

The LONDON Encyclopædia

Edited by Ben Weinreb
and Christopher Hibbert



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M
MACMILLAN LONDON

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Endpapers: Detail from *A Balloon View
of London as seen from Hampstead*, 1851

Guide to the use of the Encyclopædia

The entries in the encyclopædia are arranged in alphabetical order under their full and accepted name or title, thus:

Sir John Soane's Museum

is listed under **Sir John**, not under **Soane**, and **Open Air Theatre, Regent's Park**, under **Open**, not **Regent's Park**.

Names of places and buildings which have been swept away and exist only in historical records and books of reference, such as this, are appropriately printed in funereal gothic.

They range from

Rag Fair to Rillington Place
and from

Swan Tavern to Swan and Edgar

A number of subjects are grouped together: for example, **Airports, City Livery Companies, Gardens, Golf Clubs, Statues and Cemeteries**, etc, but occasionally by virtue of some difference or architectural feature they merit a separate entry. **Eros** for instance is not a statue, but a memorial. The sandwiching in of **Highgate Cemetery** between Highgate and Highgate Hill, suggests erroneously that even in death we are divided.

Acknowledgements

In an encyclopædia such as this the debt to previous writers is of course prodigious; but it has been considered impracticable to enumerate the many hundreds of books which have been consulted, although some of these, such as the Greater London Council's *Survey of London* and Sir Nikolaus Pevsner's *Buildings of England*, have proved indispensable. We are deeply grateful to the authors and editors of them all. We are also grateful to the archivists and librarians throughout the Greater London area for their unstinting help, as well as to the members of London's numerous historical societies who have taken so much trouble to answer our questions and, in several cases, to compile the relevant entries. A list of contributors to the *Encyclopædia* is given opposite: but we would also like to express our thanks to all those whose help and

There are also many special subject entries, for example **Ballooning, Crime, Executions, Planning and Building Regulations, Population, Street Cries, Street Lighting, Street Vendors, Transport, Water Supply** and others.

Cross references are clearly indicated by the use of SMALL CAPITALS in the body of the entry. Thus whilst **Hoxton** proudly claims Pollock's Toy Theatre shop as part of its history, it enjoins you to see POLLOCK'S TOY MUSEUM, whilst the entry for **Pollock's Toy Museum** points you back to Pollock's humble origins in HOXTON.

INDEX OF PEOPLE (pages 980–1000) gives page reference to more than 10,000 people mentioned in the text, but this time, of course, under surnames, for example, Soane, Sir John.

GENERAL INDEX (pages 1001–1028) does the same for every place, building, institution, business, subject, event or incident, irrespective of whether it has a separate entry, like **King's Cross** or **King's Yard**, which was another name for the **Royal Dock**, under which it is mentioned, and the little Palais de Luxe, soon renamed the **Windmill Theatre**, or the great **Palace of Westminster** which houses the House of Commons and the House of Lords.

encouragement have contributed so much to its completion. We are in particular grateful to Michael Alcock, the director at Macmillan who has been responsible for the *Encyclopædia* since his firm first undertook to publish it; to Esther Jagger, who has helped us edit every entry; to Robert Updegraff, who has designed the book; to Juliet Brightmore, who has collected and chosen the illustrations; to Geoff Barlow, who has been responsible for the production; to our respective wives, Joan Weinreb and Susan Hibbert, for their invaluable help in a variety of ways; and to Ralph Hyde of the Guildhall Library, who has made his unrivalled knowledge available to us all.

CHRISTOPHER HIBBERT
Spring 1983

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completely rewrote it, adding a wealth of literary allusion. This became the *London Past and Present* referred to above, and it was the necessary revision and extension of Wheatley and Cunningham out of which the present encyclopædia has grown. By now, however, there were not only ninety more eventful years to be included, but London had become Greater London, extending her boundaries by hundreds of miles. So if a new book was to take shape, comparable with its predecessors and yet contained in a single volume, once again it had to be entirely rewritten.

Wheatley was a man of learning and industry. In another work he edited the diary of Samuel Pepys but, in conformity with the proprieties of his time, omitted all that was indelicate. This same reticence is observed in his writings on London. We are less inhibited, and when an incident or anecdote illustrates or enhances an entry it is told, we hope, with the smell and gusto of the period in which it occurred. The intervening years have also uncovered lost records which shed new light on old tales, enabling us to correct attributions, clarify identities and amend errors which repetition had hardened into history. It is, of course, possible that in spite of infinite care, we ourselves have lent credibility to further errors for future editors to discover. We have been chroniclers engaged in the recording of facts rather than historians concerned with their cause and consequence. It has been our task to compress within a paragraph that which has sometimes been the subject of a book and, like Stow, to set down concisely and in plain words what is generally known and held to be true.

Of course the account of streets and buildings is the story of the people who have lived in them, so that interspersed between the lists of names

and dates there sometimes springs to life a man or woman, long since dead, whose wit or wisdom, triumph or tragedy, transcends the sequence of events and imprints upon our mind the vivid picture of their person or the haunting echo of their voice. The recital of these same unvarnished lists of names reminds us 'that in this court did Goldsmith walk' or 'on that spot a maypole stood' or here, beneath the traffic's unrelenting surge, could once be heard on cobbled stones the trundle of a hangman's cart.

Fourteen years ago I began work on this book as an intermittent and spare-time occupation, without realising the enormity of the labour involved. Penny Howman worked on it with me for a time, as did Peter Clayton, but it was my wife Joan who brought order and system to the mounting records and it was her unflagging determination that kept it going when there was no end in sight. In 1977 my friend James Price advised me that a seasoned and experienced partner might more speedily bring the book to fruition, hence in 1979 I was joined, at his suggestion, by Christopher Hibbert and later that year the book was accepted by Macmillan.

My name is first on the title page because I was the initiator, but it is also testimony to Christopher Hibbert's generosity of spirit, for if typography were accurately to reflect the content, his name would be printed much the larger. It is due to his breadth of scholarship, to his skill and clarity as a writer, and to his firm, fair editorial hand that *The London Encyclopædia* has reached completion.

BEN WEINREB
Spring 1983

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THE ENTRIES

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A

Abbey Lodge Built probably in 1824 or 1825 by Decimus Burton, it adjoined the northern end of HANOVER TERRACE. In 1845 Elizabeth Gurney, daughter of the head of the Quaker banking family and niece of Elizabeth Fry, the reformer, married Baron Ernest Christian Ludvig de Bunsen; her father, who lived at 20 HANOVER TERRACE, gave them the villa as a wedding present; the Gothic arches and castellations were probably added at this time. The de Bunsens lived there till their deaths in 1903. The remainder of the lease was purchased by their friend, the Austrian painter and sculptor Emil Fuchs, who was patronised by Edward VII. In 1911 he sold the last 13 years of the lease to Baroness Deichmann, the de Bunsens' elder daughter. In 1928 the house was demolished and a block of flats, which bears its name, built in its place.

