

33 Fitzroy Square
London, W1T 6EU

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Design Statement -
Proposed Replacement of the
Front Elevation Medallions

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London
10 July 2020

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1. Introduction

This document is prepared in support of a Planning and Listed Building Application for the proposal to replace the two decorative medallions scenes to the front elevation at No. 33 Fitzroy Square, London, W1T 6EU. The design proposal follows a specialist analysis of the existing medallions which are in a poor & unsafe state of repair & accompanying Montagu Evans Heritage Assessment detailing the discovery of matching medallion scenes at No.20 St James's Square, London, SW1Y 4JE.

33 Fitzroy Square is a Robert Adam designed townhouse dating from 1790. The property is Grade 1 listed located within Camden's Fitzroy Square Conservation Area. The subject of this application play an important part of the front elevation, contributing considerably to the overall special interest & significance of the building overall. They have undergone significant previous restoration, inc. an evasive paint strip following the use of the building as The London Foot Hospital.

This Design Statement should be read in conjunction with the following:

Heritage Statement (by Montagu Evans):

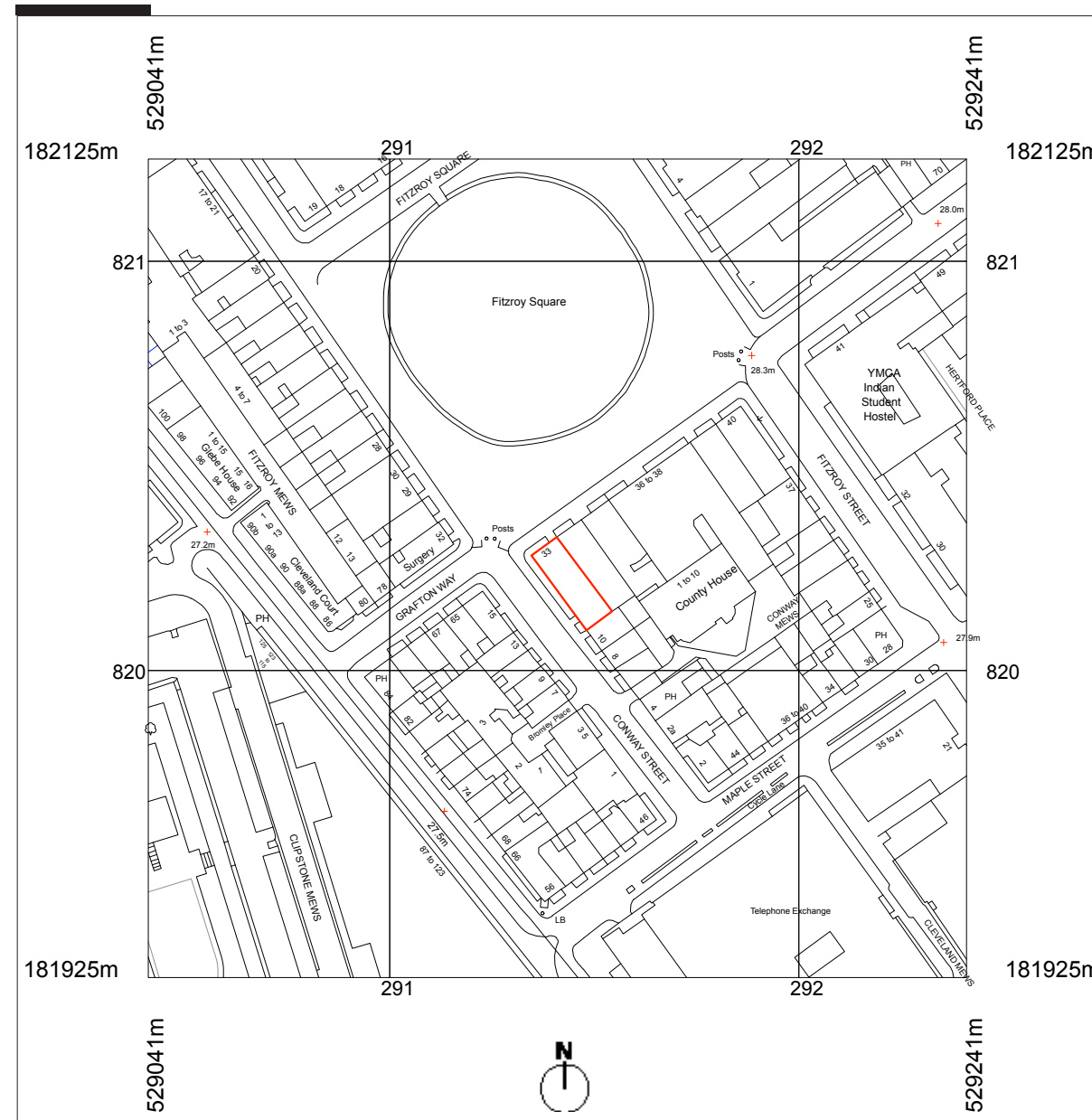
- 33 Fitzroy Square Heritage Statement - Medallions

