



Historic England

LONDON OFFICE

Ms Sarah Freeman  
London Borough of Camden  
Town Hall  
Argyle Street  
London  
WC1H 8ND

Direct Dial: 020 7973 3763

Our ref: L00617870

1 August 2017

Dear Ms Freeman

**Arrangements for Handling Heritage Applications Direction 2015 &  
T&CP (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015  
5 GREAT JAMES STREET LONDON WC1N 3DB  
Application No 2017/3927/L**

Thank you for consulting Historic England on the listed building consent application for various alterations associated with the upgrading of fire protection to the Grade II\* listed terraced house at 5 Great James Street. It was very useful to visit the property this morning with you.

#### **Historic England Advice**

As set out in the description of works, the proposed upgrading would include the 'replacement of doors to (the) stairwell at all levels'. Whilst we would normally expect to see a door schedule to support this application, on the basis of our inspection, many of the stairwell doors (with the exception of the top floor flats) appear to be original, or certainly historic. As such we would strongly resist their replacement, and would encourage the Applicant to consider less intrusive measures such as sensitively applying intumescent paint and strips to the existing doors. The specification for this work and any associated improvements to the door locks should be provided either with the application or by condition.

The work also includes the installation of a stud partition wall along the staircase of Flat 3 between the second and third floors. Although this area of the building has already undergone extensive alterations as part of the subdivision into two separate flats, the proposed partitioning would effectively encase a section of the original banister. The neighbouring Flat 2 already has a modern stud partition separating it from Flat 3, and we would therefore strongly recommend that options are explored to upgrade the existing partitioning rather than creating a new intervention within Flat 3. As noted on site, we would welcome any opportunities to improve the relationship between the existing partitioning and historic mouldings as part of this work.

#### **Recommendation**



1 WATERHOUSE SQUARE 138-142 HOLBORN LONDON EC1N 2ST

Telephone 020 7973 3700  
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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 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



**Alasdair Young**

Inspector of Historic Buildings and Areas

E-mail: [alasdair.young@HistoricEngland.org.uk](mailto:alasdair.young@HistoricEngland.org.uk)



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