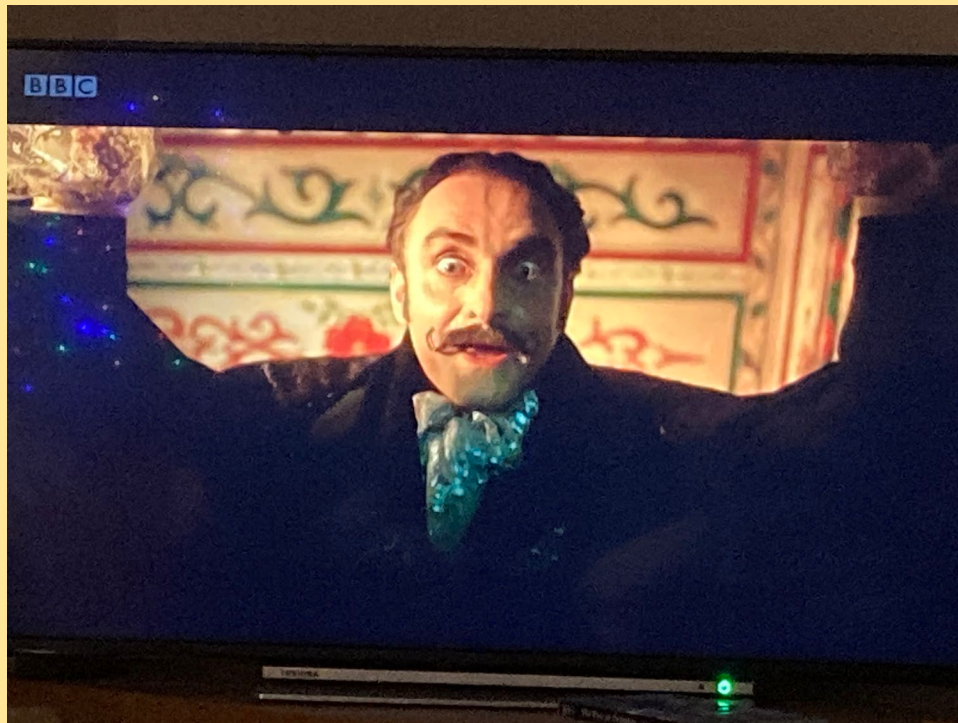


Norfolk
Museums
Service

In collaboration with:

