

The Danish Church

DESIGN & ACCESS STATEMENT
HERITAGE STATEMENT

MAY 2018

C.F. Møller



St Katharine's
Den Danske Kirke i London

CONTENTS

- 1. Introduction** 3
- 2. Site and Context**
 - St. Katharine’s Precinct..... 6
 - Mapped Timeline 7
 - Recent Developments..... 8
- 3. Danish Church Today**
 - Church Calendar10
- 4. Existing**
 - Site Photos12
 - Historical Drawings14
 - Existing in Summary16
- 5. Proposed - Site**
 - Proposed in Summary.....18
 - Access 20
 - Roof Plans..... 22
- 6. Justifications**..... 24
- 7. Consultation** 26
- 8. Proposals in Detail**
 - A - North Wing..... 28
 - B - Heating 42
 - C - The Vicarage 44
 - D - South Garden..... 60
 - E - East Wall 76
- 9. Appendix**
 - Schedule of Works..... 78
 - Surveys 80

1 | INTRODUCTION

C.F. Møller Architects are delighted to submit this Design and Access and Heritage Statement to the London Borough of Camden. The document describes the proposed development at The Danish Church, located in the Grade II* Listed St. Katharine's Church in Regent's Park, London.

Overview

Client & Site Location

The Danish Church,
4 St. Katharine's Precinct,
London, NW1 4HH
United Kingdom

This report is submitted on behalf of St. Katharine's, The Danish Church in London, and aims to support the full planning and listed building consent applications with the London Borough of Camden.



The Royal Hospital of St. Katharine, Regent's Park, etching -1827

1 | INTRODUCTION



The Danish Church in London has had a presence in London since 1692. The Royal Danish Embassy played a significant role in negotiations with The Crown Estate, leading to the Danish congregation relocating to the beautiful St. Katharine's Church in Regent's Park in 1952.

Background to the Project

C.F. Møller Architects are delighted to have the opportunity to work on the development of the Danish Church in London. C.F. Møller was founded in Denmark in 1924 and we welcome the chance to engage with the Danish community in London.

As a practice we are not driven by the need to make individual statements on our projects, but rather by the desire to work with our clients in order to create meaningful and long-lasting architectural interventions. We continually aim to seek the rich potential embedded in every site and brief in order to create a strong sense of place.

Today, the Danish Church in London is in more demand than ever. Throughout the year, thousands of Danes gather at St Katharine's for a host of religious, cultural and social events.

In order to sustain the growing activity and outreach programmes, the church urgently requires a better use of its space through a considered and comprehensive refurbishment.

We believe this invites the opportunity to create an incredibly unique refurbishment, which represents the Danish chapter of the church's history.

*Overleaf:
Aerial view of the
Danish Church and
St. Katharine's Precinct*



2 | SITE & CONTEXT



View in the Regent's Park, East Gate - T. Shepherd, S. Lacey - 1828

The Church of St. Katharine's is a notable Grade II* Listed Neo-Gothic church on the eastern boundary of Regent's Park in London.

The Regent's Park

Amongst other designations, Regent's Park is a Registered Historic Park and Garden, Listed Grade 1, and a distinguished component of the capital. Most of the Park itself and its Western boundaries fall within Westminster; only the Eastern boundaries fall within Camden. Within those Eastern boundaries, however, lie the Royal College of Physicians, Cambridge Terrace, Chester Terrace, Cumberland Terrace and Gloucester Gate; this is one of the finest park boundaries in the world. Within it, between those last two named groups sits St Katherine's Precinct, a small but elegant piece of urban landscape enclosed by associated buildings.

St. Katharine's

St Katherine's Hospital was moved to Regent's Park when its original site, next to the tower of London, was excavated to make way for St Katherine's Dock. The Hospital Chapel which commands the Precinct also faced St Katherine's Lodge, to the W within the Park, until this was demolished after the Second World War when the Foundation moved back to E London and the Chapel became the Danish Church. Designed by Ambrose Poynter in 1826, the church is an early example of the Gothic Revival style although its plan and the layout of the

whole Precinct is essentially Palladian in its simplicity and symmetry. The large central church is linked by curved wings to what were once domestic quarters and are now private houses. There were originally large open spaces to the north and south of the church. That to the north has since been built on almost entirely and that to the south reduced in size. The South Garden, however, remains important for the operation of the Danish church.

