



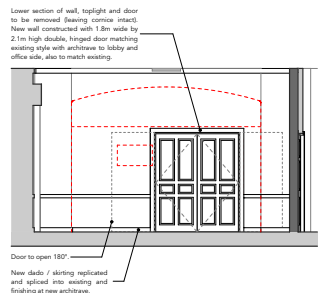
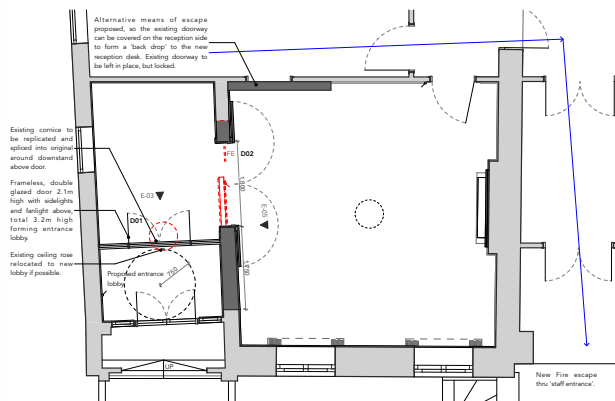
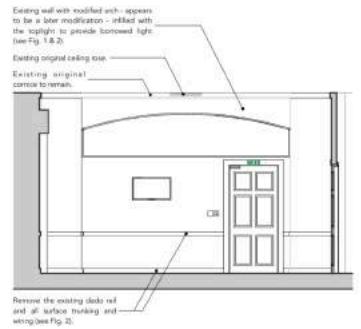
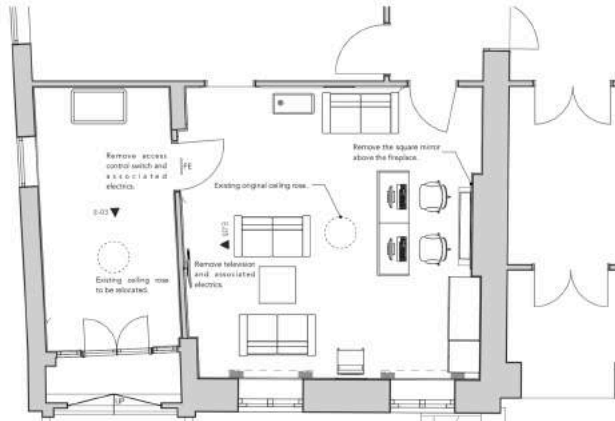
HERITAGE STATEMENT

**59-60 Russell Square
Camden
WC1B 4HP**

Proposed Work The Listed Building Application is in reference to the removal of an internal wall and the refurbishment within the entrance area of no.60 Russell Square - the end property to the terrace - housing the offices of solicitors Bishop & Sewell.

The application is to;

- remove the infill wall, curved feature and toplight whilst leaving original perimeter corncicing.
- remove the dado rail and surface mounted trunking around the room
- install a frameless glazed doorset (see precedent example on page 4)
- insertion of a new wall with double, hinged door
- new wall and floor coverings
- existing ceiling rose to be relocated to new lobby if possible (shown on proposed ground floor plan)



HERITAGE STATEMENT

59-60 Russell Square
Camden
WC1B 4HP

Reasoning Behind the Proposals

Bishop & Sewell have asked us to prepare a design that allows the reception area to be opened up to create a larger and more contemporary space. After removal of the infill wall, adjustment can be made to the position of the reception desk in order to create a better visual connection for the receptionist to the front door; to aid security and provide a more welcoming appearance to their clients and visitors.

The solid archway is to be removed and replaced with a solid stud partition, as this denotes the historic floorplan (see comments below)

A new entrance lobby is to provide a secure area, to ensure that any visitors are expected and welcome and to prevent drafts when the outer entrance door is opened. The lobby is to be a frameless system to ensure that it is as unobtrusive as possible with a solid stud partitioning to one side. There will be a minimal downstand above the frameless doorset allowing the cornice detailing to be replicated and finished seamlessly.

The new floor to the lobby is to be a tiled floor - picking up a traditional encaustic tile and pattern which exists on the outside pathway. The main reception is to be a bespoke patterned carpet.

