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Squires gets go-ahead for new Brixton HQ development

2 September, 2015 | By Jim Dunton



Squire and Partners has won permission to overhaul a group of buildings in south London to provide a new headquarters for the practice

This week Lambeth Council approved plans to renovate a disused Edwardian department store annexe in Ferndale Road, Brixton, along with a neighbouring former fire station. The project, which includes 11 new homes, will see the demolition of a stables building and an existing office annex.

The practice, which is currently based in King's Cross, said the *Department Store* project will create a new 4,767m² office, with a design studio, rooftop social area, landscaped courtyard, and staff

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facilities. It will also provide three new business units for the creative industries, an independent bar and restaurant, and a new location for Brixton Post Office.

Partner Henry Squire said the move to Brixton underscored the 'continual evolution' of the practice, which began in a Pimlico basement almost 40 years ago, and would see a new creative hub introduced to the area.

'The Department Store building gives Squire and Partners an opportunity to express the huge range of design skills within the practice, as well as the variety of our work,' he said.

'Owning the entire building, rather than a few floors, represents an opportunity to communicate the practice's creative and social spirit, which has always been central to our practice ethos.'

Recommending the proposals for approval, Lambeth Council planning officers said Squires' plans to extend the department store roof in particular were of 'exemplary design'.

Squires said it expected to move into its new offices next year.



Side elevation of Squire and Partners proposals to create a new practice headquarters in a former department store annexe in Brixton, south London

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