

Delegated Report		Analysis sheet		Expiry Date:		30/10/2007	
		N/A / attached		Consultation Expiry Date:		16/10/07	
Officer				Application Number(s)			
Victoria Fowlis				2007/4409/L			
Application Address				Drawing Numbers			
Senate House University of London London WC2E 7HU				See decision letter			
PO 3/4		Area Team Signature		C&UD		Authorised Officer Signature	
Proposal(s)							
Installation of commemorative bronze plaque to Malet Street elevation.							
Recommendation(s):		Grant listed building consent					
Application Type:		Listed Building Consent					
Conditions or Reasons for Refusal:		Refer to Draft Decision Notice					
Informatives:							
Consultations							
Adjoining Occupiers:		No. notified	00	No. of responses	00	No. of objections	00
				No. electronic	00		
Summary of consultation responses:		<u>English Heritage</u> – flexible authorisation (authorised by GOL 24.10.07) <u>Site notice displayed</u> – no responses					
CAAC/Local groups* comments: *Please Specify		<u>Bloomsbury CAAC</u> – No objection <u>Bloomsbury Association</u> – no response to date.					

Site Description

Grade II* listed university building dating from 1932-1938 by Charles Holden. Brick load-bearing construction with Portland stone facing. In the Bloomsbury Conservation Area.

Relevant History

LSX0004032 – **listed building consent granted 08.03.2000** for *Erection of commemorative plaque (non-illuminated) on North elevation of South block at ground floor level, Senate House.*

Relevant policies

UDP 2006:

B6 – listed buildings

Assessment

Listed building consent is sought to erect a commemorative plaque to Mary Prince, on the south western elevation of the building (Malet Street).

Mary Prince was a significant figure in the abolition of slavery; her account of the life of a slave was published in 1831, and galvanised the abolition movement. She lived for a time at 4 Keppel Street, a Georgian townhouse which has since been lost. Senate House (University of London) now occupies some of the former Keppel Street, its south western wing roughly covering the former eastern end of the street. The western elevation of the south wing is the geographically closest position to the former 4 Keppel Street, and as such it is proposed to erect a plaque in her honour in this position.

The plaque is made from bronze, is round in shape and measures 450mm in diameter. It will be mounted at first floor level, between the (northernmost) first and second windows. It will bear a simple inscription which reads, "Mary Prince 1788-1833 lived in a house on this site 1829." The plaque will not be chased into the stonework but rather will be face-mounted, being minimally screw-fixed to the face of the building and resin bonded. This is considered acceptable as it is the least damaging and intrusive method of support.

Bronze is a high quality material which is traditionally used in memorial plaques / statuary, and as such is considered appropriate for this purpose and in this location.

In summary, the position, materials, finish, and method of fixing of the proposed plaque are not considered to be harmful to the special interest of the building nor the character or appearance of the wider Bloomsbury Conservation Area.

Recommend approval.