Historic Advice

We have taken advice from Veronica Cassin, MA Director, CgMs/RPS Historic Environment about the intended removal of the internal section of wall, and her comments are as follows;

"The wall is likely to be in an original location with some original fabric retained. It has been obviously modified with the arch (leaving the cornice intact). This looks to have been infilled later and the toplight inserted around the same time. The door and door frame appear in the traditional location at the corner of the room.

I think the insert and toplight would be relatively straightforward to remove in LBC terms. The officers may want to see some option for closure between the two spaces (such as folding doors maybe) but the fabric below the arch is unlikely to be historic and therefore its removal is unlikely to cause harm to significance. The loss of the door and door frame at the corner of the room will need to be justified too. It would be good if it's obviously modern (perhaps it's a modern fire door) but could be mitigated if you can relocate it to another location in the building (preferably on the same floor to protect the hierarchy of decorations)

Dissolving the historic planform by linking the two spaces could be more of an issue.

Presuming you want to modify the arch form, it would be wise to leave in situ at least a downstand and nibs of the wall. This would help ensure that legibility of the historic plan form is retained. Further distinction of the two historic spaces could be expressed through decoration and finishes. In particular the entrance lobby would have been tiled and the main reception room constructed with floor boards and carpets."

HERITAGE STATEMENT

59-60 Russell Square
Camden
WC1B 4HP

History.

Russell Square is a large garden square in the Bloomsbury Conservation Area, in the London Borough of Camden. It was founded in 1799 by Francis Russell the 5th Duke of Bedford - an English aristocrat and Whig politician, responsible for much of the development of central Bloomsbury. The houses were the work of builder James Burton (1761-1837), the most successful developer at that time. As with Bloomsbury Square, the Duke commissioned Humphry Repton to design the gardens.

Repton's design included a broad perimeter walk (with high hedges to screen the walk from the street) and a horseshoe-shaped central walk under two rows of clipped lime trees. There was a trellis-covered shelter at the centre, with eight seats, which cleverly concealed the gardeners' shed in a small courtyard at the centre.



Grade II Listed - Exterior / List Entry Number: 1246150 Date first listed: 28-Mar-1969

*Surviving terrace of 9 houses to the South-East of Russell Square; By James Burton c1800-03, altered c1898 by PE Pilditch. Multi-coloured stock brick with rusticated stucco ground floors. Later terracotta dressings. Slated mansard roofs with dormers. Symmetrical terrace with projecting end bays (Nos 52 and 60) and central bays (Nos 55, 56 and 57). EXTERIOR: 3 storeys, attics and basements. Projecting bays 4 storeys. 3 windows each. No.52, 4 window (blind) return to Bedford Place and single storey, 5 window, 1 door stuccoed extension. Round-arched doorways with pilaster-jambes, cornice heads, fanlights, sidelights and double panelled doors; Nos 52, 55, 57 and 60 with terracotta surrounds. Recessed, architraved, mostly casement windows; 1st floor with cornices and central window of each bay pedimented. No.56 with semicircular pediment; Nos 55 and 57 with pedimented, canted bay windows. Continuous cast-iron balconies to 1st floor casements. Projecting bays with 3rd floor cornice and enriched frieze below. Parapets. Dormers with terracotta cornices and alternating triangular and semicircular pediments; Nos 53, 54, 58 and 59 with semicircular pediments to centre dormers only. **INTERIORS: not inspected.***

HERITAGE STATEMENT

59-60 Russell Square
Camden
WC1B 4HP

Example: Charles Street Townhouse, West Village, New York City

The four story townhouse at 67 Charles is situated on a charming tree lined block in the heart of the original Greenwich Village Historic District. While the front facade has remained relatively unchanged throughout the building's history, the interior has seen several renovations throughout the years which were less than kind to its historic bones. Several historic details on the parlor level including base and crown mouldings, a ceiling medallion, and fireplace mantles throughout the house had managed to survive. These historic elements were very dear to the clients, yet they also recognized the value of contemporary space planning, details, and amenities. Their design directive to TCA was threefold: to preserve these historic elements; to create a dialogue between these preserved elements and a decidedly contemporary envelope; and to create a functioning layout complete with modern amenities that would serve the family into the future. In response, TCA created an architectural language to highlight the moments where old and new would interact.



