

Application No:	Consultees Name:	Consultees Addr:	Received:	Comment:	Response:
2017/2383/P	Giles Martin	10 Francis Terrace London N19 5PY	23/05/2017 22:12:33	OBJ	<p>I am writing in objection of planning application 2017/2383/P, namely a upper floor and roof extension of Grove End House, Highgate Road, London. I am an architect and have lived in the area for 20 years.</p> <p>Highgate Road is a well preserved and characterful part of north London with much high quality Georgian architecture. In particular Grove Terrace and Grove End is one of the best preserved set pieces in North London. Built in 1830 and mentioned in Jones and Woodward's Architectural Guide to London, it originally stood alone in the London countryside. Grove End House is both listed Grade 2 and in a conservation area.</p> <p>These houses have been preserved for nearly 200 years without being significantly altered; all retain original features, not just windows but many retain original fanlights, railings and lanterns. The conservation area and listed status afforded to these buildings provides them with protection, so they may be preserved for successive generations to enjoy the setting as well as the individual buildings. The owners of these houses know they have this protection when purchasing them, so it is with some cynicism that they can consider it acceptable to alter them in order to make them more suitable fo their current needs.</p> <p>The design of the extension is particularly unsympathetic in both materials and form, bearing no relation to the architecture of the well proportioned house. The architect has gone for the "look at me" approach, despite the elegant uniformity of the terrace. Although the existing mansard is not original and not of architectural merit, it doesn't draw attention to itself and, most importantly does not project above the front facade.</p> <p>I understand Historic England would be a statutory consultee on such an application due the Grove End House's listed status. I would very much like to see the officers report on these proposals but have been unable to locate them on your website. If you could direct me to this document, or could make it available to me I would be very grateful. I cannot believe they would be supportive of this proposal.</p> <p>There is no justification to approve such inelegant and mediocre architecture. To do so, will encourage other jarring and misplaced applications, which if this is approved will be harder to resist. I hope Camden can reject this application and preserve Grove End House (and by extension the wider terrace) for future generations to enjoy.</p>

Giles Martin
