Rosecroft Gardens Conservation Area 46

Designation

Conservation area designated: 14.06.1988

Location

OS Sheets: 1473, 1573

Rosecroft Gardens conservation area lies in the suburban area between Twickenham and Whitton. It is contained by the Chertsey Road to the North West, railway line to the South and Duke of Northumberland's River to the East.

History and Development

This estate was developed as a single residential estate around 1930 on former nursery lands. This was contemporary with the arrival of the Chertsey Road and much of the suburban development to its North West.

Character

Rosecroft Gardens conservation area is an isolated distinctive model 1930s estate of mostly semi-detached and some detached bungalows. The houses are laid out on a tightly contained triangular plan of Gladstone Road and Rosecroft Gardens on the perimeter and Derehurst Gardens at the centre. It is a cul-de-sac accessed from the Chertsey Road. Here cohesive rows of bungalows in garden plots are set behind small well planted front gardens and low boundary walls. There are important gaps between buildings, often allowing access to side garages. The wider setting of open green spaces, the wide grass verge and trees along Chertsey Road, Crane Valley and Kneller Gardens, contributes to the attractive suburban character of this estate. Bungalows are of painted render over brick plinths with brick surrounds to doorways and linking band course. They have curved bays below deeply projecting eaves and plain tile roofs. A number of houses still retain original features such as distinctive curved glass within metal window frames and glazing bars and three light insets to vertically divided front doors, architectural details so evocative of this period.

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

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

