

DO NOT SCALE OFF DRAWING
REPORT ALL DISCREPANCIES
CHECK ALL DIMENSIONS ON SITE
14/01/2008
© Christ & Gantenbein AG

PROJECT
The Swiss Church, London

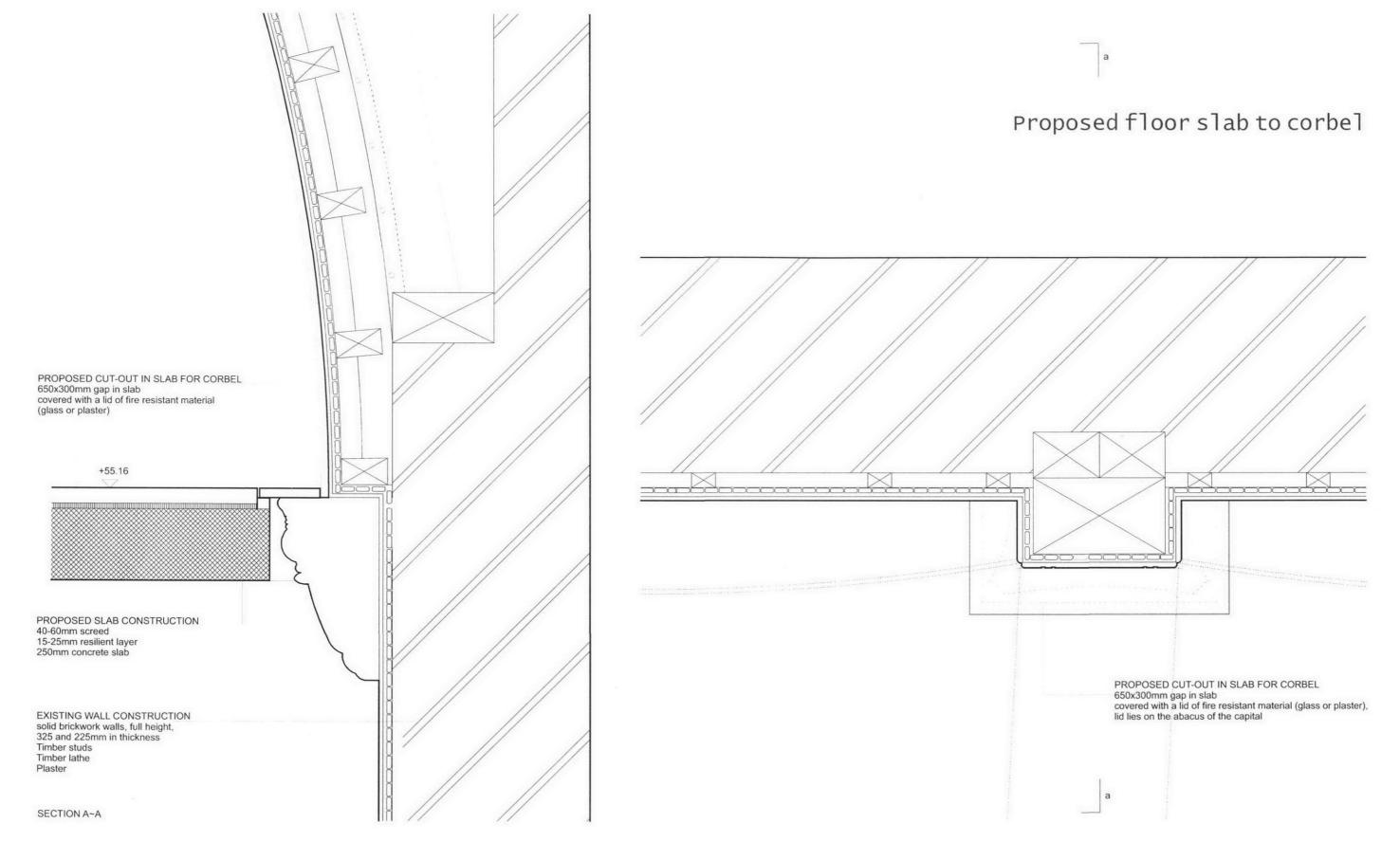
CONTENT
Proposed slab to wall
FORMAT
42 / 29,7

