

Hamilton Road Conservation Area 72

Designation

Conservation area designated:

16.01.2006

Location

OS Sheets:

Hamilton Road conservation area lies to the North of Twickenham Green and South of the railway line and the Crane valley. It includes Hamilton, Warwick and part of Edwin Roads.

History and Development

Former market gardens were developed with the building of Twickenham's first electricity works, just to the West of Talbot Road. Twickenham Town Council had accepted an offer from Edmundsons Electricity Corporation to begin electrification, and the Twickenham and Teddington Electricity Supply Company were formed to build the existing works buildings (no.37 Hamilton Road) from 1901-02. These works grew after WW1 to supply a larger area then also including Hampton and Hampton Wick. The terraces of houses to the south of these buildings were built on land initially purchased by the Company and resold for residential development very soon after the works became operational. The terraced houses of Hamilton, Warwick and Edwin Roads were built together and directly wired to this electricity supply, also housing many of the works employees. After closure of the works a modern electricity sub-station was installed on part of this site.

Character

This is a distinctive and well defined townscape of historic industrial buildings and associated housing, dating from the early 20th century. This area is focused on, and dominated by, the important former electricity works buildings of no.37 Hamilton Road. This group of industrial buildings are made up of distinct office and works parts, of two and three storeys with larger units with pitched roofs to the rear. These buildings are of stock brick with red brick dressings, and retain both traditional timber sliding sash windows and characteristic metal-framed windows, which differentiate the separate elements of the group. The works buildings are a key landmark, which form the termination of the view north along Hamilton Road. There is a strong spatial and historic relationship between the works buildings and the streets of terraced houses directly to their south. Hamilton, Warwick and Edwin Roads form a cohesive group of uniform terraced houses opening directly onto the street. These are simple and consistent two storey houses of stock brick dressed with red brick. These houses have distinctive round arched porch recesses and pitched slate roofs with brick chimneys. This is an exceptional example of industrial archaeology in the Borough. These buildings illustrate an important chapter in the historic development of modern Twickenham.

Problems and Pressures

- Loss of historic buildings, traditional architectural features and materials due to unsympathetic alterations
- Lack of coordination, clutter and poor quality of street furniture and flooring

Opportunity for Enhancement

- Preservation, enhancement and reinstatement of historic buildings, architectural quality and unity
- Coordination of colour and design, rationalisation and improvement in quality of street furniture and flooring

Scale: N.T.S.



**CONSERVATION AREA No.72
HAMILTON ROAD**

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