

## LONDON BOROUGH OF CAMDEN

### GUIDELINES ON THE NAMING OF STREETS AND BUILDINGS

- i) New street or building names should not duplicate any similar name already in use in a borough or neighbouring boroughs. A variation in the suffix, e.g., 'street', 'road', 'avenue', etc., should not be accepted as sufficient reason to duplicate a name.
- ii) Street names should not be difficult to pronounce or awkward to spell. In general, words of more than three syllables should be avoided and precludes the use of two words except in special cases. However, the Council recognises the multi racial make up of the Borough's community and would therefore welcome the proposed use of names that are historically important to significant numbers of the Borough's community.
- iii) Subsidiary names (e.g. a row of buildings within an already named road being called ' ..... Terrace') should not be used.
- iv) All new street names should end with one of the follow suffixes:

**Street** for any road

**Road**  
**Way** for major roads

**Road**  
**Avenue**  
**Drive**  
**Grove**  
**Lane**  
**Gardens** (Subject to there being no confusion with any local open space)  
**Place**

**Crescent** - for a crescent-shaped road

**Close** - for a cul-de-sac only

**Square** - for a square only

**Hill** - for a hillside road only

**Circus** - for a large roundabout

**Terrace** - for a terrace of houses  
(provided it is not a  
Subsidiary name)

**Vale**

**Dene**

**Rise**

**Mead** (for residential roads only for exceptional use if pushed)

Non acceptable suffixes:

End, Court, Cross, Side, View, Wharf, Walk, Park, Meadow.

(All these words can, of course, be incorporated in a street name provided it terminates with an appropriate suffix (e.g. Mile End Road)).

Exceptions: Single or dual names without suffixes in appropriate places (e.g. Broadway - for major roads only).

v) All new pedestrian ways should end with one of the following suffixes:

**Walk**  
**Path**  
**Way**

vi) No street or building name to start with 'The'.

vii) All new block names should end with one of the following suffixes:

**Lodge**  
**Apartments**  
**Mansions**  
**House**  
**Court**           - residential only  
**Point**           - high block residential only  
**Tower**           - high block offices or residential  
**Heights**

- viii) For private houses it is sufficient that the name should not repeat the name of the road or that of any house or building in the area.
- ix) Avoid aesthetically unsuitable names such as Gaswork Road, Tip House, Coalpit Lane or names capable of deliberate misinterpretation like Hoare Road, Typple Avenue, Swag House, Quare Street, etc.
- x) The use of North, South, East or West (as in Alfred Road North and Alfred Road South (or East or West) is only acceptable where the road is continuous and passes a major junction. It is not acceptable when the road is in two separate parts with no vehicular access between the two. In such a case one half should be completely renamed.
- xi) Avoid having two phonetically similar names within a postal area and, if possible, within a borough, e.g., Alfred Road and Alfred Close or Churchill Road and Birch Hill Road.

## THE NUMBERING OF BUILDINGS

- i) A new street should be numbered with even numbers on one side and odd numbers on the other except that for a cul-de-sac consecutive numbering in a clockwise direction is preferred.
- ii) Private garages and similar buildings used only for housing cars, etc., should not be numbered.
- iii) The number 13 is to be used in the proper sequence and no sanction should be given to its avoidance. (However, consideration will be given to requests to renumber from 13 if a medical certificate is produced showing that the number is having an adverse effect on the applicant's health).
- iv) Buildings (including those on corner sites) are numbered according to the street in which the main entrance is to be found and the manipulation of numbering in order to secure a 'prestige' address or to avoid an address which is thought to have undesired associations should not be sanctioned.
- v) If a building has entrances in more than one street, is a multi-occupied building and each entrance leads to a separate occupier, and then each entrance should be numbered in the appropriate road. Exceptions may be made, depending on the circumstances, for a house divided into flats.
- vi) A named building may not have more than one number in one street.
- vii) In residential buildings (e.g. blocks of flats) it is usual to give a street number to each dwelling where the block is up to six storeys in height. When the block exceeds this height or there are not sufficient numbers available because of existing development, it should be given a name and number in the street. The numbering of flats within a named or numbered building is outside the scope of the Council's powers but developers may be advised that on each floor the numbering should be in a clockwise direction where this is possible, or alternatively to consult the local District Postmaster. When flats are numbered internally they should be numbered not lettered (e.g. Flat 2, 21 Smith Street or Flat A, 21 Smith Street and not 21A Smith Street which might already be used by an adjoining infill building).
- viii) The Act permits the use of numbers followed by letter fractions (Section 11(2)). These are needed, for instance when one large old house in a road is demolished and replaced by (say) four smaller houses. To include the new house in the numbering sequence would involve renumbering all the higher numbered houses on that side of the road. If a considerable number of other houses would be affected, then to avoid this each new house should be given the number of the old house with either A, B, C or D added. Fractions are only used where it is not possible to use letters.

## RENAMING OR RENUMBERING STREETS AND BUILDINGS

Renaming or renumbering existing streets and buildings is normally only considered when changes occur which give rise (or are likely to give rise) to problems for the occupiers, Post Office or Emergency Services, etc.