Existing drawing (by Thomas Croft Architects):

- 022-Existing Front Elevation

Proposed drawing (by Thomas Croft Architects):

- 422-P0-Proposed Front Elevation



Site Location Plan

2. Description of the Proposal

The proposal is to replace the 2 x existing decorative medallion scenes on the front elevation overlooking Fitzroy Square.

The proposal is to obtain Reality Capture 3D models of early & intact matching medallion scenes at No.20 St James's Square grand staircase, to produce an accurate mould & replica scenes in jesmonite for installation at No.33 Fitzroy Square.

This application demonstrates that there is strong evidence to inform a replication approach and would suggest that this is the best approach to adopt to contribute to the special interest of the elevation & hence the significance of the building overall.



Existing Medallion - Left-hand Side

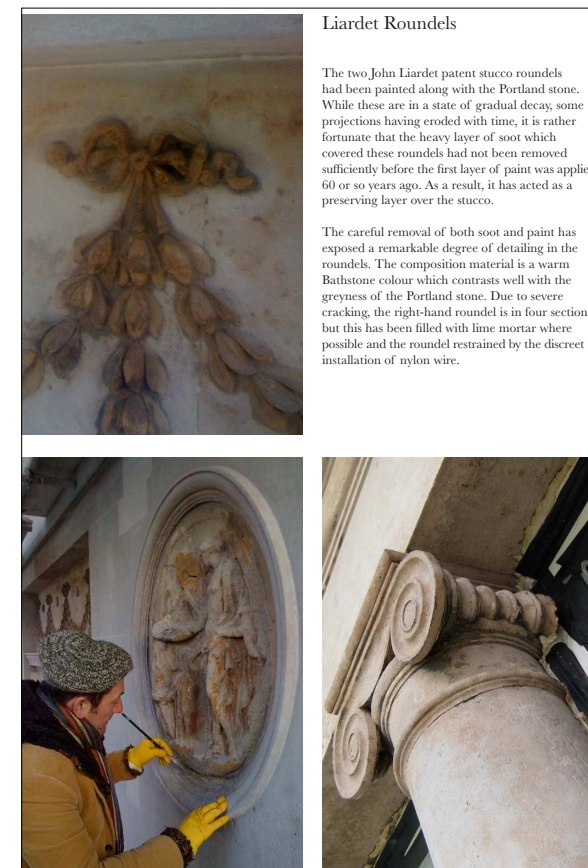
