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**Sent:** 19/01/2022 9:48:17 AM  
**Subject:** proposed development  
**Attachments:** 173a Seaforth Cres Submission Norton.docx;

to whom it may concern ,please find my letter of opposition to proposed development attached.  
Regards Piers

Piers Norton  
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18 Jan 2022

To whom it may concern,

I am writing this letter to voice a strong objection to a current development proposal **(DA 2021 2463 173A Seaforth Cres)**.

Whilst I understand that progress is important, this development proposes to effectively raze the walls of what is possibly one of the most significant early houses in Seaforth. The house is historical in its construction and from its early use as an integral part of the Sydney arts movement which is significant. The property "Nelma" is understood to be one of the first (if not the first) homes built in Seaforth. It is certainly the first property in Powder Hulk Bay on this side of Seaforth. Knowing families who have lived here for decades i am very familiar with the area and have heard many times that the house was built around the time Seaforth itself was established in 1906. It was built by the art department of Her Majesty's Theatre and was used as a drama theatre as well as residence for the arts community, including Dame Nellie Melba.

Dame Nellie Melba GBE was an Australian operatic soprano. She became one of the most famous singers of the late Victorian era and the early 20th century, and was the first Australian to achieve international recognition as a classical musician.

The home itself has managed to stay mostly original for the last 100+ years and within the home is a raised timber stage and theatre. The walls and ceiling of the theatre room is clad with impressive pressed metal.

Seaforth has changed considerably over the years and it is very important that buildings with this historical value are retained for future generations this is the responsibility for previous, current and future councils.

The other concern I have as a nearby resident is the height and scale of the development which seems deceiving as it proposes a similar shaped roof but is in fact significantly higher and disproportionate to other homes. A close inspection of the plans and by viewing online maps shows that the home is surrounded by houses on all sides and proposes to expand outwards and upwards with no regard for amenity losses to the neighbours and the visual impact would be a step in the wrong direction. If this were to be approved by council it would only set new benchmarks for larger buildings in Seaforth affecting the streetscape, density, impacting the constantly diminishing views and vistas from the street down towards the shore.

I implore you to thoroughly consider all of the above concerns regarding this proposal.

Kind Regards,

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