



Crossrail Bond Street Station
65 Davies Street
Non Listed Built Heritage Recording

Interim Archaeological Statement

C257-WSX-T1-RSI-C125_WS086-00001



Crossrail Bond Street Station**65 Davies Street****Non-Listed Built Heritage Recording****Interim Archaeological Statement***Background*

No. 65 Davies Street was selected as requiring further internal survey assessment to understand the nature of any Non-Listed Heritage Features associated with the building prior to its demolition. The building lies within the footprint of the proposed new Western Ticket Hall for the Crossrail Bond Street Station. This document is an interim statement of work undertaken on 25 March 2010. Further recording of the building and reporting will be subject to further assessment and requirements to be established by Crossrail and their archaeological consultant.

No. 65 Davies Street is a seven-storey neo-Georgian office block centred on National Grid Reference 528522 181009. The building occupies the whole block bounded by Davies Street, St. Anselm's Place, Gilbert Street and Weighhouse Street.

The scope of the requirement for recording prior to the soft internal strip of the building comprises the recording of 65 Davies Street to a level of detail commensurate with a Level 1/2 'descriptive record' as defined in *Understanding Historic Buildings: a guide to good recording practice* (English Heritage 2006):

An initial assessment of Non-Listed Built Heritage (NLBH) features was undertaken to determine the need for, and/or level of, mitigation works. The outcome of the initial assessment was that the following recording requirements were identified (as set out in the document: Crossrail 2010, *C132 Bond Street Station – Scope for Non Listed Built Heritage Recordings and Trial Trench Evaluations at 65 Davies Street. Doc Ref: C132-WSP-T1-QSV-C125-00007*).

Feature	Comments
Staircase – handrail	Photographs and written description required of unique sections (ends of handrail etc)
Staircase – tiles	Photographs of indicative sections of stair wells/dimensions of tiles
Door fittings	Photographs of potentially original fixtures
Window frames	Photographs of potentially original frames

Recording

A site visit was made by buildings archaeologists from Wessex Archaeology on 25th March 2010 to undertake recording of the features detailed in the table above. A high-quality digital photographic record was made of the following specified features:

- Staircase - handrail. The staircase has a stylish painted steel balustrade with polished brass covered steel handrail with scrolled ends.
- Staircase - tiles. The staircase is constructed from polished stone-coloured terrazzo with two rows of inlaid buff stone tesserae on each step. The quarterpiece landings are comprised of four large pale terrazzo slabs set within an olive green terrazzo border.
- Door fittings. Original doors survive well throughout the building with elaborate wood and leaded glass double-door entrances with brass door furniture on the entrance to each floor. Elsewhere, original brass door furniture is present on the majority of office/classroom doors, although in most cases the original varnished wooden exteriors have been subsequently painted over.
- Window frames. The windows comprise a mixture of 20-light wooden sash windows on the ground floor with a mixture of mild steel multi-light composite windows incorporating a mixture of vertical pivots, casements and hoppers with terrazzo sills.

