# Historical background and context



## 1.1 Melia White House Refurbishment Proposal

#### Design Statement

This report addresses the Melia Hotel International Group's wish to refurbish the existing restaurant, reception and office areas.

Refurbishment of the ground floor includes the alteration to the floor plan: new reception area, change of use of the old offices area to a new open-plan bar, new restaurant with an open kitchen, new meeting rooms and bathrooms to complement all the facilities.

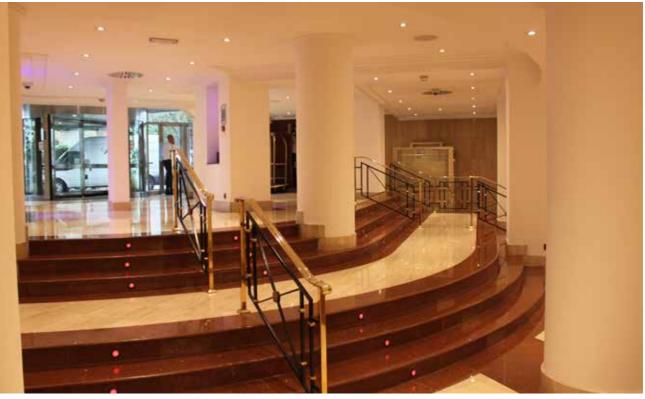
The current ground floor interior layout and decoration of the building was completed in 1999 -2000. The original interior layout or detailing do not appear to remain. This is highlighted in detail within the Donald Insall Associates' Historic Building Report' – Annex No 1. Overall the works will improve the dated refurbishment of the early 2000s.

The aim is to open up the spaces to improve floor to ceiling heights and traffic flow. The existing MEP installation is to be fully replaced with an enhanced green system, as detailed in the MEP report by MH Associates - Annex No2.

The new interior has been designed by Melia Hotel Group designers ASAH - Appendix. The quality of the detailing and materials will enhance the quality of the hotel.



Melia White House main entrance and front elevation



Melia White House Entrance Lobby

### 1.2 Background

#### The Site

The site is located on the east side of Albany Street, bounded by Longford Street to the north, Osnaburgh Terrace to the south and Osnaburgh Street to the east. The main entrance fronts onto Osnaburgh Terrace. It is a short distance from Euston Road and Great Portland Street Underground, with a PTAL rating of 6b.



1812 Plan of Regents Park

#### The White House

The building is a Grade II listed, 9 storey structure arranged in a star shape. The building was originally constructed in 1936 as serviced flats but is currently used as a hotel, known as The Melia White House Hotel. The elevations are clad in pale cream faience tiles which are slightly darker to the ground floor and to the banding at each floor.

From 1959 the building was gradually converted into a hotel and by 1970 the building operated officially in hotel use. In 1972 the hotel was purchased by Rank Organisation who undertook a three-year renovation. During the 1980s a new lift system was installed and many of the public and private areas were refurbished, including the main lobby, the bar and the bedrooms. By 1990 a business centre, leisure centre and new conference and banqueting suites had been formed. Between 1974 and 1995 the building was altered with the addition of several extensions located between the west and east wings, which on-site inspections have revealed are single storey.

