



Categories:

Orange Category

To The Director of Planning

Camden Council

Dear Sir or Madam,

Planning application nos: **2013/8301/P** (the 5-storey scheme) & **2013/8302/P** (the 4-storey scheme).

I am very sorry that there should be any question of redeveloping the former North Western Polytechnic/Pizza Express Building at 187 Kentish Town Road. It is a fine building which has added distinction and character to Kentish Town for far longer than most of our life times. It has been a great pleasure over recent years (while enjoying a pizza) to be able to relish the fascination and grandeur of the interior space. It seems like criminal negligence that the building has not been listed or enjoyed any other special protection. Its redevelopment will mean yet another step in the sad attrition of the historic quality and interest of Kentish Town and London in general.

I realise of course that the battle to save the building from redevelopment has been lost. Now two alternative plans for redevelopment lie before you, the Camden Planning Department. I would urge you to accept the proposals that keep the building as close as possible to its present state, i.e. **2013/8302/P** (the 4-storey scheme) and to reject the alternative proposal **2013/8301/P** (the 5-storey scheme). I know incentives have been offered with the latter scheme, the most popular of which is a small cinema, but there is no guarantee that this would be included if the 5-storey building were to be built. The out-of-scale, ugly, extra storey, which would disfigure views in Kentish Town Road for the foreseeable future, seems too high a price to pay for what could easily turn out to be a false promise.

I am sure you will receive many representations like mine expressing preference for the 4-storey redevelopment. I look forward in the hope that you will bear the long-term architectural character of Kentish Town in mind and make this important decision in their favour.



