

Holmesdale Avenue Conservation Area 68

Designation

Conservation area designated:
02.12.2003

Location

OS Sheets: 2075

Holmesdale Avenue conservation area lies within the suburban area between the centres of East Sheen and Richmond, just north of the Upper Richmond Road.

History and Development

Holmesdale Avenue forms a distinctive part of the wider suburban residential development of this area, which reached its peak in the period between the 1890s and the early 20th century. Holmesdale Avenue was laid out as a speculative housing estate from 1909. Thirty-six houses were originally planned for the avenue, of which only thirty-two were completed.

Character

Holmesdale Avenue conservation area is an exceptional and attractive group of houses set in a secluded cul-de-sac, accessed from Ormonde Road to the north and from the south by only a small footpath leading onto Graemsdyke Avenue. These houses line a straight treed avenue with only modest spaces between buildings. They present very small well-planted front gardens to the street behind continuous low brick boundary walls, reinforcing the suburban character of this area. They are fifteen pairs of semi-detached and two detached houses at the south end, designed in a consistent and distinctive Arts and Crafts style. These 2 storey houses display an alternating pattern of either gabled or half-hipped roofs and alternating use of red brick or roughcast render to front walls. Their steep plain tile roofs with projecting eaves and brick chimneys unify them, and an unusual enclosed porch and bay to each house set at a 45-degree angle to the frontage. They are a remarkably unspoilt group, which retain many original architectural features such as decorative brickwork including panels of herringbone, brick arches and tile courses, timber casement windows including some leaded lights and stained glass, and distinctive porthole windows.

Problems and Pressures

- Loss of traditional architectural features and materials due to unsympathetic alterations
- Lack of coordination and poor quality of street furniture and flooring

Opportunity for Enhancement

- Preservation, enhancement and reinstatement of architectural quality and unity
- Coordination of colour and design and improvement in quality of street furniture and flooring

Scale: N.T.S.



**CONSERVATION AREA No.68
HOLMESDALE AVENUE**

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