

= Pentonville Road =

Pentonville Road is a road in Central London that runs west to east from Kings Cross to City Road at The Angel , Islington . The road is part of the London Inner Ring Road and part of the boundary of the London congestion charge zone .

The road was originally built in the mid @-@ 18th century as part of the New Road , a bypass of Central London for coach traffic . It was named Pentonville Road after the new town of Pentonville , that encouraged manufacturing to move out of the city and into suburbia . Numerous factories and commercial premises became established on the road in the 19th and 20th centuries , particularly after the arrival of London railways in the 1840s .

As industrial manufacturing fell out of favour in London in the late 20th century , many properties are now residential or student accommodation . Current premises include the Crafts Council Gallery on the site of a former chapel , the Scala nightclub in a former cinema , and The Castle , a public house .

= = Geography = =

The road is 0 @. @ 7 miles (1 @. @ 1 km) long and runs east from King 's Cross railway station as a continuation of Euston Road . It ends at the Angel , Islington , at a junction with Islington High Street and Goswell Road ; the road ahead becoming City Road . Only eastbound traffic can travel on the full extent of the road ; westbound traffic is diverted south via Swinton Street . The road is on the London Inner Ring Road (A501) and as such forms part of the boundary of the London congestion charge zone . Since 1995 , it has been a red route , prohibiting stopping of any kind , including loading and unloading .

Most of the road is in the London Borough of Islington but a small part near Kings Cross is in the London Borough of Camden , including the Kings Cross Thameslink railway station and the " Lighthouse " Block . London Underground and National Rail stations in the vicinity include Kings Cross and Angel tube station .

There has been a bus service on Pentonville Road since 1829 . Regular bus routes running along the road are 30 , 73 and 146 .

= = History = =

What is now Pentonville Road was built as the final section of the New Road in 1756 , connecting the City of London to the western suburbs , so that coach traffic could avoid Central London . At the time , the route now covered by Pentonville Road was mostly fields , with Battle Bridge occupying the space where King 's Cross now is . It included a tavern known as Busby 's Folly , a meeting place of a drinking group known as the Society of Bull Feathers . It is marked on John Ogilby 's map of London in 1675 . It was moved around 1780 to Penton Street and renamed the Belvedere Tavern . The current building dates from 1876 .

The road was designed as part of Pentonville , a new suburb away from the City and became a local hub for manufacturing in the area . There was some debate over the final route of the road ; the original plan to run straight through fields owned by the Skinners Company and the New River Company was rejected in favour of the route further north via Battle Bridge . As it was always intended to be a main road , a coach service began in 1798 between Paddington and Bank but was quickly withdrawn . The road was turnpiked in 1830 and renamed Pentonville Road after landowner Henry Penton in 1857 . Until 1882 , the upkeep of the road was paid by the local parish , paying a ground rent to Penton 's estate for the disused toll house at No. 274 .

The street is distinguished by the " set back " housing lines originally intended to provide an atmosphere of spaciousness along the thoroughfare . The original 1756 act to create the New Road prohibited the construction of any building within 50 feet (15 m) of its side . Though the area had been designed to be a pleasant suburb , the arrival of railways in the 1840s turned the road into an industrial urban street , with factories and workshops aligning the road . The original bylaw

restricting property on the front of the road was ignored and shops were built on top of gardens .

By the 21st century , most of the manufacturing base along Pentonville Road had disappeared . The original townhouses are now apartments .

= = Properties = =

Alexander Cumming , former clockmaker and organ builder to Archibald Campbell , 3rd Duke of Argyll , built a house at No. 166 Pentonville Road . In 1807 , the year after his death , the house became the London Female Penitentiary , housing " fallen women " and rehabilitating them into society . It was extended between 1811 ? 12 , roughly tripling its capacity , and moved to Stoke Newington in 1884 .

