

Mr John Stevenson, MP
Chair,
Select Committee on the Holocaust Memorial Bill
House of Commons
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Dear Mr. Stevenson

HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL BILL

On 24 January, in a debate on the Business of the House (col 439), Sir Peter Bottomley MP referred to the proceedings at the seventh public session of the Holocaust Memorial Bill committee and suggested that counsel for the Promoter may have *"inadvertently told the committee things that are contradicted by the facts..."* in relation to responsibilities for the design of the Memorial. I am writing to reassure you that statements made by Mr Katkowski KC were accurate and to provide you with the precise references to support Mr Katkowski's points.

Evidence on the design of the proposed Holocaust Memorial was given at the planning inquiry in 2020 by the late Mr Asa Bruno. The planning inspector records at para 6.54 of his report (p.26):

"Asa Bruno, the designer of the Memorial itself, explained the overall concept of the design and its aims, the features of the Memorial, its symbolism, the balance in the different uses of the site, the placement within the site, the relationship with existing memorials, and accessibility."

In Mr Bruno's proof of evidence, which remains available on the Westminster City Council website, he included the following statement:

"I am co-founder and Director of Ron Arad Architects Ltd, the architectural practice acting as Memorial Architect for the project, and I am leading the role of Memorial Architect on behalf of the practice."

Sir David Adjaye also gave evidence at the planning inquiry. His proof of evidence included the following statement:

"I am the Lead Design Architect for the UK National Holocaust Memorial and Learning Centre, working with the projects full design team: Ron Arad Architects, memorial architects; Gustafson Porter +Bowman, landscape architects, DHA, lighting design and WSP."

Mr Brian Doctor KC represented Baroness Deech at the planning inquiry and cross-examined both Mr Bruno and Sir David Adjaye.

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I hope this clarifies this matter for the Committee.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'RJV Owen'.

RJV Owen, Partner of Pinsent Masons LLP
Parliamentary Agent for the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities