



Bath Heritage Watchdog

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APPLICATION NUMBER: 19/01901/LBA

ADDRESS: Bath Spa Railway Station

PROPOSAL: Installation of Digital Screen at bath Spa Station

CASE OFFICER: Wendy Tomlinson

DATE: 29 June 2019

COMMENT: OBJECTION

Bath Heritage Watchdog strongly objects to this application.

Bath Spa Station, c1840 forms an important part of the original and internationally significant Great Western Railway, one of the earliest established railway companies in England. The masterpiece is constructed to a design by the engineer and architect Isambard Kingdom Brunel, widely perceived as one of the most important transport engineers of the 19th century. It is listed Grade II* and is within the Bath Conservation Area and World Heritage Site.

This application is for the installation of a large illuminated display board which it is said to be purely fixed to the station platform floor. This does not appear to be the case as the electrical wiring/ducting will need to be fixed to the original fabric of the station. This will cause considerable harm to both the stonework and the aesthetics of the station. We do not consider that the harm that would be caused outweighs any perceived benefits.

We are disappointed to see such an application submitted. Over recent years we have worked with Network Rail, FGW and conservation officers to improve the condition of the station and to remove as much unnecessary clutter as possible. This proposal is a retrograde step and if permitted would no doubt lead to others.

We very much hope that the applicants withdraw the application thus recognising the harm that would be caused.

The works as proposed are considered to be detrimental to the special architectural and historic character and interest of the listed building, adjacent listed buildings and the conservation area contrary to S16 and S72 of the Planning (Listed Buildings & Conservation Areas) Act 1990, Section 12 'Conserving & Enhancing the Historic Environment of the NPPF and Policies DW1, CP6, D1, D2, D3, D8, D9, D10, and HE1 of the Core Strategy and Placemaking Plan and should be refused.