1:10

PHASE
Listed building application

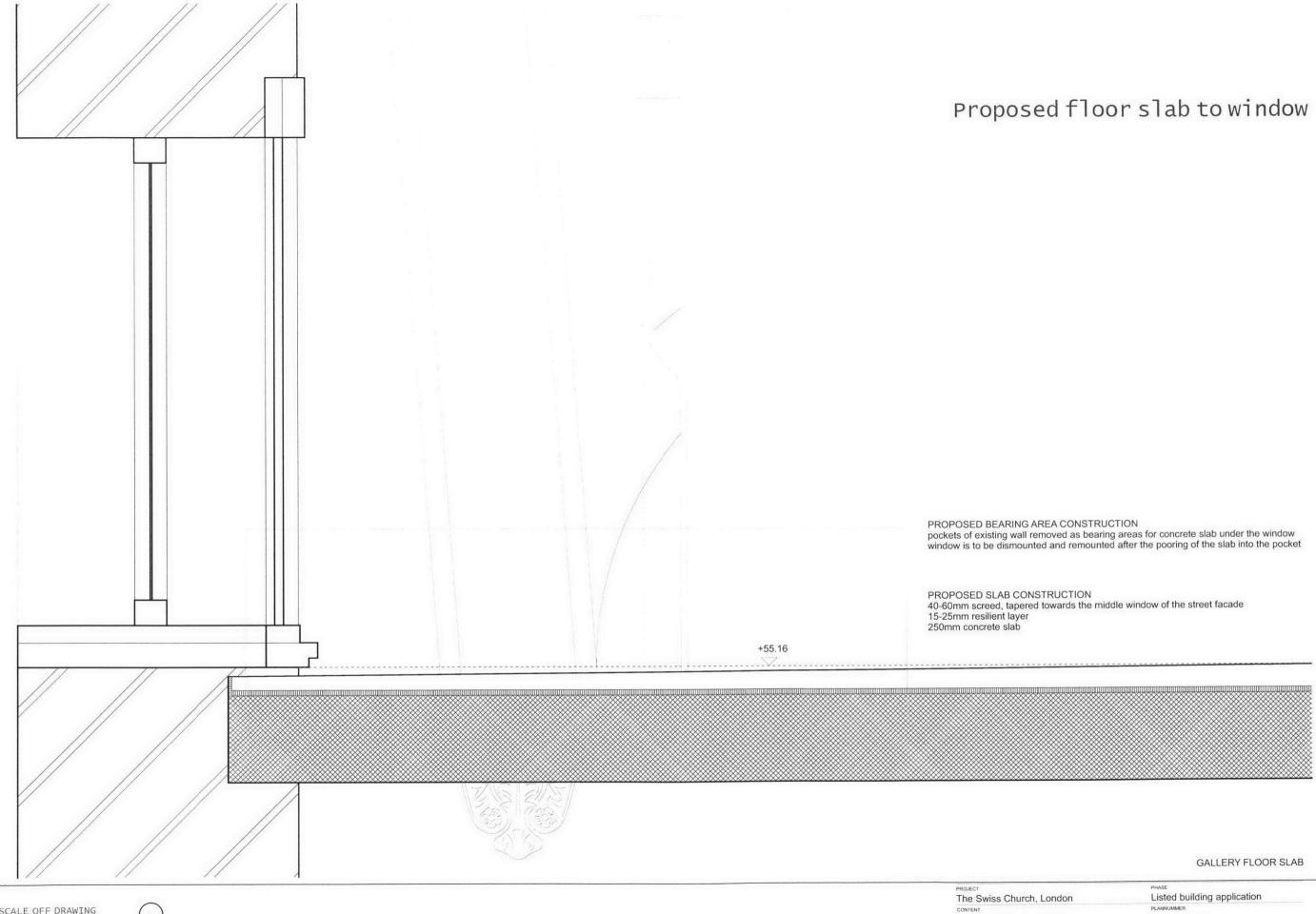
PLANNUMMER
1064\_03-002

REV



GALLERY FLOOR SLAB

DO NOT SCALE OFF DRAWING REPORT ALL DISCREPANCIES CHECK ALL DIMENSIONS ON SITE 14/01/2008 © Christ & Gantenbein AG PROJECT
The Swiss Church, London
CONTENT
Proposed slab to corbel
FORMAT
SCALE
DATE
A2 / 29,7
1:10
20.12.07
CHRIST & CANTENBEIN AG, ARCHITEKTEN ETH SIA BSA, SPITAL STRASSE 12, 4056 BASEL, T. 061 260 90 20, F. 061 260 90 30, maki@christgamentein.ch.

