Designation: First designated in 1990 and extended later in the same year to include the properties facing Horseferry Road, between Arneway Street and Monck Street.

Historical Background: Horseferry Road existed in medieval times as a route to the horseferry across the Thames. By the end of the 18th century it marked the edge of the built up area of the City of Westminster with a few houses in Horseferry Road and Medway Street. It was not until the early 19th century that this area was extensively developed with terraced housing. A few late Georgian buildings survive in the two street blocks bordered by Horseferry Road, Medway Street and Monck Street. The area comprised modest residential terraced housing of simple late Georgian vernacular, now interspersed with two post war churches, the Church of the Sacred Heart and the Horseferry Road Baptist Church, and a number of 20th century residential and commercial buildings.

Listed Buildings: Nos. 44 and 45 Medway Street are listed Grade II.

Key features: The most notable feature of this area is the small scale and domestic character of the majority of the buildings. The scale of later development to the street block bounded by Medway Street, Arneway Street and Horseferry Road is similar to that of the late Georgian houses. However, the block bounded by Medway Street, Monck Street, Horseferry Road and Arneway Street does not have the same cohesive scale, although the properties fronting onto Horseferry Road are domestic in scale if varied in design. Some of the post war redevelopment was a result of bomb damage.

The predominant use is residential with a small number of commercial uses, particularly to Horseferry Road, and some community uses linked to the two churches. The construction of the ‘Channel 4’ TV headquarters on the adjacent site to the corner of Horseferry Road and Medway Street will have a significant impact on views from the Conservation Area. Most of the buildings within the Conservation Area are of 3 storeys constructed in brown and red brick. The post war Church of the Sacred Heart and attached hostel is of similar sympathetic scale and materials to the older buildings. The two street blocks reflect the character of the early 19th century south part of Westminster.

Adjacent Conservation Areas: Vincent Square Conservation Area to the south west.

Strategic Views: Not affected.

Areas of Special Archaeological Priority: Not affected.

Article 4 Directions: None.

Regulation 7 Directions: None.

Planning Briefs and Design Guides: No specific guidelines

Registered Historic Parks and Gardens: None within the Conservation Area.

Spaces protected by the London Squares Act 1931: None.

Contacts

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