Site Description

The Danish Church is listed Grade II* under the 1990 Act. It's List entry Number is 1245872. The List Entry Summary describes the church as, "...1826-1828. By Ambrose Poynter... Restored 1969. Grey brick with stone dressings; west end with stone facing. Tall, collegiate type chapel in Perpendicular style of 7 bays. Attached to and flanking the church, No.4 The Pastor's House and No.5 St Katharine's Hall".

The Summary continues with a description of the exterior and interior of the church itself, and concludes with a historical note. Other than the above, no mention is made of either the Pastor's House, nor of the Hall, nor of the garden.

Of course, this does not denote that they are unimportant, nor that they would be altered without careful thought. It might,

however, be taken to reinforce what seems apparent and is certainly clear from all the C19 engravings of the assembly of buildings.

Namely, that Poynter's design was primarily concerned with the elevational effect of the west end of the chapel, flanked by the ends of the Hall and the Pastor's House. Further, that he was concerned with the spatial effect of that group, framed in turn by the two screens and two groups of houses which reach forward to welcome visitors from The Regent's Park opposite.

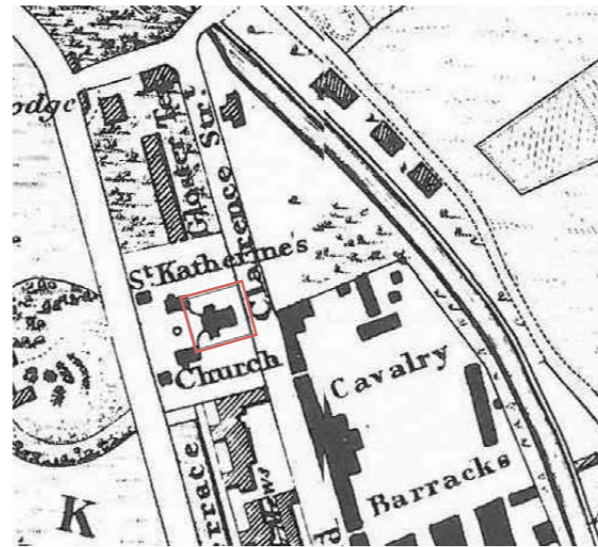
On the other hand, it might be reasonably assumed that neither the side elevations of the Hall and Pastor's House, nor their interiors, were of huge interest to Poynter and so that perhaps they do not represent a major contribution to the character of the Listed Building. One might argue, in fact, that those north and south facing elevations are the equivalent of the backs of the adjacent houses at Nos. 1-3 and 6-9 St. Katherine's Precinct. Certainly, the Danish Church's north and south gardens are private in the same way as are the gardens of those other houses in the Precinct, gardens within several of which some very significant alterations (to nos. 1, 2, 6 and 8) have already gained Planning and Listed Building Consents.

Text prepared by Paul Vonberg, Heritage Consultant and Historic Building Advisor to the project.

