

Application ref: 2023/2674/L
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English Heritage
100 Wood Street
London
EC2V 7AN

Dear Sir/Madam

DECISION

Planning (Listed Building and Conservation Areas) Act 1990

Listed Building Consent Granted

Address:

**46 Gordon Square
London
WC1H 0PD**

Proposal:

Installation of a commemorative English Heritage blue plaque for Vanessa Bell and Duncan Grant. The plaque would be inset/recessed into the front elevation of 46 Gordon Square at ground floor stucco level, centered horizontally on the panel between the ground floor windows and set on a vertical line directly below an existing plaque.

Drawing Nos: 1 - Cover letter and Heritage Statement; 2 - Design and Access statement; 3.1 - Location Plan; 3.2 - Block Plan; 6.1 - DNB entry V Bell; 6.2 - DNB entry for Duncan Grant; 7 - Existing Elevation photographs; 8.1 - Proposed Location, 1:50; 8.2 - Proposed Location, 1:50; 8.3 - Proposed Location and Dimensions, 1:50; 8.4 - Proposed Location and Dimensions, 1:50; 9 - Plaque Design

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

Conditions And Reasons:

- 1 The works hereby permitted shall be begun not later than the end of three years from the date of this consent.

Reason: In order to comply with the provisions of Section 18 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990.

- 2 The development hereby permitted shall be carried out in accordance with the following approved plans:

1 - Cover letter and Heritage Statement; 2 - Design and Access statement; 3.1 - Location Plan; 3.2 - Block Plan; 6.1 - DNB entry V Bell; 6.2 - DNB entry for Duncan Grant; 7 - Existing Elevation photographs; 8.1 - Proposed Location, 1:50; 8.2 - Proposed Location, 1:50; 8.3 - Proposed Location and Dimensions, 1:50; 8.4 - Proposed Location and Dimensions, 1:50; 9 - Plaque Design

Reason: In order to safeguard the special architectural and historic interest of the building in accordance with the requirements of policy D2 of the Camden Local Plan 2017.

- 3 All new work and work of making good shall be carried out to match the existing adjacent work as closely as possible in materials and detailed execution.

Reason: In order to safeguard the special architectural and historic interest of the building in accordance with the requirements of policy D2 of the Camden Local Plan 2017.

Informative(s):

- 1 The application building at 46 Gordon Square is listed as Grade II on the National Heritage List for England (No. 1113031). It is also located in the Bloomsbury Conservation Area. Number 46 is part of a terrace of 11 houses (36-46 consecutive), on the east side of Gordon Square that were built c.1825 by Thomas Cubitt. The building is constructed out of London stock brick with plain white painted stucco basement and ground floors, it is four storeys plus full basement and three windows wide. There is an existing Blue Plaque commemorating John Maynard Keynes located at ground floor level between the two front windows.

The proposed works relate to the installation of a second official English Heritage ceramic Blue Plaque commemorating Vanessa Bell and Duncan Grant on the front elevation of the building, reading: "VANESSA BELL 1879-1961, DUNCAN GRANT 1885-1978, Artists, lived and worked here." Bell and Grant are connected with the Bloomsbury Group and both lived at and were associated to No. 46 at various times between 1904-1946.

The proposed plaque would be positioned at first floor level centrally between the two windows and below the existing Blue Plaque to John Maynard Keynes. A circular section of stucco/brickwork would be cut out and the plaque inserted into the recess to sit flush with the elevation. Although a small amount of historic fabric would therefore be lost as a result of the works, this is the standard fixing method for official English Heritage Blue Plaques, and it is considered in balance that the addition of the proposed plaque would further enhance the significance of the listed building by allowing its history to be appreciated by the public.

It is therefore considered that the proposed works will preserve the character and appearance of the Bloomsbury Conservation Area and not harm the special architectural or historic interest of the Listed Building.

The application has been advertised in the press and by means of a site notice, whereby there were no consultation responses.

- 2 The site's planning history has been taken into account when making this decision

Special regard has been attached to the desirability of preserving the listed building and its features of special architectural or historic interest, under s.16 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 as amended by the Enterprise and Regulatory Reform Act (ERR) 2013.

As such, the proposal is in general accordance with policies D1 and D2 of the Camden Local Plan 2017. The proposed development also accords with the London Plan 2016 and the National Planning Policy Framework.

- 3 You are advised that any works of alterations or upgrading not included on the approved drawings which are required to satisfy Building Regulations or Fire Certification may require a further application for listed building consent.

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:

<http://www.planningportal.gov.uk/planning/appeals/guidance/guidancecontent>

Yours faithfully



Daniel Pope
Chief Planning Officer