

Table 3.26 Summary of the Assessment for Building No. 17

<i>Building No., Name & Designation</i>	<i>Date of Construction and Original Use</i>	<i>Reference Drawings</i>	
17 F Hall Within Victoria Prison Declared Monument	1931 Printing Shop	17-GA-201 Ground Floor 17-GA-202 First Floor 17-GA-203 Roof Plan 17-GA-220 North Elevation	17-GA-221 South Elevation 17-GA-222 East Elevation 17-GA-223 West Elevation
<i>Brief Overview</i>	<i>Proposed Adaptive Uses</i>	<i>Significance</i>	
<p>This two storey red brick building has a flat roof. The ground floor is a series of brick concrete piers which have been infilled, and the first floor has regular fenestration on all elevations in the form of large multi-paned windows. At the southwest corner is the principal entrance into the prison from Old Bailey Street. The interior is divided into visiting rooms, reception and interrogation rooms on the ground floor. The first floor is a large open space with floor-to-ceiling barred enclosures used as holding cells for large groups.</p> <p>In 1956 the building became a Reception Building for the prison, which was the use until decommissioning.</p> <p>The building has a reasonably robust construction of load-bearing brickwork and reinforced concrete floors, under a flat concrete roof with rooflights.</p>	<p>Mixed Use</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> G/F – Art gallery and ancillary support; F&B and ancillary support space; Interpretation room; Toilets; Plant rooms 1/F – Art Gallery and ancillary support; Toilets <p>F Hall will be retained as a freestanding building and refurbished for uses in conjunction with the arts –related revitalization of the Prison site. A new building will be located adjacent to but separated from F Hall on its north side, and at G/F level between F Hall and the new building there will be a new open covered entrance lobby into the Site from Old Bailey Street.</p> <p>The G/F uses of F Hall are related to the art galleries on the upper floors, but also provide facilities for the wider Prison Yard area. The important social significance of F Hall for the former Prison will be recognized by retaining the G/F reception areas at the Blue Gate Site entrance and the booths for visitors and prisoners for interpretation.</p> <p>At 1/F level the art galleries in the two buildings will be linked by short bridges.</p>	<p>MEDIUM / LOW</p> <p>Though the building does have some social significance as the main post-war reception building for the prison, it was initially constructed as a very utilitarian printing shop with little architectural or technological interest.</p>	
<i>Conservation Approach</i>	<i>Major Proposed Changes (for Mitigations see Annex A1)</i>	<i>Other Heritage Impact Rating Assessments</i>	
<p>F Hall will be retained as a freestanding building and the only links to the adjacent new building will be a single bridge link between the first floors via existing window openings widened between the brick piers. This is a minimal optimal intervention to achieve the integration of the art galleries at first floor level.</p> <p>On G/F the important social significance of F Hall for the former Prison will be recognized by retaining the external and internal reception areas and the booths for visitors and prisoners for interpretation in the north west corner. The external visitors’ toilets will also be retained. Some existing partitions on the west side will be retained, but the remaining existing ad hoc internal non-load bearing partitions will be removed to make way for the open spaces suitable for the new uses.</p> <p>On 1/F the existing open barred cell areas on the first floor will be recorded and then cleared away for an art gallery.</p> <p>The concrete columns on both floors will be repaired and strengthened.</p> <p>The new lifts and access staircases for the 1/F art gallery will be provided in the adjacent new building, which will avoid any significant interventions in F Hall. The existing open external stairway on the east side will be retained as an alternative means of escape for F Hall, and so will also contribute an element of interpretation of the former Prison function. The existing windows of F Hall will be retained but adapted for the internal conditions required for the new uses.</p> <p>All wall elevations will be repaired and refurbished. The flat concrete roof and rooflights will be retained and refurbished.</p>	<p>Accessible public WC’s will be provided on the G/F and 1/F levels.</p> <p>Existing mechanical and electrical services will be removed, and new services including air-conditioning with chilled water supplied from central chiller plant, water, power and lighting are to be installed suitable for the new uses in F Hall. Plant Rooms are provided at G/F level.</p> <p>On the G/F elevations the existing window openings will be retained but infilled to match the façade material and finishes adjacent to the respective openings (brick or painted plaster). Where required for adaptive reuse of the building, plain glass panels will be installed to match the existing openings in a manner which allows the interventions to be clearly seen and to be reversible.</p> <p>On the 1/F north, east and south elevations the existing window openings will be retained but filled to match the façade material and finishes adjacent to the respective openings (brick or painted plaster). This will allow efficient walls for the new art gallery to be created whilst allowing the interventions to be clearly seen and to be reversible.</p>	<p>The range of Impact Category Ratings for the interventions after mitigations in Block 17 are 1 (Beneficial), 2 (Acceptable), and 3 (Acceptable with Mitigation Measures). The overall Heritage Impact of the proposed interventions in Block 17 is therefore regarded as acceptable to enable the building to have a new adaptive use.</p>	