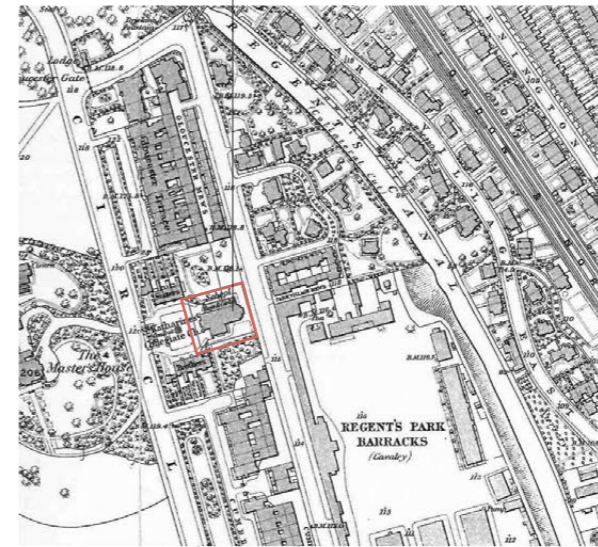
Mapped Timeline



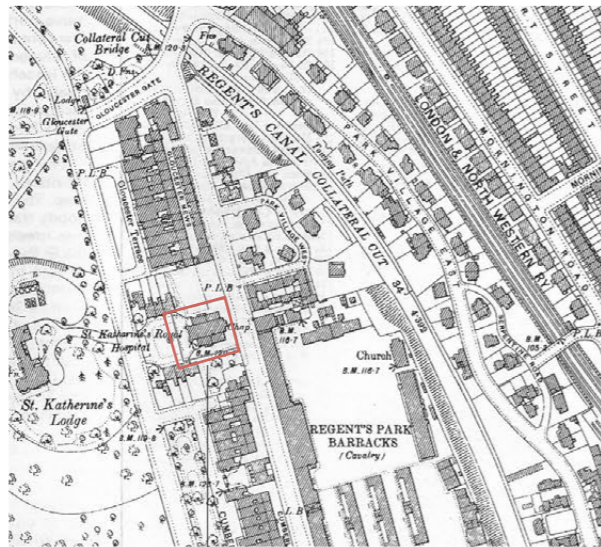
1769



1824-26



1870



1894

South Wing
Second extension completed



1939-45 (SHOWING BOMB DAMAGE POST WORLD WAR II)

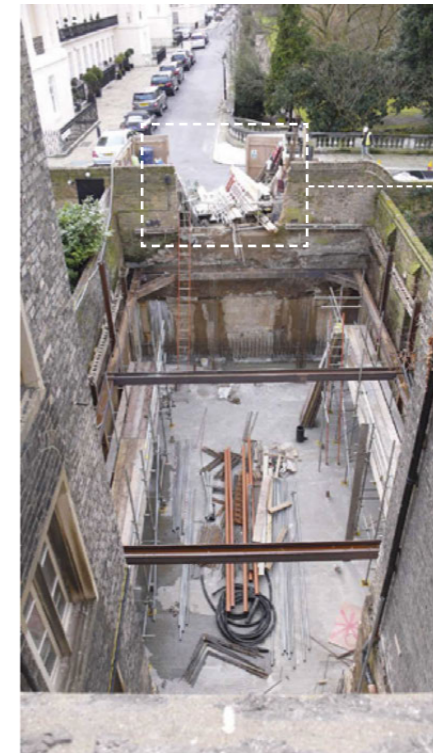
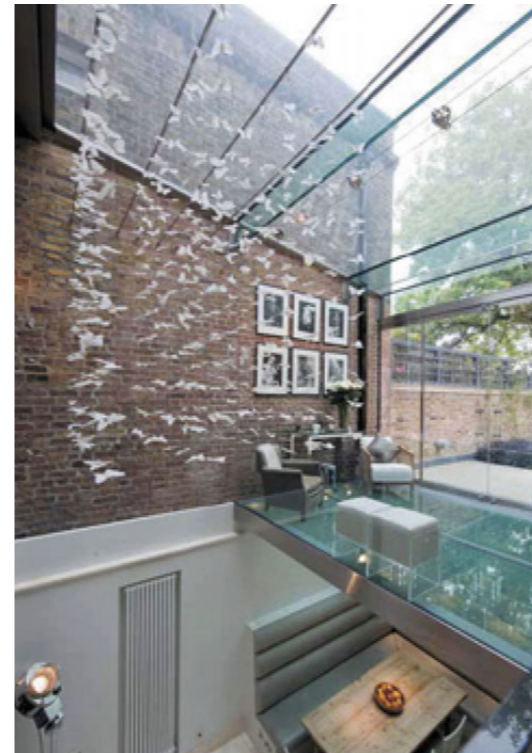


1952
The Danish Church moves to St. Katharine's

2 | SITE & CONTEXT

Recent Neighbouring Developments St. Katharine's Precinct

The adjacent images illustrate no.'s 1, 2, 6, 7 and 8 of St. Katharine's Precinct, directly neighbouring St. Katharine's Church. The developments vary in size but mainly contain large-scale, full contemporary basement extensions.



