Design and Access Statement

RIBA Stage 3

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Units 2-4, 112-124 Camden High Street

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This Report has been prepared for Penwell Design Concepts Ltd to redevelop Units 2-4, 112-124, Camden High Street with additional space at second floor level

Pre Application Submission

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How everyone can get to and move through the place on equal terms regardless of age, disability, ethnicity or social grouping.

Introduction

Site Location and Context

Introduction

Units 2-4, 112-124, Camden High Street are part of a 1980's terrace with two ancilliary office storeys above ground floor retail. Units 2-4 correspond to street numbers 114-120 which are currently occupied by the Post Office at 114-120 and Vision Express at 122.

The purpose of the scheme is to improve & increase the amount of lettable office space by:

- a. Providing a new entrance on the high street for the offices.
- b. Creating a new centrally located stair and lift core enabling more flexible floor layouts above ground level.
- c. Extending at 2nd floor at the rear.

The Response to Planning Policy is being provided by Savills Planning Consultants who as planning agents are submitting this Design and Access Statement on behalf of Penwell Design Concepts Ltd

Site Location and Context

Units 2-4, 112-124, Camden High Street is located centrally within Camden about 200m South of Camden Town underground station.

The site is within the Camden Town conservation area. The townscape appraisal map does not indicate it as either a positive or a negative building/site within the conservation area.

The site is neither statutory or locally listed.

The site sits within a block framed by Camden High Street to the West, Greenland Street to the North, Bayham Street to the East and Pratt Street to the South. The block contains a courtyard/service yard, accessed from Bayham street which the site backs onto.



Introduction

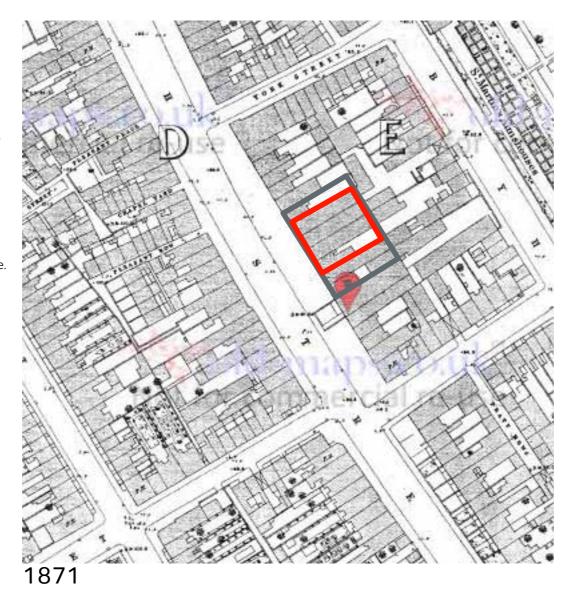
History

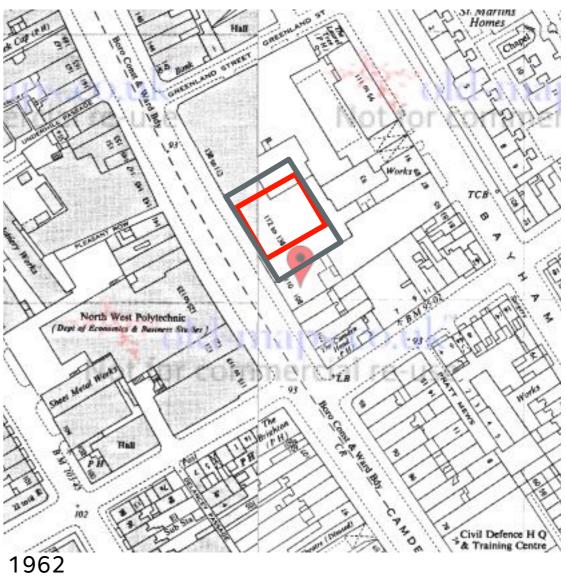
According to the Camden Town conservation area appraisal and management plan "Much of the original development of the High Street from the 1820s and 1830s survives: the underlying character of the street is derived from the modest three-storey terraces on narrow plots, partly concealed behind later 19th century single-storey shops."

This original character can be seen in the map from 1871 with its pattern of terraced housing and workshops.

The Camden document goes on to describe how in the period 1850–1920 this grain was largely replaced with larger taller buildings with much larger footprints developed on the corner plots. For instance, to the North of the site on the corner of the block with Greenland Street Is Denmoss house a gabled brick and stone late Victorian/Edwardian revival style former furniture store.

