



I am writing to express my objections to the proposed British Library extension. I gather these are the subject of planning reference 2022/1320/L and 2022/1041/P.

My friend the architect Nicholas Ray has already written to Jennifer Walsh about the effect on a Grade I listed building, concerns which I share, but I want to add that I'm appalled by the size of the new planned extension altogether, both the profile of the whole building and the scale of the public spaces. Colin St John Wilson's building is grand but on a human scale. This thing looks like an oversized shopping mall. If a new supplementary entrance to the Library is needed, surely it should

resemble the building it's supposed to be an entrance to. This looks like a trade-off permitting more office space above.

I recognise that a gargantuan precedent has already been set with the Crick Institute behind the BL site, but that is no excuse to add to the over-inflation of building sizes in the area, so close to the Wilson building.

with all best wishes

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