

Protecting theatres for everyone



Ref.: TC/3149

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By e-mail: planning@lambeth.gov.uk

Application: 22/03160/FUL, 22/03161/LB & 22/03204/ADV

Site: Royal National Theatre South Bank London SE1 9PX

Proposal: Restoration/refurbishment of the restaurant involving the replacement of two internal glass panelled windows, including creation of a new internal entrance, alteration to the toilets, new private dining room and other associated internal works; and

Restoration/refurbishment of the restaurant involving the replacement of two internal glass panelled windows, including creation of a new internal entrance, alteration to the toilets, new private dining room and other associated internal works. Display of 1 internally illuminated fascia sign and 1 internally illuminated panel sign for the 'Lasdun' restaurant; and

Display of 1 internally illuminated fascia sign and 1 internally illuminated panel sign for the 'Lasdun' restaurant.

Remit:

The Theatres Trust is the national advisory public body for theatres. We were established through the Theatres Trust Act 1976 'to promote the better protection of theatres' and provide statutory planning advice on theatre buildings and theatre use in England through The Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015, requiring the Trust to be consulted by local authorities on planning applications which include 'development involving any land on which there is a theatre'.

Comment:

Thank you for consulting Theatres Trust on these applications for planning permission and listed building consent at the National Theatre. There is also an associated application for advertisement consent. They seek alterations and refurbishments within the theatre's second floor 'House' restaurant including reinstatement of original features ahead of re-branding to the 'Lasdun' restaurant. Additionally there will be some minor external alteration to facilitate new signage.

Theatres Trust

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Chair Dave Moutrey **Director** Jon Morgan

Trustees Paul Cartwright, James Dacre, Suba Das, Stephanie Hall, Annie Hampson, Richard Johnston, Gary Kemp, Lucy Osborne, Jane Spiers, Truda Spruyt, Katie Town

The National Advisory Public Body for Theatres

The Theatres Trust Charitable Fund co-operates with the Theatres Trust, has the same Trustees and is registered as a charity under number 274697

The stated ambition is for the restaurant to reflect the interior design principles of Lasdun, the theatre's original architect.

This will include reinstatement of two internal glass windows originally located to the restaurant's balcony area which were part of its original design. These were removed within previous refurbishments. This approach is welcomed. At the restaurant's entrance there will be alteration to its timber structure to add a window and top panel.

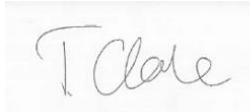
Externally currently there is a 'temporary' wooden panel located to the restaurant's exterior entrance. This will be replaced with concrete panels aligning with the existing material palette carrying the restaurant's branding with stainless steel signage illuminated with neon edging. There will be a second illuminated sign to the existing concrete slab to the external staircase to this entrance.

Ancillary revenue is important in supporting and sustaining the arts and cultural offer of theatres more generally. Front of house provision of this nature also helps to bring more people into cultural buildings. It is therefore beneficial for them to meet the needs of customers. This proposal will refresh the restaurant offer and deliver some heritage benefits through reinstatement of original features and a more sensitive approach to external treatment.

In terms of the new external signage we do not consider this gives rise to detrimental impacts on amenity or highway safety.

Therefore we are supportive of the granting of planning permission, listed building consent and advertisement consent.

Please contact us if we may be of further assistance or should you wish to discuss these comments in further detail.



Tom Clarke MRTPI
National Planning Adviser