The Society examines all Planning Applications relating to Hampstead, and assesses them for their impact on conservation and on the local environment.

To London Borough of Camden, Development Control Team

Planning Ref: 2014/2774/P

Address: 75 Parliament Hill NW3

Description: Loft conversion and roof terrace.

Case Officer: Fergus Freeney Date 7 May 2014

We make no comments on the loft conversion itself.

We object, however, to the inclusion of a balcony/roof terrace at the rear of the house, at 4th floor level, facing, across a garden, Hampstead Heath.

Roof terraces are always potential sources of considerable public nuisance, leading to overlooking of neighbouring properties and gardens, consequential loss of privacy, and noise pollution. All these are relevant in this case. The 4th floor elevation of the terrace would give it widespread opportunity for overlooking, and diffusion of noise pollution. The proximity of the Heath gives it additional prominence.

The existing presence of other terraces nearby should not be regarded as a justifiable precedent. Most of any such might well have been formed and used without permission, or before effective Planning control existed. You don't condone a misdemeanour just because others have committed one....

Please refuse.