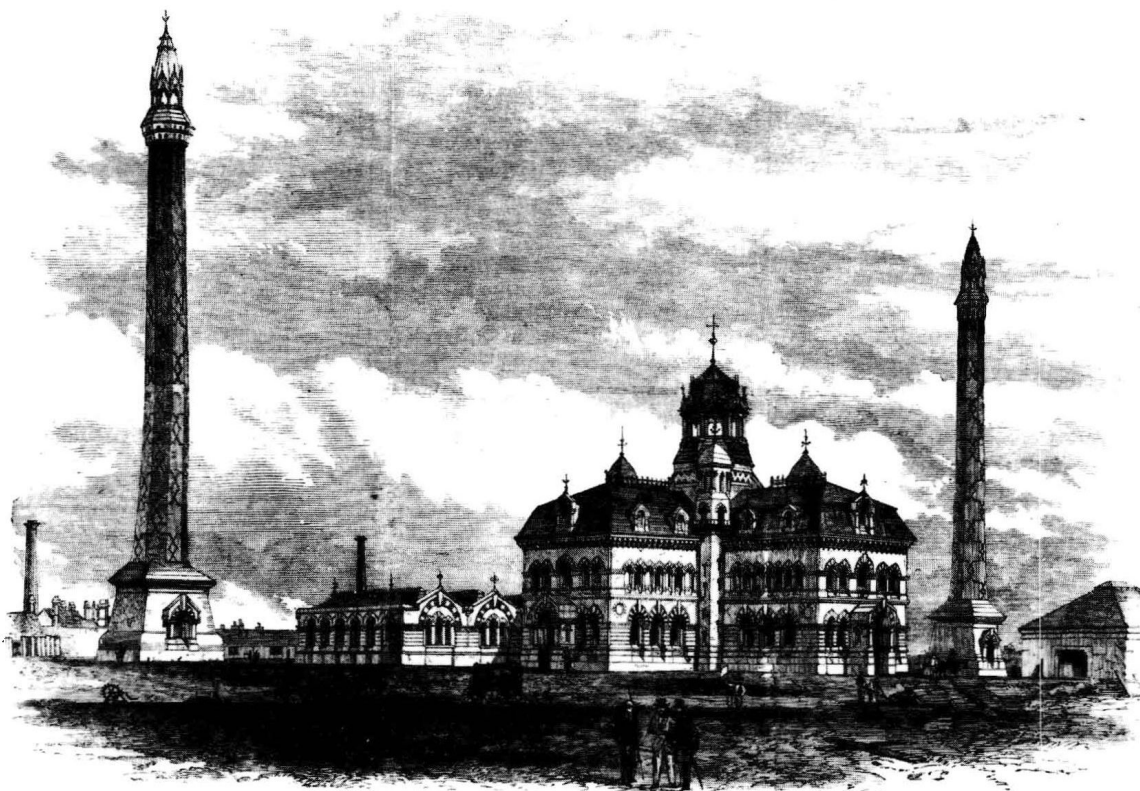
Abbey Mills Pumping Station *Abbey Lane, E15.* Victorian sewage pumping plant disguised under Moorish towers and a Slavic dome with an interior like a Byzantine church. It was designed by Bazalgette and Cooper and built in 1865–8 as part of Bazalgette's main drainage scheme for London (see DRAINS AND SEWERS).

Abbey Orchard Street SW1. Between OLD PYE STREET and GREAT SMITH STREET. It was built after the GREAT FIRE on the site of the medieval orchard of WESTMINSTER ABBEY. The Roman Catholic Chapel of St Ann was built in the 1860s.

Abbey Road NW6, NW8. Began as a lane leading to KILBURN PRIORY from which it takes its name. The stuccoed individual villas, each set in its own garden, which began to appear from 1830 onwards, are now subdivided or have given way to blocks of flats. John MacWhirter the painter had his residence at No. 1 from 1888 to 1911; the main living-room was a galleried hall. No. 3 is EMI's recording studio, used by the pop group, the Beatles, who named the album issued from it *Abbey Road*. Nos 5 and 7, a pair of villas, are in a remarkable Gothic Tudor style. Opposite them stands the Baptist Church designed by W.G. Habershon and Pite and consecrated in 1863.

Abbey Street SE1. Takes its name from BERMONDSEY ABBEY which covered Bermondsey Square and the ground between Grange Walk and Long Walk. The street is on the line of the nave of the Abbey

Abbey Mills Pumping Station. The galleried engine house inside is as extravagant as the Byzantine exterior.



church. 'The Bermondsans,' wrote a correspondent in the *Gentleman's Magazine* in 1808, 'for a love of alteration have this year contrived a new road of no perceptible use or convenience through the very heart of the existing walls of the Abbey.' The principal gateway of the Abbey was removed for this purpose. The eastern gateway in Grange Walk had already been demolished in 1760.

Abbey Wood SE2. Lies east of WOOLWICH on the eastern boundary of the London Borough of GREENWICH. Modern Abbey Wood was originally part of the extensive marshes of PLUMSTEAD and Lesnes (later ERITH) manors which were enclosed in the early 13th century by the monks of the 12th-century Lesnes Abbey. The Abbey was closed before the DISSOLUTION, and from the 18th century the marshes were used by the WOOLWICH ARSENAL. During the 19th century weapons, missiles and tanks were tested and some of the Arsenal's moated enclosures still survive north of THAMESMEAD. By the end of the century Abbey Wood Station had been built on the North Kent line, taking its name from the surviving woods south of the Lesnes Abbey remains, and giving it to the area that subsequently developed. During 1900–14 over 1,500 homes were built on the Bostall Estate, and in the 1950s the LONDON COUNTY COUNCIL developed the Abbey Wood Estate. The parish church of St Michael dates from 1908 (Sir Arthur Blomfield and Sons).

Abchurch Lane EC4. First mentioned as Abbechurche Lane in 1291. ST MARY ABCHURCH is near the south end. The name is, perhaps, a corruption of Upchurch, as the church is on slightly rising ground. In the early 17th century the lane was renowned for the cakes referred to in John Webster's *Northward Hoe* (1607) and sold by Mother Wells who had her shop here. In the later part of the century and in the early 18th century it was even better known for the French eating-house, PONTACK'S, whose exact site is uncertain. It was patronised by Evelyn, Wren and Swift. Pope chided John Moore, 'author of the celebrated worm powder', who lived here in 1737:

Oh learned friend of Abchurch Lane
Who sett'st our entrails free
Vain is thy art, thy powder vain
Since worms will eat 'een thee.