To the rear of the site, the block along Bayham Street was developed in the 1930s onwards. This courtyard to the rear is characterised by larger scale light industrial buildings of varying heights.





Introduction

The Existing Buildings

The existing buildings appear to be a 1980s brick clad steel frame construction forming a terrace in a similar pattern to the adjacent older buildings to either side, with a single storey projecting ground floor shopfront.

The terrace reads like a terrace of 6 houses (though the numbering indicates that the site originally had 7 narrower houses occupying the site).

Window surrounds and parapets and other details have been treated with precast buff coloured concrete. Windows are generally aluminium framed.

The rear facade rises to 1st floor only then sets back with a large area of flat roof. The second floor is narrow in plan and sits beneath a tiled pitched roof inside a parapet.

There is loading access to the rear of the building for the retail area and upper floor areas via stairs descending from 2nd floor to the rear elevation.



erial view of the main facade with courtyard behind



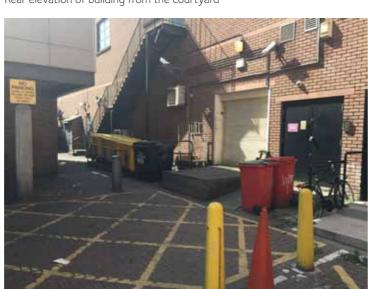
Main elevation as seen from the South on Camden High Street



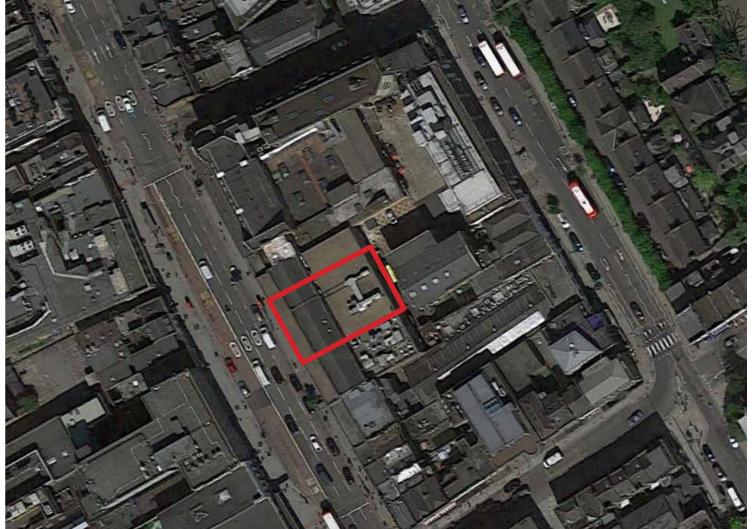
Main elevation as seen from the North on Camden High Street



Rear elevation of building from the courtyard



Rear of building showing entrances and the 1st floor fire escape



satelite Image of the site and surrounding context

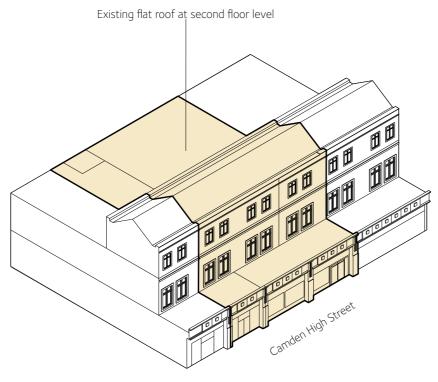
1.1 Summary and Use

The intention is to extend the office provision over the flat roof at 2nd floor level (shown in red).

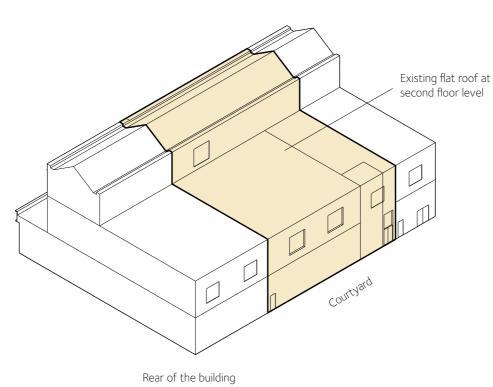
A new office entrance on the high street would lead to new circulation core situated more centrally in the plan to enable an improved internal layout at 1st and 2nd floor.

At the rear first floor, existing blanked off window openings are to be put back into use as windows and enlarged in response to the particularly deep plan.

