

# 7.0 History & Heritage

## 7.1 Overview

The London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine's Keppel Street building was completed in 1929 as a purpose-built educational and research facility. It was designed by P Morely Horder and V Rees. The building was Grade II listed in March 1982 and lies within the Bloomsbury Conservation Area within the London Borough of Camden.

The building is steel framed (one of the first ever erected in the United Kingdom) with a Portland stone faced façade designed in a stripped Classical style. A notable sculptural feature on the building is the a carving of Apollo and Artemis riding a chariot (used as the School's logo) located above the main entrance.

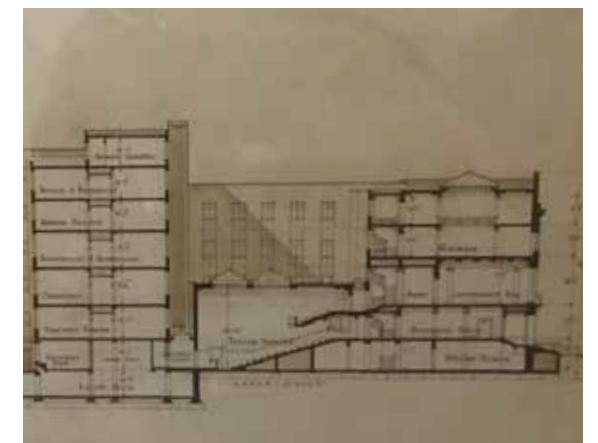
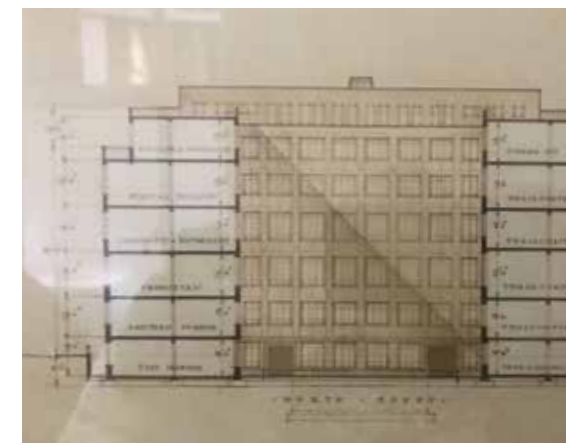
The first floor balconies are decorated with gilded bronze insects and animals involved in transmitting disease. A frieze

surrounding the building displays the names of pioneers of public health and tropical medicine between laurel wreaths.

Over the years, and since completion of the original 1929 building, numerous major alterations and additions have taken place, most notably and recently, the infilling of the North and South Courtyards (completed in 2004 and 2009 respectively) as well as previous historic extensions at roof level which added technical accommodation as well as the installation of significant additional plant and equipment.

On the following pages we have provided a break down of the alterations that may be of interest to the conservation officer and how we as a design team have endeavoured to minimise the impact to the exiting building while providing the flexibility functionality requirements.

Richard Griffiths Architects produced the Conservation Management Plan for the whole building, therefore we have been working with them to assist us in minimising the impact within any areas of significance where works are proposed.

