



Historic England

LONDON OFFICE

Mrs Antonia Powell
London Borough of Camden
Development Control Planning Services
Town Hall
Argyle Street
London
WC1H 8ND

Direct Dial: 0207 973 3777

Our ref: L00549831

6 February 2017

Dear Mrs Powell

**Arrangements for Handling Heritage Applications Direction 2015 &
T&CP (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015
53 BEDFORD SQUARE, LONDON, WC1B 3DP
Application No 2017/0132/L**

Thank you for your letter of 11 January 2017 notifying us of the application for listed building consent relating to the above site. We do not wish to comment in detail, but offer the following general observations.

Historic England Advice

The existing building is grade I listed and comprises an end of terrace Georgian townhouse located on one of the most important squares in London. Linked to the house at the rear is a classically inspired mews terrace of red brick with stone dressings. The proposals appear to include cleaning of the front basement elevation, side and rear elevations of the townhouse and the extensions to that building and the mews frontage. Having visited the exterior of the building, it is our view that the proposed cleaning works could cause harm to the aesthetic significance of the building. The blackened appearance of the brickwork to the house is part of the character of the building and serves to create a uniformity in appearance with the other properties within the square. The mews building at the rear appears fairly clean and again appears to be uniform in appearance with the adjacent mews buildings, with limited staining to the parapet, window cills and at the lower levels. In order to consider these proposals further, we would recommend a meeting with yourselves and the applicants on site and the preparation of a cleaning sample area within an area of relatively low visibility. We look forward to hearing from you soon.

Recommendation

Providing that the above issues are addressed, we would be minded to direct as to the granting of listed building consent. We therefore look forward to notification of the necessary revisions to the proposals.

Please note that this response relates to listed building matters only. If there are any



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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



Claire Brady

Inspector of Historic Buildings and Areas

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