Queens Road (Twickenham) Conservation Area 47

Designation

Conservation Area designated: 14.06.1988

Location

OS Sheets: 1573, 1673

The conservation area is situated to the north of King Street towards the railway. It adjoins

Twickenham Riverside (8) conservation area to the South.

History and Development

This is an area of late 19th and early 20th century residential infill behind the 18th century frontages onto King Street.

Character

This is predominantly an area of late Edwardian houses, mostly semi-detached. These incorporate a variety of styles and include modern additions. There are pockets of small Victorian cottages but these have been extensively altered. The eastern edge of the area contains a number of large Victorian buildings most of which are in good repair, some with unusual polychromatic brickwork; others form attractive terraces many of which are unaltered. This part of the area has a strong character and visual cohesiveness together with architectural continuity

The George public house (nos. 32-36 King Street) is an important listed building of late 17th century origins, which is located at the south end of Queen's Road. The Albany public house, an imposing three storey stucco building on an island site, acts as a focus to the north end. The King Street frontage contains well proportioned and varied width properties of two and three storeys, some with their original shop frontages and fascias which are invaluable in the contribution they make to the centre of Twickenham. The listed Grosvenor House in its garden setting serves as an important entry building to the area from London Road.

Holly Road Garden of Rest, laid out in the 18th century as an overflow graveyard to St Mary's acts as an important buffer zone and open space between the commercial frontages of King Street and London Road, and the residential area behind. Holly Road, narrow and meandering, also contains some attractive buildings and views of the long narrow plots of properties on King Street contribute to its character and remain as a record of the original layout of Twickenham. The disrupted axis of Queen's Road terminating in the sharp sweep at its northern end affords continuous changing views and a vista several times terminated by mature street trees. Terraces of two storey houses in yellow stock brick with contrasting bands or gauged arches in red brick are a particular feature of this area. Nos. 13-23 Holly Road are noteworthy with elliptical arched entrances.

Grosvenor Road contains two storey buildings of brick, some with stucco features. Occasional gable ends and three storey buildings create an interesting and varied roofscape.

Queen's Road contains at the southern end some gault brick terraces with single storey front bays and shallow pitched slate roofs. A later group on the west side has roughcast rendered upper floors, linked porches and interesting cartouches in gabled two storey bays. Towards the railway building, heights generally increase with three storey Italianate semis on the east and a three and a half storey Gothic terrace (nos. 9-17) containing red brick relieving arches, stone lintels and diamond pattern tile courses. Boundaries are generally well defined with hedges and walls defining front gardens.

Problems and Pressures

- · Loss of traditional architectural features and materials due to unsympathetic alterations
- · Loss of front boundary treatments and front gardens for car parking
- Lack of coordination, clutter and poor quality of street furniture and flooring
- Loss of original or quality shopfronts and unsympathetic alterations and advertisement

Opportunity for Enhancement

- Preservation, enhancement and reinstatement of architectural quality and unity
- Retain and enhance front boundary treatments and discourage increase in the amount of hard surfacing in front gardens
- Coordination of colour and design, rationalisation and improvement in quality of street furniture and flooring
- Retain and improve the quality of shopfronts and advertisement

