



Alexandra Road Estate

80A Rowley Way

Design & Access Statement

September 2023

Levitt Bernstein

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01

Introduction



Introduction

This Design and Access statement has been produced by Levitt Bernstein, on behalf of Camden Council, as part of a Listed Building Consent application for dwelling 80A in the Alexandra Road Estate.

Context

This application provides a detailed description of the proposed works to 80A Rowley Way in the Alexandra Road estate.

The application describes limited works to the existing bathroom as requested by Camden Occupational Therapy Services (OTS). This upgrade will allow the dwelling to fulfil the occupants' needs whilst causing minimal alteration to the nature of the existing building.

This document forms part of the 'Application for a Certificate of Lawfulness of Proposed Works to a listed building' and should be read alongside the following material:

- Existing/Proposed Plan Drawing
- OTS Adaptation Request form
- Application form
- OTS Specification of Works

02

The Alexandra Road Estate

The quality and importance of the estate has been widely recognised both in England and abroad. It is a powerful icon of the optimism and idealism that underpinned post-war public sector architecture.

Statement of Significance

The Alexandra Road Estate is a residential estate of 520 dwellings in Camden, NW9. The majority of the estate was listed Grade II* in 1993, the remainder now falling within the Alexandra Road Conservation Area, designated in 1996.

Designed in 1968 by Neave Brown of the London Borough of Camden Architects Department and built between 1972-78, the estate is among the most ambitious social housing schemes of this time, one of a series of low rise, high density schemes.

The street is the dominant element in the design, a modern translation of the traditional London street where the sum of the whole exceeds the individual parts. The linear, stepped section, influenced by Leslie Martin's work, by Denys Lasdun at the University of East Anglia (1962-68) and by Patrick Hodgkinson at the Brunswick Centre (1967-72), enables all dwellings to have a sunny outdoor space and the seven storey A block shields the estate from the noise of the railway line to the north.

The estate also represents a development of Brown's earlier work in private practice, for housing societies at Winscombe Street and Fleet Road. Though much smaller, these too were essays in high-density developments of stacked dwellings and the considered sequencing of spaces from public and semi-public to private and semi-private.

Internal features

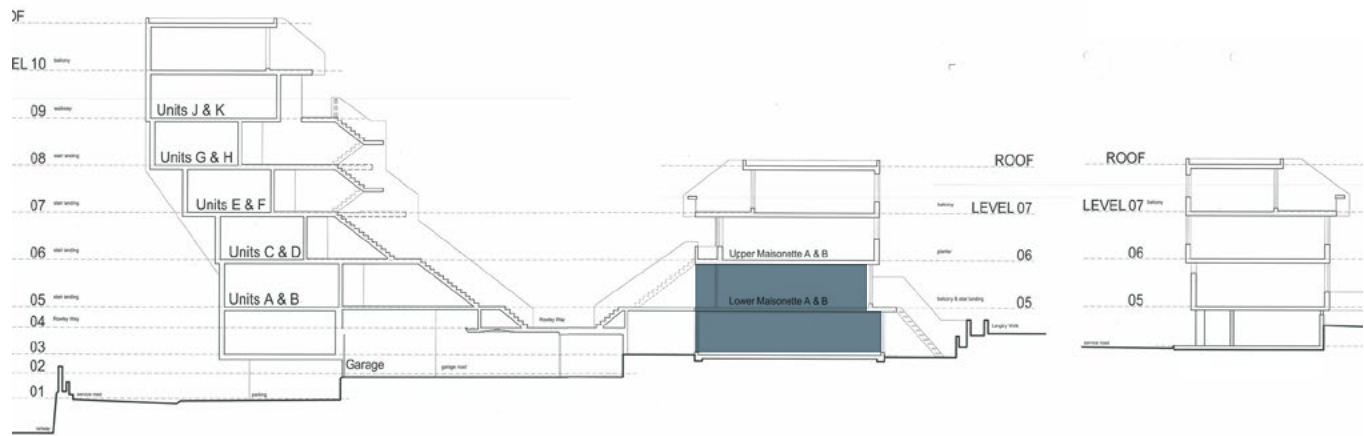
The estate contains a number of different dwelling types, all sharing a similar approach and a number of key features. The high density of the estate led to tight interior layouts, mitigated by open plan elements. Sliding doors and glazed partitions allow flexible arrangements, with the potential for views and light to pass through each dwelling.

The proximate relationship of public and private is eased by porches, decks and planting.

