MT

Confidential Filing

The Holocaust Memorial.

S 807

MEMORIALS

APRIL 1980

Referred to	Date	Referred to	Date	Referred to	Date	Referred to	Date
~~1.8.80~~							
~~18.8.80~~							
~~21.8.80~~							
~~20.1.81~~							
~~5.2.81~~							
~~4.4.81~~							
12.6.81							
~~22.6.81~~							
~~11.9.81~~							
~~6.10.81~~							
~~30.11.81~~							
~~5.1.82~~							
~~13.1.82~~							
16.2.82							

PREM 19/841

Dd 533270 5M 2/78 8362633 JET

SW

Memorials

2 MARSHAM STREET
LONDON SW1P 3EB

My ref: H/PSO/10408/82

Your ref:

16 February 1982

Prime Minister 2

To note, particularly X. There are strong objections to a site near the Cenotaph, especially from an FCO and MOD point of view.

WR 16/2

Dear Willie

HOLOCAUST: GARDEN OF REMEMBRANCE

Following my letter to you 5/1 about progress on this matter, I should now report that officials here have obtained from Mr Janner and the Metropolitan Police agreement on a site for a Holocaust garden of remembrance in Hyde Park. The preferred site is close to the Dell. The Board of Deputies are pressing hard to get on quickly with that site and we are about to begin detailed discussions with them on design.

While this is not the preferred site of either officials here or the Metropolitan Police, we think we can live with it subject to possible vandalism, and are content to proceed with planning. We shall do so unless we hear to the contrary.

We would propose to write again to you when there are detailed proposals worked out in order to get collective agreement before work actually begins on the ground.

X Helen Ghosh mentioned to you several days ago that there are some signs of opposition to this proposal from within the Jewish community, and particularly from Mr Reg Freeson MP and the so called Holocaust Foundation which favours a site near the Cenotaph. Mr Janner thinks that if we get on quickly and quietly it will be possible to get the Board of Deputies' proposal implemented without difficulty, and we shall be proceeding on that basis. But you should be aware that there does appear to be some Parliamentary interest in the whole matter, and that it is just possible that it might become controversial.

I am copying this letter to the Private Secretaries to the Home Secretary, the Foreign Secretary and the Secretary of State for Defence.

Yours ever

Jack Jacobs

J JACOBS
Private Secretary

Willie Rickett Esq

DH

WR 25/1

✓ MAP 14/1.
WR to see PR

2 MARSHAM STREET
LONDON SW1P 3EB

My ref: H/PSO/10095/82

Your ref:

13 January 1982

Dear Willie,

HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL

Thank you for your letter of 5 January to David Edmonds.

When my Secretary of State met Mr Janner shortly before Christmas it was agreed that sites for a garden of remembrance should be sought in Hyde Park. DOE officials are now in touch with Mr Janner with a view to finding an agreed site. It would then be necessary to ask the Board of Deputies to produce a suitable design to fit whatever site is preferred, and that design would have to be agreed by my Secretary of State who would want to consult interested colleagues.

We have complete control over what can be placed in a Royal Park, and this would cover both general design and any specific details such as wordings.

I will be in touch again as soon as there is something to report.

I am copying this letter to the recipients of yours.

Helen Ghosh

PP J JACOBS
Private Secretary

W Rickett Esq

File SAW.

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

5 January, 1982

DH

Holocaust Memorial

We spoke yesterday about Nick Evans' letter to me of 4 January, in which he reports Mr. Nott's concern that no references to Dresden or Hiroshima should appear on this Memorial.

You will remember that this was one of the points your Secretary of State raised with the Prime Minister when he spoke to her after Cabinet on 31 July, 1980 about the Memorial. Mike Pattison's letter to Jeff Jacobs of 1 August, 1980 records that your Secretary of State said that he would have complete control over the wording on the Memorial, and that he could ensure that references to Dresden and Hiroshima would be removed.

Perhaps you can confirm that this is still true.

I am copying this to Andrew Jackson (Home Office), Roderic Lyne (Foreign and Commonwealth Office) and Nick Evans (Ministry of Defence).

W. F. S. RICKETT

David A. Edmonds, Esq.,
Department of the Environment

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
MAIN BUILDING WHITEHALL LONDON SW1
Telephone 01-~~930 7022X~~ 218 2111/3

MO 27/5/1

4th January 1982

Dear Willie

HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL

Jeff Jacobs sent me a copy of his letter to you dated 30th November.

Now that there is no longer any question of locating the memorial near the Ministry of Defence, my Secretary of State's specific departmental interest is diminished; but there is one point which he feels strongly should not be lost from sight.

If it is still intended that the memorial should be on the lines of the drawing of which Mr Heseltine gave Mr Pym a copy in June 1980, Mr Nott would wish to object as strongly as did Mr Pym (in his letter of 24th June 1980 to Mr Heseltine) to any reference on the memorial to Dresden or Hiroshima. Not only are such references totally irrelevant to the Nazi holocaust of the Jews; they would in my Secretary of State's view provide gratuitous ammunition for the anti-nuclear campaign which is already considerably more active than it was when Mr Pym wrote last year. Mr Nott regards this point as generally valid even without the particular question of proximity to the Ministry of Defence which concerned Mr Pym.

I am copying this letter to the recipients of yours of 12th November.

Yours sincerely
Nick Evans

(N H R EVANS)

W Rickett Esq

JJ

Prime Minister 2
WR 30/11

PS.
Memorials

2 MARSHAM STREET
LONDON SW1P 3EB

My ref:

Your ref:

30 NOV 81

Dear Willie

HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL

Following your letter of 12 November to Helen Ghosh, my Secretary of State has, as requested, met Mr Greville Janner and discussed the siting of the Holocaust Memorial with him.

Mr Heseltine put to him the possibility of a docklands site. Mr Janner was strongly against this. First, he pointed out that Jews no longer live in the East End, so that such a memorial would be dead rather than alive. Secondly, he is anxious that those paying their respects at the Cenotaph should be able without undue effort to move on and similarly pay their respects in memory of the Holocaust. This would require a site not too far distant from Whitehall, which effectively rules out the East End.

My Secretary of State indicated that Hyde Park was not ruled out, and Mr Janner was enthusiastic about this possibility. When asked about the danger of desecration, he gave his view that the likelihood of this was no greater and no less than with any synagogue; provided there was not too much publicity about happenings, then the situation was containable. He would not want the site to be too secluded, and agreed that there would need to be a reasonable degre of security.

Mr Janner raised again the possibility of St James's Park, but my Secretary of State indicated that this was for various reasons too sensitive a site.

It was agreed between my Secretary of State and Mr Janner that DOE officials would meet with him in Hyde Park to investigate possible sites, on the basis of a short list of possibilities which officials would let him have. That process is now in hand. It might be useful in particular if the Metropolitan Police were to be represented at such a site meeting, and officials here will be making the necessary arrangements.

I am copying this letter to the recipients of yours.

Yours ever

J JACOBS
Private Secretary

Willie Rickett Esq

DSG

file

cc: HO
FCO
MOD

SUBJECT

cc Mr Mates Sec

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

12 November 1981

Dear Helen

HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL

The Prime Minister held a meeting this morning at 0930 to discuss the question of the Holocaust Memorial. The Home Secretary, the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary, your Secretary of State and the Secretary of State for Defence were all present.

Your Secretary of State opened by saying that in November of last year he had explained to the Board of Deputies of British Jews that their original proposal to site the Holocaust Memorial outside the North front of Richmond Terrace was not acceptable. Since then the Board of Deputies had waited calmly and quietly for the next move by the Government. Mr. Heseltine had hoped to be able to discuss with them possible sites in the Royal Parks, but he was aware that the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary had raised a point of principle about the use of Crown Land for a foreign memorial.

The Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary said that, in his view, the Holocaust Memorial should not be sited on Crown property. The Memorial had nothing to do with Britain. That we should allow this Memorial to be constructed on Crown Land 35 years after the Second World War could well be offensive to the Federal Republic of Germany. He would much prefer the Board of Deputies to buy or lease their own site in London, and either to erect a Memorial or preferably to create something useful like a park or playing field. However, Lord Carrington recognised that discussions with the Board of Deputies might have already gone too far for the Government to refuse an offer of Crown Land. He hoped that if Crown Land were to be offered to the Board of Deputies it would not be seen as a precedent for the establishment of foreign memorials on Crown Land, although he acknowledged that the Yalta Memorial might be said to have already established this precedent.

The Prime Minister said that her main concern was that a site in a public park would be open to desecration. If Mr. Heseltine was to open discussions with the Board of Deputies about the siting of the Memorial in a public park, he should make quite clear the Government's concern about the possibility of vandalism. The Home Secretary confirmed that he could not guarantee the security of a site in a public park, and acknowledged that such a site might well be more open to desecration than a private memorial, but pointed out that no site, private or public, could be protected from vandalism.

/ The

BK

The National Front would have a particular interest in desecrating a Holocaust Memorial. If the Memorial were to be sited in a public park, the Metropolitan Police would favour a site in Hyde Park close to the police station.

In discussion, the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary suggested that the Memorial might be sited in the gardens of one of the many squares in West London, and could be protected from vandalism by being placed within a building. However, Mr. Heseltine pointed out that this proposal would almost certainly arouse opposition from the local residents, who would be worried that the Memorial would attract vandals to their area. It would also create traffic problems in the area. These objections applied to many other private sites.

In conclusion, it was agreed that the Secretary of State for the Environment would explain to the Board of Deputies of British Jews that the Government was sympathetic to their proposal for a site in a public park. He should say that the Government had not ruled out the possibility of siting the Memorial in Hyde Park. But he should make clear the Government's concern that such a public site would be more exposed to desecration. He should encourage the Board of Deputies to consider whether they wished to take the risk of having a site that could be difficult to protect from vandalism. He might suggest some alternative sites in the Urban Development Corporation in the East end of London, which would not be such an obvious target for anti-semitic feeling.

I am sending copies of this letter to Andrew Jackson (Home Office), Roderic Lyne (Foreign and Commonwealth Office), and Jonathan Dawson (Ministry of Defence).

Yours

Willie Rickett

Mrs. Helen Ghosh,
Department of the Environment.

PRIME MINISTER

Holocaust Memorial

The long delayed meeting on the Holocaust Memorial has been arranged for 0930 tomorrow.

I attach:

Flag A - the letter we wrote to the Departments concerned setting out the issues;

Flag B - the response from Lord Carrington's office saying that he still has difficulties with a memorial on Crown land;

Flag C - the draft letter which the Home Secretary proposed that Mr. Heseltine should send to Mr. Janner back in February;

Flag D - a letter from Mr. Heseltine's office commenting on two points that you raised on the draft letter to Mr. Janner. They still maintain that St. James's Park should contain relatively few flower areas, and that this is an argument against having the memorial there. The other point they make is that the design of the memorial might perhaps best be left until the site has been chosen.

I think you will want to start off by inviting Lord Carrington to explain his objections of principle. He will probably press his view that the Board of Deputies of British Jews should be encouraged to buy or lease their own site in London and either to erect a memorial, or preferably to create a park or playing field.

If it can be agreed that the Memorial should be on Crown land, you will want to decide whether the draft letter to Greville Janner at Flag C is on the right lines. I would have thought the

/ letter ought

letter ought to set out, as it does, the possible sites for the memorial, perhaps with a strong hint in favour of the Hyde Park site, and then go on to suggest that the designers of the memorial might reconsider their designs to fit the chosen site.

CWBR

11 November 1981

SF

D

2 MARSHAM STREET
LONDON SW1P 3EB

My ref: H/PSO/17682/81

Your ref:

- 6 OCT 81

Dear Michael, WR 7/10

HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL

Thank you for your letter of 11 September. I have also seen the Foreign Office's response of 16 September, and I understand that Ministers will be meeting to discuss the matter on 12 November.

Perhaps I could comment now on the detailed points in your letter. St James's Park is in our view essentially a historical landscape Park. Apart from the Guards memorial flowerbed, the Rose Walk in honour of the Queen Mother, the traditional flowerbeds around the Queen Victoria Memorial, and a limited area by Birdcage Walk, there is little colour generally in the Park. Historically there should not be further flower areas and indeed we have recently removed a number of flowerbeds by the lake edge. In any case this particular memorial would surely be inappropriate so close to Buckingham Palace.

If agreement were reached on siting the memorial in Hyde Park, the designer would have to consider the possibilities of whatever specific site were chosen. The original drawing which the Prime Minister has seen was very appropriate for a memorial in front of a building; it would in our view look odd in the middle of an open space. It would no doubt be possible to produce a garden effect, with public access, while retaining some of the features of the earlier design.

The Home Office will no doubt comment on the extent to which Hyde Park can be effectively policed by the Metropolitan Police to prevent vandalism.

Copies to David Omand (Defence), John Halliday (Home Office) and Francis Richards (Foreign Office).

Yours sincerely,

Helen Ghosh

MRS H GHOSH
Private Secretary
Michael Scholar Esq

BF

10 DOWNING STREET

Michael –

Carolyn

to see

TR

yes

yes arrange. (same

Ministers as before &

after Cancun).

TR

Arranged for

1000 on 12 Oct.

CI.

18/9

1. ~~Caroline~~ The Home Unit.
2. Prime Minister

It looks as if we will have to have a meeting after all. I will fix up for end-October.

B

2

Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

16 September 1981

Dear Tim,

TL. 16/9

Holocaust Memorial

Thank you for your letter of 11 September to Francis Richards.

The Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary hopes there is no misunderstanding about his own position, which is based on general public policy rather than foreign policy considerations. He finds it entirely fitting and right that memorials to the Holocaust should have been erected after the war in Germany, in other continental countries from which the victims came and of course in Israel. But he notes that no such memorial was put up in Britain at the time or since, and he considers that it is for the sponsors to show why such a memorial is appropriate now, rather than for him or others to show why it is not.

He is distinctly uneasy at the suggestion for a substantial memorial in one of the Royal Parks or elsewhere on Crown land in the heart of London. It raises questions of general policy which should be considered with a due sense of responsibility towards both the past and the future. Lord Carrington is therefore unwilling to regard the matter as settled without the meeting of Ministers which has been so often postponed. So far as he is aware, the question is not one of particular urgency. He therefore hopes that a suitable time can be found for the matter to be fully discussed between the Ministers concerned, and that meanwhile it can continue to be handled without publicity.

I am copying this letter to David Edmonds (Dept of the Environment), David Omand (Ministry of Defence) and John Halliday (Home Office).

Yours ever,

(B J P Fall)
Private Secretary

T Lankester Esq
10 Downing Street

A

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

11 September 1981

Holocaust Memorial

You are aware that we have made a number of unsuccessful attempts to set up a meeting on the Holocaust Memorial. The correspondence rests with Jeff Jacobs's letter of 13 January, your letter of 26 January and Stephen Boys-Smith's letter of 5 February.

The issue is not whether there should be a holocaust memorial in the UK. None of the Ministers concerned has objected to a memorial in principle. The issue is where the memorial should be, and whether it should be on crown land.

