Blackmore's Grove Conservation Area 39

Designation

Conservation area designated: 07.09.1982

Conservation area extended: 07.11.2005

Location

OS Sheets: 1670

Blackmore's Grove conservation area is located to the south of Teddington centre, grouped around Blackmore's Grove and Field Lane.

History and Development

This group of houses was developed on former agricultural land from the mid 19th century onwards. They form some of the earliest built development in this area. These houses have been associated with the author of Lorna Doone R D Blackmore who owned the now demolished Gomer House to the southwest and the orchards and market gardens to the north. It is believed that the residents of the early houses may have worked on his estate. This group is now surrounded by later development.

Character

Blackmore's Grove conservation area is a small cohesive and historic group of tightly packed two storey terraced cottages and a few detached and semidetached houses. They are set in narrow plots with small front gardens contained by consistent front boundary walls and fences to the tree-lined street. Architecturally the houses are simple in appearance of unpainted brick with timber sliding sash windows and a roofscape of pitched slate roofs either with parapet walls or projecting eaves. By contrast the key building of the Builder's Arms PH is more elaborate in style and decoration, as are the detached houses of no.33 Blackmore's Grove and no.27 Field Lane.

Problems and Pressures

- Loss of traditional architectural features and materials due to unsympathetic alterations
- Loss of front boundary treatments and front gardens for car parking
- Lack of coordination and poor quality of street furniture and flooring
- Domination of traffic and poor pedestrian safety leading to clutter of signage and street furniture

Opportunity for Enhancement

- Preservation, enhancement and reinstatement of architectural quality and unity
- Retain and enhance front boundary treatments and discourage increase in the amount of hard surfacing in front gardens
- Coordination of colour and design and improvement in quality of street furniture and flooring
- Improvement of highways conditions and pedestrian convenience, and rationalisation of existing signage and street furniture