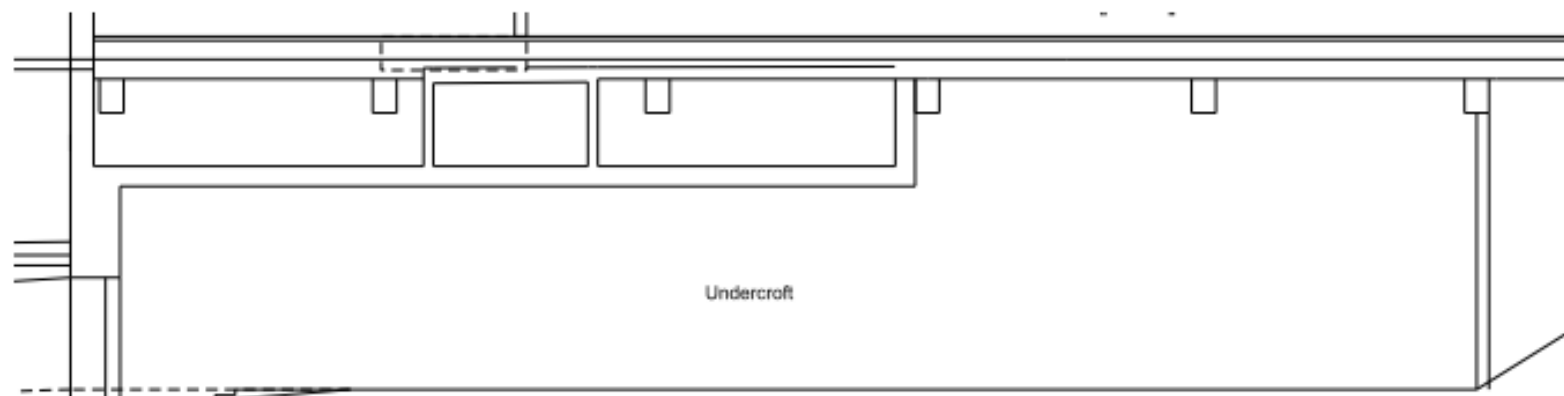


National Trust

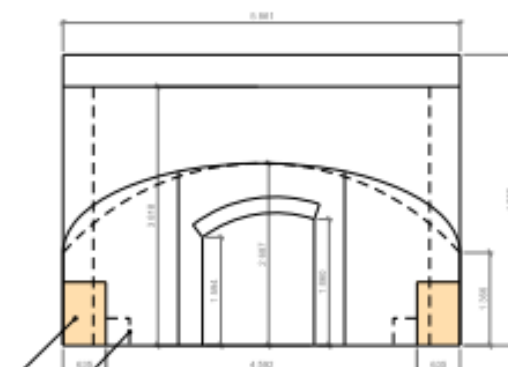




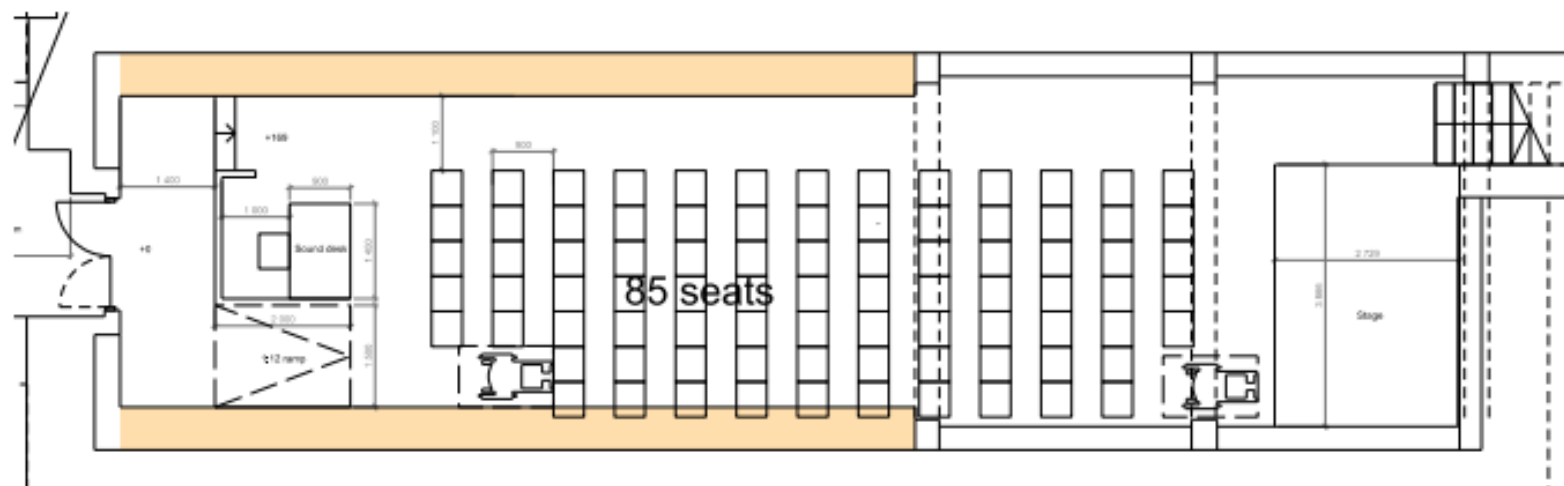
Undercroft layout & capacity