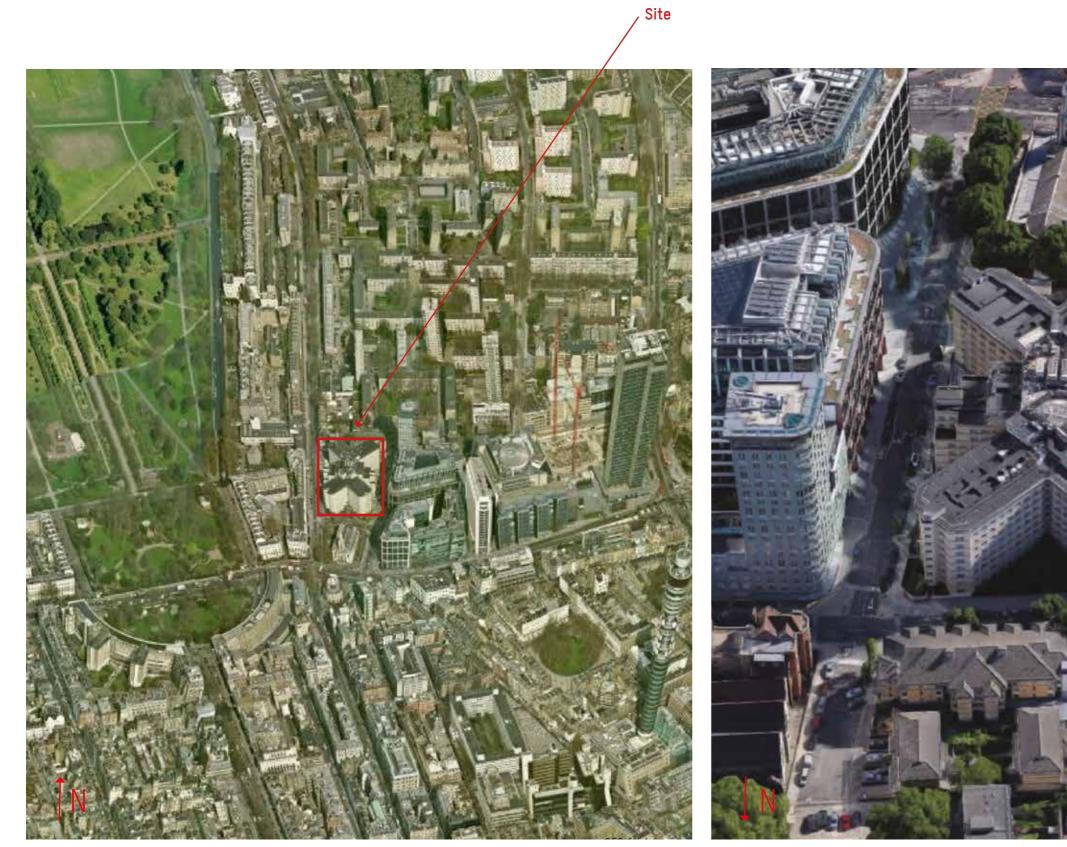


The White House, Osnaburah Street and environs, Regents Park 1946

Sol Meliá is the hotel operator of the building since 1999 and completed a major renovation project, including works to the entrance lobby, bedrooms, meeting rooms and restaurant. The total number of available hotel bedrooms is 548.

# 1.3 Site Photos

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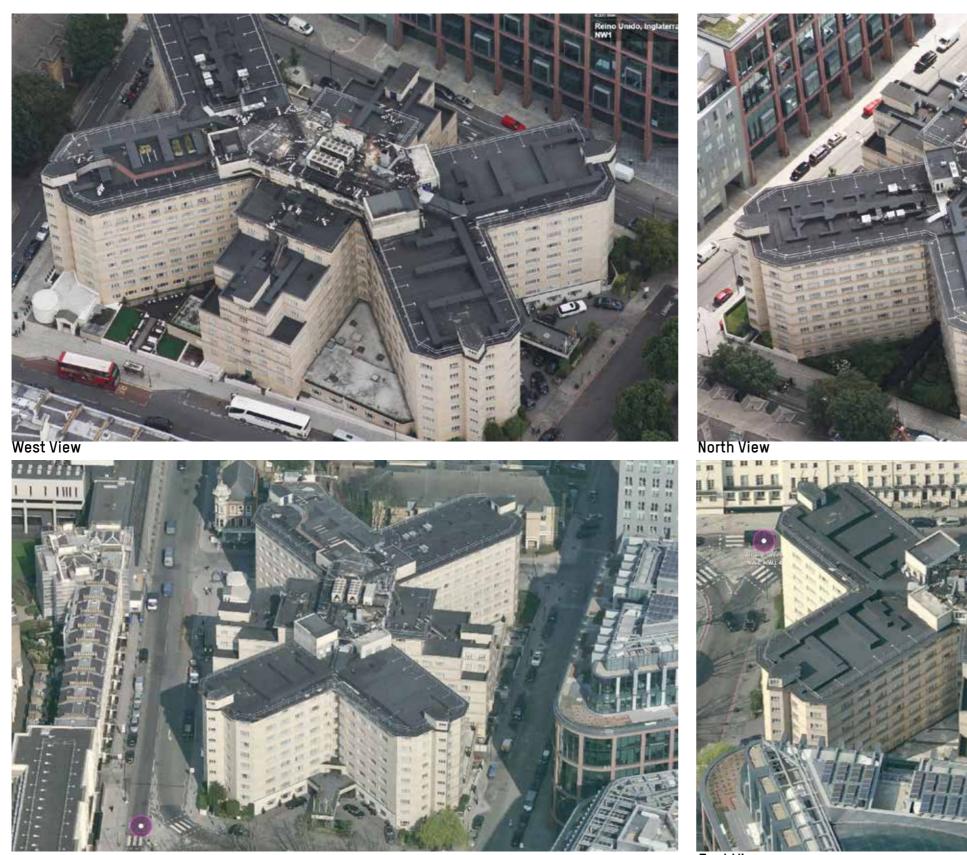


