

Woolhall Street

Woolhall Street was not part of Abbot Baldwins original plan for the town. It was formed in the 1820s following the demolition of the Clothiers Woolhall as a link between Cornhill and St Andrews Street South in order to provide a further access into the town for traffic. It is the former Woolhall which gives the street its name. Unusually for Bury this is a street where nearly all of the buildings have been constructed in the last 30 years or so. It has a splendid views from the west to the east, of the Victorian Corn Exchange in Cornhill, which in themselves are framed by the two buildings which face onto Cornhill. Both of these buildings have a return elevation to Woolhall Street. The view to the west from the east is also not without interest, with a corner of the 'Arc' building to the west of St Andrew Street South and an historic commercial building terminating it. However. there is an unfortunate disparity in scale between the new and old buildings which is displeasing.

While of no great architectural quality the modern buildings are reasonable enough.

The dominant scale is two or three storeys and the dominant material stucco render, but with some buff brick.

This is a fairly busy traffic route as it provides the main vehicular access into the Cornhill/Buttermarket area. There is rather heavy handed highways lighting fittings fixed to the buildings with a wide roadway and concrete flagged pavements, all a bit municipal.

1-2 Woolhall Street (See also LP St Andrew Street South)

This is a two storey building from the 1980s with a dormered attic. It replaced an early commercial building that had to be demolished following a fire. With a canted corner and an elevation to the west with three bays of fenestration and a south elevation similarly with three bays. There is a single bay on the canted corner. The ground floor has red brickwork with recessed shop and night club entrances with glazed screens and doors in mixed media but mainly stained hardwood frames. The first floor has wood framed casements in stucco render walls and the plain concrete tiled roof has wooden framed dormers. Rather obvious flue rises above the roof.

Plastic rainwater goods.

The building is almost a traditional (if unambitious) response to a conservation area site but the quality of the detail is not good and the choice of grey for the stucco colour rather exacerbates this.

It makes a neutral contribution to the conservation area.

3 Woolhall Street (Halcyon Days Skincare)

This appears to be a late Victorian building which has had some major restoration in recent years. It has a date stone between the first and second floor windows which carries the legend 'H W Farrow 1882'. This may well be the date of its original construction. It is in three stories of rough cast render with a modern period style wooden shop front at ground floor and a single window at each other floor, below a gable/parapet. The first floor window is tripartite and sashes, and presumably original and the second floor is a two over two sash window. Above the second floor window is a relief plaque but it isn't possible to see from the ground what its purpose is/was. The gable/parapet has a modern moulded cornice, apparently in a cast material. The central gable is flanked by horizontal parapets, that to the east having dentils but the remainder of the cornice/coping does not, which is odd.

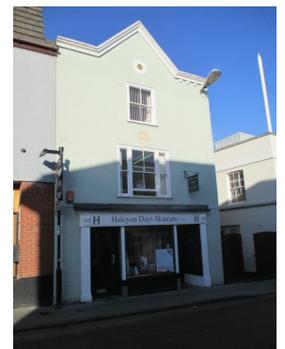
The building is characterful and clearly has some age and makes a positive contribution to the conservation area.

5-6 Woolhall Street

This is the rear extension to 3 Cornhill (see 3 Cornhill).

7-9 Woolhall Street

This is the rear extension to 2 Cornhill (see 2 Cornhill).



10-12 Woolhall Street (See also Rudlings Wakelam, St Andrew Street South)

This is a 1980s/1990s building which has two shop units in Woolhall Street and on St Andrew's Street a small professional office building. It was constructed as part of the remodelling of Everards Hotel which previously occupied this site and follows the demolition of the rear parts of that building. The scheme was designed by Hughes and Polkinhorne, Architects. In three storeys of buff brickwork with some affectations in the way of artificial stone dressings, stepping down to a smaller two storeys scale to the north east. It is a rather complex design which approximates to a small Georgian style symmetrical six bay building on Woolhall Street and a rather more obviously modern rear part at a larger scale. Sash windows and plain door joinery, slate roof finish with some roof lights.

Overall the contribution to the conservation area is better in Woolhall Street, than in St Andrew Street from where the building's service yard is readily visible. However, overall its contribution to the conservation area is neutral .