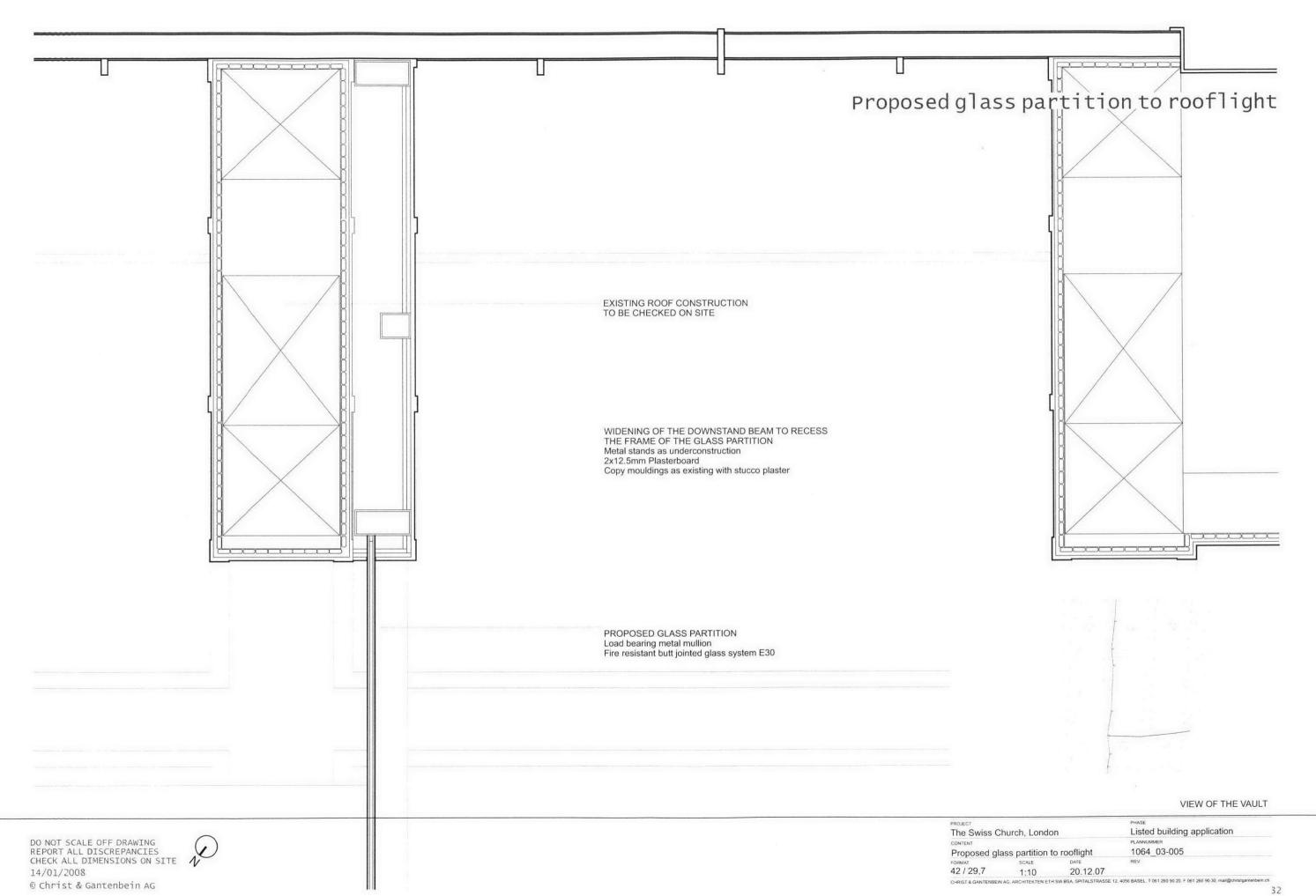


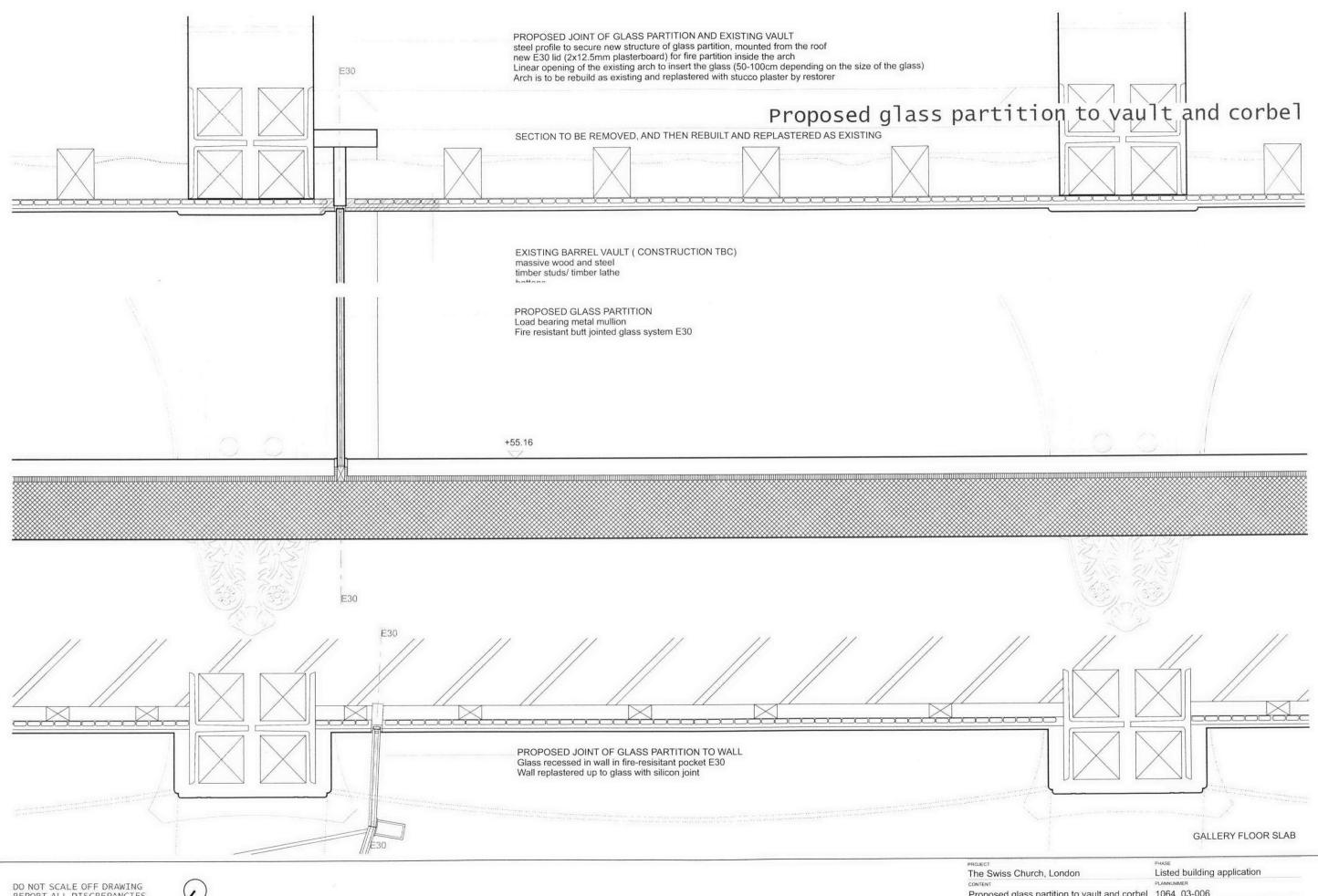
DO NOT SCALE OFF DRAWING
REPORT ALL DISCREPANCIES
CHECK ALL DIMENSIONS ON SITE
14/01/2008
© Christ & Gantenbein AG