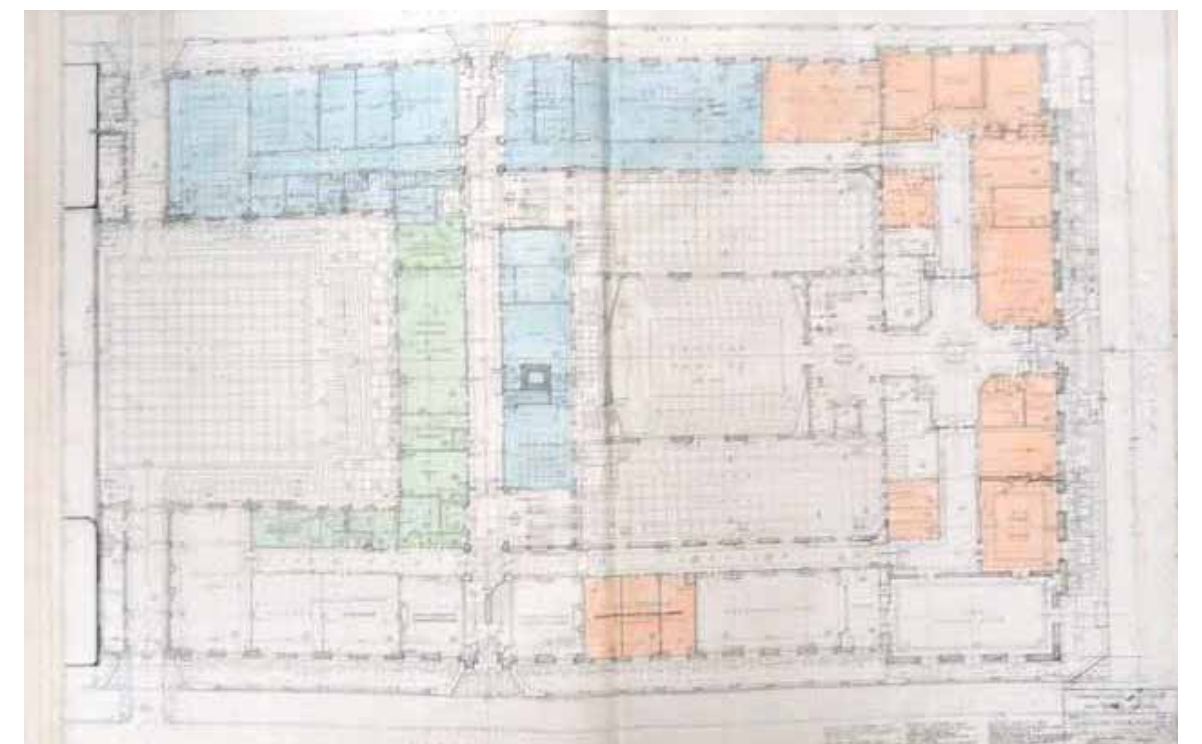


Existing sectional drawings



Gower Street Elevation 1926

Please note that the Heritage Statement - Appendix C, compiled by Richard Griffiths Architects explains all of the impacts on the listed building aspects.



As built drawings of LSHTM building, 1929  
Ground floor shows the open courtyard, perimeter lightwells and general arrangement

7.2 History & Areas of significance

Heritage significance

The diagrams on this page establish the heritage importance for spaces within the building on lower ground & ground floor within our scope, as taken from the Conservation Management Plan. Spaces have been categorised as “highly significant”, “significant” or “neutral”.

Highly significant spaces are those where the 1929 fabric is wholly or largely intact. Such areas should be conserved and original features repaired or replaced to match as closely as possible.

Significant spaces are those where some elements of the 1929 fabric are intact. In such areas original elements should be conserved and repaired wherever possible.

