

THE
Kensington
Society



Annual Report
1992-93

THE

Kensington Society

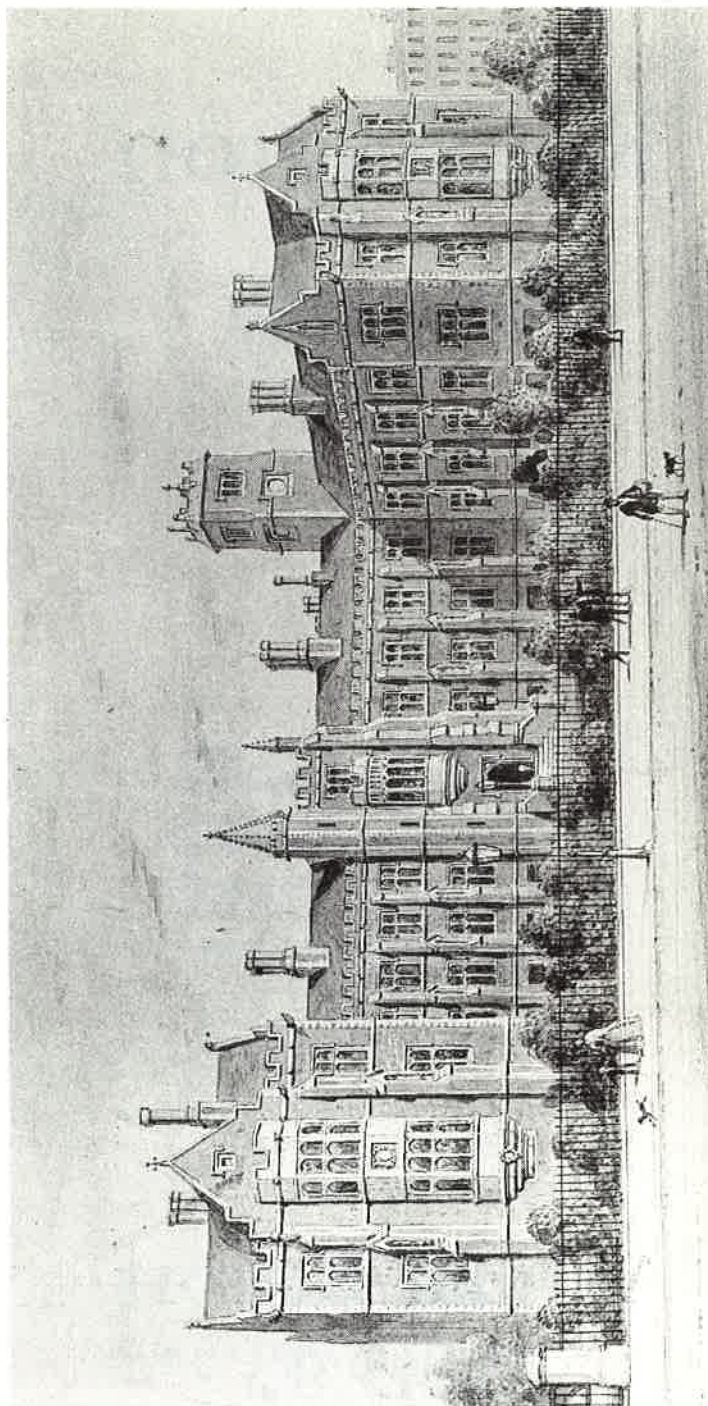
The objects of the Society shall be to preserve and improve the amenities of Kensington for the public benefit by stimulating interest in its history and records, promoting good architecture and planning in its future development and by protecting, preserving and improving its buildings, open spaces and other features of beauty or historic or public interest.

Registered Charity No. 267773

Annual Report 1992-93

FRONT COVER

*South East view of Kensington Church by Henry Overton c 1750
Presented by Mrs P J Wills, Freshfield, Farley Green, Albury, Surrey*



*Brompton Hospital
T Hosmer Shepherd 1855*

The Kensington Society

PATRON

HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE DUKE OF GLOUCESTER, G.C.V.O.

PRESIDENT

JOHN DRUMMOND, C.B.E.

VICE-PRESIDENT

THE RT. REV. THE LORD BISHOP OF KENSINGTON

COUNCIL

Sir Ronald Arculus	The Hon. Laura Ponsonby
Ian Grant	Sir John Pope-Hennessy, C.B.E.
George Pole	Dr. Norman Power
Peter de Vere Hunt	Martin Starkie
Antony Jabez-Smith	J. Single
Dr. Peter Nathan	R. T. Wilmot
Sir Duncan Oppenheim	J. D. Williams
Dr. Stephen Pasmore	Michael Winner

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

CHAIRMAN: T.B.H. BRUNNER

VICE CHAIRMAN: ROBERT MEADOWS

T.B.H. Brunner	Robert Meadows
Mrs. G. Christiansen	Michael Middleton, C.B.E.
Philip English	Harry Morgan
Judge Gerald Gordon	Richard Newcombe
A. Farrand Radley M.B.E.	Robert Vigars
Robert Martin	

HON. SECRETARY AND EDITOR OF REPORT: Mrs. G. Christiansen

HON. TREASURER: Richard Newcombe

HON. AUDITOR: Andrew Snelling, Barclays Bank PLC

Foreword

I am often struck by a curious contradiction in our attitudes. On the one hand we have a greatly increased sense of pride in the interior of the places where we live. So many people at all levels spend a great deal of time and money improving their properties, yet outside a totally different situation exists, a world in which we seem now to treat as a matter of course the steady decline of standards we once took for granted.

I am referring in particular to the state of our roads and pavements. At the simplest level it now seems impossible to expect replacement of the top surface after repairs to be done in a professional way that stands up to traffic flow. The entire Borough is littered with examples of this, suggesting a lack of basic competence and a total lack of pride in a job well done. Our roads are becoming like farm tracks: a mass of bumps, holes and ruts, all the results of inadequate repair. Weeks and months go by while the holes get deeper and no-one seems to show the slightest concern. Last year there was a hole nearly a foot deep at the junction of Queensgate and Kensington Gore in the middle of the main traffic lanes for most of the summer. Eventually repaired, it soon reappeared owing to the inadequacy of the work. Early last year the surface of Holland Street behind the Town Hall was rather well repaired. Within a few months a trench two foot wide had been dug the length of the street cutting through the new surface. The standard crew of two men and a boy lingered unlovingly over this chaos for several weeks causing traffic congestion and a great deal of mess on the pavements. Finally filled in, the new surface is now totally ruined. But, does anyone care?

Thames Water, British Telecom, South East Gas, London Electricity continue to play their un-coordinated games with our streets and pavements and no-one seems to give a damn. At the same time, building repairs, special deliveries, house removals, all add to the chaos. Of course emergencies must be dealt with, but who has overall responsibility?

Who was consulted about the huge obstruction in the middle of Kensington High Street, reducing traffic in both directions to a single lane and causing jams for up to a mile in both directions during rush hours? Of course the work of reinforcing the arches beneath the road over the Circle Line is necessary, but is there an explanation of why so huge a structure should have been put down the middle of one of London's busiest streets? Is any consideration given to the public, either pedestrian or motorist?

I am coming quite close to refusing to pay some of my bills until these utilities and authorities look to the damage they do to our environment. How about those of us who live in Campden Hill Court not paying our water rates until the surface of Holland Street has been adequately

repaired. But if you suggest this, people just shrug their shoulders and say 'What do you expect us to do?' Well, our Society is there to have concern for all aspects of the Borough. Does anyone else feel as strongly as I do? Perhaps someone has ideas about a bit of action, because I suspect that our apathy is almost as damaging as sloppy workmanship and lack of coordination.

JOHN DRUMMOND
President of the Kensington Society

Annual General Meeting

The 39th Annual General Meeting was held on Monday, 27th April 1992 at the Convent of the Assumption Hall, Kensington Square, in the presence of the Society's Patron, HRH the Duke of Gloucester, GCVO.

The Mayor of the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea, Mrs Frances Taylor, attended: together with members and officers of the Council and a large number of the Society's members.

Mr John Drummond, President, was in the chair.

The Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting, previously approved by the Executive Committee and circulated in the Annual Report, were taken as read and adopted, and signed by the Chairman. There were no matters arising.

Presenting the Annual Report for 1991-92, which covered a year of increased activity and membership, and the opening of the Alec Clifton-Taylor Memorial Garden, the Chairman expressed the Society's gratitude to Mrs Christiansen for all the work she had done.

The Honorary Treasurer's Report showed a satisfactory financial position, with a surplus for the year of £1555, and a reserve of £10,000.

The Annual Report and Accounts were approved without dissent.

The Chairman announced with regret the resignation of Mr George Pole from the Committee. Mrs Christiansen paid tribute to the invaluable and willing support which he had always given to the Society as a long-serving Committee member and former chairman. It was agreed that the Society's appreciation of George Pole's services should be placed on record.

Mr Arthur Farrand Radley MBE had been nominated and was then elected to fill the vacancy.

There being no other nominations, the Officers and Executive Committee were re-elected en bloc.

The formal agenda concluded, HRH the Duke of Gloucester then addressed the meeting.

He spoke of the economic and social pressures involved for bodies like the Kensington Society. It was extremely fortunate for the Society that it is able to call upon such speakers as Dame Jennifer Jenkins and others, because theirs were the voices that gave a society character, strength and authority.

Members were anxious to learn about the future of the Royal Parks: especially that of Kensington Gardens and its administration.

Dame Jennifer Jenkins, chairman of the Royal Parks Review Group, reassured the meeting. Having lived in Kensington for nearly 40 years, she had a very personal interest in Kensington Gardens. And the Society's President, Mr John Drummond, was himself a member of the Group.

Describing how the Group worked, and summarizing its main conclusions, Dame Jennifer said that it had been clear for some time that the Royal Parks were in need of renovation. So the Department of the Environment had set up the Group and asked it to look at what the Parks are for and what they should provide, concentrating first on Hyde Park and Kensington Gardens.

The Group had commissioned a market research study of park users (the greater proportion were found to be under thirty, and the parks used mainly for walking). It had also sought the views of organisations with a special interest in the Parks, including the Kensington Society. Members of the Group visited Central Park in New York, and some famous parks in Europe. But none of these had the same 'country feel' as London's Royal Parks.

It is this that most users want to preserve, particularly in Kensington Gardens. People do not want major change.

But there were a number of matters which did concern the Group, and on which they had made detailed recommendations to the Department. Traffic flow through the Parks needed to be reduced, and coach parking controlled. To facilitate this, the Group proposed an enlargement of the underground car park in Hyde Park. Design standards should be established and enforced, getting rid of unsightly buildings and street furniture.

Dame Jennifer herself would like to see some form of screening around the outer limits of the Parks.

The Group considered that big public events should be kept to Hyde Park, and restricted to 2 or 3 a year. But the band stands should come alive with music in both Park and Gardens.

A number of members who are dog-owners urgently pressed Dame Jennifer to look again at the Group's recommendation that dogs should be kept on a lead in Kensington Gardens. She admitted that of all the Group's 79 recommendations, this was the most contentious.

Banning dogs from some parts of the Gardens had been considered, but rejected except in special cases such as children's play areas. While dog-owners' concern was appreciated, the Group hoped that keeping dogs on a lead would be accepted by them as the best all-round solution.

Another member pointed out that some people were only able to enjoy the Parks if they were allowed to sit there in their cars. Dame

Jennifer said that this would be remembered when dealing with traffic.

Mr Farrand Radley showed slides of Hyde Park and Kensington Gardens at various seasons. These were much appreciated by members.

The chairman thanked HRH the Duke of Gloucester and the Mayor for their attendance.

Kensington Society News

Henry Smith

It is 370 years since Henry Smith instructed his Executors to spend £2,000 on the purchase of land to provide income for certain charitable purposes.

There was not an adequate history of the growth of that bequest and the creation of the Kensington Estate as it exists today.

Miss Dorothy Stroud's skill as a researcher is well known and her two books of The South Kensington Estate of Henry Smith's Charity and the Thurloe Estate South Kensington are available in the local collection at the Public Library, Hornton Street, W.8.

We are grateful for her article 'Henry Smith—A Kensington Benefactor' on page 41.

Membership Subscription

The Annual Subscription, of £10 for single membership, £25 for corporate membership, was due on January 1st. The work of the Society increases every year; sending out reminders not only increases the expenditure of the Society but also entails extra work. So please be a punctual subscriber.

Donations

We are grateful for the donations which we have received during the year and for the support given by the advertisers; without their help this Report could not be printed.

Acknowledgement

The Society is indebted to Margaret Hardie, a member of the Society, for the typing she had done throughout the year.

We are also indebted to Mr Andrew Snelling, Private Banking Manager, Barclays Bank, for his kindness in acting as the Society's Honorary Auditor.

Mr George Pole

The Society much regretted the retirement of Mr Pole from the Executive Committee during the year. He has been a member of the Society for

many years, and since his retirement as a Councillor of the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea, was a member of the Executive Committee. George Pole's knowledge of local affairs and his involvement in them as Councillor and Mayor of the Borough have been of immense value to the Society. He frequently accompanied the Honorary Secretary to the Planning Information Room to examine planning applications, and he always helped at the sales arranged by the Society for the increase of funds for the maintenance of the Princess Alice Memorial Garden.

As usual, Chairmen retiring from the Executive Committee are elected to the Council of the Society and we are certain that Mr Pole will continue to support the Executive Committee in any matters relevant to the objects of the Society.

I would like to draw members' attention to the Survey of London's advertisement on page 20. A special offer has been made to Kensington Society members. All four copies of the Kensington Survey have been offered for the special price of £150 (normal price £235).

HRH Princess Alice, Countess of Athlone, Memorial Garden

The Garden was planted by the Society in 1982 in memory of HRH Princess Alice, Countess of Athlone, she had been a very active Patron of the Society for twenty five years. The tablet on the Garden was unveiled by HRH The Duke of Gloucester. The Garden which has suffered a fair amount of vandalism has been maintained by the Society, twice the Memorial tablet has been sprayed with paint, it has now been mounted on a stand farther from the front of the garden, which we hope will avoid further vandalism. Much rubbish, luncheon packets, coca cola tins etc., are cleared twice a week. Seven rose trees and a number of other plants, usually newly planted, have been stolen during the year.

The irrigation which was installed in 1982 is now giving trouble and we have had to authorise modification work which is costing £1,550.

The Society hopes that members will consider that the Garden is an asset to the Borough, donation to this cost will be very gratefully received.

Obituaries

It is with sadness that we report the death of the following members.

James Liddell-Simpson

A member since the foundation of the Society died in May 1992. Mr Liddell-Simpson each year gave a donation towards the maintenance of the Memorial Garden to the Society's late Patron HRH Princess Alice, Countess of Athlone.

An appreciation by his nephew Sir Michael Blake Bt, appears on page 25.

Sheila Forsythe Marshall

A member of the Society for twenty five years. In spite of her physical difficulties she attended most of the Society's activities, she was very well known to our members. She left the Society a legacy. An appreciation by her by her sister appears on page 25.

Joanna Ravenscroft Spicer CBE

A member of the Society for 16 years. An appreciation appears on page 26 by Arthur Farrand Radley MBE.

Irene Scouloudi

A generous member of the Society since 1954. An appreciation appears on page 26.

Lt. Col. Stewart Montagu Cleeve

A member of the Society since 1954. Although he and his wife had moved to Wimbledon, he remained a good Kensington Society member, intensely interested in the Borough. An appreciation appears on page 27.

Mr L W Prouten

As we go to press, sadly we hear of the recent death of Mr Prouten, a generous member of the Society for many years.

Mr Alfred Le Riche

Again as we go press, we hear of the death of Mr Le Riche, a member since 1953. See page 40.

Kensington Square Conservation Area

The Borough Council has designated 34 Conservation Areas since 1967. A Draft Proposal for Kensington Square was sent to the Society in 1985, the Society submitted a Report, but the proposal was not completed. How strange it is that the oldest and most historical Square in the Borough is still awaiting designation as a Conservation Area. However this matter is now being dealt with. McCoy Associates, Chartered Town Planners, have been commissioned by the Borough to complete the previous proposal. The following Statement has been sent to the Consultants by the Society.

Kensington Square Conservation Area Policy

The Society would like to see a reduction in the area marked as Conservation in the 1985 proposal statement. The buildings covering the car park and office buildings in Young Street, also the Stores in Kensington High Street—Marks & Spencer, British Home Stores and Barkers, they are well out of Kensington Square.