PROJECT
The Swiss Church, London

CONTENT
Proposed slab to window
PORMAT
SCALE
DATE
DATE

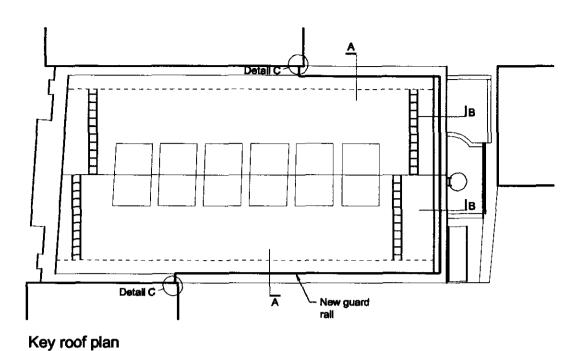
A2 / 29,7
1:10
20.12.07



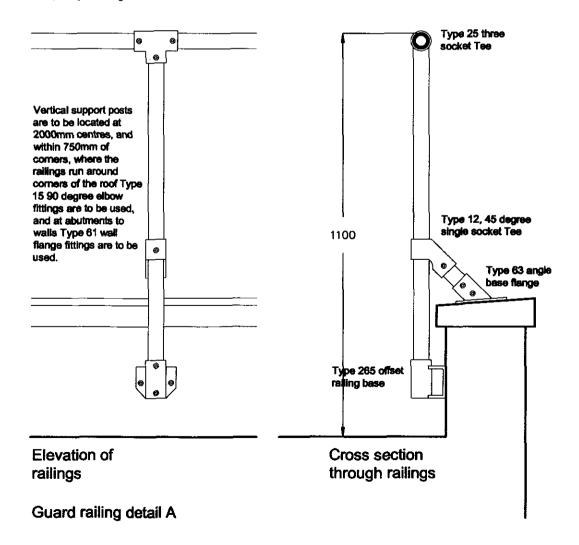


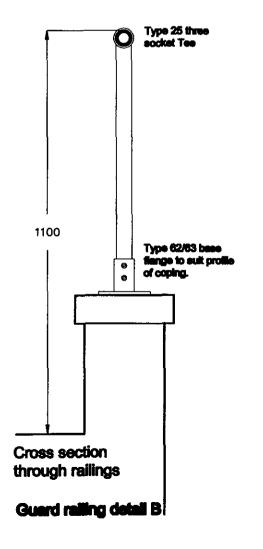
DO NOT SCALE OFF DRAWING REPORT ALL DISCREPANCIES CHECK ALL DIMENSIONS ON SITE 14/01/2008 © Christ & Gantenbein AG

Proposed glass partition to vault and corbel 1064\_03-006 42 / 29,7 1:10 20.12.07



Parapet safety guard railings, to be constructed using Kee Klamp railing system, using 42mm diameter galvanised rails, and joint fixings as Indicated.





Junction of railing to adjoining wall using type 61 wall flange. Detail C

> Swiss Church Re-ordering works Details of proposed roof guard railings

> > 1084\_03-007

C713

# **Appendices**

## A. Statement of significance

## **Historical mitigation:**

## Importance of the building:

The church was built as a Reformed church for the Swiss community in London, by a second generation Swiss architect George Vulliamy, in 1853. It has remained in use by the Swiss community ever since. Vulliamy trained under Sir Charles Barry and was working at the time of this design for his uncle Lewis Vulliamy a more prominent London architect who designed several churches and domestic buildings in London, few of which remain in their original form. George Vulliamys main claim to fame is as the designer of the dolphin light standards on the Embankment, while he was surveyor to the Metropolitan Board of Works (1861 – 1886). Since the original construction of the Swiss Church, the west gallery has been extended and refronted, the stairs amended, an organ placed on the gallery (1932), new accommodation created beneath the gallery (mid 1980's) and new rooflights incorporated over the main sanctuary(1987). Light fittings, floor finishes, furniture and heating have all been replaced over the years.