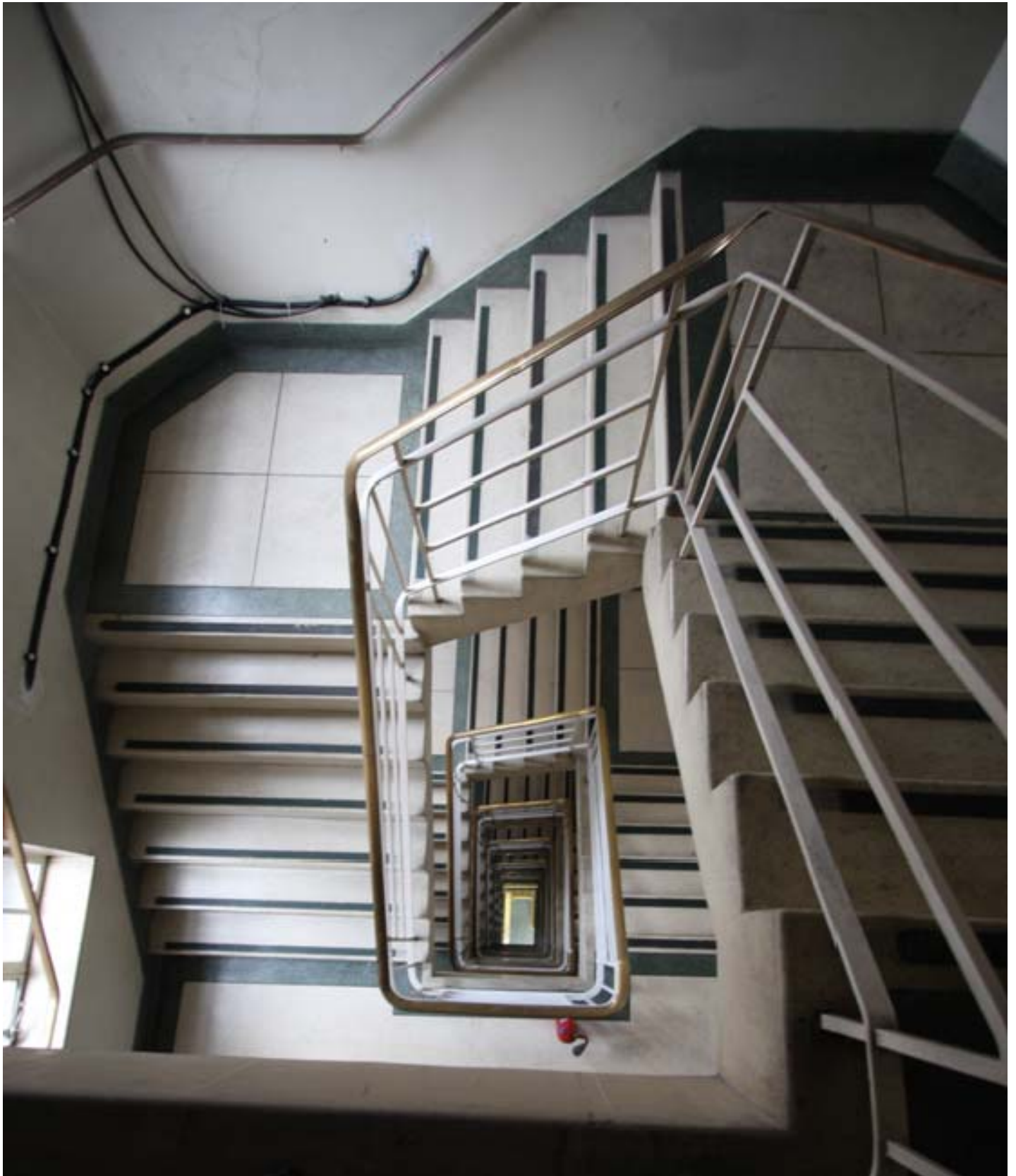
The specified recording was augmented by photographs of internal rooms and spaces including decorative features and by external views of the building within its setting. In total 114 high quality digital images were taken. An accompanying written record was made of the location and direction of each digital image.

Further work

Document *C132-WSP-T1-QSV-C125-00007* further stated that a second assessment of 65 Davies Street needs to be undertaken once the soft strip has got underway to establish if any original wall surfaces might be obscured by the relatively new wall surfaces. This later assessment will constitute an English Heritage Level 2 building recording with elements of Level 3 (pertaining to ensuring that sufficient drawn record is made of the key features and sufficient written record is made of any original features). English Heritage guidance on building recording is provided within *Understanding Historic Buildings: A Guide to Good Recording Practice* (2006).

Archive

The 114 high quality digital images and accompanying written records are currently held at the offices of Wessex Archaeology in Salisbury, Wiltshire under the WA project code 72215 and Museum of London Site Code; **CXG10**. The archive will be incorporated into and made available for any other further assessment and reporting undertaken at the Site.



WESSEX ARCHAEOLOGY LIMITED.

Registered Head Office: Portway House, Old Sarum Park, Salisbury, Wiltshire SP4 6EB.

Tel: 01722 326867 Fax: 01722 337562 info@wessexarch.co.uk www.wessexarch.co.uk

Maidstone Office: The Malthouse, The Oast, Weaving Street, Maidstone, Kent ME14 5JN.

Tel: 01622 739381 info@wessexarch.co.uk www.wessexarch.co.uk

