

Planning application Ref: 2012/0323  
Address: 4 Pond Square, London N6 6BA

## Significance of the heritage assets affected

### 1. Desk based assessment:

Research regarding the evaluation of the existing historical assets has been undertaken consulting the historic environmental record and surveys of parts of London.

The HER gives information only regarding the **Pond Square**.

1. GLHER number: 082046/00/00:  
Full description:  
A small hamlet was based on Pond Square, Highgate. It was never a parish, but had a small chapel of ease (just outside the Borough boundary).
2. GLHER number: 082048/00/00:  
Full description:  
Medieval ponds. One account says that a "hermit caused gravel to be dug on the top of Highgate Hill & therewith made a causeway to islington providing water on the hill & cleanness in the vale". There were 2 Ponds. They were filled in he 1880s.

The HER does not give information about the houses Pond Square 1-6.

Information about the houses **Pond Square 1-6** has been found in the publication:  
Survey of London: volume 17.

We quote from the "General Description and Date of Structure"

... The remainder of the row of houses which started from the south with Rock House (No. 6) constitute the picturesque group shown in the photograph on Plate 88a. Since then (1909) Nos. 1 and 2 have been partly reconstructed, but **Nos. 3, 4 and 5 remain in their original form**. The two latter have the broad-framed sashes of **the first half of the 18<sup>th</sup> century**; The walls are built of red bricks mixed with dark headers, and the roofs are tiled (see Plate 88b). The houses form a symmetrical pair with their doors, protected by simple hoods on brackets, at each end of the building. The rooms are lighted by one sash to each house on the ground floor, two on the first, and a double dormer in the roof. Recessed panels mark the centre of the pair on both floors, and projecting string courses occur above and below the first-floor windows. The flues are grouped in one stack at the rear and the front gardens are fenced with a simple iron railing and gate. **The back elevation has been partly rebuilt and one early window remains.**

### Literature:

1. Historic environmental record (Heritage Gateway)  
GLHER Number: 082046/00/00

GLHER Number: 082048/00/0

2. Survey of London: volume 17: the parish of St. Pancras part 1:  
The village of Highgate. Author Percy Lovell and William McB. Marcham (editors).  
Year published 1936.
2. **Installation of new basement door (see also drwg no: 18.25 - 18.30)**  
We apply to remove and replace the existing timber door and window at the basement on the front.
  - a. The existing door is not the original. It has been installed in the 1950s or 1960s.
  - b. The existing door is a standard glass door with timber framing. It does not contribute to the general Georgian appearance of the façade and is rude in detailing and profiling.
  - c. The existing door is under ground level of the front garden. It is not visible from the road and only from the direct vicinity of the entrance area.

The dominant feature in the façade of the basement area is the arched opening. This will be maintained. The proposed new door is a bespoke construction (see drwgs. 18.27 - 18.30). The thinner frontal appearance of the frames and the fine profiling will integrate well with the sliding windows above.

3. **Installation of new double door at the rear (see also drwg no: 18.31 – 18.33)**

As indicated above in the Publication Survey of London, the rear façade has been rebuilt. The façade does not therefore have historic merit. The architecture itself is of standard quality and only the fact that the setting is of historical merit is the reason to give it this importance.

We think that the simplification of the different openings in a relatively small façade with windows and doors of the same size will enhance its appearance. The new door opening will match the existing in size, appearance and material.

25.01.2012 CN