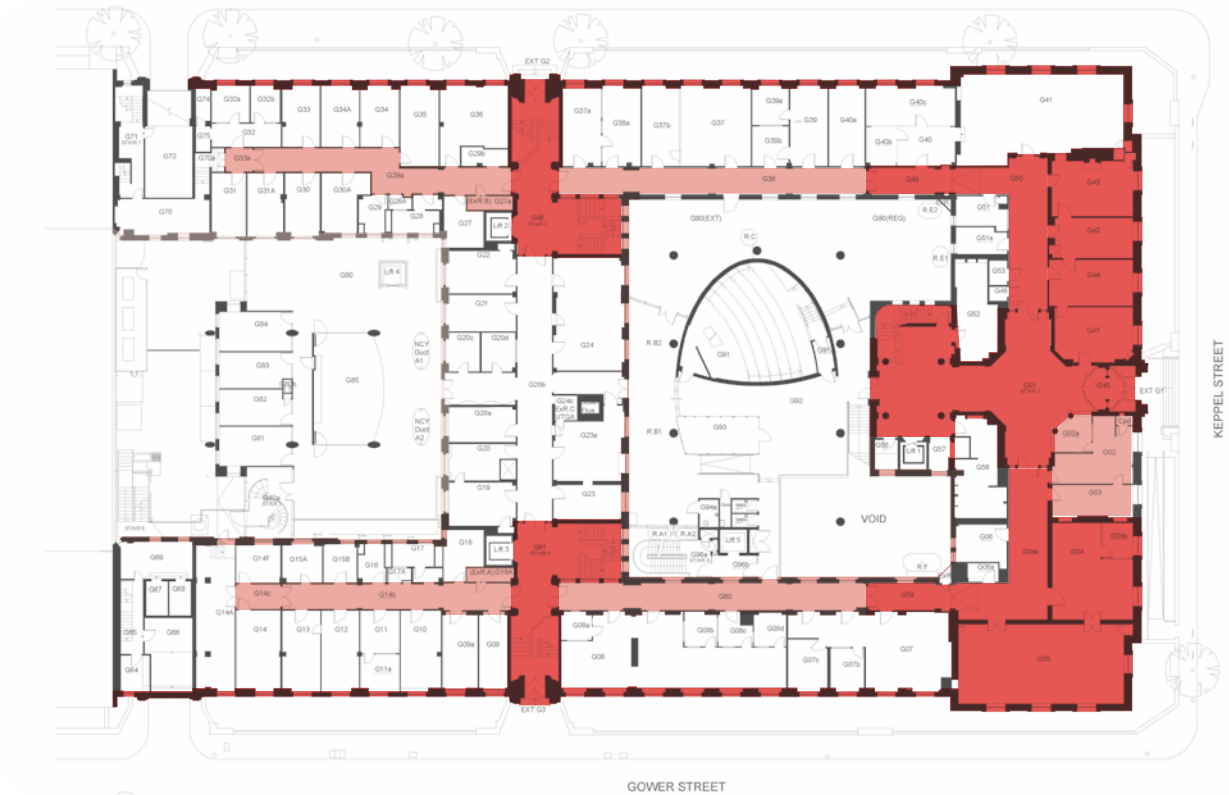
Neutral spaces are those where no elements of 1929 fabric remain.

Legend

- Highly Significant
- Significant
- Neutral

Please note that the Heritage Statement - Appendix C, compiled by Richard Griffiths Architects explains all of the impacts on the listed building aspects.

Ground Floor Plan



Lower Ground Floor Plan





### 7.3 Heritage Statement

Overview by Rock Townsend. Please see separate report by Richard Griffiths Architects for full Heritage impact report

The Social hub located on the lower ground floor of LSHTM Keppel street building has undergone a series of alterations of differing scales over time that have fundamentally changed the quality of the spaces and relationship to the rest of the building and streetscape.

The most fundamental change involves the extension of the south courtyard in 2009, which has significantly reduced the amount of natural light within the main refectory. Further changes to the interiors, notably the lowering of the ceilings throughout to accommodate services and lighting has resulted in the full-height openings which give onto the moat or the covered courtyard are now restricted and there is little connection to the outdoor spaces. This has resulted in the refectory, bar lounge and other social spaces being with little natural light source, creating unappealing rooms.

#### Summary of proposals

A more detailed outline of the proposals can be found in RTA's Design and Access statement with the indicative plans.

#### External:

- New openings created with rooflights in the extension of the Keppel street floor
- Windows on the Keppel St and Gower St elevations are upgraded
- New metal gate within the Gower St moat

