32-33 Bridge Street

These buildings date back to the 1550s and are built from a traditional mix of colourwashed brick and flint. They have been significantly altered over the centuries and were extensively restored in 1967.

Everyday histories:

Local architect Desmond Waite bought a total of five cottages in Bridge Street that were under threat of demolition and restored them. Having saved these buildings, he ran his own architecture practice, Marsh & Waite from no 32 and made his family home here. Mr Waite was passionate about heritage and supported many community building projects. He was a long-serving President of the King's Lynn Civic Society

No 33 was a dance school for nearly 60 years. Do you remember Miss Karen's Lynn Academy of Dancing?

Before that, it was The Beehive pub from 1839 - 1912.

Today, it's home to Studio Baum, an artist-led project space offering affordable accommodation and studio space alongside a programme of residencies, courses, workshops, mentoring, and networking to support practice-led work rooted in place.

Architecture:

The front of 33 retains features of a late 19th-century pub storefront.

Inside is a preserved, re-used trefoil-headed niche of ecclesiastical origin, as well as historic 16th-century timber window frames and sturdy, molded ceiling beams.

The double doors to the right at no. 32 enclose an original carriage passage to rear, which leads to a rare town centre stable.

On the left side of the front exterior, at no 34 (not open today), you will see a historic carriage passageway supported by a decorative hood with scrolled brackets. This passage has been enclosed to form an entrance hall.

Look up at the roofline of 33 and 34 to see two striking, late 19th-century "shaped gables" built right on the wall line.