

Charlton Riverside Heritage Consultation

Summary of proposals



1. Background

- 1.1 Royal Greenwich is proposing to create two new conservation areas and make additions to the borough's Local Heritage List in Charlton Riverside.
- 1.2 Charlton Riverside is an important area of the borough's industrial heritage which has been previously overlooked in terms of historic research and protection. Designation and local listing is proposed to safeguard the remaining heritage features of the area and to ensure the area's history is recognised and meaningfully enhanced in new development proposals.
- 1.3 The new conservation areas and additions to the Local Heritage List were recommendations within the Royal Borough of Greenwich's [Charlton Riverside Masterplan SPD](#) (adopted July 2017). They were identified within the SPD's evidence base: [Charlton Riverside Employment & Heritage Study](#).
- 1.4 A set of maps showing the proposed conservation area boundaries and locally listed buildings accompany this document.

2. Proposed new conservation areas

Area 1: Thames Barrier & Bowater Road

- 2.1 This area comprises the Thames Barrier and Barrier Park, the former Siemens buildings on Bowater Road, Windrush Primary School, the easternmost end of Woolwich Road and the Commonwealth Buildings complex to the east of Warspite Road.
- 2.2 This zone is identified as an area of high heritage value, especially Bowater Road where the buildings form a strong urban composition and represent the legacy of Siemens, one the area's biggest industries & employers. Siemens manufactured many submarine Atlantic cables at Charlton in the 19C and was at the forefront of technological advancement in the international telecommunications industry. Commonwealth Buildings is another important cluster of historic industrial buildings and formed part of the Royal Dockyard where the navy developed steam technology. The area also includes the Thames Barrier to recognise the significance of this iconic engineering structure.

Area 2: Charlton Riverside

- 2.3 This area comprises Cory's Wharf, Vaizey's Wharf, Durham's Wharf & Jetty, a zone of foreshore archaeology, the Hope and Anchor pub and residential enclaves of 'Atlas Gardens' and 'Derrick Gardens'.
- 2.4 This small section of riverfront is defined as an important positive contributor for Charlton Riverside, due to the wealth of surviving historic and archaeological features; the historic barge works which are still in operation and the area's relative seclusion. Atlas and Derrick Gardens are included as a good example of model worker housing from the early 20C and due to their association with the riverfront barge works.

3. Buildings proposed for addition to Royal Greenwich's Local Heritage List

| Map Key No.* | Address | Description |
|---------------------|---|---|
| 1 | 15 Bowater Rd | Two storey concrete cable shop built in 1937 |
| 2 | 25 Bowater Rd | Five storey junction box factory built 1925-6 |
| 3 | 34 Bowater Rd | Three storey instrument factory and marine radio school built 1946-7 |
| 4 | 37 Bowater Rd | Five storey copper wire cable factory built 1911 extended 1942 |
| 5 | Trinity Wharf | Originally a coal wharf, became site of sawmill in 1902 |
| 6 | Howick pub & Howick Mansions | Three storey pub rebuilt in 1895-6 for Meux's Brewery; adjoining Mansions, a mixture of shops and flats, built by pub landlord |
| 7 | Victoria pub | Edwardian pub with tiled façade by Truman's Brewery |
| 8 | Stones Foundry | Foundries constructed on Charlton riverside in 1916, producing propellers, alloys and later a shipyard manufacturing world famous ships |
| 9 | Atlas & Derrick Gardens | Two groups of small houses arranged around greens built c. 1908 by Cory & Sons (boatyard & barge works) to house workers |

* The numbers correspond to the building numbers shown on the accompanying conservation area boundary maps

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|-----------|---|--|
| 10 | Anchor & Hope pub | Pub rebuilt in 1898, serving local watermen and industrial workers since Tudor times |
| 11 | East Greenwich Fire Station | Example of late 20C public sector design of 1985 |
| 12 | Corys Barge Works[†] | Prominent boatyard established in 1838; bargeworks established at Charlton in 1873. Still in use. |
| 13 | 18-32 Bowater Rd[†] | Building range dating from 1871-4 and 1890s for processing & application of cable insulation and core-testing, earliest legacy of Siemens Telegraph Cable Works |
| 14 | 8-10 Bowater Rd & Mellish House[†] | Siemens late 19C workshop extensions for dynamo shops, milling machinery and armouring and lead-sheathing |
| 15 | GPO Cable Depot[†] | Built late 19C by the General Post office as a cable store before shipping out to sea. |
| 16 | Windrush Primary School[†] | Former Maryon Park School built 1894-6 to plans by LSBs architect TJ Bailey in Queen Anne Revival style. Extended 1909-10 & 1914-15. School house demolished in 1980s |
| 17 | Former Apprentice School, Gates and Wall[†] | Part of Woolwich Dockyard for manufacture of steam engine components; closed in 1869. Eastern Dockyard gates (1846) and long stretch of Dockyard wall survive adjacent to tall chimney. Former apprentice School (1849) houses chapel of Coop Funeral Care premises. |

[†] Proposed in the Charlton Riverside Masterplan SPD evidence base for inclusion on the National Heritage List. Recommended for inclusion on the Local Heritage List in the event that they are not nationally listed