

## **Install Communications Cabling**

### **Design, Heritage & Access Statement**

The proposal involves bringing communications cabling into the basement of the building. The works are required to connect the Server of the occupier (Heatherwick Studio Ltd) to the fibre network below the public highway.

Willing House is Grade II listed and located within the Kings Cross Conservation Area.

A existing duct hole in the brickwork will be utilised, leaving the stonework and topped railings unaffected. The hole does not exceed 9cm in diameter.

The cabling will follow existing external trunking and enter the basement beside a door beneath the main entrance platt.

The cabling will run at ceiling height to the Server within the basement. The basement has been significantly altered, most probably as part of the redevelopment/extension of Willing House, at the turn of the Century, to accommodate a hotel.

The installation has been carefully sited so as to utilise existing trunking and have a neutral effect on the character and appearance of both the listed building and conservation area.

Willing House is offices designed by Hart & Waterhouse (1909) in the French baroque style. The upper floors (1+) have notable features. There is no mention in of the basement, in the official listing description.

The Conservation Area is broken down into various sub-areas, in terms of character appraisal. In Sub Area 4: Gray's Inn Road, it is recognised that the eastern side of the road was "largely redeveloped post the late 19<sup>th</sup> century". Willing House is specifically metioned as having been converted in 2003.

The lightwell is accessible from within the building and via external stairs from the public footpath. There is no reason why any member of the public would need access to these works.

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