

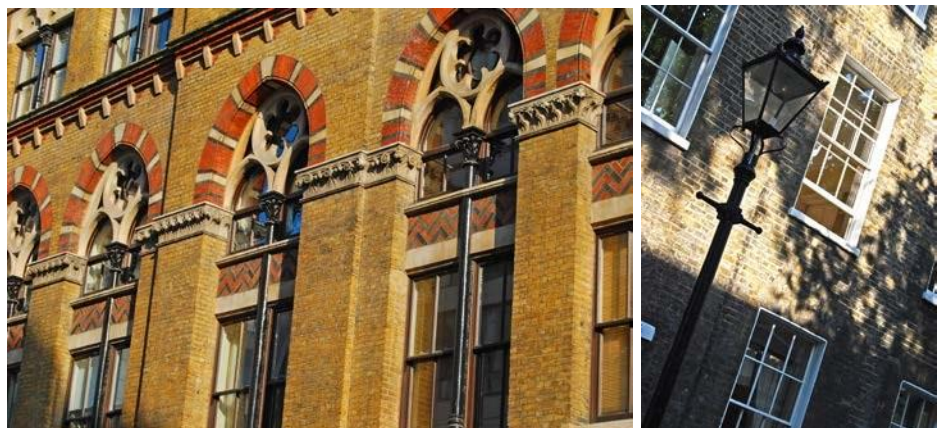
## 3 Heritage

### KEY MESSAGES

Camden has a rich architectural heritage and we have a responsibility to preserve, and where possible, enhance these areas and buildings.

- We will only permit development within conservation areas that preserves and enhances the character and appearance of the area
- Our conservation area statements, appraisals and management plans contain more information on all the conservation areas
- Most works to alter a listed building are likely to require listed building consent
- The significance of 'Non-Designated Heritage Assets' (NDHAs) will be taken into account in decision-making
- Historic buildings can and should address sustainability and accessibility

- 3.1 This section provides guidance on our identified heritage assets (which include conservation areas, listed buildings and registered parks and gardens), including what they are and the implications of their status and designation. This section also sets out details on how historic buildings can address sustainability.
- 3.2 This section sets out further guidance on how we will apply Core Strategy Policy CS14 Promoting high quality places and conserving our heritage and Development Policy DP25 Conserving Camden's Heritage. **When does this apply?**
- 3.3 This guidance applies to all applications which may affect any element of the historic environment and therefore may require planning permission, or conservation area or listed building consent.



