

6 BROAD DESIGN GUIDELINES

6.1 The previous section described the character of the conservation area looking at the general townscape value of the cemetery landscape and the monuments and buildings within. This section identifies key components that define the character, or those which affect it, suggesting broad design guidelines to deal with each one.

6.2 Preserving or enhancing the special character or appearance of the conservation area involves a difficult balance between interests that may not be readily compatible. As long as the prime function of the cemeteries continues, the needs of mourners must be respected.

6.3 The proprietors of the cemeteries must deal with competing problems posed by the need to upkeep the repair and appearance of graves and memorials no longer cared for by anyone, as against the need to cope with the limited and decreasing space available for new burials. However, it is the overgrown and neglected nature of the area that has in a large part contributed to its nature conservation interest and to biodiversity. Management of the monuments and renewal of the vegetation should, therefore, respect this nature conservation and biodiversity value.

Uses

6.4 The balance of uses within a conservation area is important in defining its character, particularly if they reflect the historic development of the area. The cemetery buildings should, therefore, remain in their original or compatible

uses, and Alma Place should remain as six residential houses. The cemeteries are not only places of burial, but also act as areas of tranquil parkland. So, together these cemetery areas also represent a very significant amount of open space.

Setting of the Conservation Area

6.5 The setting of a conservation area is important in defining its character and appearance. Any development, or alterations to properties in adjoining areas, affecting the setting of the conservation area should take full account of its character and appearance, and should preserve or enhance it, as described in the profile. Trees and shrub planting along the rear boundaries of the properties adjoining the conservation area should be maintained to enhance the views from the cemeteries, and to provide an opportunity for biodiversity.

Continuity and Historic Names

6.6 The Council considers the retention of the old names of sites and properties within the conservation area to be desirable. Of particular importance is the recording, repair and retention of legible inscriptions on the monuments and memorials within the cemeteries. This would enable the historic identity and continuity of areas to be preserved. The names of historic or locally important developments in adjoining areas, and their associated signage and features should also be kept.

Landmarks

6.7 Landmarks within the cemeteries include the Kensal Green Crematorium, the St. Mary's Funeral Chapel, catacombs and lodge, the 27 mausolea, war memorials and some of the larger monuments.

These operate at a local scale within the conservation area, forming features at the ends of pathways and in vistas.

Views

6.8 Great care is required not to block, or have an impact on, key views by intervening or inappropriate development. The existence and importance of these views should help determine the permitted heights of new buildings in the conservation area. Consideration should therefore be given to the enhancement of the setting of the Belgian War Memorial by relocating the existing storage building.

6.9 Views of the rear of the development surrounding the cemetery are important in defining the quality of the conservation area. Development is screened by planting in places but in others forms a highly visible backcloth.

Boundary Treatment

6.10 The boundary treatment around the cemetery varies and includes railings, brick walls and chain link fences. The hedge planting and greenery along much of the boundary is important, both visually and because of its biodiversity value, and should be retained wherever possible.

6.11 Conservation area consent is unlikely to be granted for alterations or removal of original or traditional boundary walls and railings and their footings, or for the removal or alteration of original boundary railings or enclosures delineating tombs or monuments. Owners are encouraged to maintain railings in good repair, and to reinstate them with traditional and appropriate designs where they are missing, in a design matching the original where it is known. Where gates are

required, these should match the railings.

6.12 It is considered that in the majority of cases black or dark green is the most appropriate colour to paint railings, although evidence of original colour finishes should be sought wherever possible.

6.13 The short terrace of properties in Alma Place has low timber fences though they differ in design from property to property. Where these are repaired or replaced, they should be to the original design of the picket fences.

6.14 Dustbin or meter enclosures and other such items should not detract from the appearance of the area.

Landscape and Floorscape

6.15 Footpaths should be of uniform materials and visually subordinate within the conservation area, providing a coherent character throughout the cemeteries.

6.16 All original areas of historic stone, including curbs and paving, should be retained, as these form part of a significant composite scheme.

Open Spaces

6.17 The conservation area consists primarily of the two cemeteries, which are large areas of open space.

Trees

6.18 There are significant mature trees of value to the townscape in the conservation area, some of which are the subject of Tree Preservation Orders. All trees in a Conservation Area, including those in rear gardens, are protected. Owners should be urged to look after trees on their land

and plant new ones in order to ensure a continuing stock of mature trees for future generations and to provide an opportunity for biodiversity.

