

## ***Quaker Meeting House, Walthamstow***

*1a Jewel Road, Walthamstow, London, E17 4QU*

*National Grid Reference: TQ 37192 89560*



### ***Statement of Significance***

***The meeting house is a former printing works of c1900 which was converted for Quaker use in 1997. It has medium heritage value.***

#### ***Evidential value***

***The building preserves many traces of its original function as a late Victorian light industrial premises and is of medium evidential value.***

#### ***Historical value***

***The building is of medium historical value, largely on account of its previous function as a printing works.***

#### ***Aesthetic value***

***The building is a functional, accretive structure of low aesthetic value.***

#### ***Communal value***

***The meeting house is in active use by Quakers and local community groups and has high communal value.***

### **Part 1: Core data**

1.1 Area Meeting: *North East Thames*

1.2 Property Registration Number: *0028110*

1.3 Owner: *Six Weeks Meeting*

- 1.4 Local Planning Authority: *London Borough of Waltham Forest*
- 1.5 Historic England locality: *London*
- 1.6 Civil parish: *Walthamstow NPA*
- 1.7 Listed status: *Not listed*
- 1.8 NHLE: *N/a*
- 1.9 Conservation Area: *No*
- 1.10 Scheduled Ancient Monument: *No*
- 1.11 Heritage at Risk: *No*
- 1.12 Date(s): *c1900, converted c1997*
- 1.13 Architect (s): *original architect or builder not known; conversion by Donald Insall Associates.*
- 1.14 Date of visit: *11 August 2015*
- 1.15 Name of report author: *Neil Burton*
- 1.16 Name of contact(s) made on site: *warden*
- 1.17 Associated buildings and sites: *none*
- 1.18 Attached burial ground: *no*
- 1.19 Information sources:
- Butler, D.M., *The Quaker Meeting Houses of Britain*, 1999, vol. 1, p. 202
- Batsford, M.E., *Nonconformity in Walthamstow* (1977)
- Local Meeting survey by Chris Evans, 2015

## **Part 2: The Meeting House & Burial Ground: history, contents, use, setting and designation**

### 2.1. Historical background

The Bedford Institute Association (now Quaker Social Action) obtained ground in Walthamstow on which a small hall was built in 1903. Three years later a larger hall and classroom block was added. The meeting for worship was settled here in 1908. In 1993 Friends bought a former printing works to give the meeting its own premises separate from the BIA. The building was adapted by the architects Donald Insall & Partners to provide a first floor meeting room with ancillary spaces. The BIA Friends Hall was sold in 2006.

### 2.2. The building and its principal fittings and fixtures

The building is in two parts, which are probably of slightly different dates, though both are of the late nineteenth or early twentieth century. Both are of two storeys and built of yellow and brown brick laid in English bond, with a very great deal of recent brick patching and with roof-coverings of slate. The front range has a canted facade towards the street with three wide shallow-arched windows on each floor and plain brick parapet concealing the roof. The rear range, which is probably slightly earlier in date, is rectangular on plan and has a shallow-pitched hipped roof. Both sides of this range originally had regularly-spaced segment-headed windows on both floors, but many of them have now been blocked or

altered. The interior was extensively altered in the 1990s refurbishment and most of the partitions are new. A new timber stair leads to the first floor and the main meeting room formed in the rear range, where two of the original king-post roof trusses are exposed.

### 2.3 Loose furnishings

There are no loose furnishings of particular historic or aesthetic note.

### 2.4. Attached burial ground (if any)

None

### 2.5. The meeting house in its wider setting

The meeting house building is located in a late Victorian residential street, close to a busy road with shops and buses.

### 2.6. Listed status

The building is not a candidate for statutory listing, or for the local list.

### 2.7. Archaeological potential of the site

The site is not related to any old settlement and has low archaeological potential.