The main issues which affect the character and appearance of the Square are:

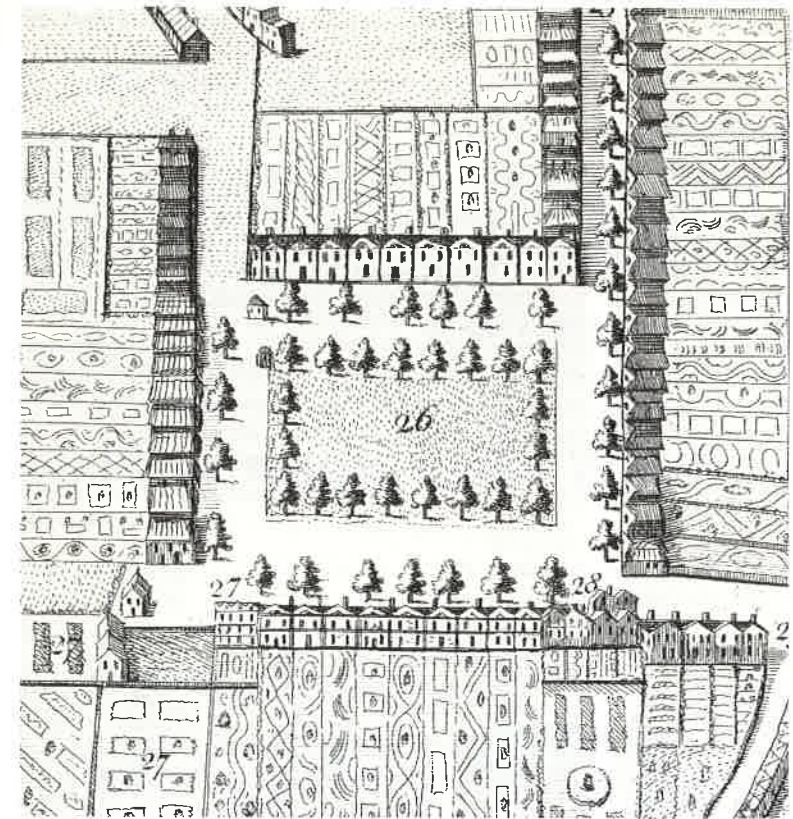
1. Traffic and parking.
2. Unsympathetic alterations to buildings, e.g. additional storeys, rear extensions, *buildings in gardens* and unsympathetic materials for elevations and windows.

Traffic and Parking

The South, West and North side of the Square bears all the traffic from Victoria Road, Cottesmore Gardens, Eldon Road, Kensington Court and Stanford Road.

Traffic should turn right at Thackeray Street junction with the Square and proceed along the east side of the Square to Young Street. A no entry on the South side of the Square with an entrance to the Square on the North side of the Square. This would allow traffic to travel anti-clock wise which would help to achieve the Square as a cul-de-sac.

We are delighted that after much effort Derry Street is now closed. We would urge some landscape improvement of the Derry Street Gate area, the gate could be replaced with bollards, the planting of a tree on the large pavement area flanking the side wall of No. 35, Kensington Square. The Society had meetings in 1985 with the Fire Brigade Service and were informed that the Derry Street entrance could never be used by the fire engine due to the width of the entrance.



Kensington Square

Joshua Rhoads 1766

26 The Square garden. 27 Bishop of Ely's house & garden.

28 Mr Gardnor's Academy. 29 Lobbs Corner.

The best map on a large scale (printed for Carington Bowles—surveyed by Joshua Rhodes and engraved by G. Bickham) was published in 1766. The little picture of the Square cannot be taken as accurate but is just a conventionalized description or representation of buildings each with one gable. The Square garden is surrounded by a row of regularly planted trees with another row in front of the houses forming an avenue round the Square with another row of trees along the east side of Young Street. In this map the block of buildings in the south-east corner is called 'Lobbs Corner'. The road, formerly Charles Street, turned down the present Ansdell Street, forking to the right along South End (which tapered off to an entrance to the long garden (now occupied by the Convent) and was actually the south end of Kensington), and going due south as a county road into fields.

The society would also like to see some landscaping at Thackeray Street/Kensington Square junction with an increase in some tree planting.

The Environment Award Scheme

This Scheme commenced in 1977 and is an annual event which relates to buildings or rehabilitation works on a small scale which are not eligible for existing National Award Schemes, but which have significant effect on the environment of the Borough. Mr Robert Meadows, Vice Chairman of the Executive Committee, was asked to be one of the assessors, see Report on page 33.

Unitary Development Plan

The Unitary Development Plan is a 'land use' plan containing the objectives, policies, and proposals for the use of land and buildings in the area which it covers, for the local planning authority. It is a legal requirement for all Metropolitan Boroughs. When it has been formally adopted it will provide the statutory planning framework for the next ten years.

The process of producing the plan and getting it approved and adopted is a very lengthy one during which interested parties have many opportunities of commenting on its contents. The Executive Committee has spent much time during 1992 studying and commenting on the Council's proposed plan, and a number of meetings have been held with officers of the Council.

Whilst the Society is very conscious of the commitment of the Royal Borough's Planning Services staff to the preparation of the UDP's lengthy document, and in many respects supports the policies proposed in it, nevertheless, there are aspects which the Society has felt bound to criticise. Some of these criticisms are matters of principle; many are matters of detail.

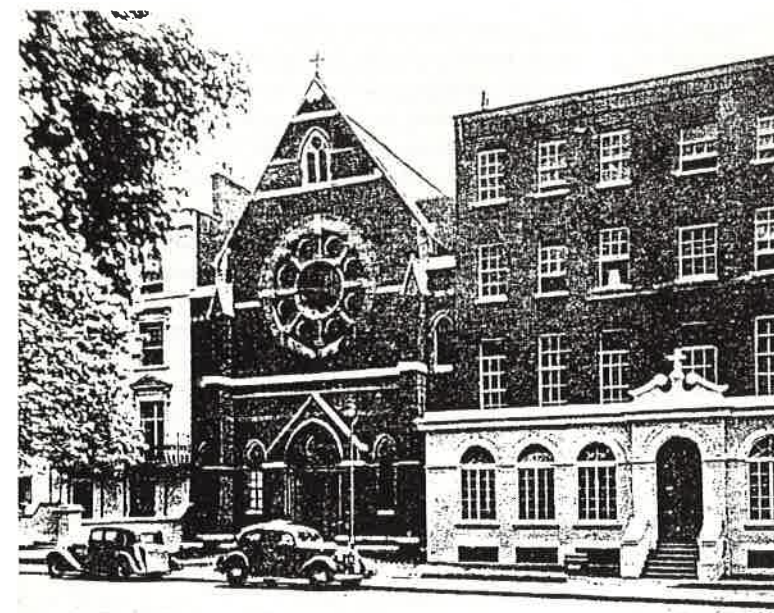
The final draft of the 'Deposit' version of the UDP was published in March 1992. Since then further discussions have taken place and amendments to the Deposit UDP have been proposed.

The last process before the UDP is finally approved and adopted takes the form of a Public Inquiry held by a Planning Inspector appointed by the Dept of the Environment. This inquiry began on 26 January 1993 and it is likely to go on for some months. Any interested party may give evidence at the Inquiry, either in written form or by personal appearance.

Throughout, the Society has been conscious that the UDP concerns the whole of the Borough—Chelsea as well as Kensington, and hence

the need to collaborate with the Chelsea Society in reacting to the Plan, so that a combined united front could be presented. Meetings have taken place with the Chelsea Society, and it was decided that the two Societies should be jointly advised and guided during the Inquiry by a Planning Consultant. After further discussion, Mrs Christine Mill MA DipTP FRTPI was appointed. Mrs Mill worked for the Dept of the Environment, monitoring and advising on central government policy and on a number of research projects. For ten years Mrs Mill was a member of the Planning Inspectorate, latterly as Principal Planning Inspector, holding major planning inquiries.

The Inquiry will consider the UDP in sections, and proofs of evidence are being prepared covering the sections on which the two societies wish to comment. These are submitted in written form and in selected matters representatives of the societies will give oral evidence at the Inquiry. This process will continue until all the objectors have been heard and the Inquiry completed. The Inspector will then decide on the basis of the evidence submitted, what changes should be made to the UDP in its final adopted form.



Maria Assumpta Centre, Kensington Square, the venue for Kensington Society's Annual General Meeting to be held on May 11th, 6.30 p.m.

Chairman: John Drummond C.B.E.

Speaker: Mr Jocelyn Stevens, Chairman of English Heritage

Cases Dealt With

Royal Parks

As stated in 1991-1992 Annual Report the Secretary of State for the Environment set up a Royal Parks Review Group under the Chairmanship of *Dame Jennifer Jenkins*. The eleven member panel was asked to report on the potential uses of Kensington Garden and Hyde Park, and to look at ways of restoring them to their former glory. The Society made representations to the Review Group.

On 5th March 1992 a conference was held regarding its conclusion. The Minister of State indicated that he would take into account representations made at the time. Mr Barnabus Brunner and Mr Philip English attended the conference.

Certain guiding principles have been identified by the Review Group which have been widely welcomed.

1. The historic design of the landscape should be respected.
2. There should be a strong presumption against any additional buildings and permanent enclosures.
3. Standards of maintenance should be improved.
4. The essential purpose of the parks should be recognised as providing peaceful enjoyment in the open air.
5. The parks are essential for people on foot and the needs of pedestrians should be given the highest priority within the parks. The impact of vehicles, parked as well as moving should be reduced.

There was one controversial proposal which sparked off an unprecedented amount of protest, 'Dogs were to be kept on a lead in Kensington Gardens.'

On July 28th the Heritage Minister, Robert Key, announced that this proposal by the Review Group would not be enforced.

The following letter was received from Mrs R. Peake OBE, a long standing member of the Society. We wish her much success in her effort to encourage dog owners to keep Kensington Gardens clean.

From the moment I read the article in the Evening Standard, 20 February 1992, 'All dogs to be kept on leads in Kensington Gardens', I handed a notice to all dog owners telling them to write to their MP and the Ministry of Environment. We then formed The Royal Parks Dog Owners' Association which is now just short of 1000 members. On 28th July the Heritage Minister, Robert Key, announced that the new rule suggested by Dame Jennifer Jenkins would not be enforced.

I wish to point out that we should all show our gratitude to the Heritage Minister, Robert Key, for safeguarding freedom for our dogs. Our firm commitment has been throughout that we should all pick up our dogmess and the large majority do so. To the few dissidents who refuse

to do so, I would just say 'please think again' and stop this anti-social behaviour.

The Park is much cleaner than before we started our campaign, but there is still room for improvement.

Our work has only been possible thanks to the valuable help we have received from the Press, for which we are most grateful.

RESY PEAKE OBE

Scribes Club

The Chairman of the Executive Committee attended the Public Licensing Hearing of Music and Dancing to 1.30 a.m. Permission was given.

12 Cornwall Mews South

Planning application for conservatory and roof terrace, the Society supported residents in opposing the plan. Planning permission given.

43 Rosary Gardens

Society opposed planning application for an additional floor.

92 Elgin Crescent

The Society supported the Ladbroke Association and member residents in opposing an application for a two-storey extension. The Society regrets that planning consent was given.

28 Roland Gardens

Planning application for roof space extension 5th floor. Supported Councils' refusal of consent at the Appeal—Appeal was dismissed.

169 Earls Court Road

A planning application for an Amusement Centre, opposed by three Residents' Associations. The Kensington Society supported residents in opposing the plan. Planning consent given.

Licensing

Councillor Fitzgerald's reply to the letter from the Society said he had approved a draft set of guidance notes and that he had brought the Society's licensing difficulties to the attention of the Director of Environmental Health. The Society requested that local Resident Associations should be informed of application for licenses in their areas.

Observatory Gardens

A number of letters have been sent to the Borough Council by the Society over the last 4 years, urging the Borough to make a Repairs Notice. The Society welcomes the restorations of this Terrace now taking

place with the refurbishment of 1-8 and the rebuilding of 9-12 to match the existing buildings.

14-15 Childs Place

The Society supported the Borough Council's Enforcement Order for the removal of alterations to the elevation without planning consent. A letter was sent to the Department of the Environment.

Red Routes in London

A letter was sent to the department of Environment questioning the Red Routes proposals stating that in London they appeared to be a piecemeal attempt to ease London's traffic. The Society opposed Fulham Road and Holland Park Avenue and Notting Hill being part of the Red Route Scheme.

St Mary Abbots Church

A Festival was held on July 3rd, 4th and 5th to celebrate the 120th anniversary of the present church. The Society gave a donation towards the flower decorations. See page 38.

23-25 Kensington High Street

The Society was asked by Councillor Moylan for support to save houses from demolition. Letter sent to Director of Planning.

Access Roads Earls Court Exhibition Centre

Mr Macnair, a member of the Society and Chairman of the Boltons Associations represented the Society and The Boltons Association at a meeting arranged by Earls Court Olympia to discuss two new access roads for Earls Court Exhibition Centre. The Executive Committee considered that the slip road would give limited benefit.

Channel Tunnel European Parcel Depot—Russell Road

The Society strongly opposed the planning application for the proposed English terminal for the Channel Tunnel trains carrying parcels and air cargo.

The proposed building is two storeys high and 400 metres long, the whole length of Russell Road, the building is intended to house a complete twenty coach train. Russell Road area is residential. The Society considers that the proposed depot should be sited further out of London to avoid unnecessary traffic in London, and in particular through Kensington.

Ladbroke Hall Development

An outline planning application concerns a large site in Barlby Road, the proposal is made on behalf of the Temple Pembridge Road. A letter was sent to the Council stating that in principle the proposal

seemed acceptable. A model of the proposed building can be seen at the Town Hall in the Planning Information room.

130/133 Cromwell Road

A planning application for change of use of 2nd, 3rd and 4th floors from self-contained residential accommodation to 'short let' accommodation, opposed by the Society. Planning consent had been refused.

37/39 Hogarth Road, 5-7 Knaresborough Place

Application for demolition and replacement by modern building. The Society opposed the modern building, which was considered very poor design.

181-185 Warwick Road

A planning application has been submitted to the Borough Council by Safeways for a large development covering 2.42 acres, a mainly single storey supermarket building with car parking for 460 cars. The Society has opposed the application.

17/19 Cottesmore Gardens

Application before Borough Council for use of school buildings for adult educational purposes during school holidays. Opposed by the Society and by local Resident Associations.

10 Courtfield Mews

Planning application opposed by the society for additional storey. Planning permission refused. Society supported the Council's refusal at the inquiry.

53 Abingdon Road

Two planning applications were before the Borough Council, one for a Health Centre and one for light industrial use; both plans were refused planning consent. The Society supported the Council's refusal with a letter to the Department of Environment.

Cycle Routes

The Borough Council's proposal to provide a safe cycle route from west to east, a letter has been sent to the Borough Council welcoming this proposal.

Construction of a central reservation opposite the Odeon Cinema site

The society was informed by the Director of Highways and Traffic that this central reservation opposite the Odeon site would require traffic emerging from the residential site to turn left, which he acknowledged would be a disadvantage for vehicles wanting to proceed eastward and

accepted that they would have to use side streets to change direction. This has been strongly opposed by the society.

Local Government Boundary Commission

The Commission's final proposals for the realignment of the boundaries with Kensington and Chelsea have been submitted to the Secretary of State for the Environment. The Borough Council opposed the suggestion put forward by the Westminster City Council for the realignment of Knightsbridge and Belgravia. The society supported the Borough Council opposition with a letter to the Commission. A further suggestion was made by two residents for Pembridge Square and Linden Gardens to change from Kensington to Westminster. The Commission's final statement: no changes are being recommended for Knightsbridge or Pembridge Square and Linden Gardens.

Recommendation has been made by the Commission for an east side of the railway alignment between the River Thames and Little Wormwood Scrubs, with an exception for a diversion to unite the Earls Court Exhibition Centre in Kensington.

The Commission has recommended the Cheltenham Estate to unite in the Kensington realignment and along the centre of the Grand Union Canal. The Borough Council has objected to the Boundary Commission proposal of change for the Royal Borough's boundary with the London Borough of Brent. The Commission considered that the Watford/Euston railway line provided the most suitable boundary for Brent's southern border. This has the effect of transferring from Kensington a substantial triangle of land to the north of Kensal Green Cemetery to Brent.

Allen House, Allen Mansions

The Society supported the Borough Council at the Appeal for refusal of planning consent and planning enforcement on use of 'short term' letting flats in Allen House. Appeal was dismissed.

7 Cromwell Place

The Society supported the Borough Council's refusal of planning consent for change of use of 3rd and 4th floors from residential to office use with letter to Department of Environment.

34 The Boltons

The Society supported The Boltons Association in opposing the planning application for the excavation of a substantial part of the garden and the construction of underground rooms for kitchen and playroom.

