

Panther House development – comments on an objection by David Moore, the owner of 55 Gray's Inn Road

- 1 This notes comments on an objection to the proposed development of Panther House, prepared by Temple Bright Solicitors on David Moore, the owner of 55 Gray's Inn Road. The Temple Bright letter is dated 6 October
- 2 Temple Bright asserts, at the start of page 2 of their letter, that '[Historic England's advice] is an extremely strong objection to the proposed development and this issue alone is sufficient to justify refusal'. Historic England's advice is exactly that – advice, to which the Council should give weight when making its decision, but which the Council is not obliged to accept. It is worth pointing out that the senior counsel's opinion of the Historic England advice, referred to by Temple Bright, was that it contained evident technical errors – the Council would be failing in its duty were it to ignore those errors.
- 3 I can confirm that the heritage significance/special architectural and historic interest of the listed building at 55 Gray's Inn Road, including any contribution made by its setting, was assessed as part of our work. 55 Gray's Inn Road is identified at Paragraph 2.5 and 2.24, and referred to at Paragraphs 2.28, 4.19, 5.2, 5.8, 5.10, 5.13, 5.16, 5.18 and in the conclusion at Section 6.

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Monday, October 17, 2016

The author of this report is Kevin Murphy B.Arch MUBC RIBA IHBC. He was an Inspector of Historic Buildings in the London Region of English Heritage and dealt with a range of major projects involving listed buildings and conservation areas in London. Prior to this, he had been a conservation officer with the London Borough of Southwark, and was Head of Conservation and Design at Hackney Council between 1997 and 1999. He trained and worked as an architect, and has a specialist qualification in urban and building conservation. Kevin Murphy was included for a number of years on the Heritage Lottery Fund's Directory of Expert Advisers.