# Strawberry Vale Conservation Area 45

### Designation

Conservation area designated: 14.06.1988

#### Location

OS Sheets: 1671, 1672

Strawberry Vale conservation area is located between Strawberry Vale and the riverside, halfway between the centres of Twickenham and Teddington. It adjoins Mallard Place conservation area (no.44) to the north.

### **History and Development**

This group of houses was developed on former riverside meadows from the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century onwards. Now surrounded by later 20<sup>th</sup> century suburban development.

#### Character

Strawberry Vale conservation area is a tightly packed group of detached or semidetached Victorian riverside houses allowing occasional gap views between to the river. They enjoy well-planted front gardens with mature trees and strongly defined front boundary treatments such as brick walls and gateways to the street. They are set in long rear garden plots sloping down to the river, with a characterful array of boathouses and landing stages. Architecturally the houses of the group are varied in scale and character, from two storey cottages to four storey villas, often with more modest garages (coach houses) between. The facades are generally in a variety of brick or stucco with some classical enrichment and timber sliding sash windows. The steep slate roofscape of the group is equally varied and distinctive with prominent chimneystacks. The urban character of the frontage to Strawberry Vale is in contrast to the more informal and picturesque riverside setting. This is an exceptional surviving group of Victorian riverside villas.

### **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 and poor quality of street furniture and flooring
- Domination of traffic and poor pedestrian safety leading to clutter of signage and street furniture

# **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 and improvement in quality of street furniture and flooring
- Improvement of highways conditions and pedestrian convenience, and rationalisation of existing signage and street furniture