The new KING WILLIAM STREET which was built in the 1830s cut the lane in two. In 1855 excavations for a sewer revealed a 36 ft length of Roman ragstone wall, probably running northwards up the middle of the lane from its junction with Nicholas Passage. The GRESHAM CLUB is at No. 15.

Abercorn Place NW8. Lies in ST JOHN'S WOOD on the HARROW SCHOOL Estate and is named after James Hamilton, 1st Duke of Abercorn, a governor of the school. Building had begun there by the 1830s. Today, the houses present a fascinating mixture from that date to the present day. Nos 13 and 15 have pretty, early 19th-century façades, overlaid with pebble dash. Charles Robert Leslie RA lived at No. 2, and T.H. Huxley was at No. 26 from 1861 to 1872.

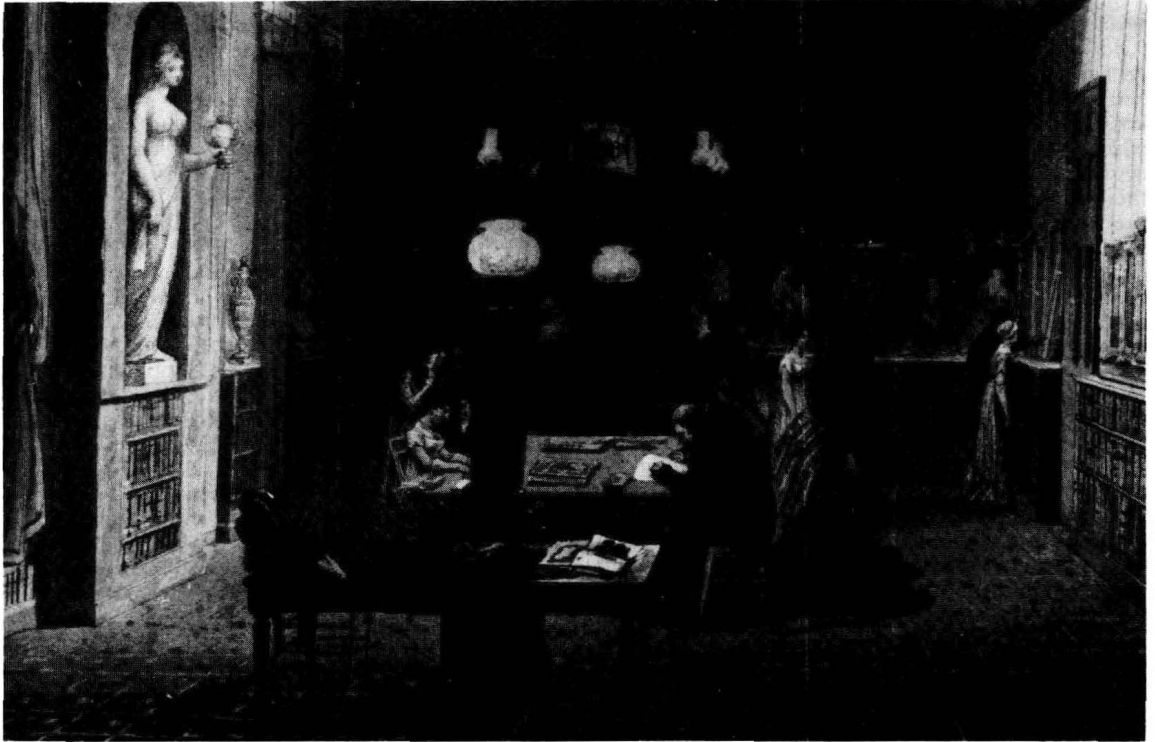
Abingdon Road W8. First begun as Newland Street in 1817; the present name recalls the parish connection with the abbey of Abingdon. In 1894 the Coun-

tess von Arnim, author of *Elizabeth and her German Garden*, is said to have stayed at Abingdon Mansions.

Abingdon Street SW1. The early Abingdon Street can be seen on Norden's map of about 1593 linking OLD PALACE (YARD) with MILLBANK. At the northern end stood the south gate of the PALACE OF WESTMINSTER, and at the south end the ditch boundary of THORNEY ISLAND which is now represented by GREAT COLLEGE STREET. From about 1690 a mansion stood at the south-west end; initially known as Lindsay House, it was later the residence of the Earl of Abingdon, and by 1708 occupied by the Earl of Carnarvon. When the King came to PARLIAMENT the state coach drawn by eight horses used to turn round in the yard of the house. The lane was briefly known as Lindsay Lane, but by 1750 was known as Dirty Lane, 'narrow, pestered with coaches and inconvenient', and for this reason after an Act of Parliament in that year it was widened and renamed Abingdon Street as part of the general approach improvements to the new WESTMINSTER BRIDGE. The houses that survived until the 2nd World War dated from this time. From about 1820 Thomas Telford lived at No. 24, where he died in 1834. In 1932 Harold Clunn described 'one long terrace of shabby Georgian houses . . . largely inhabited by Members of Parliament'. Concerning their proximity to the Houses of Parliament, he added, 'Its appearance suggests the dustman sitting on the doorsteps of the nobleman's mansion.' Clunn probably echoed the prevailing sentiments; but in 1938 the new Georgian Group of the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings moved into No. 27 and successfully petitioned against its demolition by the George V Memorial Committee. This was one of the early preservationist triumphs. But only four houses survived the bombing of the 2nd World War which exposed the JEWEL TOWER behind. The remains of a medieval quay were discovered during demolition of the remaining houses. In 1963–6 Abingdon Street Garden was created. Beneath is an underground car park. In the garden is the bronze, *Knife Edge Two Piece*, by Henry Moore (1962).

Abney Park Cemetery see CEMETERIES.

