

Application No:	Consultees Name:	Consultees Addr:	Received:	Comment:	Response:
2014/6736/P	Linda Simone	First floor flat 170 Haverstock Hill London NW3 2AT	15/12/2014 23:08:03	OBJEMAIL	<p>I am the owner of the first floor flat in the building which is attached to number 168 Haverstock Hill. To have to endure probably two years of hell while the entire footprint of the building is dug into deep enough to provide a swimming pool I find really upsetting. It is as though we next door have no right to live peacefully in our own houses. Perhaps owners on the other side will decide to do a basement next time. I cannot understand why this sort of application should be considered in these houses already somewhat liable to movement being built on clay and on a steep hill and also when so many other peoples lives are badly affected, which seems to be of no consequence. I am really distressed at the thought of the damage that will be caused to our building because of these works. I do have first hand experience of the noise levels and awful disruption to normal life caused by serious building work and that was pretty dreadful, but certainly this is on a different scale altogether. Our own building was the subject of alterations in the basement and a side extension and the cracking and movement to the inside, some of which is still obvious was really upsetting. There were serious cracks on the walls of the building one of which was around 3/4 of an inch wide probably when the whole back wall was knocked out. Any small cracks became huge ones. I had to have my one of my ceilings replastered. The wooden flooring in my hall literally moved apart at the seams and remains so, as did the side party wall which moved apart to show a big gap where it met the internal solid wall. Doors no longer closed properly and a crack appeared across a bedroom wall that still reappeared after four raking out and filling in episodes and finally I had to have it wallpapered with thick paper to try to keep it at bay because some of the internal walls were not well supported when the building was put up, which I fear is often the case with old buildings, and would never have occurred under normal circumstances. Cracks around the original coving are still visible because they moved apart to a slightly different level. The building work took virtually a year and only ended a year or so ago. During the whole of the spring the noise and vibration was so bad that a guest staying with me and working from home had to literally go somewhere else all day each day to work. You literally could not stay in this flat. In other parts of London I understand they have not allowed planning permission to be granted for this sort of work why does north london have to endure it. Surely these works should only be allowed in detached houses where distances from other houses are more acceptable. Only one person in this building as far as I know is actually out at work all day. The older people among us are not. Despite party wall awards and suggestions of putting right any damage, nothing is really the same afterwards and any making good is never actually good enough.</p>