## <u>Particular physical features of the building:</u>

There is a light and spacious sanctuary with an apse end which originally had visibility from the main street, subsequently lost by later additions under the gallery which include an enclosed meeting room and lobby on the ground floor. Cloakrooms and a catering kitchen have been installed in the basement reached by stairs from the ground floor.

The organ is recorded but not graded in the registers of the British Institute of Organ Studies and the National Pipe Organ Register, which confirms that it is not considered a particularly good instrument. Its degree of fixture has not been established. We propose replacing the organ with a new pipe organ more suited to the liturgy and breadth of scope to which the building is put, in a contemporary case.

The original stairs leading to the gallery are in stone but the lower third of the treads were turned and a half landing incorporated when the gallery was extended forward. It is intended to retain the stairs and the remains of the side panelling in a new location within the proposed scheme. A full photographic record will detail the arrangement before work starts, which will be deposited with the NMR.

Within the sanctuary there are a number of memorial tablets including one by William Gascombe John RA, and another by his pupil Thomas Clapperton, of local heritage interest, and others of specific significance to the Swiss community in London. These have all been recorded in the Quinquennial Inspection report produced by our historic buildings advisor. The scheme proposes to relocate all the memorials in the front Lobby for improved visual access and impact.

Internally, the present colour scheme uses garish colours which would not have been considered appropriate in the original church context. We propose toning these down and restoring the interior to a more temperate colour scheme after consultation.

The external street façade has been heavily repaired and redecorated in successive generations and the original finishes are showing signs of deterioration. We propose to conserve the original rendered surfaces using materials which match the originals, removing Victorian strap iron reinforcement and later unsympathetic repairs, replacing the strap iron with non ferrous materials where necessary, and redecorating to reinstate the original colour scheme established by analysis.

## <u>Setting and contribution to local scene:</u>

The front elevation is all that is visible from the road, the remaining elevations being concealed by adjacent buildings. Designed in what Pevsner and Cherry call "incorrect Palladian" (Buildings of England: London 4: North, p261), the classical detail punctuates the turning of the corner into Endell Street in what is otherwise a bland mix of modernist concrete buildings and monotonous Victorian brick terraces. The façade was originally decorated in pale yellow ochre and raw sienna colours, with graining to the plinth and joinery.

## The Vulliamy's

The house later numbered 68 Pall Mall was occupied from 1765 to 1854 by successive members of the clockmaking family of Vulliamy. (ref. 34) Justin Vulliamy worked for the royal clockmaker Benjamin Gray (ref. 18) who first had a shop on the west side of St. James's Street, on part of the site of the present Alliance Assurance Company building; in 1752-3 Gray moved across to the premises in Pall Mall. (ref. 34) Justin Vulliamy had married Gray's daughter and, as the principal legatee under his father-in-law's will, succeeded to the business in Pall Mall in 1764. (ref. 276) He in turn was followed by his son Benjamin who died in 1811; (ref. 277) and later by Benjamin's son, Benjamin Lewis. The firm came to an end on the death of Benjamin Lewis in 1854. (ref. 71)

Lewis Vulliamy (1791-1871), the architect of Dorchester House, Park Lane, and of numerous London churches, (ref. 108) was a younger brother of Benjamin Lewis. The latter's younger son George John Vulliamy (1817-86) was also an architect and was employed by the Metropolitan Board of Works as their superintending architect from 1861 to 1886. (ref. 18)

George Vulliamy created the sturgeon (or dolphin) cast iron lampstandards which were erected from 1870 onwards on the Albert Embankments and Victoria Embankment. Curled around the base of the standards is the model of a sturgeon and each base alternately displays either the date of construction or an inscription to the Queen.

,Pall Mall, South Side, Past Buildings: No 68 Pall Mall: Vulliamy's', Survey of London: volumes 29 and 30: St James Westminster, Part 1 (1960), pp. 381-82. URL: http://www.british-history.ac.uk/report.asp?compid=40604&strquery=vulliamy. Date accessed: 27 November 2006.

## **Chronology**

#### 1775

The first Swiss Chapel is built in Stidwell Street, Soho. In the early 1850's the community realises the need of a new building due to the state of dilapidation and the insalubrious area of the church in Soho.

#### 1855

Construction of the Swiss Chapel by George Vulliamy. The building was originally a big empty space with a narrow gallery over the entrance for the organ and the choir. The church didn't have a basement. One small toilet was under the stairs leading to the gallery. (the "meter cupboard") The building would receive in those days about 320-350 people See"The Builder" from March 1855

George Vulliamy also built the adjacent building in 81 Endell Street. Although the date specified by the listed buildings is 1854, one could assume that it was built later as the estate is still empty on an ordnance survey dating from 1871. By this date the rear of the estate has already been built: a low and long space used to contain a Children's Theater.

