

**56-58 FREDERICK STREET, LONDON WC1X 0ND**

**DESIGN & ACCESS STATEMENT**

**The Listed Building application relates to the basement flats in 56-58 Frederick Street.**



## **1. Site Analysis**

56-58 Fredrick Street are five-storey terrace properties (including basements and attic) built during the first half of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century (c.1830) by Thomas Cubitt. They are Grade II listed and in the Bloomsbury Conservation Area.

Extracts from 'Bloomsbury Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Strategy' – Adopted 18 April 2011:

*Calthorpe Street/Frederick Street.*

*This sub area is situated on the eastern edge of the Bloomsbury Conservation Area, east of Gray's Inn Road, and abuts the boundary with the London Borough of Islington. It comprises an area of mainly terraced housing built on the Swinton and Calthorpe Estates to the east of Gray's Inn Road, an historic route dating back at least to Medieval times. It is one of the few parts of the Conservation Area that has a noticeable fall from west to east, being on the west side of King's Cross Road which follows the valley of the now culverted River Fleet. The northernmost part around Swinton Street was developed in the late 18th century following the construction of New Road (now Euston Road) and a small suburb to the north of this area around Battle Bridge. The remainder of the area was developed over the period 1820 to 1850 by the builder Thomas Cubitt who had his yard in this area. A notable pattern is the progression of development from west to east and the gradual variation in the detailed treatment of the frontages. In the 1860s the excavation for the new Metropolitan Railway cutting bisected Swinton Street and Acton Street towards their eastern end.*

*Most of the buildings in this area date from the 1820s to the 1840s, and were designed and built by Thomas and William Cubitt. 19th century development progressed from west to east, although there have been some areas of post-war redevelopment. There is slightly greater use of stucco render in these quieter streets. There is generally a grander, classical approach to the overall composition of elevations, which boast pilasters, pediments and projections, emphasising the design of the terrace as a single composition (particularly evident on Frederick Street). Several terraces in this area have entrance porticos at street level giving greater architectural significance, a feature not seen in the streets to the north.*

The properties are part of a portfolio of properties acquired by Community Housing Association in the 1970's in Frederick Street, Ampton Place and Ampton Street. 56-58 Frederick Street was converted into flats during the early/mid-1980s.

## **2. Development Objectives**

One Housing Group is carrying out a series of repairs and improvements throughout the majority of their properties in the immediate vicinity (i.e. Frederick Street, Ampton Street and Ampton Place). Generally, the works consist of the essential renewal of the services (mechanical and electrical installations), kitchen fitting and bathrooms together with all other necessary repairs. Improvements to the internal layouts of the maisonettes, flats and bedsits may also be proposed on a property-by-property, unit-by-unit basis.

56+58 Frederick Street are among several properties being upgraded in the fifth phase.

### **3. Design Solution and impact on heritage assets**

Listed Building Consent and Full Planning Permission have been recently granted to carry out a number of internal and external alterations to the two basement flats (application ref: 2015/6442/P, 2015/6800/L, 2016/1803/L & 2016/3928/L).

The new Listed Building application seeks consent for the introduction of a damp-proofing dry-lining system to the existing damp basement brick walls of the two basement flats.

Finding a method of damp-proofing that is effective and appropriate for this listed building and acceptable in conservation terms presented this challenge; how to repair an existing system where chemical injection with cement-based render installed in the 1980s is failing.

After much research and finally consulting the Building Research Establishment (BRE), the most authoritative and independent advisor on building construction in the country, their advice was that either the damp render should be hacked off (with the potential to damage to the underlying historic brickwork) and replastered, or a damp-resistant membrane should be applied over the damp render and finished with plasterboard dry lining. The latter is their preferred solution as it is the most effective and is also reversible.

Camden have previously been reluctant to agree to either method, but when it became clear from definitive advice from the BRE that there are no other solutions, the council agreed that the applied membrane with dry-lining would be acceptable in principle.

The proposed alteration will add only 28mm to the thickness of the wall so is minor and very discreet - existing splayed timber window reveals are to be carefully extended with 28mm thick shaped timbers finished with ogee architraves. It will not be noticeable from the street or the interior after completion and will therefore have no adverse impact on the listed building. It harms neither the building nor affects original features, is reversible and will positively contribute to the stock of housing in the area by improving the quality and standard of accommodation available.

### **4. Access**

Not applicable.

### **5. Affect on neighbours**

Not applicable.

**6. Landscaping**

Not applicable.

**7. Appendix**

English Heritage List Entry Summary for 54-72 Frederick Street.



# List entry

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## List entry Summary

**This building is listed under the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 as amended for its special architectural or historic interest.**

**Name:** NUMBERS 54-72 AND ATTACHED RAILINGS

**List entry Number:** 1113055

### Location

NUMBERS 54-72 AND ATTACHED RAILINGS, 54-72, FREDERICK STREET

The building may lie within the boundary of more than one authority.

County	District	District Type	Parish
Greater London Authority	Camden	London Borough	

National Park: Not applicable to this List entry.