15/17 Collingham Gardens

Buildings at risk—consideration deterioration: letter sent to Borough Council urging the Council to use the powers granted to it by the

Town and Country Planning Act 1990,—letter also sent to English Heritage.

27 A. Nevern Square, 1-12 Nevern Mansions

Planning application for multiple occupancy. Nevern Square Residents Association asked for the Society's Support in opposing the plan. Letter sent to Director of Planning Services.

Kensington United Reform Church

Refurbishment of Church. Church has collected £20,000, insufficient money to complete the work. Society wrote to the Borough Council for consideration to be given for a Grant.

351 Kensington High Street

Application before the Council for change of use of basement ground and first floor to restaurant. Council refused planning consent and asked for the Society's support at Appeal. Letter sent to the Department of Environment stating that the change of use would involve loss of residential accommodation.

Stanhope Gardens, 59/79 Cromwell Road

Planning permission was refused for this large development, the society supported the Borough Council at the Inquiry against permission for 11 Grade 2 listed Victorian Terrace houses to be redeveloped for office use. It is quite deplorable that the appeal was allowed. In August 1992 by an advertisement in a Hong Kong paper, the Society was informed that the entire block was up for sale again.

117A/122 Queen's Gate, SW7

Planning permission and listed building consent have been granted for the comprehensive redevelopment of these Grade II listed buildings. Work is expected to commence in the near future.

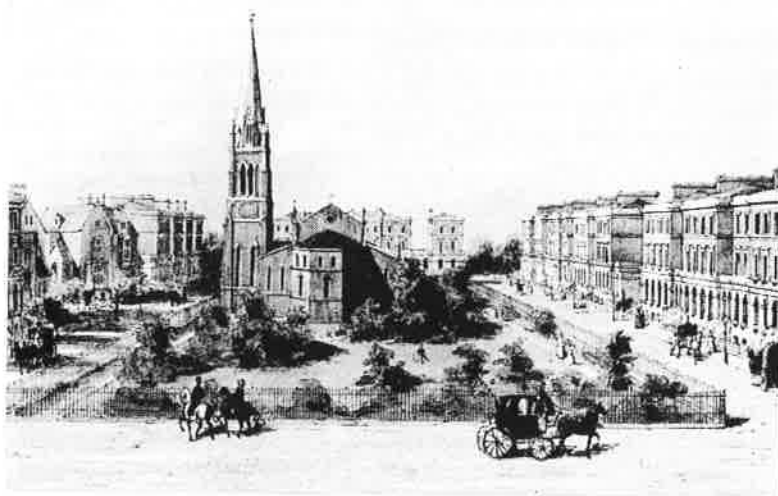
Other cases dealt with

Tudor Court and New York Hotels, extra storey planning consent given; 88 Berkeley Gardens; 69 Harrington Gardens; 9 Emperors Gate; 111 Gloucester Road; 10 Campden Street; 217/239 Cromwell Road; 30 Pembridge Square; 27 Blenheim Crescent; 2 Pembroke Mews; 60-60A Knightsbridge; 132 Holland Road; 65 Marloes Road; 172/174 Brompton Road; 28 Peel Street; 13 Gloucester Road; 156 Cromwell Road; 175/177 Holland Park Road; 27 Palace Gardens Terrace.

SURVEY OF LONDON

KENSINGTON SURVEYED

Kensington is the parish most recently completed by the *Survey of London*, and all four volumes are still in print.



Design for St. James's Gardens, c. 1847, by J. Barnett, from Volume XXXVII Plate 70b.

The *Survey* staff have since completed two smaller projects, Monograph No. 17, *County Hall*, (price £28.00) and *Islington Chapels*, (price £9.95), an account of the non-Anglican churches and places of worship in an important London borough, which demonstrates the breadth and diversity of religious life in London outside the Established Church. The *Survey* team are now at work on volumes on *Poplar and the Isle of Dogs*, *Knightsbridge* and *Hyde Park and Kensington Gardens*.

As a special offer to members of the Kensington Society, all four Kensington volumes are available for a special price of £150 (normal price £235):

- Volume XXXVII, *Northern Kensington* (1973);
- Volume XXXVIII, *Museums Area of Kensington and Westminster* (1975);
- Volume XLI, *Southern Kensington: Brompton* (1983);
- Volume XLII, *Southern Kensington: Kensington Square to Earl's Court* (1986)

Volumes and further information available from the *Survey of London*, Newlands House, 37-40 Berners Street, London W1P 4BP. Telephone: 071-631 5065

Buildings at Risk

English Heritage in 1991 produced a Register of buildings in London at Risk. Sixteen buildings and Groups of buildings were identified by English Heritage as being at risk within the Borough. Five other groups of buildings not on the English Heritage's Register were added to the list by the Borough Council. In April 1992 English Heritage published its revised Register which included eight new additions within the Borough.

The Society is pleased to know that the Council is actively chasing owners of properties which are being left empty or in an unacceptable state of disrepair. Members who know of empty or neglected buildings in Kensington should bring them to the attention of the Buildings at Risk officer at the Town Hall. Telephone 937-5464, Ext 3265.

2-14 Prince of Wales Terrace, SW7

These have been vacant for seven years and the state of the buildings are causing much concern. The society welcome the Compulsory Purchase Order which the Borough Council has agreed to serve on the owners. A Compulsory Purchase Order has also been served on 27/33 Harrington Gardens.

The Borough Council is concerned about five other properties, although they are not as derelict as the properties subject to compulsory purchase order, they are injurious to the Conservation Areas in which they are situated. Accordingly a 'Repairs Notice' specifying the works necessary for their proper preservation has been served on 15, 16 and 17 Collingham Gardens, 60 Brompton Square and 281 Ladbroke Grove.

46/52 Stanhope Gardens

These are four Grade 2 listed buildings which have been vacant for eight years and have been allowed to fall into a state of serious disrepair. Three months have been allowed for compliance of a Repairs notice.

With the publicity given to 'Building at Risk' by English Heritage and the local press, further buildings which are being neglected are as follows:

14/15 Childs Place, SW5

Planning permission was granted for the comprehensive redevelopment of this site. Works partially completed, but now in the hands of the receiver. These buildings lie within the Earls Court Village Conservation Area.

2 Childs Street, SW5

Semi-derelict property now vacant. This building does not lie within a Conservation Area.

37 Chesterton Road/204 Ladbroke Grove, W11

The Buildings are in a derelict state with the rear wall demolished. This building lies within the Oxford Gardens/St Quintins Conservation Area.

14/15 Courtfield Gardens, SW5

These properties have been vacant for many years. These buildings lie within the Courtfield Conservation Area.

150/156 Earls Court Road, SW5

These properties have been semi-derelict for some time. The executors of the estate of the deceased owner have confirmed that they have received a suitable offer for the block and will be selling as soon as practicable. These buildings are being closely monitored by the Environmental Health Department, they do not lie within a Conservation Area.

46/48 Hogarth Road, SW5

Planning permission was granted on 17th March 1992 for the conversion of these properties. It is expected that works will begin this year. These buildings do not lie within a Conservation Area.

7 Holland Street, W8

Building demolished without conservation area consent and the site is vacant and is an eye sore. This site lies within the Kensington Conservation Area.

6 Ladbroke Grove, W11

Planning permission and conservation area consent granted on 1st May 1990. Works begun but were never completed. This building lies within the Ladbroke Conservation Area.

320/322 Ladbroke Grove, W11

Planning permission granted on 24th August 1990 for the redevelopment of these premises. Building has been demolished and site has been neglected for over a year. These buildings do not lie within a Conservation Area.

1A, 2A, 2 Marloes Road, W8

These buildings have been vacant for many years and look unsightly. These buildings do not lie within a Conservation Area.

13/14 Pembroke Mews, W8

Semi-derelict mews properties. These buildings lie within the Edwardes Square/Scarsdale/Abingdon Conservation Area.

280 Portobello Road, W11

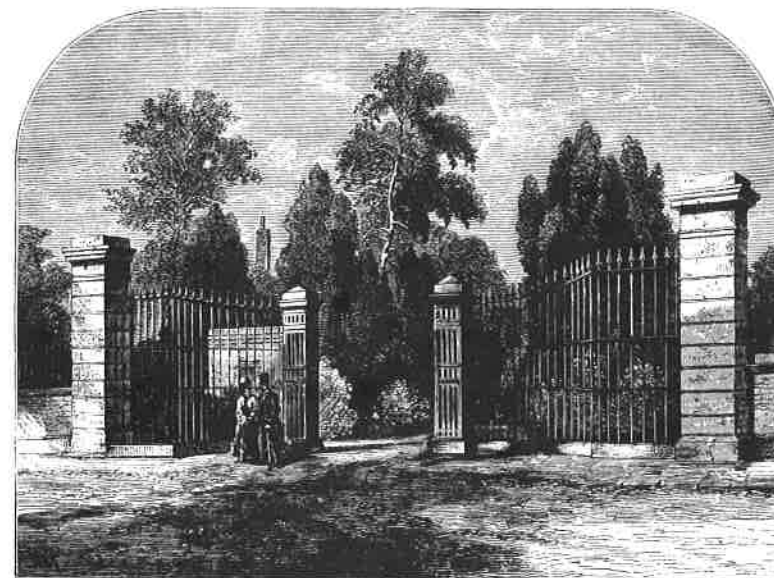
This property was the subject of a report to the Housing Committee on 8th June 1992 by the Director of Environmental Services when it was agreed to institute compulsory purchase proceedings as the building had fallen into a serious state of disrepair. This building does not lie within a Conservation Area.

Gaumont Cinema, 103/111 Notting Hill Gate, W8

This is a Grade II listed building. Although occupied and functioning as a cinema, it has been included in English Heritage's Buildings at Risk Register because of the state of its roof and the problems of water penetration. Meetings have taken place between Officers from the Council, agents for the freeholders are currently working on a schedule of proposed repairs to prevent any further deterioration occurring at this property.

Brompton Cemetery, Old Brompton Road, SW7

The site contains chapels and structures, eleven in total, which are listed Grade II* and Grade II. The cemetery is managed and controlled by the Department of the Environment, who are also responsible for its upkeep. Officers have written to the DoE pointing out that the cemetery has been included in the Buildings at Risk Register by English Heritage.



Entrance to Brompton Cemetery, 1865

Conference About the Royal Parks 1st October 1992

A very interesting conference was mounted on 1st October 1992 by the Garden History Society ('GHS') in association with the National Association of Decorative and Fine Arts Societies ('NADFAS') on the subject of 'The History of the London Royal Parks'. It was held in the Hall of the Royal Pharmaceutical Society in Lambeth and was attended by representatives of many London amenity societies including the Kensington Society.

The Conference was chaired by Dr Keith Goodway of GHS, and was opened by Dame Jennifer Jenkins, Chairman of the Review Group currently examining the administration of the Royal Parks and whose report on Kensington Gardens and Hyde Park has already been published. She mentioned a number of the recommendations of the report (some of which have already been implemented) and said she was very pleased with its reception, both at official level and among the general public, save only on the controversial topic of dogs.

Dame Jennifer stressed that the main use of the parks should be for walking; pedestrian access should be improved and traffic discouraged; there must be no more 'nibbling away' of land for roads, buildings or permanent enclosures. Some areas, such as Marble Arch and the North Carriage Drive, should be pedestrianised and brought back into the park. Major Pavarotti-type events need not be wholly excluded but should be very rare—say 2 in 5 years. Smaller events however were part of the function of the park and should continue.

Mrs Mavis Batey, President of GHS, traced the history of the Royal Parks from Henry VIII to George IV. Dr Ann Saunders of the London Topographical Society gave a fascinating talk on Regents Park (on which she has written a book); and we also enjoyed contributions by Roger White, Architectural Historian, on buildings in the parks and David Jacques, English Heritage Gardens Inspector, on the garden of Hampton Court. The final talk was by Richard Flimley of Land Use Consultants, who carried out the survey of Kensington Gardens and Hyde Park, which preceded Dame Jennifer's Review. He spoke about trees, with special reference to the restoration of the losses which occurred in the great gale of 1987 (although surprisingly they only amounted to 8 per cent of the stock) and the replanting of the 'great bow' which originally embraced the Round Pond.

The first and last items of the programme were those of most interest to the Kensington Society, and were encouraging, but as the Chairman observed in his summing up, everything depends upon the willingness of the Government to provide adequate funding for the recommended programmes.

Philip English

Obituaries

JAMES LIDDELL-SIMPSON

James Liddell Simpson who died in May in his eighty-fifth year was a citizen of London all his life. Born in Marylebone and subsequently educated at Harrow and Cambridge, he was the only son of James Simpson the well known Victorian waterworks engineer. The firm moving in due course from Chelsea to Newark and eventually becoming Worthington Simpson.

James, however, was not destined for the family firm and made a life long career in the city in the discount market and mainly after the war with Clive Discount. During the war James served in the RAF.

James had a life long interest in the arts and just prior to the war met the now famous New Zealand country house painter Felix Kelly. James, among others, was in many ways the main promoter of Felix after the war and prior to moving to Kensington in 1968 he had a lovely house in Wilton Place and many of the features were painted by Felix Kelly. Much of James' collection came with him to Kensington, where it was subsequently added to in his beautiful flat, again organised by Felix Kelly, and on his death the bulk of the collection has now moved to his nephew in Northumberland.

Apart from a life long interest in houses and architecture, and there was hardly a famous house which James had not visited, he was also a life long supporter of the Feathers Clubs and in particular the Seventh Feathers. He ended up as President of the Feathers Association.

James never married but remained throughout his life enormously generous to his many friends and far flung relations.

Sir Michael Blake BT

SHEILA FORSYTH MARSHALL

Sheila, who died on the 15th September, had a remarkable gift for making friends, and whether at work, on holiday or in hospital, her circle ever grew wider. She was also the lynch pin of her family and her flat in Coleherne Court had many visitors of all ages.

Her interests were wide and she greatly enjoyed her expeditions with the Kensington Society and her holidays abroad.

Born in Camberley in 1916, she spent most of her life in London, training as a secretary, with shorthand both in French and German. During the war she was with MI5, first at Blenheim Palace, though later she used to bicycle to work at Wormwood Scrubs.

She was then living at the United Societies Club, No. 22, Harrington Gardens and later became its very popular and efficient secretary,

always with time to spare helping young girls find their feet in the big city.

During this time her hips were becoming increasingly painful and soon after she moved to Coleherne Court in 1958 she had one of the first hip replacement operations in the London Hospital by Sir Osmond Clarke. The second hip was done the following year, but because the new operation was considered too risky to repeat, was pinned solid.

Sheila was no ordinary person. She suffered a lifetime of pain which she met with courage and fortitude and her lack of mobility must have been the cause of endless frustration, yet she never complained and always had a laugh close at hand.

J. Cooper

JOANNA RAVENSCROFT, MRS SPICER, CBE (1906–1992)

Joanna Spicer went to St Paul's Girls School and read History at Somerville. She lived in Kensington Square and was a member of the Society for some years. Her husband died in 1956 and her son read the first lesson at her Memorial Service at St James's Church, Piccadilly.

I had the educative experience of sitting at her feet for ten years at her weekly conferences as Head of Programme Planning in BBC Television. She always gave a masterful performance, and one could sympathise with that Venetian waiter who figures in a reminiscence from her former colleague Leonard Miall: he recalls the waiter being 'reprimanded so imperiously' in her fluent Italian 'that he scurried away, profusely apologising, "Si Contessa, si Contessa".'

For the Overseas and particularly the European side of broadcasting was of key importance to her. She had transferred to the BBC from corresponding work in the Treasury in 1941—first as Empire Service Programme Planner—and latterly played a large part in the evolution of Eurovision and of satellite programme operations.

It has been thought that she created a record for a BBC administrator by serving until the age of 67, and indeed she soldiered on after retirement in international consultancy with undiminished energy. All this was clearly inevitable, since Sir Paul Fox, a sometime Managing Director of BBC Television, quoted from the report on her first interview during his tribute at the Service. She was described as 'extremely attractive, poised, good style, excellent gloves and shoes', and when she left he could well sum up: 'she was invariably elegant, invariably courteous and almost invariably right'.

Arthur Farrand Radley

IRENE SCOULoudi

Irene Scouloudi, a generous member of the Kensington Society since its foundation in 1953, devoted practically all her life to the study of the Huguenots, especially those who came to England in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries.

She was the youngest child of Francois Scouloudi, A French citizen

of Greek ancestry, who later took British nationality. Irene grew up in Notting Hill and was educated mainly privately at home. She went to the LSE to read history, where her interest in the Huguenots was developed. Her master's degree in 1936 was awarded for a thesis on the 'Stranger' community in late sixteenth-century London. The following year she read a paper on the subject to the Huguenot Society and so began an association which remained until she was 80.