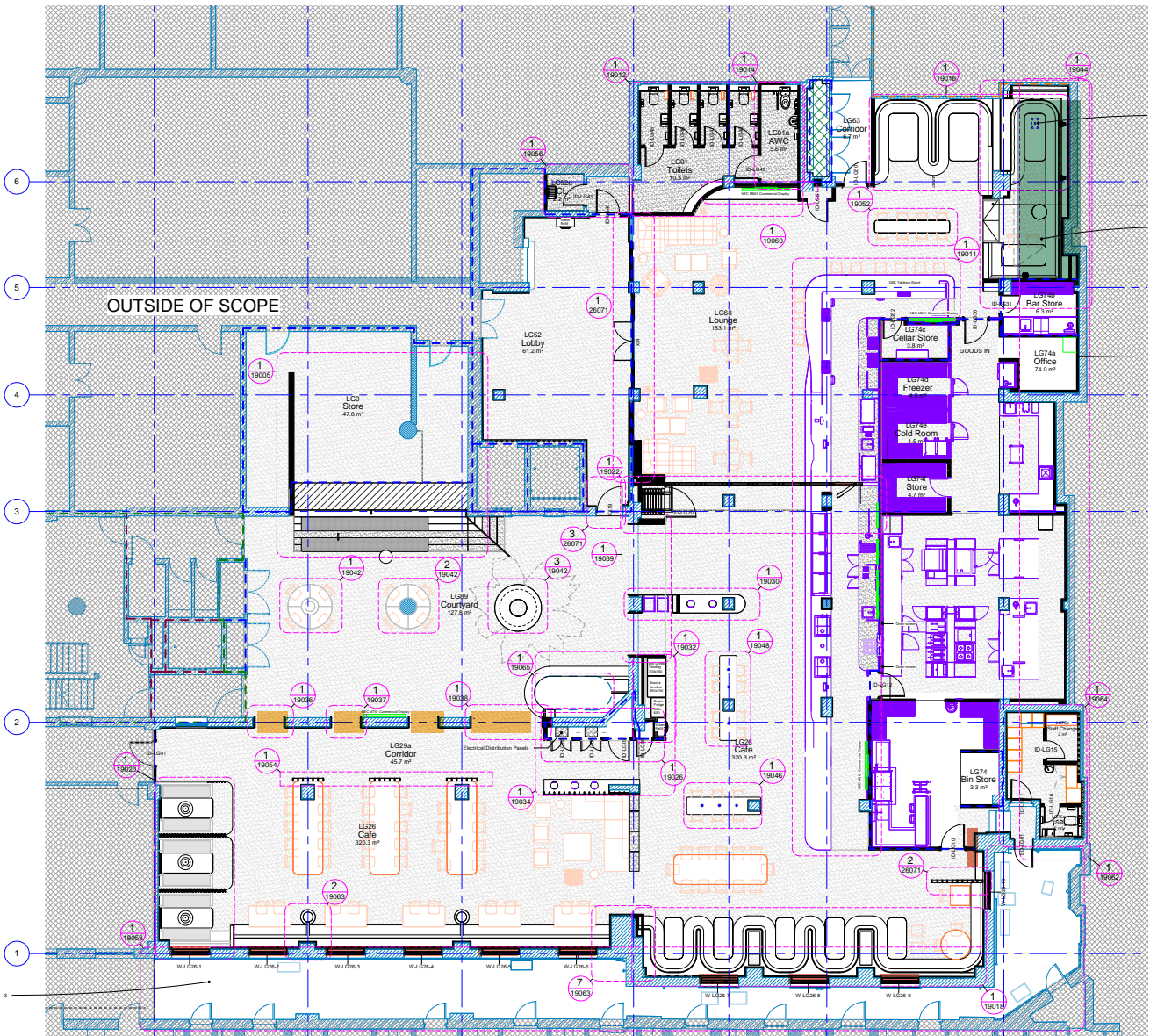
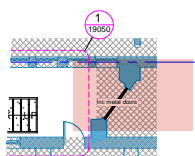
#### Internal:

- Reorganising internal layout generally on lower ground floor
- Kitchen relocated to south side
- Combine social and eating areas with possibility to have flexible event spaces

- Create a café/bar area
- Create a central gathering space in the covered courtyard with seating within raised steps which access the ground floor and link to the main entrance
- Window sills dropped between the new gather space and covered courtyard
- Install integrated furniture incorporating storage, seating, tables and bar
- Provide level access throughout by having new terrazzo floor
- Remove modern finishes throughout

#### Key Areas of impact

- 1. New external windows to extent of project boundary
- 2. New rooflight by bar space
- 3. Dropping sills and opening walls between the courtyard and corridor
- 4. External security gate





7.4 Key areas of impact and mitigation

1. New external windows to extent of project boundary

To improve the thermal performance of the building and reduce ongoing maintenance obligations . (For reference, please refer to Rivington Street Studios Planning submission which proposed to replace the majority of windows on the Keppel & Malet St façades)

Significance

The façade is considered highly significant, however some of the windows have been altered over time with ventilation grills inserted and services. The original windows are considered significant, although no longer performing sufficiently to meet modern standards.