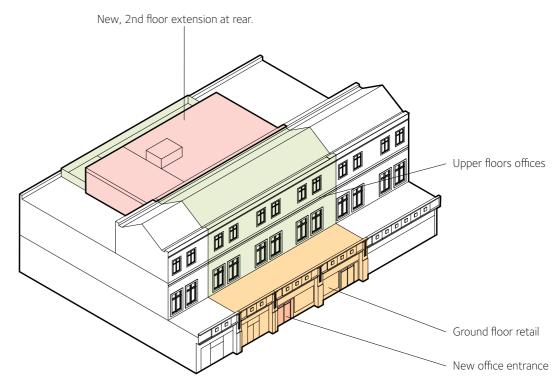
The proposed 2nd floor extension would be a simple new construction which would form high quality contemporary addition. The new extension would be lightweight steel framed, highly insulated, and clad in brick.



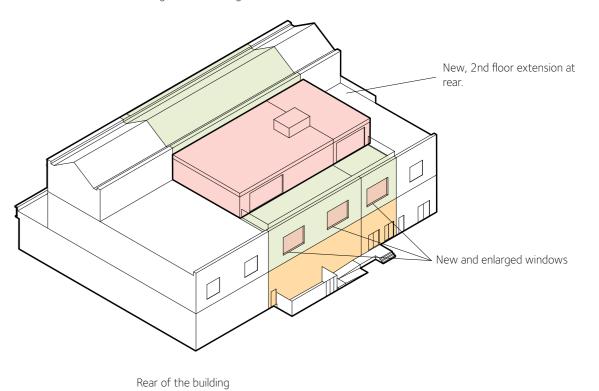
Front of the building on Camden High Street



Existing



Front of the building on Camden High Street



Proposed

1.2 Streetscape

The intention is for the main facade on Camden High Street to be almost entirely unaltered. The only minor change being the creation of a new entrance for the offices at street level. This alteration would be contained within the existing shopfront arrangement of the existing Post Office at 114–120 Camden High Street.

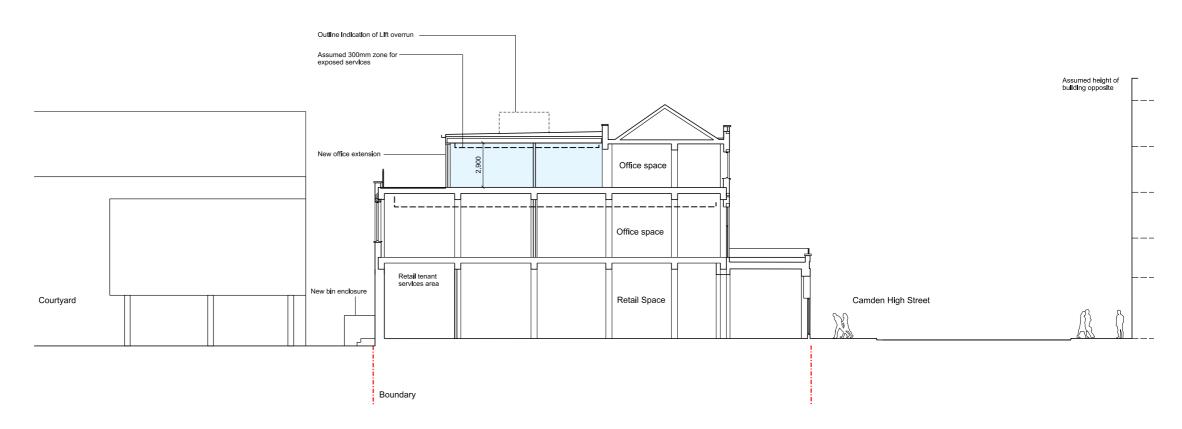
The new construction at the rear would not be visible from Camden High Street. The section below shows that the existing facade would obscure the extension from view. The new extension would only be partly visible from the rear where it would sit on what is currently a flat roof – but considerably set back from the edge.



Rear extension would not be visible behind front elevation on Camden High Street.



View along Camden High Street looking North. The rear extension would not be visible and the streetscape remains the same.

