

Gentet, Matthias

From: Carolyn Harms <[REDACTED]>
Sent: 15 December 2015 20:06
To: Planning; [REDACTED]
Subject: Heath House, North End Road. Application Ref: Nos 2015/6280P and 2015/6447/L

I object to the above planning application to turn Heath House, a Grade II listed historic Hampstead mansion, previously the centre of the abolition of the slavery movement into a block of flats as totally unacceptable. The Quaker banker, Samuel Hoare, one of the twelve founding members of the Society for the Abolition of the Slave Trade lived in this eighteenth mansion and played host to the leading social reformer William Wilberforce and Elizabeth Fry.

As one of Hampstead's most notable houses, situated in a prominent position behind the Hampstead War Memorial adjacent to the Whitestone Pond and Hampstead Heath, the proposed application by Developer Consero London to convert this important heritage mansion into six luxury flats, a new three-storey west wing with a basement, a conservatory extension and excavation of the front forecourt to provide a basement car park, only goes to show the developers' total disregard for this important historical mansion, and that their sole endeavour is to achieve maximum profit.

The proposed requirement of excessive parking spaces for the six flats due to the intensification of the site would, I suggest, be entirely inappropriate on this very visible entry forecourt endorsing the importance of this historical house behind the War Memorial. The roundabout in front of the War Memorial is always extremely busy linking the direct road from Hampstead to Golder's Green and Hampstead Way to Highgate.

The garden of Heath House is designated as Metropolitan Open Land which gives it protection similar to that of the green belt. The application by Developer Consero London for a new three-storey west wing with a basement and a conservatory extension and excavation of the front forecourt to provide a basement car park in the garden of Heath House is against its green belt protection as Metropolitan Open Land.

The unfortunate deterioration of the interior of this mansion should not be seen as a reason for Developer Consero London to be granted permission to make a ruthless and handsome profit by building six luxury flats with amenities and thereby abolishing an important historical and national heritage asset.

This famous area of London is notoriously unstable with bagshot sand and shifting gravel and with many underground rivers flowing into the Heath Ponds. It goes without saying that to allow any underground excavation for an underground car park or for any other underground facility and amenity for Developer Consero London's proposed luxury flats would therefore be extremely hazardous and inadvisable.

The Planning Application by Developer Consero London for this important heritage and national asset is totally unacceptable.

Carolyn Harms