Photograph

Ref617:



(Click here to return to the ward map)

Asset Details

Address: St Johns Court, Finchley Road

Significance: Architectural and Townscape Significance **Asset Type:**

Building or Group of Buildings Ward:

Swiss Cottage

Description

Early 20th century designed housing block on an island site formerly occupied by two rows of terraced housing. The north eastern half was constructed first, by 1916, and the south western half followed later. It is a monumental structure which displays the strong curves and clean horizontal lines characteristic of buildings of this period. The repetition of elements (balconies, canted bay windows) is striking, and the sheer scale impressive. The consistency of detail, particularly fenestration and bay cladding, is important to maintaining the unified appearance of the whole block. It relates well to other earlier in the nearby vicinity in providing sufficient scale and continuity to edge this main road.

Ref341:



(Click here to return to the ward map)

Address:

Swiss Cottage Park containing water feature and landscaped amphitheatre Significance: Architectural and Townscape Significance

Asset Type: Natural Features or Landscape Ward:

Very innovative example of contemporary park design; Gustafson Porter's water feature provides play opportunities in the thin sheet of water flowing down the sloping granite plane, visual drama with 7 streams of arching water and a performance space when dry; sculptured landscaping creates seating in a natural amphitheatre; it is extremely well used and appreciated by the community and unites the surrounding area which is mixed in character and appearance.



(Click here to return to the ward map)

Address:

Swiss Cottage

Boundary Marker -Boundary Road, North side, east of junction with Finchley Road, in wall Significance: Historical and Townscape

Significance **Asset Type:** Street Feature or other Structures

Ward:

Swiss Cottage

This parish boundary marker is a rectangular stone tablet about 1ft high dated what appears to be 1988, which appears to be inscribed "The Boundary of the Hampstead Parish extends 1ft 8ins South From This Stone'. This marker is one of a network of parish boundary markers that once existed across Camden and beyond, marking the boundaries of civil parishes which were the administrative precursors to the current London borough of Camden.

Civil Parishes are an important part of our social history as they were the administrative bodies with responsibility for carrying out a wide range of civil functions. The functions were presided over by the vicar or rector, and his churchwardens and other officers as required by law, such as constables, watchmen, lamp lighters, scavengers, surveyors of highways, inspectors of nuisances and so on. Eventually entire organizations were established to carry out these duties, latterly including supplying water, gas and electricity (both Hampstead and St Pancras generated their own which was sold to consumers within their parishes). All these developments made it even more important to know where the boundaries were.

The boundary markers themselves add interest to the townscape and the structures upon which they are fixed; they give an understanding of the origins of the present borough and they are an intimate and conspicuous part of its history. Parish boundary marks indicate boundaries often of huge antiquity, hundreds of years old (often even older) and given the extent of the network of markers that once existed the relatively few remaining markers are also significant for their rarity.

Ref501:



(Click here to return to the ward map)

Address:

Post box - Corner of St Edmund's Terrace and **Broxwood Way** Significance:

Architectural, Historical and Townscape Significance

Asset Type: Street Feature or other Structures

Ward:

Swiss Cottage

This is an Elizabeth II pillar box, identified by the ornate lettering cast into the door 'E Il R' which is set below a crown. Following their introduction to Britain in 1852, pillar boxes (letter boxes) have over the years had a variety of different designs, changing in colour, size, shape and features with several attempts being made to establish a 'standard' approach. In 1879 a standard design was introduced taking the form of a cylindrical pillar with a round cap and horizontal aperture under a protruding cap with front opening door and black painted base. Whilst other designs have been trialled since, this distinctive design has stood the test of time. Pillar boxes are an important part of the townscape due to their function but also as they act as local landmark and way finding feature because their iconic design is so recognisable.