Long section



Cross-section



Plan

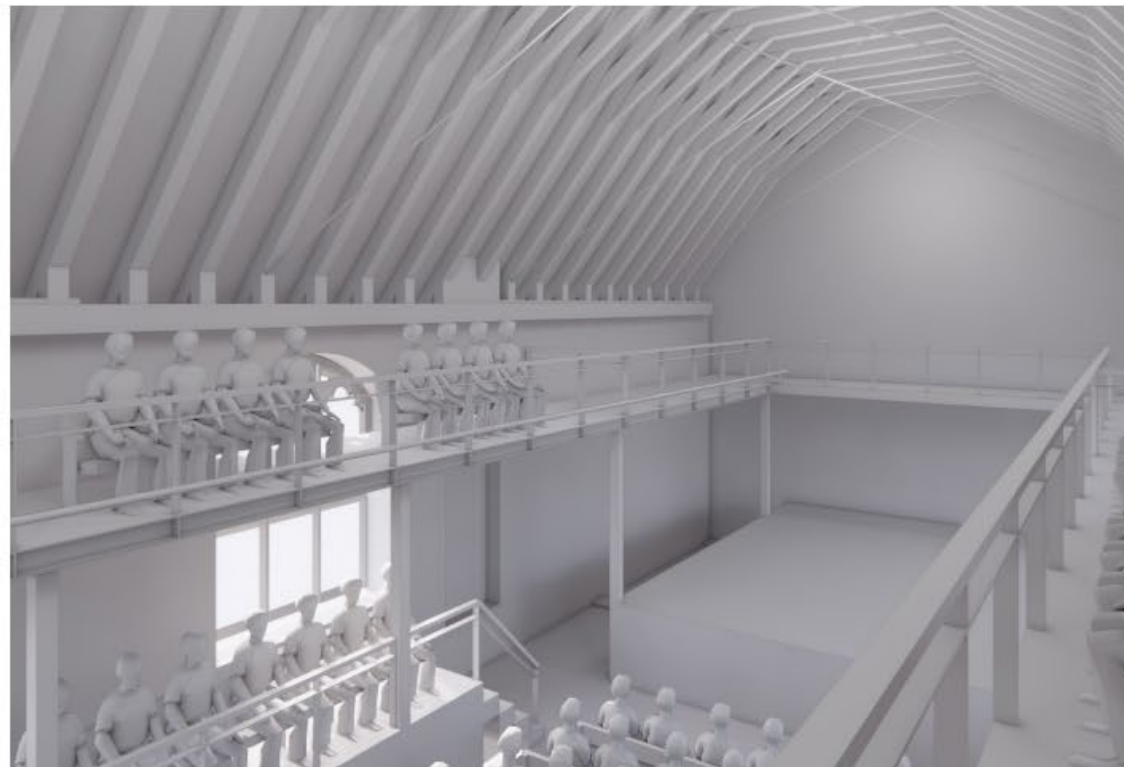




Proposed 90 seat venue in the under-croft

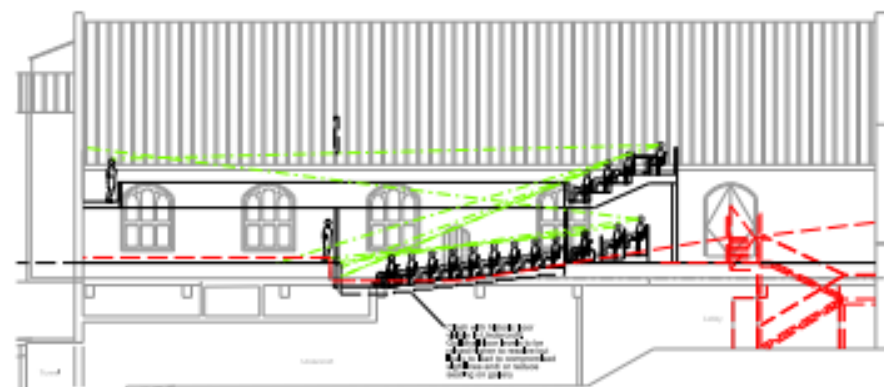


View from Rear of Stalls

