



Historic England

LONDON OFFICE

Ms Seonaid Carr  
London Borough of Camden  
Town Hall  
Argyle Street  
London  
WC1 8ND

Direct Dial: 020 7973 3763

Our ref: **W:** P00471170

13 August 2015

Dear Ms Carr

**Arrangements for Handling Heritage Applications Direction 2015 &  
T&CP (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015  
BLOOMSBURY THEATRE, 15 GORDON STREET, WC1H 0AH  
Application No 2015/4224/P**

Thank you for your letter of 31 July 2015 notifying Historic England of the application for planning permission relating to the above site. These proposals are for a new temporary staircase at the Bloomsbury Theatre which is required due to the adjacent UCL redevelopment works which involve the demolition of the existing staircase in the 'Node' of the theatre.

The submitted documents indicate that the new staircase and enclosure would be located next to the central rear wing of the Grade I Wilkins Building which is situated immediately to the west of the theatre. We understand there would be no physical impact to the Wilkins Building, and spreader plates will be installed to protect the listed building from the new structure.

Whilst we are satisfied that no physical impact would occur, there would clearly be visual impact on the Wilkins Building from within the courtyard. However, we feel that sufficient justification for this proposal has been provided and we are reassured by the temporary nature of the proposals. Moreover, this staircase will facilitate the removal of the Bloomsbury Theatre 'Node' which we consider to be of great benefit to the setting of the Wilkins Building in the long-term.

**Recommendation**

**We therefore have no significant concerns with these proposals and confirm that the application should be determined in accordance with national and local policy guidance, and on the basis of your specialist conservation advice.**

It is not necessary for us to be consulted again on this application. However, if you would like further advice, please contact us to explain your request. We can then let you know if we are able to help further and agree a timetable with you.



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In returning the application to you without comment, Historic England stresses that it is not expressing any views on the merits of the proposals which are the subject of the application.

Please note that this response relates to historic building and historic area matters only. If there are any archaeological implications to the proposals it is recommended that you contact the Greater London Archaeological Advisory Service for further advice (Tel: 020 7973 3712).

Yours sincerely



**Alasdair Young**

Assistant Inspector of Historic Buildings and Areas

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