

Comments taken from the Change.org petition to urge the UK Holocaust Memorial Foundation to reconsider its choice of site for the memorial and learning centre.

This is a beautiful green open space by the river. Heavily used by nearby office workers and residents. It should not be used for any form of building which will intrude into its natural character. The learning center may be underground but the entrance with the inevitable scale of the memorial will destroy the green and pleasant environment of this public open space. I will happily support a Holocaust Memorial and a learning center on a more appropriate urban site but not on this green open space.

I'm signing because the proposal will take away yet more of London's precious green space and will, sadly, cause resentment against an otherwise worthy purpose.

The Park is beautiful, it is an historic part of London, and provides an unrivalled view of the river in a garden setting. And that part of London does NOT need any further influx of visitors

I love this park and hate to see it compromised. As a Jew, I believe in memorializing the holocaust, but this location is more a political statement and inappropriate at this time, when so much construction is required at the Houses of Parliament.

One of the best things about London is the many and varied parks and green spaces open and free to residents and visitors alike which we should do everything to preserve for future generations

...however worthy it is to have a holocaust memorial (and it is worthy) it would be a travesty to destroy the green space in Victoria Tower Gardens. How much more appropriate to put it in one of the parks (Green, St James's or Hyde) all of which have far more space and greater serenity

I absolutely support the plan for a UK Holocaust Memorial and Learning Centre but strongly believe this site is the wrong place for it. Surely if it is in opposition to the policy of Westminster Council as well as being a Grade 2* listed park and a World Heritage Site any kind of building would be out of place in this position. Please find a more suitable alternative site.

Any green space in central London is precious. It is easy to erode it, impossible to reinstate it. The Gardens offer a place of calm overlooking

the river, a respite from the noise and bustle outside the Houses of Parliament. This proposal must be reconsidered.

A small and simple memorial would be OK but not a massive building project which would ruin this special open space.

I am signing this petition because I have been concerned for very many years by loss of and encroachment on urban greenspace. Victoria Tower Gardens has an especially important role to play within this UNESCO World Heritage Site and as such should be protected from development in any form. An alternative site should be sought for the proposed Holocaust Memorial and Learning Centre.

It is absolutely right that we should remember the Holocaust, Victoria Tower Gardens are not the right place for it. This is a precious piece of open space and an integral part of the World Heritage Site.

While I am fully supportive of a Holocaust Memorial I do not consider that this relatively tranquil and modest space is suitable for a project of this scale which will generate huge numbers of visitors.

Victoria Tower Gdns offers a rare sanctuary of calm from the crowds in this part of London. One of the simple pleasures in my life is sitting on the benches in the gardens, watching the Thames flow by. This green space has already been encroached upon by the ugly visitors centre. I fully support a Holocaust Memorial, but just not here.

I do think a National Holocaust Memorial should be built in London, but not on this piece of ever decreasing green spaces. I also think that if built in another area of London, it would help to bring economy & tourism to the people in the area.

please preserve this oasis of peace and do not change established planning policy for this area.

I agree with the statement. We must protect the diminishing amount of greenery we have especially in so small a space as Victoria Tower Gardens. A better and more prominent place would be where the underground car park is a few hundred yards away on College Green or the Imperial War Museum 0.8 miles away which is planning an expansion of its very impressive existing Holocaust museum. (from Vic Keegan)

Tranquility and green serenity of VTG much needed - the only oasis in very busy area. Holocaust Memorial most important but shd be sited elsewhere, such as Imperial War Museum

The London parks are precious to give Londoners space and quiet and are increasingly being encroached upon which is, I believe, fundamentally wrong

and short-sighted, for us and future generations. Victoria Tower Gardens is not large and should be left alone. There are other possible sites for this memorial, more suitable for its message and its visitors, not here.

Space matters. Grass and trees in the city matter. The visual impact of Westminster Palace and the river matter. Let's keep this park!

The loss of the local green space is unacceptable especially in view of the enormous amount of residential development in the area.

This park is a beautiful green lung in the city used by tourist, residents and office workers, one of the few spaces of quiet in the area. The Parliamentary education centre already uses up some of the land and spoils the views of Parliament, please don't add any more to the park that will take away what there already is, an oasis of calm in a busy capital.