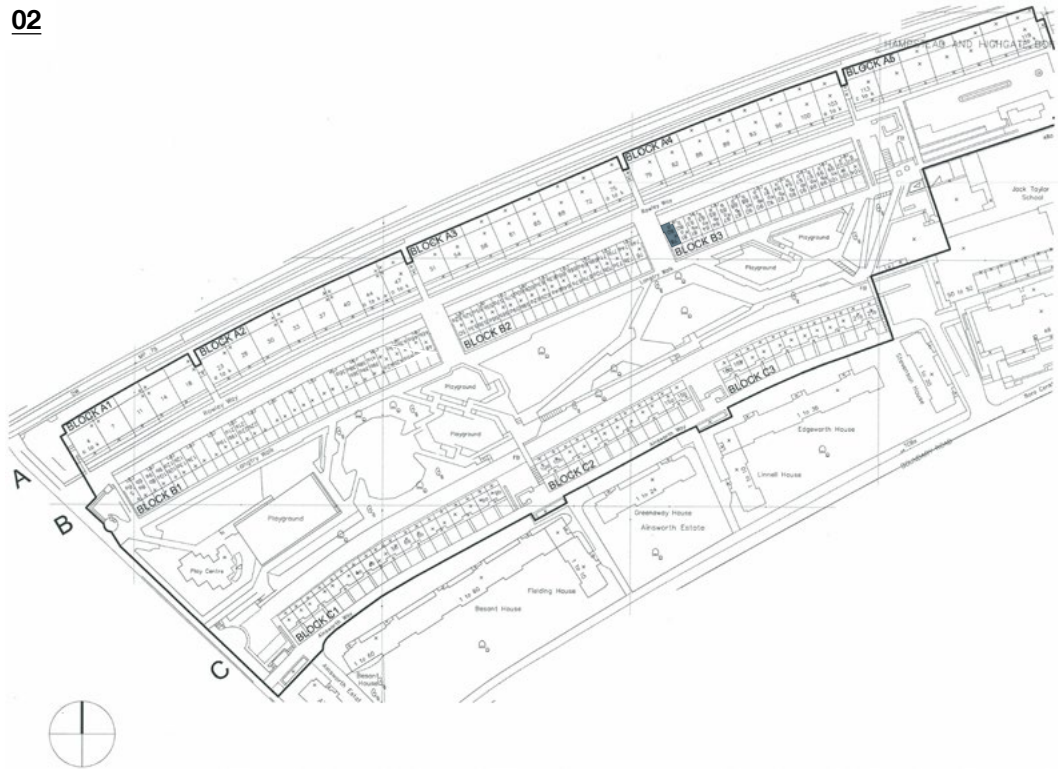
Finishes are restrained, white paint contrasting with stained timber and brown tiling. Simple joinery shelves and cupboards are formed from plywood, while the stairs are a more developed piece of joinery work. In the kitchens, concrete worktops form a striking, almost sculptural element. These are tiled, as are the walls, forming a very deliberate composition.

The number of bespoke elements is unusual in authority-built housing, and the level of ambition has led to some long-term issues. The tiled surfaces, for example, the best that could be done with the budget at the time, are now missing tiles, with the grout hard to clean. The sliding partitions are prone to stick and fail. These elements will have to be mended or replaced, as appropriate.

