Barnaby Gunning Architects



Description

The houses that make up the inner (westward) curve of Gloucester Crescent were mostly built in pairs, giving the initial impression of a series of Italianate villas with set back entrances to upper floor level on either side. Numbers 62 and 63 form such a pair. From the street side they present a relatively austere elevation with none of the decorative stucco detailing around the windows that typify most of the other paired houses in the crescent. Several horizontal bands of brickwork provide definition to the storey heights on the street elevation, on the upper floors these are coincident with the window sills.

On the rear. garden side, the elevation is an undifferentiated four storey high wall of brickwork with windows to the living rooms offset from windows on the stair landings.

Infill extensions to both number 62 and 63 have extended the width of this rear wall, introducing further windows, unrelated in position to the original windows.

In the 1980s, the previous owner of number 62 Gloucester crescent undertook works to the lower ground floor dropping the floor level by approximately 20cm in order to provide increased floor to ceiling heights. The internal spine wall between the front and rear rooms was removed at this time along with a stretch of the spine wall between the staircase and corridor and the kitchen. Structural steelwork was inserted across the width of the house to pick up load from the spine walls above. A further structural member appears to run parallel to the stairs.

The staircase from the raised ground floor down to the lower ground floor was replaced at this time in order to provide access to this lowered floor level. It does, however, retain its original location in the house.

Proposed removal of listed building fabric.

The proposals seek to lower the sill of the existing rear window to the kitchen in order to create a connection through to the proposed rear extension. This is a reversible alteration which makes minimal change to the original building fabric and which does not require any structural modification to the rear wall of the house.

No other alterations are proposed to the original building fabric.

25 January 2012

Heritage Statement 62 Gloucester Crescent

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