6.19 A programme of planting should be initiated where appropriate, particularly along the entrance drive of St Mary's Cemetery, to enhance its character and appearance in the future, and along the boundary with the canal.

Street Furniture

6.20 To avoid clutter, careful consideration should be given to the number, location and design of signs and litter bins.

Appreciation of the tranquil park-like character of the area would be enhanced by the provision of additional carefully positioned benches. Restoration of the drinking fountain near the chapel would be a desirable enhancement to the amenities of St. Mary's Cemetery.

Advertisement Hoardings

6.21 The erection of any new advertisement hoardings within the conservation area will be resisted because of their detrimental effect upon its predominantly open character.

Sub-area C (Alma Place) and Buildings within the Cemetery

6.22 Piecemeal changes to individual properties, when considered cumulatively, can have a severely negative affect on the special character and appearance of an area. The following section outlines factors the Council considers to be important in preserving the character of an area through encouraging good practice. Not all the alterations and works listed below require planning permission or conservation area consent.

Alterations to Buildings

6.23 The character of Sub-area C is derived from the uniform appearance and form of the terrace. Alterations to individual houses can have a particularly damaging effect, destroying the homogeneity of the architectural composition. The massing and rhythm of the buildings within the terrace is a key element in defining its character. Extensions and alterations to properties should not visually affect their scale, rhythm and massing when seen from the street or any public space and should not be excessive additions to the properties.

Disabled Access

6.24 The Council will support dignified and easy access for disabled people to and within historic buildings and public open spaces. Suitable access for disabled people, which does not compromise a building's special interest, can normally be achieved if treated as part of an integrated review of access requirements for all visitors or users, and a flexible and pragmatic approach is taken.

Roof Extensions

6.25 Front roof extensions are generally considered unacceptable and will only be considered if the property is within a terrace that has been significantly impaired by front roof extensions.

6.26 The design of any rear roof extension should be sympathetic to the character of the conservation area. Where they are visible from the street or publicly accessible areas such as the cemeteries, including long views, then particular attention will need to be paid to their appearance. In some cases, high visibility of the rear roof of properties, as in Alma Place, may

prohibit a roof extension where it would have a detrimental affect on the character of the conservation area.

6.27 Where traditional materials remain in place repairs or alterations to roofs and dormer windows should use matching traditional materials, i.e. slate, lead and timber. The reinstatement of traditional materials to roofs is encouraged whenever the opportunity arises.

6.28 Existing roof lines should not be disturbed. Original features such as decorative parapets, ridge roof tiles, finials, cast iron gutters and down pipes, original roofing materials and their pattern should all be retained.

6.29 Consent should not be granted for demolition of original chimney stacks which are visible from the street or public spaces. Original chimney pots should not be removed.

6.30 Modern additions such as satellite dishes, T. V. aerials, rooflights and vents should be as inconspicuous as possible. Enclosed water tanks on roofs should be avoided.

Rear Extensions

6.31 The design and materials of rear extensions should be in keeping with the existing property and all planning standards in the Unitary Development Plan should be met. When they require planning permission rear extensions will be considered on their own individual merit.

6.32 Rear building lines should respect and take into account the value of rear gardens in landscape terms and should not prevent

the opportunity for biodiversity.

Basements

6.33 Where the planting of the front gardens forms an integral part of the design of the street or terrace, the excavation of front gardens to provide windows to basements, or to increase the light to basements, would have a negative impact and will not normally be permitted. However, they may be acceptable if they are sensitively designed and proportioned in accordance with the council's approved 'Design Guidelines for Lightwells Associated with Basement Rooms'.

Brickwork, Render and Painting

6.34 Properties should be retained in their original condition if they are not already rendered or painted.

6.35 Existing brick elevations including chimney stacks should be properly maintained and appropriate repointing undertaken where necessary. If a property has been painted, advice should be sought from the Council regarding the removal of the paint, or the property should be repainted in matt finish paint of a colour to match the original brick.

6.36 On properties that are already rendered or have stucco mouldings these should preferably be left in their original state and specialist advice should be sought where re-rendering or repairs are necessary. On properties where render or stucco is painted, it should be repainted an appropriate matt colour (or colours) i.e. white, pale or pastel shades rather than vivid colours.