After war work in Guildhall, reorganising the badly damaged library stock after the Blitz, she assisted W. N. Medlicott with his books on the history of the second world war. But her study of the Strangers in sixteenth and seventeenth century England then became her chief concern. In 1951, after ten years on the Council of the Huguenot Society, she was appointed its secretary and editor, the first woman to occupy the posts.

She endowed, in 1962, a charitable trust known as the Twenty-Seven Foundation which gives to a wide range of national charities including the Kensington Society.

G.C.

LT. COL. MONTAGU CLEEVE

Montagu Cleeve was a remarkable man who managed to combine a successful career as an Army Officer, a gun designer and as a professional musician.

He was born in 1894, the son of an Officer in the Royal Engineers, his mother was a brilliant pianist and talented painter.

During the first world war he had a Commission in the Royal Artillery, he helped to design the 14" ex-naval gun known as Boche-Buster. At the same time he managed to keep up with his music. He had his piano shipped to many outposts of the Empire and in 1933 gave the first ever violin recital to be sent over the air from Radio Delhi.

During the second world war he was stationed in Hong Kong, but was recalled by Winston Churchill to organise the resuscitation of the heavy artillery guns. He was fortunate in finding the original Boche-Buster from the 1914–1918 war and when it was reassembled at Dover, the order to fire was given personally by King George VI.

In 1946 Monty Cleeve retired from the Army and devoted himself to music as a full time profession. He will be best remembered for reviving interest in the viola d'amore, which was first heard in Britain in 1761. From then onwards, he devoted his energies to this instrument and in 1965 formed the Viola d'Amore Society and gave concerts, including a concert in 1967 for the Kensington Society.

M.C.

English Heritage

The Society has been much concerned about the proposed changes in the role of English Heritage. The following statement was sent to English Heritage, with copies to the Kensington Borough Council, Chelsea Society, the Committee for the Future of London's Architectural Heritage, The London Society and Save Britain's Heritage.

CHANGES IN THE ROLE OF ENGLISH HERITAGE

On 26th October 1992 English Heritage published proposals for changes in their role in Greater London in the 1990's, and subsequently invited comments on these proposals. Our response is as follows:

1. **Withdrawal from powers of direction in respect of Grade II listed buildings or their settings.** In Kensington and Chelsea there are about 4,000 listed buildings of which only about 100 are Grade I or II*. Conservation of Grade II buildings is therefore of very great importance in conserving the architectural heritage in the Borough.

Withdrawal from powers of direction must inevitably weaken the quality and degree of conservation, and thereby cause irrecoverable damage to this heritage. It just is not tenable to argue that the skills and experience of English Heritage officers, backed by the advice given by the eminent members of the London Advisory Committee, can be replicated in the Borough.

In the face of current (and foreseeable) financial stringency and ever increasing demand for expenditure on social services, vocational training and other community needs, it is inconceivable that the Borough Council will give priority to enhancing its capability to control alterations or partial demolition of listed buildings and their settings. In so far as the proposals represent a re-allocation of English Heritage's budget within that body, it does not appear that any additional finance will be made available to the Borough either by English Heritage or by Government because it is unlikely to be considered a Borough with 'particular difficulties'. Even if additional finance were to be made available, it is unlikely to be either adequate or permanent. Nor is finance the only factor: the expertise of the senior officers of the London Division of English Heritage and of the members of the London Advisory Committee cannot be replicated within each London Borough. Moreover, within the Borough's Planning Department, the advice of a conservation officer is always at risk of being over-ridden by the Director of Planning in favour of some other planning objective. 'Privatisation' would not achieve disinterested and consistent control.

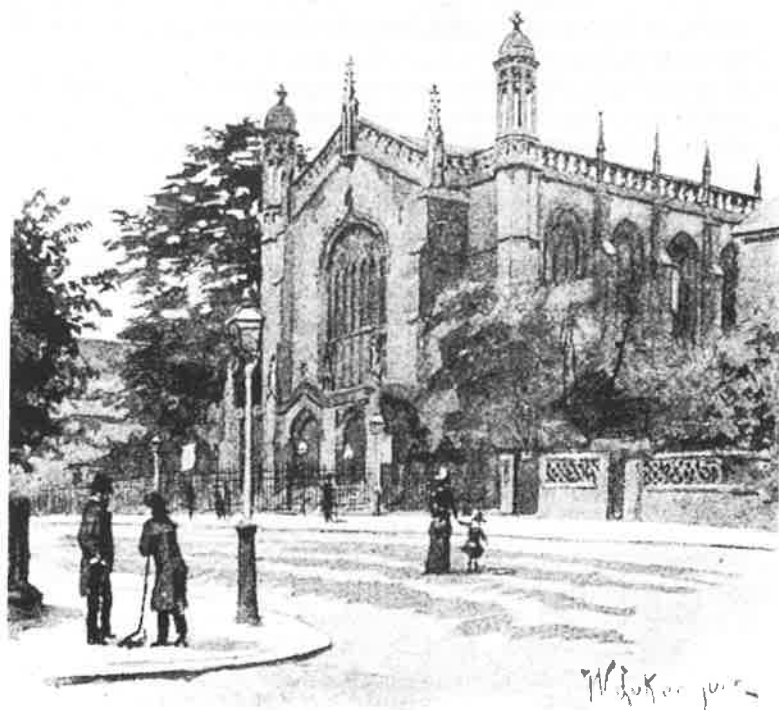
We therefore **oppose** these proposals.

2. Withdrawal of consultation and advice on planning applications in conservation areas (other than demolitions). The greater part of the Borough is comprised of conservation areas, the conservation or enhancement of which is of prime importance in preserving the character of the built environment. For the same reasons as stated above in relation to listed building control, we **oppose** this proposal.
3. It is wishful thinking to suppose (reference para 2.3 of the consultation paper) that the proposals will result in a greater awareness of the value of conservation to 'permeate the thinking of planning departments and committees'. As a result of existing procedures, this awareness already exists in general terms and the Borough Council has devoted much thought and effective action in general terms in relation to the designation of and formulation of policies for, conservation areas; but this needs to be supplemented by expert advice on detail, backed by extensive historical research, neither of which are likely to be available to the Borough under the proposals now made.
4. It is equally wishful thinking to suppose (reference 3.2 of the consultation paper) that a particular director under s 15(4) will afford any safeguard. Because of the administrative procedures required, it would very seldom, if ever, be used in a particular case; and difficulties of definition and a desire to limit the consequences in administrative teams would preclude it in relation to particular types of application.
5. If nonetheless and in our opinion, regrettably, the proposals are carried into effect we make the following observations on points of detail: (the references being to paragraphs in the consultation paper)
 - (1) Para 3.5 of the consultation paper: we favour the maximum available involvement by English Heritage in conservation areas and therefore support the proposal for notification of applications for total or substantial (90%) demolition, provided that this would indeed include façade retention schemes.
 - (2) We support the proposal to implement the proposals in each Borough only when its conservation resources are adequate (para 3.7) and suggest that the proposals for a 'baseline' (para 4.1) should be adopted for this purpose and not only for the purpose of assessing a need for support.
 - (3) Para 4.3: We emphasise that it will be of prime importance to ensure that the head of the conservation staff ranks sufficiently high in the hierarchy of the Planning Department, and also that the level of staffing is subject to annual review by English Heritage. There must be some 'sanction' to ensure that the appropriate staffing is maintained year by year in the future.
6. The foregoing observations have been made with particular reference to the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea, as befits our role as the principal conservation society in Kensington. However, we and our members are also concerned with the wider scene in

Greater London as a whole. We are concerned that the Management of London's 'Three Historic Houses' remains in the hands of English Heritage. We are concerned that in those Boroughs which have particularly limited resources, the standard of control at present exercised by English Heritage should be maintained. We fear that these objectives may not be achieved under the proposals now being made, to the detriment of London's amenity and London's economy. London's historic assets are irreplaceable and should not be made the object of experimental managements and control.

7. We support the demand made by the Committee for the Future of London's Architectural Heritage that the Secretary of State should set up an inquiry into the future of conservation in London.

As we go to press we are glad to learn that due to the strength of the opposition to the Chairman of English Heritage's controversial proposals, the Department of National Heritage will issue a consultation paper on the whole issue of protection of conservation areas and listed buildings prior to revising its policy early in 1993.



St. Barnabas' Church

Other Activities and Future Arrangements

Visits were made in 1992 to Trinity House; Ismaili Centre, Cromwell Gardens; English Heritage Stone Carvers Studio; Chelsea Physic Gardens; Chiswick House; London University Botanic Gardens; Shulbrede Priory; The Wellington, Master Mariners; The London Library; The Royal College of Surgeons; Institute of Directors; The Royal Society of British Sculptors.

FUTURE ARRANGEMENTS

April 14th 1993, 2.30 pm

The Foreign and Commonwealth Office, King Charles Street, SW1.
The Grade I listed building known as the Old Public Offices, occupy the four sides of a rectangle bounded by St James's Park, Downing Street, Whitehall and King Charles Street, now occupy the Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

These buildings by Wyatt and Gilbert Scott were threatened with destruction in the 60s. They were restored 1980-1987. The tour will be guided by Miss Kate Crowe and will include the Matthew Digby Wyatts Dunbar Court, a magnificent glazed atrium in Renaissance style. The tour lasts 1½ hours. Members only. Security is very strict and a list of names and addresses are required two weeks before the visit. Tickets required £2.

May 19th 1993, 4-6.30 pm

BBC Television Centre, Wood Lane, W12

A visit has been arranged which will include a film, a tour of the studios, tea, and an opportunity to see the 6 o'clock news going out. Tickets required £5. Charge by BBC.

* Meet at main reception 4.00 pm Trains to White City Station opposite Television Centre.

May 11th 1993, 6.30 pm

The Annual General Meeting will be held at the Maria Assumpta Centre, 23 Kensington Square.

Chairman: John Drummond, C.B.E.

Speaker: Mr Jocelyn Stevens - Chairman of English Heritage.

June 9th 1993

Following a number of requests, yet another visit to **Swanton Water Mill, Mersham, Kent**. Three acre garden, teas provided. Coach ticket £12.

* Coach leaves Kensington Square at 1.00 pm

July 8th 1993, 2.30 pm

The National Sound Archives, 29 Exhibition Road, SW7

Mr Benet Beronzi, Curator of Artefacts, has kindly agreed to give a talk and demonstration about the early collection of records, wax disks, and phonographs housed in this fine turn of the century house. The National Sound Archives is part of the London Library.

Please meet 29 Exhibition Road, Park end of Exhibition Road. Small charge £2 is made + £2 admission charge. Total £4.

July 15th 1993, Stratfield Saye, Berkshire

Rebuilt in the reign of Charles I the house has been the home of the Duke of Wellington since it was presented to the Great Duke in 1817. Teas available. Coach leaves Kensington Square at 1.00 pm Entrance and coach £15.

September 8th 1993, The Vyne, Sherborne St John

An important early 16 century house with classic portico added 1654 National Trust Building. Teas available. Coach leaves Kensington Square at 1.00 p.m. Entrance and coach £15. National Trust members £2 less.

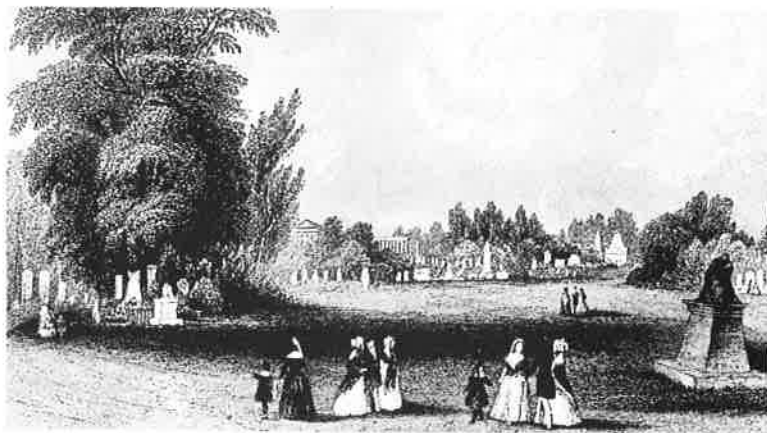
September 29th 1993, 2.30 pm

The Wellcome Institute for the History of Medicine

Mr Robin Price, Deputy Librarian and Curator of the American collection has kindly agreed to conduct members through the different departments of the Wellcome Institute.

*Meet 183 Euston Road, NW1. Arrangements made for teas. £3.

In cases where the numbers do not cover the cost of coach and entrance, the visits will have to be cancelled—the fee paid returned and notice will be given two weeks before the date of visit.



Kensall Green Cemetery, about 1845

Environment Awards 1992

The Kensington Society is always represented on the panel of assessors for the Borough's annual environment awards. These awards are important because they indicate the Council's concern for a high standard of design in the built environment. Awards are given for different categories of design; for commercial development; for new buildings of any type; for restoration and conversion; and for general environmental improvement. There is also a special award for access for disabled people, and a member of Kensington Access for Disability advised on this award. The other members of the panel of assessors were the Deputy chairman of the Planning Committee, the Director of Planning and Conservation and her nominee, and representatives of the Chelsea and Kensington Societies.

Anyone can nominate a scheme, completed in the last 12 months, for an award. Drawings and photos must be submitted showing the 'before' and 'after' state of the building or site, and clearly showing the relationship of the new work to its context. Having studied these drawings and photos, the assessors go round the Borough in a minibus to look at all the nominated buildings and to discuss them on the site. This is a fascinating experience, reminding one of the wide variety of buildings and environment in the Borough—from the river in the south to the canal in the north.

This year there were 40 schemes submitted. Some of them could fit into more than one of the design categories. There were variations in size and character; in the commercial section ranging from the enormous new shopping centre above Gloucester Road station, which did not get an award, to the small office block in Lancaster Road which did; in the new buildings general section, ranging from a pseudo-Palladian villa in Chelsea to a block of flats for the elderly in north Kensington, which got an award; in the general environmental improvement section, ranging from the rehabilitation of Albert Bridge and Sloane Square both of which got an award, to rehabilitation of the spaces round Peabody flats in north Kensington which was commended. These wide divergences of size and character made the assessment task much more difficult, but in the final discussions there was general agreement on the awards.

Perhaps the biggest disappointments were in the new buildings, which generally reflected the lack of direction in current architectural design. On the other hand there was a rather unscholarly resort to historical style in scale and detail, and on the other hand the use of trendy 'post-modern' design gimmicks, and sometimes a fearful attempt to combine the two! The award went to a small office building which seemed to have some design integrity.

Relationship to context was an aspect which was so often neglected or disregarded. For example, the enormous scheme over Gloucester

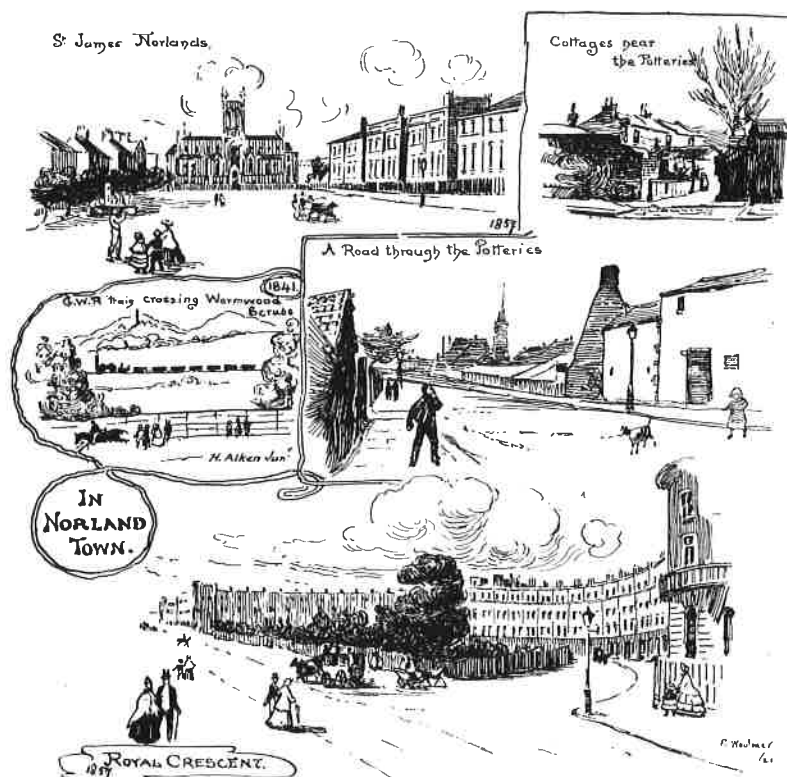
Road station seems to pay little regard to the 'grain' of the surrounding area, being dominated by the line of the railway below, and certainly makes a poor contribution to the Cromwell Road frontage.

