

Design and Access Statement

8-10 OLD SQUARE, LINCOLN'S INN, LONDON WC2A

This application seeks listed building consent for:
Installation of Wire Support Systems for planting.

Use

Lincoln's Inn, along with the other 3 Inns of Court is and has been for centuries, a collegiate centre in which barristers are trained and affiliated to in order to practice in the profession of law. The proposals contained in this application aim to allow for the installation of wired support systems against the building in order to support the wisteria which can be seen around the site.

The Lincoln's Inn estate predominantly comprises properties occupied as barristers' chambers together with their associated facilities. There are also: some solicitors' offices, a Territorial Army drill hall, residential flats occupied by barristers and others directly associated with the Inn, together with the Collegiate buildings of the Inn. The Collegiate buildings are the Great Hall, Old Hall, Chapel, Library and offices that are needed for the fulfilment of the Inn's many functions. Not least of these is the provision of educational facilities to students, from all over the world, who are seeking to become barristers; and for ministering to their needs when they have qualified.

The building associated with this application consists of 3 properties, 8/9/10 Old Square.

The primary use of the areas (which make up 8-10 Old Square) are as barristers chambers. The Third floor of each building are let as residential flats for barristers and other affiliated members.

The use of the building will not change as part of this application.

The building has (until recently) been covered with Ivy. As most people will be aware Ivy can be detrimental to buildings of this ilk, therefore the decision has been made to remove this Ivy, clean the building up and install Wisteria. Wisteria unlike Ivy does however require a wired support frame. Wisteria can already be seen on the Northern and Southern Elevations of the building. This application seeks to replace the Ivy on the Western Elevation with identical wisteria plants.

DESIGN PRINCIPLES AND CONCEPTS

Amount

The works proposed in this application seek to install wires only to the top of the "ground floor" level of the building. This will mean from the pathway (along the Western Elevation) the basement and ground floors will have wisteria covering the brickwork. Once the wisteria grows and is trained around the wires, the wires will cease to be visible.

Layout

The proposed planting and wire plans are shown on the drawing within this application. The plants themselves are to be planted 500mm away from the building to avoid any interaction between their roots and the buildings foundations.

Scale

The drawings show the extent of the planting. The area will be to a lesser effect than the Ivy previously.

Landscaping

As the proposal is wholly external and landscaping orientated, the application seeks to allow for the enhancement of the Inn's gardens. This is part of a much larger landscaping scheme which seeks to enhance the gardens to better reflect the buildings (see attached report for further details).

Appearance

The changed external appearance of 8-10 Old Square will allow for more brickwork to be on show at higher levels, whilst still providing greenery around the building. The Ivy was starting to become uncontrollable, whereas the wisteria will not grow where there is nothing to support it.

The new galvanised wires will be brush finished to remove their materials reflective nature. Once the Wisteria has grown sufficiently, the wiring will cease to be visible.

The eyelets will be secured within the mortar joints opposed to the bricks to allow them to be removed and repairs in acted should this ever be required, or they require replacement.

ACCESS**Vehicular and transport links**

There are no changes to the vehicular or other transport links as a part of this application.

Refuse

There are no changes to the refuse provision as a part of this application.

Inclusive access

This application does not seek to change access provisions in any way.