



FOR

THE OLD BUILDING THORNHAUGH STREET LONDON WC1H 0XG

ON BEHALF OF

THE SCHOOL OF ORIENTAL AND AFRICAN STUDIES UNIVERSITY OF LONDON



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1.00 INTRODUCTION

This Heritage Statement is submitted in support of a planning application and listed building consent application, which is submitted by Kendall Kingscott Ltd on behalf of The School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), which is part of the University of London. The application relates to the Old Building, which is located on Thornhaugh Street and is a grade II listed building.

This statement comprises of a review of the building and its heritage, the principles and justification for the proposed works, the development works proposed and the impact that the works will have on the existing fabric.

On the 7th June 2011 we gained both Planning and Listed Building consent on behalf of SOAS to replace all the existing Crittall windows and doors to the Old Building with 'like for like' new units to both maintain the property and improve the thermal performance of the asset (Camden Application Ref: 2011/1830/P & 2011/1829/L).

This application relates to the retrospective listed building consent for the installation of three satellite dishes on the roof of the old building adjacent the fifth floor block.



Figure 1: Location of the Old Building in relation to Russell Square

2.00 PLANNING POLICY STATEMENT (PPS) 5

Planning Policy Statement (PPS) 5 : Planning for the Historic Environment was published in March 2010 by the Department for Communities and Local Government. The document sets out the Government's over arching objective; "the historic environment and its heritage assets should be conserved and enjoyed for the quality of the life they bring to this and future generations" (DCLG, 2010).

The document states that "to deliver sustainable development by ensuring that policies and decisions concerning the historic environment recognise that intelligently managed change

may sometimes be necessary if heritage assets are to be maintained for the long term" (DCLG, 2010).

As part of formulating this Heritage statement guidance has been obtained form PPS 5 and PPS5 Planning for the Historic Environment: Historic Environment Planning Practice Guide as produced by English Heritage et al.

3.00 THE BUILDING AND ITS HERITAGE

Located on Thornhaugh Street just off of Russell Square is the SOAS Old Building / College Buildings. The building was listed as Grade II on the 28 March 1969 descirbed as follows (obtained from the Camden Council web site):

"University, School. c 1939-5. By Charles Holden. The building has brown bricks with Portland stone dressing. 5 storeys and basements. Main south front with 17 windows and curved corner bay (with 5 windows) treatment at east end. Single storey, 2 window projection at east end. Central entrance with plain stone surround and plaque with name of school over. Flush frame metal windows with horizontally set panes. Stone band and sill string at 1st floor level, echoed by dressing to parapet above 3rd floor. Cartouche with coat of arms centrally at 2nd floor level. Lead rainwater heads and pipes, dated 1940." (Camden Council).

Situated within the Bloomsbury area the Old Building is situated to the north of Senate House, with Birkbeck College to the west and Russell Square to the east.

The Old Building was designed by Charles Henry Holden, a Famous English architect, known best for his work designing London Underground stations. In the early 20th century Charles Holden was commissioned to design a number of buildings for the University of London, which at the time was rapidly expanding. This work included the design of Senate House.

4.00 THE RETROSPECTIVE WORKS

4.01 Three satellite dishes installed on the roof of the fourth floor adjacent the fifth floor block.

The dishes are all of different sizes; the largest dish (Satellite 2) is 1850mm in diameter centre mounted 1905mm from finished roof level. Satellite 3 is 1210mm in diameter centre mounted 1050mm from finished roof level. Satellite 1 is of concave rectangular shape 1650mm wide by 1110mm high, centre mounted at 1435mm from finished roof level. The parapet wall around the perimeter of the roof is 1000mm high and the brackets supporting the dishes are largely hidden behind the dishes.

Please refer to Appendix B for drawings. Drawing 080228 E(0)01D shows the satellites in relation to existing elevation 'A' of the Old Building and drawing 080228 E(0)03F shows satellites in relation to existing elevations 'C, J & H'. Drawing 080228 E(0)06B shows the location of the satellites in relation to the roof plan.

5.00 THE PRINCIPLES AND JUSTIFICATION FOR THE PROPOSED WORKS

The dishes were installed by SOAS in order to improve teaching facilities at the University through improved communication and network links.

6.00 THE IMPACT OF THE PROPOSED WORKS

The satellites have very minimal impact on the historical significance of the building, due to the fact the satellites are largely hidden from view at ground level (where the majority of public view the building from) and they can be regarded as semi-permanent fixtures, easily removed as necessary with future improvements in communication technology.

The dishes are inset from the parapet wall around the fourth floor roof, which hides them from view at local ground level on the SOAS campus. The dishes are only visible when viewed at a similar elevation from overlooking buildings, such as The Brunei Building (opposite), Senate House, 23-24 Russell Square or on side profile from Torrington Square / Malet Street. As such the satellites are barely visible from the main public areas adjacent to the site, foremostly, Russell Square Gardens.

