

**DISCLAIMER**

Decision route to be decided by nominated members on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> February 2008. For further information see

<http://www.camden.gov.uk/ccm/navigation/environment/planning-and-built-environment/planning-applications/development-control-members-briefing/>

<b>Delegated Report Members' Briefing</b>		<b>Analysis sheet</b>		<b>Expiry Date:</b>		<b>06/02/2008</b>	
				<b>Consultation Expiry Date:</b>		<b>18/02/2008</b>	
<b>Officer</b>				<b>Application Number(s)</b>			
Jenny Fisher				2007/6381/P			
<b>Application Address</b>				<b>Drawing Numbers</b>			
British Museum Great Russell Street London WC1B 3DG							
<b>PO 3/4</b>	<b>Area Team Signature</b>	<b>C&amp;UD</b>	<b>Authorised Officer Signature</b>				
<b>Proposal(s)</b>							
Erection of a single storey temporary building on the roof of the Montague annexe facing the East Road within the Museum complex.							
<b>Recommendation(s):</b>		<b>Grant planning permission for a limited period</b>					
<b>Application Type:</b>		<b>Full Planning Permission</b>					
<b>Conditions:</b>		<b>Refer to Draft Decision Notice</b>					
<b>Informatives:</b>							
<b>Consultations</b>							
<b>Adjoining Occupiers:</b>	No. notified	<b>00</b>	No. of responses No. electronic	<b>00</b> <b>00</b>	No. of objections	<b>00</b>	
<b>Summary of consultation responses:</b>	Site Notice displayed – no response received.						

**CAAC/Local groups  
comments:**

Bloomsbury CAAC

The British Museum has a very bad record for complying with temporary consents. The present building already damages the setting and amenity of the listed townhouses in Montague Street (it is constructed in their gardens). These drawings do not show these houses, not even in the site plan, and the application is therefore incomplete and should not have been accepted. We can find no mention of the length of time the desired consent would cover.

*Officer comment: The Montagu annexe is to the rear of one of the Montague Street buildings in British Museum use, not as a garden. The applicant's drawings give a clear indication of where the structure would be placed, and a photo has been submitted, showing the existing building, with an impression of the temporary structure on top. The applicant has requested a temporary period of 5 years.*

English Heritage

The proposed structures are clearly intended for a temporary use only, relating to a period of building works on site. It is therefore recommended that permission should be granted for a temporary period only, with conditions requiring the removal of the structure following expiry of the permission.

**Site Description**

The British Museum is a Grade 1 listed building bounded to the north by Montague Place, to the east by Montague Street, to the west by Bloomsbury Street and to the south by Great Russell Street. Located within the Bloomsbury Conservation Area

**Relevant History**

A number of temporary structures have previously been allowed within the British Museum site.

**Relevant policies**

Replacement UDP 2006 S1/S2, SD6, B1, B6, B7

Camden Planning Guidance 2006: conservation areas; design; listed buildings  
Bloomsbury Conservation Area Statement

## Assessment

Application for the erection of a single storey temporary structure on the roof of the Montague Annexe for a period of 5 years. External cladding would be goosewing grey plastico; frames painted mid-grey and doors contrasting grey with white painted aluminium frames.

The temporary structure would provide office and welfare accommodation for British Museum term contractors engaged in gallery improvement and essential maintenance projects.

The Montague annexe is a brick built building; single storey with a flat roof and with taller buildings behind. The temporary structure would occupy part of the flat roof. The height of the Montague annexe is 5.0m. above ground. The temporary structure would be 3.5m (height) x 9.8m (width) x 15m (long). This is the same width as the annexe building, but significantly less length – the annexe building is more than 30m long. An existing metal stair providing access to the annexe would be extended to provide access to the temporary structure. The East Road is confined to the Museum site.

No objections in listed building / conservation area terms – the structure replaces an existing temporary Portakabin type structure, which is positioned on a modern annexe building to the rear of the Grade II listed buildings in Montague Place. As a temporary structure, it will not have a detrimental effect on the setting of the Museum, positioned as it is in a back of house / service area. It will have no effect on the character or appearance of this part of the Bloomsbury Conservation Area, as it is not seen from the public realm.

As a temporary structure, it is considered that there would be no harm to the character and appearance of conservation area or the setting of the nearby listed buildings. Nevertheless, the building is considered unsuitable for permanent retention due to its non-traditional form, design and facing materials, which would cause long terms harm to the context of the site if permanently retained.

The temporary structure is to be retained for a period of 5 years, which is considered reasonable given the amount of work currently (and potentially) ongoing on the site, and the lack of other suitable Museum space available.

**Recommendation:** Grant permission for the 5 years requested.