



## **St Pancras Chambers**



Benefit:	Warmer
Туре:	Refurbishment
Listing:	Grade I

An ideal location, especially if you are a rail enthusiast with a fascination for quirky architecture, can be found at one of London's latest apartment conversions.

Originally part of St. Pancras Railway Station and the adjoining Midland Grand Hotel (now the five-star Renaissance Hotel), St. Pancras Chambers is a complex of 67 individually designed apartments carved out of the interior of George Gilbert Scott's gothic Grade I masterpiece fronting London's Euston Road.

The apartments occupy the top five floors of this magnificent building, which began its life in 1873. However, to create high calibre living spaces within a building boasting a maze of gigantic vaults and timber roof frames represented a real challenge to developers, The Manhattan Loft Corporation, particularly when it came to providing mod cons in a building which had lain abandoned for 75 years.

Perhaps one of the most spectacular apartments and featured here, belongs to Peter Tompkins. Spreading over two floors, it incorporates the main access to the service tower of St. Pancras Station's 80m high landmark clock, which cleverly helps to create a living room with a ceiling 10 metres high, mezzanines and balconies - all with unparallel views across the Station.



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Peter says: "Most of the apartments were sold off-plan so it wasn't until last winter that we owners began to realise just how cold they could be. With the original single-glazed lancet windows retained in line with English Heritage requirements, even after installing 7 radiators in one of my rooms, I was unable to heat the apartment adequately".

Speaking on behalf of several owners, Peter goes on to say: "We contacted Selectaglaze because we knew that secondary glazing was permitted by heritage bodies. We were also aware that to thermally insulate the windows in St. Pancras Chambers, because of the sheer size and multitude of shapes, would present a

challenge. Selectaglaze produced individually tailored secondary units that exceeded all our expectations, not only from a thermal point of view but because we no longer hear the noise from Euston Road. We're seeing a great improvement in our heating bills too!"

In addition to Peter's "Tower Room", where the windows have been treated with Selectaglaze's Series 45 slimline side-hung casements, the 4.6 metre high master bedroom with bathroom mezzanine, features four monumental windows treated with their Series 30 slimline lift-out units which offer a practical way of treating windows that are rarely used but which need access for cleaning or maintenance.

Other windows within the apartment were treated with Series 10 horizontal sliding units. Peter ends by saying: "This is a highly theatrical space and I feel privileged to live here, particularly now that cold days are a thing of the past".



