

7016

**KING'S ARMS.****The Building**

The building is basically an H-shaped structure which has had extensions and alterations which have included former outhouses. The main building is now split into two. Its history is complicated so its original form is now obscured. There is mention of sixteenth century brickwork in the listed building description and a flint wall has now been incorporated into the interesting east gable wall in Pudding Pie Alley. It is suggested that the eastern chimney stack is probably original. This gable wall is typical of late 16<sup>th</sup>. – 17<sup>th</sup>. century gable-stack house. It has been heightened since.

The archaeological report concludes that this is 16<sup>th</sup>./17<sup>th</sup>. century house which was demolished in the 18<sup>th</sup>. century when it was heightened and rebuilt as a grander structure, probably to be an inn as the carriage arch was then included.

The roof and present façade are 19<sup>th</sup>. century including the bay window in the separate western wing.

**THE KING'S ARMS.**

The King's Arms is the most central, possibly the oldest and certainly, the most important inn in Reepham. It has been at the centre of social life in the town for many years. It will be mentioned many times during this exhibition.

Dinners, concerts, local assize courts, meetings have always been held here and it continues to play an important part in the social life of the town.

The building as it stands has been greatly altered over the years and you can see by looking at the roof line and frontage that the inn was probably at one time much bigger and included what is now Bonham's East Anglian office. That would have been when the King's Arms was a posting inn and needed space to accommodate travellers and horses and coaches. It also had club rooms and other function rooms.

Reepham is the market town at the centre of a large group of local villages and many farms. All twelve inns in the town were needed to provide stabling and sustenance for the inner man of those attending the markets, fairs and other events held here.

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**Interior.**

There are two large open fireplaces. In the base of the eastern chimney stack is an arched 18<sup>th</sup>. century fireplace, against the flint gable wall. In its rear wall is a salt box in a rather unusual position and a later partition cuts through a large beam set in the brickwork. It is possible that this fireplace was built into an earlier fireplace.

There have also been more recent alterations.



The Kings Arms Public House.



The Kings Arms crest of arms.

Interior