7.00 SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

The satellite dishes have very minimal impact upon the historical appearance of the building due to their location and semi-permanent nature. The satellite dishes comply with the principles set out within PPG5 because the dishes are required to keep SOAS at the forefront of modern day teaching enabling the building to meet the expectations and quality of life expected by modern day users, yet easily removed as necessary for the enjoyment of future generations; in this way they encompass the ethic of sustainable development promoted in PPG5.



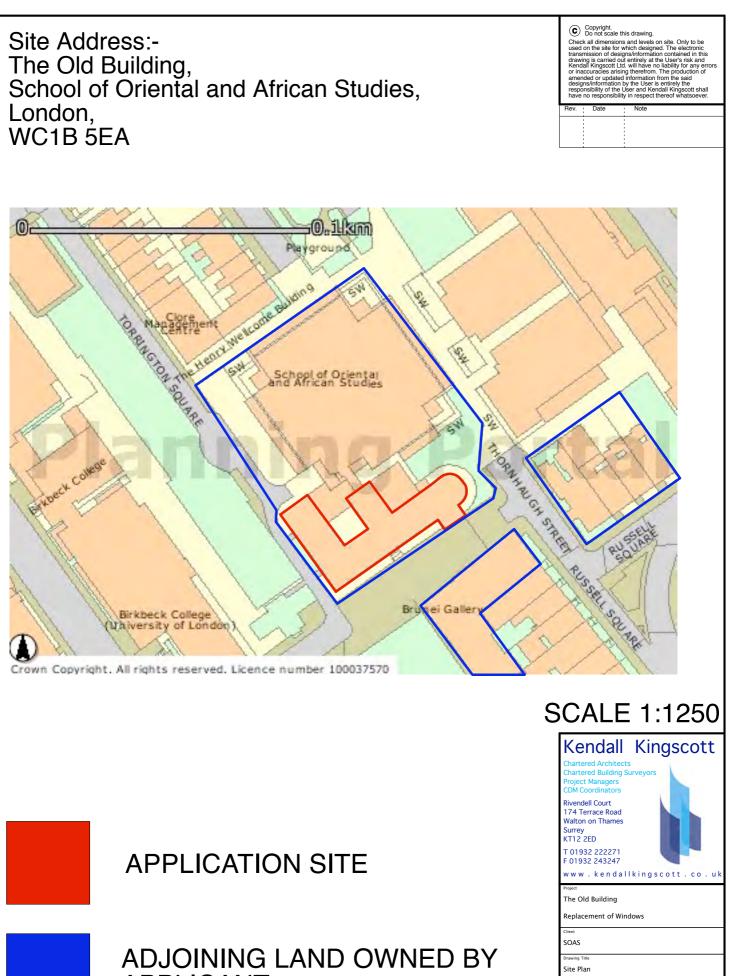
APPENDIX A

PHOTOGRAPHS



APPENDIX B

DRAWINGS



080228 L(0)06

Drawn

Checked

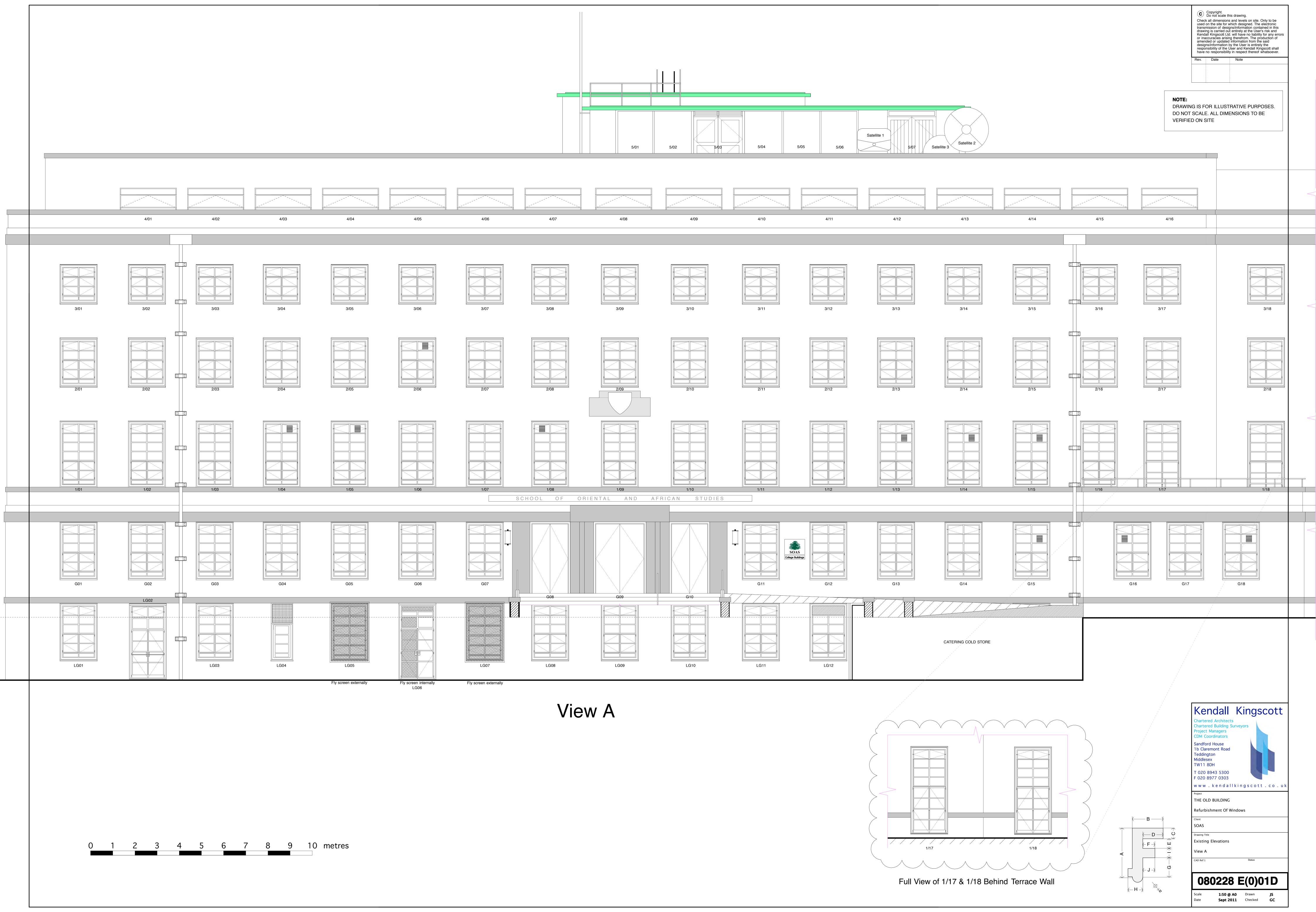
IH BG

1:1250 @ A4

Oct 2009