**Grade:** II

**Date first listed:** 25-Oct-1971

**Date of most recent amendment:** Not applicable to this List entry.

## Legacy System Information

The contents of this record have been generated from a legacy data system.

**Legacy System:** LBS

**UID:** 477405

## Asset Groupings

This list entry does not comprise part of an Asset Grouping. Asset Groupings are not part of the official record but are added later for information.

## List entry Description

### Summary of Building

Legacy Record - This information may be included in the List Entry Details.

### Reasons for Designation

Legacy Record - This information may be included in the List Entry Details.

### History

Legacy Record - This information may be included in the List Entry Details.

### Details

CAMDEN

TQ3082NE FREDERICK STREET 798-1/91/519 (North side) 25/10/71 Nos.54-72 (Even) and attached railings

GV II

Terrace of 10 houses. c1823-7. By Thomas Cubitt. Yellow stock brick with stucco ground floors (except Nos 70 & 72) and 1st floor sill bands. 3 storeys and basements. 2 windows each except Nos 60 & 62 with 1 window each. Nos 60 & 62 and 70 & 72 slightly projecting. Round-arched ground floor openings. Doorways with panelled jambs, cornice-heads, fanlights (some patterned) and panelled doors. Nos 70 & 72 doorways with fluted quarter columns carrying cornice-heads; fanlights and panelled doors. No.54 ground floor window with margin lights. Gauged brick flat arches to recessed sashes; 1st floors with cast-iron balconies. Nos 60 & 62, segmental arches to 4-light windows with cast-iron balconies on 1st floor, 2nd floor, tripartite sashes. Parapets. Nos 54-60 with stucco band below coping. INTERIORS not inspected. SUBSIDIARY FEATURES: attached cast-iron railings. (Survey of London: Vol. XXIV, King's Cross Neighbourhood, Parish of St Pancras IV: London: -1952: 64).

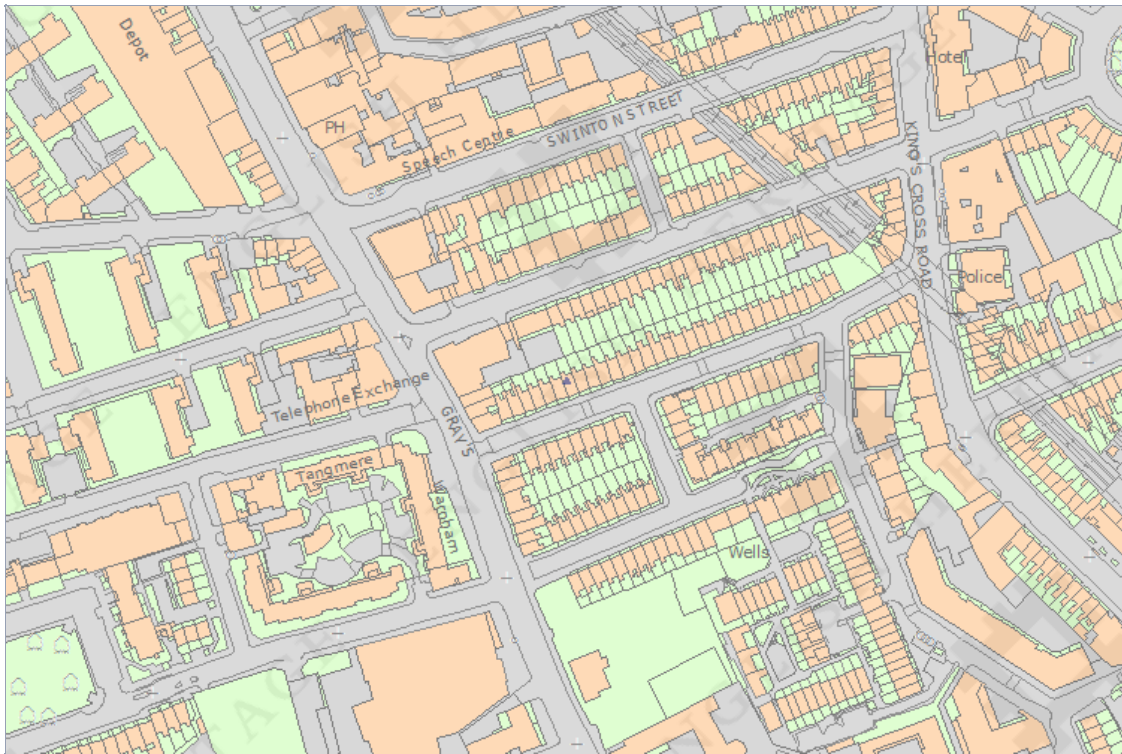
Listing NGR: TQ3064782689

## Selected Sources

1. **Article Reference** - *Title:* Volume 24 Kings Cross neighbourhood The Parish of St Pancras Part 4 - *Date:* 1951 - *Journal Title:* Survey of London - *Page References:* 64

National Grid Reference: TQ 30647 82689

## Map



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