Brentham: a history of the pioneer garden suburb
by Aileen Reid
Foreword by HRH The Prince of Wales
Introduction by Professor Sir Peter Hall

Publisher: Brentham Heritage Society
Price: £30.00
ISBN: 0-9538775-0-7
Size: 190 x 260 mm landscape
Extent: 264 pages; hardback
Illustrations: 227 black-and-white photographs, plans, maps, and line drawing, 71 colour illustrations; colour endpapers

Aileen Reid's Brentham ... quietly revolutionises the historiography of the garden city and suburb ... [a] masterly study ... a generous and beautiful ... first-rate book with far wider than local interest.

PLANNING HISTORY

...a handsome and lavishly illustrated book ... a comprehensive and superbly illustrated account ... a treasure trove of historical photographs ... a considerable achievement and a valuable addition to the literature on garden suburb history

BUILDING DESIGN

There are many more exciting press reviews

About the book. This lavishly illustrated landscape hardback tells, for the first time, the remarkable story of Brentham Garden Suburb through a century of change. Superbly produced and containing 300 illustrations, more than 70 in colour, Brentham: a history of the pioneer garden suburb explores how far the visionary aims of Brentham's founders were realised, and uncovers the rich architectural, social and planning legacy that survives today. Chapters cover Brentham's roots in the co-operative and garden city movements, Ealing Tenants Ltd and the building of the pioneering suburb, social life in the early years, the suburb's distinctive architecture, May Day festivities, architecture and planning, the war years, and conservation since 1969, when the area was designated a Conservation Area. The book includes an appendix which takes readers for a walk around Brentham, as well as a detailed and informative bibliography.

About the author. Aileen Reid was educated at Edinburgh University and the Courtauld Institute of Art, London University, from which she received her doctorate for a thesis on E.W. Godwin, first architect of the 'prototype garden suburb', Bedford Park in Chiswick, west London. She has written or contributed to more than 20 books and academic journals, and has worked on exhibitions at the National Gallery of Scotland and Dulwich Picture Gallery. Her publications have ranged in subject from Elizabethan theatre to Marilyn Monroe, via I.M. Pei and Aubrey Beardsley, though her main interest is 19th- and early 20th-century architecture. As curator of the former home of Sir Emery Walker, typographer, antiquarian and close friend of William Morris, Aileen Reid catalogued the contents and oversaw the opening to the public of this perfectly preserved Arts & Crafts interior. Since 2005 she has worked as an historian at English Heritage with the Survey of London, researching the history of Clerkenwell, and she regularly reviews books for the Sunday Telegraph and Apollo. Aileen Reid lives in Holborn, one of London's earliest suburbs.

To order a copy click here
The Pioneer Co-Partnership Suburb (facsimile edition)

Publisher: Brentham Heritage Society (first printed and bound by the Garden City Press, Letchworth)
Price: £3.50
Publication: 1990 (first published 1912)
ISBN: 0-9505934-1-9
Size: 240 x 152 mm
Extent: 64 pages;
Illustrations: 57 black-and-white line photographs, line drawings, plans and other illustrations. Colour foldout map

Originally produced to mark the opening of the Brentham Institute by the Duke and Duchess of Connaught in 1911, this handsome and beautifully produced facsimile edition records the first 10 years of Brentham Garden Suburb. The ideals of co-partnership are eloquently expressed: “For through the medium of co-operation all may enjoy a share of very many advantages, the individual possession of which can only be attained by the few”. .

To order a copy click here

The Brentham Story (DVD)

This splendid new 73-minute DVD, released on 11th April 2006, is an absorbing and eminently watchable introduction to the history, architecture and community life of Brentham Garden Suburb. Commissioned by the Brentham Heritage Society, and made by BAFTA-nominated filmmaker and local resident Martin Mortimore, it consists of a charming 50-minute film and two ten-minute ‘bonus features’, one on Brentham’s architectural heritage and the other on a conservation ‘case study’.

The intriguing history of Brentham is covered, as well as the annual calendar of events including the May Day festivities, now in their centenary year, and the popular Strawberry Tea and Open Gardens Day. The Brentham Story is a must-have for every Brentham resident and anyone interested in Arts and Crafts architecture and the Garden Suburb movement.

The DVD has attracted some publicity.

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