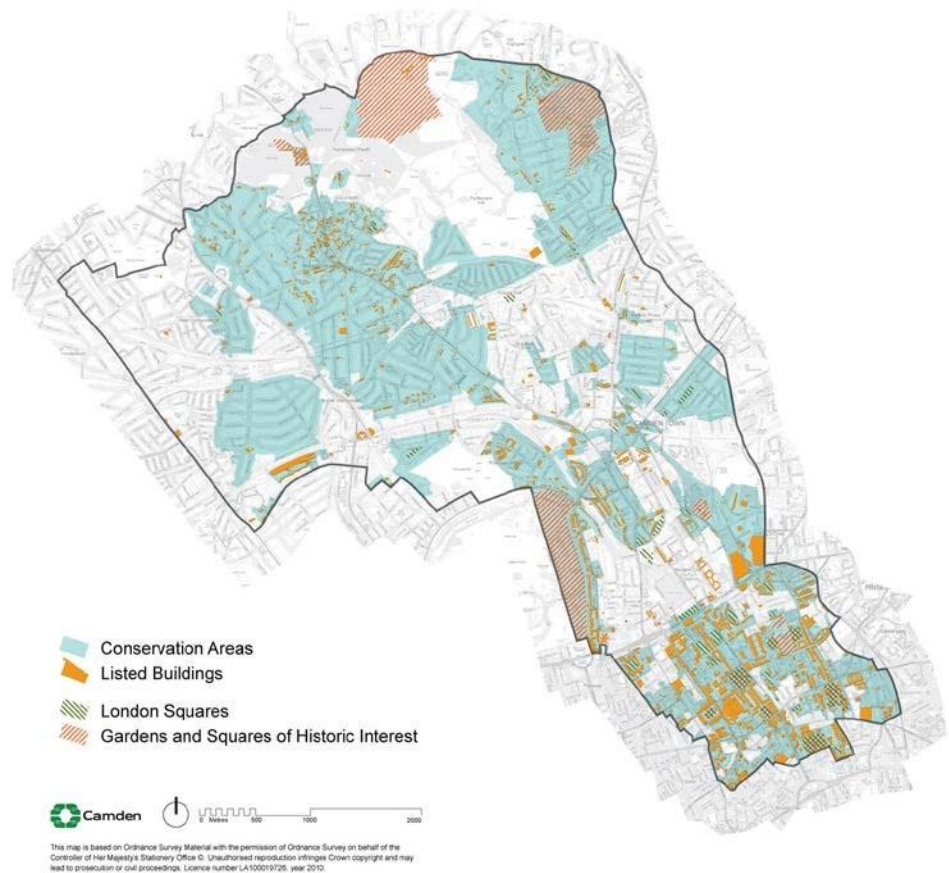
### Conservation Areas

#### What is a conservation area?

- 3.4 A conservation area is defined in the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 as an area of special architectural or historic interest, the

character or appearance of which it is desirable to preserve and, where possible, enhance. PPS5 identifies conservation areas as “heritage assets” and requires that proposals in conservation areas are assessed for their impacts on their historic significance. There are 39 conservation areas in Camden, which vary greatly in appearance, size, character and style and these are identified on the LDF Proposals Map.

Figure 1. Conservation Areas



- 3.5 Conservation area designation is a way to recognise the importance of the quality of an area as a whole, as well as giving some protection to individual buildings within it. Conservation areas are not designated to stop all future development or change but to ensure that change is managed to conserve the historic significance of the area as a whole.
- 3.6 Conservation area designation is shown on the proposals map and further information on heritage is available on the 'Conservation and Design' section of the Council's website [www.camden.gov.uk](http://www.camden.gov.uk) and on English Heritage's website [www.english-heritage.org.uk](http://www.english-heritage.org.uk).

#### Effects of conservation area status

- 3.7 We will only permit development within conservation areas, and development affecting the setting of conservation areas, that preserves and enhances the character and appearance of the area (see Planning Policy Statement 5 (PPS5), policy HE8).
- 3.8 The Council has greater control over building work in conservation areas, including demolition, materials and detailed design. Planning permission may be required for alterations or extensions that would not normally need planning permission elsewhere, such as minor roof

alterations, dormer windows, renewable energy installations or installation of a satellite dish.

#### **Renewable energy technology**

Renewable energy technologies generate energy from natural resources such as sunlight, wind, rain and heat in the ground, which are naturally replenished.

### **Demolition in conservation areas**

- 3.9 Conservation Area Consent is required to demolish or substantially demolish a building over 115 cubic metres or a structure such as a wall over 1 metre high that adjoins a highway, or more than 2 metres high elsewhere. When determining your application we will follow the guidance in PPS5, Core Strategy policy CS14 and Development Policy DP24 as well as that in our conservation area statements, appraisals and management plans (see below). It is an offence to totally or substantially demolish a building or structure in a conservation area without first getting consent from us and we would not normally allow their demolition without substantial justification, in accordance with criteria set out in government guidance PPS5 – Planning for the Historic Environment.

### **Trees**

- 3.10 Planning legislation makes special provision for trees in conservation areas. Prior to pruning or felling a tree in a conservation area you must provide the Council six weeks notice in writing. All trees that contribute to the character and appearance of a conservation area should be retained and protected. For further information on trees, please see Landscape Design and Trees chapter in this CPG.



### **Article 4 directions**

- 3.11 A range of minor changes can be made to buildings without the need to apply for planning permission as these have a general permission through planning legislation. These changes are known as permitted development. However, the character of a conservation area depends on the presence of specific original details and where these are lost the historic interest and attractive character of the area deteriorates.

- 3.12 In these situations we can issue an Article 4 direction through Article 4 of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 1995 (as amended). This removes permitted development rights and means a planning application has to be made for minor works that usually do not need one.
- 3.13 Further information on Article 4 directions, including where they apply in Camden is available on the 'Advice and help with planning applications' section of the Council's website [www.camden.gov.uk](http://www.camden.gov.uk) and English Heritage has published Guidance on making Article 4 Directions, available at [www.english-heritage.org.uk/publications/guidance-onmaking-article-4-directions/](http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/publications/guidance-onmaking-article-4-directions/)

### **Conservation area statements, appraisals and management plans**

- 3.14 We have published a series of conservation area statements, appraisals and management plans that set out our approach to preserving and enhancing the historic significance of each individual conservation area. Many of these conservation area statements are available for download on our website.
- 3.15 Conservation area statements, appraisals and management plans help guide the design of development in conservation areas and we take these into account when assessing planning applications.
- 3.16 Each conservation area statement, appraisal or management plan contains the following:
- A summary of the location and the historical development of an area;
  - A description of its character;
  - An outline of the key issues and development pressures that are currently of concern;
  - The key policy framework for that particular conservation area, and specific guidance for it;
  - An identification of heritage assets and elements of the wider historic environment which give an area its historic significance; and
  - An identification of sites and features that have a negative impact on the conservation area, or where an opportunity exists for enhancement of the area by redevelopment of a building or site.



