

39 AMPTON STREET, LONDON WC1X 0LT

DESIGN, ACCESS & HERITAGE STATEMENT

The Listed Building application relates to the communal entrance hall and staircase serving the two maisonettes.



1. Site Analysis

39 Ampton Street is a four-storey terrace property built during the first half of the 19th Century (c.1820) by William Cubitt. It is Grade II listed and in the Bloomsbury Conservation Area. Extracts from 'Bloomsbury Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Strategy' – Adopted 18 April 2011:

Development occurred between 1801 and 1832 to the east of Gray's Inn Road, on land sloping down to the River Fleet, The scale of these streets is lesser than those to the west; this may be due to their proximity to river Acton Street, Frederick Street and Ampton Street were built to the designs of William and Thomas Cubitt. Wren Street and Calthorpe Street, further to the south, were planned by the Cubitt brothers from 1816 and were developed up to around 1850.

Frederick Street/Ampton Street

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 east end of Ampton Street, as it slopes down towards the culverted River Fleet, is lined by later 20th century housing, which although modern, respects the scale of the adjoining 19th development. Sage Way occupies land on the north side and consists of a low-rise, honey-colour brick development of flats. The blocks depend on three-dimensional modelling rather than ornament to provide interest, and range from four to five storeys, taking advantage of the change in land levels. The development is softened by planting within its curtilage. On the south side, is a short row of 1980s four-storey maisonettes, which were developed as part of the Wells Square development to the south, most of which lies outside the Conservation Area. This terrace shares much of the architectural vocabulary of its opposite neighbours, and has been described by Nikolaus Pevsner as 'low-key neo-vernacular'.

The property is part of a portfolio of properties acquired by Community Housing Association in the 1970's in Frederick Street, Ampton Place and Ampton Street. 39 Ampton Street was converted into two maisonettes 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 services (mechanical and electrical installations), kitchen fitting and bathrooms together with all other necessary repairs. Targeted improvements to the internal layouts of the maisonettes, flats and bedsits may also be proposed on a property-by-property, unit-by-unit basis.

39 Ampton Street is one of several properties being upgraded in the sixth phase.

3. Design Solution and impact on heritage assets

Planning and listed building consent applications were recently submitted for the improvement works. The new listed building consent application seeks approval for the introduction of sound reducing underlay beneath the carpeting in the communal entrance hall and staircase leading to the upper maisonette. The installation of the noise reducing underlay will occur above existing floor boards, scribed around all existing original features, such as skirting boards, architraves, door linings etc. Similarly, hardwood thresholds are to be applied at relevant door openings to accommodate any variation in the thickness of adjacent floor finishes.

The proposed alterations are discreet and have no adverse impact on the listed building. They do not harm the building and are reversible. The alterations serve to improve the sound insulation between different parts of the dwellings and therefore make a positive contribution to the standard of the accommodation.

4. Access

There are no proposed changes affecting the access arrangements to the property.

5. Affect on neighbours

The proposals will have no affect on neighbours.

6. Landscaping

The proposals do not include any changes to landscaping.

7. Appendix

English Heritage List Entry Summary for 21-39 Ampton Street.

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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 21-39 AND ATTACHED RAILINGS

List entry Number: 1246998

Location

NUMBERS 21-39 AND ATTACHED RAILINGS, 21-39, AMPTON 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: 476609

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 AMPTON STREET 798-1/91/46 (South side) 25/10/71 Nos.21-39 (Odd) and attached railings

GV II

Terrace of 10 houses. c1819-23. By Thomas Cubitt. Symmetrical terrace with slightly projecting central block (Nos 27-33). Nos 21-25 & 35-39: yellow stock brick and stucco ground floor with plain stucco 1st floor sill band. 3 storeys and basements. 2 windows each. Round-arched ground floor openings. Doorways with pilaster-jambes, cornice-heads, fanlights (No.37 radial patterned) and panelled doors. Nos 23 & 37 ground floor sashes with pointed lights. Upper floors with gauged brick arches to recessed sashes; 1st floor No.35 with cast-iron balconies. Parapets; Nos 35-39 stuccoed. Nos

27-33: stucco with plain 1st floor band. 3 storeys and basements. 1 window each, upper floors in slightly projecting bays. Round-arched ground floor openings. Doorways with pilaster-jambs, cornice-heads, Nos 29-33 patterned fanlights, and panelled doors. No.33 ground floor sash with pointed lights. 1st floor windows of 4 lights, with cast-iron balconies, in shallow, segmental-arched recesses. 2nd floor, tripartite sashes in shallow, segmental-arched recesses. Parapets. INTERIORS: not inspected. SUBSIDIARY FEATURES: attached cast-iron railings with urn finials to areas. HISTORICAL NOTE: No.33 was the home of Thomas Carlyle (LCC plaque). (Survey of London: Vol. XXIV, King's Cross Neighbourhood, Parish of St Pancras IV: London: -1952: 63).

Listing NGR: TQ3066982606

Selected Sources

- Article Reference** - *Title:* Survey of London - Kings Cross neighbourhood The Parish of St Pancras Part 4: Volume 24 - *Date:* 1951 - *Journal Title:* Survey of London - *Page References:* 63

National Grid Reference: TQ 30669 82606

Map



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