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Subject: planning application 2023/0719/P

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## REMARKS ON PROPOSED ALTERATIONS TO 39A FALKLAND RD. NW5 2PU

- 1. Internal changes *are* needed to that property, but the proposed changes take a large toll of the neighbours' environment, as follows.
- 2. Many square metres of earth would be removed, cutting back on London's lungs. Governments have been told by the United Nations not to allow this to happen there is already catastrophic climate change owing to such human activities
- 3, The proposed alterations would impinge on 'ancient lights' on the ground floor of No. 41, by raising by a couple of metres the wall that is now the garden wall between Nos 39 and 41. This would reduce the sky from our bathroom, living room and kitchen. We have formerly been told that there is a limit of 2m. on the height of party garden walls.
- 4. Part of this wall would actually be the east wall of no. 39. This is contrary to the principle of London terraced houses that neighbouring houses only abut each other on common walls, This principle prevents neighbours from taking each others' light and views. Garden walls stand at 6 feet, for reasonable privacy.
- 5. The spaces between back extensions should have only garden walls in them, allowing access to sky and air. The fact that this rule was disobeyed by Nos 27 and 29 should not serve as an enabling precedent for what is proposed by No.39A.
- 6. This leads to this important COUNTER PROPOSAL: instead of referring to Nos 27 and 29 for justification for heightening the party wall, an example could be taken from No.23 on how to achieve the side infill with no increase

in height of the party wall, and so no necessity for a brown-brick, close-up, visual barrier just outside the door and windows of No 41. Crudely stated, this would involve a roof sloping from the top of the wall to the level of the first floor of No39A

7, It looks from the proposed elevation as if it is intended to rebuild the whole of the garden wall. How would this be done? The garden of No.41 has a 'fossilised' slope corresponding to that of Lady Margaret Road and keeping it level with gardens to the east. Yet the elevation of the proposed wall is a perfect rectangle. What would happen on our side of the wall (where there are shrubs)? This wall, we think, is an attractive composition built at our expense and out of the materials of its (1870's) predecessor, which collapsed about 20 years ago