Impact

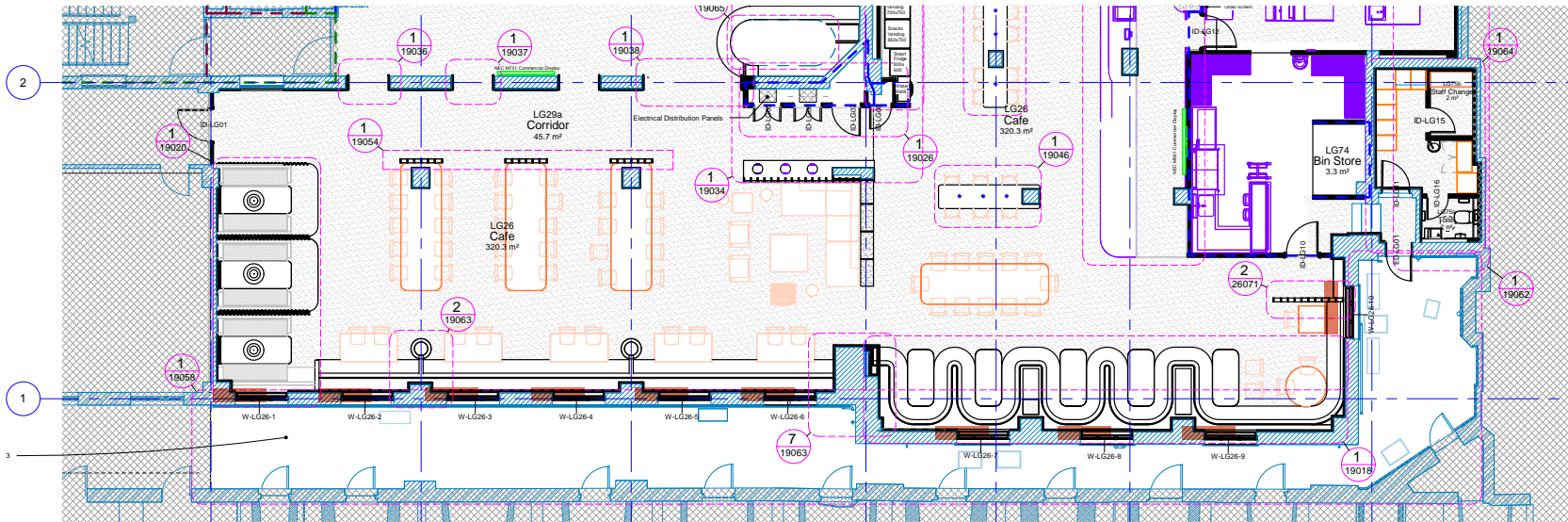
The proposal requires replacing existing windows with new windows to match existing as was the case on Malet Street side. The windows would retain the existing frame and pane sizes and the colour would be the same as the new windows installed on Malet Street.

Justification

Improving the overall performance of the window and their finish. Allow the windows to be managed more easily and better maintained.

Conclusion

This would be a positive and beneficial change to the building with little visual impact on its external fabric. It will improve the overall appearance of the School.



Basement plan - Location of new windows



Photo from Gower Street  
( Lower ground floor windows only to be replaced. )



View of windows from Gower street moat



7.5 Key areas of impact and mitigation

2. New Rooflight by Bar space

To create a light filled seating space

Significance

This area is of little heritage significance as at lower ground floor level it has undergone many changes and little remains of the historic fabric. The ceiling has been lowered and walls infilled. The tops of existing windows are still visible from Keppel Street, and have been significantly altered losing their original proportions. A new flat roof concealed behind the stone parapet also hides most of the original stone façade at lower ground floor level.