Attention to detail is so important in restoration, and in a number of cases the overall effect was spoilt by neglected detail. A magnificent example of meticulous restoration and an award winner was St Lukes Church, Chelsea—one of the Borough's 'landmark' buildings. A small building in north Kensington showed how much could be done by a bold use of colour in an appropriate context—this was commended.

Access for the disabled always presents design problems. Changes of level and flights of steps can be attractive design features, but they are anathema to anyone in a wheelchair. The combination of steps and ramps is a difficult design problem, and the awards given in this category were certainly well-earned.

Altogether, this annual overview of design in the built environment is a salutary check on standards in the Borough, and hopefully the awards are an encouragement to improvement.

Robert Meadows



Early views in Norland Town
Drawing by Miss Woolmer

Nicholas Freeman Memorial Trust

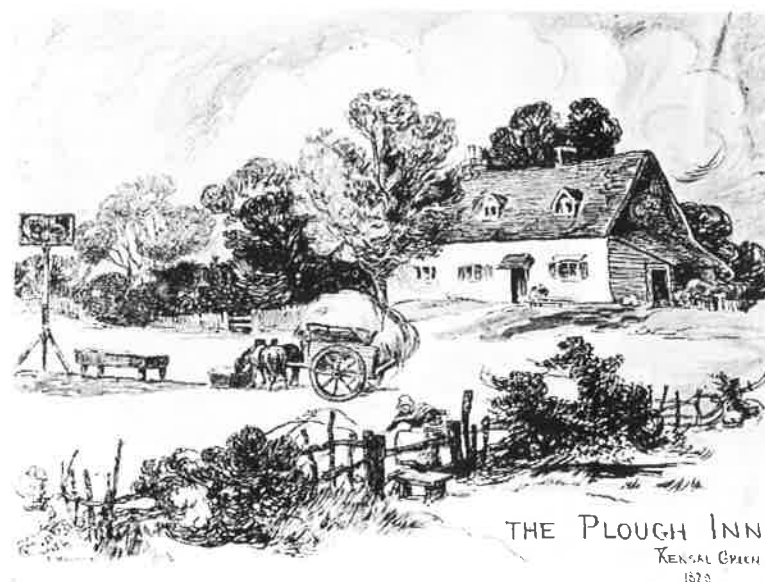
We are now providing personal alarms, locks and telephones to people in the Royal Borough who are in need but fail to qualify for help from statutory sources.

If applications continue at the present rate it will be difficult for us to meet this need. Please support our work if you can.

For more information please contact:

**Mrs ELIZABETH BIRD, Appeal Director, N.F.M.T.,
19-27 YOUNG STREET, W8 5EH.**

Tel: 071 937 8045



The Plough Inn, Kensall Green, 1820



St. Marys Church, West Brompton, Middlesex

FROM 'THE BUILDER' of 1849

Saturday, June 16, 1849

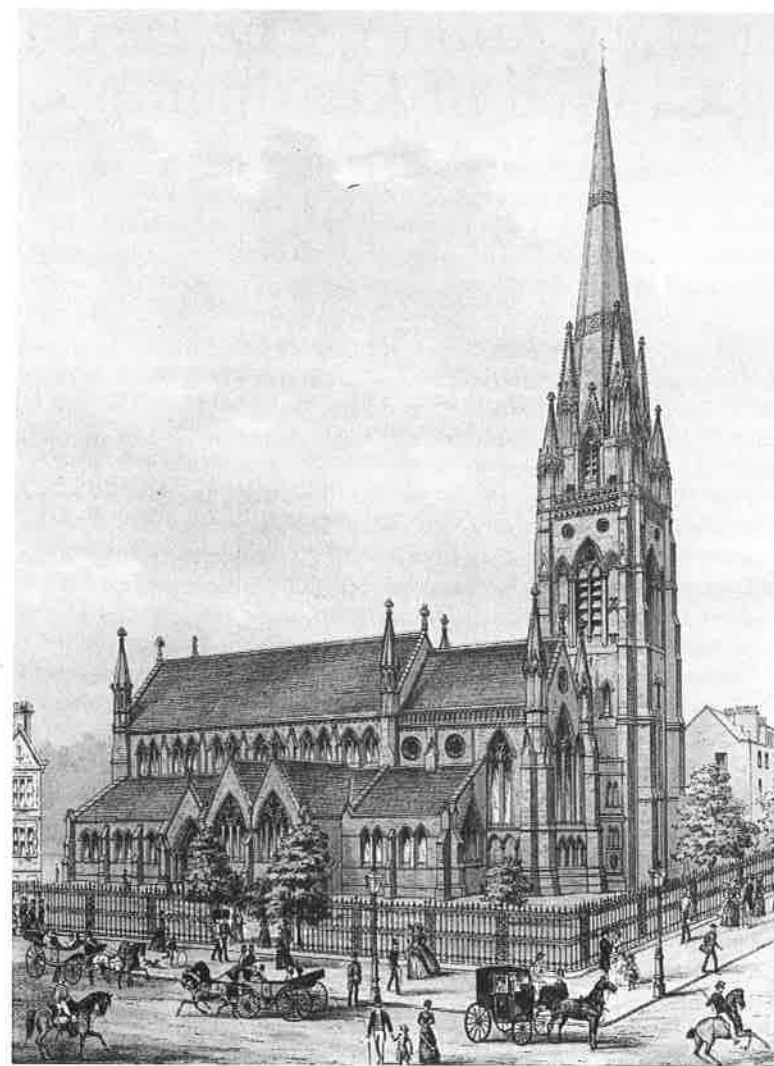
ST. MARY'S, WEST BROMPTON. Additional church accommodation being required for the western portion of Brompton, in Middlesex, the incumbent, the Rev W. J. Irons, B.D., took steps to obtain it. Mr Gunter, a wealthy and liberal proprietor, of the neighbourhood, generously presented a plot of land for the site of a new building, situated between the Fulham-road and Earles Court-road; and an energetic coadjutor being found in the Rev Hogarth J. Swale, plans were prepared by Mr G. Godwin, architect, and being approved of by the Lord Bishop of London and the Church Commissioners, are about to be carried out forthwith . . .

The following tenders were sent in for the execution of the work:

Carter and Ellis	£3,297
Glenn	£3,251
Haward and Nixon	£3,240
J. Barr	£3,096

Considering that each builder took out his own quantities, their close approximation is somewhat remarkable.

The estimated additional cost of Caen stone for the dressings in lieu of Bath stone varied from 130*l.* to 100*l.*



*St. Mary Abbots Church, 1879
in the year of the dedication of the spire*

St Mary Abbots, The Parish Church of Kensington 120th Anniversary 1872-1992

At the junction of the High Street and Church Street there has been a Kensington Parish Church since Norman times. The Church, built in 1670, was found two hundred years later to be in a serious state of dilapidation and also inadequate for the demands of Kensington's growing population.

The Vicar, Archdeacon John Sinclair, undertook the much-needed rebuilding and fund-raising. He called for 'the house that is to be builded for the Lord', it must be 'exceeding magnificent'. To the design of George Gilbert Scott RA (later Sir George), contracts were awarded to Dove Brothers of Islington. The Victorian gothic style was considered appropriate to the 'degree of dignity and position of the parish'.

The Archdeacon was in the forefront of the church-building movement in West London, indeed in the thirty-three years of his incumbency, twenty-one churches were built, starting with St John's Notting Hill in 1845, through to St Luke's, South Kensington in 1873.

Visitors to St Mary Abbots note its cathedral-like proportions. The exterior boasts exuberant Early English geometrical design. Indeed, there are eight spirelets on the tower where the spire rises to a height of 278 feet (84 metres) making it the tallest in London. In the tower the clock strikes the hours but it has no face and therefore no hands. Inside, the plain barrel-vaulted roof replaced the original wooden rib-vault destroyed during the air raids of March 1944. This is 72 feet above the nave. Many of the 250 memorial tablets on the walls and in the cloisters have been taken from the earlier churches. The earliest of these dates from the days of Cromwell's Commonwealth. The pulpit was a gift from King William III and Queen Mary II soon after they moved into Kensington Palace.

Today, the two daughter churches of the parish are Christ Church, Victoria Road, dedicated 1851 and St George's, Campden Hill, built in 1864 in the grounds of Wycombe House. Beside St Mary Abbots is our primary school attended by 200 pupils, ages 4 to 11 years, and representing over 25 countries. Further up Kensington Church Street in Vicarage Gate, large and small church halls form a parish centre, built 1968, offer modern facilities for private meetings.

The 120th Anniversary of the first consecration of the Church—14th May 1872—has been marked in June and July this year. The art exhibition in the Church Hall and events in the Church have resulted in

financial contributions to church maintenance expenses. With text by a small team from the congregation, an anniversary colour history and guide by Pitkin Publication is on sale in the Church. An extended lunch-time concert was given by students of the Royal College of Music with the choir of St Mary Abbots School. Floral displays and greenery depicted the year's festivals and sacraments, and assistance with these was provided by the Royal Borough parks contractors, the staff of Marks and Spencer, the pupils and staff of St Mary Abbots School and students of the Kensington and Chelsea Adult Education Class. The donation from the Kensington Society met the expenses of the 'Dedication Sunday' display.

The Church's archivists and the Royal Borough's Local Studies Librarian put together a display illustrating 'The Makings of St Mary Abbots Church 1869-1872' and 'St Mary Abbots in the Blitz March 1944'. For the latter, the display quoted from Doctor Pasmore's eye-witness account as in the Kensington Society's Annual Paper 1990-91.

In its most recent History and Guide produced by Pitkins which is both historical and contemporary, the Vicar, the Reverend Ian L. Robson, extends a welcome to visitors:

'Early in its history, the Abbots of Abingdon sent monks to be Vicars of the Church in Kensington—hence St. Mary (of the) Abbots. This Holy place is evidence of God's Grace and the faithful witness of priests and people.

The architecture and memorials point to the Divine Source and successive churches on this site have been special places of Worship, Teaching and Healing. Here is no museum, but a living church whose members receive spiritual renewal.

Surrounded by thronging commercial life, in faith it looks towards the twenty-first century. Each day our commitment to the Eucharist takes seriously our Lord's command, 'Do this in remembrance of Me'.

St Mary Abbots is open daily for prayer and in today's rapid social change our ministry extends to a multicultural community. The parish aims are to grow; to worship and prayer: in personal relationships at home and at work: in theological understanding.

Welcome to this Parish Church named after Mary, the Mother of God. May you grow in Grace and Peace through the knowledge of Jesus Christ.'

A. Carr-Gomm

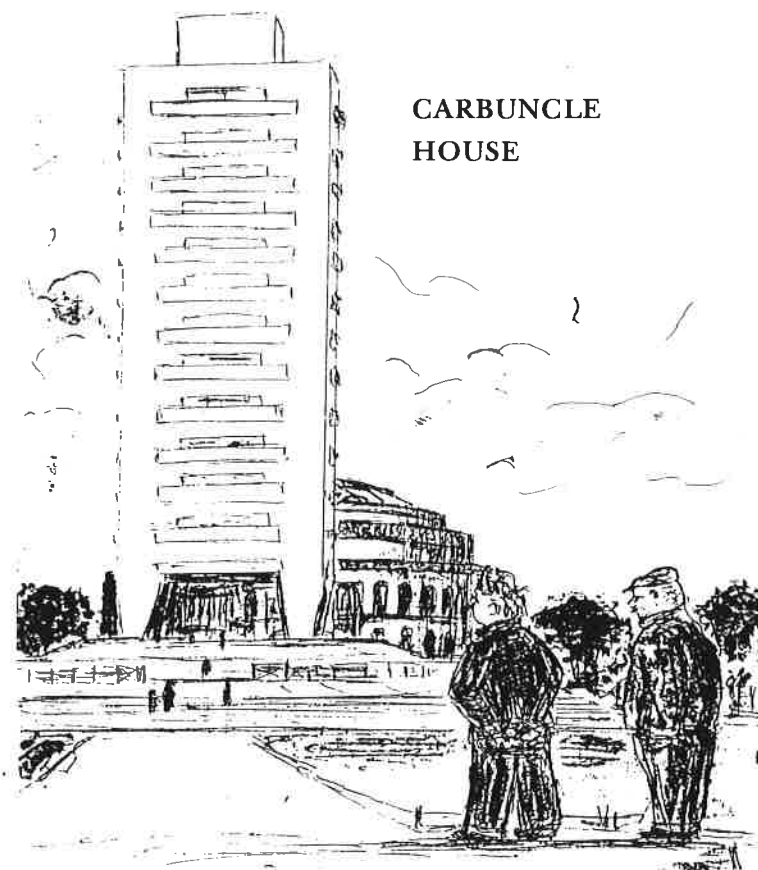
Mr Alfred Le Riche

A Jerseyman who lived most of his life in London, Mr Le Riche joined the Society in 1953 and made a valuable contribution to its work—particularly by his skill as an artist.

In 1958 his drawing of a proposed multi-storey building at the corner of the High Street and Kensington Church Street, showing how it would dominate St. Mary Abbots Church, helped the Society in its successful campaign to veto the scheme.

In 1989, when a proposal was made to pull down the Albert Memorial, Mr Le Riche made a drawing of the suggested replacement, which he described as a 'carbuncle' on the landscape.

R.N.



Cool! What a smashin' job Bert!

Henry Smith A Kensington Benefactor

The Church of All Saints, Wandsworth Plain, although largely rebuilt in 1780, retains not only much of its eighteenth century character, but several features from its predecessor. Notable among these is one commemorating Henry Smith, sometime 'gentleman and citizen of London' who died on the third day of January 1627, aged seventy. The precise location of his burial is not indicated but it cannot have been far from the handsome monument which was soon to be set against the internal face of the north wall of All Saints. It took the form of a niche between Ionic columns within which the be-robed and bearded figure of Smith, holding a skull in his hands, kneels before a priedieu. Above him is a heraldic achievement while below is a framed tablet recording the virtues and principal benefactions of this estimable character who, although he had died at his house in Silver Street in the City of London, expressed a wish to be buried in Wandsworth because it was 'the parish of his nativity'.

Although Smith began life in Surrey, and was to spend most of his adult years in the City of London, he took considerable pride in having descended from Thomas Smith of Campden in Gloucestershire, a wealthy landowner who for some time served as Page of the Chamber to Henry VIII, and whose tomb in Chipping Campden Church displays the heraldic device of a fess between three saltires which the later Henry Smith was to take as his own, and which surmounts his monument in All Saints. Apart from these clues as to his forebears, little is known of Henry's immediate family other than that he had a sister called Joane who married a Mr Jackson but predeceased her brother, leaving two sons and a 'Kinswoman'—probably a cousin—Mrs Price.

Henry Smith was born during the month of May 1548, and, although there is no record of his childhood or education, his family must have been reasonably well endowed. Early in his career he was involved in City business, becoming a member of the Salters Company and eventually an Alderman for the Ward of Farringdon Without. From 1611 until the end of his life, he resided in Silver Street which then ran from Falcon Square to Aldermanbury and was said to contain 'divers fayre houses', although most were later destroyed in the Great Fire of 1666.

Smith was said to have been married but his wife's name was not recorded, and she is presumed to have predeceased him by many years since she was not mentioned in his will or in the inscription on his tomb; neither was any reference made to the couple having had children.

Although part of Henry's wealth would have been inherited, it must



Henry Smith - All Saints Church, Wandsworth

have been considerably augmented by shrewd investment which enabled him from about 1590 to acquire numerous country estates, not only in the Home Counties and Sussex, but as far apart as Lancashire, Durham and Staffordshire. In 1595 he purchased the Sussex manors of Southwick and Eastbrook from Lord Howard of Effingham, and some time later that of Longney in Gloucestershire was bought as were those of Sevenoaks, Kemsing and Seal in Kent, which were acquired from Lord Dorset for £10,000.

With the ultimate possession of so much property, it was inevitable that Henry Smith, having reached his seventies, and with no close relatives, found the eventual disposal of his belongings to be an increasing problem. In October 1620 he contemplated forming a trust comprising seven nominees to supervise the distribution of his assets, but on reflection—and having reason to doubt the integrity of one or two—he dismissed the idea in favour of a 'Deed of Uses' which, with some amendments, was eventually adopted. This presumably having set his mind at rest, Smith finally made a will which was completed 'on or about ye 28 of September 1626'.

Only three more months of earthly existence remained to him and on the third of January Smith died in his Silver Street house. His will was proved on the twenty third of that month and his remains were then taken to Wandsworth where, two weeks later, they were given a permanent resting place in All Saints Church.

