

Context

Contemporary mural located to the external wall of retail property currently accommodating food takeaway business, on walkway between Bullyard and Barracks Way, CV1 1LHⁱ



Assessment - Discussion

Wall art dating to 1966 and the completion of the Bull Yard redevelopment, delivered in a bold, optical art style, indicative of post war redevelopment period. One of several post-war public art pieces in the city, sited at the pedestrian entrance to Barracks way from Bull Yard.

Assessment – Criteria

Assessing the heritage asset against the Local List criteria; the heritage asset is valued locally for the following:

Historic: Completed alongside the Bullyard redevelopment the mural dates from circa 1966.

Artistic: Example of 20th century post-war public artwork in the optical art style. The style of work is synonymous with the time period with notable artists in the movement such as Bridget Riley associated to the optical art style.

Community: Located on a pedestrian linkage between the Bullyard and Barrack Way car park, the mural contributes toward the articulation of post war public art context, located close to the listed Three Tuns Mural by William Mitchell.

Evidence: This artwork is a useful resource in understanding a period of development of the city, alongside providing an understanding of a stylistic movement in artworks associated to the period.

Age. Circa 1966, alongside completion of Bullyard development

Rarity. The only known example of Optical Art Mural in the city

Integrity. In good condition with some evidence of tile damage

Coventry's identity. The mural being distinctly of 20th century artistic style, contributes positively alongside other public art pieces in the understanding of Coventry's post-war redevelopment identity. However its

location reduces the opportunity for appreciation and as a singular piece its contribution to the wider public art narrative is limited.

Conclusion

The application for local listing is valid and therefore the proposal may be promoted for public consultation. Further to the findings of the public consultation, CCC conservation officer will finalise recommendation for a future Cabinet Member Meeting.

<http://www.coventry.gov.uk/locallist>

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