Design and Access: 294a Grays Inn Road (03/10/2024)

The proposed project is to replace five PVC windows with traditional wooden sash windows at 294a Grays Inn Road, a Georgian building located in the London Borough of Camden. The purpose of the development is to restore the building's appearance to its original style, aligning with its historical character and enhancing the overall aesthetic of the area.

2. Site Description

The building is part of a terrace of properties, predominantly Georgian in style, contributing to the architectural character of the street. The neighbouring buildings retain their traditional wooden sash windows, contributing to a cohesive historic appearance.

3. Design Proposals

The design proposal involves the removal of existing PVC windows and their replacement with new, high-quality wooden sash windows. The proposed windows have been carefully chosen to match the style, proportions, and detailing of the original Georgian windows, in keeping with the local conservation area requirements and the aesthetic of neighbouring buildings. This includes matching elements such as:

- **Timber Material**: Wooden sash windows are to be installed, which are in line with the traditional materials used at the time of the building's construction.
- **Glazing and Detailing**: The glazing pattern, style of the sash, and detailing will reflect the historical character, maintaining the visual harmony of the street frontage.

The windows will be double-glazed where possible to enhance energy efficiency while still retaining a traditional look.

4. Access Considerations

The proposed changes do not affect access to the building. The installation of the new windows will be done in a manner that causes minimal disruption to the building's use. There are no proposed alterations to the entrances or internal circulation as part of this application.

5. Impact on Heritage and Streetscape

The replacement of the PVC windows with traditional wooden sash windows will enhance the visual quality and heritage value of the building and surrounding area. This change will restore the original Georgian character, which has been partially lost due to the installation of PVC windows in the past. By matching the neighbouring properties, the proposal aims to contribute positively to the overall streetscape and preserve the historic character of the area.

6. Conclusion

The proposed development seeks to enhance the architectural integrity and historical character of the building by restoring traditional wooden sash windows in place of the existing PVC fittings. The design is intended to be sympathetic to the original features of the property and in keeping with the conservation area. This change will visually improve the property, restore its heritage value, and contribute to a cohesive and historically accurate streetscape.