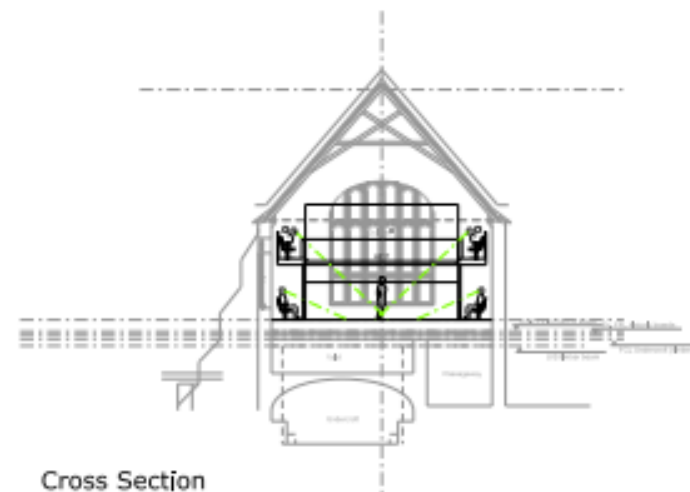


View from Balcony

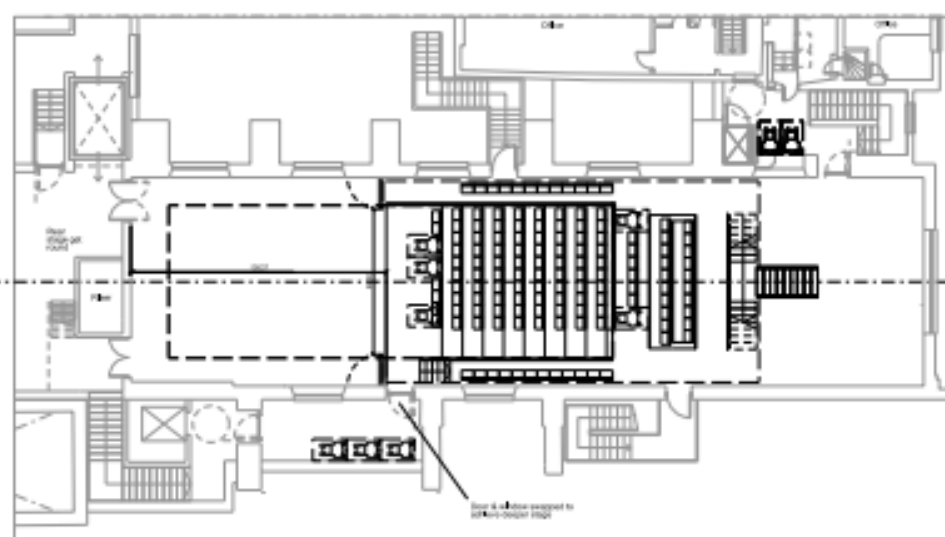
Courtyard Theatre - Arrangement C - Deeper Stage + 4-Sided Gallery



