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Baroness Andrews OBE
Chair
English Heritage
1 Waterhouse Square
138-142 Holborn
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2nd June 2010

Re: Heritage in Tooting

Thank you for your letter of 24th May, which was most welcome.

I have recently become involved in a local campaign to save the Royal Arsenal Co-operative Society (RACS) building on Upper Tooting Road, which is under threat of demolition.

The RACS building is a wonderful example of Art Deco retail architecture, and is one of Tooting's outstanding landmarks.

As well as acting as the home of Tooting's only Hindu temple, and being well-used by the local community, the building is of historical importance and significant architectural merit.

Wandsworth Borough Council is currently considering a planning application by the owners, Barrowfen Properties, which would lead to the demolition of this building.

I understand an application has been made to English Heritage by Dale Ingram of the Tooting Local History Group, to 'list' the RACS building and therefore protect it from demolition and undue development in the future.

I wholeheartedly support this application, and hope that English Heritage can step in and protect this building for future generations of Tooting residents.

I have attached a summary of the historical and architectural merits of the building, which I hope you will find of some interest and use in considering this request.

I would be happy to organise a meeting to discuss this further.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Sadiq", with a long horizontal flourish underneath.

Rt. Hon. Sadiq Khan MP