Aerial View looking North



Aerial View looking South

1.3 Site Photos



South View

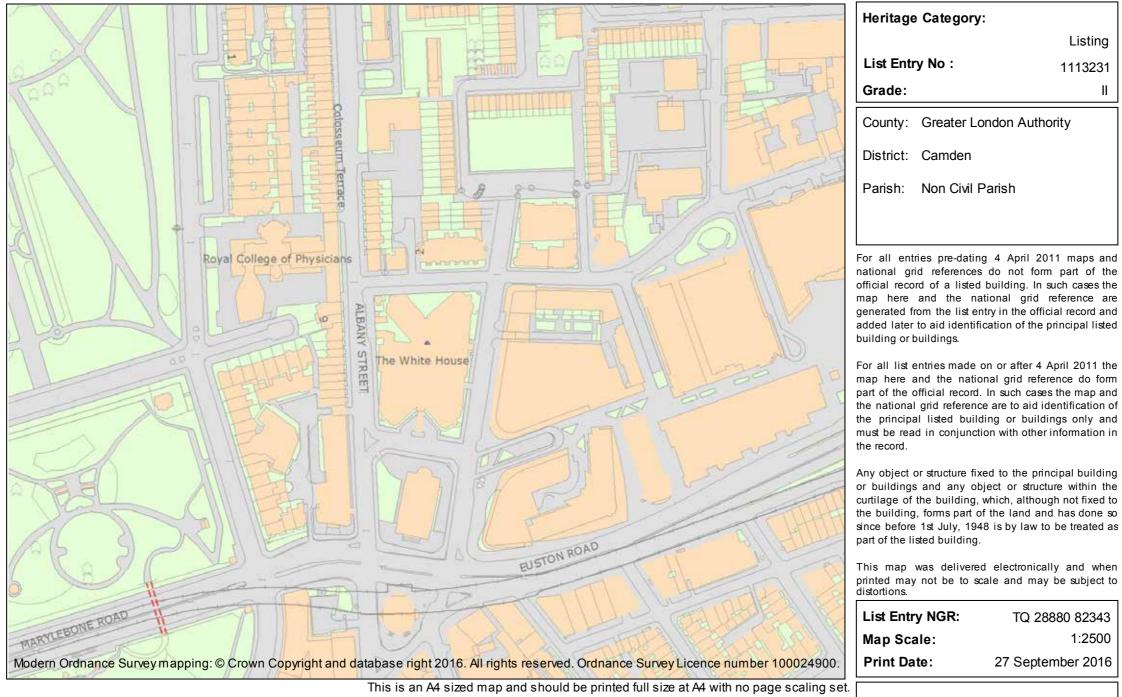
East View





## 1.4 Listed Building





Name: THE WHITE HOUSE

Listing 1113231 

TQ 28880 82343 1:2500

27 September 2016

Historic England

HistoricEngland.org.uk

## 1.4 Listed Building

### https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1113231

#### List Entry Summary Legacy System Information This building is listed under the Planning (Listed The contents of this record have been generated from Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 as a legacy data system. amended for its special architectural or historic Legacy System: LBS UID: 477681 interest. Asset Groupings Name: THE WHITE HOUSE This list entry does not comprise part of an Asset Grouping. Asset Groupings are not part of the official List entry Number: 1113231 record but are added later for information. List entry Description Location Summary of Building Legacy Record - This information may be included in THE WHITE HOUSE, ALBANY STREET the List Entry Details. THE WHITE HOUSE, OSNABURGH TERRACE Reasons for Designation The building may lie within the boundary of more than Legacy Record - This information may be included in the List Entry Details. one authority. History Legacy Record - This information may be included in County: Greater London Authority the List Entry Details. District: Camden District Type: London Borough Details Parish: ALBANY STREET 11-JAN-1999 The White House National Park: Not applicable to this List entry.

Grade: II Date first listed: 11-Jan-1999

Date of most recent amendment: Not applicable to this List entry.