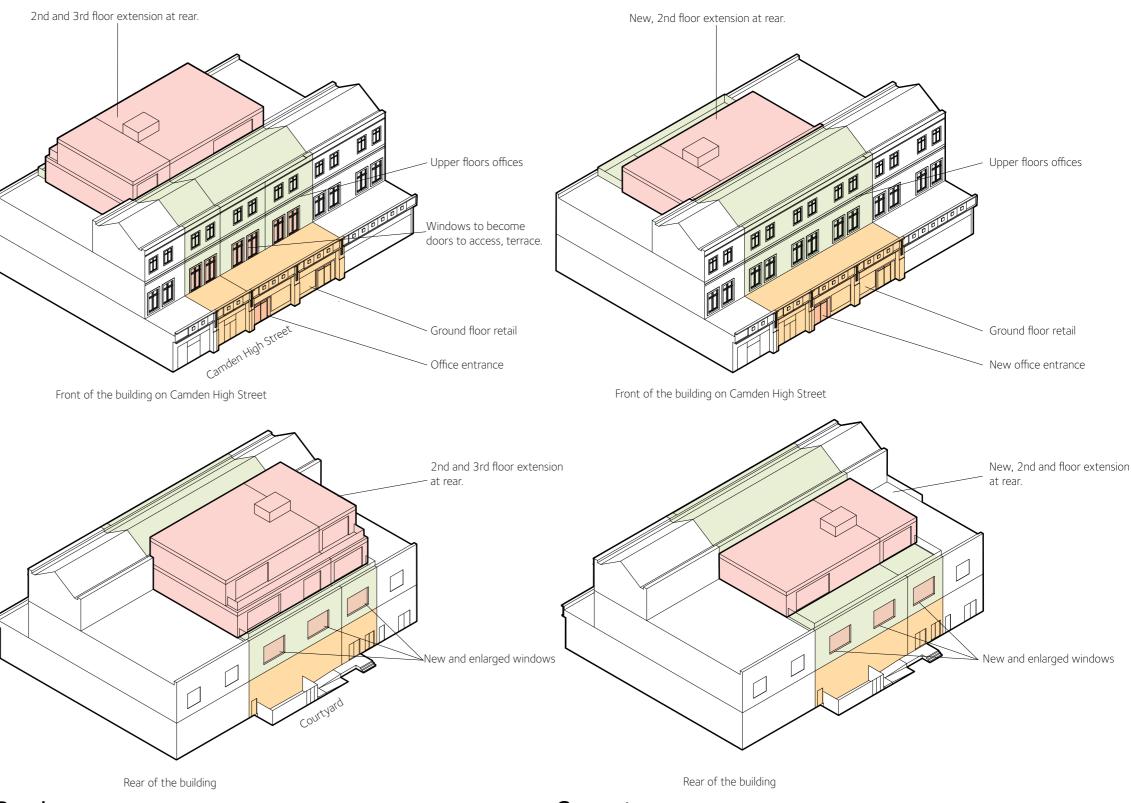


1.3 Response to Planning Advice

The advice given in the response to the pre-planning application enquiry has been taken into account. Following this advice the extension has been reduced from two stories on top of the existing to only one storey at second floor level.

The development will contain 199 sqm of gross additional floorspace. Therefore, the proposed extension does not trigger Camden's mixed use policy requirement to deliver new residential floorspace

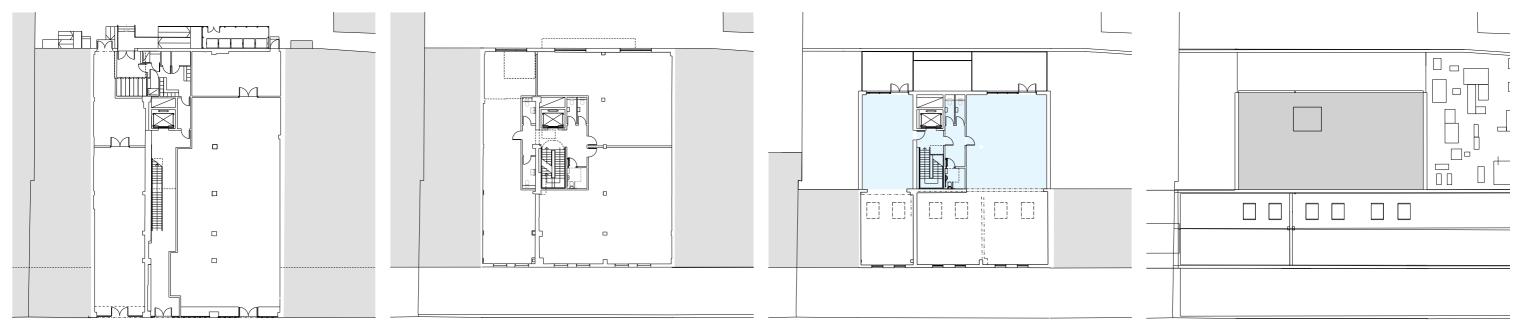
Additionally the terrace on Camden High Street at first floor level has been omitted along with the associated alterations to the windows to change them into doors. Current Proposal- windows to remain windows as no terrace proposed.



