

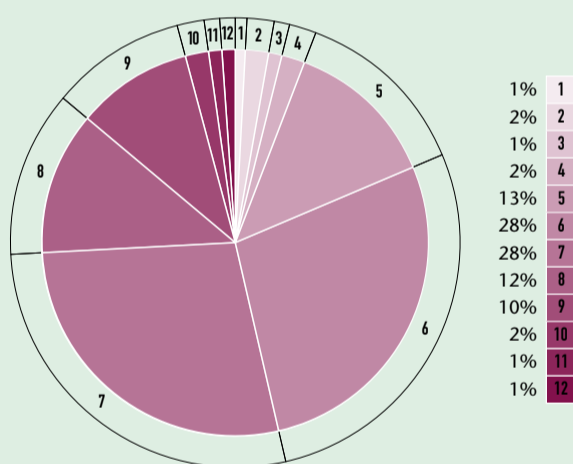
A snapshot of Hampstead Way from the 1911 Census

By the time of the 1911 Census taken on April 2/3, 145 of the eventual 179 houses in the Hampstead Way, right up to Reynolds Close, had already been built, although eight were still unfinished buildings. One of the houses had been subdivided, so for that address there were two census returns submitted. Eight of the properties were unoccupied on census night, as presumably their tenants were away from home. So there were 130 returns filed for the road.

The original numbering of Hampstead Way began at the Temple Fortune end of the road with adjacent houses numbered in sequence on the east or north side from 1. However further along the road the numbering crisscrossed the road with little logic. Early in 1913 the whole road was renumbered, and no house retained its original number. The new numbering, given here italicised, began this time at the opposite end of the road, at the North End Way end of Hampstead Way. The west/south side of the road was numbered with odd numbers beginning at 1, up to 221 just before the entrance Farm Walk. Even numbers were used for the east/north side beginning at number 6, the house at the bottom of Hampstead Heath Extension, then called Winnepesaukee (which had previously been 200), up to 164 (which had been number 1) at the Temple Fortune end of the road. Note that some numbers do not exist.

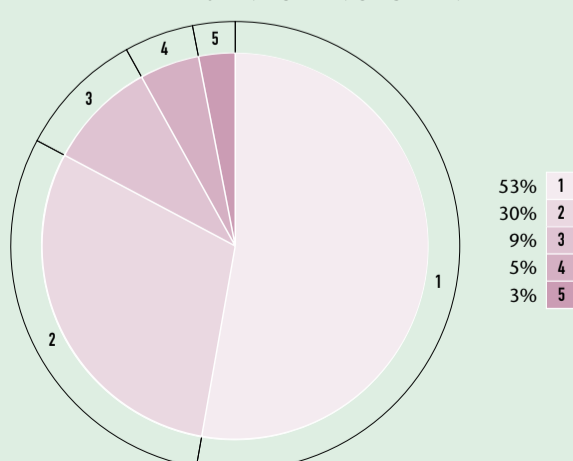
The houses/properties came in a variety of sizes and had between one and twelve rooms (see chart above). For census purposes halls, landings or bathrooms are not considered as rooms, but kitchens, studies, as well as living rooms and bedrooms are. The largest houses were those near the Extension. 119 houses had between 5 and 9 rooms, and the average number of rooms was 6.7.

PROPERTIES PER NUMBER OF ROOMS



There were 535 people residing in the road on census night: 201 males, and 334 females. 66 of the households, or 50.8%, were families with children under 16. Not all were nuclear families, as the children were not always living with their parents: one lived with her older brother and sister and widowed grandmother, another with her grandmother, four were nieces or visitors, and one four-year old boy lived with his single mother. There were 115 children under 16 (or 21.5% of the total number of residents) living in the street. 35 families had only one child aged under 16, 20 had two, 6 had three, 3 with four and 2 with five. The average number of children per family was 1.74. There were, of course, some families with children aged 16 and over still living at home with them. These older children were mostly part of the workforce.

