

Pall Mall and Pinnacle Wall Opening Methodology

Wall Between Pall Mall and Pinnacle

Existing Wall Construction

This wall comprises a 225 mm thick concrete wall on the Pall Mall side and a cavity brick wall on the Pinnacle side.

Proposed Works

Two new openings are to be formed in the concrete wall, as indicated on the approved drawings. The works will be carried out using methods designed to protect the historic and structural integrity of the existing fabric:

- Openings will be formed using a stitch drilling method followed by saw cutting through the full thickness of the wall, avoiding the use of percussive or mechanical breaking out methods.
- Cuts will be carefully controlled to prevent over-cutting at corners, thereby minimising the risk of damage to adjacent finishes and maintaining clean, accurate openings.
- A 150 mm deep pre-cast concrete lintel will be installed to both leaves of the walkway opening, with a minimum 100 mm end bearing on each side to ensure adequate load distribution.
- Additional support to the inner leaf will be provided via an angle bracket securely bolted to the adjacent concrete lift shaft.
- A further 150 mm high pre-cast concrete lintel will be installed to the brick leaf, also with a minimum 100 mm end bearing.

Justification

The proposed openings are required to improve connectivity and circulation between the Pall Mall and Pinnacle areas while respecting the original wall structure. The chosen stitch drilling and saw cutting methods are non-percussive and specifically selected to reduce vibration and avoid unintended damage to the retained fabric, aligning with conservation best practice. The use of pre-cast concrete lintels and carefully detailed support brackets ensures the retained elements remain stable and structurally sound.

Wall Between All Bar One and Pinnacle

Existing Wall Construction

This wall comprises two leaves of 225 mm brickwork with a cavity (exact dimensions TBC).

Proposed Works

To create the proposed opening:

- One leaf of brickwork will be carefully dismantled by hand over the length specified on the approved drawings. This approach allows for a controlled removal and reduces the risk of damaging adjacent retained masonry.
- A new 100 x 100 x 6.3 mm SHS (square hollow section) steel post will be installed, fixed to the ground floor slab below and to the underside of the first floor above, providing structural support to the retained leaf.
- The new steel post will be securely bolted to the remaining brickwork to maintain overall wall stability and ensure safe load transfer.

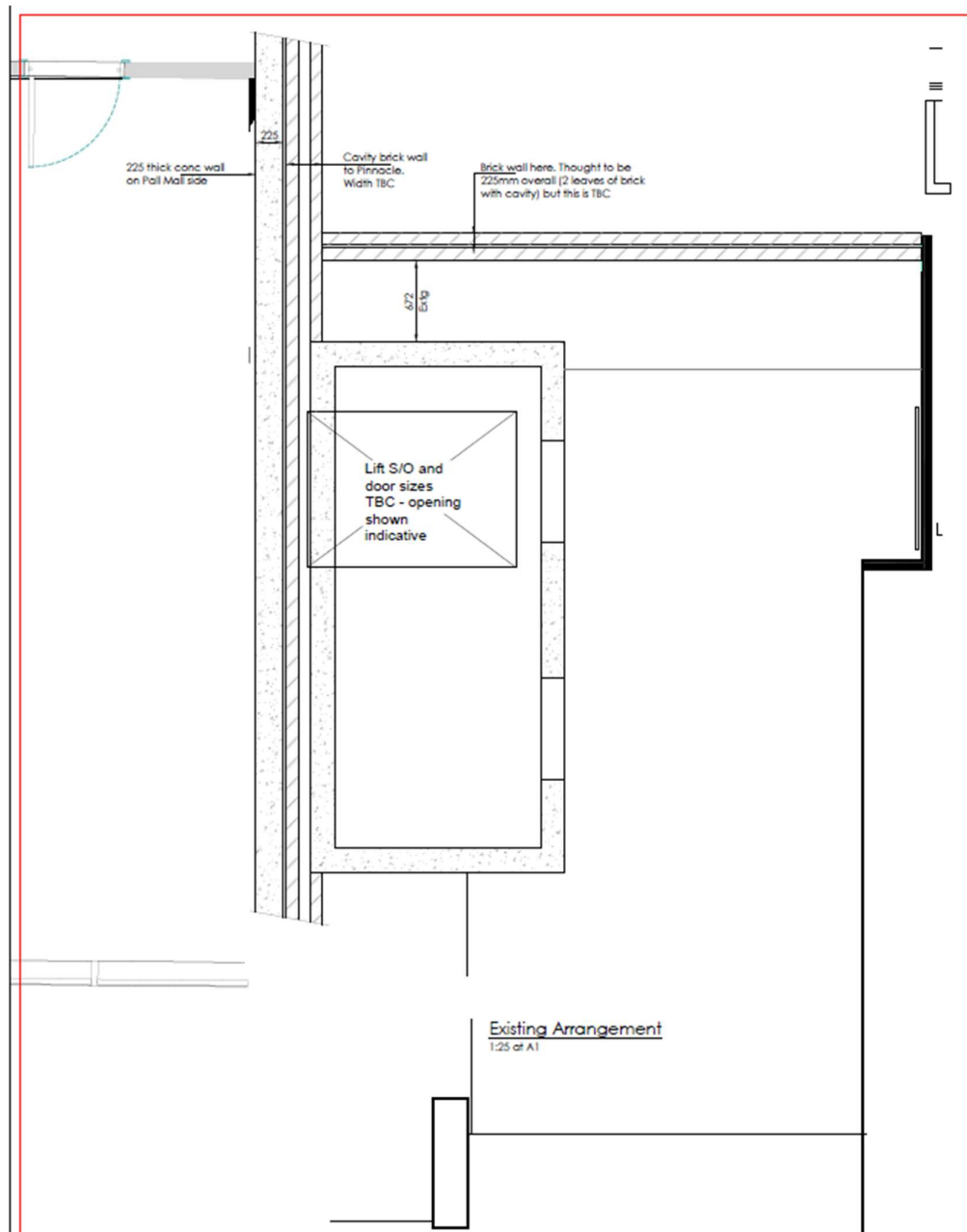
Justification

The removal of a single leaf of brickwork is necessary to create a functional opening while preserving as much historic fabric as possible. By dismantling the brickwork carefully rather than demolishing it, the impact on the building's historic character is minimised. The introduction of a discreet steel post provides essential structural support without visually dominating the space, thereby balancing modern functional requirements with conservation principles.

Conclusion

The proposed interventions have been carefully designed to respect and preserve the building's historic fabric. The methods prioritise minimal intervention, reversible techniques where feasible, and the use of appropriate structural supports to maintain the integrity of the listed structure. These proposals align with national and local heritage guidance and aim to enhance the building's usability while safeguarding its historic significance.

Existing Drawing



Proposed Drawing

