

# 16 FREDERICK STREET, LONDON WC1X 0ND

## **DESIGN, ACCESS & HERITAGE STATEMENT**

The Planning and Listed Building applications relate to basement flat and upper maisonette 16B Frederick Street



6214-FS16-design, access & heritage statement.docx



## 1. Site Analysis

16 Frederick Street is a three-storey and basement terrace property built by William Cubitt during the first half of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century (c.1830). It is Grade II listed and is in the Bloomsbury Conservation Area. It is located on the northern side of the street.

Extracts from 'Bloomsbury Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Strategy' – Adopted 18 April 2011:

## Calthorpe Street/Frederick Street.

This sub area is situated on the eastern edge of the Bloomsbury Conservation Area, east of Gray's Inn Road, and abuts the boundary with the London Borough of Islington. It comprises an area of mainly terraced housing built on the Swinton and Calthorpe Estates to the east of Gray's Inn Road, an historic route dating back at least to Medieval times. It is one of the few parts of the Conservation Area that has a noticeable fall from west to east, being on the west side of King's Cross Road which follows the valley of the now culverted River Fleet. The northernmost part around Swinton Street was developed in the late 18th century following the construction of New Road (now Euston Road) and a small suburb to the north of this area around Battle Bridge. The remainder of the area was developed over the period 1820 to 1850 by the builder Thomas Cubitt who had his yard in this area. A notable pattern is the progression of development from west to east and the gradual variation in the detailed treatment of the frontages. In the 1860s the excavation for the new Metropolitan Railway cutting bisected Swinton Street and Acton Street towards their eastern end.

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 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. 16 Frederick Street was converted into a maisonette and two flats in the mid 1980s. Improvement works were carried out to the ground floor studio flat (16B) in 2013.

## 2. Development Objectives

Community Housing Association is intending to carry 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 will consist of the essential renewal of the services (mechanical and electrical installations), kitchen fitting and bathrooms together with all other necessary repairs. Improvements to the fire resistance of plasterboarded partitions and ceilings are also proposed



together with the installation of a fire alarm system to safeguard the communal circulation areas.

16 Frederick Street is one of several properties planned for upgrading in the seventh phase.

## 3. Design Solution and impact on heritage assets

The layouts of the basement flat and upper maisonette are to be retained with only a handful of minor alterations (kitchen layout alterations, new boilers, etc.), which are all shown on the submitted drawings.

Planning consent and Listed Building consent are therefore sought for these works together with the following:

- where non-original timber basement windows and doors are found to be beyond repair they are to be replaced to match existing (or as otherwise indicated on the drawings) including new double glazing
- new basement panelled front door together with metal security gate
- Selectaglaze secondary glazing (locations identified on drawings)
- new double glazed casement window in existing dormer in attic room
- a communal satellite dish (painted black) is also proposed to the main roof (mounted on chimney stack to rear of London roof)

Listed Building consent is also sought for the addition of plasterboard dry-lining on a protective membrane to the existing basement brick walls (external, party and spine walls) replastered in the 1980's with sand cement render. After much research and finally consulting the Building Research Establishment (BRE) their advice is that either the damp render should be hacked off (with the potential to damage to the underlying historic brickwork) and replastered, or a damp-resistant membrane should be applied over the damp/defective render and finished with plasterboard dry lining. The latter is their preferred solution as it is the most effective and reversible and has been approved in principle by Camden. It will add only 28mm to the thickness of the wall and is relatively minor and quite discreet. Drawings of the critical junctions with windows are also submitted to illustrate how the additional thickness is to be married with existing features, such as splayed window reveals.

The proposed alterations are minor and discreet – they will generally not be noticeable from the street and will therefore have no adverse impact on the listed building. Double-glazing is being proposed only to new joinery that is replacing defective non-original joinery (doors/casement windows) and located in the basement and attic. The changes do not harm the building nor do they affect any original features, they are reversible and will positively contribute to the stock of housing in the area by improving the quality and standard of accommodation available.

### 4. Access

There are no proposed changes affecting the access arrangements.

