

## APPLICATION FOR LISTED BUILDING CONSENT DESIGN JUSTIFICATION STATEMENT

For Change Of External Paint Colour At:

57-8 & 59-60 LINCOLN'S INN FIELDS  
LONDON WC2A 3LS

This statement relates specifically to the façade of 59-60 Lincoln's Inn Fields, currently owned and occupied by Garden Court Chambers, and a Grade I listed building dating from circa 1641. This building is more traditionally known as "Lindsey House" and holds significant architectural and historic standing as a building of potential authorship to Inigo Jones and as the centrepiece and only remaining part of the early-mid 1600's development of the west side of Lincoln's Inn Fields.

The works that constitute this application are the change of paint colour to the façade of no.59-60, to restore the original colour of "Portland Stone" in place of the modern "terracotta-pink" which was added in the 1970's.

Garden Court Chambers have undertaken significant historic research (both through their own sources and through the Soane's Museum) to determine the appearance of the façade at different points in history and also establish the circumstances within which the façade colour was changed in recent years.

Further to this, specialist investigations have been undertaken to physically analyse the paint coatings on the building in various locations and determine the evolution and chronology of the historic paint schemes.

Archive sources indicate that during the majority of the buildings history the façade colour was not the current "terracotta-pink", but a subtle "Portland Stone" colour. Examples of photographs and paintings are included as an appendix. No.59-60, in its early history, was not rendered between its pilasters, but showed bare red brickwork. Investigations have shown the original façade brickwork (now hidden by render) to be in poor condition, therefore it can be reasonably assumed that the façade was rendered in its infancy to protect the brickwork from the elements. It is thought that the "stone" colour was chosen to compliment the c.18th Portland Stone façade of the neighbouring no.57-58 (even though, as an interesting aside, it is thought that no.57-58 was originally built in imitation of the style of no.59-60). From drawings provided by John Soane's pupils it appears that the building was originally painted two-tone with white pilasters and a "Portland stone" colour in between, and it seems that this was altered to a monotone Portland-stone colour in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century before eventually changing to terracotta-pink in the 1970's.

Garden Court Chambers have obtained a signed statement from Marks and Clerk (in occupation in the 1970's) confirming that the decision to change the paint colour was made entirely by them and without any statutory approvals (presumably not required). They also confirm that this change of colour was first undertaken circa 1975. This affidavit is attached as an appendix.

Specialist testing and analysis of the paint coatings has been undertaken to confirm all of the above. Samples were taken from the pilasters and also the areas between the pilasters. Both samples demonstrate that the "terracotta-pink" is not a historic paint colour. What has been demonstrated is that paint schemes before this were undertaken in a "Portland Stone" colour, or a subtle variation on the same. Chemical analysis is ongoing and will allow us to accurately match to the original colour scheme from the buildings early history.



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With the exception of the early period before rendering, the building would therefore have been coloured to match Portland stone for the whole of its lifetime until circa 1975 when the colour was changed. In recognition of this significant historic precedent, the current owner now intends to implement the restoration of the original paint scheme.

Paint swatches have been provided on site for a range of shades of Portland Stone and viewed by the Conservation Officer. The chosen colour which will be matched closest to the results of our laboratory paint analysis.