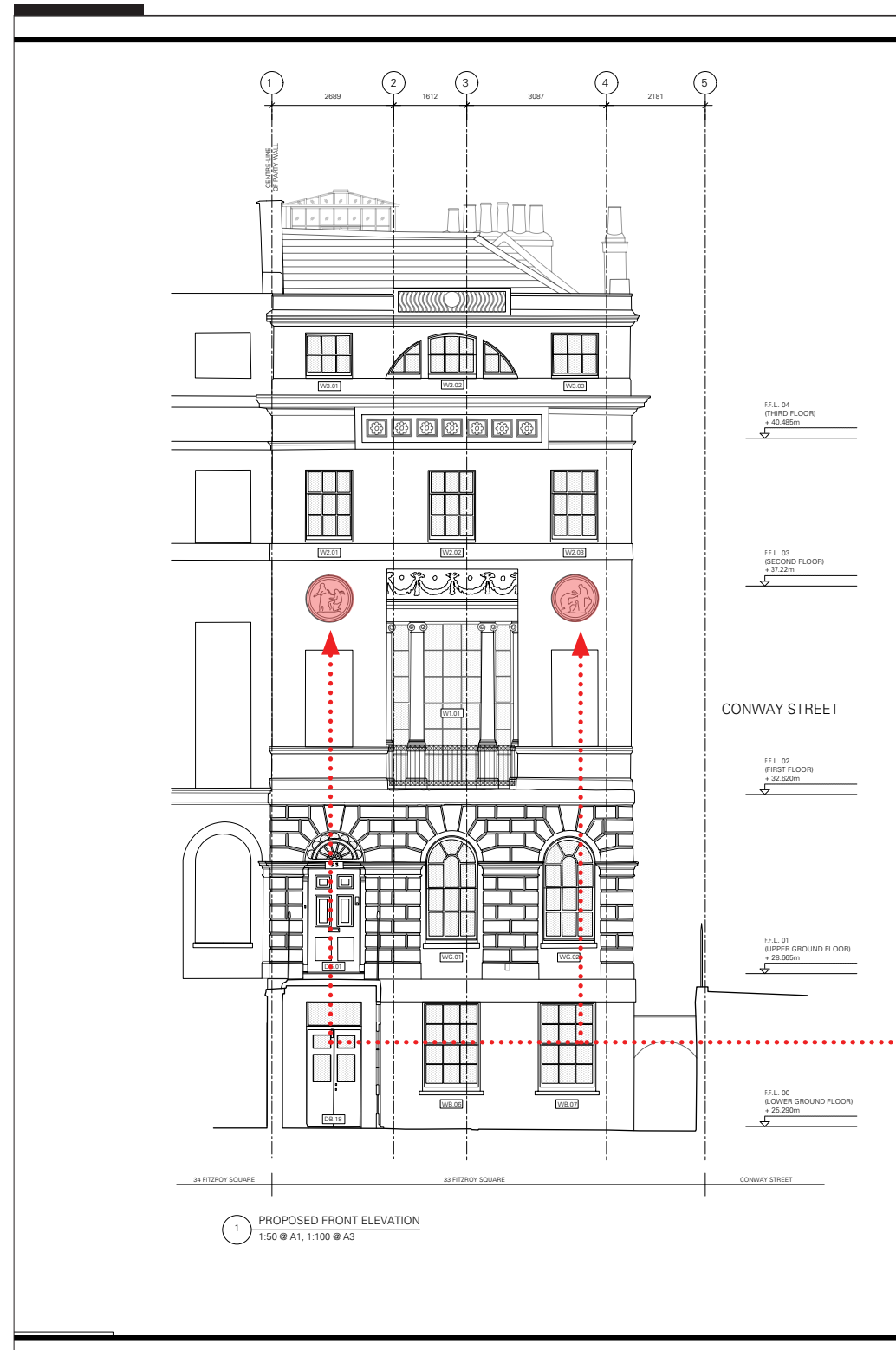


Existing Medallion - Right-hand Side



Existing Front Elevation - Existing Medallions highlighted

3. Existing Medallions - Location



Images (2010/6848/L) - Left-hand side during & post paint removal



PREVIOUS WORKS

- Detailed in Application 2010/6848/L is evidence of the previous restoration works carried.
- Paint removed from the entire facade, to expose the early portland stone & assumed Liardet decorative medallions, depicting individual classical scene.
- Images illustrate more pronounced scenes, suggesting the exposure in the last 8-10years, since this report was produced, has had a detrimental effect on the material.
- Right Hand Medallion, suffered severe cracking & wires installed to prevent material falling.
- Two additional & individual scenes are found in the same location of the facade at No.40 Fitzroy Square (eastern end of the Southern block).

