



GENERAL INFORMATION LEAFLET

# KNIGHTSBRIDGE Conservation Area

# 22



City of Westminster

**DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND CITY DEVELOPMENT  
DEVELOPMENT PLANNING SERVICES MAY 2004**

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**Designation:** Designated in February 1968. Extended in 1978 to include area north and west of Princes Gardens and around Rutland Gardens and Gate.

**Historical Background:** The area is defined by three distinct developments. First, the eastern part around Trevor Square, Montpelier Square and Place dated early 19th century. Secondly, the central part developed during the mid-19th century, consisting of large stucco houses detailed in a classical manner including Princes Gate, Rutland Gate, Queens Gate, and part of Ennismore Gardens. Thirdly, the western part dated late 19th century with the Royal Albert Hall (1867-71) by Captain Fawkes, the Royal Geographical Society building (1867-71) by Norman Shaw. Other buildings of interest include; the Royal College of Music (1883) by Sir Arthur Blomfield; the Royal College of Music and Technology by Aston Webb; the Royal College of Organists; and Holy Trinity Church. The area was greatly influenced by the Great Exhibition of 1851 which was located just north of South Carriage Drive.

**Listed Buildings:** The area contains over 275 listed buildings. Buildings listed Grade I include the Albert Memorial, Albert Hall and Holy Trinity church, Prince Consort Road. Grade II\* buildings include the Royal Geographical Society, 170 Queen's Gate, and the Russian Orthodox church, Ennismore Gardens. Buildings listed Grade II include the listed terraces, houses and squares of Prince's Gardens, Ennismore Gardens, Rutland Gate, Montpelier Square, Trevor Square, Prince's Gate, and others.

**Key Features:** The eastern area is important for its small scale houses set around leafy squares interconnected by short streets and pedestrian ways. These are screened from the two major roads, Knightsbridge and Brompton Road, on its north and south boundaries by more modern developments of a larger scale. The central area is important for its larger scale squares and terraces providing a feeling of dignity and grandeur. Exhibition Road is the main dividing line between the central and western area. The western area is dominated by a number of individual grand buildings related to cultural institutions eg. the Royal Albert Hall. All these areas have characteristic mews properties which are of a much smaller scale to their grander neighbours.

**Adjacent Conservation Areas:** To the east is Knightsbridge Green, to the north the Royal Park, and to the south and west the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea.

**Strategic Views:** Not affected.

**Areas of Archaeological Priority:** Not affected.

**Article 4 Directions:** Relton Mews; the Direction covers all external alterations (see Relton Mews Design Guide).

**Regulation 7 Areas:** None.

**Planning Briefs and Design Guidelines:** The 'Relton Mews Guidelines for Alterations', published in December 1992.

**Spaces protected by the London Squares Act 1931:** Prince's Gardens [all, except a strip of 50 feet measured from the rear of Nos. 49 to 58 Prince's Gate (facing Exhibition Road), on the west side of the Gardens]. Prince's Gate [to the east of Ennismore Gardens, at the rear of Nos. 1 to 11 Prince's Gate]; Prince's Gate [in front and at rear of Nos. 13 to 25 Prince's Gate (facing Kensington Road)]; also, Ennismore Gardens, Montpelier Square, Rutland Gate and Trevor Square.

**Registered Historic Parks and Gardens:** None

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