

Application ref: 2024/3083/L
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Montagu Evans LLP
70 St Mary Axe
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EC3A 8BE

Dear Sir/Madam

DECISION

Planning (Listed Building and Conservation Areas) Act 1990

Approval of Details (Listed Building) Granted

Address:
British Museum
Great Russell Street
London
WC1B 3DG

Proposal:
Discharge of Condition 4 (Structural Engineer's Details) of Listed Building Consent ref 2023/2020/L granted on 17 July 2024 for Erection of New Two-Storey Building plus Basement.
Drawing Nos: Letter from Montagu Evans 23 July 2024; MBP Consulting Engineers Report 18 July 2024.

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

Conditions And Reasons:

Informative(s):

- 1 Reasons for granting approval of details (listed building):

The application site is the grade I listed British Museum, which is situated in the Bloomsbury Conservation Area.

This approval of details application seeks the discharge of condition 4 (structural engineer's details) of listed building consent ref 2023/2020/L granted on 17 July 2024 for the erection of a two-storey building plus basement adjacent to the museum precinct's East Road. The new building is to be constructed on the site of an existing postwar building which will be demolished, and which is located behind a grade II listed terrace of townhouses on the west side of Montague Street.

Condition 4 states that. "Prior to the commencement of demolition of the East Road building, full structural engineer's drawings, calculations and report as applicable demonstrating the impacts of the proposed works on the retained built fabric including perimeter walls and any impacts on the historic building envelope and below-ground structure of the adjacent grade II listed terrace at 10-11 Montague Street shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority."

A structural engineer's report has been submitted which demonstrates that there is no direct physical connection between the eastern wall of the current East Road building and the historic Montague Street terrace to the east. Notwithstanding, a wall running perpendicular to the terrace is to be demolished down to ground level with no direct structural impacts on the rear façade of the terrace, which subsequently will be made good cosmetically. Furthermore, the southern wall of the existing building is to be retained and tied to a later extension to the rear of the Grange Hotel, which is situated to the south of the site within the terrace.

As such, it is considered expedient to discharge the condition, as no harm will be caused to the special interest of the affected grade II listed buildings or to the character and appearance of the conservation area.

Public consultation was undertaken by means of a site notice and a press notice, but no responses were received. Bloomsbury CAAC was consulted, but chose not to respond. Historic England was consulted and responded on 01/08/2024, stating that the application did not trigger the need for notification under the relevant statutory provisions.

The site's planning history was taken into account when arriving at 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 Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas Act 1990 as amended by the Enterprise and Regulatory Reform Act 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 2021 and the National Planning Policy Framework 2023.

- 2 You are advised that all conditions relating to listed building consent ref 2023/2020/L granted on 17 July 2024 which need details to be submitted, have been approved.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'DP', is positioned above the printed name and title.

Daniel Pope
Chief Planning Officer