

Gentet, Matthias

From: Ricci De Freitas [REDACTED]
Sent: 18 April 2017 08:40
To: Gentet, Matthias
Cc: Planning
Subject: 2017/1924/A

Dear Matthias
Re: 2017/1924/A

The Marchmont Association objects to the proposal to install a mural/advertisement on the historic wall of 33 Tavistock Place.

Although the building was not listed at the time buildings of similar age and design were listed in the 1970s, it is nevertheless of historical importance, along with the adjacent mews, which still has its original 200-year-old cobble stones. The buildings were both considered worthy of attention in the *Survey of London*:

"In the former Compton Street, Nos. 33 and 37 survive. No. 33 is a baker's shop, with two storeys above of old brickwork and a later attic. No. 37 has a shop and a large gateway that led to the stable buildings to the north. The upper storeys are stuccoed and have architraves and pediments to the windows."

We are aware that the historic brick wall in question (under the arch) was painted white without the owner's consent a few years ago, which we understood to have been settled by way of a 'compensation arrangement' between the respective parties, without the involvement of the Planning authority. The same wall has been intermittently painted grey and blue towards the rear of this historic building (like that on the rear of 37 Tavistock Place), no doubt with the intention of 'improving' the ambience of the locality, but again without reference to its historic importance.

This further incursion will 'rub salt into the wounds' of an already very unhappy state of affairs.

The proposed mural would appear to be simply intended to 'brighten up' the approach to the Generator Hostel, with its content having no other connection with either the host building or the locality, which is within the Bloomsbury Conservation Area.

We would respectfully request that this application be refused and that measures be taken to restore the brickwork on both 33 and 37 Tavistock Place to their original state.

Yours faithfully
Ricci de Freitas
Chair – Marchmont Association