Previous

Current

1.4 Amount



Ground Floor First Floor Second Floor Roof Plan

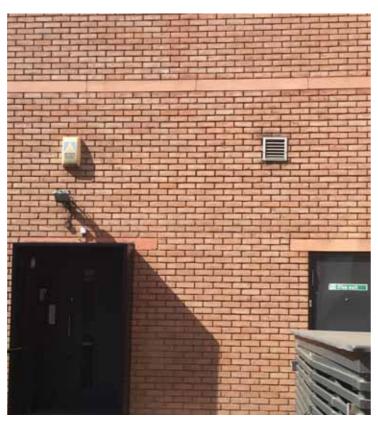
Area Schedule

Floor	Existing Areas GIA (m²)	Existing Ancilliary NIA (m²)	Existing Retail NIA (m²)	Proposed GEA (m²)		New Construction GIA (m²)	Retail NIA (m²)	Net % of Gross	Service Area (m²)	Occupancy*	No. WCs	No. Cycle Spaces**
2	151	128		381	350	199		83%	49	36	3	3
1	447	382		471	447			81%	66	45	4	1
G	551		475	579	551		42	6 77%	105	24		
Total	1149	510	475	1431	1348	199	42	6	220	105	5	
Total Net Area			986				107	9 80%				
Total (sq ft)	12367	5494	5116	15400	14509	2142	458	1	2370			
ncrease in GIA						17%						
*Occupancy is calculat					staff space per 2	50m2 nlus 1 customer sn	pace per 250m2. As per Camde	n Development Policie	es Annendix 2			

1.5 Appearance - Materials

Key Materials

- A Steel frame
- B Facing brick cavity wall with block inner leaf or metsec framing
- C Aluminium window frames to match the existing
- D Single ply roofing



The main material used on the existing building is a reddish brick with buff coloured pre-cast elements.

The proposal is to also use brick as the external material on the 2nd floor extension using a similar coulured brick such as Coleford Cotswold Buff or similar with header detail in a lighter brick such as Coleford Yellow or similar. A sample panel would be made to demonstrate the result.





Cotswold Buff *



Example of Coleford Buff on an existing building

Access Statement

2.1 Vehicular access and Transport Links

Public Transport

The development benefits from good public transport links to/ from the development via bus stops in the immediate vicinity on Camden High Street and on Bayham Street. The site is 200m from Camden Town Underground Station, 400m from Mornington Crescent Underground Station, and 600m from Camden Road Overground Station.

Cycling

Camden has good cycle links with a cycle lane on Bayham Street. It is anticipated that both staff and visitors will cycle. For this reason a staff and visitor (offices) cycle store will be located at the rear entrance from the courtyard. This will contain 1 staff space per 250m2 plus 2 visitor spaces for the offices and 1 staff space per 250m2 for retail; as per Camden Development Policies, Appendix 2. Additional cycle parking exists along Camden High Street suitable for customers to the retail.

2.2 Inclusive Access

Ground Floor Level

From the front the retail and office units entrances have level access. From the rear the external level is around 450 mm lower than ground level the entrances at the rear have existing ramps that will continue to serve these entrances.

Vertical Access

Access to the upper levels will be from the new central stair core and can be accessed from the front and the rear of the building. The lift in this core will serve all floors.

WCs

Accessible WCs are available on each of the office floors. On ground floor retail WC provision will be arranged and installed by the tenant.

Cars Scooters and Motorcycles As Existing

Deliveries, Fire tender access and Refuse Deliveries from the courtyard or from the front will remain unchanged. Refuse collection will be from the rear as existing. A new enclosed refuse area will be provided.

Appendix

Existing and Proposed Drawings

289-050-B Existing G FI Plan.pdf
289-051-B Existing 1st FI Plan.pdf
289-052-B Existing 2nd FI Plan.pdf
289-053-B Existing Roof Plan.pdf
289-060-B Existing Section.pdf
289-061-B Existing Front Elev.pdf
289-062-B Existing Rear Elev.pdf
289-100-D Proposed G FI Plan.pdf
289-101-D Proposed 1st FI Plan.pdf
289-102-D Proposed 2nd FI Plan.pdf
289-104-D Proposed Roof Plan.pdf
289-150-D Proposed elevations.pdf
289-151-D Proposed Section.pdf

