Madrid Road 76

Designation

Conservation area designated: 24.04.2018

Location

Madrid Road conservation area is located in Barnes, and extends along the entirety of Madrid Road, a speculative residential street between Ferry Road to the south, Washington Road to the north, and adjoins Castelnau conservation area (25) to the east.

History and Development

The land on which Madrid Road is situated was originally part of the grounds associated with the St. Anne's house and estate which was the residence of William Lowther, 2nd Earl of Lonsdale, who died in 1872. The house was demolished in 1900 and the surrounding land sold for development.

Surrounding streets within the estate either bare the names associated with the Earl (Lowther Road, Lonsdale Road) or the Earl's properties (Cumberland Road, Westmoreland Road, and Suffolk Road) or the family's diplomatic postings (Madrid Road, Galanta Road, Belgrave Road, Washington Road). The dwellings along Madrid Road were given permission to be constructed in 1913 with the dwellings all completed under one phase.

Character

The dwellings on the both sides of Madrid Road maintain a very well planned and thought out speculative development. The dwellings are all semi-detached, and present a coherent arts and crafts influence with each of the dwellings having a forward facing gable, clad in mock Tudor style timber arrangement with canted bay window and timber porches. The dwellings also utilise pebbledash, with intact original features such as doors, windows, and tiled paths leading up to tiled entry door surrounds. Many of the original brick pier front boundary walls are also intact which contributes to the integrity of the architectural detailing found along the road.

Madrid Road also has a number of mature street trees and well vegetated front gardens which give a very green and leafy feel which is a key component of the character and experience of the road.

Problems and Pressures

- Loss of traditional architectural features and materials due to unsympathetic alterations and extensions;
- · Loss of front boundary treatments and front gardens for car parking;
- Lack of coordination and poor quality of street furniture and flooring.
- Poor and disproportionate roof additions
- Loss of front garden space due to lightwells
- Use of poor quality products in building works such as UPVC, roofing felt and GRP products

Opportunity for Enhancement

- · Preservation, enhancement and reinstatement of architectural quality and unity
- Retain, reinstate 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
- Increase planting to front gardens, seek to locate lightwells to the side of properties instead of the front;
- Seek to encourage good quality and proportionate design and better quality materials that are sympathetic to the period and style of the dwelling

