**TRADESMAN’S ENTRANCE**

**Further information**

**Context**

Earlsdon is a suburb one mile south of Coventry in the West Midlands, UK. It is distinctive in that it is almost fully self-contained and has a thriving high street of shops, banks, bars, a public library, a primary school, several churches, and a theatre. It has a strong sense of community and four resident associations. The ‘Echo’, its community newspaper, has been running since 1980, as has the annual Earlsdon Festival held each year in May. At the center of Earlsdon is a clock on a small roundabout flanked by a pub, a co-op food store, a school, a library and a church. Much of the architecture is red brick Victorian/Edwardian terrace with some detached/semi-detached houses. Recent development has included the in fill of land between original buildings with an array of small blocks of retirement flats and some social housing. Increasingly industrial units have been turned into housing. Earlsdon now has a high proportion of residents who are students, lecturers, health and other public sector workers. Earlsdon grew up fast in the early Victorian era to accommodate firstly the ribbon workers, then the watchmakers then the bicycle industry. Historically domestic and workspaces have existed in close proximity or fully integrated as live/work spaces. The ribbon weavers and watchmakers worked in top shops (rooms at the top of the house with extra large windows). While the engineering workshops of the bike and early car/aeronautical industry nestle between, and in the back yards, of the red brick terraces.

More info about Earlsdon’s Heritage Trail & Earlsdon generally can be found at:

**Earlsdon Online**: <http://www.earlsdon.org.uk/history/heritagetrail.html>

**Earlsdon Residents Associations:** <http://www.earlsdon.org.uk/local/associations.html>