CONSENTED ELEVATION

- Drawing showing exact location of medallions, to remain as existing - approx 850mm diameter.
- Classical scene set within a portland stone frame. Stone frames in a good state of repair & to remain as existing.

Consented Elevation (2017/4898/L)

4. Existing Medallions - Condition & Analysis (right hand medallion only)



Existing Medallion - Right-hand Side



From: Phil Thomason
Subject: 33 fitzroy square
Date: 21 August 2019 at 14:28
To:

PT

Dear Sandra and Stephanie,

Further to our visit to survey the Roundels we have come up with the following observations.

- 1 The roundels are not made of Coade stone as it was suggested but in either a natural or cement based artificial lime stone .
- 2 Although at our meeting I suggested that the material had the appearance of sandstone our basic testing has shown it to be a lime based material and quite possibly a simple sand and cement mix .
- 3 The material has very little mechanical strength is orange in colour with a textured paint finish ,
- 4 It is difficult to understand why this inferior material with a different colour would have been incorporated into a I façade of this magnitude and so we are of the opinion that these quite possibly are not the original works but poor quality replacements,
- 5 Because of their unstable nature we would suggest that the roundels will need to be removed from the façade to our studios to be either restored or replaced.
- 6 Clearly further investigation will need to be carried out in order to move matters on but It could be that this material is so friable that we may need to consider making replacements , I am always determined to maintain and conserve original work where at all possible but I should make you aware that replacement of the roundels may be our only option
- 7 On our next visit we will hopefully understand more about the nature of the material by removing a section of the RHS panel.