Windows and Original Features

6.37 Original architectural features such

as timber sash windows, panelled doors, decorative stucco, moulded window surrounds, and door cases should be maintained and repaired wherever possible. Where renewal is unavoidable or features missing, owners are encouraged to reinstate these with traditional or matching designs and traditional materials.

6.38 All original features should ideally be kept. If their loss is unavoidable they should be replaced with exact replicas.

6.39 Owners of properties with poor replacement windows should be encouraged to change them for those of a more appropriate design and materials when an opportunity arises.

Other Additions

6.40 Gutters, rainwater pipes and soil pipes should be replaced, when necessary, in their original form and material. The use of UPVC should be discouraged.

6.41 The positioning of gas and electricity meters on external walls is to be avoided or, if absolutely necessary, their location should be carefully considered. The routing of external telephone, T.V. cables, and the location of gas flues etc. on external walls should be carefully considered.

6.42 Alarm boxes should be located away from important architectural detail so as to minimise their effect on the townscape quality of an area and the appearance of the building on which they are located.

6.43 Satellite dishes and T.V. aerials will not be permitted where they would be visually obtrusive and where alternative

locations are possible.

6.44 Further detailed guidelines may be helpful in ensuring that other additions do not have a negative impact upon the character of the conservation area.

7 OTHER RELEVANT DOCUMENTS

The Unitary Development Plan: London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham, adopted August 2003.

Planning Policy Guidance: Planning and the Historic Environment (PPG 15): Department of the Environment/ Department of Heritage, September 1994.

Conservation Area Practice, English Heritage guidance on the management of conservation areas: English Heritage, June 1993.

Kensal Green Cemetery - A Concise Introductory Guide & Select List of Notable Monuments: Friends of Kensal Green Cemetery, 1994.

The Origins and Development of the General Cemetery of All Souls Kensal Green, London, 1824-2001: Edited by James Steven Curl (Phillimore, Chichester) 2001.

Kensal Green Cemetery, Conservation Area Proposals Statement: The Royal Borough of Kensington & Chelsea, 2003.

www.findagrave.com

8 LISTED BUILDINGS IN THE CONSERVATION AREA

Building or Structure	Grade
KENSAL GREEN CEMETERY	
Tomb of Maria Tustin	II
Tomb of Marigold Churchill	II
Tomb of Alexandrina and Herbert Allingham	II
ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CEMETERY	
Emmet family mausoleum	II
Conde de Bayona Marques de Misa, mortuary chapel and railed forecourt	II
Campbell family vault	II
Belgian War Memorial	II

9 BUILDINGS OF MERIT IN THE CONSERVATION AREA

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CEMETERY
 Whigham family mausoleum
 Chest Tomb of M.T. Eyre south of Chapel
 Memorial of S. F. Connolly
 Jiminez family mausoleum, with a now indecipherable carved inscription to the 'Marquis de la Grande de San S--urnin-'.

10 ARTICLE 4 DIRECTIONS IN THE CONSERVATION AREA

Planning permission is needed for most forms of development, including many building alterations. However, in order to prevent unnecessary interference in more straightforward work the "Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 1995" grants a general planning permission for some types of development, including some alterations to dwelling houses. Because even these more simple developments can harm the character and appearance of a conservation area, Local Planning Authorities can remove these permitted development rights. This is done by the Council making a Direction under Article 4 of the General Permitted Development Order.

There are no Article 4 Directions in the conservation area at present.

Please note that these planning controls are in addition to those which apply everywhere. If you need advice as to what development does or does not need planning permission you should contact the Environment Department reception at the address on page 1.

11 NOTES

1 The Friends of Kensal Green Cemetery (Tel 020 7402 2749) are active and organise regular tours of the whole cemetery and catacombs. They publish a select list of notable monuments, most of which are in the adjacent area of Kensington and Chelsea.

2 St Mary's Roman Catholic Cemetery covering 29 acres has been owned by the Church since 1858 and is now a registered charity. It is administered and managed by the Trustees of St. Mary's Catholic Cemetery of the secular Clergy Common Fund.

3 The most notable persons, some knighted for their achievements, and those who reached the height of their professions and occupations, are listed in "London Cemeteries - An illustrated Guide and Gazetteer" by Hugh Mellor, published by the Scolar Press. This Guide lists 33 names for St. Mary's Cemetery and a list with an approximate location map is also available by request from the Superintendent's Office.

