

Application ref: 2023/2497/P  
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Date: 9 August 2023

**Development Management**  
Regeneration and Planning  
London Borough of Camden  
Town Hall  
Judd Street  
London  
WC1H 9JE

Phone: 020 7974 4444

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Gerald Eve LLP  
One Fitzroy  
6 Mortimer Street  
London  
W1T 3JJ  
United Kingdom

Dear Sir/Madam

## **DECISION**

Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended)

### **Full Planning Permission Granted**

Address:  
**Kathleen Lonsdale Building**  
**5 Gower Place**  
**WC1E 6BT**

Proposal: Installation of new external gas supply pipework, gas cylinder cages, alterations to the landing, step and lightwell and a new metal ramp, railing, and other associated works to the rear.

Drawing Nos: LB032-SW2215-100, LB032-SW2215-101, LB032-SW2215-102, LB032-SW2215-103, LB032-SW2215-104, LB032-SW2215-001, LB032-SW2215-002, LB032-SW2215-003, LB032-SW2215-004, Cover letter dated 30 June 2023, Schedule of works titled BEAMS - SW2215 KLB Specialist Gas Supply, NBS Specification dated 13/03/2023, Photo document titled Proposed External Gas Supplies to Chemistry Laboratories, Design and Access Statement dated 5 June 2023.

The Council has considered your application and decided to grant permission subject to the following condition(s):

Condition(s) and Reason(s):

- 1 The development hereby permitted must be begun not later than the end of three years from the date of this permission.

Reason: In order to comply with the provisions of Section 91 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended).

- 2 The development hereby permitted shall be carried out in accordance with the following approved plans: LB032-SW2215-100, LB032-SW2215-101, LB032-SW2215-102, LB032-SW2215-103, LB032-SW2215-104, LB032-SW2215-001, LB032-SW2215-002, LB032-SW2215-003, LB032-SW2215-004.

Reason: For the avoidance of doubt and in the interest of proper planning.

- 3 All new external work shall be carried out in materials that resemble, as closely as possible, in colour and texture those of the existing building, unless otherwise specified in the approved application.

Reason: To safeguard the appearance of the premises and the character of the immediate area in accordance with the requirements of policies D1 and D2 of the London Borough of Camden Local Plan 2017.

#### Informative(s):

- 1 Reasons for granting permission.

The Kathleen Lonsdale Building in Gower Place is Grade II-listed and was originally purpose built as the University chemistry laboratory in 1912-13 by FM Simpson. In addition, there are a number of designated highly important heritage assets in close proximity to the site including the Grade I-listed Wilkins Buildings. The KLB is located in the Bloomsbury Conservation Area, within Sub Area 3. The building is described as having a dressed stone facade with later slate mansard roof and dormer with a symmetrical facade in modified Neo-Greek style with projecting end bays and a central temple fronted entrance accessed by paired stone steps.

Planning permission is sought for the installation of new internal and external pipework, three new gas cylinder cages, a new hand rail and a new ramp to facilitate access and deliveries of the gas cylinders at the rear of the building. The proposals will ensure that the provision of materials necessary for laboratory work (in this case various gas to a suite of adjacent rooms) meets current safety measures within the laboratories by locating them externally.

The proposals would result in additional clutter to the rear of the building, but the works are required to meet current health and safety requirements and would be easily reversible in the future. The applicant also worked with officers at pre-application stage to ensure the external pipework is routed to minimise visual impacts and utilise existing service routes as much as possible. Given the current arrangement to the rear of the building which is fairly utilitarian in its character and is of less importance to the significance of the building, the Council's Conservation Officer has confirmed the proposals would not harm its architectural significance.

Due to the location and nature of the proposals and the limited external works, the proposals would not impact neighbouring amenity by way of loss of outlook, daylight or privacy.

No objections were received prior to the determination of this application and the Bloomsbury CAAC have confirmed they have no comments on the proposals. The planning history of the site has been taken into account when coming to this decision.

Special regard has been attached to the desirability of preserving the listed building or its setting or any features of special architectural or historic interest which it possesses under s.66 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 as amended by the Enterprise and Regulatory Reform Act (ERR) 2013. Special attention has been paid to the desirability of preserving or enhancing the character or appearance of the conservation area, under s.72 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas Act 1990) as amended by the Enterprise and Regulatory Reform Act (ERR) 2013.

As such, the proposed development is in general accordance with policies D1, D2, and A1 of the Camden Local Plan 2017. The proposed development also accords with the London Plan 2021 and the National Planning Policy Framework 2021.

- 2 Your proposals may be subject to control under the Building Regulations and/or the London Buildings Acts that cover aspects including fire and emergency escape, access and facilities for people with disabilities and sound insulation between dwellings. You are advised to consult the Council's Building Control Service, Camden Town Hall, Judd St, Kings Cross, London NW1 2QS (tel: 020-7974 6941).
- 3 This approval does not authorise the use of the public highway. Any requirement to use the public highway, such as for hoardings, temporary road closures and suspension of parking bays, will be subject to approval of relevant licence from the Council's Streetworks Authorisations & Compliance Team, 5 Pancras Square c/o Town Hall, Judd Street London WC1H 9JE (Tel. No 020 7974 4444). Licences and authorisations need to be sought in advance of proposed works. Where development is subject to a Construction Management Plan (through a requirement in a S106 agreement), no licence or authorisation will be granted until the Construction Management Plan is approved by the Council.
- 4 All works should be conducted in accordance with the Camden Minimum Requirements - a copy is available on the Council's website (search for 'Camden Minimum Requirements' at [www.camden.gov.uk](http://www.camden.gov.uk)) or contact the Council's Noise and Licensing Enforcement Team, 5 Pancras Square c/o Town Hall, Judd Street London WC1H 9JE (Tel. No. 020 7974 4444)

Noise from demolition and construction works is subject to control under the Control of Pollution Act 1974. You must carry out any building works that can be heard at the boundary of the site only between 08.00 and 18.00 hours Monday to Friday and 08.00 to 13.00 on Saturday and not at all on Sundays and Public Holidays. You must secure the approval of the Council's Noise and Licensing Enforcement Team prior to undertaking such activities outside these hours.

In dealing with the application, the Council has sought to work with the applicant in a positive and proactive way in accordance with paragraph 38 of the National Planning Policy Framework 2021.

You can find advice about your rights of appeal at:

<https://www.gov.uk/appeal-planning-decision>.

If you submit an appeal against this decision you are now eligible to use the new [submission form](#) (Before you start - Appeal a planning decision - GOV.UK).

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'DPope', is written over a light blue rectangular background.

Daniel Pope  
Chief Planning Officer