

Aldershot's historic Union Building to be transformed into 17 apartments

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The grade two-listed building which served as a former workhouse, school and Army pay office will be converted into one and two-bedroom apartments

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The Union Building in Hospital Hill is going to be transformed into 17 apartments

A disused historic building, just a stone's throw away from the 3,850-home Wellesley development, is set for a new lease of life as developers set to transform it into 17 apartments.

The grade two-listed Union Building, in Hospital Hill, [Aldershot](#), will be restored and converted into [one and two-bedroom properties](#), including a landscaped communal garden.

It is expected that the first homes will go on sale in May.

Originally built in 1629 as a sub-manor to the local Tichborne estate, the Union Building survived civil war skirmishes, a fire and hurricane winds before serving as a workhouse and a school.

However, it was not until the mid-19th century that the building adopted its name.

In 1954, the War Department purchased the properties and established camp in the area, where it used the Union Building as a military hospital.

Its life as a hospital was relatively short-lived and following the opening of the Cambridge Military Hospital in [Aldershot](#) in 1879, its usage was changed and the Army pay office took up occupation.

In 1907, the building was almost completely destroyed by fire but extensive work was carried out to save it.

During the Second World War the nearby Salamanca Barracks succumbed to German bombing, but the Union Building managed to avoid incendiary damage.

The period features remain and are still standing today, including red tile roofing, wooden and metal beams, mullion windows and a gabled entrance porch.

Angela Walsh, head of sales and marketing at Annington, the developer, said the building had a wonderful history and was a landmark in [Aldershot](#).

"Having fallen into a state of disrepair, we are delighted to be able to give the building a new lease of life, creating a range of distinctive homes in the process," she said,

"It is fascinating to work with a listed building of such local importance and we are retaining and enhancing as much of the original building as possible, including exposed wooden beams, iron frames and detailed brick work, while making only essential alterations to its structural layout, ensuring its historic integrity remains.

"There is widespread investment under way throughout [Aldershot](#) and the council has recently produced an [Improved Town Centre Prospectus](#) that has been met positively by the local community.

"We are sure that Union Place will become a vibrant residential area and hope it will play a [positive role in Aldershot's future](#)."



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