The Secretary of State for the Environment has proposed two preferred sites, one in Hyde Park, the other in Green Park. He also suggested the river frontage of Lambeth Palace, and a possible site in Victoria Gardens. The Home Secretary favoured the Hyde Park site on security grounds, since a site within the Park and close to a police station would be easier to protect from vandalism.

The Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary has, however, raised a point of principle. He considers that crown land in London should not be used for a memorial to events which did not take place on British territory, or involve a large part of the British population; and that such a memorial could well be offensive to the FRG. He has suggested that the Jewish community should be encouraged to buy or lease their own site in London and either to erect a memorial, or preferably create a park or playing field.

The Prime Minister has considered these views. She shares the Home Secretary's concern that a site should be found which can be easily protected from desecration. She feels a site on crown land is most likely to meet this concern. She is not convinced that the Government will face criticism at home or overseas simply for making crown land available. She therefore hopes that Lord Carrington will be able to agree that Mr. Heseltine should write to Mr. Greville Janner, MP on the lines of the draft letter attached to Stephen Boys-Smith's letter of 5 February to Jeff Jacobs.

The Prime Minister feels, however, that this draft needs some redrafting: for example, she does not think it is correct to say that St. James's Park contains "relatively few flower areas".

/ There is also

There is also a point of substance in the draft which she is not altogether happy with: she does not think we can insist on merely a plaque among flower beds, and she feels that the original drawing for the memorial was very appropriate.

I am copying this letter to David Edmonds (Department of the Environment), David Omand (Ministry of Defence) and John Halliday (Home Office).

T. P. LANKESTER

Francis Richards, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

PRIME MINISTER

Mr Ms

Holocaust Memorial

We were unsuccessful in setting up a meeting to discuss this before the Recess. It is now unlikely we will be able to do so before the second half of October.

Would you consider agreeing that I should write to departments in an attempt to resolve this issue?

If so, I attach at Flag A a draft letter with two alternative endings. The first plays down the foreign relations objections that Lord Carrington has raised to any association between HMG and the Memorial. The second asks Mr. Heseltine whether he could live with Lord Carrington's suggested course of action.

If you agree that I should write, which version would you prefer?

WPSR

We must clear it with Lord C first.

4 September 1981

A

HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL

You are aware that we have made a number of unsuccessful attempts to set up a meeting on the Holocaust memorial. The correspondence rests with Jeff Jacobs's letter of 13 January, Francis Richards's reply of 26 January and Stephen Boys-Smith's letter of 5 February.

The issue is not whether there should be a holocaust memorial in the UK. None of the Ministers concerned has objected to a memorial in principle. The issue is where the memorial should be, and whether it should be on crown land.

The Secretary of State for the Environment has proposed two preferred sites, one in Hyde Park, the other in Green Park. He also suggested the river frontage of Lambeth Palace, and a possible site in Victoria Gardens. The Home Secretary favoured the Hyde Park site on security grounds, since a site within the Park and close to a police station would be easier to protect from vandalism.

The Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary has however raised a point of principle. He considers that crown land in London should not be used for a memorial to events which did not take place on British territory, or involve a large part of the British population; and that such a memorial could well be offensive to the FRG. He has suggested that the Jewish community should be encouraged to buy or lease their own site in London and either to erect a memorial, or preferably create a park or playing field.

/ Either

Either (in a letter addressed to the FCO)

/The Prime Minister has considered these views. She shares the Home Secretary's concern that a site should be found which can be easily protected from desecration. She feels a site on crown land is most likely to meet this concern. She is not convinced that the Government will face criticism at home or overseas simply for making crown land available. She therefore hopes that Lord Carrington will be able to agree that Mr. Heseltine should write to Mr. Greville Janner, M.P. on the lines of the draft letter attached to Stephen Boys-Smith's letter of 5 February to Jeff Jacobs. ~~(at Flag B)~~/

[This letter needs a bit of redrafting. I don't think we can impose on them merely a plaque among flower beds.]

Or (in a letter addressed to DOE)

/The Prime Minister has considered these views. She shares the Home Secretary's concern that a site should be found which can be easily protected from desecration. But she recognises that that is largely a question of providing the necessary physical protection measures. She sees the force of Lord Carrington's arguments, and agrees with him that there would be some advantage in distancing the Government from the decision by the Board of Deputies of British Jews to erect a memorial. She would therefore welcome Mr. Heseltine's and Mr. Whitelaw's comments on the suggestion that the Board of Deputies should be encouraged to buy or lease their own site, and create a park or a playing field./

I am copying this letter to /as necessary/.

Memorials.

10 DOWNING STREET

please file
CJ.
22/6

OK.

MR. RICKETT

MR
22/6

Defence have asked to be exempt from the Holocaust Meeting on Thursday as the memorial is not going to be outside their building.

CJ.

22 June, 1981.

Arranged for 25 June after Cabinet. CL 15/6

We shall have to have a brief meeting. I am concerned that we are giving a site that could be desecrated very easily.

PRIME MINISTER

You will remember that we have made about half a dozen attempts to set up a meeting about the Holocaust Memorial.

The issue is as follows. In April of last year, Michael Heseltine held discussions with the Board of Deputies of British Jews. He virtually committed himself to offering a site in front of Richmond Terrace. Both the Home Secretary and the Secretary of State for Defence objected. You held a meeting and killed the idea on grounds of security. Mr. Heseltine was asked to look for alternative sites that he could put to the Board of Deputies, consulting the Home Office. This he did. The Home Secretary's letter of 5 February (Flag A) summarises the results. It essentially offers two sites in Hyde Park.

I feel we should consider public land that is protected. MT

At this point Lord Carrington intervened. He felt that Crown land in London should not be used for a memorial to events which did not take place on British territory or involve a large part of the British population. He also felt that a memorial on Crown land would be offensive to the Federal Republic of Germany. He suggested instead that the Jewish community should be encouraged to buy or lease their own site in London and either to erect a memorial there or preferably to create a park or playing field.

Because of the Foreign Secretary's concern, a meeting was suggested. However, his concern is not about whether a memorial should be erected. It is about whether the Government should offer a site on Crown land. Given the difficulties that have attended the setting up of a meeting and the time that has elapsed, would you consider settling this in correspondence by giving your view on this point of principle? If you feel that it would be considered too abrupt to settle this issue without having a meeting it might be worth while asking Mr. Heseltine what objections he sees to pursuing the Foreign Secretary's proposal. He does not appear to have given the Foreign Secretary any answer on this as yet.

CDP 8/6

HS, FCS, MH, S/Defence

12 June 1981

PRIME MINISTER

You agreed some time ago to have another brief meeting about the Holocaust Memorial, because Lord Carrington is still trying to kill the whole project. This is really not a subject which justifies two meetings at Prime Ministerial level, but the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary is unlikely to stop sniping on the subject until he has had a chance to put his views direct to you.

Papers:

a) Mr. Heseltine's January Progress Report (you suggested a few amendments which he is, I understand, prepared to take on board);

b) Lord Carrington's views;

c) The Home Secretary's latest offering which includes a possible revision of the letter from Mr. Heseltine to Greville Janner.

The Home Secretary's draft is perhaps the best basis for discussion.

MT

Rearranged for 30 April. after cabinet

CP 10/4

8 April 1981

Rearranged for 14 May after Cabinet.

WN 13/5

From: THE PRIVATE SECRETARY

BF for meeting - CS arranging. MAP Memorials

HOME OFFICE
QUEEN ANNE'S GATE LONDON SW1H 9AT

5 February 1981

HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL

The Home Secretary has now been able to consider your letter to me of 13 January, in the light of the views he has received from the Metropolitan Police, and following the Prime Minister's observations recorded in Mike Pattison's letter of 20 January. There will be a chance to discuss the position, but you may wish to know the Home Secretary's views.

