
From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 09 December 2017 19:51
To: Planning
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Housing proposed on Anglers Lane

Dear Camden planner,

PA 2017/5908/P - in-fill proposed in Anglers Lane adjacent to ex-factory at nos. 5 to 8

My attention has been drawn to this proposal, which would consist of inserting a two-storey in-fill above the one-storey building that occupies this site between two much taller blocks.

I do not myself object to the overall proposal for this site. It seems to me a sensible vest-pocket use of space, of which London is badly in need.

I note that what is proposed is not greedily over-high - indeed, it is slightly lower than the building adjoining it on the north and considerably lower than the roof-line of the old dental factory to the south.

What I do regard as a substantial mistake, however, are the two proposed over-sized windows on the main front of the development, each an expanse of plain glass. These are quite unsuitable for a small house in a narrow street facing others, both from the point of view of the eventual tenants (who would be living in the proverbial gold-fish bowl) and the convenience of the house-occupants opposite who would feel constantly looked at.

It is a fact that, though it is of course possible to look in or out through less ostentatious, smaller-paned windows divided up conventionally, such windows create a much greater general sense of privacy and of each dwelling being in its own space, as is traditional in terrace housing. In addition, conventional windows would blend much more appropriately with the appearance of the adjoining ex-factory, and this, in a Conservation Area, is important.

I would note in conclusion that exactly this mistake - huge, blank windows in an unsuitable setting - has been made in an otherwise inoffensive residential development on the south side of Jeffreys Street. The result has been that the new occupants feel obliged to cloak their windows continually with net curtains, which is surely not the effect the architect envisaged. Too many architects appear to have a rather unrealistic idea of how life in a crowded city is actually lived.

Sincerely,

Gillian Tindall FRSL