

17 January 2019

Dear Councillors,

HISTORIC BUILT FEATURES

Following up a Full Council motion in May 2017, a working group comprising myself and Councillors Areti and Bennett has been established under the auspices of the Public Realm Scrutiny Committee. Our project focuses on built features of historic interest within the Borough, some listed, some not, that are important to public amenity but many of which have no registered owner.

Project aims

The project's aim is to explore how to best maintain unowned assets which contribute to the public amenity. The review will establish a reliable database of such assets which will include information on the ownership status, the listed status and grade, and the state of repair of the built features.

Our database

We have already identified 90 assets that meet our criteria for built environment features that are important to the public amenity, mews arches being obvious examples of such assets. Other features so identified include historic walls, statues, water fountains and troughs. Enclosed with this letter is the matrix of assets already identified.

Next steps

This is only the first iteration of a comprehensive database, and we now seek to tap into the deep local knowledge of residents' associations and ward councillors to identify any assets which have been missed from the database and you believe should be included - or indeed to correct any mistakes which you spot in the information already recorded about your local areas. Private property or gardens are not in scope.

How you can help

We would be grateful if you could please send information about any assets that have not been identified in the list, and that you believe should be included, to planning@rbkc.gov.uk marked 'Unowned Assets for the attention of Neil Armour'. Information that would be useful to include would be: the name of the asset; its address or approximate location; a description of its condition; photographs if possible.

We aim to complete this phase by mid-March with the final report and recommendations completed before the summer recess.

On behalf of the working group, my thanks in advance for any assistance you can give to this effort to preserve our heritage.

Greg

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