## Listed Buildings

### What is a listed building?

- 3.17 A listed building is defined in the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 as a structure or building of special architectural or historic interest. These are included on the Statutory List of Buildings of Architectural or Historic Interest managed by English Heritage. Listed buildings are identified as heritage assets within the LDF and the Council is required to assess the impact that proposals to a listed building, or within their setting, may have on the historic significance of the building.
- 3.18 Listed buildings are graded according to their relative importance as either Grade I, Grade II\* or Grade II. Grades I and II\* are considered of outstanding architectural or historic interest and are of particularly great importance to the nation's heritage. The majority of listed buildings (about 94% nationally) are Grade II. However, the statutory controls on alterations apply equally to all listed buildings irrespective of their grade and cover the interior as well as the exterior and any object or structure fixed to or within their curtilage.

#### **Listing description**

The listing description contains details of a listed building's address, history, appearance and significance. These help to identify what it is about the building that gives it its special historic interest.

- 3.19 Further information on listed buildings in Camden is available on our website [www.camden.gov.uk](http://www.camden.gov.uk)

### How can I alter a listed building?

- 3.20 Most works to alter a listed building are likely to require listed building consent and this is assessed on a case by case basis, taking into

account the individual features of a building, its historic significance and the cumulative impact of small alterations. The listing description is not intended to be exhaustive and the absence of any particular feature in the description does not imply that it is not of significance, or that it can be removed or altered without consent. Listed status also extends to any object or structure fixed to the listed building, and any object or structure within its curtilage which forms part of the land. You should contact the Council at the earliest opportunity to discuss proposals and to establish whether listed building consent is required.

- 3.21 Some 'like for like' repairs and maintenance do not require listed building consent. However, where these would involve the removal of historic materials or architectural features, or would have an impact on the special architectural or historic interest of the building, consent will be required. If in doubt applicants should contact the Council for advice.
- 3.22 In assessing applications for listed building consent we have a statutory requirement to have special regard to the desirability of preserving the building or its setting or any features of special architectural or historic interest which it possesses. We will consider the impact of proposals on the historic significance of the building, including its features, such as:
- original and historic materials and architectural features;
  - original layout of rooms;
  - structural integrity; and
  - character and appearance.
- 3.23 We will expect original or historic features to be retained and repairs to be in matching material. Proposals should seek to respond to the special historic and architectural constraints of the listed building, rather than significantly change them.
- 3.24 Applications for listed building consent should be fully justified and should demonstrate how proposals would affect the significance of a listed building and why the works or changes are desirable or necessary. In addition to listed building consent, some proposals may also require planning permission. These applications should be submitted together and will be assessed concurrently.
- 3.25 It is a criminal offence to undertake unauthorised works to a listed building, even if you are not aware the building is listed, and could result in prosecution and fine or imprisonment (or both).
- 3.26 Some works that are required in order to comply with the Building Regulations (e.g. inclusive access, energy efficiency) may have an impact on the historic significance of a listed building and will require listed building consent.

### **Inclusive access to listed buildings**

- 3.27 It is important that everyone should have dignified and easy access to and within historic buildings, regardless of their level of mobility. With sensitive design, listed buildings can be made more accessible, while still preserving and enhancing the character of the building.

