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**From:** Bloomsbury Conservation [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 30 August 2022 17:27  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** OBJECTION: 2022/3159/P

Dear Elaine

The Bloomsbury CAAC objects in the strongest possible terms to the retention of the single storey search structures in the south courtyard of the British Museum.

The structures are clearly wholly inappropriate in their conflict with the significance of the listed building and their place within the setting of this important building. The courtyard is designed as a grand open space, providing a vista for views of the building's principal elevation, and an area for public circulation and socialisation. The physical presence of these buildings not only harms the significance of the listed building through their location and excessively poor design, but the use of the courtyard space entrance for queuing and its incidental equipment such as portable steel railings is totally inappropriate for a heritage asset of this importance, especially when considered within its wider setting of the Bloomsbury Conservation Area.

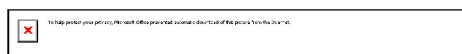
The initial application was granted for a limited period in urgent circumstances in the interests of public safety. The time elapsed since then has been more than sufficient for the museum to find alternative arrangements for queuing and searching. This building has by far the largest floorplate in Bloomsbury, and is one of the largest and most well-resourced museums in the world. There is no lack of resource or space to find alternative arrangements for searching if deemed necessary.

The proposed continuation of these structures for a total of four years is wholly inappropriate. Alternative arrangements simply must be found.

This museum is one of many dozens of attractions in London and not one has such inappropriate and excessive searching requirements for its visitors. There is very little objective justification in the application as to why such stringent controls are necessary.

If you are minded to grant this application, please have the description of development altered so that only a term of **six months** be granted. This would allow the museum sufficient time to organise alternative arrangements.

Owen Ward



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