

1 Finsbury Park

Opened in 1869 by the Metropolitan Board of Works as a recreation area for the expanding population. Earlier plans for a much larger Albert Park were overtaken by development in Highbury. The park is now managed by Haringey Council.

**2 Arsenal World of Sport
Finsbury Park Station**
T 020 7272 1000

**3 North London
Central Mosque**

**4 St Thomas's
Church (1888-9)**

**5 Gillespie Park Local
Nature Reserve &
Islington Ecology Centre**
T 020 7354 5162

A range of wildlife habitats including woodland, meadow, wetland and ponds. Activities for children and adults; Organic Café in the summer; community festival in September. Closed when Arsenal plays at home. Main entrance in Drayton Park.

6 Arsenal Stadium

Built on the playing fields of a former theological college after the football club moved from Woolwich in 1913. As well as being able to watch some of the best of English football, there's more to see. The club's museum is open on Fridays 9.30 – 4.00. Tours take place Mon – Fri, but appointments are needed. And there's the Gunners Shop. T 020 7704 4000 www.arsenal.co.uk

7 Blackstock Road

Notable for the number and variety of locally-owned cafés and restaurants clustered at the north end and near Gillespie Road. A good place to begin or end a walk. Watch too for Mix, the amazing hardware shop.

8 St Joan of Arc RC Church

A 'modernised Gothic' church of 1960-62; parabolic arches span the spacious interior.

9 Highbury Barn

In the late 18th century a rural pleasure resort for Londoners took form at the top of the hill. By the 1860s, the tea gardens, theatre and dancing drew vast crowds and petty criminals. After a riot led by students from Bart's Hospital in 1869, residents petitioned the magistrates and the pleasure gardens were built over. Today it's still a noted area for refreshment and special food shopping.

**10 Clock Tower &
Christ Church**

The small cast iron clock tower by Christ Church was built in 1897 to commemorate Queen Victoria's 60th anniversary.

**11 Florence Trust Studios,
Aberdeen Park**

Studios in the former St Saviour's Church offer professional visual artists short-term residencies. Watch for Open Studio events to see finished work and to meet and talk with the artists – and to see the interior of this church made famous by Betjeman's poem. T 7354 4771 or 7354 0460

