

**From:** mogador empson [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 30 November 2015 10:36  
**To:** Stroud, Alfie  
**Subject:** Re: Studio House, 1 Hampstead Hill Gardens - installation of blue plaque (2015/3676/L)

Dear Alfie Stroud,  
Thank you for your email regarding our Listed Building Consent Application reference 2015/3676/L.  
We will have no difficulty in following your advice as to the fixing of the proposed plaque to the outside wall.  
So the 3 inch stainless steel dowles will be bonded into mortar joints set into the brickwork, and in addition the body of the plaque will be fixed to a lime mortar masonry backing.  
Please confirm that this is sufficient for you to progress our application.  
Yours sincerely,  
William Empson

On 27 November 2015 at 14:04, Stroud, Alfie [REDACTED] wrote:

Dear Mr Empson,

I am the Conservation Officer who will be determining your Listed Building Consent (LBC) application, reference: 2015/3676/L. My colleague, Hannah Walker, with whom you have previously had contact, has left the Council.

The consultation period for your LBC has ended and no comments have been received. We are therefore ready to proceed to determination of your application, but for some outstanding concerns about the methodology for affixing the plaque.

I note that, in response to Hannah's previous correspondence with you, you submitted further information to support your application. Thank you for these. One of your drawings noted the method of fixing the plaque to the brickwork is to be two 3 inch stainless steel dowles.

I write to request further information from you regarding the methodology proposed for fixing the plaque. I fear that the fixing of a flat-backed plaque to brickwork with dowles creates potential for water ingress which could result in damage to the brickwork and possibly also to the plaque, as well as the possibility of the erosion of mortar. Such damage might also result in the dangerous loosening of the plaque. I understand that widely-used methods for fixing plaques to historic masonry involves lime mortar as well as dowles – in preference to the less reversible cement mortar – partly aimed at reducing the above risks.

I would note also that any dowles or screws used in fixing should be inserted only into mortar joints, not into brickwork, and I would welcome an undertaking in writing to this effect as a further supplement to your application.

I look forward to hearing from you as soon as you are able to supply this additional information, and then to progressing your application.

Thanks for your attention to this.  
Yours,

Alfie

Alfie Stroud  
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