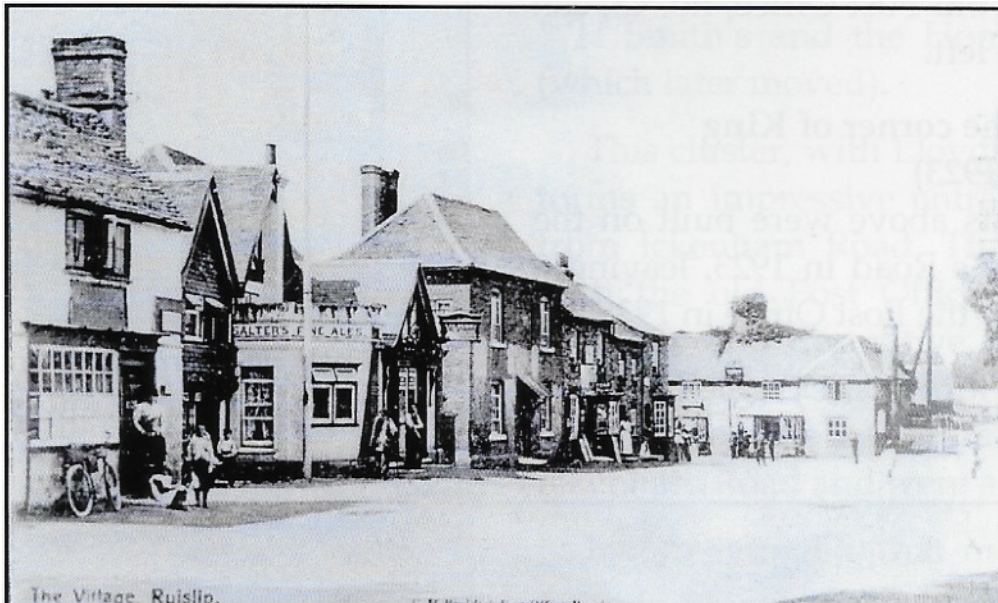


## DEVELOPMENT WEST SIDE OF HIGH STREET

### Numbers 2 - 10 The George to the Oaks (built 16th century)



**The George (now Harvester PH) is out of sight around the corner. The Oaks, then called Swan Alley is between the pub and the shop on the left (Post Office until 1908). It was demolished in 1930 when The Oaks was widened to make an entrance into Manor Road.**

The first section of the west side of the High Street is composed of timber-framed buildings, dating from the 16th century, with Victorian additions at the front. The George was rebuilt in 1939 and the widening of Swan Alley/The Oaks in 1930 saw the loss of Mrs Gooderson's shop.

As can be seen in the modern photograph below, Naylor Cottage, which stood in the gap in front of The Swan, was also removed along with the two cottages at the back of the pub.



**Naylor's cottage was removed before 1970 leaving a space in front of the present entrance**

## The Oaks to Ickenham Road (built 1923-31)



Fig. 11

The view in Fig. 11 was taken from the church tower in 1978; the white end of Park House stands out in the centre. The old Post Office, built 1928, can be seen further left.

The line of shops with flats above <sup>xxiii</sup>, to the right of Park House, were designed by Marshall & Tweedy of Cavendish Square, and built in 1934, following the widening of The Oaks. The shops make a distinguished group with classical details on the facade.

### Numbers 26 - 46 <sup>xxiv</sup> High Street (Built 1927)

People called Brewer lived in Park House (down as the Manor House) which was now approached by a passage from the High Street, because the parkland was being filled with houses and shops. Planning applications for 11 shops with living accommodation were made in June 1927. The shops, now nos. 26-46 High Street, start with three small shops (see Fig. 12) built onto the side wall of the house and continue to the site of the old Post Office at no. 48. Park House itself has been used by the British Legion since 1930.

The timbered gables in Fig. 13 are attractive features. The passage leading to the British Legion (Park House) can be seen on the right. There is a gate across it. The old Post Office, no 48, can be seen on the extreme left.



Fig. 12 - Nos. 26 -30

The shops tacked onto the end wall of Park House seen in the 1970s



Fig. 13 - Nos. 32-46



**Nos 50 - 52 <sup>xxv</sup> on the corner of King Edward's Road (built 1923)**



The two shops with the flats above were built on the corner of King Edward's Road in 1923, leaving a gap which was filled by the Post Office in 1928.

The corner shop was an off-licence for many years, but is now a Charity Shop, a sign of the times.

**Number 54<sup>xxvi</sup> (built 1923, architects Robinson & Roods, locally listed)**



Barclays Bank, built in 1923, is a particularly fine building designed for its prominent corner site. The main door is set at an angle, under a canopy supported by decorative brackets that is supporting a small balcony in front of a recessed window. The overhanging eaves add a dramatic note. The original building ended at the stepped red brick pilaster on the King Edward's Road side. the bank has been extended twice, in 1959 and less sympathetically in more recent years.

**Numbers 56-72 The Parade (built 1910 -23, architects Robinson & Roods)**



**Ruislip Parade pre-1923**



**In 2015**

Building permission was given for five shops along the High Street frontage between King Edward's Road and Ickenham Road in 1910 <sup>xxviii</sup> were built in 1923, the same year as Barclays Bank. The Parade shops are quite distinctive with their timbered gables and oriel windows above the fascia boards.

The accommodation was superior. The shop was at the front with a drawing room, parlour and kitchen behind and three bedrooms and a bathroom above. Like most shops of this period, they were clearly intended for a shop owner and his family living on the premises.



The architects/surveyors were the firm of Robinson and Roods of Lincolns Inn and they were built by Allwork, a local builder who lived at the Ruislip Park Lodge.

It is unfortunate that the window above the Smartex shop was replaced many years ago by a picture window, unsuited to the character of the parade. Modern fascia boards are much larger than is necessary or appropriate, as each shop tries to outdo its neighbour.

#### **Number 74 (built for Sainsbury's <sup>xxix</sup>, 1931)**



No. 74, the tall building with dormer windows to the right of W.H. Smiths in the photograph and now occupied by the Edinburgh Woollen Mill, fills a gap between The Parade and the grandiose corner buildings.

#### **Numbers 76 - 84 High Street (built 1930-31, architects, Blow & Peters of St. Albans)**

The Lodge and entrance gates to Park House on the corner of Ickenham Road were demolished to make way for shops with flats above <sup>xxx</sup>. They were built 1930-31 to accommodate Lloyds Bank, Boots the chemists, W H Smith's and the Home and Colonial Stores (which later moved).

This cluster, with Lloyds Bank as a centrepiece, forms an impressive entrance to the High Street from Ickenham Road. The bank has similarities with the old Post Office building, but is more dramatic and decorative, having Juliet balconies and a bold fascia strip. The shops adjoining the bank on the left are actually nos. 2, 4 and 6 Ickenham Road and were added in 1933 <sup>xxxi</sup>. It is remarkable that more than 80 years later nos. 76 and 82-84 retain their original businesses, W H Smiths, and Lloyds Bank. Sainsbury's remained at no. 74 until the company moved around the corner to a newly built Supermarket on the site of the Rivoli Cinema, in 1968. The Rivoli Cinema opened in 1929 on one of the Park estate plots. It closed in 1966 <sup>xxxii</sup>. Thomas More House was built on the site 2002-3, after Sainsbury's moved to South Ruislip.



Lloyds Bank has dominated this entrance to the High Street for more than 80 years. Thomas More House, completed 2003, quite incomprehensibly, was allowed to rise to six storeys and entirely fails to enhance or even fit in with the character of the area. The High Street and Ickenham Road were not included in the Conservation Area until 2009.