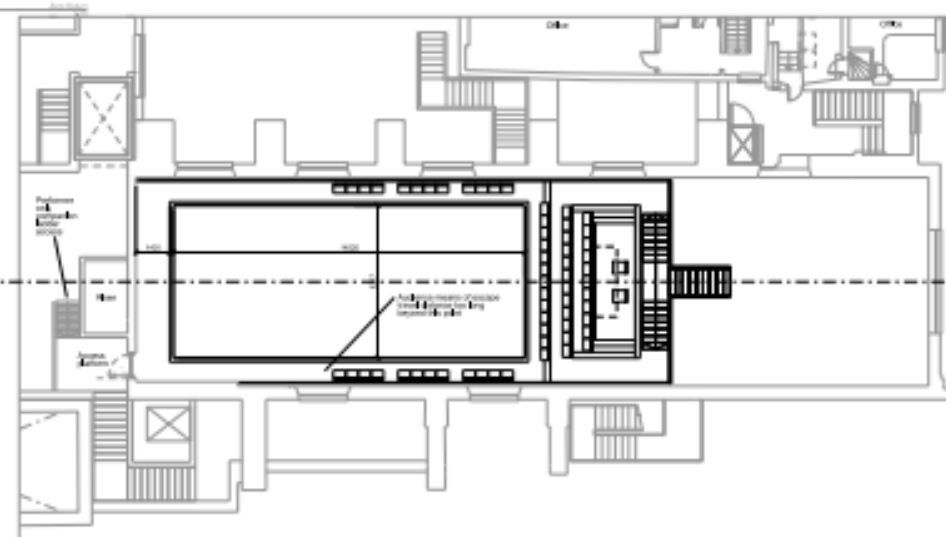
Centreline Section



Cross Section



Stalls Seating Layout
Capacity: 140 seats (Incl. 5 wheelchair positions)
Total Capacity: 200 seats



Gallery Seating Layout
Capacity: 60 seats
Total Capacity: 200 seats

DO NOT SCALE

THE CONTRACTOR IS TO CHECK AND VERIFY ALL BUILDING AND SITE CONDITIONS, LEVELS AND RECORD BEFORE STARTING WORK. THE DRAWING IS TO BE READ AND CHECKED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE BUILDING AND OTHER SPECIFICATIONS. THE DRAWING AND THE WORKS DERIVED ARE THE PROPERTY OF HAWORTH TOMPKINS LTD AND MAY NOT BE REPRODUCED EXCEPT BY WRITTEN PERMISSION.

NOTES

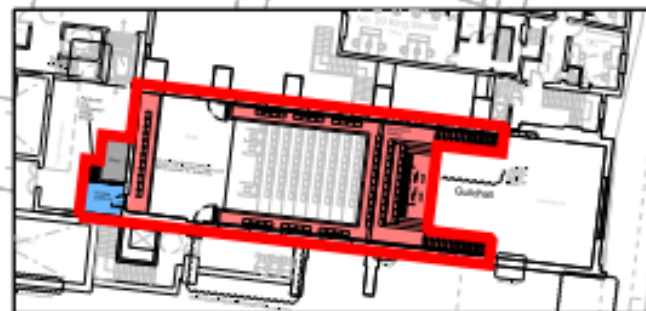
TO BE REVERSED CONTACT BETWEEN BAYLARS AND MAINS ELECTRICAL



SCALE 1:200 @ A1

AREA KEY

- Auditorium
- BOH Performance Support
- BOH
- BOH WC
- Catering Support
- Creative Hub
- Gallery
- Old Warehouse Area
- Other (Building)
- Open & Not Used



01 PROPOSED AUDITORIUM GALLERY PLAN
1:200 @ A1

Restaurant Phase

Phase 2

North range external envelope & Creative Hub upgrades

CORE PHASE

Guthall Building
Shakespeare Barn
BOH & Dressing Rooms
Creative Hubs (north range as 'found space')