#### 1865, Summer

Major repair work done during summer

#### 1868

Robbers penetrated the church again: the windows had to be blocked by steel stakes and the door closed by a bar with a lock.

#### 189

First heating system was installed.

#### 1930

The heating system provoked a major fire in the church. The Organ had to be replaced by the one which is now in the gallery. The lectern was moved from the middle of the church to the left of the worshippers. A small vestry was built at the rear of the building.

#### 1946

Part of the church hall ceiling collapsed, weakened by bombings during the war and required immediate reparation.

# History of the Building

#### 1947-9

New meeting rooms are needed: this was achieved by extending the gallery towards the rear of the building, which meant shortening the Big Hall. The space under the extended gallery could be divided into three, separating the entrance from the meeting room. A basement was excavated for the kitchen and a small library. A planning permit was necessary. The floor was covered with blue and white linoleum. Carpet was apparently only laid in the 1970s. It is assumed that a part of the original stairs leading from the gallery to the first landing to the ground floor were kept as original.

#### 196.

The Church obtains permission for development, allowing the opening up of the two small first floor windows.

#### 1965

The Church obtains permission for development, allowing the provision of a new first floor and an additional second storey comprising two residential flats.

#### 1973

Grade II Listing of the building as the Swiss Protestant Church

#### 1982

Feasibility Study by Lytster Grillet & Harding Architects, comprising a description of the building and proposals as to how the building could be used to greater advantage.

#### 984-85

Survey and feasibility study by Garner, Preston, Strebel Architects.

Internal refurbishment work is carried out on the entrance area and meeting rooms at ground floor level

#### 1988

Transformation works by Patricia Brock Associates
Alterations are made to the roof, fire escape amenities and
heating system are installed, repairs to brickwork and
decoration of main walls. Refurbishment of basement toilet..

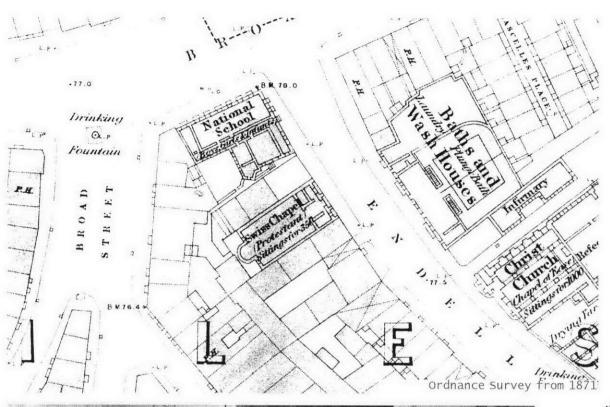
#### 1998

Quinquennial Inspection by John Glanfield & Partners Architects.

#### 1990

Repair suggestions and survey by Carden & Godfrey Architects.

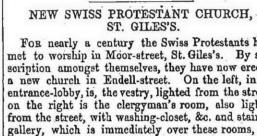
# Original Building



Interior in 1912





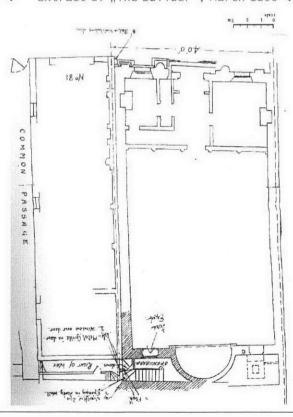


FRED. TYEBMAN.

ST. GILES'S.

For nearly a century the Swiss Protestants have met to worship in Moor-street, St. Giles's. By subscription amongst themselves, they have now erected a new church in Endell-street. On the left, in the entrance-lobby, is, the vestry, lighted from the street: on the right is the clergyman's room, also lighted from the street, with washing-closet, &c. and stairs to gallery, which is immediately over these rooms, and will contain sixty-five people—all free seats. There is a new organ, by Walker, in the gallery. The church itself contains on the ground-floor accommodation for 262 persons, all in open pews, free sittings. It is lighted entirely from the ceiling; is 67 feet long from end to end without the apse, and 35 feet broad between the walls; the same height from floor-line to ceiling, which is semicircular, ornamented with enriched mouldings, and a guiloche band subdividing it into compartments terminating on corbels in the walls. The style is Italian: the cost of erection, including pews and fittings, 3,300l. Messrs. Haward and Nixon were the builders; Mr. George Vulliamy, the secretary of the Archæological Institute, was the architect. The service, we may add, commences every Sunday at half-past eleven o'clock.