Neither the Home Secretary nor the Metropolitan Police see any inherent objection to the siting of a memorial in a Royal Park. But any such memorial could attract the hostility of extremist vandalism and, indeed, hostile demonstrations as well as peaceful gatherings. It would, therefore, be very helpful if the Board of Deputies was willing to locate the memorial somewhere which would assist the police in maintaining order and preventing vandalism.

On this criterion, the Hyde Park site seems preferable. The Green Park site appears to be much closer to the heavily congested Hyde Park Corner and to Buckingham Palace (although the Home Secretary fully agrees that it would be improper to mention this point in correspondence). More generally, the police try to discourage public events in Green Park. The site at the Lambeth Palace frontage is not very attractive to the police from the point of view of traffic congestion and the control of crowds, and they are also worried that a site in Victoria Gardens might creat difficulties for them in view of their responsibilities under the Sessional Order to ensure free passage to the Houses of Parliament.

In this light, the Home Secretary hopes that your Secretary of State would be prepared to consider giving a bit more of a steer towards Hyde Park, and away from Green Park, but recognises that he will want to offer the Board of Deputies some options. I therefore attach a redrafted letter which seeks to reflect these points and the amendments contained in Mike Pattison's letter of 20 January. The Home Secretary also hopes that from this point on officials here, and the Metropolitan Police, can be closely involved in any discussions with the Board of Deputies or indeed with site inspections.

I am sending copies of this letter and its enclosure to Mike Pattison (No. 10), Francis Richards (FCO)and David Omand (MOD).

S. W. BOYS SMITH

Jeff Jacobs, Esq.

DRAFT LETTER FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE ENVIRONMENT TO THE HON GREVILLE JANNER QC MP

Thank you for your letter of 24 November about the Holocaust Memorial.

2. You are right in recalling my suggestion that a Holocaust Memorial might be in the form of a Garden of Remembrance in a Royal Park. I am afraid, however, that I do not see St James's Park as a candidate for such a memorial. It is, as you know, a relatively small area which ought historically to contain relatively few flower areas. N.B. It contains quite a lot

3. We have, however, looked closely at the other central Royal Parks and, in particular, Hyde Park and Green Park. We have identified two possible sites which are shown on the attached maps. Briefly, they are

a. an area of Hyde Park close to Hyde Park Corner, near the bandstand, which is presently close to other bedding areas; and

b. the corner of Green Park close to Hyde Park Corner.

4. Of these two, my own preference would tend to be for the Hyde Park site as it is further away from the crowded and heavily trafficked Hyde Park Corner.

The original drawing was very unsuitable

5. I would not favour your idea of a flame of remembrance, purely because this would cause possible difficulties of vandalism. I have more in mind a simple plaque, placed in an area of flower beds with seats for rest and repose. I feel sure you would take a practical interest in maintaining any such garden of remembrance to a fittingly high standard.

6. If these ideas appeal to you, I shall have to make one or two consultations before finally deciding. But it would be helpful for me to know whether either or both of these sites would be suitable, and what your priority rating would be.

7. Although you have mentioned Royal Park sites specifically, there are two others which you might like to consider. The first is on the river frontage of Lambeth Palace facing towards Victoria Gardens and the Palace of Westminster, and the second is in Victoria Gardens itself. Neither of these sites are without their difficulties, and I would have to talk to both the GLC and the Metropolitan Police

in detail about them if you were interested, but I thought I would offer them along with the other two.

8. If it would help to see the sites, and any other parts of these Parks, my Office would be very happy to make the necessary arrangements.

File

DSG

28 January 1981

Thank you for sending me a copy of your letter of 26 January to Jeff Jacobs about the proposed Holocaust Memorial.

The Prime Minister would be content to have a further word with those involved, and Caroline Stephens will be in touch to arrange a suitable time.

M. A. PATTISON

Francis Richards, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

BF 11-2-81

10 DOWNING STREET

MISS STEPHENS

Brief meeting (15 minutes?) required with Mr. Heseltine and Lord Carrington: Mr. Nott and Mr. Whitelaw invited but not necessarily essential. Best if it can be arranged after Cabinet or some other meeting.

MAP

Arranged for after Cabinet on 12 Feb. all Ministers coming

28 January 1981

ask MP. re Briefing

CS 29/1

No briefing. Meeting folder will consist of latest Heseltine + Carrington letters

MAP

B

Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

26 January 1981

Mr Pattison

Dear Jacobs,

London Memorial to Nazi Victims

Thank you for copying to us your letter of 13 January to Stephen Boys-Smith about the proposed Memorial to Nazi Victims. We have since seen Michael Pattison's letter of 20 January reporting the Prime Minister's views.

The Foreign and Commonwealth Office Secretary continues to have very considerable reservations about the proposed memorial. You will recall that he first expressed his doubts in his minute to Mr Heseltine of 9 May last year, and that this was followed up by Paul Lever's letter to Mike Pattison of 18 August. The removal of the memorial from Richmond Terrace to one of the London parks, and its transformation from a monument into a Garden of Remembrance, do not remove his doubts. It is by no means self-evident that Crown land in London should be used for a memorial to events which did not take place on British territory or involve a large part of the British population. In addition, a long time has passed since the events which the proposed Garden would seek to commemorate.

Furthermore, as Paul Lever pointed out in his letter of 18 August 1980, the main target of the criticism implied in the memorial would be Germany and the Federal Republic might wonder why HMG needed to be party to the construction of a memorial that would generally be taken as condemning a country which is now one of our closest allies and would sharpen memories of tragic events which many Germans have since the war themselves been foremost in condemning.

The Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary would therefore greatly prefer it if the Jewish community could be encouraged to buy or lease their own site in London to erect a memorial there or to create a park or playing field (which he would consider far more appropriate) according to their own wishes.

/Lord Carrington

Lord Carrington is well aware of the various conflicting elements involved in deciding on this proposal; he would be happy to have a word with the Prime Minister and Mr Heseltine if that were a way of resolving the issue without further correspondence.

I am copying this letter to Mike Pattison at No 10 and to the Private Secretary to the Secretary of State for Defence.

Yours ever,

Francis Richards

F N Richards
(Private Secretary)

J Jacobs Esq
Department of the Environment
2 Marsham Street
London SW1P

cc MO
MOD
FCO Memorial

HS

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

20 January 1981

BF 29.1.81

Holocaust Memorial

The Prime Minister was interested to see a copy of your letter of 13 January to Stephen Boys Smith, about progress over the Holocaust Memorial.

She believes that the drafting of your Secretary of State's proposed letter to Mr. Janner could be slightly improved. She suggests that the final sentence of the second paragraph should be deleted, as this might be open to misinterpretation. She has also suggest a reformulation of paragraphs 3 and 4 on the following lines:

> "I would not favour your idea of a flame of remembrance, purely because this would cause possible difficulties of vandalism. I have more in mind a simple plaque, placed in an area of flower beds with seats for rest and repose. I feel sure you would take a practical interest in maintaining any such garden of remembrance to a fittingly high standard.
>
> If these ideas appeal to you, I shall have to make one or two consultations before finally deciding. But it would be helpful for me to know whether either or both of these sites would be suitable, and what your priority rating would be."

Secondly, the Prime Minister was attracted by the design of the Memorial as previously proposed. She has asked whether it would be possible to preserve that idea but locate it in the river front alternative amongst the sites mentioned or possibly in Victoria Gardens itself.

I am sending copies of this letter to Stephen Boys Smith (Home Office), David Omand (Ministry of Defence) and Francis Richards (Foreign and Commonwealth Office).

M. A. PATTISON

HS

Jeff Jacobs, Esq.,
Department of the Environment.

