

To: planningcomments@hounslow.gov.uk Cc: 'Councillor Guy Lambert';
Martine & Dennis Browne Mr & Mrs; 'Natalie Lynch'; rowena.scrimshaw@hounslow.gov.uk

Dear Sirs

I have been forwarded a 21 day notice concerning this application by Cllr Lambert. Despite the objections I lodged a year ago through the Hounslow website I would not otherwise have known.

Roughly a year ago the very same developers submitted a similar application. I lodged objections then and I do so again now. The Trimmer School is a listed building. Mrs Trimmer is a key figure in the development of mass education in this country. She lived in Brentford and her husband had a substantial brick making business. It is far from presuming too much to consider it likely that any Georgian bricks in the building will have been made at his brickworks. The building is rightly listed.

Despite objections lodged early in 2016, the developers removed the roofing a few months later and it was only through local intervention that Ms Lynch, the Planning Officer, stepped in and - after some bad weather with the roof open – insisted it be covered. By then what remained of a lantern in the roof – to enhance the lighting for the girls doing needlework etc had been destroyed. Quite frankly the large crack in the front wall looked like vandalism and had not been visible from the road until this point.

This is one of the few remaining precious gems of Brentford's history. It is important in national educational history. The research paper (attached) developed on behalf of the Brentford and Chiswick Local History Society demonstrates that not only was Mrs Trimmer an important national educationalist but that through the SPCK her books were sold all over the old empire – those for teachers and for pupils. The paper concludes that this particular building may be the only one extant of its type – for training girls in practical skills to enable them to earn a living. The very essence of it is the one large room **which should not be divided**. There was accommodation for a teacher, it is believed at an attic level at one end.

The current plans if enacted would destroy the large hall dividing it up both horizontally and vertically. The roofscape would be changed with several additional windows. The developers want to add C21st large folding patio windows at one end. All these intentions reinforce the image of an organization too arrogant and greedy to believe that it needs to abide by listing regulations as has already been demonstrated by their destruction of the roof last year.

Originally the Trimmer Hall had permission for development as a single domestic unit with lovely large and high hall which, with a modicum of imagination could become a unique home. Were this the application, and were it trying to retain the atmosphere of the modest old school, I would have no need to object.

Yours sincerely

Hazel Dakers

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