

walk notes

Tufnell Park, Kentish Town

The area is a mishmash of Victorian residential housing, old industrial buildings, railways on viaducts, council and housing schemes. The walk tries to pick its way though the remaining pockets of picturesque Victorian housing and parks. Many ideas and information for this walk were taken from publication of the Camden History Society Streets of Kentish Town.

Kentish Town

Of the three tube station places, only Kentish Town is an old settlement. Kentish Town straddled the road to Highgate which snaked up the valley of the Fleet River. The road was also the boundary between Manors of Tottenhall and Cantelowes. The name 'Kentisston', was first noted in 1208. By 1456 it was a significant hamlet. However, today its rural character has disappeared, as too has the River Fleet, the approximate route of which is indicated.

Street Names

St Pancras Parish was granted by King Elthelbert in 603 to The Dean and Chapter of St Paul's. It contained 5 manors, of which Cantelowes and Tottenhall together with the Manor of Barnsbury in neighbouring Islington, form the area of this walk. By the 19th century they had passed into the hands of a few landowners who developed them and street names reflect this.

Dartmouth Park

The area in Cantelowes to the north of Tufnell Park station, known as Dartmouth Park after its owner The Earl of Dartmouth, started development in the 1860s but the arrival of the Tottenham and Hampstead Railway in 1868 put paid to any high-class aspirations for the area. Of interest is a development began with the Conservative Land Society whose aim was to promote (Tory voting) property ownership. The Earl of Dartmouth granted land to Charles Chetwynd, Lord Ingestre, and Lord Spencer Churchill, hence those street names.

Tufnell Park

Tufnell Park was named after William Tufnell, granted the Manor of Barnsbury in 1753 and it was his brother Henry that began serious building there in 1845. **Buildings**

To access Camden's list of buildings click https://www.camden.gov.uk/ccm/cmsservice/stream/asset/?asset id=3292260

St John's College

An area in north Kentish Town was formerly part of a large estate owned by St John's College, Cambridge, Lady Margaret Road is named after Lady Margaret Beaufort, foundress of St John's College. Burghley Road is named after Lord Burghley, Chancellor to Elizabeth I and benefactor of St John's. College Lane, Evangelist Road and Lady Somerset Road are street names linked to the estate of St John's College.

Junction Road/Fortess Road

was constructed as a feeder for the new Archway Road in 1813, bypassing the route north via Highgate. Much of the area's original development was as cheap housing for working people who were displaced from St Pancras and Somers Town by the building of the railway.

Torriano

The estate, which included the "Bull" or "Assembly House", consisted of five fields containing about 42 acres which, in 1793, belonged to the descendants of John Cox the Elder of London, soap-maker: Mary Comargue de Bavois and Joshua Prole Torriano of Thames Ditton. More land was acquired by Torriano in

1790 from William Morgan. Torriano laid out Leighton Road (formerly Gloucester Place), Leighton Grove and Torriano Avenue, selling the adjoining land in building plots.

THESE NOTES HAVE YET TO BE COMPLETED