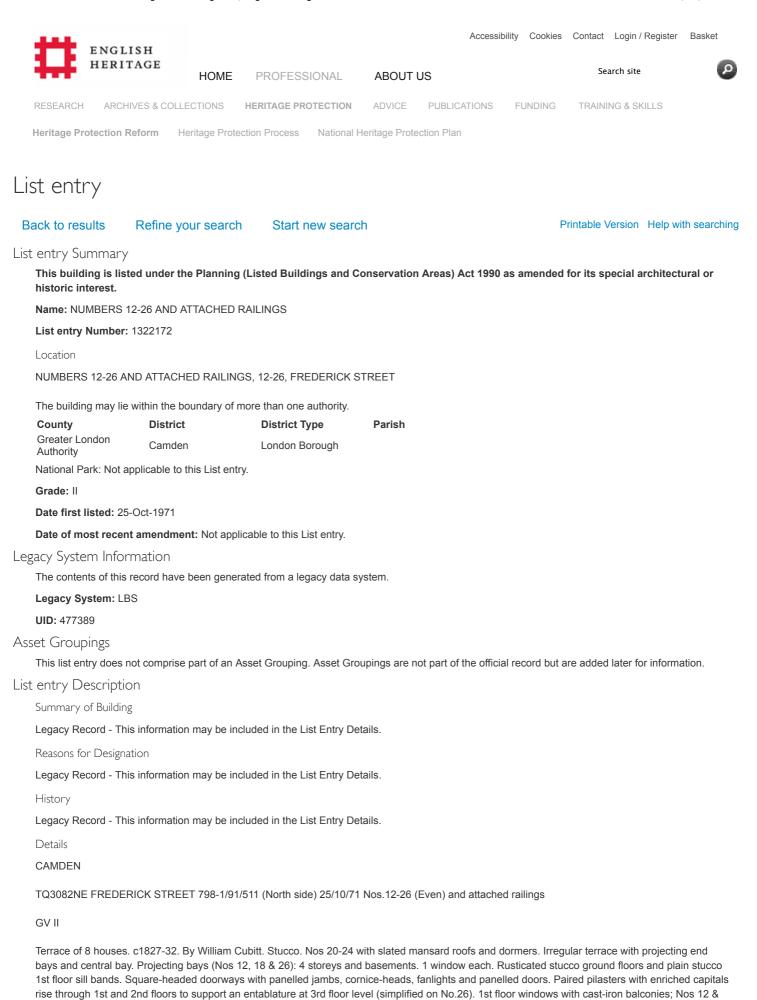


## 5. Affect on neighbours

The proposals will have no affect on neighbours.

## 6. Appendix

English Heritage List Entry Summary for 12-26 Frederick Street.



http://list.english-heritage.org.uk/resultsingle.aspx?uid=1322172

#### 1322172 - The National Heritage List for England | English Heritage

18 with 4-light windows and No.26 with tripartite sash. 2nd floor, recessed sashes with sill band. Nos 12 & 18 3rd floors with paired pilasters flanking recessed sashes and carrying cornice and blocking course. No.26 with paired pilaster strips rising to the top of the parapet and flanking a C20 window. Recessed bays (Nos 14, 16 and 20-24): 3 storeys and basements; Nos 20-24 with attics. 2 windows each. Square-headed doorways with panelled jambs, cornice-heads, fanlights and panelled doors. 1st and 2nd floor sill bands. Recessed sashes; Ist floor with cast-iron balconies. No.20 with cast-iron foliated and floral window guard on ground floor. Nos 14 and 16, entablature and blocking course. Nos 20-24 entablature without cornice. INTERIORS: not inspected. SUBSIDIARY FEATURES: attached cast-iron railings with bud finials to areas. (Survey of London: Vol. XXIV, King's Cross Neighbourhood, Parish of St Pancras IV: London: -1952: 64).

#### Listing NGR: TQ3074082723

### Selected Sources

1. 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: 64

National Grid Reference: TQ 30740 82723

#### Map



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