01



02



The B3 Flat type

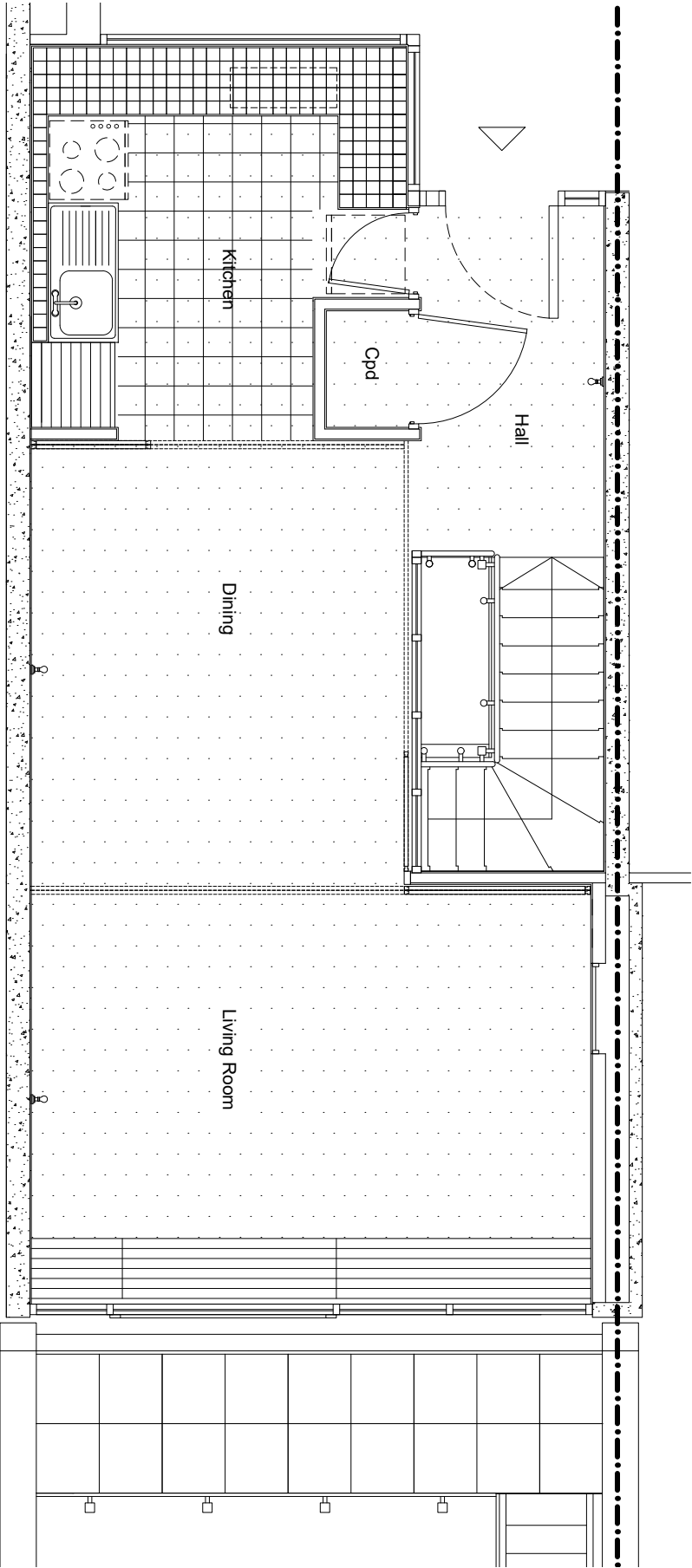
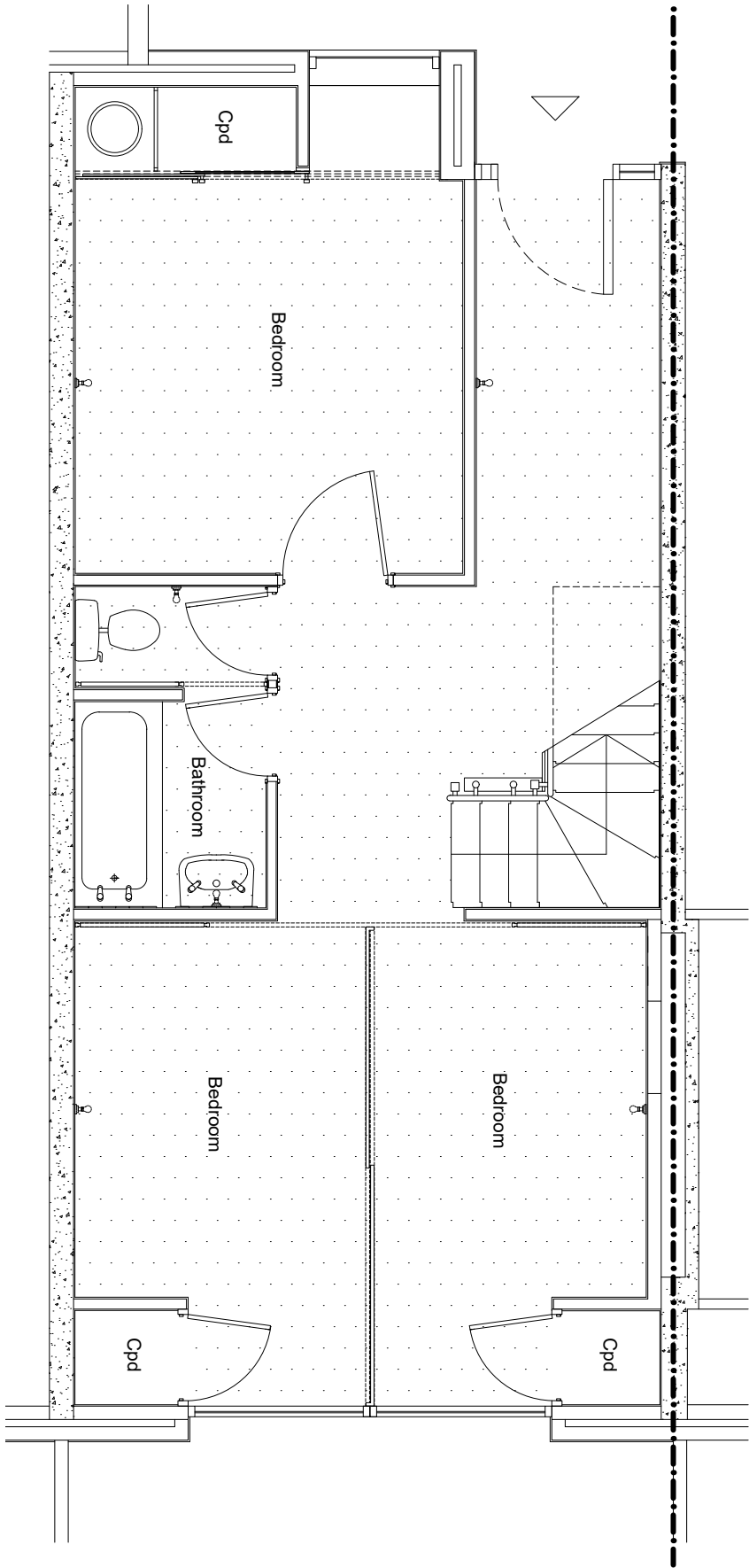
This maisonette is situated on levels 04 & 05 of Block B and is flat type B3.