12 Highbury Place

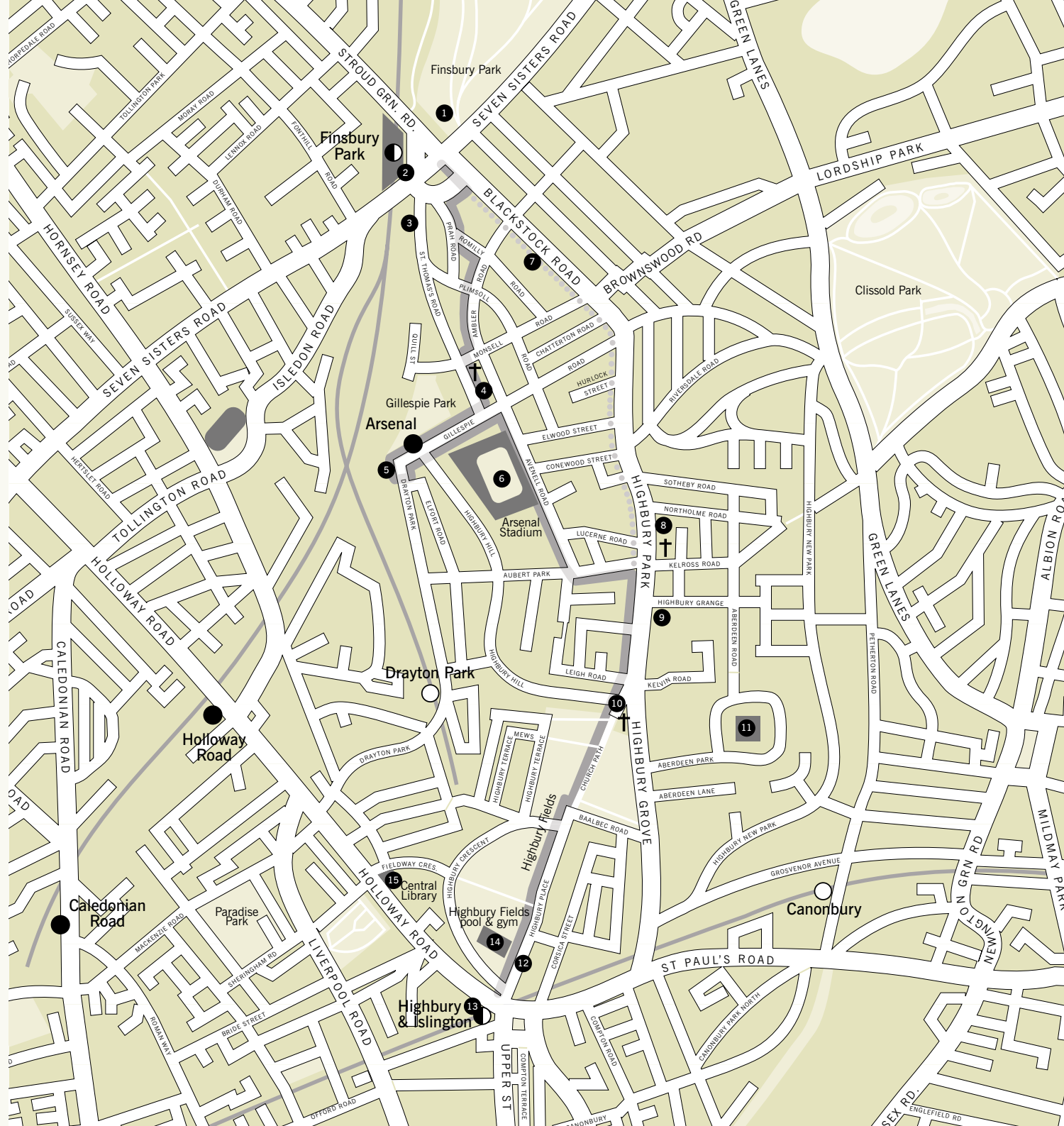
The development of Highbury began here in the 1770s. The south entrance was originally gated and the lease specified that Highbury Fields would remain open.

**13 Highbury & Islington
Station**

Connections with the Victoria Underground line, Silverlink Metro (for Richmond & North Woolwich), and WAGN (for Moorgate & north). A station at Highbury Corner opened in 1848 and was replaced in 1872 by a grand building with a hotel that was destroyed in the war. The Underground arrived in 1904.

**14 Highbury Fields
Pool & Gym**
T 020 7704 2312

15 Central Public Library
2 Fieldway Crescent N5
T 020 7527 6900



3 Highbury Corner to Finsbury Park

The sun shining down on
the Islington Ecology Centre



The route...

Characteristic architecture
of the Highbury area



The unmistakable profile of
Queen Victoria gracing
the clock tower erected
in her honour

This is a gentle and green walk up to Highbury Barn and a steeper walk down towards Finsbury Park. Of course you could take a bus to the top and then walk down one side or the other. There is a rich variety of places for food shopping and eating at the top of the hill and on down into Highbury Vale and Blackstock Road



for **train times** and **fares** from **highbury & islington**

call the silverlink information line
on **08705 125 240**

silverlink metro



Did you know?

C A Crufts, who lived in Highbury Grove, worked for a dog biscuit firm and held his first dog show in 1886. From 1891-1939 the show was held at the Royal Agricultural Hall, now the Business Design Centre.

The Rainbow, the former music venue at the corner of Seven Sisters & Isledon Roads, had been the Astoria cinema, which opened in 1930 with 3,030 seats and a staff of over 200. It was one of the biggest and most lavish cinemas in the world, decorated like a Spanish village at night with twinkling stars on the ceiling.

Count Ferdinand von Zeppelin, the German airship pioneer, came to Highbury to visit the balloon works of C G Spencer & Sons in a building behind 56a Highbury Grove.

THE ISLINGTON SOCIETY

The **Islington Society** works to safeguard and improve the quality of life for everyone who lives, works or has an interest in Islington.

Contact

The Islington Society,
35 Britannia Row,
London N1 8QH
T 020 7226 3377

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The Heritage Lottery Fund
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Inclusion in this publication does
not constitute a recommendation.

six trails in Islington

3 Highbury Corner to Finsbury Park



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