Impact

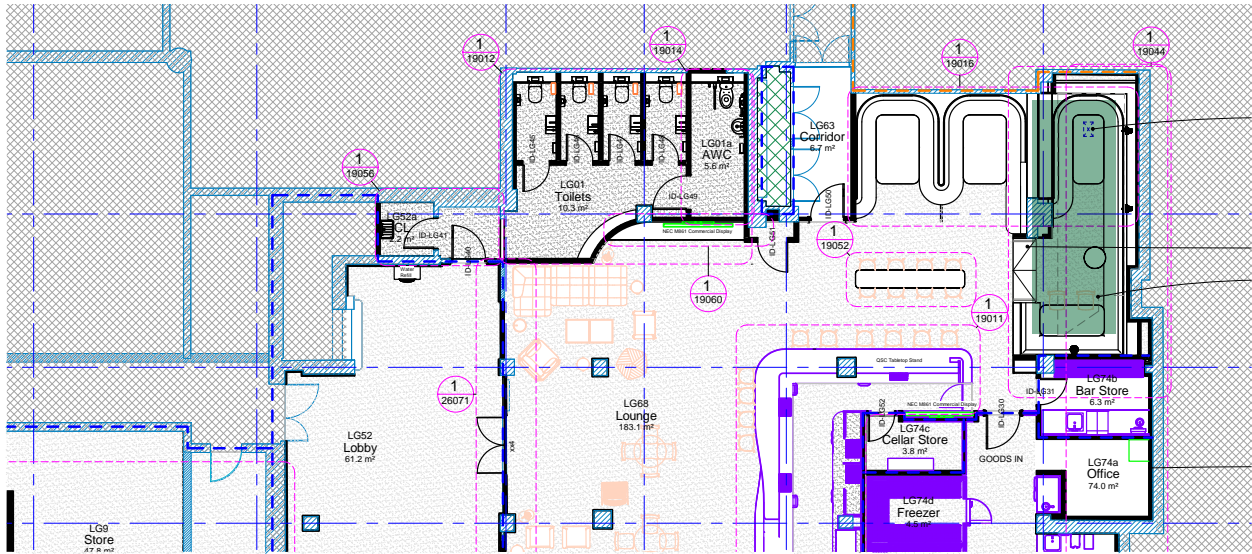
The location and orientation of the rooflights have been considered so that they are not directly visible from the street and to have as little impact on the streetscape (Bloomsbury Conservation area guidelines). The reversibility of the intervention has been considered with materials employed which are deemed to be sympathetic to the fabric of the building and lightweight.

Justification

This will create some additional space for meeting and socialising. The rooflights will provide more light to the spaces beneath and reveal the remaining stonework from the façade which has been hidden by the flat roof.

Conclusion

This would be a positive change to the building, providing much needed natural light to a dark, artificial space and providing an opportunity to remove later additions to this area which are not sympathetic to the fabric of the building.



Basement plan - Location of new rooflight



Photo from Keppel street  
(The green area indicated is the proposed location of the rooflight )



Existing storage room below the location of the proposed rooflight. When complete this space will be opened up to the rest of the floor and have banquette seating within.



