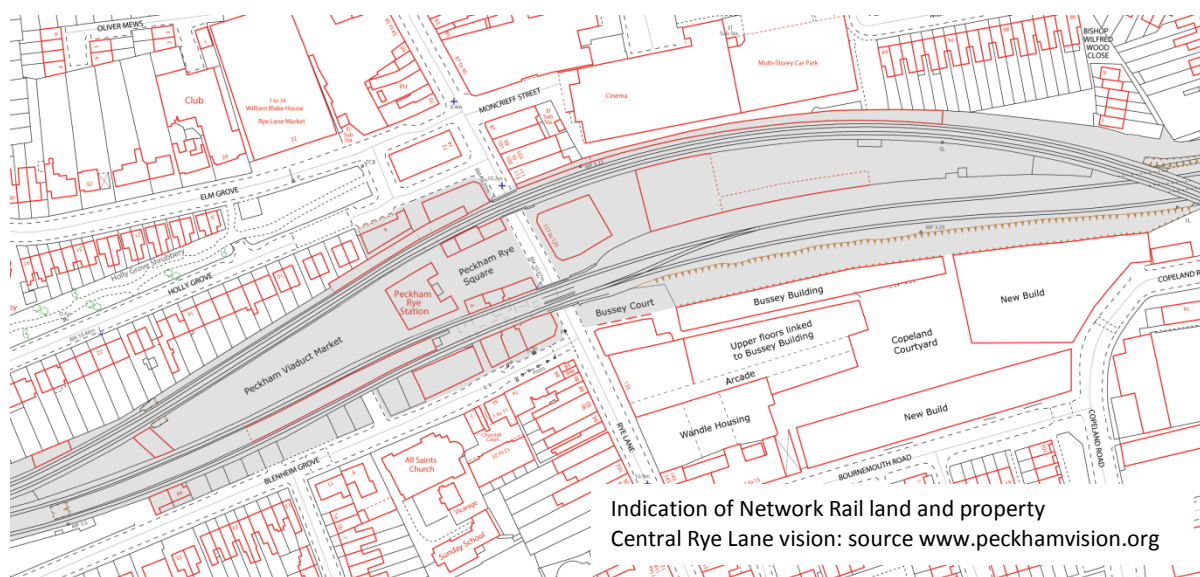


LOCAL COMMUNITY WORK TO RESTORE PECKHAM RYE STATION – timeline summary

Note by Peckham Vision, August 2011.

Over the last several years, considerable amount of work to restore and improve Peckham Rye station and its environment has been carried out by individual local residents as a network of active members of a number of local organisations: Peckham Vision, Peckham Society, Rye Lane & Station Action Group, Southwark Rail Users' Group, Bellenden Residents Group, Friends of Old Waiting Room. (See weblinks at end). The architectural side of our work to ensure historically sensitive restoration has been led and largely undertaken by one of us, Benedict O'Looney, who has long experience of working on Railway architecture. This note highlights and summarises the main successive stages of the overall work. The station is part of extensive Network Rail land and property in a central strategic part of Peckham town centre (see plan). It forms a gateway to the town centre and, together with the other Network Rail property, is a key to unlocking the unrealised potential of the area as a desirable place to visit, shop, work, live and invest.



Raising awareness from 2000

- **From 2000** the Peckham Society campaigned for the station to be listed and for a town centre Conservation Area to be designated, including the station.
- **2002** Bellenden Residents' Group, for the immediately adjacent neighbourhood, was set up to campaign for improvement of the neighbourhood including the station.
- **2004** Rye Lane & Station Action Group was set up to enable residents to work with the Council and the rail companies to improve the current state of the station and Rye Lane.
- **2006** Peckham Vision was set up to work for an integrated plan for central Rye Lane, including the station, and an integrated approach to Peckham town centre.
- **2007** Southwark Rail Users' Group (SRUG) was set up to secure improvements to south Southwark rail services and stations, including Peckham Rye.

First fruits of new awareness 2008

- Station finally listed after long local campaign.
- English Heritage study and report on historic Peckham town centre including the station, achieved after local representations.
- Business case report recommending new station square and improvements in railway arches east and west of the station, commissioned by Southwark Council after several years of local work with residents to improve the central area of Rye Lane.

Station restoration work begins 2009

- James Hulme '*Conservation Statement Peckham Rye Station*' commissioned by Benedict O'Looney.
- Listed building and planning consent achieved for plans to unbrick the windows. £40,000 funds secured through the Council CGS grant available for residents' projects. Refenestration of the Old Waiting Room (OWR) with historically sensitive windows completed. OWR revealed to the world.

Old Waiting Room restored for occasional use 2010

- Original wooden floor restored and electrics installed. Funded by £15,000 from Council CGS scheme.
- Southern Rail follows advice on original painting scheme for Ticket Hall repainting.
- Design for new cycle racks in forecourt commissioned with gothic motif matching the motif in the forecourt key stones; new cycle racks and new paving installed. £10,000 CGS funding.
- Celebration event July 2010 in OWR of the work so far and to thank all those who supported the work including Southwark Council, Southern Rail and Network Rail staff, and Railway Heritage Trust.

Restoration work continues 2011

- 31st March presentations in the OWR with English Heritage, and with over 120 local people in enthusiastic attendance, to celebrate the historic heritage in the town centre, and the success in achieving Council support for a Conservation Area, including the station as the jewel in the crown with significant potential as the gateway to Peckham town centre.
- Listed building consent achieved for refenestration of ground floor in both forecourt towers, and for cleaning and restoring the stone & metal staircase; £4,500 funding secured from Railway Heritage Trust. Work planned to start in Autumn 2011.
- Lighting designers Speirs and Major commissioned to report on new historically sensitive lighting scheme for forecourt and shopping arcade. £2,000 CGS funding for the lighting study.
- Plans developed for extending the original stone & metal staircase in historically sensitive design; listed building consent about to be sought.
- Plans being developed for:
 - completion of external access,
 - completion of forecourt improvements,
 - disability access to OWR / platform 3, and to platforms 1+2.

Weblinks:

Peckham Vision:	http://www.peckhamvision.org
Peckham Society:	http://www.peckhamsociety.org.uk
Rye Lane & Station Action Group:	http://www.peckhamvision.org/wiki/RLSAG
Southwark Rail Users' Group:	http://www.southwarkrailusers.net
Bellenden Residents Group:	http://www.bellenden.net
Friends of Old Waiting Room:	http://www.peckhamvision.org/blog/?p=534

LOCAL COMMUNITY WORK TO RESTORE PECKHAM RYE STATION – some illustrations

Note by Peckham Vision, August 2011.



Photo of station built c 1866



Network Rail building, opposite station



Vision of restored station square



OWR before restoration



Restoration of OWR windows



OWR after refenestration, architectural students' workshop



Old Waiting Room restored for occasional use



Celebration of restoration July 2010



Original colours in repainted ticket hall



New cycle racks with station motif



Original iron and stone staircase now being restored



31 Mar 2011 Community event in OWR on historic Peckham, with English Heritage