JR

A

2

2 MARSHAM STREET
LONDON SW1P 3EB

Prime Minister
This is now moving in a sensible direction.
MAP 16/1

My ref:

Your ref:

13 January 1981

Dear Stephen

HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL

You will recall the previous correspondence at Private Office level about the proposed Holocaust Memorial, and in particular No 10's letter of 1 August to me recording the conclusion of a discussion between Ministers and my Secretary of State's agreement to reopen with the sponsors of the memorial the question of finding an alternative site.

My Secretary of State has now talked to Mr Greville Janner. Mr Janner entirely accepts the considerable problems attaching to the Richmond Terrace site, and I am glad to say that he and his colleages are prepared to drop that proposal. You should however see the attached copy of a letter which he has sent my Secretary of State in which he asks whether there are possible sites within Royal Parks for a "garden of remembrance". My Secretary of State is attracted to that possibility, and I attach the draft of a possible response which he is minded to send to Mr Janner in which he puts forward two possible Royal Parks sites and also one other possibility for consideration.

Before my Secretary of State writes, he would like to be sure that colleagues are content with the way in which he now proposes to proceed. I should be grateful therefore for any comments which you or other recipients of this letter might wish to make, both on the concept of a memorial and on the sites which are now being considered for it.

I am copying this letter to the Private Secretaries to the Secretary of State for Defence and the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and also to No 10 for information.

Yours sincerely

J JACOBS
Private Secretary

(1) I think the letter as at present drafted is a little vitriolic in parts.

(2) I thought the design of the previously proposed memorial was rather lovely. It is pondering for it to be placed in the alternative one front of or in Victoria Gardens.

S Boys Smith Esq

DRAFT LETTER FROM SECRETARY OF STATE TO THE HON GREVILLE JANNER QC MP

1. Thank you for your letter of 24 November about the Holocaust Memorial.

2. You are right in recalling my suggestion that a Holocaust Memorial might be in the form of a garden of remembrance in a Royal Park. I am afraid, however, that I do not see St James's Park as a candidate for such a memorial. It is as you know a relatively small area, which ought historically to contain relatively few flower areas. [It is also intimately connected with Buckingham Palace.]

I think I should leave out that sentence. It could be construed that the Palace is not welcomed in such a garden. Such a construction would be most unfortunate.

3. We have, however, looked closely at the other central Royal Parks, and in particular Green Park and Hyde Park. We have identified 2 possible sites, which are shown on the attached maps. Briefly, they are:-

a. the corner of Green Park close to Hyde Park Corner

b. an area of Hyde Park close to Hyde Park Corner, near the bandstand and which is presently close to other bedding areas.

I would not favour your idea of a flame of remembrance, purely because this would cause possible difficulties of vandalisim. I have more in mind a simple plaque, placed in an area of flower beds with seats for rest and repose. ~~Such a facility would I think fill a real need in the Parks.~~ ~~We would~~, I ~~hope~~, be able to look ~~to you for a contribution in perpetuity~~ towards the maint~~enance~~ of any such garden of remembrance.

or a small sculpture?

~~most appreciated~~

~~an evident~~ a marked reluctance in

I feel sure you would take a fitting & high standard.

We are not looking to such a memorial as a way of relieving us of providing such facilities

4. If these ideas appeal to you, ~~it would be necessary for me to~~ I shall have to make one or two consultations before ~~going firm~~ finally deciding. But it would be helpful for me to know whether either or both of these sites would be suitable, and what your priorty rating would be.

5. Although you have mentioned Royal Parks sites specifically, there is one other site which you might to consider, namely on the river frontage of Lambeth Palace, facing towards Victoria Gardens and the Palace ~~of~~ of Westminster. This is not a site within my direct gift, and I would have to talk to the GLC if you were interested in it. But I thought I would float along with the other two.

6. If it would help you to see the sites, and any other parts of these parks, with my officials, my office would be very happy to make the necessary arrangements.

MICHAEL HESELTINE

The Board of Deputies of British Jews

WOBURN HOUSE, UPPER WOBURN PLACE, LONDON, WC1H 0EP.

Telegrams: DEPUTIES, LONDON, WC1. Telephone: 01-387 3952 or 388 7651

FROM THE PRESIDENT

24th November, 1980

The Rt. Hon. Michael Heseltine, MP.,
Secretary of State for the Environment,
Department of the Environment,
Marsham Street,
London, SW1

Adv pl. Mr Hobson
cc Mr Mendoza

Dear Michael -

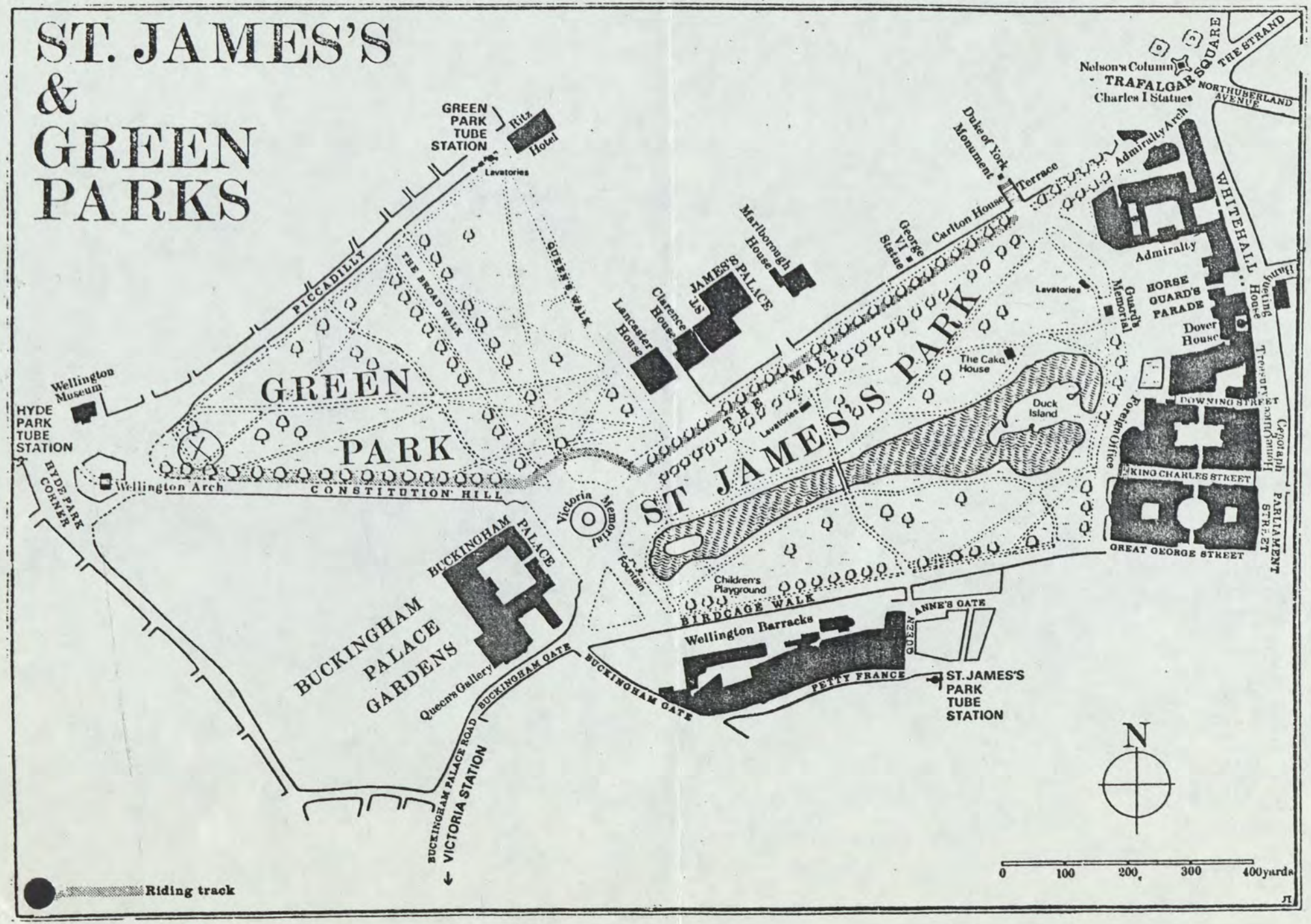
Thank you for seeing me - and for doing all you can to ensure the success of the Holocaust Memorial project - you know its importance for the Jewish community and we all appreciate your approach. I have talked to my fellow honorary officers and we fully understand the impossibility of the proposed site - hence we are discussing the other possibilities. The suggestion of a Garden of Remembrance for the six million Jews killed in the holocaust met with immediate favour - provided that my recollection was correct that you said that this might well be sited in one of the royal parks. I wonder whether you could let me know as soon as possible whether, in principle, such a site might be available in St. James's Park? Like you, we would have in mind a small and modest area, perhaps with a plaque or small stone memorial, maybe with a ~~claim~~ glade of remembrance.