Phase 2

Old Warehouse (Fermoy Gallery Reception)
Fermoy Gallery Fit-Out

01 07/2023 01/2023

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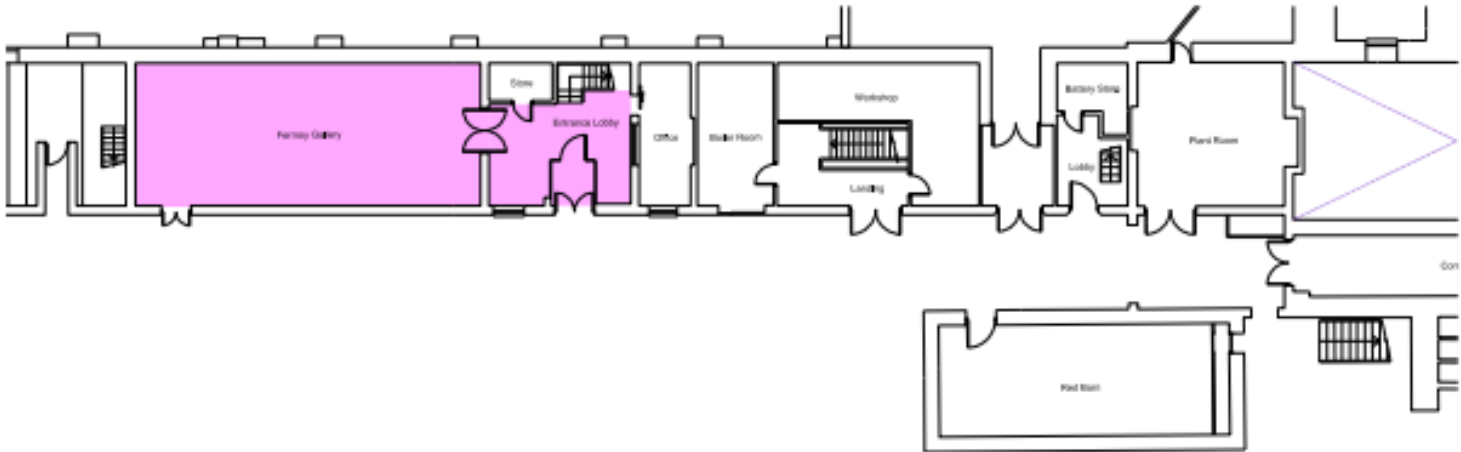
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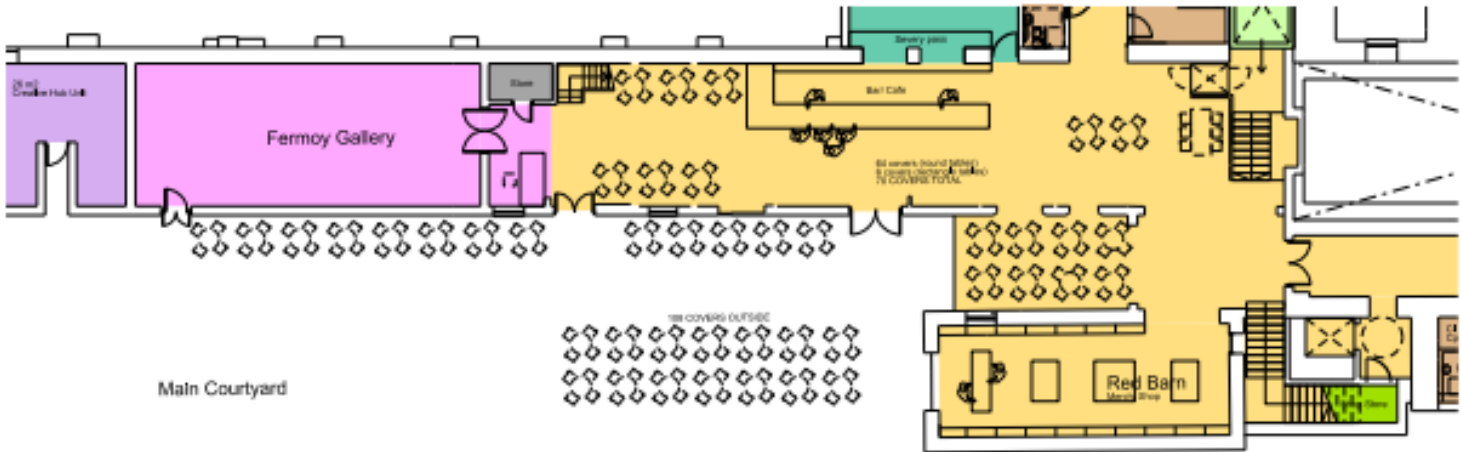
Alternative 1 - Fermoy Gallery retained

