

**REDINGTON FROGNAL**  
NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM

6 May 2024

Dear Lauren,

**2024/1158/P: 61 Redington Road - objection**

The proposal to demolish the historic front boundary wall at 61 Redington Road is in sharp contravention of policy SD 6.

The photo below shows the boundary wall to be constructed of clinker (or lava) bricks, which are a unique characteristic of the Redington Frognal and Fitzjohn's Netherhall conservation areas.

**Existing low clinker brick wall and planting**



Clinker or lava bricks, also referred to as volcanic bricks, are noted as a feature in the Redington Frognal Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan

These contorted, blackened and welded bricks have a particular historical and local link, and were used in garden walls in the vicinity of the many brick kilns that dotted parts of the Heath and the Briardale Road area:

<http://londongeopartnership.org.uk/wp/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/The-Geology-of-Highgate-Wood-and-Queens-Wood-AGS-final.pdf>

They were valued in Arts and Crafts architecture for imparting a rustic aesthetic and an instant sense of age, as seen in the attached Columbia University PhD thesis.

It is intended that, following demolition, the wall would be replaced with metal railings. These are particularly harmful to the conservation area character and, indeed, their use is noted in the Harm section (pages 20 and 21) of the Redington Frognal Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan. Moreover, they were found to create a hostile street scene,

*“The proposed combination of sliding railing gates, associated brick piers and railings on top of a brick wall I find would cumulatively undermine the open character of the streetscene as well as appearing solid and dominant to the forefront of the host property regardless of the appellant’s amendments to the scheme during the application process. The boundary treatment would seem hostile which would impact upon the sense of safety in the public realm as a result of size, materials and design.”*

The proposal is also contrary to Camden Planning Guidance 2021, which requires works for boundary treatments to preserve and enhance the existing qualities and context of the site and surrounding area.

Yours sincerely,

Secretary

Redington Frogna! Neighbourhood Forum

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