Bibliography 8011 Robert Atkinson 1883-1952 (Paul Spencer Longhurst), 1989, Page (s) 36,37 Listing NGR: TQ2888082343 Selected Sources Books and journals Spencer Longhurst, P, Robert Atkinson 1883-1952, (1989), 36,37

### Includes: The White House, OSNABURGH TERRACE

Former serviced flats, now a hotel. 1936. By Robert Atkinson. Steel frame clad in pale cream faience tiles, slightly darker to ground floor and bands. Starshaped plan providing optimum light and ventilation without light-wells. 9 storeys. Diagonal blocks have chamfered angles and central triangular bays which extend above the roof line. 3-light Crittal windows have continuous sill bands and meet at angles of triangular bays. Original steel windows remain in situ to the north-east and central west ranges; all other windows have been replaced with UPVC windows of a similar design in c.1992. Main entrance to Osnaburgh Terrace altered but subsidiary entrance on Albany Street with good moulded doorcase with figurative frieze, approached by steps with original cast-iron handrail. Flat roof with projecting eaves. INTERIOR: not inspected. Spencer-Longhurst P (ed.): Robert Atkinson 1883-1952: Architectural Association: 1989-; 36-37).

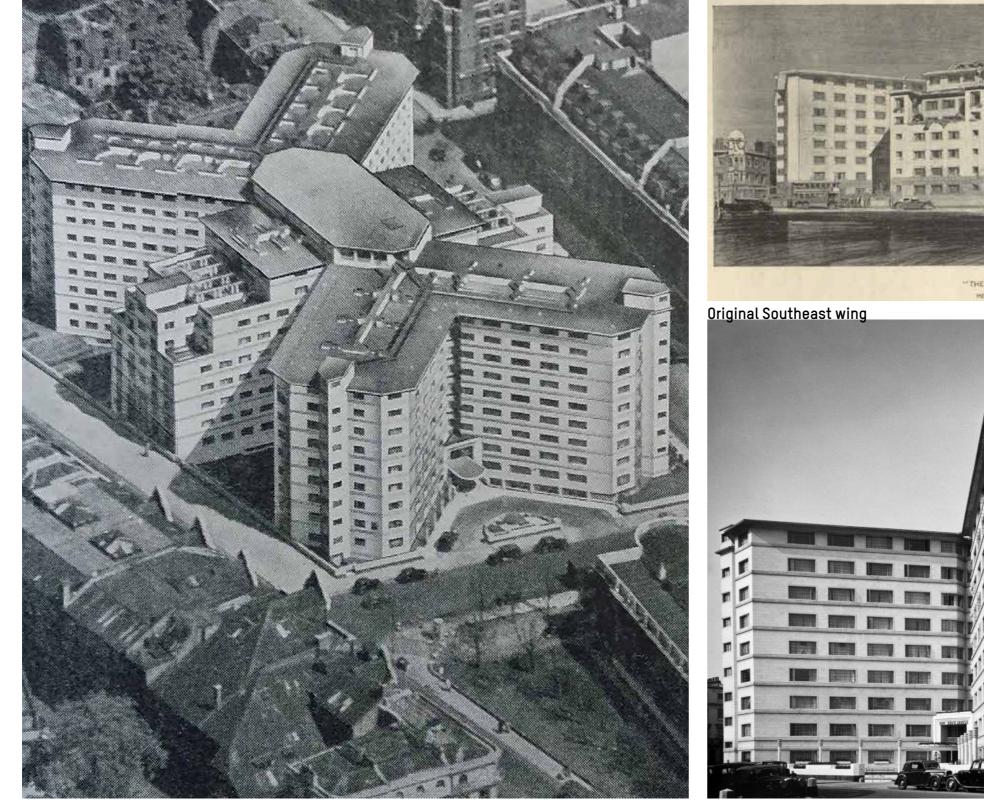
National Grid Reference: TQ 28880 82343

# 1.4 Historic Fabric / Original Design 1936











"THE WHITE HOUSE." REGENT'S PARK, N.W. HESSAE, ROBERT ATEINTON, FRURA, Archara.

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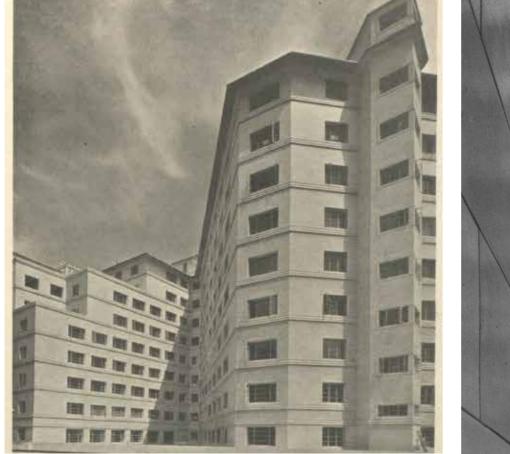
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# 1.4 Historic Fabric / Original Design 1936



Original view / West-Southwest wings



Original view / Main entrance







<u> Original view / Main entrance - Southeast wing</u>