Scale

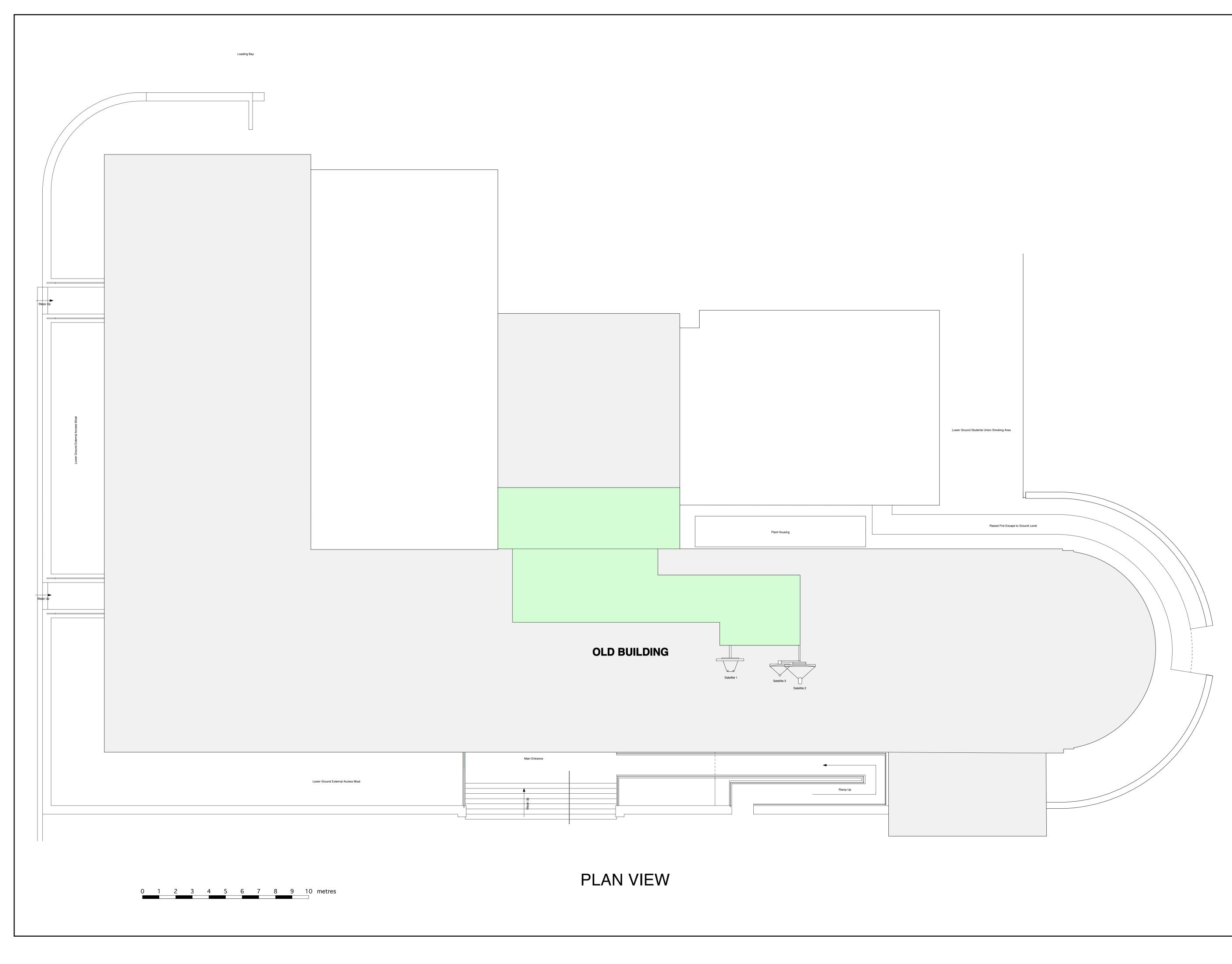
APPLICANT





Views H & J

View C

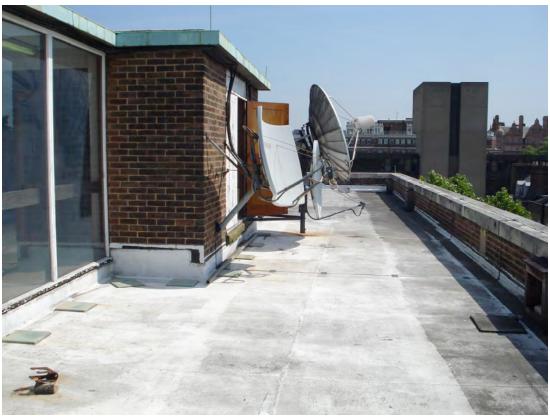


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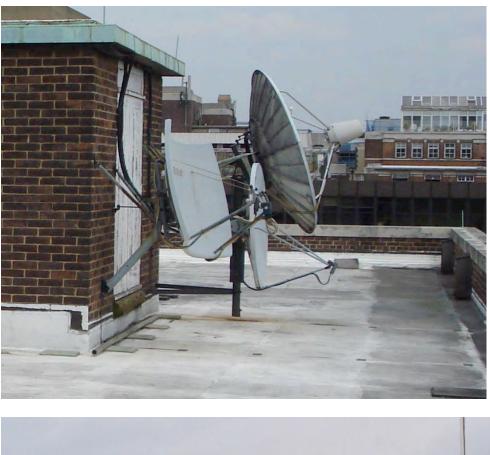




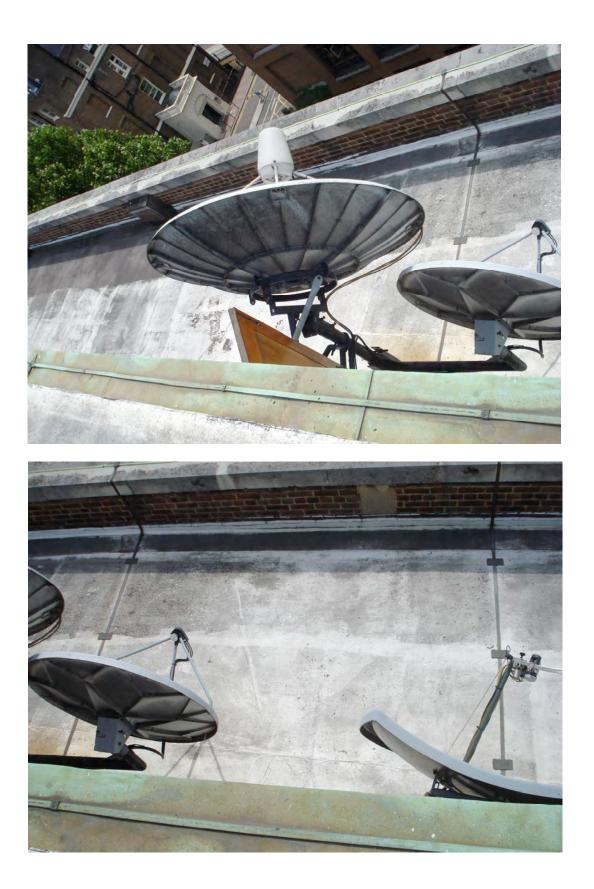
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DSC9538













APPENDIX C

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