

192 HIGH STREET WOOD GREEN (WOOD GREEN UNDERGROUND STATION)

**STATEMENT TO ADDRESS ISSUES RAISED IN CONDITION 3 OF THE PLANNING/LISTED BUILDING
DECISION NOTICE**

A. Investigation to identify the material and heritage significance of the metal architectural features to be cleaned or polished

The shop front can be described as being in four sections, Section 1 directly adjacent to the main entrance to the station being the front entrance door and its door frame; Section 2 on the same plane as the door to the west side of it (the main section of shop front); Section 3 the adjoining shop front section set at an angle to the north compared with the main section; and Section 4 comprising of former framed advertising panel, the granite faced plinth and enclosed panel of fair faced brickwork.

There is a render faced band and projecting cast render section above the shop front and above that panel the London Underground (Transport for London) bronze framed coloured glass internal signage zone.

We have prepared sketch drawings illustrating these elements as an elevational drawing and a detail to illustrate the construction and materials, their condition and refurbishment proposed.

The door and adjacent frame, Section 1, is of the original 1930s hardwood clad externally in bronze and detailed in a characteristic stepped facing typical of its era.

The roller shutter door for this section is mounted external to the door at upper level.

The adjacent shop front, Section 2, is of satin anodised aluminium with a bronze colour which we estimate to date from the mid-1970s. It is of reduced height as compared to the original shop front with the roller shutter door for this section mounted internally in the upper section.

The shorter section of shop front, Section 3, is also of satin anodised aluminium and also of reduced height compared to the original with the roller shutter door mounted externally above a signage panel which has an extract fan mounted centrally to it.

Section 4 comprises a bronze clad frame which was formerly a hinged panel. This has been fixed shut. To the north and west, in an 'uphill' direction, the shop front is of the granite cladding with an infill panel of Flemish bond brickwork built into a rectangular opening.

The metalwork of architectural significance comprises the front door, the front door frame, the front door door handle, its detailed bronze cladding and the remaining section of what is now a fixed advertising panel to the left hand side of the glazed shop front. The Transport for London internal sign follows the line of the elevation of the shop front and is reflected both sides of the station and is of substantial significance.

The Transport for London internal sign comprises a bronze perimeter trim enclosing a coloured glass panel and responsibility for its maintenance remains with Transport for London.

The front elevation door is likely to have been originally a lacquer finished natural bronze. There are three panels in the door which are evident externally but not reflected in the exposed hardwood frame internally and these are likely to have also had a lacquered natural bronze finish. The lower panel houses the letterbox. There is then a plain panel above that and at upper level a plain panel with the sign written word 'Cigarettes' painted onto it. The central large frame was originally glazed and now houses a painted plywood panel. The uppermost panel is glazed and an advertising label 'Oyster Ticket Shop' is applied over the previously painted glass. The letters 'Finlays' is applied in relief to the internal face of the glass on this upper panel.

The external face of the door has been overpainted in a bronze coloured paint, this appears to have been applied to the base material and is beneath the sign written word 'Cigarettes'.

The current brown coloured paint has been scratched off in places and specifically has worn off on leading edges and in other areas where former advertising has been adhered to the surface of the paint. Where the brown coloured paint has been removed it reveals the now blackened and degraded former lacquer finish applied to the bronze.

The main entrance door, its door frame, the door ironmongery and the applied sign written writing together with the remnant frame to the advertising panel to the northwest are of heritage significance, as is the framed Transport for London glazed signage panel at high level.

We removed a small section of the bronze/brown coloured paint.

The paint is inconsistent, it has been eroded differentially due to wear in use and in itself the paint is not considered of historic importance.

The sign writing of the word 'Cigarettes' is in a typeface typical of the date of its application (late 1930s), its character and message act as a signpost to the past and it is therefore worthy of retention.

The satin anodised aluminium shop front sections are of typical late 20th century construction and finish and should be cleaned, they are not of historic significance.

The former hinged panel with its bronze clad frame should be repaired and cleaned and re-sealed remaining in its current position.

The original bronze finish has been subjected to weathering and air pollution over its life open to air pollution at a busy road junction and its surface finish, which is likely to have been lacquered, has become discoloured. The over-applied paint finish has adhered differentially and in its current condition mars the underlying quality of the bronze finish and its detailing.

B. Drawings Locating Metalwork and Identifying Proposed Treatment

We append two sketch drawings which identify the metalwork and adjacent areas of the shop front and the treatment and repairs as proposed.

C. Method of Cleaning and Restoration

We have reviewed the methodology for cleaning the bronze and adjacent metalwork and confirm the following method statement:

- i). Remove all dirt, grease and grime from the surface of the bronze shop front, the satin anodised aluminium shop front, adjacent areas of granite and brickwork using a soap solution with warm water and re-inspect on completion.
- ii). Apply to a sample area (to the side frame of the door frame on the inner edge on the hinge side) a paint remover, we suggest Envirogard or a similar paint removal system. Following approval of the sample, apply the paint removal system to all the over-applied paint surfaces to the front door, its panels and the adjacent door frame excluding the panel on which the sign writing 'Cigarettes' is applied. Re-apply, until the paint is removed. Avoid contact with granite or glazed panels, include for appropriate protection. Thoroughly clean off on completion to ensure that none of the paint removal material remains.
- iii). To the sign written panel, following cleaning with soap and hot water, remove the remnant adhesive from adjacent to the sign writing, retain the painted surface beneath, and avoid any damage to the sign written wording.
- iv). To the cleaned remaining bronze surfaces, prepare and apply a clear matt lacquer to all surfaces excluding the door handle on completion of cleaning.

- v). Carry out repairs to re-secure the door handle and to make good the damage which has occurred to the hardwood frame to the door, to reinstate the glazed panel with hardwood beads to match the original provision and to make good where the ironmongery is to be changed and upgraded. This work to be carried out without affecting the bronze finish on the external surface of the door or door frame.

- vi). It is important that the cleaning of the finishes are executed without causing damage to the underlying bronze material and whilst protecting the surface of the sign written and glazed adjacent panels and this work should be carried out by experienced specialists. We have reviewed the issues raised with Bronze Shop Front Restoration, a bronze restoration specialist. We understand that they have worked on other items of metalwork at the station and recommend their involvement in the detailed restoration of the bronze surfaces accordingly.