With renewed thanks, and looking forward to hearing from you.

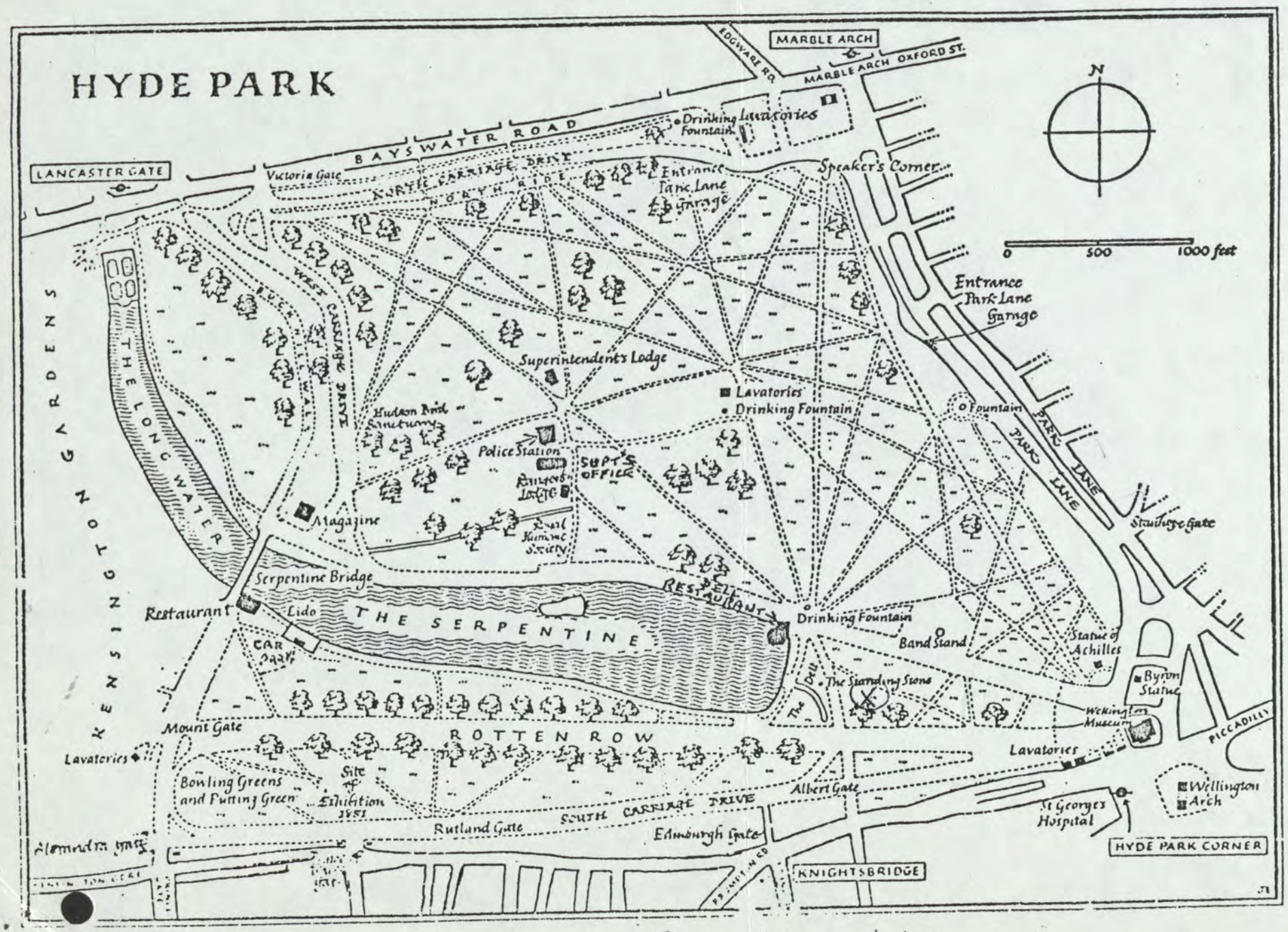
Yours ever -

Greville

ST. JAMES'S & GREEN PARKS



(X) Possible site.



(X) Possible site

✓ MR

Memorials

MR

2 MARSHAM STREET
LONDON SW1P 3EB

My ref: H/PSO/16159/80

Your ref:

21 AUG 80

Dear John

You have received a copy of Mike Pattison's letter of 1 August about the Holocaust Memorial. This suggests that there might be some police objections to the traffic generated by a memorial of this kind in the Richmond Terrace site. If such objections exist Mr Heseltine would wish to take account of them and I would be grateful if you could arrange for the views of the Commissioner of Police to be sought.

I am sending copies of this letter to Mike Pattison, David Omand and Paul Lever.

Yours sincerely

Paul Brickell

pp

J JACOBS
Private Secretary

John Halliday Esq

✓ MR. Memorials

Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

18 August 1980

Dear Mike,

Memorial to Nazi Victims

The Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary was away when the Prime Minister discussed the Holocaust Memorial project with the Home Secretary and the Secretaries of State for Defence and the Environment. He has now seen your letter to Jacobs of 1 August.

Lord Carrington gave his views in a minute to the Environment Secretary on 9 May, which I am now copying to you and the Home Office. As you will see, he believes, like the Defence Secretary, that any monuments in the area concerned should be of a British national character. Incidentally the Richmond Terrace site is of direct interest to the Foreign and Commonwealth Office given the possibility that some of our departments may be housed in the reconstructed block.

Lord Carrington has also considered the possible foreign reactions. Although he would not wish to put too much weight on these, he thinks that our friends in the Federal Republic of Germany might wonder why, after this lapse of time, the British Government should decide to allow old wounds to be kept open in perpetuity in the heart of Whitehall; and that some Arabs might see the monument as endorsing Mr Begin's point that the fate of the European Jews in the 30s and 40s should influence British policy on the Arab/Israel question in the 80s.

The Foreign Secretary greatly hopes that the Environment Secretary will be successful in persuading the Board of Deputies of British Jews to choose an alternative site, preferably not on Crown land. He wonders also whether an even more enlightened solution would not be that the monument should take the form of a park, playing field or other useful amenity.

I am sending copies of this letter to John Halliday (Home Office), David Omand (Ministry of Defence) and Jeff Jacobs (Dept of the Environment).