Ackermann's 101 Strand. Rudolph Ackermann, printer and bookseller, moved from Pall Mall to the Strand in 1794. The site had formerly been occupied by WORCESTER HOUSE. In 1750 William Shipley set up Shipley's Academy here, a highly successful school of drawing which numbered amongst its pupils Richard Cosway, William Pars and Francis Wheatley. From it germinated the Society for the Encouragement of Arts, Manufactures and Commerce. The school was taken over by Henry Pars in 1763; and William Blake, at the age of ten, 'was put to Mr Par's drawing-school in the Strand'. For a period, it became the British Forum and was used by John Thelwall for his *Elocutionary Lectures* and political speeches closely linked with the LONDON CORRESPONDING SOCIETY. When these were suppressed by the Government in 1794 Ackermann, having bought the lease, reopened the premises as a school for drawing. In 1796 he transferred here his print shop (started at 96 STRAND the previous year). In 1806 he closed his school to make room for his expanding business as a print-seller, bookseller, publisher and dealer in fancy articles and



An aquatint of Ackermann's Library for Works of Art in 1813. It was the first shop in London to be lit solely by gas.

materials for artists. Ackermann had been the first to employ refugees from the French Revolution, and contemporary accounts say that seldom in his shop were there less than 50 nobles, priests and ladies of distinction working on screens, flower stands and the colouring of prints. From this address, he began publishing in 1808 his great series of books with coloured aquatints, the *Microcosm of London*, *The History of the University of Oxford and Cambridge*, and many others (all of which appeared first in monthly parts), also his famous *Repository of Arts, Literature, Commerce and Manufacturing* which ran from 1809 to 1828. He opened here the first art library in England (it is described in the 1813 volume of his *Repository of Arts*). From 1813, he held every Wednesday a literary reception to which flocked authors, artists, patrons and visiting foreigners. It was said for many years to be 'the meeting place of the best social life in London'. It was the first shop in London 'to be lit solely by Gas which burns with a purity and brilliance unattainable by any other mode of illumination hitherto attempted'. In 1827 Ackermann returned to 96 STRAND, rebuilt for him by J.B. Papworth.

Acton W3. There has been sporadic human habitation for 300,000 years in this area which was once watered by the now piped STAMFORD BROOK and its tributary the BOLLO ('bull hollow') on their course to the THAMES at HAMMERSMITH. Anglo-Saxons established the name (Old English *actun*, the settlement among the oaks), but documentation of this comes only in the 12th century. In *Domesday Book*, Acton was merely an anonymous part of the Bishop's manor of FULHAM. Rural but conveniently close to London, it was a favoured retreat for the wealthy and influential until a century ago. Among notable

residents were Francis Rous, the Puritan divine and Provost of Eton, who lived at Bank House, at the west end of the High Street (demolished in 1870); Richard Baxter, the nonconformist divine, who recorded in his memoirs that, during the GREAT FIRE, charred leaves of books from the burning warehouses round ST PAUL'S were picked up near his house; Sir Matthew Hale, the Lord Chief Justice, who took over Baxter's house and is commemorated in Hale Gardens; Sir John Fielding, the blind BOW STREET magistrate, who lived at Broomcroft, Acton Green which was demolished in about 1870; Edward Bulwer Lytton, who wrote *Rienzi* at Berrymead in 1835-6; and Dr John Lindley, the botanist, who lived at Bedford House in what became BEDFORD PARK and later at Fairlawn, Acton Green which was demolished in about 1879.

The town earned more than local fame during the Civil War, when in November 1642 the Royalists attempted an advance on London and the local Parliamentary garrison helped to repulse them in an engagement that began at BRENTFORD and spread into Acton. Then, throughout the 18th century, the minor spa of Acton Wells attracted health- and pleasure-seekers from many parts.

The nucleus of the town, on the Uxbridge Road 5 miles from MARBLE ARCH, lies round the mother-church of St Mary, whose first rector known by name is recorded in 1228. It was entirely rebuilt in 1865-77. Daughter-parishes were formed following an Enclosure Commissioners' award of 1859 which consolidated the strip-holdings on the former common fields, and entailed new roads across the re-apportioned areas. The result was a remarkable rise in population, from 3,000 in 1861 to 38,000 in 1901. Some 65,000 now live here.

Down to the mid-19th century the economy was

agricultural, but there was a rug-mill in the Steyne (Old English *stæne*, a stony place) from the early 1800s. Later came brickfields, and by 1900 there were 180 laundries in South Acton, which was colloquially known as 'Soapsuds Island'. The subsequent growth of engineering and miscellaneous manufacturing encouraged the claim made in the 1930s that Acton was the biggest industrial centre south of Coventry. Improved transport assisted in development. The PAD-DINGTON CANAL of 1801 and a great mainline and suburban railway complex, begun in 1839, facilitated communication with all parts; buses provided good services from the 1850s; and a horse-tramway of 1878 was electrified in 1901.

The earliest recorded residence is Berrymead; held by ST PAUL'S from 1232 until Henry VIII exchanged it for other property and gave it to the Russells of Bedford. Occupants include Marquesses of Halifax and Dukes of Kingston. A daughter of one of the latter, Lady Mary Pierrepont, eloped from here with Edward Wortley Montagu and became a famous traveller and letter-writer. The house was rebuilt in 1802 in the Gothic taste and fancifully renamed The Priory; it was saved when the grounds were built on in the 1880s but in May 1982 was derelict. West of Berrymead was Mill Hill Park, built over in the 1870s by William Willett, the builder mainly remembered for his campaign for 'Daylight Saving'. Derwentwater House, demolished in 1909, was leased in 1720 by the widow of the Jacobite Earl of Derwentwater, beheaded in 1716.

Most of East Acton was in 1657 inherited by the GOLDSMITHS' COMPANY under the will of John Perryn, a goldsmith from Bromyard in Worcestershire. Perryn's house, once known as Foster's and later as the Manor House, was rebuilt in about 1715–20 but gradually decayed and was pulled down in 1911. Goldsmiths are commemorated in the street names hereabout, including Sir Thomas Vyner, LORD MAYOR in 1653, who married John Perryn's widow. The Company's pleasing almshouses of 1811 face Acton Park, opened to the public in 1888. The massive Government Building in Bromyard Avenue (built to the designs of J.G. West in 1922), St Saviour's church for the deaf (designed by Sir Edward Maufe, 1927); and ST AIDAN'S CHURCH (Roman Catholic, 1961) are noteworthy. The golf links in East Acton became a municipal housing estate in 1920. All the roads here have names associated with golf, such as Long Drive, the Fairway and Brassie Avenue.

North-westwards was the Acton Aerodrome, where pioneer flights were made, and adjoining this is the Great Western Railway's garden village of 1923. Friar's Place, on land owned in the 14th century by ST BARTHOLOMEW THE GREAT, SMITHFIELD, fell down in the 1880s; an ice-cream plant, The Friary, is now here. Southward, the archetypal garden suburb of BEDFORD PARK, founded in 1875, lies partly in CHISWICK. Nearby South Acton has been completely redeveloped by the local authority over recent years.

Actuaries' Company *see* CITY LIVERY COMPANIES.

