

5.6 John Street, west side20, 22, 24 and 26 John Street

- Three-storey, four-bay, red-brick building with diverse shopfronts and windows (c.1860).
- Ground Floor – At street level, elevation comprises outer shopfronts and near-central door to upper floors. No. 20 has modern, $\frac{3}{4}$ glazed door with plain lower panel, and modern wood-frame shopfront windows over central, recessed brick panel. At no. 22, six-panel wood door is recent, whereas transome window seems old. Entry to nos. 24 and 26 has walls lined with vertical, v-jointed boards throughout, fully-glazed modern door at no. 24 and recent large shopfront windows, and six-panel door at no. 26. Signage is unsuitable, back-lit box sign at right and modest, projecting sign only at left. Fine wooden cornice at left is recent, but elements of old transom windows etc. may exist at upper shopfront level at both properties.
- Upper Floors – At second and third floors, building comprises four plain bays built in attractive, hand-made red bricks laid in Flemish bond. Window apertures have wooden sills (aluminum-flashed at left) and flat-arch voussoirs. Windows are a variety: at right, recent 2/2 units and at left, replacement 6/6 units (with false muntins and full screens). LH windows are smaller, having been inserted into old frames, and have modern shutters screwed to masonry.
- Parapet – Wall-head is crowned by attractive parapet consisting lower machicolations formed of band of corbelled headers with stretchers above, then three courses of plain brick-work, dentil-like band of two stacked headers with small brick between, and at top some four courses of projecting masonry. Parapet is flashed with a variety of metal flashings.
- Comments – This elegant façade is generally in good repair, but suffers from much settlement (assumed to be inactive), especially at RH side. Shopfronts are recent but as mentioned, may conceal older material, given depth of boarded fascia at left (note also flashing witness above). This should be investigated. Shop windows and all doors are unsuitable, and should be one day be replaced in accordance with the Guidelines. At upper level, all windows are new. 2/2 units at right may replicate original windows, though 6/6 seem more probable. 6/6 windows at left, however, too small, and made of an unsuitable material. Old metal flashing at RH parapet needs replacement, and sections to left should be tidied. Re-pointing is needed in various places at failed voussoirs.