Hope this is ok for now ,

Best regards

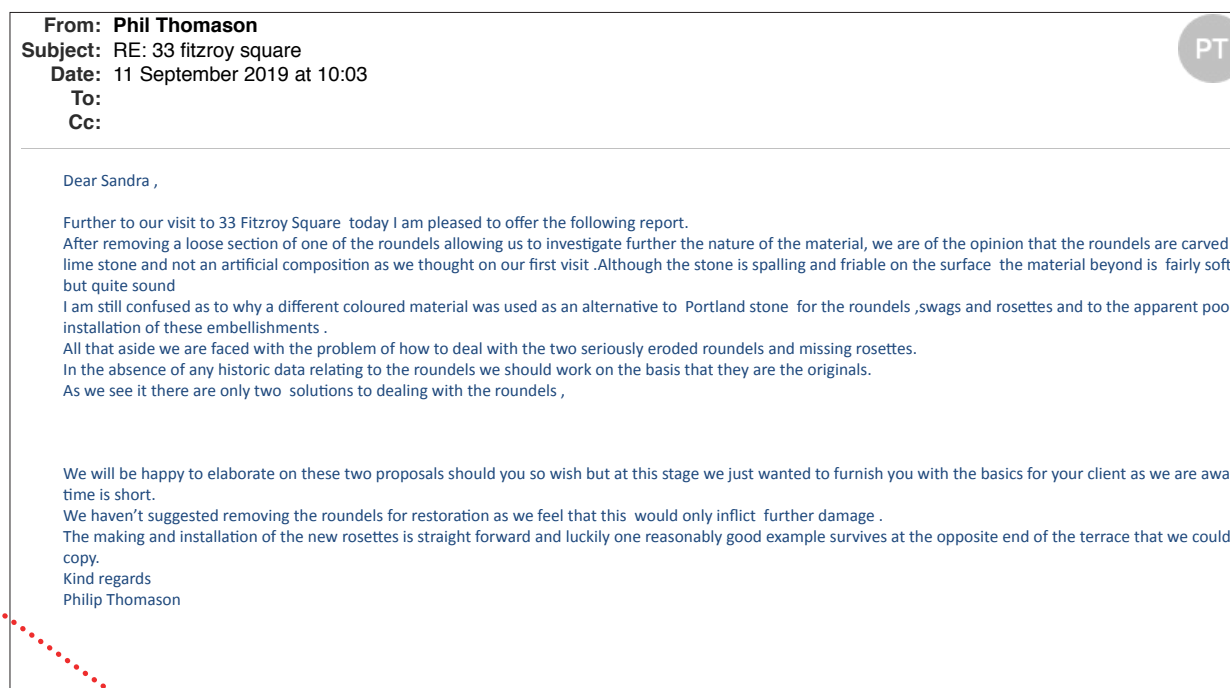
Philip

SYMPATHETIC INVESTIGATION

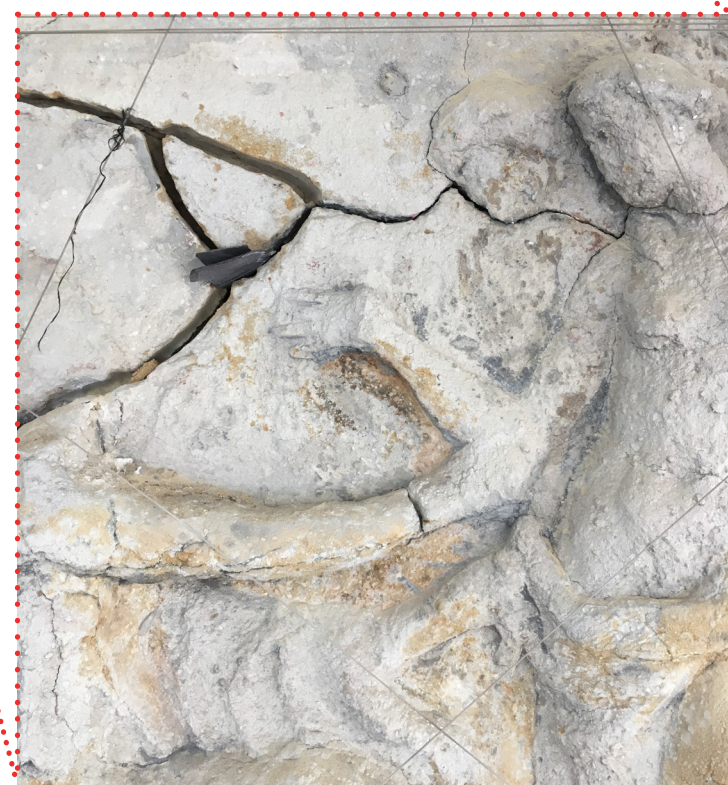
Investigation 01 - small scrap test.

- Scene are not made of Coade Stone, either made of a natural or cement based lime stone.
- Basic testing of material suggested it's a lime based material.
- Material has very little mechanical strength, orange in colour.
- Opinion that these are not early works but poor quality replacements.

5. Existing Medallions - Condition & Analysis (right hand medallion only)



Specialist Investigation - Sympathetic removal of a loose area



Existing Medallion - Right-hand Side

SYMPATHETIC INVESTIGATION

Investigation 02 - remove small area

- Area of stone removed was blown from surface & loose.
- Surface extremely degraded, friable & appeared to have suffered damage from paint removal - either by chemicals or sandblasting.

CONSERVATION OFFICER VISIT

- On site review of the investigation works was carried out by the Conservation Officer, Elizabeth Martin, 10th September 2019. Recorded by TCA via email, dated 16th September 2019. No comments made.

6. Existing Medallions - Condition & Analysis (right hand medallion only)



Existing Medallion - Right-hand Side



SANDBERG

-2-

66101/C

Sandberg Reference	Client reference	Mix constituents
C2762	Mineral sample	Organic binder : non-hydraulic lime : sand
C2763	Mineral sample	Organic binder : non-hydraulic lime : sand

4. REMARKS

It is not always possible by chemical analysis alone to distinguish with certainty between Portland cement and lime binders or between hydraulic and non-hydraulic limes.

Microscopical examination can usually ascertain the presence or otherwise of Portland cement in the mortar and of calcareous material in the aggregate. In the absence of such confirmatory work, interpretation of the analytical results is made on the basis of consideration of the analysis in conjunction with the appearance and any available background information for the mortar.

