

Metro
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METRO Property New Builds

Hard hat AREA



GOING TO TOWN

A new development is putting Kentish Town on the map, says **Oliver Wadeson**

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On the up: Work is underway (top) with the development due to be completed by summer 2016, with 192-196 markers (above). Below: How the entrance to The Maple Building will look, front: Gary Linton

including underfloor heating. The developers are aware that older buildings often lack good storage, so each flat will have bespoke built-in wardrobes and other storage space. Kitchens are to be fitted with Blaeser sinks. Made-to-order and full-height stone splashbacks and worktops from German firm Perennia. In the bathrooms, baths and shower trays will be fitted chromated steel, with mirrors and showers by Hansgrohe. The development will also have a gym and a 24-hour concierge service.

Refreshingly, Linton is not taking The Maple Building to Asia to market it. Gary Linton, managing director of the Linton Group, has a clear idea of the type of people who will buy the flats. "We are very much looking at domestic buyers in their twenties - young successful couples who may have a bit of help from the bank of mum and dad.

"We are also expecting a lot of downsizers - probably people who have been living in the area but the kids have now moved out and they still want all the advantages Kentish Town offers, such as Hampstead Heath and all of the restaurants that have been springing up."

The arrival of a branch of the French Lyon in Kentish Town a few years ago has also opened up the area to London's legions of French expats. Linton has previously specialised in property in Knightsbridge and other posh parts of west London, but Gary, who grew up in the Kentish Town area, is proved to be associated with the project.

He is among those who suspect Kentish Town is about to undertake a bit of neighbourhood revival in the long because to buy in the area decade hasn't been the way the high street is changing, he says. "It's gradual, but the already shops are going and great restaurants are opening up."

in creeping up on the world, and its not is about to be accelerated by the arrival of The Maple Building, a new set of flats in a former furniture factory, from the Linton Group.

There will be 30 one to three bed flats and seven penthouses, and they're not cheap - prices start at £525,000 and the penthouses are forecast to range from £750,000 to £2million.

With its handsome red-brick exterior and Central windows, the building, built in the 1930s, always had the raw potential to look great as a residential block.

Jackie Linton has brought in award-winning design firm Goodwin-Duff & Linton.

The designers are endeavouring to give the flat a luxury, boutique look, giving The Maple Building an edge the prime retail, while retaining the 'Stonemach' quasi-industrial character.

Linton is undertaking: strengthening, sound-proofing and the ground work, while also





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