

Dartmouth Park Conservation Area Advisory Committee

2015/3489/P Gordon House

We object to this application

This site is closely and largely surrounded by residential accommodation. Raising its height by two floors would have a very direct impact on living accommodation in Lissenden Gardens, Gordon House Road and Glenhurst Avenue. The 'historic pattern and established townscape of the surrounding area' (CPG, Design, 4.10) is not one of industrial buildings with saw-tooth roofs; the single example to the rear of Spectrum House is remote from the public domain and effectively not visible. That such roofs may be found elsewhere in Camden is entirely irrelevant and cannot be used by the developer to justify his design here.

Furthermore, the employment of black corrugated cladding on all the facades of the proposed work and the painting black of the existing brickwork is a fundamental undermining of the principle set out in CPG Design (e.g., 4.7, 4.10) that alterations or repairs to brickwork ... should match the original in all respects'; 'Painting, rendering or cladding of brickwork will normally be resisted, as it ... can damage the appearance of a building'.

It is generally agreed in architectural design that matt black facades should be avoided because of the depressive effect on a neighbourhood.

This proposal would seriously harm the Conservation Area, and consequently cannot be entertained, but should be rejected.

M.Port, for DPCAAC
16/7/2015.