Flat Description

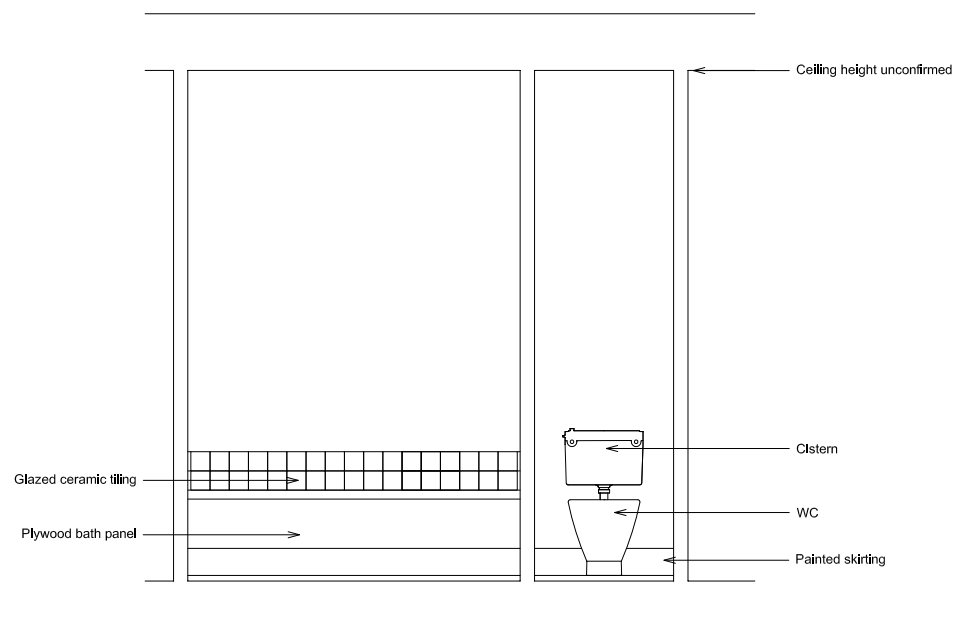
This is a duplex arrangement with three bedrooms. The entry level contains the kitchen, dining and living room with stairs leading to the back garden. The lower level contains the bedrooms and the bathroom and WC.

Bathroom Layout

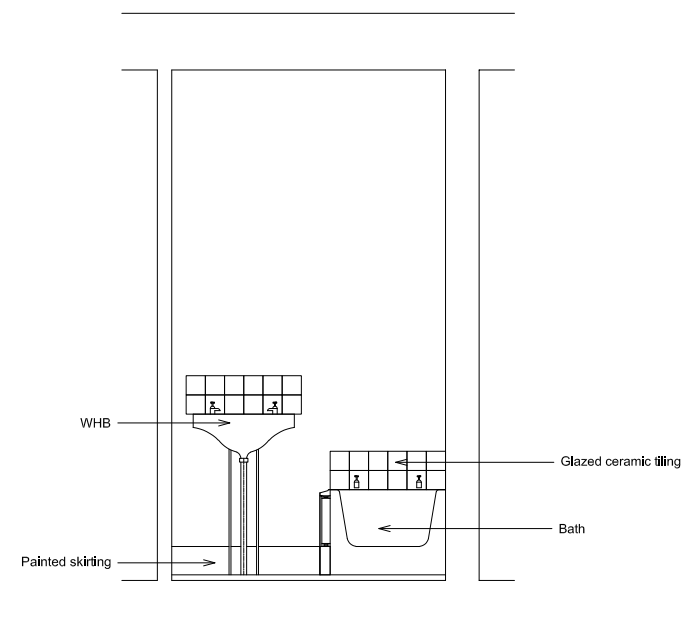
The Bathroom design shows a clear, well-ordered concept, with a limited, complementary range of robust materials. However, by modern standards there is very little room for disabled occupant and this proposal seeks to address this whilst preserving the nature of the original design.



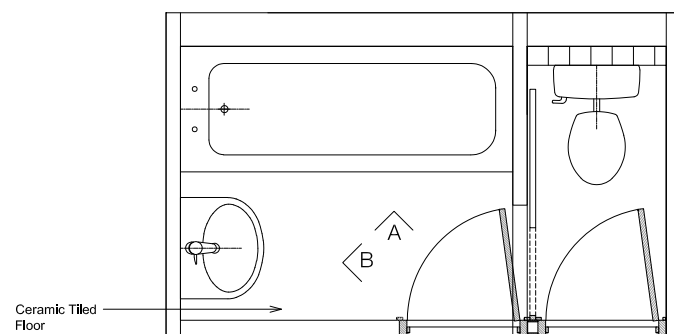
Original flat plan



Original bathroom elevation A



Original bathroom elevation B



Original bathroom plan

03

Proposed Works

Design Approach

The proposed works are limited to the Bathroom/WC and involve the removal of the bath and replacement with a level access wet floor shower.