- 3.28 Further guidance is available in CPG4 Protecting and improving quality of life (Access for all chapter) and in the English Heritage publication “Easy Access to Historic Buildings” [www.english-heritage.org.uk](http://www.english-heritage.org.uk)



### **Non-Designated Heritage Assets (NDHAs)**

- 3.29 Camden has a high quality historic environment which includes listed buildings, conservation areas, parks and gardens recognised for their important architectural or historic interest and many formal squares protected under the London Squares Preservation Act 1931. The Borough also has many attractive, historic, locally significant buildings and features which contribute to the distinctiveness of local areas, but which are not formally designated. The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) identifies these features as non-designated heritage assets (NDHAs).
- 3.30 Buildings make up the majority of these NDHAs, but street furniture such as civil parish boundary markers, post boxes or cobbles, and historic natural landscape features such as green spaces, gardens and parks can also be considered NDHAs. Often it is the commonplace things around us that give character to an area, but they may be overlooked because of their familiarity. Pubs, shops, places of meeting, places of worship, benches, statues, whether subtle or idiosyncratic, all contribute to the particular character of a place. They add depth of meaning and make a place special for local people, by acting as a visual marker for the local history, traditions, stories and memories that survive into the present day.

### **Identification of NDHAs**

- 3.31 Non-designated heritage assets may either be identified as part of the planning process (e.g. pre-application process) or on Camden’s Local List.



### Camden's Local List

- 3.32 Camden's Local List identifies non-designated heritage assets within the borough, providing information about their architectural, historic, townscape and / or social significance. It acts as a valuable resource to residents, developers and other interested parties alike, helping to ensure that the significance of any asset deemed a non-designated heritage asset is carefully considered by the Council in decision making.
- 3.33 In order to ensure that the identification of non-designated heritage assets is consistent and that their significance is properly considered, the selection criteria, set out below, were developed and adopted in November 2012.

To be considered for inclusion on the Local List nominations should satisfy a minimum of two criteria with at least one of them being either criteria 1 or 2.

**CRITERIA 1 - ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE** this includes assets that;

- a) demonstrate distinctive artistic, craftsmanship, design or landscaping qualities of merit (e.g. form, layout, proportions, materials, decoration);

and/or

- b) are attributed to a locally known, architect, designer, gardener or craftsman and demonstrates quality of design, execution, and innovation.

and/or

- c) exemplify a rare type or function which survives in anything like its original condition and form.

**CRITERIA 2 - HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE** this includes assets that

- a) demonstrate rare evidence of a particular phase or period of the area's history;

and/or

- b) are associated with a locally important historic person, family or group;

and/or

- c) are associated with a notable local historic event or movement. Nominations under this criteria should retain physical attributes which are of key importance to their historical significance.

**CRITERIA 3 - TOWNSCAPE SIGNIFICANCE**

key part in supporting the distinctive character of the neighbourhood either as a landmark, or as a character of the local area promoting collective identity or group identity.

#### **CRITERIA 4 - SOCIAL SIGNIFICANCE**

a) of spiritual significance; includes assets that have cultural, communal, commemorative, symbolic and/or historical significance;

b) are associated with locally distinctive literature, music or film; which have support from and are valued by the community and wider society. Nominations under this criterion should be for assets which are of key importance to their setting.

3.34 The Local List can be accessed online via the Local List webpage [www.camden.gov.uk/localist](http://www.camden.gov.uk/localist)

3.35 The Local List is an evolving document that will develop over time, e.g. as new non-designated heritage assets are identified, or new information requires an existing item on the Local List to be amended. A revised Local List will be published online annually to take account of any necessary amendments, and may also be periodically reviewed and updated.

#### **Implications of being a non-designated heritage asset (NDHA)**

3.36 Unlike proposals that will affect designated assets (such as statutorily Listed Buildings) being identified as a non-designated heritage asset (either identified on the Local List or as part of the planning process) does not automatically affect your permitted development rights.

However if planning permission is required for any proposal that would either directly or indirectly affect the significance of a non-designated heritage asset (either on the Local List or not) then the Council will treat the significance of that asset as a material consideration when determining the application.

**OFFICERS** - will make a balanced judgment having regard to the scale of any harm or loss and the significance of the asset/s affected. They will take account of:

- the desirability of sustaining and enhancing the significance of any non-designated heritage asset/s and putting them to viable uses consistent with their conservation;
- the positive contribution that the conservation of heritage assets can make to sustainable communities including their economic vitality;
- the desirability of new development that affects non-designated heritage assets to preserve and enhance local character and distinctiveness.

**APPLICANTS** - will need to show how the significance of the asset, including any contribution made by their setting, has been taken into consideration in the design of the proposed works. The level of detail required will be proportionate to the

asset/s importance and no more than is sufficient to understand the potential impact of the proposal on the significance of the asset/s affected;

**PLEASE NOTE: There is a presumption in favour of retaining NDHAs which are either identified as part of planning process or on the Local List.**

- 3.37 The use of Article 4 Direction/s to remove specific permitted development rights from buildings/features identified as non-designated heritage assets will be considered where it is deemed necessary and appropriate.

