



To: Planning Planning  
Subject: 106 Highgate Road.



102 Highgate Road,  
NW5 1PB



<http://camdocs.camden.gov.uk/HPRMWebDrawer/Record/9673588/file/document?inline>

Dear Sir/Madam,

yesterday my neighbours at 104 Highgate Road drew my attention to the plans to redevelop parts of the house at 106 Highgate Road, formerly Fitzroy Terrace. I was told that there was no longer time to lodge an objection. This seemed strange to me, as we are part of the same terrace, and that any major work on 106 will naturally affect us too. Our houses are very narrow, and we are just a few feet away.

The new owners of 106 have been working hard on the house. Among other things they have painted the grouting on the facade, which is certainly not revolutionary when it comes to late Georgian houses, but I suspect it is undesirable in a terrace in just the same way that painting the house a different colour would be: it destroys the harmony of the terrace as an architectural composition.

My chief concern is that the plans show that the new owners wish to dig down, albeit only a few feet. When the previous owners of 104 applied to dig down in their application was rejected. Their surveyors came here to look at our last original ceiling and I was able to show they how badly cracked it was. There has been subsidence at nos 98, 100 and 104. to my certain knowledge. Careful attention to the facades will prove this. The houses are certainly charming, but they were jerry-built, without foundations, on a hillside and close to water: the Fleet River runs down Burghley Road, and an arm of it flows down Lady Somerset Road too. You can actually see the river through a grille at the western extremity of Lady Somerset Road, some 50 metres away.

The plans show no desire to alter the facade of the house, just to build two extensions at the rear. I had assumed that the Grade Two Listing meant that you could not alter the appearance of the outside of the building, but were free to alter the interiors?

These new buildings will hardly affect us, but obviously the heightening of the garden will be onerous to our neighbours at 104. I note too that the new 'store' and shower room are twice the height of the kitchen? I wonder if that is strictly necessary for a store and shower room?

Yours faithfully,

Giles MacDonogh