Use, scale and layout

There are no proposed changes to the use, scale or layout of the dwellings.

Access and Inclusive Design

There are no proposed changes to transport provision or the external approach to the dwelling. It is not proposed to change the dwelling itself, beyond refurbishment and alteration to the bathroom.

Camden Occupational Therapy Service have deemed the poposed adaptations essential in order for the occupant to live as independently as possible.

Approaches to existing elements

The majority of the original bathroom and its key features are retained. Subsequent elements and finishes will be removed, to replace with materials and modern appliances which fulfil the requirements of the occupant.

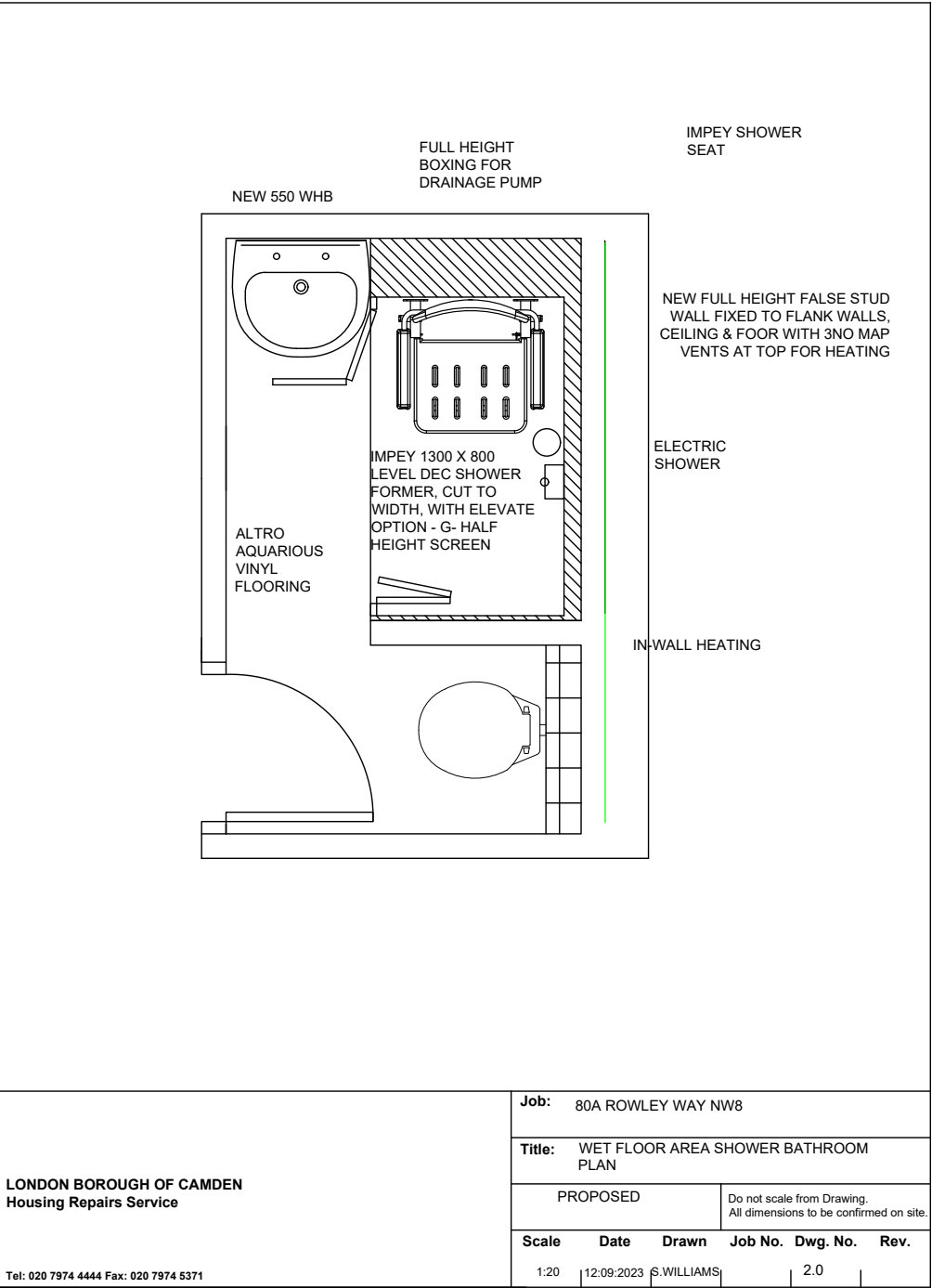
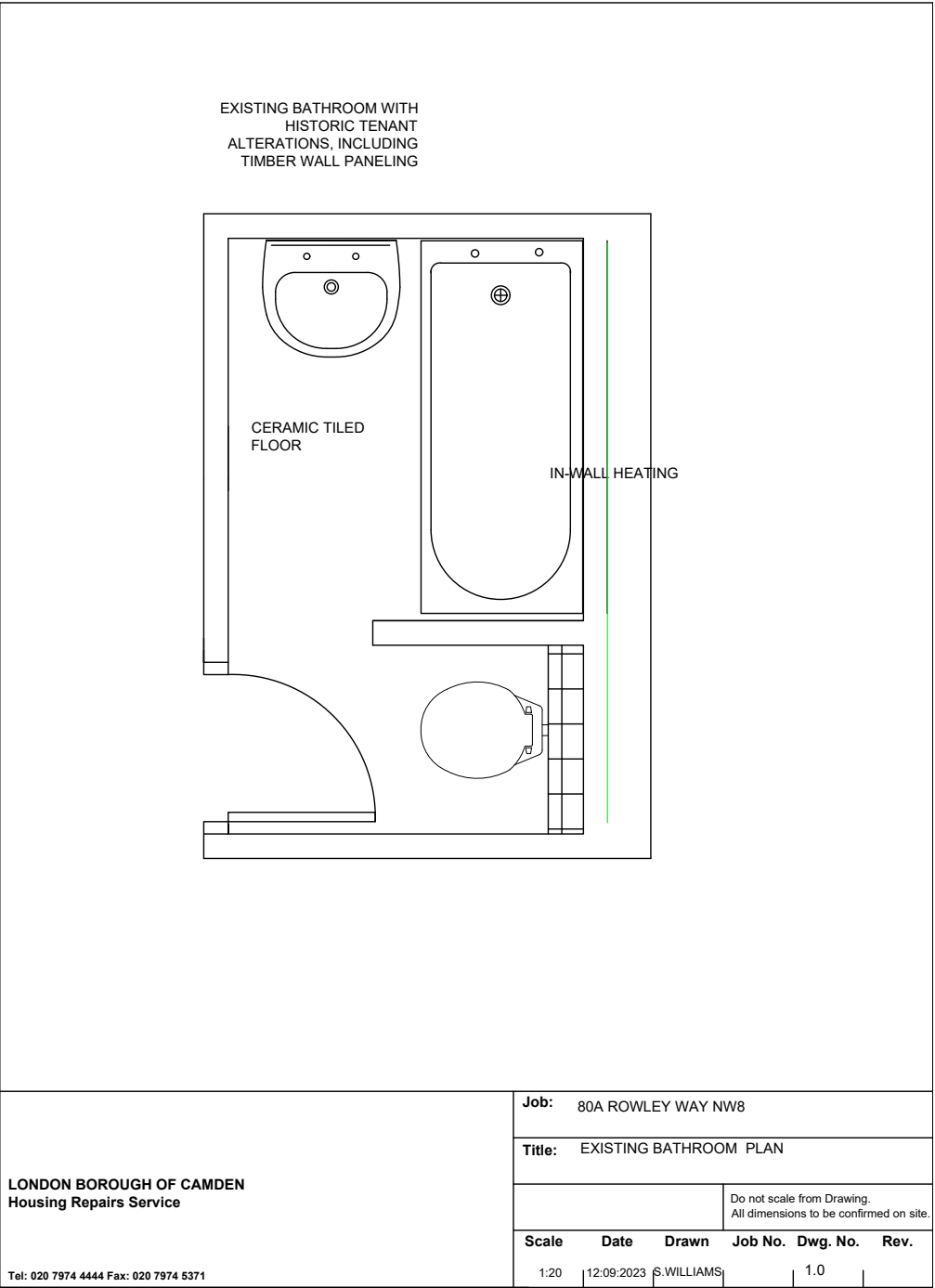
The design seeks to minimise the alteration to the nature of the existing building however some unavoidable features remain such as:

