

Amyand Park Road Conservation Area 48

Designation

Conservation Area designated:
14.06.1988

Conservation Area extended:
20.02.2001

Location

OS Sheets: 1673

Amyand Park Road conservation area is situated between the railway line and Richmond Road, to the north east of central Twickenham. It adjoins Twickenham Riverside (8) conservation area to the South.

History and Development

Before major development in the 19th century, large areas of Twickenham and Isleworth were covered with orchards. The nursery business was at its peak between 1760 and 1840 through a demand for its fruits of all kinds, so an intensive method of farming was employed. Housing development took place on agricultural land in the mid-late C19th following the advent of the railway. There is a known site of archaeological importance in the grounds of St. John's Hospital which indicates a third century Romano-British settlement with evidence of prehistoric activity. This may well have influenced the selection of Twickenham for settlement in the Anglo-Saxon period and the subsequent development of a medieval rural village close to the banks of the Thames.

Character

This is an attractive area of late Victorian and Edwardian buildings, and Oak House is probably of earlier origin. The buildings are predominantly terraces and semi detached cottages, although larger three storey brick properties with decorative moulded window and door surrounds are located towards the south west end of Amyand Park Road. The area has a strong character and has many individual buildings of architectural merit. St. John's Hospital, which includes a fine 18th century listed building, Amyand House and Oak Lane Cemetery form important landmarks and attractive open space.

The conservation area was extended to include nos.24-46 Amyand Park Road and the adjacent highway and footpath of Amyand Park Road up to Arragon Road, to provide a consistent 'experience of walking through the conservation area linking with St. Mary's School. It was also extended at the northern end of Amyand Park Road to include nos.143-207 and nos.1-10 Amyand Park Cottages, with buildings of similar interest and character to those at nos.105-139 Amyand Park Road. The inclusion of nos.14-16 Strafford Road which contain features of similar date and period to that of Amyand Park Road and Victoria Road; and nos.9-23 and 10-22 Oak Lane, which also contain features and scale of special interest, contribute greatly to the entrance to the conservation area. Amyand Park Gardens, a group of large detached properties with little alteration, were also added to the conservation area.

The meandering nature of Amyand Park Road offers a continuously changing series of views and has a beneficial effect on the setting of the buildings. Amyand House (1760) is a listed building now incorporated within the large complex of St. John's Hospital. The junction of Oak Lane with Amyand Park Road holds the other listed building, Devoncroft, which has early 18th century origins. Pairs of grander two storey brick dwellings with eaves brackets, stucco banding and bay windows give way to plainer brick dwellings towards St Margaret's. Boundaries are strongly

defined with considerable front garden planting. The grounds of the Almhouses and the hospital contain large trees which add considerably to the area's character. Oak Lane Cemetery has a high brick wall, gate piers and iron gates providing an enclosure of green space adjacent to Devoncroft 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 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

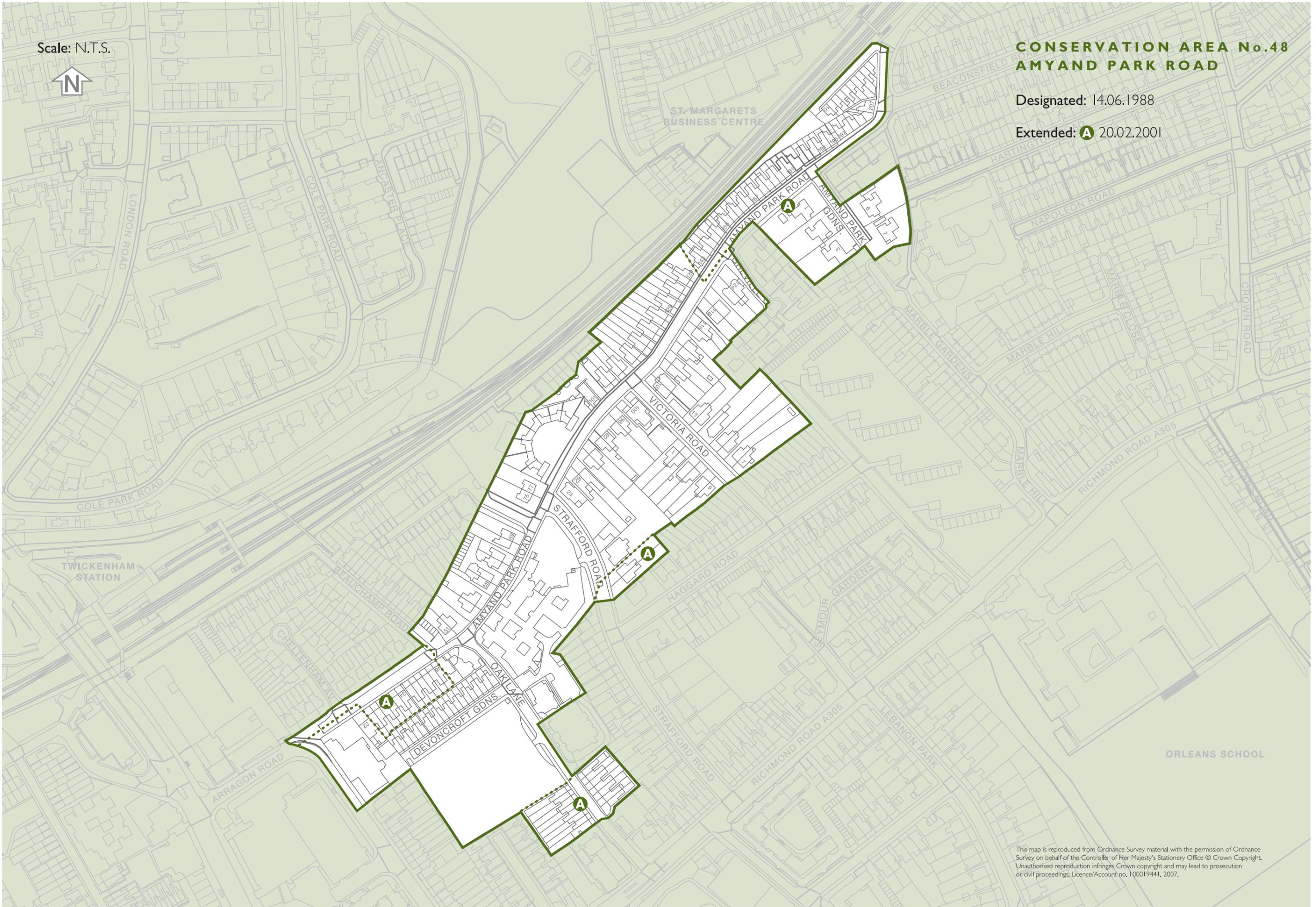
Scale: N.T.S.



CONSERVATION AREA No.48 AMYAND PARK ROAD

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