### **Non-designated heritage assets and Conservation Areas**

- 3.38 The identification of NDHAs and the process of local heritage listing aims to focus attention on buildings/features which are considered to be locally significant but whose architectural and historic value is not formally recognised (and therefore do not currently benefit from protection as part of the planning process).
- 3.39 For this reason the focus of Camden's Local List is largely with buildings/features located outside designated conservation areas and does not include buildings that are identified as making a positive contribution to the character of a conservation area. However there may be exceptional circumstances where a building, landscape or feature is located within a conservation area but can still be considered for inclusion on the local list.
- 3.40 For information on conservation areas please refer to the section 3.43.16 in this chapter and our conservation area appraisals which are available on our website.



### **How can historic buildings address sustainability?**

- 3.41 We recognise the role that the historic environment can play in reducing the impact of climate change. For example, reusing existing buildings could avoid the material and energy cost of new development. There are many ways to improve the efficiency and environmental impact of historic buildings, for example improving insulation, draught-proofing and integrating new energy-saving and renewable-energy technologies. We will seek to balance achieving higher

environmental standards with protecting Camden's unique built environment (in accordance with LDF Core Strategy policies CS13 Tackling climate change through promoting higher environmental standards and CS14 Promoting high quality places and conserving our heritage) and PPS5 policy HE.1.

- 3.42 More detailed guidance on how to modify buildings without compromising their significance is contained within CPG3 Sustainability (Energy efficiency: new buildings, Energy efficiency: existing buildings, Renewable energy, Climate change adaptation, Water efficiency, Flooding and Sustainable use of materials). For further information see the links at the end of this chapter.

### Planning obligations relating to heritage assets

- 3.43 Many of the potential impacts of development on historic buildings and in archaeological priority and conservation areas can be covered through design and by conditions on the planning permission, for example the need to carry out surveys or the storage and restoration of artefacts. Some objectives for building and area conservation or archaeology are unlikely to be satisfactorily controlled by a condition or in such cases and where impacts are off-site, or involve a particularly sensitive or complex programme of works, involving phasing, the Council may require implementation of these measures through a Section 106 Agreement.

### Further information

National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)	<p>The Government's national policies on the historic environment are set out in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) Chapter 12, Conserving and enhancing the historic environment – DCLG, 2012 <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/nationalplanning-policy-framework--2">https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/nationalplanning-policy-framework--2</a></li> </ul> <p>If you want guidance implement this national policy, it is provided in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Planning Practice Guidance, guidance category - Conserving and enhancing the historic environment <a href="http://planningguidance.planningportal.gov.uk/blog/guidance/conserving-and-enhancing-the-historic-environment/">http://planningguidance.planningportal.gov.uk/blog/guidance/conserving-and-enhancing-the-historic-environment/</a></li> <li>PPS 5 Practice Guidance for the Historic Environment is still extant whilst the government prepares further guidance in the form of Technical Advice Notes, due out for consultation summer 2014. <a href="http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/professional/advice/governmentplanning-policy/pps-practice-guide/">http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/professional/advice/governmentplanning-policy/pps-practice-guide/</a></li> </ul>
---	--

English Heritage	<p><a href="http://www.englishheritage.org.uk">www.englishheritage.org.uk</a> Guidance on heritage assets:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Guidance on Conservation Area Appraisals, 2006 – English Heritage;</li> <li>• Guidance on Management of Conservation Areas, 2006 – English Heritage;</li> <li>• Climate Change and the Historic Environment (2008); and</li> <li>• Heritage at Risk Register - English Heritage <a href="http://risk.english-heritage.org.uk/2010.aspx">http://risk.english-heritage.org.uk/2010.aspx</a></li> <li>• Good Practice Guide to Local Heritage Listing (2012) <a href="http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/caring/listing/local/local-designations/local-list/">http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/caring/listing/local/local-designations/local-list/</a></li> </ul> <p>Guidance on sustainability measures in heritage buildings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Energy Conservation in Traditional Buildings</li> <li>• Climate Change and the Historic Environment</li> </ul> <p>There is also an online resource dedicated to climate change and the historic environment, available at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="http://www.englishheritage.org.uk/climatechangeandyourhome">www.englishheritage.org.uk/climatechangeandyourhome</a></li> </ul>
Energy Saving Trust	<p><a href="http://www.est.org.uk">www.est.org.uk</a></p>