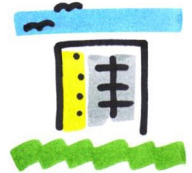


3rd December 2007

Mr Martin Parker
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Your refs: 2007/2970, 2971 & 2972

Dear Mr Parker,

HAMPTON COURT STATION SITE / JOLLY BOATMAN SITE

We have previously corresponded about this site. I was a consultant to Historic Royal Palaces from 1994-2004. I am writing now to add my objection to these applications.

This is of course an immensely damaging proposal which will have a harmful effect on the setting of Hampton Court Palace. The visual effect will be of East Molesey encroaching on Hampton Court Palace. The open space separating East Molesey from the Palace will be diminished. The visual effect of a Palace standing in an open parkland setting – a remarkable survival given the expansion of London - will be lost.

The visual relationship between the Palace and the station building, designed by Sir William Tite, will also be lost. Tite designed the station building to complement the Palace and the proposal obliterates this. Views from the station to the Palace for visitors arriving on the train will also be lost, including the delightful prospect (if the car park was to be removed) of seeing the Palace from the train as it slows and enters the station.

Indeed, it is clear that the site is not appropriate for development at all. If the station car park is considered to be surplus to requirements, then it should simply be returned to parkland.

Other sites in the vicinity are more appropriate for development, in particular the roundabout site opposite, which should be developed instead with a land transfer between the two sites arranged by yourselves and Surrey County Council. I have carried out an initial exploration of this idea at: <http://www.kgarch.co.uk/projects/boatman/index.htm>

I do hope that you can recommend these applications for refusal, to allow a more civilised solution for the site and surrounding area to be brought forward in due course.

Yours sincerely,

KEITH GARNER

cc Ann Biggs Elmbridge Council
John Barnes Historic Royal Palaces