

Application No:	Consultees Name:	Received:	Comment:	Response:
2022/3352/HS2	Duncan Calam	06/09/2022 11:46:43	OBJ	<p>I wish to object to the application on the grounds that it is totally out of keeping with a Grade II* listed streetscape.</p> <p>Park Village was designed by John Nash either side of the (then) canal and was designed as a picturesque village of different buildings creating a unified and harmonious whole. It has been referred to as "the first villa suburb in London" (Tyack) and its enormous importance is recognised by the Grade II* listing.</p> <p>The development of the railway in the 19th century reduced the size of the village and added red-brick elements on the Eastern edge in the form of the retaining wall and riding school. During the 20th century, the village was affected by war damage and the in-filling of the canal. However, the village has remained preserved almost as originally built, with the streetscape today remarkably similar to that memorialised by TH Shepherd in the early nineteenth century (Elmes "Metropolitan Improvements" 1829).</p> <p>This remarkable preservation has been achieved by careful management of the village by the Crown Estate; regular and meticulous upkeep by the leaseholders, and vigilant action by conservation groups and the planning authorities who have prevented any unnecessary alterations. This must be maintained.</p> <p>This proposal would add an entirely new and jarring modern element to a street that is otherwise almost entirely preserved from the nineteenth century. This is entirely unnecessary and can be avoided.</p> <p>If a headhouse is required (and I understand that this is still a subject of debate), it should be firstly be designed to be lower than the existing wall and secondly to take its design cues from the Victorian wall buildings around it - rather than a misplaced sense that a brutalist modern structure is appropriate.</p> <p>The priority must be to maintain the unity of the street. Any additions should only be made as an absolutely last resort and if so needed should at all costs be designed to be as invisible as possible.</p>