

# ✓ YES to Nature Preservation

Gondar Gardens reservoir is under threat. Owners of the site, Linden Wates, have launched an appeal against Camden’s refusal of planning permission to build houses across the centre of the site. We must all fight to uphold this refusal and protect the open space – by writing to the Planning Inspector before 22<sup>nd</sup> February.

## You can make a difference.

Just e-mail [appeals@pins.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:appeals@pins.gsi.gov.uk) with “Appeal ref 11/2167190” in the subject line. Say “I am writing to support Camden’s refusal of planning application 2011/0395/P ...” and mention the key points overleaf. Do it by 22<sup>nd</sup> February – there will be no extension.

You can also write (quote “Appeal ref 11/2167190”, enclosing 3 copies of your letter) to: The Planning Inspectorate, Room 3/19 Eagle, Temple Quay House, 2 The Square, Temple Quay, Bristol BS1 6PN.



Linden Wates have also submitted a second planning application to build flats across the front of the site – more information on this coming soon.

## ✗ NO to Habitat Destruction

### Camden was correct to refuse planning permission because...

1. The proposed development is contrary to Camden’s Core Strategy 15 and the protection it affords to Open Space and Sites of Nature Conservation Importance.
2. Camden has consistently stated that the nature conservation value of the site outweighs any need to designate the open space as a site for housing.
3. The site plays host to Camden’s only endangered population of slow worms and is home to many of the “under threat” species in Camden’s Biodiversity Action Plan. The impact on biodiversity and loss of SNCI would be unacceptable.
4. Camden correctly rejected LW’s argument that the reservoir roof was in imminent danger of collapse. It is not. Camden said the owner should maintain their structure.
5. The UDP planning inspector stated that the many private views over the site amount to a public amenity. Camden policy recognises the importance of public views. The proposed development would significantly harm the visual character of the site.
6. LW presented erroneous travel data in attempting to justify a low traffic impact.
7. Camden has identified this area as suffering from “parking stress”. The argument that new residents and their visitors would use a car lift to access off-street parking is ridiculous – we know they would park on the street at night, exacerbating the problem

And finally because...

8. Over 1,200 local people signed a petition to protect this valuable open space.

Gondar and Agamemnon Residents’ Association, [www.gara-westhampstead.co.uk](http://www.gara-westhampstead.co.uk)

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