

**LBC – Technical Advice and confirmation of positioning – blue plaque  
John Thelwall at 40 Bedford Place, WC1B 5JT**

**From:** Harper, Ian  
**Sent:** 12 December 2017 19:24  
**To:** Spencer, Howard  
**Cc:** Power, Cathy  
**Subject:** RE: BP - John Thelwall - positioning

I am happy for you to go for the 'within the tramlines' position. The stucco lines will have to be carefully filled beneath the curves of the top and bottom edges of the plaque in such a way as to ensure the top and bottom edge-lines of the grooves still appear to be continuous.

Best wishes,

Ian H

Ian Harper | Architect, Heritage at Risk  
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**From:** Harper, Ian  
**Sent:** 06 November 2017 20:59  
**To:** Power, Cathy  
**Subject:** RE: blue plaques advice - Thelwall

Dear Cathy,

We discussed briefly by telephone on 3<sup>rd</sup> November when I expressed a little concern about the plaque location vertically in its bay.

The choice of the bay itself is fairly obvious. However, there is something a little unsatisfactory about the appearance of the plaque set tightly between two of the recessed lines in the stucco.

On construction, this solid brick masonry wall, with lined stucco finish, is well able to carry the indented plaque. As with previous stucco finishes, the stucco should be cut back first, working away from the solid, and to a slightly larger diameter than the necessary brickwork indent. There is a chance the stucco may be very hard Roman cement, or even OPC, in which extra care will be need to drill and cut the stucco for fear of loosening large sheets of the material.

Let me know if there is any further query.

With best wishes,

Ian H

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