Yours ever

Paul

(P Lever)
Private Secretary

M A Pattison Esq
10 Downing Street

CONFIDENTIAL

Mr Lamy

12/5

WED
cc PS
PS
Mr Fergusson
Mr Richard
Chief Clerk
Mr Adams
ASD (Mr Scullard)
Security (Mr Winchester)
NENAD (Mr Miles)
CRD

RECEIVED IN REGISTRY NO. 1
12 MAY 1980

DESK OFFICER		REGISTRY
INDEX	PA	Action Taken

FCS/80/84

SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

London Memorial to Nazi Victims

12/5

1. Thank you for your letter of 24 April about the proposal by the Board of Deputies of British Jews to erect a memorial in Richmond Terrace to those who died as a result of Nazi oppression.

2. I understand that your officials are still engaged in discussions about which Government Departments should occupy the office accommodation provided under the first phase of the Richmond Terrace redevelopment, and that it is still far from certain that FCO officials will occupy space there. But, on more general grounds, I think that it would in any case be inappropriate to allow the erection of a memorial of this sort on that particular site. It is surely an area which, facing the Ministry of Defence, near the Cenotaph and across the road from Downing Street itself, should be reserved for British national monuments. I hope therefore that the Board of Deputies can be persuaded to think in terms of a site elsewhere.

3. I am sending a copy of this letter to the Defence Secretary. I imagine that you may in due course want to consult the Home Secretary about the site of any such memorial, in view of the possible public order implications, and perhaps also the Prime Minister in view of her recent interest in the question of the memorial to the victims of Yalta.

(CARRINGTON)

8 May 1980

Foreign and Commonwealth Office

file

FCO
HO
MOD, Memorials

DS

cc Master

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

1 August 1980

Dear Jeff

Your Secretary of State had a word with the Prime Minister after Cabinet yesterday about the Holocaust Memorial. The Home Secretary and the Secretary of State for Defence were also present.

Mr. Heseltine explained how he had publicly committed himself to the Richmond Terrace site for the Memorial. He recognised that this had left colleagues in a difficult position, but he felt that Jewish groups in the country would be seriously offended if he was now to withdraw this site, unless there were overriding reasons which would make sense to British Jews.

Mr. Heseltine also showed the Prime Minister a sketch of the proposed Memorial. He explained that he would have complete control over the wording, and that he could ensure that references to Dresden and Hiroshima could be removed.

The Secretary of State for Defence reiterated the objections from the point of view of his Department of a Memorial covering allied actions. Further, the site might tend to cause unfavourable reactions from potential Arab customers for British defence equipment, and it could well prove to be a rallying point for anti-nuclear demonstrations, at a time when the Government appeared to be making progress in strengthening public understanding of the need for a British deterrent. Against this background, he felt that the possible reaction from Jewish interests if the site were to be changed might be the lesser of the two evils.

The Prime Minister commented that the proposed Memorial appeared tasteful, and might well enhance the site. There was, however, one additional problem: there were already security restrictions on access to the south side of the Ministry of Defence building, and there was presumably some possibility that access might become more restricted over time. Jewish memorials around the world tended to attract large numbers of people, often in groups, and she wondered whether there could be any guarantee of free access to a Holocaust Memorial on the Richmond Terrace site. She asked the Secretary of State for Environment to go back to the sponsors of the Memorial, to make it clear that the Government would be unable to guarantee free access to the site in the longer term. There might also be some police objections to the traffic generated by a memorial

/on

on this site, and, if Mr. Heseltine wished to take account of this, the Home Secretary would first discuss the matter with the Commissioner of Police.

In the light of this conversation, your Secretary of State agreed to reopen with the sponsors of the Memorial the question of finding an alternative site. If he wishes to consider the police angle, you will no doubt be in touch with the Home Office before he has further discussions about the site. I should be grateful if you could ensure that we are kept informed of developments.

I am sending copies of this letter to John Halliday (Home Office), David Omand (Ministry of Defence) and Paul Lever (Foreign and Commonwealth Office).

Yours ever

Mike Pattison

Jeff Jacobs, Esq.,
Department of the Environment.

PRIME MINISTER

You agreed to see Messrs Heseltine, Pym and Whitelaw after Cabinet tomorrow about the Holocaust Memorial. This follows a request from Mr. Heseltine to have a word with you on the subject.

I attach letters from all three. Mr. Heseltine (Flag A) has a strong public commitment to the Richmond Terrace site for the Holocaust Memorial. Mr. Pym (Flag B) finds the Richmond Terrace site wholly inappropriate, and indeed possibly offensive. He had proposed this as a suitable site for the Mountbatten Memorial, no doubt primarily to overrule the Heseltine proposal, but that alternative is no longer available. Mr. Whitelaw (Flag C) also has doubts about a Whitehall site for the Holocaust Memorial. I understand that Lord Carrington, who is of course abroad, is a firm supporter of the line taken by Messrs Pym and Whitelaw.

You also have reservations about the Richmond Terrace site. You will therefore want to use the meeting to explore with Mr. Heseltine how he, perhaps with assistance from other Ministers, can get himself out of this particular blind alley.

MAP

30 July 1980

1.

PRIME MINISTER

I attach exchanges of correspondence between Messrs. Pym, Whitelaw and Heseltine about the Holocaust Memorial.

I mentioned this argument to you when we were looking at sites for Mountbatten. I think you were sympathetic to Mr. Pym's objections to siting this right outside the Ministry of Defence. You will see from Mr. Heseltine's letter that he would now like to have a word with you about this. Although this is a relatively small issue, I really think that you have to see all or none of those with a leading interest. Would you like to suggest that the three Ministers primarily concerned have a word with you after Cabinet next Thursday?

Yes pl

MAP

25 July 1980

SF

A

2 MARSHAM STREET
LONDON SW1P 3EB

My ref:

Your ref:

24 July 1980.

Dear Mike

You will have seen copies of the Secretary of State for Defence's letter of 24 June and the Home Secretary's letter of 1 July about the proposal to erect a memorial to commemorate the Nazi Holocaust. As you will have gathered, these letters follow consultations initiated by my Secretary of State on the proposal and I enclose a copy of his original letter seeking colleagues' views.

As you will doubtless appreciate, the response from Ministerial colleagues raises difficult questions about the likely public impact of any proposal now to relocate the memorial elsewhere. My Secretary of State has therefore had discussions with both the Foreign Secretary and the Secretary of State for Defence. Lord Carrington is now prepared to agree to the project on the site proposed, provided that it does indeed commemorate the victims of the Nazi Holocaust and that it does not bear references to Dresden, Warsaw and Hiroshima (see Mr Pym's letter of 24 June). But Mr Pym's objections are more sustained in that he is both doubtful about the appropriateness of having the memorial at all and is also strongly opposed to its location in front of Richmond Terrace for reasons which are essentially the concern of the Ministry of Defence.

Notwithstanding these objections, my Secretary of State has on record a very strong public commitment to this site for the Holocaust memorial; and the Jewish Community would undoubtedly be extremely offended if we were to go back on it now. Moreover, while my Secretary of State well understands the concern expressed by Ministerial colleagues about the memorial, the Prime Minister will no doubt wish to be aware that there has in fact been no adverse public reaction at all to the proposal.

In these circumstances, my Secretary of State would welcome the opportunity of having a brief word with the Prime Minister about this whole issue.

Yours sincerely

Jeff Jacobs

J JACOBS
Private Secretary

M. Pattison Esq

CONFIDENTIAL

Royal Family

QUEEN ANNE'S GATE LONDON SW1H 9AT

1 July 1980

MEMORIAL TO HOLOCAUST VICTIMS

You sent me a copy of your letter of 24th June to Michael Heseltine about the proposed memorial in London to the victims of the Nazi holocaust.