Extract of "The Builder", March 1855



Undated Plan showing the Ground Floor before 1949 Transformation and the Right of Way through the adjacent building

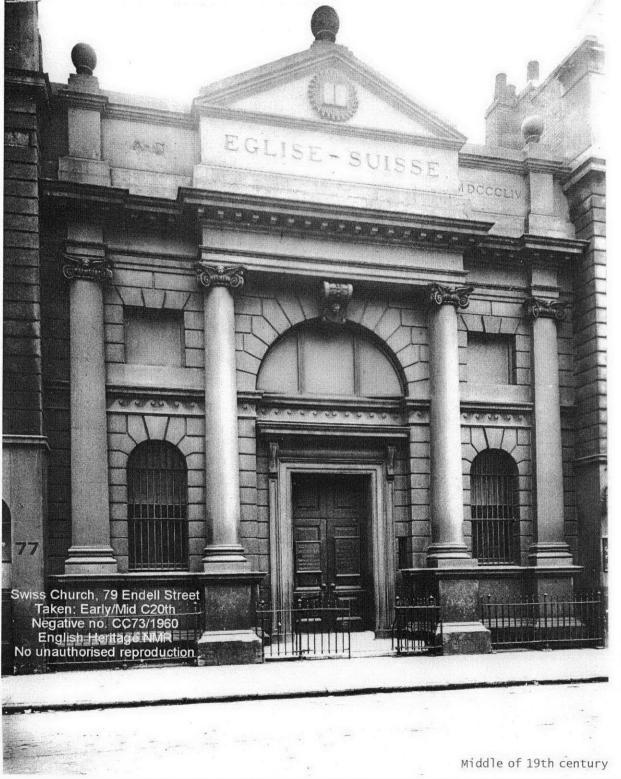
## Colours of the facade



FRONT ELEVATION CROWN COLOURS - GLOSS PRINT

Survey from an unknown date

# Historical pictures





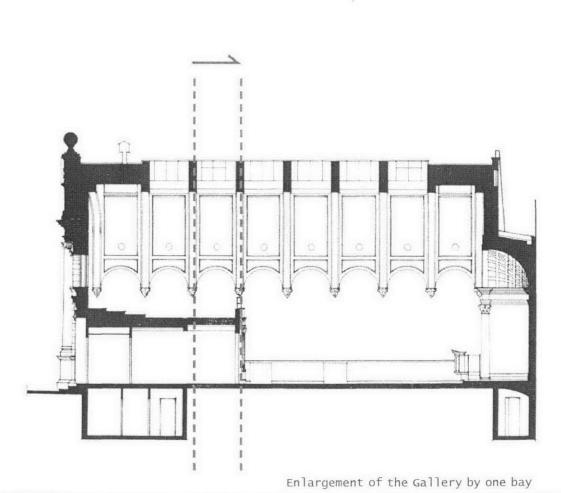


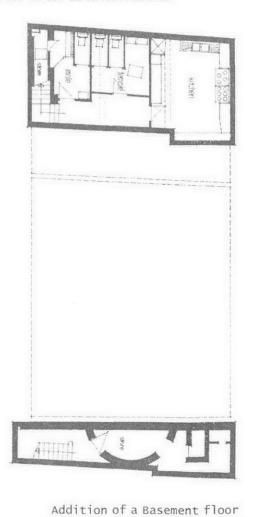


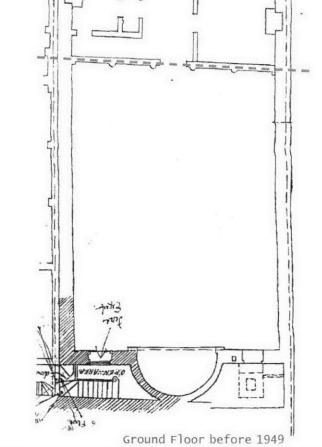
# 1949 Transformation

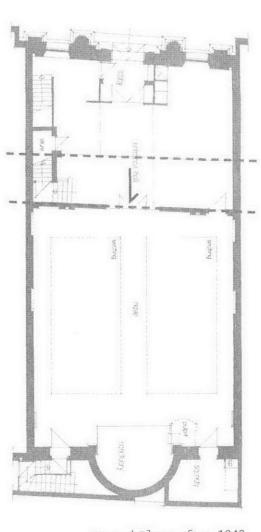










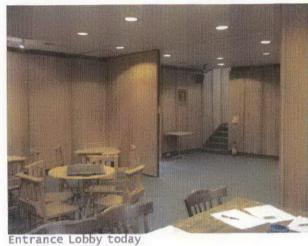


Ground Floor after 1949

## 70s and 80s Transformations



Entrance Lobby in the 1970's



80s Refurbishment



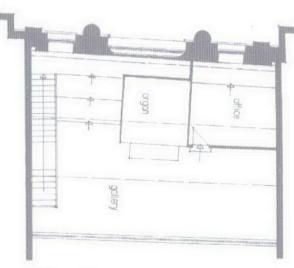
Entrance Lobby today 80s Refurbishment

Plans by Patricia Brock

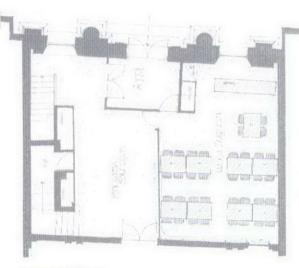


Main Hall today Addition of a meeting room on the gallery in the 70s

Plans by Garner, Preston, Strebel Architects 1984-85

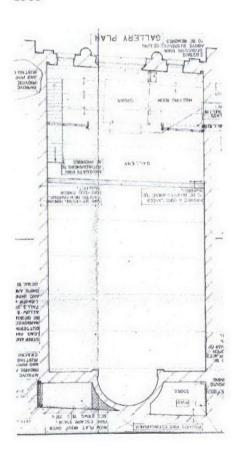


Gallery floor

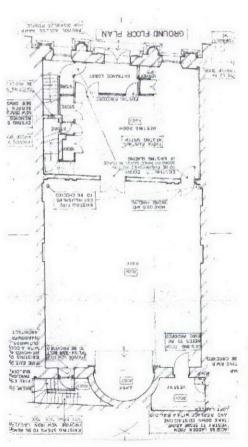


Ground floor

Internal refurbishment work is carried out on the entrance area and meeting rooms at ground floor level.



Gallery floor



Ground floor

Alterations are made to the roof, fire escape amenities and heating system are installed, repairs to brickwork and decoration of main walls. Refurbishment of basement toilet.

## Permission for development

### LONDON BOROUGH OF CAMDEN

Der. 27 APR 1965 CTP. 12 SR. 52

B. Schlaffenberg,
Dr. Arch. (Rome), Dip.T.P.,M.T.P.I.
PLANNING OFFICER

Planning Department, The Old Town Hall, 197, High Holborn, London, W.C.1.

Telephone HOLborn 3411 Ext. 109

Date: 30th April, 1965.

Your Ref: CTP/P14/24/1A

Our Ref:

Dear Sir(s) or Madam,

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT, 1962 LONDON GOVERNMENT ACT, 1963

### Permission for Development. (Conditional)

The Council, in pursuance of its powers under the above mentioned Acts and the Town and Country Planning General Development Order, 1963, hereby permits the development referred to in the undermentioned Schedule subject to the conditions set out therein and in accordance with the plans submitted, save in so far as may otherwise be required by the said conditions.

Your attention is drawn to the Statement of Applicant's Rights set out overleaf.

The permission is given subject also to due compliance with any local Acts, regulations, building bye-laws and general statutory provisions in force in the area and nothing herein shall be regarded as dispensing with such compliance or be deemed to be a consent by the Council thereunder.

Your particular attention is drawn to the provisions of the Londe Building Acts, 1930-39 and the byelaws in force thereunder which must be complied with to the satisfaction of the District Surveyor, whose address, in case of doubt, may be obtained from this office.

