

21 September 2010

Dear Benjamin

Application No: 2010/2218 – The Strand Building, 18-24 Lower Clapton Road London E9 6DW

Comments:

The Strand Building is an imposing locally listed building. Detailing of the windows and doors are an important element of the building's character.

Replacing the original windows in anything less than an exact visual match would impact on the building's character. The Hackney Society believes that repair is preferable to restoration and a conservation-led approach to the building, which its local listing warrants, should be taken. If replacement is deemed the only solution, however, we recommend that as close a match as possible to the originals in materials, glazing bar arrangement and profile is made. Replacement should only be considered on a like-for-like basis.

If as the applicant says, "there is no noticeable difference between the existing [windows and doors] and the proposed" and if replacement is deemed the only solution, then we would not object to the application.

Yours sincerely

Bruce Eadie
On behalf of the Planning Sub-group