

Structural Note 3: Reopening of Lightwell

Ref No: 222428.MNP.XX.XX.RP.S.0005.02

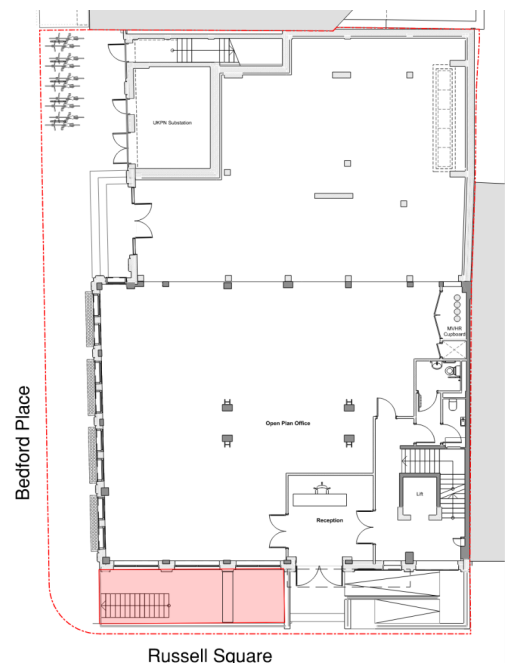
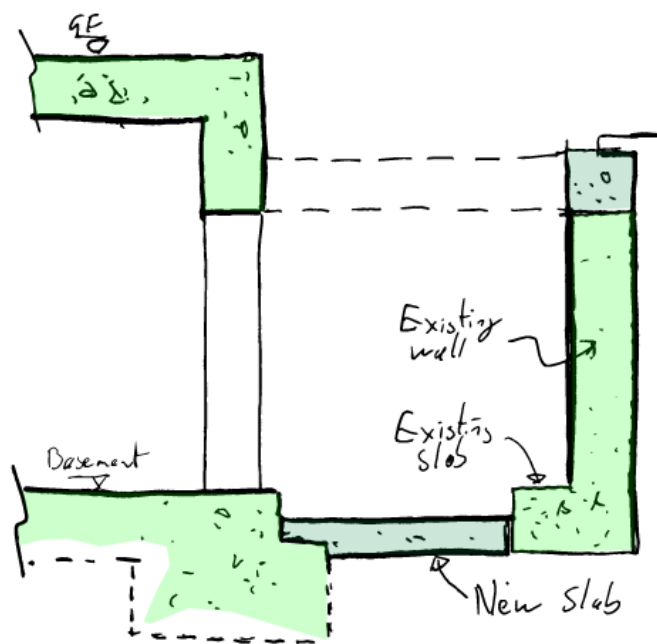
Project: 50/51 Russell Square

Date: 7th December 2023

Application for new façade treatment to main building; enlarged roof extension, reopening of lightwell to front; demolition of two storey outrigger and replacement with three storey plus plant enclosure, single storey infill extension to existing car park, erection of full height stair core extension to rear and reconfiguration of entrance steps and ramp.

The reopening of the front lightwell will reinstate the open area lost during the 1960's redevelopment of the site. The work will involve the removal of the existing "lid" to the basement, which extends to the back of the highway. The existing perimeter wall of the basement will remain in place, with a new capping beam formed to stiffen the top edge and a prop provided from the main ground floor slab.

The redevelopment in the 1960's is recorded to have included the infilling the pavement vaults outside of the red line boundary shown in the adjacent image with mass concrete, as such the existing basement lid is required to provide little or no restraint to the highway.



At basement level the existing slab is to be locally broken out and adjusted to accommodate new external finishes and provide a thermal break. This will involve a nominal removal of the existing material and will not require any significant excavation. At the base of the perimeter wall a section of slab will remain in place to provide continuity of restraint.

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