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41 Doughty Street  
London WC1N 2LF

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## **41 Doughty Street, WC1N 2LF – Heritage Statement**

### **Character of the building**

41 Doughty Street is a typical late Georgian terraced house, grade II listed, on the eastern elevation of Doughty Street and lies within the Bloomsbury conservation area.

The house was built in about 1792 of traditional construction for houses of that age. That is; external walls of solid London stock bricks, timber floors and timber framed partitions though with some brickwork on the lower floors and timber framed roof with a central valley parallel to the street. The house has been fitted out as a commercial office from perhaps 1970's with various modern add-ons. Accommodation is provided on lower ground, ground, first, second and third floors.

### **Proposed development**

The proposed development is to add windows boxes and their supporting ironwork to the first and second floor windows at the front and rear of the house. The ironwork will replicate the style found in many houses along Doughty Street as illustrated in the accompanying photographs. There are 10 such houses along the east side of Doughty Street.

Planting on buildings in this way was a traditional means of providing vegetation that is still popular and we feel it provides a welcome foil to the hard materials of this densely developed area.

1<sup>st</sup> floor - front

3 x Hot zinc sprayed and painted steel balustrades fixed to the inside of each of the 3 window reveals.

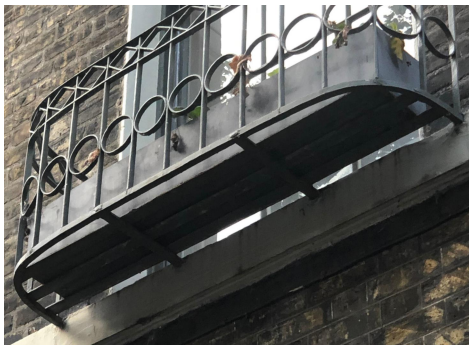


Iron balustrade (this one at 2<sup>nd</sup> floor level)



Original iron balustrade fixtures

3 x Planters



Example planter sitting away from sill and brickwork

#### 1<sup>st</sup> floor - rear

1 x Hot zinc sprayed and painted steel balustrade fixed to the inside of the single window reveal.

1 x Planter

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> floor - front

3 x Hot zinc sprayed and painted steel balustrades fixed to the inside of each of the 3 window reveals.

3 x Planters

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> floor - rear

1 x Hot zinc sprayed and painted steel balustrade fixed to the inside of the single window reveal.

1 x Planter

#### **Impact of proposed development on the building**

The impact of the proposed development on the building will be minimal. The balustrades will be attached to the window reveals in a discrete fashion and will be lightweight in design. The balustrades will hold the window box planters away from the sills so that excess water will fall away from the sills and brickwork and not cause any long term damage.

The addition of the window boxes will not detract from the character of the building, as seen from the street, because it will simply blend in with the other examples along the same side of the street.

#### **Steps taken to minimise impact of the building**

Impact on the building has been minimised by choosing a design that follows the same pattern as others on the street. The pattern is in keeping with the period character of the building, its scale and materials used.

#### **Expertise consulted**

The conservation architects Thomas Ford & Partners were consulted prior to making this application. TFP are a team of accredited conservation architects offering services ranging from the repair of historic buildings to condition surveys, quinquennial inspections, historic building reports and other consultancy services. Advice was sought on both the technical and conservation aspects of the development. There are several designs of window boxes present on other houses in the street and TFP have advised on which of those is likely to be the original, Georgian design.