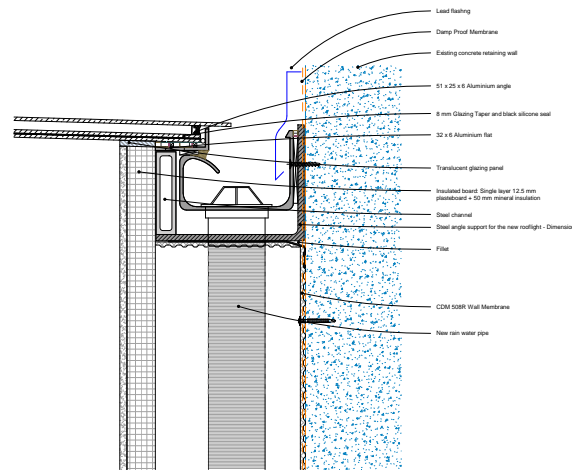
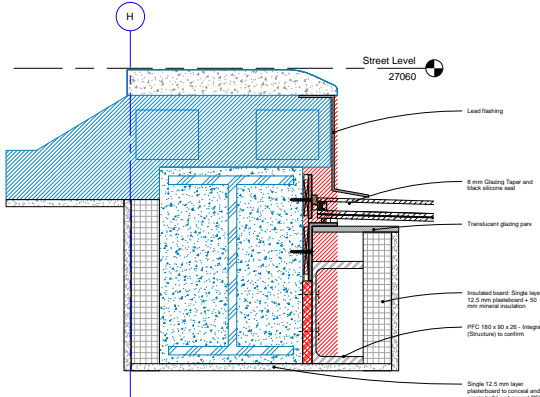
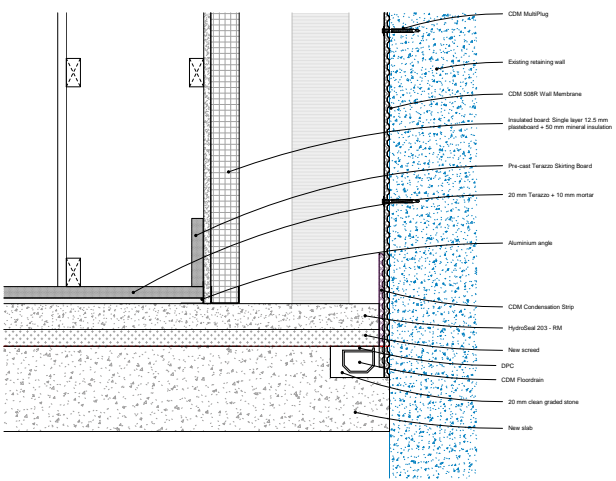
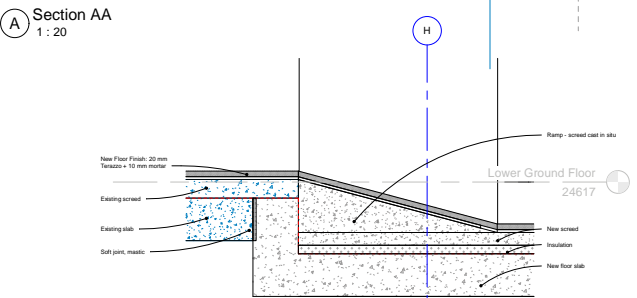
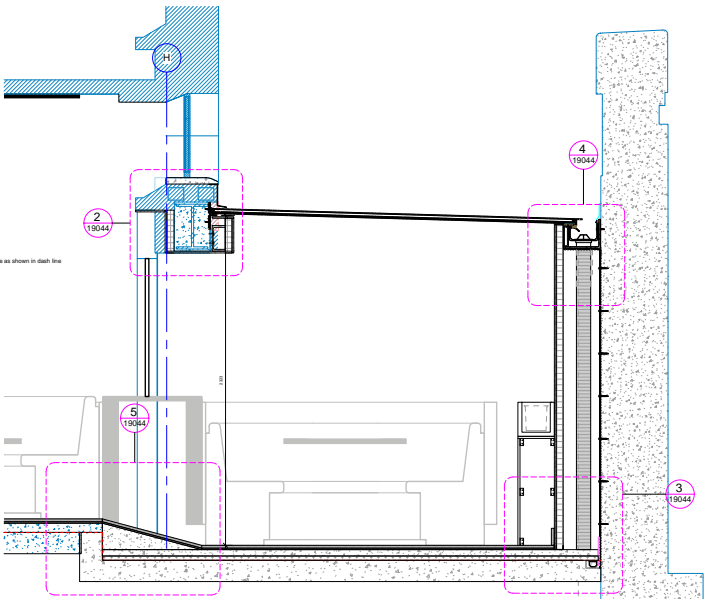
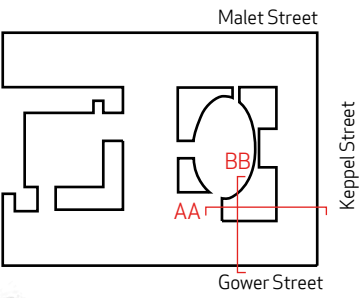
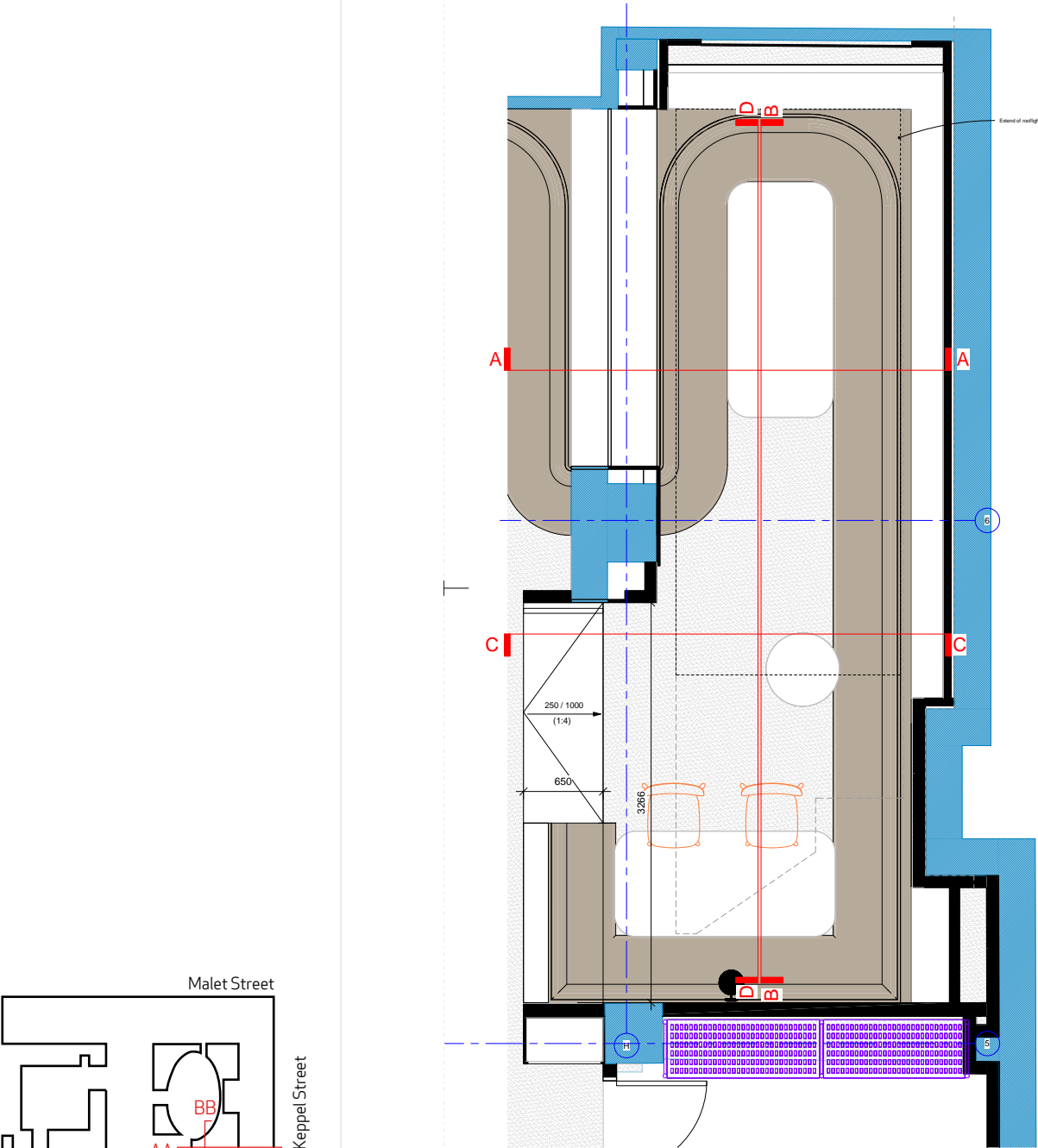
Precedent of rooflight infilled moat extension over (location Manchester Squire, Westminster borough, London)



7.5 Key areas of impact and mitigation

2. New Rooflight by Bar space - Detail Drawings

- Key:
- Existing fabric
  - Demolition
  - Proposed
  - Client Supply Furniture
  - Outside of scope





7.5 Key areas of impact and mitigation

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