Dorothy Stroud

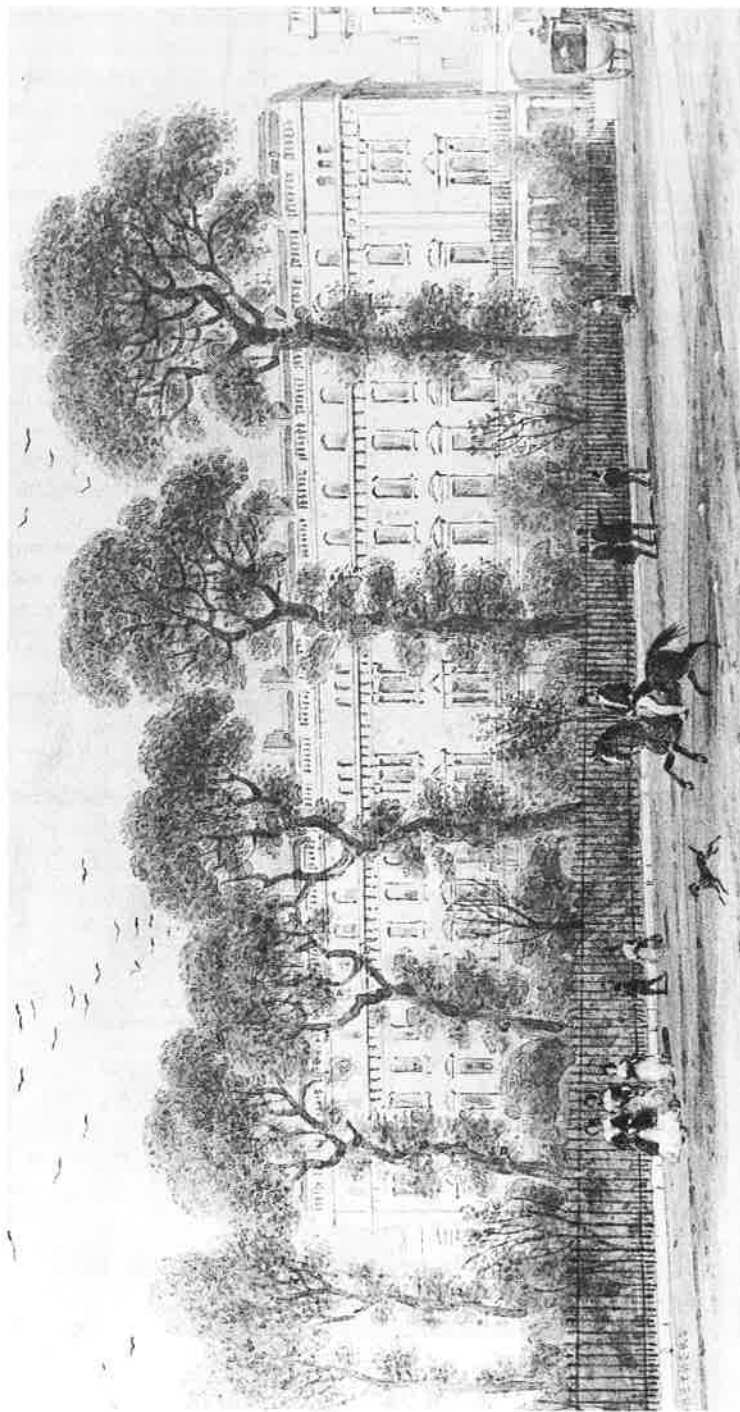
RECORDS OF KENSINGTON SQUARE

by

ARTHUR PONSONBY
(Lord Ponsonby of Shulbrede)

PRICE £3

Obtainable 18 Kensington Square W8



East side Onslow Square 1852

T Hosmer Shepherd

Forty Years On

Twelve pages in the 1977-78 Annual Report were devoted to the work of 25 years of the Kensington Society; 1993 marks forty years on.

1978—Proposals by the Trustees of the British Museum (Natural History) for the demolition of three rear display galleries and the erection of a new six-storey block were strongly opposed by the Society. Objections were also made by the Greater London Council's Historic Buildings Board, by the Kensington and Chelsea Borough Council and the Victorian Society. An Inquiry was held, at which the society was represented.

1978 was an important year for the Society. It was the year the Society fought the wholly unacceptable plan for the demolition of listed houses in Kensington Palace Gardens and a plan for the development by the Russian Embassy of the Barracks site, Kensington Church Street.

The Society arranged a Public Meeting which was attended by 1500 residents. This eventually won a notable victory in finally persuading the Foreign Office and the Department of the Environment that listed houses should not be demolished and that the Barracks site should not be developed by the Russians.

An application before the Council in 1983 proposed the erection of a five storey shop and office block facing Kensington Church Street and a seven storey pent house block with a community sports centre. The Scheme was opposed by the Kensington Society and by the West London Architectural Society, planning permission was eventually refused.

The death of Geoffrey Dearburgh and Edward Seeley in 1979 were a very great loss to the Society; they were both barristers and had served the Society well. Geoffrey appeared for the Society at the Layfield Panel of Inquiry on the Greater London Development Plan; Edward played an important role in the Society's ultimately successful representations to the Greater London Council, opposing the sale of the Orangery, Holland Park. They both served the Society as Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Executive Committee.

Lord Balfour of Inchrye, President of the Society retired at the Annual Meeting, 1979. Lord Balfour had graciously presided over the fortunes of the Society since the death of Lord Hurcomb; he had officiated on a number of occasions when Her Royal Highness Princess Alice, Countess of Athlone, had been present at the Society's functions. Alec Clifton-Taylor, CBE, FSA, Hon FRIBA, followed Lord Balfour as President.

Her Royal Highness Princess Alice, Countess of Athlone, started the tree-planting year by planting a Jubilee oak tree in Kensington High Street at the bottom of Kensington Palace Road; the tree survives but looks rather sad; a tablet appears on the wall at the entrance to Kensington Palace Road.

Later that year, Her Royal Highness planted a *Davidia involucrata* in Kensington Square Garden, in honour of the Honorary Secretary. The Society gave trees to the following Square Gardens: Ladbroke Square, Thurloe Square, Earls Court Square and Lexham Gardens. Six cherry trees were given to the Borough Council for planting in Ledbury Road, a silver birch for Wilsham Street, Notting Hill; ten trees to Holland Park, including two American scarlet oaks, four copper beech, one *Acer Crimson King*, two *Acer drummondii* and one *Cedar Deodara*.

In 1980 we suffered the sad loss of our Patron, HRH Princess Alice, Countess of Athlone. Her Royal Highness was the last survivor of Queen Victoria's thirty seven grand-daughters. She was the only daughter of Prince Leopold (the youngest son of Queen Victoria) and Princess Helen of Waldeck-Pyrmont. She was born at Windsor Castle on February 25th 1883. She was married in St George's Chapel, Windsor, to Prince Alexander of Teck, brother of Queen Mary. For years Her Royal Highness attended the Society's Annual Sale at 18 Kensington Square and for many years she used the Society's Christmas Card.

In March 1981, an avenue of trees was planted in Kensington Gardens in memory of Her Royal Highness, the first tree being planted by HRH the Duke of Gloucester.

His Royal Highness graciously consented to follow HRH Princess Alice, Countess of Athlone, as Patron of the Society. The President, Alec Clifton-Taylor, in his foreword to the 1981-1982 Annual Report, said that the Society had been greatly honoured by HRH the Duke of Gloucester's acceptance of Patronage of the Society. As an architect, with an interest in old buildings, and living in the Royal Borough, the Society was indeed fortunate in having His Royal Highness's patronage.

During 1981 and 1982 many meetings took place between the Society and Councillor Freeman, Leader of the Council, the Town Clerk and the Surveyor of the Council to discuss the formation of a Memorial Garden to HRH Princess Alice, Countess of Athlone. The suggestion of a garden in the half empty pool was at first viewed with horror. The Society, however, had helpful meetings with Robert Martin FRIBA, Consultant Architect to the Council. Mr Martin made the following report: 'The centrepiece of Sir Basil Spence's design for the Kensington Town Hall is the raised Council Chamber on four large columns in the main courtyard facing the Central Library, designed by Vincent Harris. Below the Chamber was built an octagonal, slightly raised, decorative pool; this feature has not proved a success; it has been plagued with minor leaks into the public car park below. The area of the pool is very large and occupies a most prominent position. The outer rim of the pool would, I think, be suitable for a memorial garden. Whilst the location is very prominent and sunny it is nevertheless also slightly overshadowed in its interior by the Council Chamber above. However with careful choice of planting, first class top soil and drainage I think the result could be extremely successful.' Mr Martin's statement eventually resulted in the Council agreeing to the pool being planted and the

garden being called Princess Alice Memorial Garden. The Society was informed that full responsibility and maintenance would fall on the Society. A garden plan was drawn up by Fred Nutbeam, who for many years was the Buckingham Palace Gardener. Care was taken to choose plants likely to survive under the prevailing conditions, soil was transported from Bagshot. The Society appealed for funds through The Times and The Telegraph; South Africa and Canada were very generous and £7,000 was collected. Planting went ahead and an irrigation system was installed.

Sometime before Her Royal Highness died, the Hon Secretary was walking with the Princess round her garden at Kensington Palace. The Princess broke a branch from a Myrtle bush in the garden. She said, 'There you are, see what you can do with that. This bush was grown from the spray of myrtle in Queen Victoria's wedding bouquet.' Miss Jane Seabrook, the Princess's gardener, produced cuttings from the branch and the three large myrtles on the front bed of the Town Hall Memorial Garden were grown from those cuttings.

Kensington Town Hall

If the shelving of the National History Museum project was the good thing to happen in the 1982/83 period, quite the worst thing was the manner and time the Old Town Hall was demolished.

For this to have happened on the instructions of the Leader of the Council and one or two Councillors in the early hours of a Saturday morning, was considered quite deplorable. There was much adverse publicity, the GLC was proposing on the Monday to include the Town Hall in Kensington Village Conservation Area.

1984 Lamp Standards

During the year the Society had considerable correspondence with the Borough Council about the retention of the Victorian lamp standards, and the replacement of any requiring to be renewed.

In the late 50s when the lighting was being changed in the Borough, the Society drew up a list of areas where it was considered that the Victorian Standard should be retained. We did not achieve our whole list, for instance Launceston Place was not accepted! The Society was very concerned about the type of standard and lantern the Works Department of the Borough Council were proposing to use, they firmly rejected the suggestions for replacement of the deteriorated lamp by traditional patterns.

1985

The Society suffered a very great loss by the death of our President Alec Clifton-Taylor; it brought to an end a long and happy association with the Society. He joined in 1954, was elected to the Council of the Society in 1964 and President in 1978. During these years he lectured with colourful and beautiful slides many times.

The Times Obituary and Ian Grant's appreciation appear in the 1985-86 Annual Report.

The Society's Annual Reports are bound by the Central Library, Hornton Street, and are available in the Local Collection.

In 1985 the Society was very concerned about litter in the Borough and also the standard of street cleaning. The Society initiated the formation of the Cleaner Royal Borough Group. Mr George Pole was Chairman for a number of years; Mr Jabez-Smith remains the Society's representative of the Group, which in 1993 still have regular meetings.

Kensington Square Conservation Area

The idea of designating certain areas as Conservation Areas was first introduced in the 1967 Civic Amenities Act. The Act placed a duty on local authorities to designate Conservation Areas to protect the best parts of their towns and villages. In 1972 the legislation was strengthened and gave Councils additional powers to prevent demolition of buildings in a Conservation Area.

At the present time the Council has since 1967 designated thirty-four areas. How strange it is that the oldest and one of the historical areas, namely Kensington Square, is still awaiting designation!

A draft Conservation Area Proposal was sent to the Society in 1985, the Society submitted a Report at that time but the proposal was not completed.

However, McCoy Associates, Chartered Town Planners, have now been commissioned to complete the previous statement; the Society has been asked for any further statements to those sent in 1985.

1986

Mr John Drummond who was Director of the Edinburgh International Festival 1978-1983 and controller of Music BBC, consented to follow his friend Alec Clifton-Taylor as President of the Society.

In 1986 the Society was gravely concerned about the recommendations contained in the Report of the Secretary of State for the Environment regarding changes in Town and Country Planning Use Classes Order 1972. This recommendation in the Report ignored the special and differing nature and requirements of local authorities. The Society considered it a blanket approach to planning matters, largely inspired by a free for all. Comments on the Report were sent to the Secretary of State.

Listed building consent was given for the demolition of the Kensington Barracks. The 1985 proposal for the development of the site was reviewed, the height of the residential block was reduced to nine floors and conditional planning consent was given.

1987

This was designated as International Year of the Environment. In the Foreword of the Annual Report the President, John Drummond said,

'Let us make sure in 1987 that vigilance embraces not only buildings and conservation areas, but the whole context in which they exist, let us declare war on litter and pollution in defence of our streets and gardens.' Subscriptions were increased to £10 in 1987.

It was the year of the hurricane when much damage was done to Kensington Gardens.

1988

His Royal Highness the Duke of Gloucester, Patron of the Society, gave a most interesting talk at the Society's Annual General Meeting, printed in full in the 1988 Annual Report.

His Royal Highness, Prince Charles, launched a campaign to replace 5,000 trees lost in the parks. The Society donated £2,000.

His Royal Highness the Duke of Gloucester planted the last tree as part of the 'Great Bow' Scheme for the Society.

Members were indeed shocked in 1988 with the suggestion that the Albert Memorial should be demolished. A report on the structural condition prepared by the Property Service Agency, appeared to be a secret document, the Victorian Society, the Kensington Society and others had tried to obtain a copy of the Report without success. It had been said that to save the Memorial would cost £11 million. However, good sense prevailed and restoration work is taking place.

In 1988 a meeting was convened by the Society in response to Resident Associations request for their views collectively to be brought to the notice of the planning authority.

An invitation was extended to 16 Associations affiliated to the Society to send two representatives, and, to submit before the meeting the points which they particularly wished to be on the Agenda. Mr George Pole chaired the meeting, the Chairman of the Town Planning Committee, Councillor the Hon Simon Orr-Ewing and Mr Sanders, the Director of Planning and Transport, were sent prior to the meeting, a summary of the points to be discussed. As Hon Secretary I consider this meeting to have been one of the most successful to be arranged by the Society in 40 years.

The following letter was received from Councillor Orr-Ewing after the meeting. 'Thank you for arranging the meeting on January 7th. I now attach the copy of the notes I made at the time. These have been circulated to the various officers of the Planning Department, so that they may be aware of residents' concern and take action as appropriate.

Garden Squares hold a very special place in London's heritage, the Royal Borough has 89 Squares and the Council places very great value on all of them. These Garden Squares are of very great value to the Borough and those proposing development must realize that the Councils' Town Planning Committee regards their amenity as sacrosanct'.

St Mary Abbots Hospital

The Society received, from the Borough Council, a draft of proposed guide lines for any development on this 9.1 acre site. The district

Health Authority were considering options for the disposal of St Mary Abbots development. A letter was sent to the Council stating the Society's concerns; that it was not suitable for business, hotel or retail, but that it should be developed as a garden square, and, so began the long saga of the over developed St Mary Abbots Hospital site.

House of Fraser John Barkers

The development here was for Associated Newspapers. The Society was very concerned and opposed the amount of development and enlargement. Residents in Kensington Square could see St Mary Abbots Church spire before the development and enlargement took place. Planning consent was given without reference to the Society.

At the Annual General Meeting of 1989 Lord Montagu, Chairman of English Heritage, said, 'In 1986 English Heritage took over the GLC responsibility for historic buildings in London. At the time I said in the House of Lords how much I welcomed this challenge. As a result of the legislation which abolished the GLC, we inherited the GLC powers of direction in respect of listed buildings. We carried out our responsibilities in London diligently and well; we regard these powers as absolutely essential if London's Architectural Heritage is to be properly protected'.

He said that he was saddened to learn that the Department of Environment had refused to list Brompton Hospital.

On May 3, 1990, Keon Hughes our Honourary Treasurer, a member since 1953 and Treasurer since 1962, died on his way to the Annual General Meeting. He was an active Treasurer. After he moved to Peasmarsh he never missed a Committee Meeting. He has been greatly missed.

We lost, through death, nine members of long standing in 1990.

Lord Ponsonby of Schulbrede, when living at 17 Kensington Square, attended the first meeting of the Society at 18 Kensington Square in May 1953. He remained a staunch helper of the Society, serving on the Society's Council.