Adam and Eve Tea Gardens *Tottenham Court.* Tottenham Court was a popular place of amusement in the 17th century. George Wither, in *Britain's Remembrances* (1628), said:

And Hogsdone, Islington and Tottenham Court
For cakes and cream had then no small resort.

In 1645 a maidservant and two others were fined 1s apiece for 'drinking at Tottenham Court on the Sabbath daie'. Wycherley in the *Gentleman Dancing Master* (1673) couples 'a ramble to Totnam Court' with the other fashionable diversions of visiting the MULBERRY GARDEN and VAUXHALL. The Adam and Eve existed at least as early as 1718 on the site of the manor house at the northern end of TOTTENHAM COURT ROAD. In the 18th century it had a long room with an organ, bowling alleys and extensive gardens with arbours for tea drinking. On 13 May 1785 Vincenzo Lunardi, the balloonist, took off from the HONOURABLE ARTILLERY COMPANY ground on his maiden flight and descended here within 20 minutes. 'He was immediately surrounded by great numbers of the populace and though he proposed re-ascending they were not to be dissuaded from bearing him in triumph on their shoulders.' Towards the end of the 18th century the gardens became hemmed in with houses and were frequented by criminals and prostitutes. In the early 19th century they were shut by the magistrates. They were reopened as a tavern in 1813. In 1838 a description of them reads: 'A house standing alone, with spacious trees in the rear and at the sides, and a forecourt with large timber trees, and tables and benches for out of door customers. In the gardens were fruit trees, and bowers, and arbours for tea drinking parties. In the rear there were not any houses; now there is a town.'

Adam Street WC2. Takes its name from the Adam brothers who designed the ADELPHI. Few of their buildings remain. No. 7, the offices of the *Lancet*, with honeysuckle pilasters and lacy ironwork, is one attractive survival.

Adams Row W1. On the GROSVENOR ESTATE, it extends from SOUTH AUDLEY STREET to CARLOS PLACE. It was laid out in the 1720s to provide stables and coach-houses for the mansions in nearby GROSVENOR SQUARE, and probably takes its name from one of the builders.

Addington *Surrey.* Referred to as Eddington in *Domesday Book*, the name probably means 'estate in Eadda's territory'. In its 12th-century St Mary's church five Archbishops of Canterbury were buried. From 1807 the nearby ADDINGTON PALACE was their country residence. To the west of the palace in 1929 a 5 ft high brick-lined subterranean passage was discovered. According to local legend this passage, once linked to the remains of a monastery, was used by Henry VIII to reach Wickham Court when he was in love with Anne Boleyn. Addington Cricket Club dates from 1743. The Cricketers' Inn was built in 1847 on the site of a Tudor tavern. The village lies in a Conservation Area but 403 acres of farmland nearby were laid out by the Corporation in 1935 as New Addington, one of the earliest 'overspill' housing developments.

Addington Palace *Croydon, Surrey.* The site is mentioned in *Domesday Book* and was owned by the Leigh family from 1447. In about 1770 Barlow Trecothick, LORD MAYOR of London, MP and City

merchant, bought the estate. He employed Robert Mylne to design the house, the central portion of the present palace. In 1807 the ECCLESIASTICAL COMMISSIONERS purchased the estate, then 3,500 acres, for the Archbishops of Canterbury. Archbishops Manners-Sutton, Howley, Sumner, Longley, Tait and Benson all lived here. But Frederick Temple, Benson's successor, decided that the Archbishops could no longer afford to do so. In the face of strong opposition, including the intervention of Queen Victoria, he sold the property and moved to Canterbury. The estate was bought by Frederick English, a South African diamond merchant. He commissioned Norman Shaw to extend the house and alter its interior. Shaw's work cost English £70,000. The greatest alteration was the removal of the first floor in the Great Hall. The estate also has a chapel with pews by Christopher Wren from the CHURCH OF THE HOLY SEPULCHRE, HOLBORN. The gardens were redesigned by 'Capability' Brown, whose landscaping is now obscured by two golf courses (see GOLF CLUBS). On English's death in 1909 the palace was sold. In the 1st World War it served as a hospital and between the wars as a country club. In 1951 CROYDON Corporation purchased the estate. Since 1953 the palace has been leased to the ROYAL SCHOOL OF CHURCH MUSIC.

Addiscombe *Surrey*. Situated north-west of ADDINGTON. Within CROYDON manor, by the 13th century it was known as enclosed land belonging to Eadda who was probably also associated with ADDINGTON. Farm buildings, the 17th-century Parsons Farm and Herons Croft, are relics of the rural environment. In 1702 John Evelyn's son-in-law built Addiscombe Place on the site of a Tudor house, reputedly to Vanbrugh's design and with decoration by Thornhill. In 1809 the estate was sold to the East India Company as a military academy, and sold again, in 1863, for development. The house was demolished and roads within the estate named after East India men such as Warren Hastings.

Of the academy, India House survives. In the early 19th century, when Addiscombe was still a hamlet, the young Thackeray was a resident. The railway arrived and the population gradually grew. In 1870 the church of St Paul's (E. Buckton Lamb) was opened and rededicated to St Mary Magdalene in 1874. The parish of Addiscombe was formed in 1879. Literary figures such as Tennyson, Carlyle and Longfellow were entertained by Lady Ashburton at Ashburton House (demolished 1912-13). A BLUE PLAQUE at 20 Outram Road commemorates the residence here of Frederick George Creed, electrical engineer and inventor of the teleprinter.

Addison Avenue *W11*. Takes its name from Joseph Addison who once lived at HOLLAND HOUSE. Tree-lined and with a vista closed by the church of ST JAMES, Norlands, the road dates from the early 1840s. The attractive two-storey paired houses were built to various designs, those in the northern part of the road probably being designed by F.W. Stent.

Addison Bridge Road *W14*. Where the underground railway goes beneath the east end of HAMMERSMITH ROAD and the west end of KENSINGTON HIGH STREET. Samuel Taylor Coleridge lived for a short time at No. 7. Harold Laski, the teacher and political philosopher, lived at No. 5 in 1926-50.

Addison Road *W14*. Like ADDISON AVENUE, it takes its name from Joseph Addison. Among the notable inhabitants of this road, begun in the 1820s, have been two distinguished statesmen, David Lloyd George, who lived at No. 2, 1928-36, and Chaim Weizmann, a founding father and first President of the State of Israel, who resided at No. 67, 1916-19. No. 8 was designed by Halsey Ricardo for Sir Ernest Debenham in 1905-6. The church of St Barnabas was built in 1829 in the Tudor Gothic style to the designs of Lewis Vulliamy. John Galsworthy lived at No. 14 in 1905-13.