Existing ground floor plan
(extract)



64

Proposed ground floor plan
(extract)

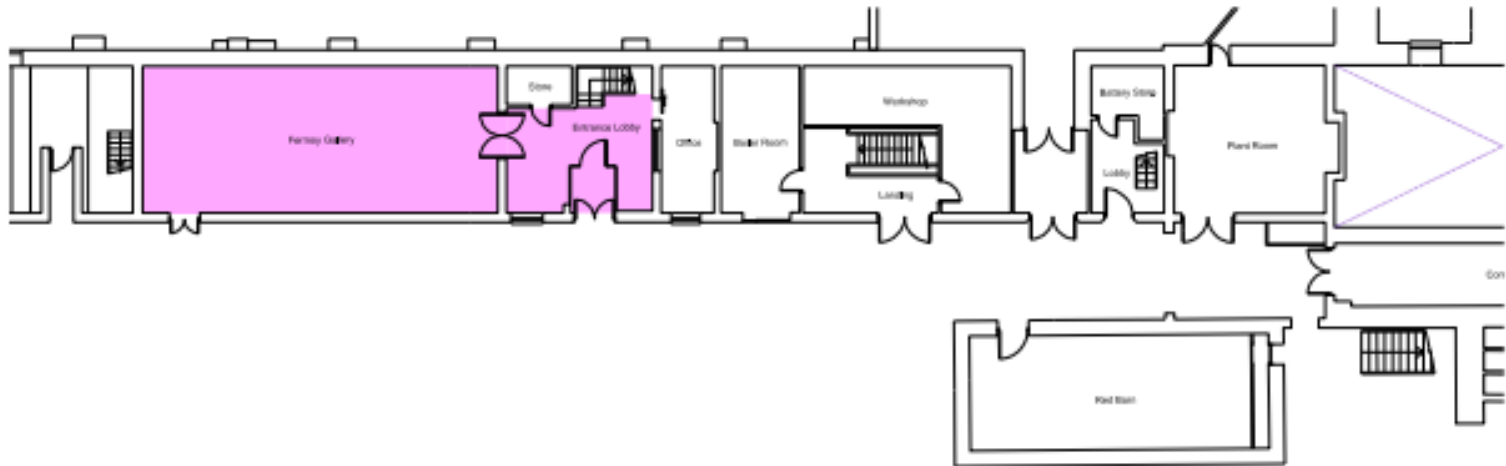


Achieves 70 internal covers
● Significant shortfall

Business Plan
125 cover target

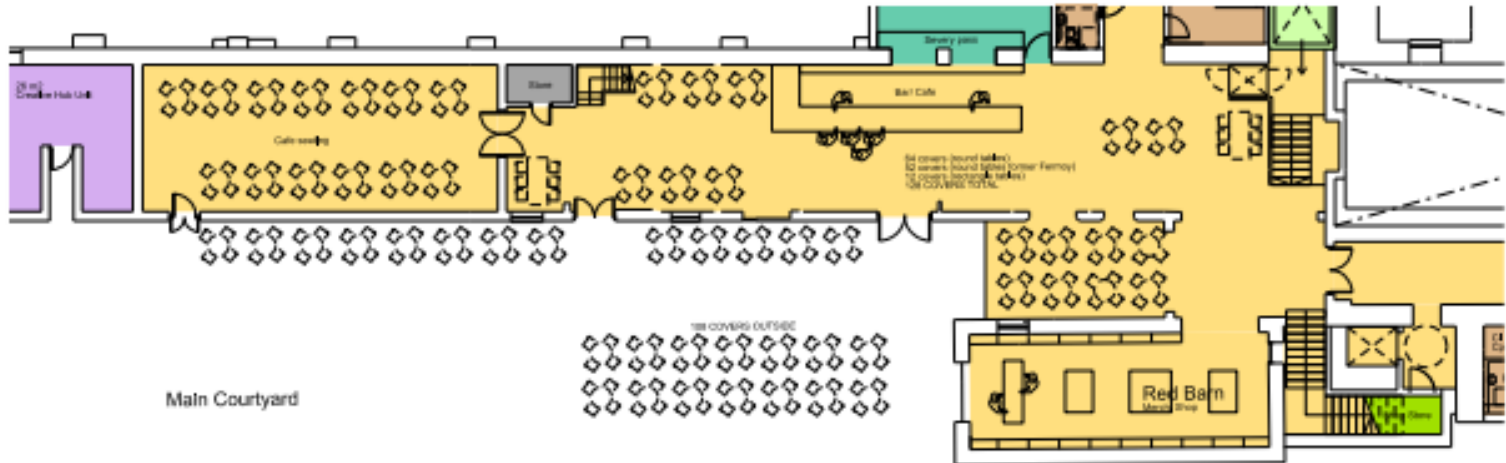
Current proposal - former Fermoy Gallery converted to cafe seating area