1990—Alec Clifton-Taylor's Memorial Garden

At the time consent was given for the development of Macmillan House (site of the Old Town Hall), the Council informed the Society that the developers had agreed for the land at the back of the site to be given partly to the Church School and partly as an open space for the Borough. Three years later the developer applied for consent to build a four storey house. This was strongly opposed by the Church and the Society.

Planning permission was refused and later an appeal was dismissed. The Society continually drew the Council's attention to the unsightly condition of the site.

Mr Philip Burkett a friend of our late President, Alec Clifton-Taylor, asked the Society if there was any area in Kensington where he could plant a rose garden in memory of his friend. This seemed to be the

answer to the derelict site, but it took three years of constant letters to the Council urging a compulsory Purchase Order.

We were delighted, when, in 1991 the garden was completed. Photographs appear in the 1991/92 Annual Report. The Society gave the centre sundial which was the work of Mr Simmons and the memorial plaque was lettered and designed by Philip Murdin, both of the English Heritage Stone Carvers Studio. Philip Burkett was, of course, delighted.

In 1990 an application was made by MacDonald's (fast food chain) to the Council to remove the interior of the Coronet Theatre to enable a fast food restaurant in the basement and ground floor. The Society supported the Borough Councils' appeal for listing the building and opposed the application, as did many local and not so local theatre lovers.

1991

Escalating property values, coupled with the Royal Borough's closeness to central London, led to extensive rebuilding at the expense of the residential character of Kensington. The position was not helped by the Government's easing of the 'Use Classes Order' or by the payments of compensation to developers when planning permission was refused. To reverse this unsatisfactory position, Councillor Gerald Gordon resigned as Chairman of the Borough's Planning Committee, in order to give more time to campaign reform, aiming at restoring the proper balance between the interest of developers and those of the community who must live with the results.

The Society supported the campaign by letter to the Department of the Environment.

1991-1992 saw the privatisation of the Royal Parks, the result concerning Kensington Gardens and Hyde Park has been dealt with in this Report. The Unitary Development Plan has been studied and comments sent to the Borough Council. The Public Inquiry commenced on January 26th, 1993.

And so ends another 15 years reporting the main happenings and work of the Society.

Council Award

The Annual Arnold Hayward Stevenson Award for outstanding service to the Royal Borough has been awarded to Mrs Gay Christiansen, who has acted as Honorary Secretary of the Kensington Society since its foundation in 1953. The presentation was made by the Mayor, Miss Elizabeth Christmas.

R. Newcombe

Kensington Church Street

All good Kensingtonians know, or should know, something of the little street that winds its way from Kensington High Street up to Notting Hill Gate.

Its southern end was first known as Love Lane and then as Church Lane. The name came about when, in the 16th century, sufficient houses existed for it to become the 'lane to the church'. The lane extended as far as Campden Grove. The northern portion was the 'way to Kensington', being little more than a track leading to Church Lane. During the 19th century, and up to 1909, the northern portion was known as Silver Street.

Two large houses; Campden House to the west, and Nottingham House to the east, have in a great measure, influenced the growth of this street.

Seventeenth century Campden House, its owner Sir Baptist Hicks and his heirs, reminds us of the days of James I, Charles I, and Cromwell. Charles II supped here with Lord Campden. As an example of the past life of the street we can picture the arrival of the King, and his passage up Church Lane to Campden House. This same house, when in 1643 it was occupied by Cromwell's 'Committee for Sequestration', suggests his 'ironside' horsemen on their way up Church Lane to the house. Princess Anne, before she became Queen, rented Campden House for a period and lived there with her young son, William Henry, styled Duke of Gloucester.

Church Lane, being so near to the Palace, must have presented a busy and picturesque scene. A constant stream of sedan chairs carrying their occupants up the cobbled street, either to shop in the few shops at the southern end or to take a walk round the Mall at the northern end. The maids of honour, housed in Holland Street, would also have used sedan chairs in their passage to and from the Palace.

In the 17th and 18th centuries Kensington was a country town and the buildings in Church Lane must have presented an attractive appearance. Starting from the main road, on the left stood the old Church, a brick fabric, the churchyard enclosed in iron railings. Facing these stood the stocks and the town pump. There must often have been a merry crowd assembled when some vagabond was sitting with his legs held in the stocks, or women were drawing water. On the corner of the churchyard stood the old Watch House, which seems to have been built, first for the parish watch, and later for the guard who protected the graveyard from the activities of the body snatchers. On the right, starting at the corner was the 'Civet Cat' inn, followed by a dozen or more neat and uniform shops, most of them with signs suspended above the doors. On the left, from the corner of the churchyard to Holland Street (then called Parson's Yard) was a row of residences. William of Orange slept in one of these houses on his arrival in England

for his marriage with Mary. Again, on the right, where the barracks stood, was the 'King's Forcing Ground' or vegetable garden. This extended north to the present York Passage. Next came two large houses (later York and Maitland House). The old Vicarage stood, facing south, across the roadway which now leads to Brunswick Gardens, and a little beyond the Vicarage were some alms houses. On the opposite side of the road, near Campden Grove, was the 'Old George' inn. Local tradition points to the 'Old George' as a hostelry often favoured by Dick Turpin. From this point there was a short and narrow lane running through grass and pasture land to the Gravel Pits village and out into the main Oxford road.

Church Lane kept its rural character right up to the early 19th century. The century was well advanced before the development of the buildings and side streets (which now comprise Kensington Church Street) began to materialise. When the 'sixties were reached all the present streets right and left were in existence.

Up to 1864 a toll bar stood across Silver Street opposite Campden Street.

Queen Victoria, when a Princess and living at the Palace, could frequently be seen riding up Church Lane and Silver Street. J. C. Horsley RA tells us in his 'Reminiscences' that it was a charming sight to see the Princess and her party scampering up Church Lane at a hard gallop, passing the woodland Campden Grove, past old Campden House and its entrance gates, pulling up at the turnpike gate which barred the road.

The 'eighties saw the first omnibus service to pass up and down the street. The 'buses were bright blue in colour, and to help them up the steep hill, an extra horse was harnessed at the church, being taken off when the vehicle reached Sheffield Terrace.

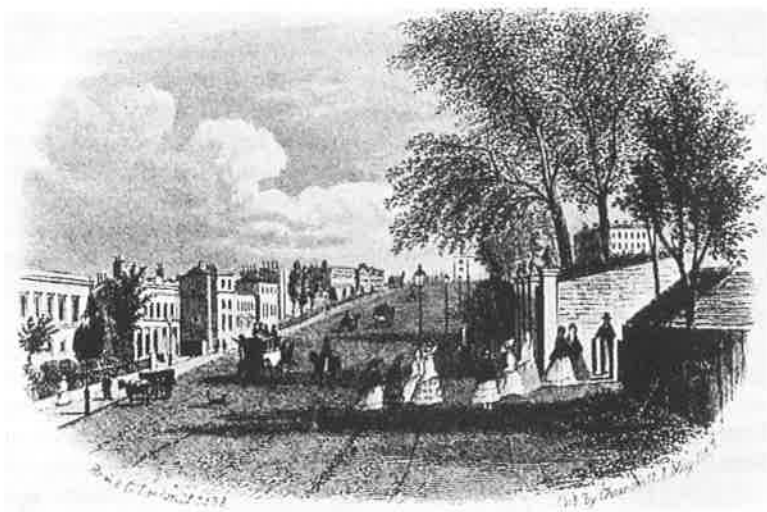
Church Lane was, for centuries, the only north-south track in the locality and is still the principal traffic artery.

C.G.B.

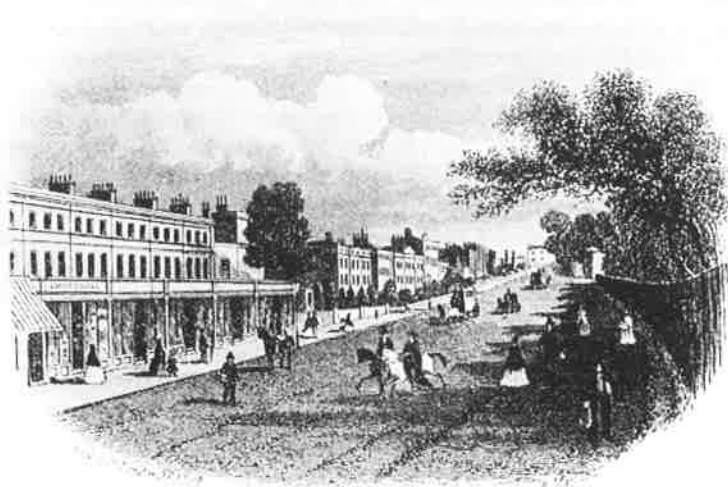
*From St. MARY ABBOTS HOSPITAL
MARLOES ROAD KENSINGTON W8 5LQ
Rev. Bernard Hughes*

The story of the Kensington Workhouses (limited edition) written by Bernard Hughes and graphically illustrated with over 70 illustrations in colour and monochrome
'From Workhouse to Hospital'

Copies available at concessionary price of £5.00 either from St. Mary Abbots Hospital, Marloes Road, W8 5LQ (Monday to Friday 9-5), or by post - extra £2.00 p&p.



High Street, Notting Hill



High Street, Notting Hill

Two pictures from a booklet containing six views, published by Churchill, 1857

Reports from Local Societies

BOLTONS ASSOCIATION 1992

A large number of planning applications have been processed this year with the usual mix of successes and failures. Some of the most difficult cases concerned garages and garden parking. At 23 The Boltons plans were put forward for converting a basement room into a garage with access through a gateway formed by a moveable section of balustraded wall. The applicant's architect took such pains to meet our criticisms that we withdrew our objections, subject to conditions being imposed to ensure the proper maintenance and operation of the gate. The Borough, however, considered that the conditions could not satisfactorily be enforced, and refused the application. This is seen as a valuable precedent.

Enforcement has also been an issue. The Association often has to press for this action, either on unauthorised development or on failure to comply with conditions. Many conditions are hard to enforce and now in principle we oppose applications where conditions are proposed unless we are sure that such conditions can be enforced.

On traffic, there is relief that Fulham Road will not become a Red Route but strong opposition continues to the possible abolition of residents' parking in Redcliffe Gardens should it be made a Red Route and to the designation of Drayton Gardens as a district road.

Chairman: Mr James Macnair, 29 Gilston Road, SW10.

Secretary: Mrs Darcy Biddulph, 3A Gilston Road, SW10.

BROMPTON ASSOCIATION

Two large scale proposals for commercial developments in our area—South Kensington Station and Brompton Cross are dormant, but a third—Clearings—just outside it in Sloane Avenue is going ahead after an Appeal. In concert with Knightsbridge Association we continue to monitor Prudential's Rafael Street Scheme for rebuilding the post war development west of Knightsbridge Green, now approved by Westminster City Council.

McDonalds' duly opened at 177 Brompton Road after a successful Appeal. A subsequent application for restaurant use next door, at 171-175 Brompton Road (formerly the BCCI Bank), was vigorously opposed and, happily, was eventually withdrawn in favour of continued banking use. We are concerned about the erosion of the shopping frontage in Brompton Road and over the unacceptable increase in traffic and litter that would result from an increase in restaurant use, particularly of the fast food type.

We continued to be involved in consultations over the Council's Unitary Development Plan and have commented on several traffic initiatives including plans for the introduction of Red Routes.

We are taking part in the Council's Tree Warden Scheme launched at the end of 1991—the first in an urban area, and we were represented at the Royal Parks Review Conference in March 1992.

The 1992 Annual General Meeting was held in May and the Summer Garden Party in Thurloe Square, held jointly with Thurloe Square Garden Association, in July.

Chairman: Sir Donald Logan

Hon. Secretary: Susan Walker

BRAMHAM BOLTON AND COLLINGHAM RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION—BBC RA

Among the many planning and licensing applications in which the Association has been involved during the year, two stand out. The application by Fullers Brewery to convert the old Midland Bank building in the Earls Court Road into a public house was approved despite huge local opposition—125 individual objections to the Council and 25 letters to the Member. But an application, supported by the Council's officers, to build a new building further along the Earls Court Road to a design entirely out of sympathy with the area was rejected largely as a result of local opposition. Constant vigilance is needed.

The rotting condition of three Grade II starred houses at 15, 16 and 17 Collingham Gardens was brought to the attention of English Heritage and subsequently included by the Council on their Buildings-at-Risk initiative. Repair Notices have been served.

We have collaborated with other neighbourhood associations in the urban programme for improvements to the Earls Court Road and in the welcome initiative by Mrs Hanham in the Earls Court Working Group. Detailed submissions have been made on the Urban Development Plan.

For the many senior citizens living in our area, a party was held in July to celebrate the 90th birthday of our oldest inhabitant and on Boxing Day we held our annual Christmas Party.

Two major fund-raising events were held. The Spring Carnival was in April at the Polish Club in the form of a dance and buffet supper. And at our Fifth Annual Summer Fete in late June nearly a thousand people enjoyed a superb sunny afternoon in Bramham Gardens. Both made substantial contributions to our war-chest which we maintain to fund professional representation and advice where needed.

Chairman: L. A. Holt, 29 Collingham Gardens, London, SW5 0HN.

CORNWALL GARDENS RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

The Association continues to review planning applications and other matters that might have an impact on local residents. This year, however,

has been a fairly quiet one with no new major developments threatening our environment. With memories of the fatal fire at 76 Cornwall Gardens still in our minds, we were concerned to hear of the relocation of the turntable ladder appliance from Kensington to Chelsea Fire Station, but have been reassured by the LFCDA that we should not suffer from this move should an emergency arise. We note that the pedestrian access from Kensington Green to Cornwall Gardens Walk, to which we strongly objected, has now been opened. We are pleased to find, however, that the site management share our concerns over the security implications of this access and are taking appropriate measures to monitor its use.

Chairman: Robin J. Balmer MBE

Secretary: Miss Ursula Overbury

THE EARL'S COURT SQUARE RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

We were sorry, during the year, to lose our association with the Poetry Society, which had been at No. 21 for 30 years, because of their move. Consequently the venue for our AGM became St Cuthbert with St Matthias School, which was founded in 1874. Warwick Road then was simply Warwick Lane and set among fields.

The problems outlined in our last Report to a large extent remain with us; to a degree, they are problems shared throughout the area. We have welcomed the formation of the Earl's Court Working Party by the Leader of the Council to identify and tackle such problems and have taken part fully in its activities.

This broadly based group included among its participants the Earl's Court Exhibition Centre and Earl's Court Station managements. We have seen some immediate advantage in an increased response to the concerns of residents and further benefits, we are sure, will accrue from a number of initiatives which have been set in motion.

The Garden Committee has kept the Garden in excellent order throughout the year, despite numerous trials including the vandalising of equipment. Two hundred tulip bulbs have been planted, also two flowering cherry trees and more berried shrubs. The hanging baskets on the lamp posts have been re-stocked with colour for the winter. A large Christmas tree was purchased for the seasonal celebrations.

In our two 'Newsletters' we included a report on the Earl's Court Working Party and histories of 'Life in Earl's Court Square' and 'The School in the Square'.

Secretary: Mrs May Holt

Chairman: Rodney Brangwyn

KENSINGTON HIGH STREET STUDY GROUP

Three major planning applications during the year could seriously affect traffic in the High Street. For the Odeon Cinema redevelopment—already approved—the Council's proposal for a central reservation

means that vehicles leaving the site would turn left only, and use residential side roads to change direction: a practice against its own policies. The Safeway retail store planned for the Ramesses II site includes car parking for 400 cars, which would be using the already busy one-way system northwards along Warwick Road onto the High Street.

But most disturbing is BR's determination to run two trains a day into a Channel Tunnel cargo and air freight depot to be located in a two-storey building adjacent to, and running the full length of, Russell Road. The building would house a complete 20-carriage train, unloading directly onto a fleet of heavy goods vehicles and vans, which would emerge onto Russell Road. Add the three developments together, and the outlook for the High Street is grim.

Residents increasingly resent the granting of late-night music and dancing licences to local restaurants and cafes. Years ago it was informally agreed that the High Street could belong to the general public up to midnight (or 1.00 am), and strictly to the residents after that. It was a sensible compromise, and should be observed now.

Convenor: Richard Newcombe, 3 Earls Terrace, W8 6LP.

KENSINGTON COURT RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

The problems remain as described last year. We continue to complain of noise outside the Builders Arms and the Richmond College building nearby, and occasional disturbances in the small hours; and of too many motorcycles and too much mess in the otherwise most attractive passage from the High Street into Kensington Court. We worry about empty shops in Thackeray Street.

We think the Council lax in permitting extensions of hours etc. for night clubs—this is not Soho; and in allowing developers to circumvent restrictions.