Addiscombe House, Croydon, in 1834, by then a military seminary of the East India Company which bought it in 1809.



Addle Hill EC4. Addle may derive from the Saxon word *adel*, meaning noble. Formerly Addle Street, it ran down to UPPER THAMES STREET from CARTER LANE. In 1244 it was mentioned as Adhelingestræte; in 1279–80 as Athelingestræte. The nearby WATLING STREET had the same name at this time. In 1596 it was first mentioned as Adling Hill, but in 1598 Stow wrote, 'In Addle Street or Lane, I find no monuments.' The descriptive Addle Hill probably co-existed with the formal Addle Street. In 1600 Dekker's *Shoemakers' Holiday* was printed by Valentine Sons who described themselves as 'dwelling at the foote of Adling Hill, neere Bainards Castle, at the signe of the White Swanne'. After 1863 the southern end was demolished for the creation of QUEEN VICTORIA STREET. In 1939 an extension to Faraday House further truncated the street, leaving the present short cul-de-sac off CARTER LANE.

Adelaide Gallery Properly known as the 'National Gallery of Practical Science, Blending Instruction with Amusement', it stood on the north side of the LOWTHER ARCADE. In the early 1830s it contained some 250 machines, devices and scientific models such as a pocket thermometer, a gas mask, an oxyhydrogen microscope, a steam gun and, later, demonstrations of daguerreotypes, electricity and magnetism. In the 1840s the gallery became an amusement hall and in 1852 the Royal Marionette Theatre. The LOWTHER ARCADE was demolished in 1904.



The long room of the Adelaide Gallery in about 1830. It contained some 250 machines and scientific models.

Adelaide Hotel and Victoria Hotel Euston Station. These two four-storey hotels built at the London and North Western Railway terminus in Euston Square were designed by Philip Hardwick in 1839 and were erected on either side of the Screen (see EUSTON STATION). At the Victoria, on the left, the only meal available was breakfast, other meals being served at the 141-bedroom Adelaide (later Euston Hotel) opposite. The two hotels were connected by an ugly block built over the road in 1881. Damaged in the 2nd World War, they were both demolished in 1963 to make way for the new station.

Adelaide Street WC2. Named as a compliment to Queen Adelaide in the reign of whose husband,

William IV, the west STRAND improvements were carried out.

Adelphi WC2. An imposing riverside development of 24 terraced houses designed and built by John, Robert, James and William Adam. (*Adelphoi* is Greek for brothers.) The 3-acre site had formerly been the grounds of DURHAM HOUSE which was demolished after the Restoration when a network of courts was built there. By the mid-18th century the area had become a slum and most of the buildings were in ruins. In 1768 the Duke of St Albans granted the brothers a 99-year lease on the site for £1,200 per annum and work began. Large numbers of Scottish labourers were brought to work on the site at a cheap rate and bagpipes were played daily. A series of arches and subterranean streets were built to counteract the slope from the STRAND to the river. In 1771 Parliament passed an Act giving permission for the river to be embanked, thus crushing the opposition of the CORPORATION OF LONDON who claimed the river bed. Walpole asserts the decision was due to the King's influence:

Four Scotchmen, by the name of Adams
Who keep their coaches and their madams,
Quoth John in sulky mood to Thomas
Have stole the very river from us.
O Scotland, long has it been said
Thy teeth are sharp for English bread
What seize our bread and water too
And use us worse than jailors do;
'Tis true, 'tis hard; 'tis hard, 'tis true.
Ye friends of George, and friends of James,
Envy us not our river Thames;
The Princess, fond of raw-boned faces,
May give you all our posts and places;
Take all to gratify your pride,
But dip your oatmeal in the Clyde.

In 1772 the building of houses began. No expense was spared. Some of the best painters and craftsmen of the time worked on the interiors including Angelica Kauffmann, Cipriani and Zucchi. The brothers ran into financial difficulties. The Government refused to lease the cellars for storing gunpowder because they flooded at high tide; and the development was remote from the fashionable West End. In 1773 an Act was passed allowing a lottery to be held to raise money to complete the scheme. The lottery was held the next year at JONATHAN'S COFFEE HOUSE, CHANGE ALLEY. There were 4,370 tickets costing £50 each, for 108 prizes. Thus the Adams remained precariously solvent. Soon afterwards the development was complete. As its centrepiece was the Royal Terrace of 11 houses which was presented as a 41-bay architectural unit with unifying central and flanking pilasters. On each side were ADAM STREET and ROBERT STREET and, behind, John Street, James Street and William Street. In 1864–70 the VICTORIA EMBANKMENT was built in front of the Terrace, depriving it of its riverside position. In 1867 the Adelphi Vaults were 'in part occupied as wine cellars and coal wharfs, their grim vastness, a reminder of the Etruscan Cloaca of Old Rome'. Here, according to Tombs, 'the most abandoned characters have often passed the night, nestling upon foul straw; and many a street thief escaped from his pursuers in these dismal haunts before the introduction of gaslight and a vigilant police.' These vaults can still be seen in Lower Robert Street off York



The south front of the Adams' development, the Adelphi. The vaults were 'a reminder of the Etruscan Cloaca of Old Rome'.

Buildings. In 1872 the Royal Terrace lost much of its charm when its façade was cemented over and its wrought iron balconies were removed. The arches were also underpinned. In 1936–8 the Royal Terrace block was demolished and replaced by a building by Colcutt and Hemp, shamelessly called Adelphi and sporting bold zodiacal symbols. The streets have been renamed and renumbered several times. John Street and Duke Street now form JOHN ADAM STREET and James Street and William Street are now named DURHAM HOUSE STREET. Only a few of the original houses remain, one of the most attractive being No. 7 ADAM STREET, the offices of the *Lancet*. The Adelphi concept was shortly afterwards imitated by the Adams' staid rival, Sir William Chambers, at SOMERSET HOUSE with its raised riverside terrace.