Existing ground floor plan
(extract)



65

Proposed ground floor plan
(extract)



Achieves 128 internal covers

Business Plan
125 cover target

99

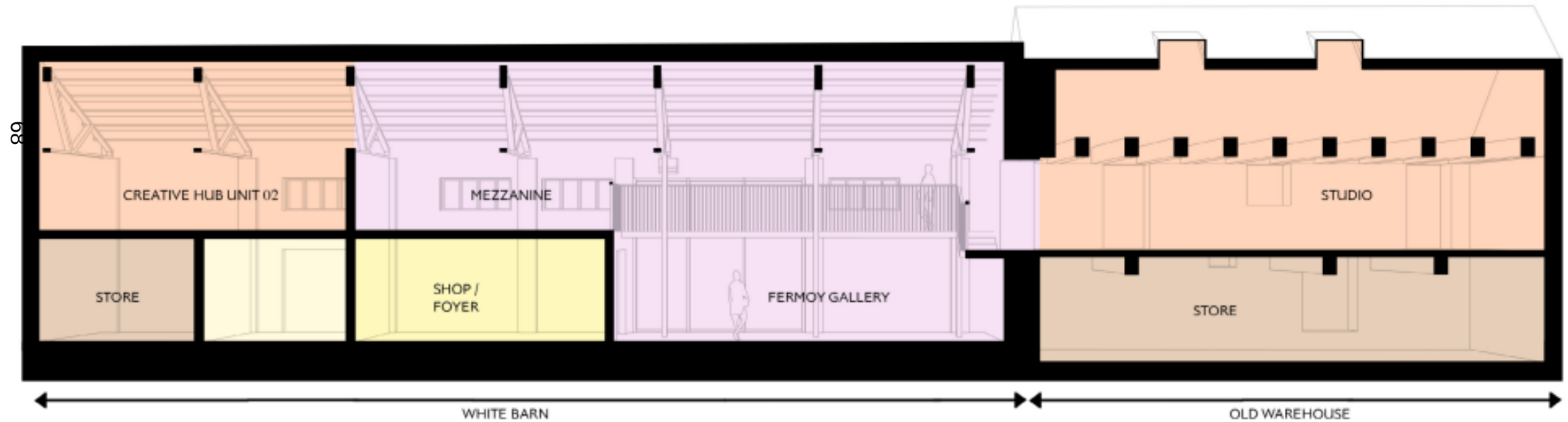


- 128 covers inside (125 in business plan)
- 108 covers outside (108 in business plan)
- Former Fermoy Gallery area could be closed off during quieter periods or used as lunch room for school groups
- 76 covers inside if former Fermoy area closed

Proposed Ground Floor - Option 02 (Warehouse as Store & Studio Mezzanine)



Proposed Section - Option 02 (Warehouse as Store & Studio Mezzanine)



Internal View - Fermoy Gallery



Internal View - Fermoy Gallery Mezzanine



Internal View - Mezzanine Studio