We agree with the Kensington Society that there should be a ban on further hotel development in the area; and with the Society's firm representations to the planners about the sanctity of private garden squares, which are increasingly costly to maintain. The Council's attitude is flabby on both points.

I repeat last year's message to residents—for effective action to defend our common interests, representations by Associations must be complemented by complaints written by individuals in their own words. The Associations will take the initiative and co-ordinate with others, but more letters from more members would help.

In short, the struggle to keep Kensington a pleasant place to live is unremitting and must continue.

Chairman: Sir Ronald Arculus

THE LADBROKE ASSOCIATION

Two major initiatives were undertaken this year by the outgoing Chairman, Thomas Pakenham, to try and counteract the effect of

'permitted development' in eroding the distinguishing features of our Conservation Area.

On March 19th we had a meeting with the Chairman of the Planning Committee, representatives of the Planning Department headed by Miss Dent, and two representatives from English Heritage with the intention of establishing common objectives to resist such erosion and of exploring effective means of doing so. This meeting has been fully reported in our Newsletter and concentrated on gap-filling, the proliferation of car-ports, the raising of roof lines and the building of large extensions into rear gardens, all of which were illustrated with recent examples. All parties were depressed by the inability of the Council to support the laudable objectives published by them in the Ladbroke Conservation Area Policy Statement following the loss of a number of critical appeals and it was agreed that although the position would be somewhat strengthened once the new Unitary Development Plan had been adopted, what Conservation Areas really needed was more statutory protection.

These issues were also the main focus of the London Conservation Areas Conference on 25th November—an initiative by our outgoing Chairman which had been taken up eagerly by other areas and national bodies. Aply organised under the auspices of the Georgian Group, it had been chaired by Dame Jennifer Jenkins and attended by Robert Key MP, the Under-Secretary of State for National Heritage, who was also among the speakers. This meeting was sold out, with representatives of many London Councils, Planning Departments and Conservation Area Societies. Resolutions were forwarded to the Under-Secretary of State seeking changes in the planning policy guidance notes on Conservation Areas and expressing concern as to the future of English Heritage in Greater London. We have since heard that the Department of National Heritage is to issue a consultation paper on the whole issue of protection of Conservation Areas prior to revising its policy early in 1993.

Apart from these two items of major significance for the future of our area, life goes on as usual.

Chairman: Stephen Enthoven, 15 Ladbroke Square, W11 3NA.

LEXHAM GARDENS RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

The Association has asked the Council to take measures to stop the use of Lexham Gardens by drivers seeking to avoid the traffic lights at the junction of Marloes Road with Cromwell Road. This is creating a safety hazard as well as causing noise and fume pollution. We are pleased with the standard of street cleaning and rubbish collection which has improved dramatically. Finally, we are delighted that our garden won the prize for the best garden square in Kensington and Chelsea. We are proud of our garden and intend to maintain our high standard of care.

Chairman: Sir Cyril Taylor

NORLAND CONSERVATION SOCIETY

This Society was founded in 1969 and one of its first achievements was the closure of Clarendon Cross to discourage rat-running heavy traffic which was trying to find a through route to and from the M1.

This year many members felt that it was inappropriate to designate Holland Park Avenue as part of the new Red Route system and were grateful for our MP and Councillor's support. We hope that, when Kensington and Chelsea has its own parking wardens, the new system will be able to take account of the needs of residents and traders in the area. There will need to be concessions by everyone but shops are an integral and necessary part of our London villages and it is hoped that it will be possible to achieve arrangements that are satisfactory to all parties. The responsible use of cars is essential to maintaining the quality of life within the city and it is our belief that a solution to this problem will be a significant contribution to Conservation.

Chairman: Mrs A. Fenhalls, 15 St James's Gardens, W11 4RE.

ONSLow NEIGHBOURHOOD ASSOCIATION

This has been a very quiet year. As a result of the recession, the major developments proposed on our boundaries have been shelved indefinitely. Also the future of the north block of the Royal Brompton Hospital is linked with the political decision awaited regarding the future of the Royal Brompton and the Royal Marsden Hospitals.

Once again we are indebted to Christies of South Kensington for their provision of the venue for the AGM, and to the Smith Charity Estate for allowing us the use of Onslow Square West for the annual garden party. The latter took place in a steady drizzle, which did not deter a good turnout on a very English occasion.

On a more serious note, our main concerns during the year have been the Unitary Development Plan, the design of the proposed building on the old Meridiana restaurant on the Fulham Road, the recycling of waste and the street numbering of the various terraces in Onslow Gardens.

Chairman: Hugh Brady, 16 Selwood Terrace, London, SW7 3QG.

THE PEMBRIDGE ASSOCIATION

The Association has finally been successful in its campaign to persuade the Council to replace the 'temporary' Portaloo-style public convenience which has for so long been an eyesore at the Portobello end of Westbourne Grove. The Council has seen the wisdom of adopting the design commissioned by the Association from Piers Gough, and the scheme is scheduled for completion in the Spring. The Association is also active in its support of the Pembridge Square Gardens Railings Trust, which is completing the design work for this important project.

The Association has scrutinized the UDP and urged that more emphasis be put on the need to prevent infilling and the closing of

gaps, the demolition of front garden walls (e.g. to provide off-street parking) and to encourage the restoration of missing stucco features as a quid pro quo when considering planning applications.

Some 38 planning applications have been commented on, and a meeting was held at the Town Hall by the Chairman of the Planning Committee and the Chief Planning Officer for the Association's Chairman and Planning Secretary to put their views. The results of the improved enforcement follow-up procedures are still being awaited, especially in Pembridge Gardens where many fluorescent box signs are still in place, and another has just been added. It is also dismaying to see that some recent work on front garden balustrades has been of an entirely inappropriate design; the Council should take swift action in these cases.

Chairman: William Clarke

VICTORIA ROAD AREA RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

The Council lost the St Mary Abbots Hospital appeal, although the Secretary of State specifically excluded from the legal agreement any access from Kelso Place. This vindicated the stance taken by the Association, but the cost and lengths we had to go to defeat a Council-imposed 'requirement' has left its mark. This is regrettable, since we are used to working with and supporting the Council.

By contrast, an example of the Council's responsiveness has been to make the Prince of Wales Terrace 'island block' one of the first properties on the buildings at risk register to be proposed for compulsory purchase. The buildings have been vacant for many years.

The Waitrose site in Gloucester Road, now vacant for 4 years, has changed hands several times in the last few years. Now a French company proposes to develop it for shops, flats and an apartment hotel.

Experience of planning applications and appeals over the years has shown the need for the Council's policies to be tightened up or clarified. We have objected to the UDP. We are also concerned that the Conservation Area Proposals Statement is seldom referred to in reports to the Planning Committee. The effectiveness of the CAPS needs to be reviewed to see to what extent it has been implemented. If it is not, what was the point of producing it?

Chairman: Kenneth Woodward-Fisher
Hon. Secretary: Anne Woodward-Fisher

14 Albert Place, W8



This slender volume will intrigue and inform all interested in fine printing and all who like glimpses of people prominent in the artistic and intellectual society of the time.

By

Geoffrey Culliford

Price £7.50 (plus £1.00 for post and packing)

Obtainable from

**BERNARD STONE
Turret Bookshop
42 Lamb's Conduit Street
WC1W 3LJ**

Statement of Accounts for the year 1992

THE KENSINGTON SOCIETY
BALANCE SHEET
as at 31st December 1992

1991		£	1992	£
	Assets			
	Office equipment at cost			
6	(less depreciation)		3.00	
	Bank Balances—Current A/Cs			
2736	General Fund		1982.40	
1237	Princess Alice Memorial Fund	1501.96	3484.36	
	—Deposit A/Cs			
7602	General Fund	8104.02		
2797	National Savings Bank Inv. Fund	5109.86	13213.88	
14378			16701.24	
(8)	Sundry Liabilities		(28.00)	
14370			16673.24	
	Accumulated Funds & Assets			
11579	Balances at January 1st 1992	13133.84		
	Surplus (Deficit) from Income			
1555	and Expenditure Account)	2062.44		
			15196.28	
13134				
	Princess Alice Memorial Fund			
1310	Balance at January 1st 1992	1236.64		
	Surplus (Deficit) from Income			
(74)	and Expenditure Account	240.32	1476.96	
14370			16673.24	
	RICHARD NEWCOMBE Hon. Treasurer			
	G. CHRISTIANSEN Hon. Secretary			

In accordance with instructions given, the foregoing Accounts have been prepared from the accounting record of the Kensington Society and from information and explanations supplied.

Barclays Bank Plc
Premier Banking Suite
276/280 Kensington High Street
London W8 6NG

A. J. SNELLING
Private Banking Manager
5th January 1993

THE KENSINGTON SOCIETY
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
for the year ended December 31st 1992

1991		£	1992	£
	Income			
3264	Subscriptions		3607.70	
954	Interest Received		814.23	
1124	Receipts from visits		1194.50	
1230	Advertising in Annual Report		1000.00	
1780	Donations		700.00	
0	Income Tax refund		0.00	
8352			7316.43	
	Expenditure			
985	Printing, typing and stationary		445.44	
1021	Postage and telephone		1149.10	
2614	Producing Annual Report		1822.65	
39	Sundry Expenses		10.00	
13	Subscriptions and donations		125.00	
673	Coach visits, etc		909.40	
440	Wren Press		287.88	
70	Meeting expenses and presentations		149.25	
939	Alex Clifton-Taylor Memorial			
	Sale Expenditure			
3	Depreciation		3.00	
0	Unitary Development Plan Expense		352.27	
6797			5253.99	
1555	Surplus (Deficit) to Balance Sheet		2062.44	

THE KENSINGTON SOCIETY
PRINCESS ALICE MEMORIAL FUND
for the year ended December 31st 1992

1991 £		1992 £
	Income	
483	Donations received	1159.00
645	Sale Proceeds	0.00
1128		1159.00
	Expenditure	
	Cost of Memorial Garden	
465	Plants, Fertilisers	489.79
331	Garden Help	270.00
11	Repairs to Irrigation	0.00
115	Sundry Items	143.89
175	Sale Expenditure	
105	Telephone	
0	Donations	15.00
1202		918.68
(74)	Surplus (Deficit) to Balance Sheet.	240.32



AT THE SIGN OF THE

CRABAPPLE TREE

You will discover our *complete* range of
TOILETRIES & COMESTIBLES,
fragrantly made with herbs, flowers or fruits.



Crabtree & Evelyn[®]
L O N D O N

6 KENSINGTON CHURCH STREET, LONDON W8.
134 KINGS ROAD, LONDON SW3.

30 JAMES STREET, COVENT GARDEN, LONDON WC2.

Open Monday to Saturday 9.30-6.00/Thursday 9.30-7.00.

MAIL ORDER AVAILABLE. HAMPERS MADE UP ON REQUEST.
(TELEPHONE 071-937 9335)

THE BLUE CROSS NEEDS YOU



Every year the Blue Cross cares for thousands of animals from kittens to horses.

Many are strays who not only need treatment but a loving home as well.

Others are brought to us for free treatment by owners who just can't afford vet fees.

And they all need you.

For the Blue Cross is a charity and relies solely on donations to survive.

So please help by filling in the coupon.

I enclose a cheque for £10 ☐ £20 ☐ £50 ☐ Other £ _____

I'd like more information on the Blue Cross ☐

Name _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

To: The Blue Cross Animals' Hospital
1 Hugh Street, Victoria, London SW1V 1QQ

BLUE + CROSS

LAUNCESTON PLACE RESTAURANT



071-937 6912

1a LAUNCESTON PLACE, LONDON W8

A contemporary English Restaurant; we are open for lunch and dinner five days a week, for dinner on Saturday and for traditional family Sunday lunch



DIRECTORS: NICHOLAS SMALLWOOD SIMON SLATER

Banham Patent Locks Limited

fit, maintain and service

Locks, Video Entry Systems
Entry Telephone Systems, Intruder Alarms
Close Circuit Televisions, Safes
Central Station Monitoring

Members of NSCIA and affiliate member of MLA

233-235 Kensington High Street
London W8 6SF

071-938 3311

Free advice and surveys

ESTABLISHED IN KENSINGTON 1830

J. H. KENYON LIMITED

FUNERAL DIRECTORS

49 MARLOES ROAD, W8

Telephone: 071-937 0757

83 Westbourne Grove, W2

{ 071-723 3277
071-229 3810

35 Malvern Road, NW6

071-624 7024

138 Freston Road, W10

071-727 1257

74 Rochester Row, SW1

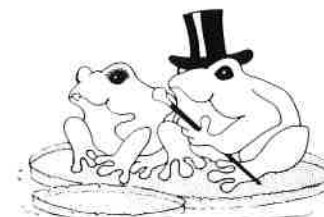
071-834 4624

9 Pond Street, NW3

071-794-3535

6 Woodhouse Road, N12

071-445 1651



FROG HOLLOW

15 Victoria Grove, Kensington, London W8 5RW
Telephone: 071-581 5493 Fax: 071-584 2712

A TREASURE TROVE FOR ALL AGES

PATENTS • TRADEMARKS • DESIGNS

BARON & WARREN

Chartered Patent Agents

18 South End
Kensington W8 5BU

Telephone 071-937 0294 Fax 071-937 4786

MARKS & SPENCER

MARKS & SPENCER

MARKS & SPENCER

MARKS & SPENCER

MARKS & SPENCER

We are proud to support

The Kensington Society.

The Hon Treasurer, The Kensington Society,
c/o 18 Kensington Square, W8 5HH

I wish to become a member of The Kensington Society and I enclose,
herewith, the sum of £ for my annual subscription.

(MR./MRS./MISS/TITLE)

ADDRESS

SIGNATURE

BANKER'S ORDER

TO

BANK

BRANCH

Please immediately pay Barclays Bank Plc, Kensington (20-45-48)
to the credit of The Kensington Society (30549304) my subscription
of £ and continue the same on the 1st January annually
until further notice.

(MR./MRS./MISS/TITLE)

ADDRESS

SIGNATURE

ACCOUNT NO.

DATE

Annual subscribers will simplify the collection of their subscription
if they will fill in the Banker's Order. Cheques should be made payable
to The Kensington Society.

Corporate Membership £25

Annual Subscription £10

Affiliated Societies £10

THE KENSINGTON SOCIETY

I, _____
(Full name)

of _____
(Address)

HEREBY COVENANT with THE KENSINGTON SOCIETY, c/o 18 Kensington Square, W.8, that for a period of years from the 1st day of, 19. . . , or during the residue of my life, whichever shall be shorter, I will pay annually to the said Society from my general fund of taxed income such a sum as after the deduction of income tax at the rate for the time being in force will amount to the net sum of £10.

IN WITNESS whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this day of 19. . . .

Signed, sealed and delivered by the above-named COVENANTOR in the presence of

WITNESS _____	}	SIGNATURE _____
ADDRESS _____		

OCCUPATION _____		

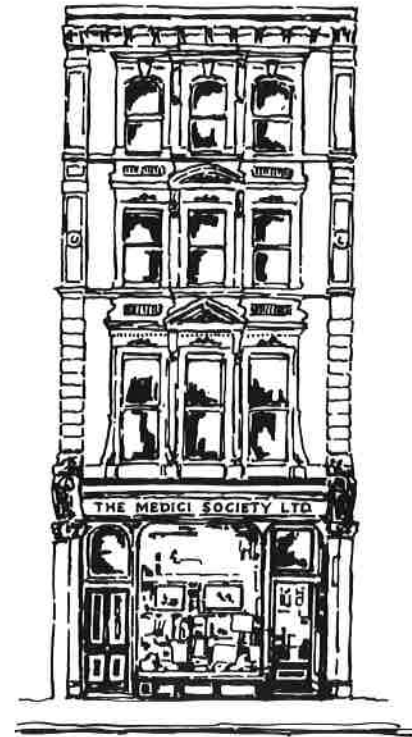
PLEASE NOTE

- 1 The number of years for which the covenant is being made should be inserted in the space provided. This can be for any period from four years upwards or for life.
- 2 The date to be inserted as the beginning of the period should not be earlier than the date on which the covenant is executed.
- 3 Unless your first subscription under the covenant is paid on or after the date when the above period begins, the Society will not be able to reclaim the Income Tax on such payment.
- 4 The document should be returned as soon as possible after completion, in order that it may not be out of date for stamping.

THE MEDICI GALLERIES

26 Thurloe Street, SW7 2LT

071-589 1363, Fax 071-581 9758



Original paintings, limited editions, prints,
greeting cards, books, postcards and gifts.
Specialist framing service available.

Also visit our Mayfair Galleries
at 7 Grafton Street, London W1X 3LA
071-239 5675, Fax 071-495 2997