Of these, the brave soldiers awarded the VC with graves in St. Mary's Cemetery are:

a. Major Thomas Joseph Crean, DSO, 1st Imperial Light Horse (Natal), 19.4.1873-25.3.1923, VC won Boer War, 18 December 1901;

b. Major-General Sir Luke O'Connor, KCB, 23rd Regiment (Royal Welch Fusiliers), 20.1.1831-1.2.1915, VC won Alma & Sebastopol, Crimea, 20 September 1854 & 8 September 1855;

c. Lieutenant-Colonel James Henry Reynolds, Army Medical Department, VC won Rorke's Drift, Natal, 22-23 January 1879.

4 Mary Seacole was voted the "greatest black Briton" in an internet survey of 10,000 people conducted over a 3 month period to celebrate the UK's black heritage. At the award ceremony at the National Army Museum in London on Monday 9 February 2004 the president of the Royal College of Nursing supported the decision, pointing out that Mary Seacole had stood against prejudices and discrimination against all the odds, and that "she deserved to have a statue erected in London to commemorate her importance in nursing history".

Mrs. Seacole was a Creole (born Mary Jane Grant) to a Scottish army officer father and a free black Jamaican mother in Kingston in 1805. She loved travel and came to England where she met her husband Edwin Horatio Seacole (a godson of Nelson's). The marriage ended with his sudden death, which was soon followed by that of her mother during the 1850 cholera attack in Jamaica, during which Mary picked up many invaluable hints about its treatment and built her reputation as a nurse. She moved to be with her brother on the Isthmus of Panama, where she heard of the plight of the soldiers in the Crimean War. She volunteered to help, but was rejected by the official organisations responsible for sending out nurses and refused passage by the government. Undeterred, she made the journey independently, establishing her "British Hotel at Spring Hill" in an iron storehouse two miles from Balaclava where she provided warm hospitality to passing

soldiers.

Mary Seacole's practical nursing expertise far outdistanced that of Florence Nightingale, in that her work included preparing medicines, diagnosis, and major surgery, but today very few people have ever heard of her. Nightingale recognised that she had done "some good", but felt some resentment against her because she had won the protection of Dr. John Hall, Inspector-General of Hospitals in the Crimea, her great adversary. She also claimed that Mary's establishment condoned "drunkenness and improper conduct" and that she had an illegitimate 14-year old daughter fathered by Colonel Bunbury.

Known as "Mother Seacole" by both men and officers for her care of the sick and wounded, she applied herbal remedies derived from traditional Caribbean medicine to treat diarrhoea, dysentery and cholera. The famous French chef Alexis Soyer said that she had revolutionised army catering in the Crimea with her soups and dainties. She courageously navigated the battlefields with a bag of lint, bandages, needles, thread and medicines, and on 8 September 1855 became the first woman to enter Sebastopol after the siege.

After the war she returned to England, but was unable to sell her supplies at a fair price, and as a result was declared bankrupt. However, she was not forgotten, public affection for her remaining high. Punch magazine published a poem "A Stir for Seacole" receiving subscriptions on her behalf, and in July 1857 she published her autobiography "*The Wonderful Adventures of Mrs. Seacole in Many Lands*" and also

took part in a four-night benefit in her honour which was held at the Royal Surrey Gardens, at which she sat in state surrounded by members of the military establishment, receiving the rapturous applause of large crowds. The benefit was a financial flop, but the autobiography, which showed the author's spirit of independence, real confidence in her powers, and a belief in her medical skills, became a best seller. Although she was eventually awarded a Crimean medal for her work and was employed by Alexandra, Princess of Wales, she died in obscurity in 1881.



She is one of black history's unsung heroines previously ignored by the history books but now at last recognised. Her autobiography was reprinted in the 1980s, when it quickly became a rallying point in teaching multicultural history, and she became known as "the black Nightingale".

Black people have been in Britain since Roman times, but their important role models have been overlooked in the history taught in schools, which has not accurately reflected the past. It is important to reflect the long, rich and varied histories of black people in the UK.

12 THE 27 MAUSOLEA



1 Scala



2 Frosi



3 Di Martino



4 Macaluso



5 Marciano



6 Jaquinandi & Bourlet



7 Le Grove



8 Countess of Mexborough



9 Sir Thomas Coglian