

Notes on paragraphs 6 and 7 in EH letter of 23 April 2010

Paragraph 6 considers JMH and three other buildings associated with Alice Model. With respect to her Jewish Day Nursery, I only referred to the LBTH nursery in Beaumont Grove which bears her name. Whilst 35 Shepherd Street and 23 New Road were occupied by Alice Model's day nursery, they were former houses. Likewise, 61 Philpot Street, which I described because it was occupied by the SRHS maternity nurses' home from about 1906 to 1911. This very brief occupation adds to the historic interest of 61 Philpot Street but its "*surpassing*" architectural interest should not be used to diminish the special architectural and historic interest of the four purpose-built buildings in Underwood Road.

Paragraph 6 lines 6 and 7 imply that my report claims JMH as "*a unique surviving building relating to Alice Model*". My report made no such claim but tried to make the point that as four purpose-built buildings erected 1911 to 1927, JMH is Alice Model's real memorial as they were erected mainly as a result of Alice Model's fundraising and other efforts. In this respect, I also stated that they provide an exemplar of early-C20 charitable hospital development; and represent the achievements of a pioneering organisation in the related fields of home helps, maternal welfare and infant welfare. Both claims ignored by English Heritage.

Paragraph 7 implies that my report claims JMH as "*the only surviving structure in the East End relating to Jewish welfare*". My report attempted to show that, following the tragic loss of the London Jewish Hospital, JMH is the only surviving former Jewish hospital in the East End. However, I clearly indicated its hospital type, I described it as "the sole representative of maternal and infant welfare provision in the Jewish East End".

My report deliberately excluded any reference to the former Jewish Soup Kitchen or Beth Holim (now Albert Stern House). In the case of the latter, paragraph 7 incorrectly describes it as a "hospital and almshouses for Sephardic Jews". This statement is probably based on the listing description for the 1912-13 building. But it was built and used solely as an old people's home. As clearly stated in the East London Advertiser March 1 1913:

*"Originally a hospital, the Beth Holim changed into a home for the aged and infirm, and it is used in this manner at the present time."*

Interestingly, the English Heritage letter failed to mention my report's most important claim. Namely, that JMH was the first and only Jewish lying-in hospital in England. I should have qualified this claim by confining it to the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, as the original Beth Holim was a lying-in hospital and a hospital for poor women.

Tom Ridge 28.02.10