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Friends of St. James's Park and The Green Park

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By email southplanningteam@westminster.gov.uk

For the attention of Fiona Knox

31st January 2012

Dear Ms. Knox

Ref 11/12327/FULL

12 Gayfere Street, London SW1P 3HP

Alterations to fenestration at rear first floor level,
internal alterations to flat 1

Thank you for sending a copy of the planning application, along with your letter dated 10th January 2012. We have considered the drawings and spoken to the agent who submitted the drawings. We make the following comments.

This is an important building as far as the local architectural history is concerned, and particularly being the work of Architect Oliver Hill FRIBA. It is recognised as such by its Listing. Unfortunately the interior has not always been respected nor appreciated for its inherent design quality.

This is particularly the case of this first floor flat. It is therefore appreciated that there is a general intent to improve the situation. It is welcomed that the more recent interior sub division walls affecting the "Sitting Room" and the "Drawing room" are to be removed. The two window in the original Sitting Room are to be reinstated, and a smaller recent window to be returned to brick wall matching the original brick- work. The result being a significant restoration to the external elevation.

The Design and Access Statement along with the detailed references in the Planning Application give a commitment to return the detailing of the interior spaces to being in sympathy with the original. This will be where compatible with the changed function to the original rooms. For example accommodating in one room the functions of kitchen-dinning (currently the original sitting room but divided into two rooms in a most unsympathetic manner).

The Thorney Island Society welcomes the proposals in principle;and trusts the the implementation of the detailing will be in accordance with the documents submitted.

We trust our observations and comments will be of assistance and ask that our comments be made known to the Committee.

Yours Sincerely
for and on behalf of the Thorney Island Society

PP Tom Ball

June A Stubbs
Chairman

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