

Planning Application

1 Willow Road, London NW3 1TH

Heritage Statement

Features of Existing Building

1 Willow Road is the end house of a terrace of 3 modernist houses (grade II* listed) designed by Erno Goldfinger and built in 1937. They form a single unified block, the middle house being a National Trust property, and the outer two being privately owned. The windows in all 3 houses are standard steel-framed single-glazed Crittall windows, with panes of varying sizes. 1 Willow Road faces Hampstead Heath at the front, the Freemason's Arms at the side, and backs on to the garden of 2 Willow Road at the rear. It is not overlooked by adjoining houses.

Proposed alterations

The reason for the proposal is to conserve heat and save energy. The three houses have large window areas, currently single-glazed, at the front (NE-facing) and rear (SW facing). No 1 Willow Road also has windows at the side. The aim of the proposal is to improve heat conservation by double-glazing without affecting the external appearance of the house. This can be done for most of the windows by replacing the existing panes with modern sealed double panes, which will be indistinguishable in appearance from the existing panes, having identical transparency and reflectance. The size of such double-glazed panes is limited, and where the windows are too large for sealed panes (see photographs 1 and 2), secondary glazing will be used, consisting of sliding panes fitting into a metal channel, approximately 80 mm inside the existing windows (detail in drawings 2 and 3). The vertical dividers will coincide with the existing vertical dividers, and the surround will be painted to match the existing internal paintwork. These measures will ensure that the changes will be essentially invisible from the outside, and unobtrusive from inside.

There will be no change to the structure of the house, and all the additions will be removable.

The house was visited in June 2010 by Richard Parrish (English Heritage) and Hannah Walker (Camden Planning Department), who viewed samples of the units supplied by Metwin. Mr Parrish was satisfied that the appearance and character of the house would not be affected.

The house was also visited in January 2011 by Tessa Wild and Edward Diestelkamp (National Trust), who were also happy with the plan. A copy of Ms Wild's email is shown below.

From: Wild, Tessa

Sent: 17 January 2011 15:27

To: 'humphrey.rang@bt.openworld.com'

Subject: 1 Willow Road - Proposal to install double and secondary glazing

Dear Professor Rang

Thank you very much for showing Ed Diestelkamp and me, your proposals for double and secondary glazing at 1 Willow Road. I can confirm that the National Trust has no objection to the proposals. We were very impressed by the simplicity of the scheme; recognised that there would be no visible alteration to the external appearance of the house and that the proposals are ultimately reversible.

With best wishes,

Tessa Wild

Curator London and South East