FAMILIES PER NUMBER OF CHILDREN



22 of the heads of household were women, seven of whom were married, five were widowed and ten were single ladies. 107 heads of household were men, 95 of whom were married, five were widowed and seven were single. The sex of one head of household was not known. Eight of the married households only had one partner at home that night. The average length of a marriage was 10.9 years.

Households contained a variety of family members other than sons and daughters and there were 25 visitors staying in the road on census night. There were also 22 boarders, or paying guests. There were 78 live-in staff, mostly servants (two of whom were only 15 years old), but also employees who were housekeepers, family helps, companions, private tutors, nurses and cooks.

23, or 4.4%, of the 535 residents had been born abroad, including ten in Europe. Ten hailed from Scotland, five from Wales and two from Ireland, with another four from the Isle of Wight. But by far the majority, 296 or 55.3%, had been born in London, with another 65, or 12.1%, in the Home Counties. 122, or 22.8%, came from elsewhere in England, and the birthplace of five was not given. Two of the servants did not know where they had been born and one of these was listed as a foundling.

The average age of the heads of household was 41.1 years, with 29 being the average age overall for the street. Only eleven residents were over 65. The oldest inhabitant, and the only one in her eighties, was 82.

287 people (53.6% of the residents) had occupations and this included the live-in staff, who formed 27.9% of the employees. The next most common career was that of a clerk; there were 67 people, or 23.3% of the workforce, with that occupation living in Hampstead Way, many working in the Civil Service, but in other industries too. There were thirteen artists (mostly painters, but also an actress, an authoress, a concert pianist and a draughtsman), twenty teachers, nine architects or surveyors, three doctors and a dentist. The Post Office employed ten. There was an accountant, a stockbroker, a barrister but also those employed in the building trade such as a plumber, a house painter and a carpenter. One person managed a cinematograph company, another was a jeweller, another a silversmith. Five of the wives worked.

The resident at house number 57 (*now 121*) had refused to fill in the census return. She was a female suffragette with the surname Kelsey, aged approximately 52, and living with her two grown-up sons and a servant. The scant information given had



Larger houses on Hampstead Way by the Heath



Hampstead Way gardens

been collected by the Registrar who had amended the return and added: "Particulars inserted from information obtained by instructions from Registrar General".

Interesting observations noted on certain occupants of the road in 1911 are:

- At 12 (*now 142*) – a builder's foreman for the Co-Partnership Tenants, Herbert Cecil Wood
- At 21 (*now 124*) – a concert pianist, George Woodhouse
- In Litchfield Square – several civil servants, and also several artists
- At 84 (*now 173*) – a professional singer, James Saker
- At 92 (*now 89*) – the Brooks Club hall porter, John Storer
- At 81 (*now 142*), 98 (*now 201*), 118 (*now 70*), 130 (*now 46*), 158 (*now 30*) – architects, respectively James Rogers, Francis Hart, Arthur Stratton, Thomas Wilson, Charles Tate (as well as both Charles Simmons and Raymond Unwin living up in Wyldes Close)
- At 146 (*now 40*) – an actress, Mabel Thomas
- At 175 (*now 101*) – the Free Church Minister, Rev James Henry Rushbrooke
- At 248 (then called Heath Close Corner) (*now 51*), the Keeper of the Wallace Collection, Dugald Sutherland MacColl
- At 251, (called Nine Elms) (*now 45*), The HM Medical Inspector of Prisons, Dr Thomas Legge, who had been born in Hong Kong.
- Others who were born abroad included: at number 100 (Briarcot) (*now 205*), William Thorn Spettigue, who was a hosier and outfitter, born in Ontario, Canada; at 119 (*now 68*) Carl Kinzbrunner, secretary of a learned science society, born in Austria; at 185 (*now 81*), James Walter Smith, a publishing editor and journalist, born in the USA. an activist in the Co-Partnership and Garden City movement.

Janice Blackstaffe, Garden Suburb Archives



Foundation cottages pre WW1



Hampstead Way towards Finchley Road



Hampstead Way near junction with Willifield Way

The Hampstead Garden Suburb Archives Trust
exists to preserve the history and culture of the Suburb

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