- There is insufficient space to retain the bath and provide for a level access shower. The removal of the bath will ensure that no further damage to the building’s structure occurs.
- Works carried out will prevent damage to the building structure.
- All designs allow future occupants to return the bathroom to its full original design .

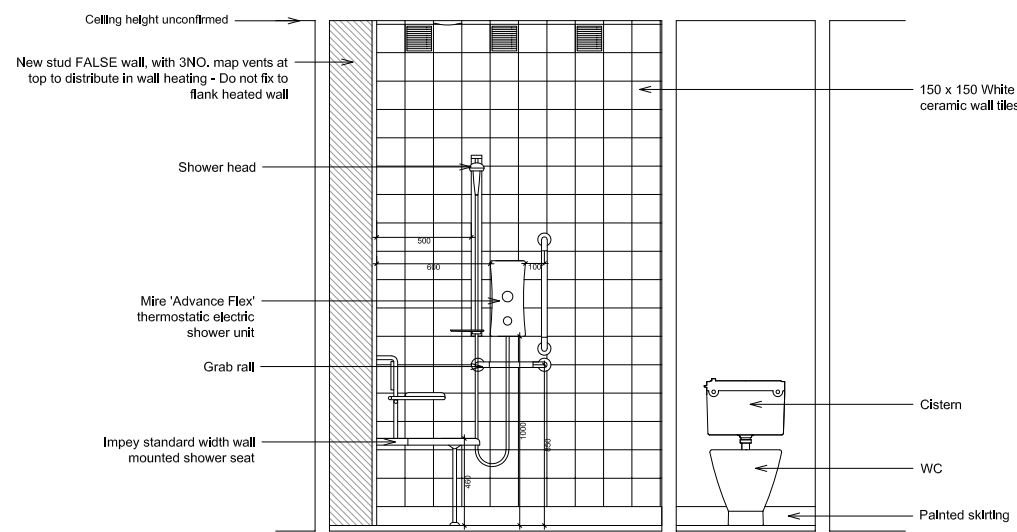
Section 03

Scope of Works

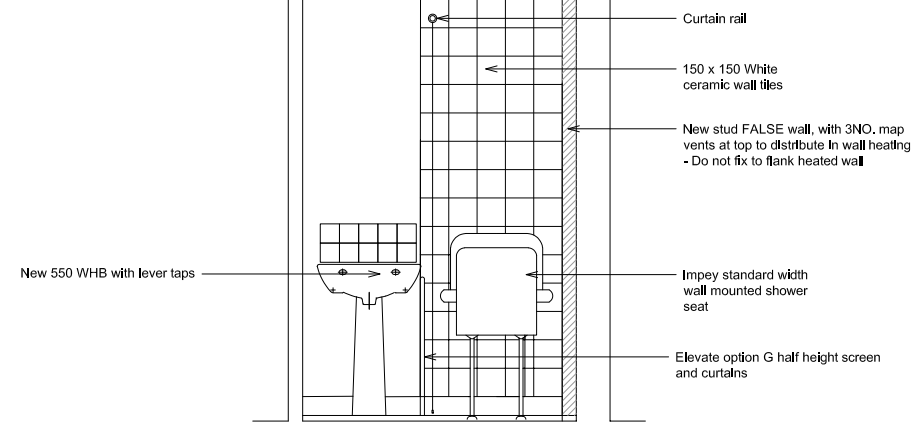
The Scope of works below is to be read in conjunction with the attached Specification of works produced by Camden Housing Repairs Service



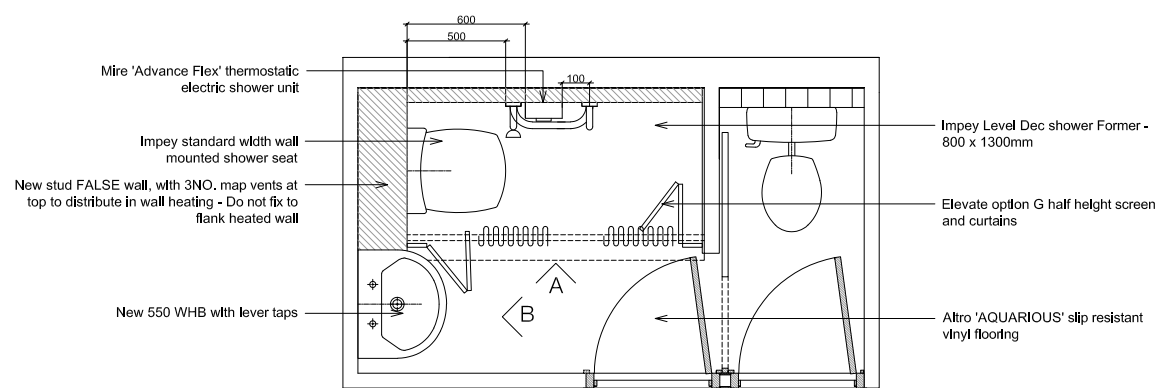
Existing and proposed bathroom plans by Camden Housing Repairs Service