The Thomas S. Jones organ builders were based at No. 25 Pentonville Road between 1860 and 1935 . The Dunn & Hewett cocoa factory was established at No. 9 Pentonville Road in 1833 by Daniel Dunn , who went into partnership with Charles Hewett in the 1850s . The business claimed to have invented soluble chocolate and cocoa , and moved to No. 136 , expanding to No. 138 in the 1870s . The building was enlarged and partially rebuilt over the 1880s and 90s , and included a staff tea @-@ room at No. 140 by 1907 . The factory closed around 1930 and was subsequently sub @-@ let to various businesses . The Ealing Radiator Company was established at Nos. 152 ? 154 Pentonville Road in 1936 , manufacturing car radiators . A first floor extension was added in 1952 , while Nos. 136 ? 150 were cleared to accommodate a low metal @-@ framed building . These premises have now been sub @-@ let to various businesses .

The Claremont Chapel was at No. 44a Pentonville Road . It was named after Claremont House , home of the then @-@ recently deceased Princess Charlotte Augusta of Wales . The chapel was designed by Thomas Wilson , who acquired the 2 acre site in 1818 for £ 700 , spending an additional £ 6 @, @ 000 on building works . It opened in October 1819 , though a regular pastor was not appointed until 1822 . The building was extended in 1847 to accommodate a Sunday school , while sash windows were installed in 1853 . In 1860 , the building was refurbished and given a Classical facade , but reducing the capacity of the inside gallery . Attendance declined and the chapel was sold to the London Congregational Union , before closing in 1899 . It re @-@ opened in 1902 as Claremont Hall , a mission institute . It was let for commercial purposes in the 1960s , and sub @-@ let to the Crafts Council in 1991 . The building is now the Crafts Council Gallery , a public gallery funded by the Arts Council England . It contains a number of exhibition rooms that are available for use .

The block of properties at No. 295 ? 297 Pentonville Road , at its junction with Gray 's Inn Road , is known as the " Lighthouse Block " owing to the lead clad tower at the top of the building . The site avoided being compulsory purchased and demolished (in order to provide improvements to King 's Cross station 's eastern entrance) and is now Grade II listed .

The Vernon Square school opened on Pentonville Road in 1913 , expanding to cover secondary school students in 1949 . It was renamed the Sir Philip Magnus School in 1952 and closed in the 1970s . It became part of Kingsway College before being purchased by the School of Oriental and African Studies in 2001 . The SOAS has several other halls of residence along Pentonville Road , including Dinwiddy House .

The Scala at No. 275 ? 277 Pentonville Road opened as the King 's Cross Cinema in 1920 with a capacity of 1 @, @ 300 . Construction had begun just before World War I and was halted because of it . It was damaged by bombs during World War II , and while it remained open during wartime , it eventually had to be shut between 1949 and 1952 for renovations and repair . It closed in 1970 , and re @-@ opened as an independent cinema , which showed old 16mm films including King Kong . The Stooges played their only gig in London at the venue in June 1972 , shortly before recording the album Raw Power with David Bowie ; a shot of Iggy Pop onstage here became the album 's front cover . The venue closed in 1992 , and is now a nightclub .

The Castle is a pub at No. 54 Pentonville Road , at the junction with Baron Street . In 2015 , the perpetrators of the Hatton Garden safe deposit burglary met at the pub to discuss the crime shortly after it occurred , but were secretly filmed there by the Flying Squad . All were subsequently

arrested and sent to prison . The current owners , Geronimo Inns , wish to distance themselves from the burglary and forbid staff to discuss it with customers .

The original Angel , Islington , sits at the far east end of Pentonville Road , at its junction with Islington High Street . It was named after the Angel of the Annunciation that appeared on its sign . The inn pre -dated the construction of Pentonville Road , and had become one of the largest coaching inns in the local area by the 18th century . The site was cut in two by the construction of the road , with the inn remaining on the north side . A new building was constructed in 1899 , later becoming a Lyons Corner House . It closed in 1959 , and was threatened with demolition as a plan to improve junction improvements around Pentonville Road , but survived and is now partly occupied by a branch of The Co -operative Bank .

= = Cultural references = =

The poet John Betjeman 's parents ran a cabinet makers at No. 34 - 42 Pentonville Road . It was established since 1859 and produced the Tantalus drinks cabinet in 1881 .

Pentonville Road is one of the locations on the London version of the Monopoly board game . It is one of the light blue squares alongside The Angel , Islington and Euston Road , both of which it connects to . The magazine Mixmag 's main offices are at Nos. 90 - 92 Pentonville Road .