

President: Sir Nicholas Underhill

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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 Lucy Metcalfe
Dear Ms. Metcalfe

14th August 2012

Ref 12/06536/FULL

**Wellington Barracks, Birdcage Walk, London SW1 E 6HQ
Construction of a memorial garden and accessible ramp and railings to
the land in front of the Cloister. The Guards Chapel**

Thank you for forwarding a copy of the above application, along with your letter dated 30th July 2012. We have examined the drawings, and the Design and Access, and the Heritage Statement attached to it. We find the application very clear, and the documentation appropriate and sensitive to the wishes of the Wellington Barracks.

The Society considers as do others the increasing number of memorials being proposed and erected in Westminster, a matter of great concern; especially those who argue their unique case, while very many thousands have on such specific symbol. They are truly remembered in the most significant Cenotaph memorial.

However this application is different. It is a "gift from the people of Flanders to the British People for their sacrifice in liberating Belgium in the First World War". It is specific also in recording a number of Regiments in appreciation for their sacrifice, recalling the horrors of Ypres and the fields of Flanders.

The form of the memorial is modest in impact, while being symbolic. It is to include a shallow 'hill' made from soil brought from a number of memorial fields in Belgium. It encourages remembrance and contemplation. It is visible from Bird Cage Walk and the Parade Ground. It is built replacing a pool, and is both more appropriate and more meaningful. The Society supports the application as being a gracious commemoration of those who died in Flanders, to be dedicated on the anniversary of the outbreak of The First World War.

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

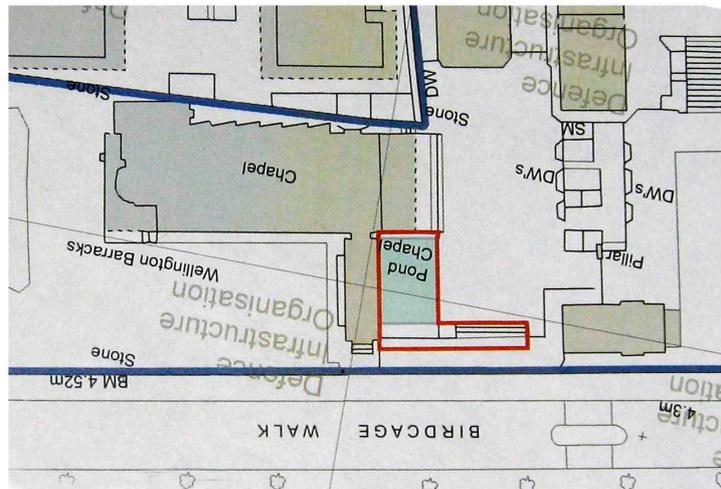
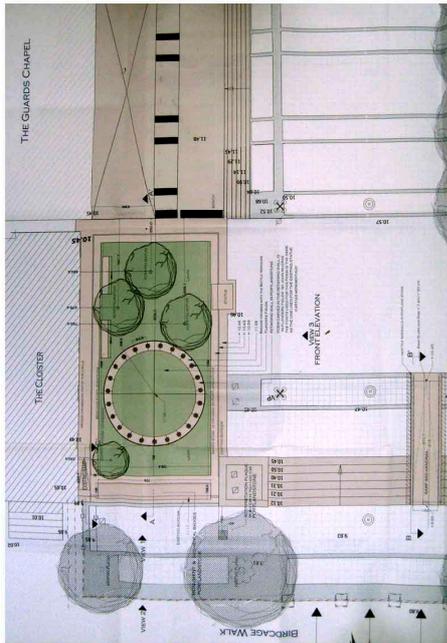
Yours Sincerely
for and on behalf of the Thorney Island Society

PP Tom Ball

June A Stubbs
Chairman

Registered Charity Number : 1000751

WELLINGTON BARRACKS KNIGHTSBRIDGE MEMORIAL GARDEN



Plan and Site Plan



Perspective illustration from Bird Cage Walk

THIS GARDEN IS THE GIFT OF THE GRATEFUL PEOPLE OF FLANDERS IN MEMORY OF BRITISH SACRIFICE IN DEFENCE OF BELGIUM 1914 - 1918 THE SACRED SOIL OF THIS GARDEN HAS BEEN GATHERED AND BROUGHT HERE FROM FLANDERS FIELDS WHERE GUARDSMEN FOUGHT AND FROM THE CEMETERIES IN WHICH THEY REST. HONOUR THEIR MEMORY AND LET THEM LIVE ON FOREVER.



Elevation facing Bird Cage Walk

Images selected from the Application

