

Project Title:	23 Mercer Street London WC2H 9QR
Date:	18-1-10
Project Ref:	09-400
Document:	Design and Access Statement

Design Statement

The proposal seeks to return the current building back to its original design character by re-installing a new pulley using original existing brackets still in place in the facade and timber loading bay platforms at first, second and third floors.

As part of the Comyn Ching Triangle the existing residential building is a late C19 in fill warehouse between two earlier C18 warehouses. With regard to the character of the area architect Terry Farrell (responsible for the majority of the area's restoration in 1985) describes the Triangle as '*an irregular shaped plot that began with a mix of uses and ownerships. Over time it became a complex mix of awkward geometries and sub-standard buildings*'. This proposal seeks not only to enhance the building's character but add to the original street character by defining its own original use, and therefore the street's use. Given that only one other 'original pulley' exists on Mercer Street and the high number of visitors both National and Foreign to the Seven Dial's area, an amplification of the original area's social and cultural environmental context can only be of benefit to the surrounding street scene.

A high quality replica of original components will be achieved by using traditional construction methods and materials, for example cast and forged iron.

Finally the proposal seeks permission to illuminate the front features of the building's street façade. The lights themselves will seek to be as small as possible to achieve a subtle illumination that will also assist to amplify the original character of both the building and the street scene.

Access Statement

No change to any access is proposed.

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