Proposed bathroom elevation A



Proposed bathroom elevation B



Proposed bathroom plan

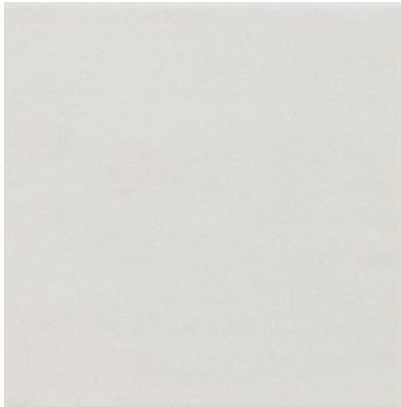
	Element	Works	Specification notes
1.0	Walls		
1.1	Wall	Form new stud FALSE wall, with 3NO. MAP VENTS at top to distribute in wall heating	DO NOT FIX TO FLANK HEATED WALL
2.0	Wall	Box in drainage pump full height and fit PVC access panel and frame	Box in drainage pump full height and fit PVC access panel and frame
2.0	Bathroom Fixtures		
2.1	Existing bath	Remove existing bath, MIXER SHOWER and WHB,	Remove existing bath, MIXER SHOWER and WHB, complete with supplies & wastes & dispose.
2.2	Proposed shower	Supply & fit a new Mira “Advance Flex” thermostatic electric shower unit complete	Set at maximum 41 degrees Celsius, with lever type control. Run new mains water connection, and electrical supply, pipe work and cable, to include all necessary fittings, isolating valves and double check valves, to comply with current regulations. The head must be detachable on a 1000mm extended riser bar, and with a 1500mm flexible hose, handset, and soap dish as per OT drawing / instruction
2.3	Shower electricity supply	Provide new electrical supply to shower	Provide new electrical supply to shower, concealed in the shower area and surface mounted in mini trunking elsewhere. The supply will be on a fused spur RCD, suitably rated MCB, via a double pole switch. Earth bond in the bathroom as necessary. All electrical work to fully comply with current 19th Edition IEE Regulations.
2.4	Shower curtain rail	Supply and fit IMPEY ELEVATE OPTION -G- HALF HEIGHT SCREEN AND shower curtain rail	Supply and fit IMPEY ELEVATE OPTION -G- HALF HEIGHT SCREEN AND shower curtain rail, 100mm inside of the edge of the shower former, as shown on the drawing, and TWO fit full length weighted shower curtain just touching the floor.
2.5	Wall mounted grab rails	Grab rails	Supply and fix 2 no. slip resistant grab rails, in shower area as shown on the drawing/OT instruction.
2.6	Shower Seat	Supply & fit IMPEY standard width wall mounted shower seat.	Supply & fit IMPEY standard width wall mounted shower seat.
2.7	WHB	Replace existing WHB with 550 WHB with lever taps	Item as schedule, located to left to ensure adequate shower space
2.8	Light	Replace bathroom light with Steamproof light	Replace bathroom light with Steamproof light
2.9	Extractor Fan	S&F Humidistat extractor fan as BH Spec	S&F Humidistat extractor fan as BH Spec
3.0	Tiling		
3.1	Bathroom/WC tiling	Remove all existing wall tiles and tenants wood panelling in shower area	Tile in the new shower room, full height on walls as indicated on plan with 150mm x 150mm WHITE ceramic wall tiles, waterproof grouted, and finished at exposed edges.
4.0	Shower Tray		
4.1	Shower tray preparation	Remove area of sand and cement floor screed	Form recess to receive shower tray and waste, in preparation for Altro flooring.
4.2	Shower tray	Supply & fit the following, to manufacturer's instructions	Impey level dec shower former – 800mm x 1300mm.
4.3	Waste pump	Supply & fit the following, to manufacturer's instructions	Gravity waste or PGTF shallow waste and shower waste pump
5.0	Painting and decorating		
5.1	General refurbishment	Make good decorations disturbed.	Prepare and redecorate bathroom and WC complete. Make good disturbed plaster where items/tiles etc removed
6.0	Flooring		
6.1	Existing floor coverings	Strip flooring.	Take up & cart away existing floor covering, bathroom and wc.
6.2	Proposed floor coverings	Supply and fit vinyl floor covering with 100mm coving.	Prepare for new coved anti-slip Altro floor covering. Prepare the floor, latex, and supply and fit slip resistant Altro AQUARIOUS slip resistant vinyl floor covering complete with 100mm coving throughout the entire SHOWER AREA. Client should be offered a choice of standard colours. Fit a screw down aluminium threshold strip at the doorway. Fit Altro strip in the shower area, to take tiles to above and vinyl below. . Fit Altro strip to take vinyl flooring throughout shower area.
6.3	Floor covering to shower tray	Altro strip in the shower area.	

Product images

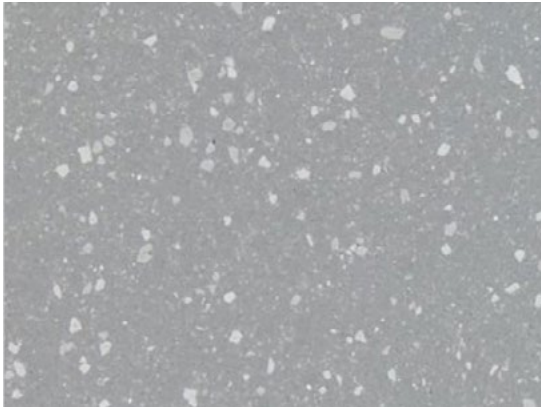
Description of the works: Removal of bath and replacement with disabled level access shower for disabled resident, as requested by Camden Occupational Therapy Services. The resident cannot access bathing facilities at present. Only non-original features are to be affected; the door and frame are original features of the building and will not be affected by the proposed works.



Impey Standard Width Wall Mounted Shower Seat and Elevate Option G half height screen



Bathroom Tiles
A 150mmx150mm ceramic wall tiles, waterproof grouted, and finished at exposed edges.



Altro: Aquarius vinyl floor finish



Mira: Advance Flex shower

Status	Job number	Output date
Listed Building Consent	2504	September 2023
Revision	File name	Client
P1	2504_Design & Access Statement_80A	LB Camden

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