

Ode to a dying neighbourhood

Our home feels like an island
An island all at sea
Surrounded by an ocean
They call Air BnB.

Each day we get new neighbours
It really is a stress
Some here to have a party
With bags of fancy dress.

Next day, bins overflowing
Filled up with empty cans
One spills into the bushes
And stays right where it lands.

Then others are quite normal
In rental cars arrive
Relieved we are then realise
They've parked right on our drive.

They walk straight through our garden
As if a right of way
'We want to go to Frankton Rd'
Is what they always say.

Then others see our flowers
And selfies they will take
As if it's Queenstown Gardens
Only further from the lake.

We used to have great neighbours
Good people we would know
But the only question now is
Milford Sound. Which way we go?

Your house they say's your castle
And your castle is your keep
But it's difficult to feel that way
When it's bothering your sleep.

Another house is selling
A family moving on
One less in the community
One less that we are strong.

No sooner than they've moved out
The builders will arrive
New kitchen, bathrooms, paint job
For top dollar they will strive.

'So why don't you just join us?'
Is what the landlords say
'You can easily rent your house out,
For about a grand a day.'

But no, we won't be leaving
Not yet, at any rate.
It's just a shame that council have
Let it get into this state.

The council say they're happy
It adds to tourists' choice
If only they were listening to
The affected locals' voice.

Our neighbourhood is dying
The neighbours have all left
We are the last ones standing
In a community bereft.

At some point we will sell our home
Sail off into the sun
And just like all the ones before
Cash out, take the money and run.

We could move out of Queenstown
To find a new abode
But we don't have two spare hours to sit
In the traffic on Frankton Rd.

So for now we're going to stay here
And just enjoy the ride
Put up with short term tourists and
Lament a community died.

— ANDY BOND

MEDIUM DENSITY
RESIDENTIAL

OMG!

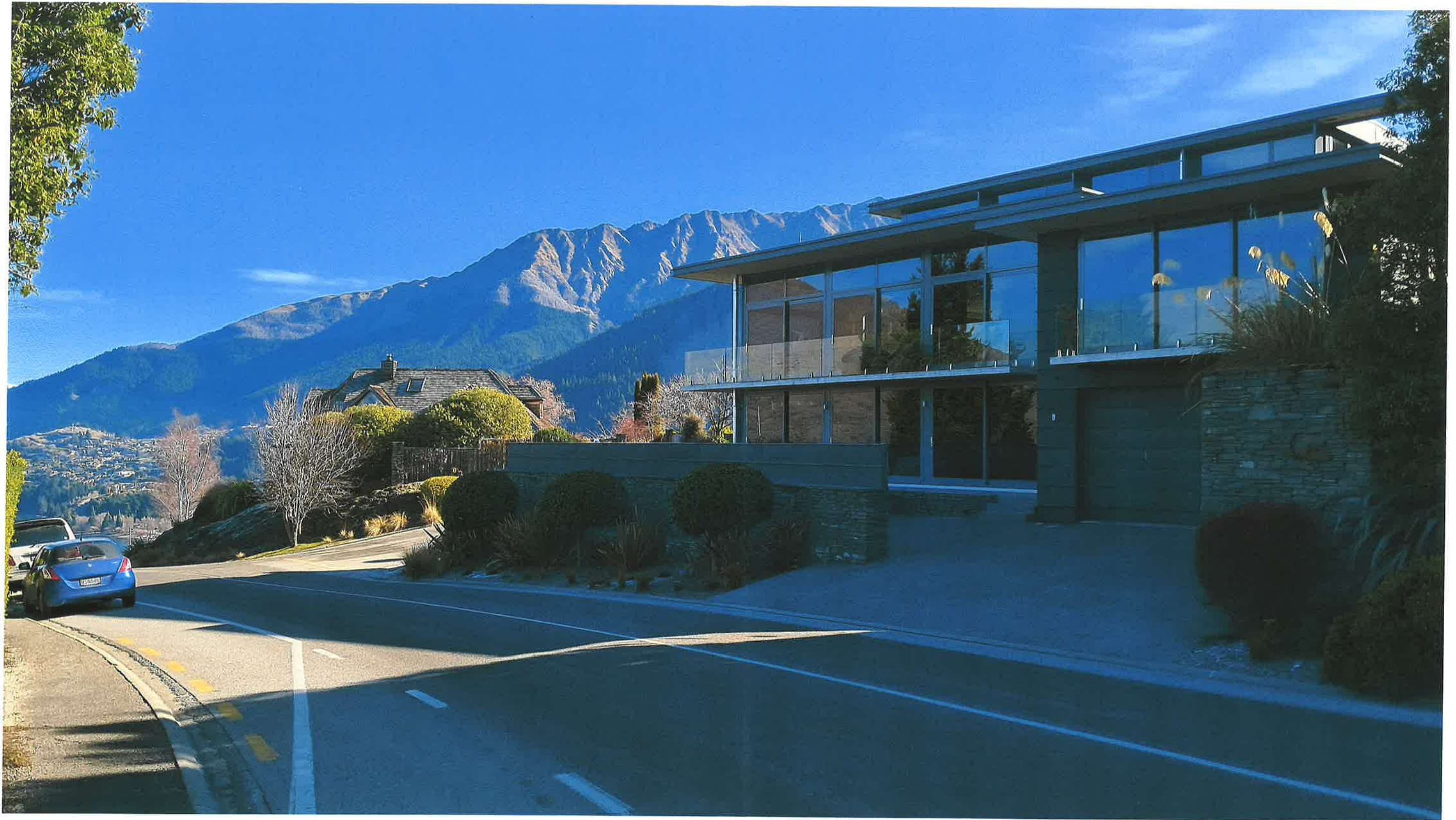


DARK
SHADOWS



AFTER

MEDIUM DENSITY RESIDENTIAL



BEFORE

MEDIUM DENSITY
RESIDENTIAL

OMG! 



AFTER

MEDIUM DENSITY RESIDENTIAL



NOW BEFORE

MEDIUM DENSITY
RESIDENTIAL.

OMG



BEFORE

MEDIUM DENSITY
RESIDENTIAL

OMG!



↑
DARK SHADOWS
FROST!