The samples were found to comprise organic binder, non-hydraulic lime and sand mixes.

The organic binder contents of the samples were found to be 6.5% and 5.0% by weight of sample. Without reference materials it is not possible to say whether the results represent the full organic binder content. Any decisions based upon the results should be taken with a degree of caution.

The lime contents were found to be 6.5% and 3.5% by weight of sample. Without petrographic confirmation of a lime binder it is possible that the acid soluble calcium contents are from limestone rather than a lime binder.

In the absence of reference materials it is not possible to give mix proportions by volume.

Sizebreed Construction Limited
Unit G.29, The Lightbox
111 Power Road
London
W4 5PY

for Sandberg LLP

D Kinnersley

D Kinnersley
Senior Associate
2 October 2019

For the attention of Mr Brian Fyfe

Materials, samples and test specimens are retained for a period of 2 months from the issue of the final report.

Tests reported on sheets not bearing the UKAS mark in this report/certificate are not included in the UKAS accreditation schedule for this laboratory.

Opinions and interpretations express

The results in this report relate to the

END OF TEST

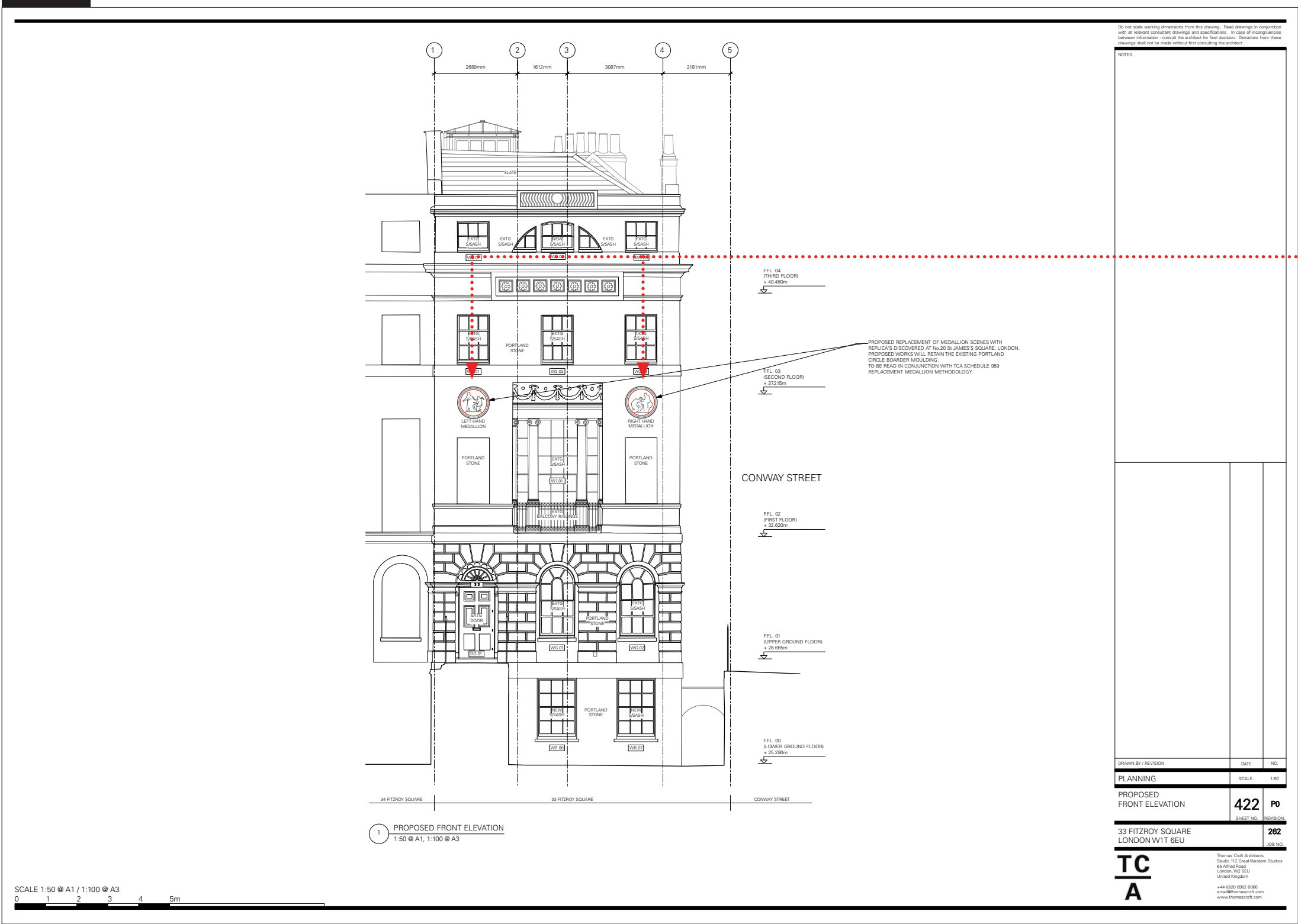
SYMPATHETIC INVESTIGATION

Investigation 03 - Material Analysis

- Sandberg carried out an analysis of the mortar sample taken from the back of the removed loose section of the medallion.
- Sandberg were specifically asked to concluded if linseed was present in the sample - the blinding material used in Liardet - the anaylsis was inconclusive.
- Sandberg - "We did run FTIR to try an identify the organic material but the analysis was inconclusive and didn't point towards linseed oil nor any other sensible answer."

Sandberg Material Anaylsis - Inconclusive as being Liardet

7. Proposed Medallions - Replacement



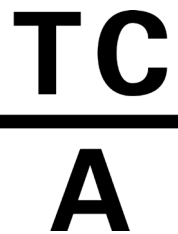
PROPOSED WORKS

With consideration to the following conclusion of the investigations:

- Current condition of the medallion scenes in poor & an unsafe condition,
- The analysis into the material has proved inconclusive to the presence of linseed, a prominent material in Liardet,

We believe that the existing medallions are distracting from the significance of the front facade on No.33 Fitzroy Square & the Southern elevation of Fitzroy Square, & on that basis would propose the medallions are replaced with new to match the existing. A full methodology statement on how this can be achieved can be found on the proceeding page & the accompanying Heritage Assessment by Montagu Evans.

8. Proposed Medallions - Methodology



959 Replacement Medallions Methodology page 1/1

Project name: 33 Fitzroy Square
Project address: 33 Fitzroy Square
Project number: 262

Date: 10/07/2020
Revision: P0

ALL AMENDMENTS SHOWN IN RED.
TO BE READ IN CONJUNCTION WITH 33 FITZROY SQUARE HERITAGE STATEMENT - MEDALLIONS BY MONTAGU EVANS

Phase	Methodology Description	Comments
Level: Front Elevation		
Phase 01	• Obtain, in principle, permission from Owners of 20 St James’s Square for access for a specialist Geospatial Surveyor to produce a Reality Capture 3D model of the 4 x medallions scenes present in the main staircase of the above mentioned property.	Completed
Phase 02	• Obtain Planning Consent to replace 2 x existing medallions scenes with new manufactured medallions scenes to match existing.	In progress
Phase 03	• Arrange formal access to No.20 St James Square for access & specialist Geospatial Surveyor to produce a Reality Capture 3D model of the 4 x medallion scenes present in the main staircase of the above mentioned property. • Output: 3D computer model to enable the manufacture of full sized moulds.	
Phase 04	• Specialist to manufacture full sized moulds. Specialist & process TBC.	
Phase 05	• Specialist to manufacture high quality replica’s of 2 x 33 Fitzroy Square medallions. Material for proposed medallions to be Jesmonite, as suggested by George Jacksons Ltd. Material tinted to be sympathetic to the base material portland stone.	
Phase 06	• Existing medallions carefully removed, restored & re-set onto mount boards for retention at the property No.33 Fitzroy square.	
Phase 07	• Completed medallions installed onto facade at No.33 Fitzroy Square.	

9. Appendix

- i. Sandberg 33 Fitzroy Square Mortar Sample Analysis