Adelphi Terrace WC2. Robert and James Adam lived here in 1773–8; so did Dr Johnson's friend, Topham Beauclerk, in 1772–6; and David Garrick in 1772–5. His widow continued to live here for a further 43 years after his death, dying in 1822. A room from the demolished house was reconstructed at the VICTORIA AND ALBERT MUSEUM. The quack doctor, James Graham, had his Temple of Health here in 1778–81 before moving to SCHOMBERG HOUSE, PALL MALL. His Temple was hung with 'walking sticks, ear trumpets, visual glasses, crutches, etc. left and here placed as most honourable trophies by deaf, weak, paralytic and emaciated persons, cripples etc. who being cured had no longer need of such assistance'. Graham's 'celestial bed' for conceiving perfect children was hired out at £100 per night. In 1781 Emma Lyon, later Lady Hamilton, is said to have posed for him as the Goddess of Health. A resident in 1881–1901

was Richard D'Oyly Carte, producer of the Savoy Operas. Sir Arthur Blomfield had his office here in 1864–8. Thomas Hardy studied architecture under him during 1864–7. Hardy then returned to Dorchester, claiming that his health had suffered from the stench of the mud at low tide. He recollected, 'I sat there, drawing inside the easternmost window of the front room on the first floor, occasionally varying the experience by idling on the balcony. I saw from there the Embankment and Charing Cross Bridge built and, of course, used to think of Garrick and Johnson. The rooms contained fine Adam mantelpieces in white marble on which we used to sketch caricatures in pencil.' Charles Booth, the shipowner, social reformer and author of *Life and Labour of the People in London*, lived here from 1894 to 1901. The LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS moved here in its third year of life. Miss Charlotte Payne Townshend, benefactor and friend of the Webbs, took the two upper storeys so that she could help with the social side of the school. In 1898 she married George Bernard Shaw and the couple lived here until 1929 when demolition threatened. The LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS moved to its own building in CLARE MARKET in 1902.

Adelphi Theatre Strand, WC2. (Formerly Sans Pareil, 1806–19; Adelphi, 1819–29; Theatre Royal, New Adelphi, 1829–67; Royal Adelphi, 1867–1901; Century, 1901–2; Royal Adelphi, 1902–40.) Opened in 1806 by John Scott, a local tradesman, to launch his daughter as an actress. It was sold in 1819 to Jones and Rodwell who put on burlettas and dramatised versions of Walter Scott's novels. In 1821 Moncrieff's dramatisation of Pierce Egan's *Tom and Jerry, or Life in London* had over 100 performances, a long run in

those days. In 1834 the first sinking stage in England was installed. From 1837 to 1845 popular dramatisations of Dickens's novels were performed here. In 1844 Madame Celeste and Ben Webster took over the management. They produced 'Adelphi dramas', mostly written by J.B. Buckstone, of which the best were *The Green Bushes* (1845) and *The Flowers of the Forest* (1847). The theatre was rebuilt in 1858 by T.H. Wyatt to look like the Opéra Comique in Paris. In the 1880s and 1890s it was famous for melodramas produced by G.R. Sims, Henry Pettit and Sydney Grundy. Among them were *In the Ranks* (1883), *The Harbour Lights* (1885) and *The Bells of Hazlemere* (1887). In 1897 a real drama took place outside the theatre when William Terris, the leading actor, was shot by a lunatic. In 1900 the theatre was rebuilt by Ernest Runtz. In 1904–8 Otho Stuart's management was noted for its productions of modern drama and Shakespearean revivals. From 1908 to 1922 musical comedies were staged. The most successful of these were *The Quaker Girl* (1908), *Tina* (1915), *High Jinks* (1916), *The Boy* (1917), *The Naughty Princess* (1920) and *The Golden Moth* (1921). These were followed by dramas, musical comedies and revues. Outstanding productions were the revue *Clowns in Clover* (1927) and the musical comedy *Mr Cinders* (1929). The theatre was again rebuilt by Ernest Schaufelberg in 1930. It reopened with *Evergreen* produced by C.B. Cochran. The seating capacity is 1,500.

Admiral's Walk NW3. Extends from HAMPSTEAD GROVE to Lower Terrace. Takes its name, as does Admiral's House, from the 18th-century admiral, Matthew Barton, who, although a HAMPSTEAD resident, never in fact lived here. The house was built in about 1700, and Fountain North, a naval officer who bought it in 1791, constructed the quarterdeck on the roof where Admiral Barton has long and wrongly been supposed to have fired salutes on special occasions. Other residents of the house have included Sir George Gilbert Scott and Sir John Fortescue.

Admiralty Whitehall, SW1. In the early 17th century naval business was done at Wallingford House during the ownership of the 1st Duke of Buckingham, the Lord High Admiral. This was burned down in 1694 and replaced by Wren's Admiralty, a building mainly taken up with residential accommodation for the First Sea Lord and his officers. This in turn was replaced in 1722–6 by Thomas Ripley's existing building which incorporated interior features from the previous building, notably the carved wood garlands and nautical instruments above the Board Room fireplace which are possibly by Grinling Gibbons. The date 1695 is carved on a quadrant to the right of the fireplace. Its heavy portico was 'deservedly veiled', in Horace Walpole's phrase, by Robert Adam's graceful screen in 1759–61. In 1786–8 ADMIRALTY HOUSE was built to the south for the First Lord of the Admiralty. Nelson lay in state here in 1806. William, Duke of Clarence, while First Lord in 1827–8, enlarged the entrance in the screen for his carriage. In 1894–5 Leeming and Leeming's extension was built on the garden of ADMIRALTY HOUSE. The building was badly damaged in the 2nd World War and there was a fire in 1955. Restoration was completed in 1958.

Admiralty Arch *The Mall, SW1.* Built in 1910 to the design of Sir Aston Webb as part of the Queen



The board room of the Admiralty in the early 19th century. The carved wood garlands are possibly by Grinling Gibbons.

Victoria memorial scheme, it is the terminal point of THE MALL, leading into TRAFALGAR SQUARE. It comprises three identical deep arches, each with wrought-iron gates. The gate in the central arch is opened only on ceremonial occasions.

Admiralty House *Whitehall, SW1.* Built in 1786–8 by Samuel Pepys Cockerell as a residence for the First Lord of the Admiralty. In 1894–5 an extension to the ADMIRALTY was built in the garden. The summer house by William Kent was moved to BUCKINGHAM PALACE. Among the First Lords of the Admiralty who have used the house are Earl Grey (1806), Thomas Grenville (1806–7), the Duke of Clarence, afterwards William IV (1827–8), Lord Tweedmouth (1905–8), Winston Churchill (1911–15 and 1939–40), A.J. Balfour (1915–16), Austen Chamberlain (1931), and Duff Cooper (1937–8).

Aeolian Hall *135–137 New Bond Street, W1.* Opened in January 1904 with a recital by the Orchestrelle Company who had taken over the Grosvenor Art Gallery in 1903 and converted it into a concert hall with seating for some 500 people. An organ was built for it and a small gallery added at the back. In 1941 it was taken over by the BBC as a broadcasting studio. It was closed in 1975. (See also SOTHEBY'S.)

Aerated Bread Co. *17 Camden Road, NW1.* Opened their first tea shop in the STRAND in 1861, several years before the first Lyons' tea shop (see LYONS' CORNER HOUSES). Over the next century hundreds of branches and many tea shops were opened all over the Greater London area. The tea shops have now all closed.