I must say that, like you, I have strong reservations about the erection in Whitehall of such a memorial. I am responsible for the arrangements at the Cenotaph on Remembrance Sunday and I share your disquiet about the possibility of such a memorial becoming a focus for disorders, perhaps even during the Cenotaph service. I am also puzzled about the purpose of the memorial. If it is indeed to commemorate victims of Nazism it seems quite inappropriate to mention Dresden and Hiroshima.

My Department has also had responsibility for collecting ideas about a possible memorial to Lord Mountbatten. It appeared that a statue to him was the type of memorial that had most support. I agree with you that the Richmond Terrace site might well be appropriate for this.

I am sending copies of this letter to the Prime Minister, Peter Carrington and Michael Heseltine.

WW

CONFIDENTIAL

The Rt. Hon. Francis Pym, M.C., D.L., M.P.

MAP

Subject filed at Royal Family Sept 79: Memorial to Lord Mountbatten

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE WHITEHALL LONDON SW1A 2HB

TELEPHONE 01-218 9000
DIRECT DIALLING 01-218 2111/3

MO 27/5/1

24th June 1980

Dear Michael,

MEMORIAL TO HOLOCAUST VICTIMS

I was most grateful to you for explaining more fully in our recent talk the background to the proposal for a memorial in London to the victims of the Nazi holocaust which you described in your letter of 24th April. While, however, I recognise your commitment to the Board of Deputies of British Jews, and that it could be difficult to go back upon your support for the memorial, I think that I must repeat that I see serious objection to the selection of the north face of Richmond Terrace as a site.

I would not wish to place too much weight on the possibility that the memorial might become a focus for National Front or anti-Nazi demonstrations, although it cannot be ruled out. More important is that it would be rather a strange newcomer to a part of London where the existing memorials - whether one thinks of the Cenotaph itself or of the military leaders commemorated in Whitehall or around the Ministry of Defence Main Building - relate very much to the British national tradition and to our own victories and sorrows.

Indeed I am afraid that I am still not entirely clear what is the object of the proposed memorial. I had understood initially that it was to commemorate the victims of the Nazi holocaust; but in the sketch which you showed me the only three words legible along the front of the monument are Dresden, Warsaw, and Hiroshima. It is a legitimate subject for debate whether the monument should refer by implication to the victims of Allied bombing, but it is one which certainly

The Rt Hon Michael Heseltine MP

needs to be discussed. And, more immediately, I am concerned that the evocative names of Hiroshima on a memorial facing my Ministry would gratuitously provide ammunition for the anti-nuclear lobby who are showing signs of renewed activity in the context of our decision on GLCM basing and may be expected to be very much more active if we announce a decision on a strategic nuclear successor system.

The memorial to the victims of the holocaust is of course not the only one about which we have to think at present; there is also the prospective memorial to Lord Mountbatten. As I reflect upon this I am increasingly attracted to the thought that a statue of Lord Mountbatten outside Richmond Terrace would both fit in admirably with the other memorials in the neighbourhood and commemorate his own association with Richmond Terrace when he was Chief of Combined Operations in wartime. I should like to urge you to consider carefully whether this might not be the most appropriate solution for Richmond Terrace, even although it would mean asking the Board of Deputies to consider an alternative site for the holocaust memorial. Should we have another talk?

I am copying this letter to the Prime Minister in view of my reference to a Mountbatten memorial; and also to Willie Whitelaw and Peter Carrington.

Francis Pym

2 MARSHAM STREET
LONDON SW1P 3EB

My ref:

Your ref:

24 April 1980

Dear Peter

LONDON MEMORIAL TO HOLOCAUST VICTIMS

The Board of Deputies of British Jews are seeking to erect a memorial to those of all faiths who died in the Nazi Holocaust, a project that has the support of the Council of Christians and Jews. I have had discussions with the President of the Board of Deputies, Greville Janner, and officials have met other representatives. The site favoured by the Board is in front of the north face of Richmond Terrace. Their representatives are conscious that any memorial there must be restrained in design to avoid any visual clash with the Cenotaph and have in mind a landscaped area on grass, with possibly one or two trees, on which a memorial in the form of a few pieces of stone would stand. No firm decisions have been taken on the design, which would eventually have to be approved by the Royal Fine Arts Commission and the local authority.

Present plans envisage that the new office accommodation provided under the first phase of the Richmond Terrace redevelopment scheme would be occupied by officials of your Department. I therefore feel that before I agree to a site in front of the building being used for this memorial I should seek your views. I should also of course be grateful for your comments on any wider political or diplomatic implications that the proposal might have.

I am also writing to Francis Pym.

Yours ever

MICHAEL HESELTINE

The Rt Hon The Lord Carrington KCMG MC

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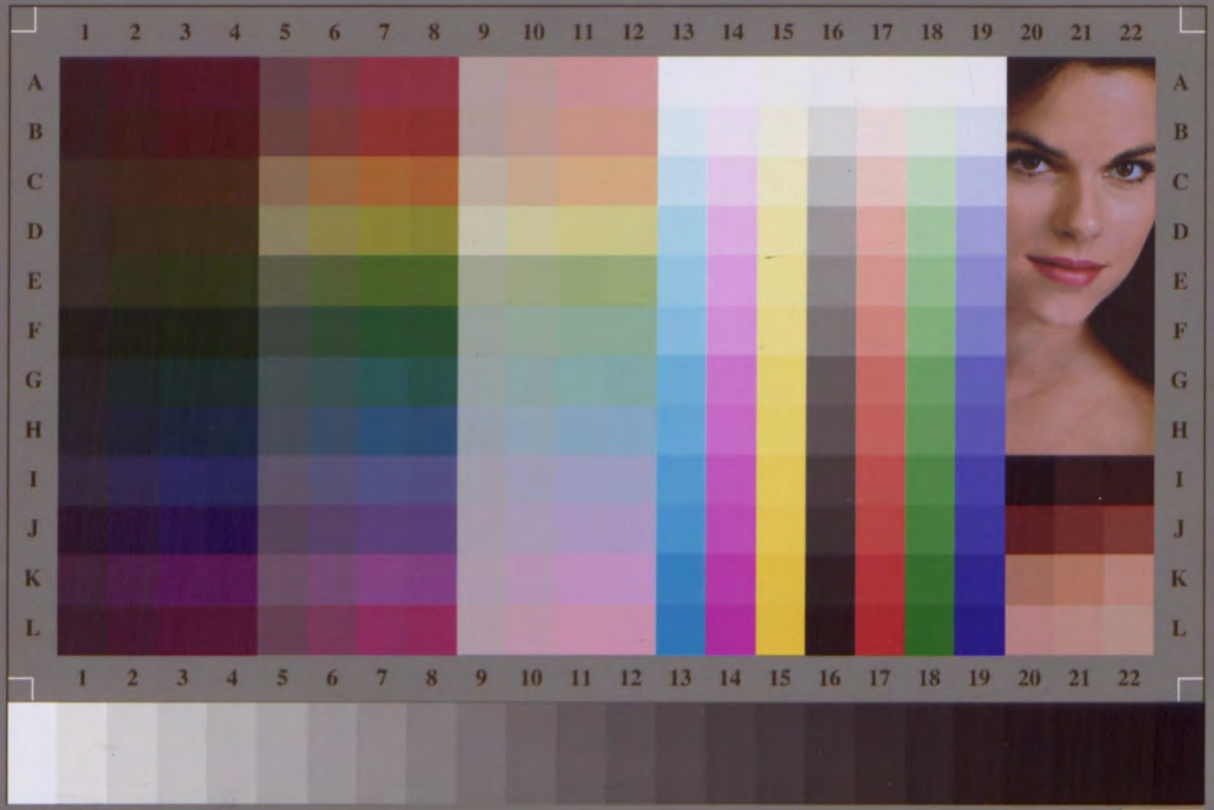
C M Y



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