I would also remind you that the Council's permission does not or affect any personal or restrictive covenants, easements, etc., g to or affecting either this land or any other land or the rights persons (including the London Borough of Camden) entitled to the ofit thereof or holding an interest in the property concerned in this comment or in any adjoining property.

### SCHEDULE

Date of application: 12th March, 1965.

Plans submitted No.: Block Plan

Development: The provision of a new first floor and an additional second storey comprising two residential flats at the Swiss Church, 79 Endell Street, Camden.

#### Conditions:

(1) The work shall not be carried out otherwise than in accordance with detailed plans, sections and elevations including full particulars of the facing materials proposed which shall have been approved by the Council before any work on the site is commenced.

(2) The new second floor should be set back at the rear to avoid any further infringement of the Council daylighting standard.

METROPOLITAN BOROUGH OF HOLBORN



BOROUGH ARCHITECT'S DEPARTMENT TOWN HALL, HIGH HOLBORN, W.C.1

S. A. G. COOK, A.R.I.B.A. — BOROUGH ARCHITECT

RG/LK

OUR REF. Del. 286

SOUR REF. GCH/EFB/3.0502. S Director of Housing
HOLBORN 3411

9th January, 1968.

Dear Sir

#### TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT, 1947

#### Permission for Development

The Council, in pursuance of its powers under the above-mentioned Act and the Town and Country Planning General Development Order, 1950, hereby permits the development referred to in the undermentioned Schedule in accordance with the plans submitted.

The permission is given subject also to due compliance with any local Acts, regulations, building by-laws and general statutory provisions in force in the area and nothing herein shall be regarded as dispensing with such compliance or be deemed to be a consent by the Council thereunder.

Your particular attention is drawn to the provisions of the London Building Acts, 1930-39 and the by-laws in force thereunder which must be complied with to the satisfaction of the District Surveyor, whose address, in case of doubt, may be obtained from this office.

I would also remind you that the Council's permission does not modify or affect any personal or restrictive covenants, easements, etc., applying to or affecting the land or the rights of any persons entitled to the benefit thereof.

## SCHEDULE

Date of application:

14th November, 1962.

Plans submitted No.

Reg. No. 17528 (Your plans No. S. 0502/1 and 2)

velopment:

The opening up of two existing blocked up windows at first floor level at the Eglise Suisse, 79 Endell Street, W.C.2.

Yours faithfully,

Hessrs. Alexander Robertson & Sons, Chartered Surveyors, 27 Camberwell Green, S.E.S. Borough Architect duly authorised by the Council to sign this document.

Copy for:

District Surveyor Statutory Register Documents showing two Planning Permissions acquired by the Church in the 60's.