Back wall temporarily removed and hoarding constructed to form site entrance



Contemporary insertion to historical fabric



Full garden basement extension

Site Location Plan

1:1250



- Site Boundary
- St. Katharine's Precinct

3 | THE DANISH CHURCH TODAY

Modersmål er vort hjertesprog, kun løs er al fremmed tale - our mother tongue is the language of the heart, all foreign tongues are but loose, Grundtvig said.

Community

Language is an important part of the Danish identity, and the Church's classes in Danish language and culture are amongst the most popular activities. We define community as the structure of a place that enables mutual comfort, purpose and quality of life.

We believe it is vital that the Danish Church in London is able to modernise the teaching and outreach facilities, and stay at the centre of the Danish community in London.

The Church Hall, the Nave and meeting rooms are currently used at full capacity and we seek to improve these essential facilities by rethinking use of space and improving the connection to the South Garden.

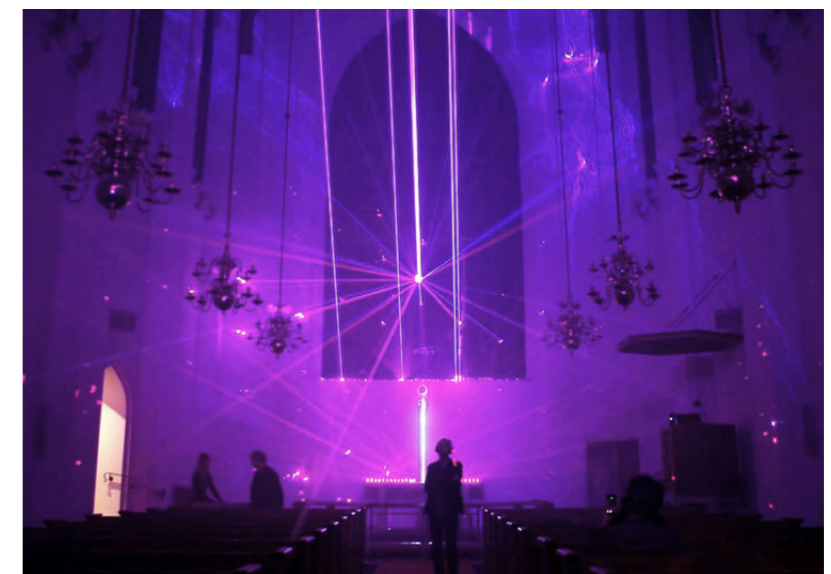
Church Calendar



Hosting weddings



Informal weekend games



Nave - Frieze Art Fair light installation, 2015



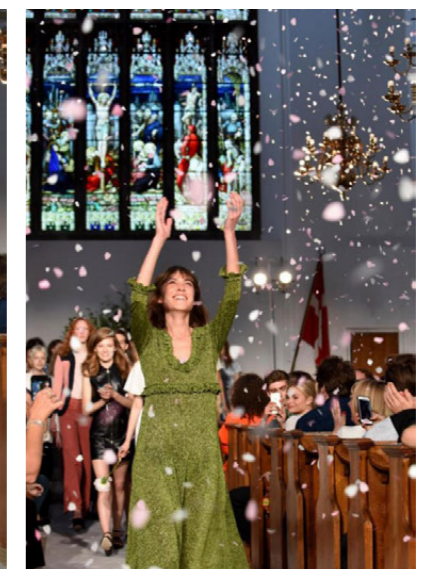
Nave - The Annual Bazaar, every May



Outdoor Market - The Annual Bazaar, every May



Fashion show - June 2017



Recent events



C.F. Møller presentation to the church congregation, April 2018



Project consultant team start-up meeting



Fete with Dania School, April 2018



4 | EXISTING

North Wing



Church Hall



North Wing Entrance



North Wing Kitchen

The Vicarage



Vicarage Living Room



Lower Ground Meeting Room



Lower Ground Kitchen