

**Hazelton, Laura**

---

**Subject:** FW: Bloomsbury Rifles Drill Hall

**From:** Alex Bowring [mailto:alex@victoriansociety.org.uk]

**Sent:** 07 January 2016 15:40

**To:** O'Doherty, Michelle

**Subject:** Bloomsbury Rifles Drill Hall

Dear Michelle

Good to speak to you earlier and I am sorry its taken me a while to get back to you on this.

Having spoken to senior colleagues about the scheme, the loss of the original stage area is not something that we would be overly concerned about. Of course this loss would be regrettable and cause a level of harm to the listed building; clearly the stage was an important element of the buildings original function – one of the main functions of Rifle Brigades and their headquarters being something of a social hub for the local community. As Historic England's designation guide for and the heritage statement point out, the Bloomsbury Rifle's Drill Hall is a particularly early example of this building type and possibly the earliest in London where it was commended as a model for others. However, is unfortunate that the drill hall has been so altered and the original stage enclosed. Consequently, in our view, the loss of this part of the building amounts to less than substantial harm, given that it does not survive in anything like its original state.

I hope that these comments are of some help.

Best wishes,

Alex

---

**Alex Bowring**  
Conservation Adviser  
**The Victorian Society**  
1 Priory Gardens  
London W4 1TT

**Telephone** 020 8994 1019  
**Direct Line** 020 8747 5894  
[www.victoriansociety.org.uk](http://www.victoriansociety.org.uk)  
[Sign up for our newsletter!](#)

Worried about climate change? Do you want to make your Victorian or Edwardian house more energy efficient? Then visit [www.climatechangeandyourhome.org.uk](http://www.climatechangeandyourhome.org.uk).

**The Victorian Society is the national charity campaigning for the Victorian and Edwardian historic environment.** Registered Charity No. 1081435. Company limited by guarantee. Registered in England No. 3940996. Registered office as above. This email (and any attachments) is intended solely for the individual(s) to whom addressed. It may contain confidential and/or legally privileged information. Any statement or opinions therein are not necessarily those of The Victorian Society unless specifically stated. Any unauthorised use, disclosure or copying is prohibited. If you have received this email in error, please notify the sender and delete it from your system. Security and reliability of the e-mail and attachments are not guaranteed. You must take full responsibility for virus checking.



---

This email has been scanned by the Symantec Email Security.cloud service.  
For more information please visit <http://www.symanteccloud.com>

---