I want to preserve our precious unspoilt parks and untouched areas of greenery to be enjoyed as such by those who work or live locally and for future generations. The site is in total conflict with the unique and intrinsic nature of its surroundings. Also the park falls within the Westminster Council Saturation Zone and therefore this corner of London is over provided with civic memorials of all types. The project would go well at the already established Imperial War Memorial Museum with its own galleries. This would be a realistic and potential home for a centre such as this one.

I applaud the idea of a Holocaust memorial (but would like commemorate other notorious acts of genocide (the Armenians, Cambodians, Tutsis, Aborigines, Native Americans). But this is not the right place

As an occasional user of this park it offers a little respite from the thronging crowds. The last thing this particular area needs is yet more visitors adding to the congestion and public safety risk. The learning centre should never have been considered for this location. It would be better sited elsewhere so another area of London can benefit

VTG is a lovely park for local residents, particularly ones with young families. Please do not destroy this.

This scheme will destroy the canopy of this grade 2* listed park.

It will create a new unnecessary threat to the adjacent building of the Parliament. What is the point of reinforcing security and then create a site for a million visitors?

The river is too close and weakening the sides of the river is folly and might put in danger the very building it is planning to build : subsidence and flood.

The traffic in Parliament Square has worsened atrociously since all the traffic from the embankment to Westminster Bridge has now to go around the square.

Canopy of London . Keeping Central London residential. We have been fighting to keep this Georgian part of London residential and we are proud to host one of the first educational Institution in the Country. Why destroy the work done?

Why add an attraction to a place that has Westminster Abbey, St Margaret, The House of Parliament, Big Ben, Churchill and Mandela statues and St James Park.... one could go on.

I have lived in Westminster for many years and the tourist buses and the tourist numbers are near saturation.

The Holocaust Memorial should be built in an area that needs attractions and infrastructure. South of the River where many developments are empty post Brexit should be the main focus.

The Imperial War Museum would be the perfect place. A jewel of a Museum in need of visitors.

The Holocaust Memorial is a well worth cause but Parliament Square and Victoria Tower Gardens should be preserved as the last part of London with gas lights and unspoiled Georgian houses and a precious park that should not be destroyed when building it somewhere else would be a gift to a borough.

This green space is a little gem and too precious to be lost. Quiet spaces, such as Victoria Tower Gardens, are becoming increasingly important for health and well-being by providing relief from the stress of the busy city. Were the Holocaust memorial to be built at this location the numbers of visitors would completely destroy the character and tranquillity of this small park.

I am Jewish, the daughter of holocaust survivors, and I work for a survivors organisation in London. This is a very poor choice for a memorial and learning centre site. It is small and already overcrowded due to the visitors to Westminster Palace. It is also my opinion that learning centres should be founded in a number of places throughout the country. There is a memorial in Hyde Park. There are libraries with learning centres that are underfunded. Other sites such as the Imperial War Museum may be more suitable.

It is the only large green space in the area. It is a sanctuary for workers and tourists alike. In Summer you can barely find a patch of grass to sit on. The idea of a Holocaust Memorial Foundation is a great one but not here. It is just grass and trees and sky and that's needed!

I used to work in an office in Great College Street just across the road from the Gardens and used them regularly. In my view any loss or reduction of open parkland in Central London is regrettable, particularly when it conjoins with the open aspect of the river.

I have thought long and hard about signing this petition because a national Holocaust Memorial is unquestionably right. However, Westminster is not only the seat of national government. The number of people living in this part of London has increased dramatically with the redevelopment of former government offices into residential apartments. Both for those living as well as for those working in this area, open spaces are vital for psychological well-being. The prospect of losing an important local amenity, together with the influx of more visitors, makes the planning of the national Holocaust Memorial in Victoria Tower Gardens untenable. It would be far more preferable to place this important memorial in an area which can accommodate and benefit from one million visitors, and would welcome the inward investment which would accompany this significant memorial and the anticipated visitor numbers.

As a worker in Westminster, there are very few places you can hide and escape the busy touristy areas. Losing this tranquil place would be devastating for workers and residents alike. I'm not opposed to the memorial, but agree that this is the wrong site for it.

All green space in London is so precious for the generations who lie ahead. We are arrogant if we think that we have a better use for it than those who wisely set it aside. In any case, any UK Holocaust Memorial and Learning Centre should have far more capacity than this space could give to it - and capacity to expand as history unfolds.

i feel the site is totally inappropriate. please dont jeopardise this small green area by building a memorial and underground centre. i have nothing but sympathy for victims and their relatives, but if i was either of these, the destruction of a small green area in a busy city would be the very last thing i would want in my memory.