

Threat to the John Jarrold Printing Museum

*From the National Printing Heritage Committee
of the Printing Historical Society*

The Committee is deeply concerned for the future of the John Jarrold Printing Museum, the building and contents of which are threatened by a proposed redevelopment of the site at Barrack Street, Norwich (planning application 18/01286/F). This plan makes no provision for the re-establishment, or even survival, of the Museum, and proposes only a small display of historic items in a 'café setting'. Those concerned with the nation's printing heritage would regard that as a disaster.

While the buildings in which the Museum is currently housed have little intrinsic or historic value, and the Committee has no concerns about their demolition *per se*, the contents of the Museum form the best representative collection of printing heritage artefacts in the country and should be preserved together, and made available in a museum context, ideally on the original site (which has long-established connections with the local printing industry). The Committee recognizes that it may not be possible to keep the Museum on the original site, but would like to emphasize that the collections must be properly preserved and displayed together, in or near to Norwich, for which city the Museum is an important heritage and cultural asset. The importance of the Museum's holdings extends, however, well beyond the local, and the collections are recognized by the Printing Historical Society and the International Association of Printing Museums as of national and international significance.

Dr Paul W. Nash, chair of the National Printing Heritage Committee said: 'We are profoundly concerned about this proposed redevelopment, and will do everything in our power to preserve together the unique holdings of the John Jarrold Printing Museum, for the benefit of future generations, the culture of British industrial heritage, and the historical significance of the Museum's holdings for the city of Norwich'.

National Printing Heritage Committee

http://printinghistoricalsociety.org.uk/2017/11/national_printi.html

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