

**DESIGN AND ACCESS STATEMENT
& HERITAGE STATEMENT**

**10 DOUGHTY STREET
LONDON
WC1N 2PL**

**REMOVAL OF FRONT ACCESS STEP AND PATHWAY,
TO BE REPLACED WITH A MECHANICAL LIFT TO ALLOW
INCLUSIVE & SAFE WHEELCHAIR ACCESS.**

On behalf of

DOUGHTY STREET CHAMBERS

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10 Doughty Street, London, WC1N 2PL

1.01 Site Assessment

The property known as 10 Doughty Street is being used as offices and meeting rooms for Barrister's Chambers, (Doughty Chambers). They also have use of the neighbouring property, number 11 which has a separate main entrance and the two buildings have been joined by forming door openings through the party wall. There are further Doughty Chambers offices based on the opposite side of the road in two properties, numbers 53 & 54 and separate applications have been submitted for wheelchair access to number 54.

There are requirements to provide equal opportunities for wheelchair users and people with mobility issues to safely access the building, as well as Barristers' that work from this office to be able to access and exit safely on a day-to-day basis without the necessity of having to request other members of staff to position temporary aluminium ramps.

This is inappropriate, uncomfortable, and extremely difficult when a wheelchair user is left outside on the public highway, potentially in cold and bad weather whilst someone is located to position the temporary ramp.

It is also potentially dangerous in the event of emergency evacuation being required and means it is not easily possible for the person to pop out to the shops, go for a break or to simply enjoy being outside during their working day.

The management would like to provide a 'Guldmann Stepless' SLP model D lift to allow independent access for all clients and staff. This would mean alterations to the existing front entrance steps and walkway from public pavement to the entrance threshold, to allow ease of access to the ground floor hall and the meeting rooms and offices within. There is no intention to carry out any other visual alterations to the railings or front elevation.

This statement is part of a Planning and Listed Building Consent Application submitted to the London Borough of Camden and includes photographs and separate drawings also submitted with the applications.

1.02 Setting

10 Doughty Street is a Grade II listed 3-storey terrace property with attic and basement situated on the west side of Doughty Street, approximately mid-terrace. It is believed to have been built in the period of 1792 - 1800 and is constructed from London Stock bricks, with timber sash windows and a top floor slate mansard, with dormer windows.

The front boundary is traditional cast iron railings with urn finials, and a gate to form access to the cast iron staircase leading down to the basement and vault area.

2.01 Design

It is intended to finish the surface of the lift in tiles of the same, or very similar appearance to the existing tiles. The cast iron rails to either side of the front access path would be reinstated as existing.

The working parts of the lift are concealed within the framework and the call button on the outside would be discreet and within the boundary of the property. Everyday users of the lift would be provided with a keyring fob to operate the functions of the lift. The entrance would have a very similar appearance as per the existing, whilst allowing equality for all users and ease of access to Doughty Chambers services, offices, meeting rooms and seminar area.

3.01 Heritage Statement

10 Doughty Street is of a similar appearance to many of the other Georgian terrace properties in the Street, it would appear many are Grade II Listed, with at least 1 (The Charles Dickens Museum) being Grade I Listed. The property is also in the Bloomsbury Conservation Area.

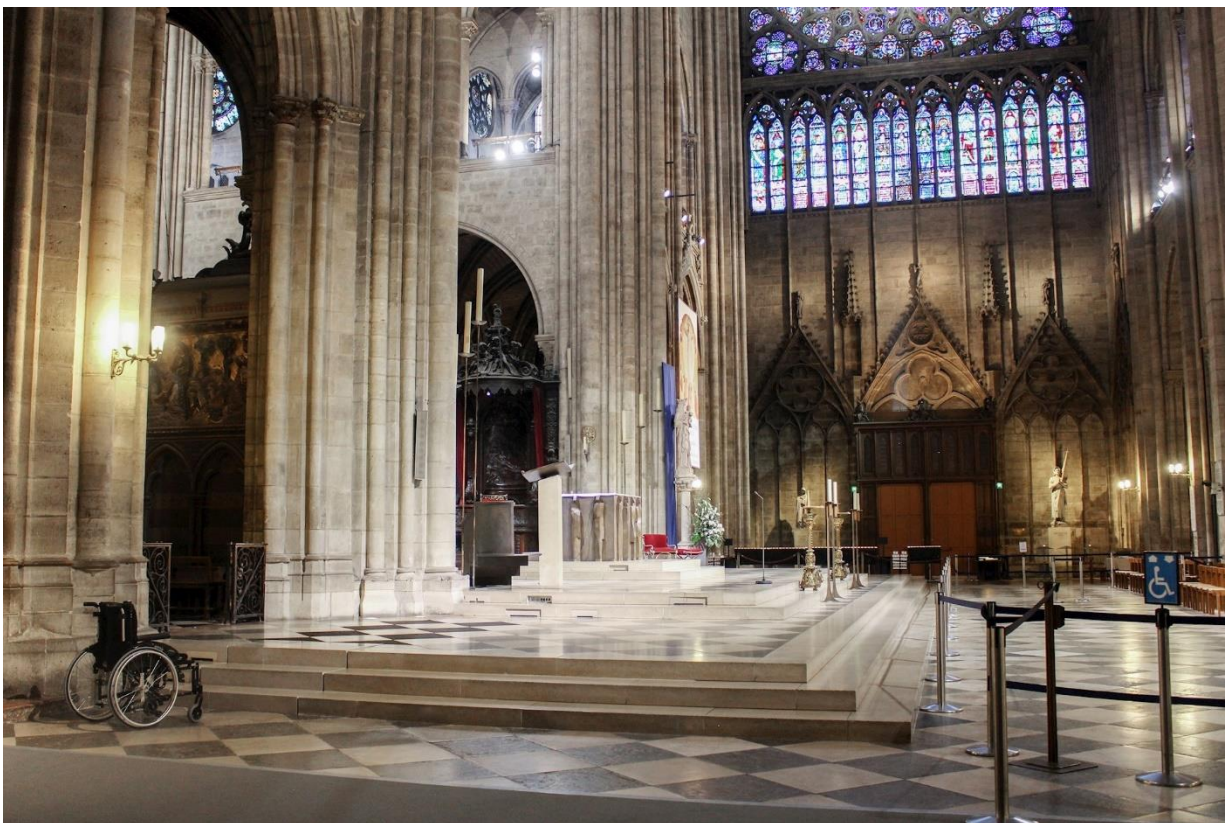
We do not believe that the lift and minor alterations will have an adverse visual impact on the appearance of the property and believe that it is extremely important to provide a safe and dignified main entrance to all.

4.01 Conclusions

We feel the management of Doughty Chambers have taken a proactive approach to the existing issues and inadequate access for all and are prepared to fund the expensive lift in order to provide safe access and egress for people with mobility issues, both potential clients and employees.

We believe this proposal offers an acceptable solution with minimal visual impact on the traditional frontage of this building.

5.01 Photographs & Examples



Example Photographs of similar lifts in Notre Dame Cathedral



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