Agar Town The 72-acre area is now covered by the approaches to ST PANCRAS STATION. When William Agar leased the land in 1810 it was open fields and the intended route of the REGENT'S CANAL. Agar protested about the canal and the route was changed. In 1831 part of the estate was sublet, and overnight a shanty town developed with no proper drainage. In 1851 Dickens called it an 'English suburban Conemara . . . A complete bog of mud and filth with deep cart-ruts, wretched hovels, the doors blocked up with mud, heaps of ashes, oyster shells and decayed vegetables. The stench of a rainy morning is enough to

knock down a bullock.' In 1866 it was taken over by the Midland Railway Company after the ECCLESIASTICAL COMMISSIONERS had refused to renew the Agar family lease. The town was demolished to make way for the new terminal. Tom Sayers, the pugilist, lived in Agar Town for many years; and Dan Leno was born here in 1861.

Air Pilots' and Air Navigators' Guild *see* CITY LIVERY COMPANIES.

Airports HOUNSLOW was London's original civil aerodrome, appointed as such when civilian flying was resumed after the 1st World War. But on 29 March 1920 CROYDON was made the London Customs Air Port and HOUNSLOW was closed. In 1923 a Civil Aviation Advisory Board report on London's aerodrome facilities recommended the retention and enlargement of CROYDON. Consequently this aerodrome was improved and extended and, on 30 January 1928, came into operation as the new Airport of London, being officially opened on 2 May. After the 2nd World War the Government decided that CROYDON and NORTHOLT would be used as London airports in the immediate post-war period, and on 1 January 1946 the site of a new London Airport at Heathrow was handed over by the Air Ministry to the Ministry of Civil Aviation. In March NORTHOLT came into temporary use as a civil airport (on loan from the RAF to the MCA) and later that month Heathrow was named London Airport, being opened as London (Heathrow) Airport on 31 May 1946 when direct services between the United States and the United Kingdom were started.

In 1952 the Government approved the development of Gatwick (which had had a brief but not very successful pre-war existence) and in 1954 a White Paper proposed that it should be developed as a second main airport to serve London. Elizabeth II opened the new Gatwick Airport on 9 June 1958 and in the following year the former London Airport at Croydon was closed. Development had continued at Heathrow where, on 16 December 1955, the Queen had opened the first three permanent buildings in the Central Area set in the middle of the pattern of the airport's parallel runways. Gatwick was also developed, and on 1 April 1966 the newly formed British Airports Authority took over responsibility for both airports.

During the 1970s further improvements were made at Gatwick, including runway extension and new and enlarged terminal facilities, opened by Prince Charles on 9 June 1978. Shortly after that date Heathrow, for the first time, handled a record total of 106,841 passengers in one day. In nine days in August 1980 the number of passengers handled exceeded 100,000; on 31 August that year the number was 112,880. The total area of London (Heathrow) Airport is 2,810 acres. The Piccadilly Line underground was extended to Heathrow in 1977, Heathrow Central Station being opened on 16 December that year.

Albany Piccadilly, W1. The house was originally built in 1770-4 for the 1st Viscount Melbourne to the design of Sir William Chambers. Melbourne House, as it was then known, was soon afterwards exchanged by Lord Melbourne for the WHITEHALL mansion of Frederick, Duke of York and Albany. In 1802 it was sold to Alexander Copland, a young builder, who commissioned Henry Holland to convert the house into

chambers for bachelors. This was done and two large blocks were built on each side of the garden. These blocks were separated – and still are separated – by a paved and covered walk, the rope walk, leading from the PICCADILLY entrance into BURLINGTON GARDENS. The BURLINGTON GARDENS lodges remain, though the entrance gate on the PICCADILLY front and the shops which Holland built on either side of it have disappeared. Residents – women in recent years as well as men – have included Henry Holland himself, Lord Brougham, Charles Wyndham, Palmerston, Sir Robert Smirke, Canning, 'Monk' Lewis, Byron, George Basevi, Gladstone, Bulwer-Lytton, T.B. Macaulay, Sir Thomas Beecham, Aldous Huxley, Sir Arthur Bryant, Prince Littler, Terence Rattigan, Viscount Lee of Fareham, Antony Armstrong-Jones, Malcolm Muggeridge, Dame Edith Evans, J.B. Priestley, Graham Greene, Sir Harold Nicolson, Lord Clark, Margaret Leighton, Terence Stamp and Edward Heath. There are 69 sets of chambers.

Albany Empire *Douglas Way, Deptford, SE8.* The very first purpose-built Community Theatre in Britain, it forms part of the Albany Community Centre and the performances staged are often based on local issues. It was designed by Howell, Killick, Patridge and Amis.

Albany Street NW1. Extends from south to north across the circle of REGENT'S PARK. It was laid out progressively during the 1820s, and takes its name from the title of Prince Frederick, Duke of Albany, George IV's younger brother. It is an interesting street with the back premises of the ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS at its southern end, CHRIST CHURCH in the centre, and the REGENT'S PARK BARRACKS to the north. The Queen's Head and Artichoke public house at Nos 30-32, rebuilt about the turn of this century, still occupies the site on the corner with Longford Street which a courageous earlier proprietor leased when REGENT'S PARK was first planned – as far as is known, he was the first person to take up a lease on the new estate. Sir Edward Jenner occupied both Nos 8 and 12 at different times; Francis Trevelyan Buckland, the naturalist, lived at No. 37 in 1865-80; the Rossetti family at No. 45; Henry Mayhew at No. 55; and Edward Lear stayed at No. 61. Nos 140-148 have fine stucco for they were built by William Nosworthy, Nash's own plasterer. Nos 119-217 are of the original building and unspoiled. Just south of CHRIST CHURCH stood a curious building, demolished in 1968. It was constructed as an Ophthalmic Hospital to extend the work undertaken gratuitously by Sir William Adams at York Hospital in CHELSEA, of treating soldiers suffering from eye disease contracted during the Egyptian campaigns against Napoleon. Later, Sir Goldsworthy Gurney, the inventor, took over the lease and built himself a steam-carriage in the yard which he tried out around the Park before driving it to Bath in July 1829. Later, the hospital was used as a factory for Perkins and Bacon's 'steam guns', a prototype of the modern machine gun. Thereafter, the building was used for a variety of warehouse purposes. The White House Hotel, which has 600 rooms, is on the east side.

Albemarle Street W1. After the death in exile of Edward Hyde, Earl of Clarendon, in 1674 his great palace and grounds in PICCADILLY, known as