Below; Front door to 59 Russell Square showing the external floor tiling to be continued into the new lobby.

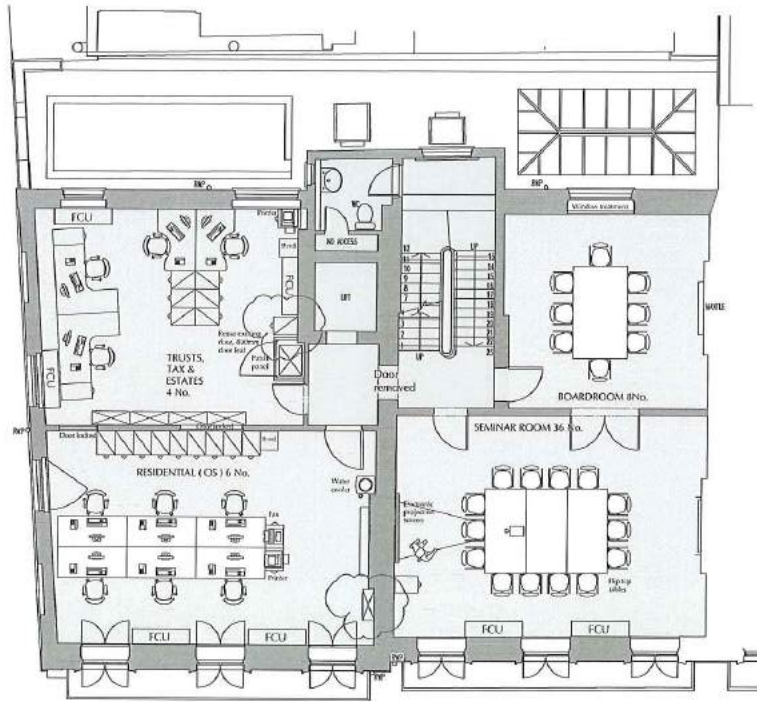
Above; Images relating to Charles Street Townhouse



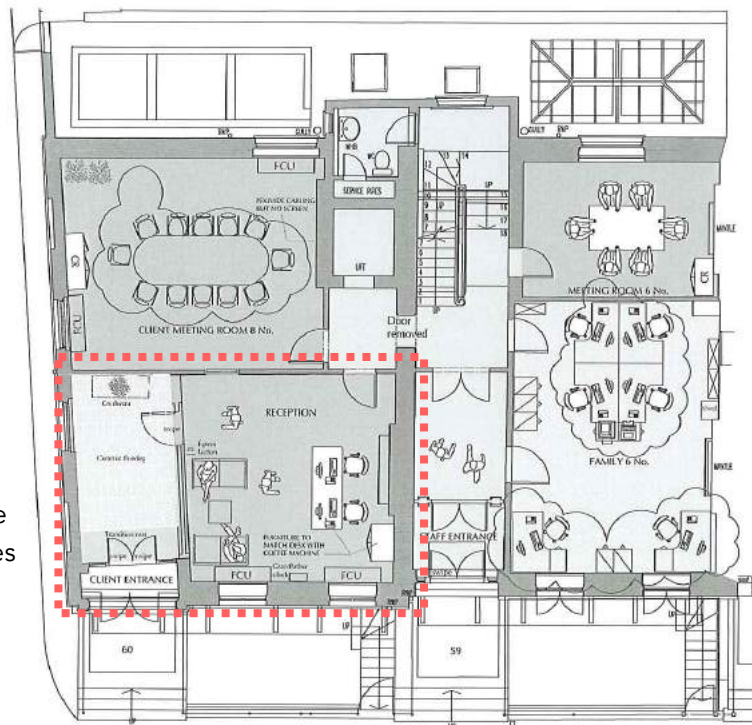
HERITAGE STATEMENT

59-60 Russell Square
Camden
WC1B 4HP

Existing Floor Plans for Bishop & Sewell (dated 2010)



FIRST FLOOR



Area to which the application relates

GROUND FLOOR