

# Moulin d'Andé

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as from: 29A Royal Avenue  
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22 December 1999

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MJ French  
Executive Director  
Planning & Conservation  
The Town Hall  
Hornton St  
London W8 7NX

R.B.K. & C.  
TOWN PLANNING  
22 DEC 1999  
RECEIVED

Dear Sir/Madam,

your ref DPS/DCSE/PP/99/02507/SG  
proposed alterations at 27 Royal Avenue

The notice about this planning application reached me as I was about to leave yesterday for 3 weeks. As it was addressed merely to "The Occupier", it was delivered to my tenant in the main house, whereas I (the owner of the whole house) am at present living in the basement flat.

I am faxing this to you so that you will receive this my comments within 21 days of the date of your notice. It is interesting how often planning applications are circulated over holiday periods when your office is closed and any interested party is likely to be away.

I just had time to go quickly to Chelsea Town Hall and look at the plans. Naturally I am only an amateur and find it difficult to judge precisely the impact this building extension will have on my property. I would like however to make the following comment.

The present glass-walled structure with dome which the developer proposes to demolish: This was put in in 1970 when I owned and lived in both 27 and 29 Royal Avenue. The architect was Tony Cloughley whose work was very typical of the sixties. It was he who turned the pub on the corner of Royal Avenue into the Drugstore. This was controversial, but many people admired his work. He also made a very interesting shop front on King's Road (Just Looking). The Drugstore and Just Looking have been completely revamped and his work has disappeared. The dome at the back of No 27, like his other work, has considerable aesthetic value and appeal, which was undoubtedly the reason why planning

38  
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permission was given for it to be built on to this listed building. It provides an extremely pleasant background to my garden in No 29, and does not in any way intrude on my space.

As I understand the plans, this glass dome will be replaced by a solid bricked extension at least twice the height of the dome and extending considerably further out into the garden. Which means that I will face a large expanse of brick wall, giving a deadening walled-in feeling to both my house and garden. Needless to say, it will also diminish the light and air.

My own house (29) is probably the last in this row NOT to have been extended. If the No 27 extension goes through, my only recourse would be to build out at the back myself, but I am not able to afford to do this, even if I really wanted to. My other recourse; naturally, would be to sell and move away from the house I have lived in since 1966.

This is to say that the proposed building will have a profound impact on my property and others nearby, just because the scale of the new development is so much larger and because its appearance will have no aesthetic value. The fact that houses are constantly being built out means that gradually gardens are so-to-speak concreted over, diminishing the green space that once flourished between the backs of the houses on Walpole St and Royal Avenue. What used to be a haven for small birds and residents is rapidly turning into a property developer's paradise and a hang-out for the ever increasing pigeon population.

I cannot, I feel, profitably make any objection to the demolishing of Cloughley's interesting fireplace surround of brushed aluminium (in the basement), although I feel it also has the merit of typifying the kind of work he carried out.

I do however feel that the eradication of the dome structure will be a loss, not only to me, but also to all those who occupy adjoining houses.

I am attaching from page 3 a fax to Environmental Services. I would be most grateful if you would see that it gets to them as I do not have their fax number, nor do I know who to address in the department.

I shall be back at Royal Avenue on January 9th. The reason I am staying away for so long is that damage from works at No 31 is being repaired, and these repairs can only be done in my absence. I realise this is no concern of yours, but I mention it nevertheless.

Yours sincerely,

  
Mrs Joseph Losey