

**Design Statement for the proposed new South West gable wall picture window  
in Flat 20, The Octagon Building at 527A Finchley Road, London NW3 7BG for  
Mr Nick Weingarten**

Mr & Mrs Weingarten's top flat No 20 at 527A Finchley Road lies within an early 20<sup>th</sup> Century decorative red brick and blond stone ex Synagogue. The layout of the existing building was refurbished in the 1960's / 1970's into a residential development around an Octagon internal hall.

My client's duplex apartment backs onto the south west gable wall of the building. This four storey high gable has in the recent past, probably at the time of the residential refurbishment, been extended upwards as can clearly be seen by the discolouration of the old and new brickwork.

Mr & Mrs Weingarten's proposal to create a new picture window looking to the south west over the adjacent single storey Synagogue on Burrard Road and 2 no proposed conservation style roof lights would facilitate greatly their existing lounge which is dark and currently lacks natural lighting.

Furthermore, the introduction of the proposed picture window would break the existing visible brick joint between the original and extended gable wall head. By utilising the decorative masonry features of the existing building and fenestration the new picture window will visually enhance a bland, rather unsightly and uninspiring rear gable wall.

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