

# Street & Building Naming Guidance

**All naming suggestions must meet following guidelines to be shortlisted:**

- Names that are similar to (or duplicate) an existing name will be excluded. Avoidance of phonetically similar names in the same area (for example "Churchill" and "Birch Hill").
- Names that are considered difficult to pronounce or awkward to spell for most of the population will be excluded. *This is less of an issue for the estate name where it is not used in the address.*
- Names that have aesthetically unsuitable or offensive connotations for the general public or a particular community will be excluded.
- Names of individuals must offer some sense of inspiration based on their character and achievements. Names of living people may be excluded.

## **Naming opportunities that provide a sense of place**

**Inclusive Local History:** Our history helps us to understand the present. Using local history can strengthen a sense of place and belonging, particularly in a borough as diverse as Hackney.

Histories of our Black & Global Majority, Irish, Jewish, Turkish and Kurdish and Gypsy Roma and Traveller communities as well as those of women, working class, LGBTQIA+ and disabled residents who are under-represented in our public spaces, street and building names.

Where a name has a local connection this will add meaning and value when renaming or naming a new site .

The Hackney Naming Hub is an online map used to collect stories that might otherwise be lost to history.

<https://hackneynaminghub.commonplace.is/> or email [naminghub@hackney.gov.uk](mailto:naminghub@hackney.gov.uk)

Alongside stories from the diversity of communities, identifying values in your suggestions will help with the shortlisting process.

- **Equality** - for example: people/groups/campaigns that progressed for equality in gender, race, sex, class/wealth, disability
- **Innovation & achievement** - for example: people/organisations/events that were pioneering for example: campaigns, community-focused, learning, creativity, or entrepreneurial success.
- **Anti-racism** - for example: people/groups/s who have proactively challenged racism

**A neutral name would be one that is not representative of a community, individual or event.**

## Suggested Names currently on the Naming Hub

**This is not a suggested list for the Rhodes estate** but provides you with an example of names drawn from the Naming Hub. The table of names below shows how names would qualify according to how they support a sense of place through a direct Hackney connection and values. Names that don't meet the criteria (for example because the person is still alive) have been removed.

You can look at the Naming Hub online by searching 'Hackney Naming hub' or visiting <https://hackneynaminghub.commonplace.is/>

**Use the survey form to add further suggestions should you want to see the estate and community hall renamed.**

If the survey returns a majority to remove the name of Rhodes, a process will start to review all suggestions with further discussion on the estate to shortlist for a resident vote.

Name & further information	Suggested by	Local history and links to Hackney Values
<p><b>Miriam Makeba (1932-2008).</b>            Makeba is a Zulu (indigenous South African) girls name that means <i>you are responsible for what you become</i>.            This is the given name of internationally successful singer</p>	<p>Naming Hub  <b>suggestion from Rhodes Estate resident</b></p>	<p>Miriam Makaba does not have a historical connection with Hackney k. She is representative of South African/Black history, Women's history and was also recognised as a campaigner for racial equality</p>
<p><b>The Lakes Estate</b>            "The names of the streets within this estate are based on towns in the Lake District and therefore it makes sense to name the estate the Lakes Estate rather than after Cecil Rhodes."</p>	<p>Naming hub -  <b>specific reference to Rhodes estate</b></p>	<p>Neutral name that makes the connection to the block names that were inspired by a village in Cumbria that shares the name Dalston.</p>

<p><b>Eleven Greens Estate (instead of Rhodes Estate)</b>          “I feel we should get away from calling places after people unless there is an important and direct connection.”          “Instead let’s celebrate what we have, such as the estate green spaces. This is especially important in Dalston, an area with poor access to open green spaces. Non-residents of the estate have always been welcome to enjoy the estate’s green spaces alongside residents.”</p>	<p>Naming Hub  <b>specific reference to Rhodes estate</b></p>	<p>Neutral name linked to estate’s green spaces</p>
<p><b>Dalston Gardens</b>          “Rhodes Estate is one of the few green spaces in Dalston. I live here and strongly dislike the connection to the Rhodes family name. A new name that celebrates something valuable about where we live feels very fitting to me.”</p>	<p>Naming Hub  <b>(suggested for Rhodes estate)</b></p>	<p>Neutral name - pinned to the Naming hub with the following comment: “It has no relevance to Hackney’s history, but hopefully a lot of relevance to Hackney’s future as a green and pleasant, tree-filled, beautiful place to live.”</p>
<p><b>Celestine Edwards (1857-1894)</b>          Born in Dominica, his parents were descendants of Africans who had been enslaved by colonial planters. Edwards was to become the first Black editor in Britain (1892). He often addressed questions of race, religion and empire.</p> <p>He attributed British colonial expansion in Africa to an ‘insatiable greed’, and its military conduct to a desire of ‘the Anglo-Saxon’ to show ‘the helplessness of the savage in face of the most improved fire-arms’. In January 1894, Edwards mocked the celebration in Cape Town over Rhodes’ conquest, where 250 guests gathered ‘not to weep over the thousands of people killed’, but to applaud ‘a war made for the express benefit of dividend-mongers’.</p>	<p>Naming Hub</p>	<p>Celestine was living in Hackney, at 50 Tudor Road, in the 1890s and attracted crowds when speaking in nearby Victoria Park. He is a contemporary of Cecil Rhodes, writing in direct response to Rhodes imperial and racist beliefs</p>

<p>It is thought that using the pseudonym of Theodore Thomas he published <i>Hard Truth</i> (1894). This presented a dialogue between Christ and Lucifer on slavery, emancipation, and imperialism. This novella and his journalism emphasised the link from the slave past and what he termed 'Anglo-Saxonism' with a commentary on the growth of race prejudice in British culture since the 1860s and of its outward extension through the new imperialism in Southern Africa.</p> <p><i>Hard Talk</i> is an anti-racist book 'Hard Talk' that called out racist doctrine &amp; its links with imperialism as declared by Cecil Rhodes in 1889 when he wrote that the Anglo-Saxon race was 'the first race in the World...we happen to be the best people in the world... and the more we inhabit, the better it is for humanity'</p>		
<p><b>Zenzele</b> This is a Zulu word meaning: <i>the quality of self-reliance</i>.</p> <p>Zulu people are a Nguni ethnic group in Southern Africa.</p> <p>Hackney resident Betty Hlela, a Black South African woman, who established <i>Zenzele Womens Arts</i> in Hackney in the 1990s for her creative workshop practice. Hackney Museum has an oral history with Betty Hlela in its collection.</p>	via Heritage service	Neutral name with link to South Africa and to Hackney resident Betty Hlela
<p><b>Joanna Vassa (1795 – 1857)</b> Little is known of Joanna's life. She was daughter of the famous West African abolitionist Olaudah Equiano. Vassa was 12 when the Abolition of the Slave Trade Act, which her father largely contributed to, was passed in 1807.</p>	Naming Hub	Lived at 21 Benyan Terrace, Buckingham Road  Buried Abney Park

<p>“Although Vassa is largely overlooked in abolitionist history and any mention of Vassa is usually in the context of her husband, she is an important and rare example and insight into the life of someone in the period of mixed heritage.”</p>		
<p><b>Frank Owuasú (1954 - 2018)</b>          "I came to Hackney in 1967 during the height of the Biafran civil war as a political refugee. That was a genocide that I will never forget, that remains under my skin. When we came here we witnessed aspects of underlying racism but I came here out of a war situation, seeing all kinds of horrific things where our own people treated us just as badly.          Home is England. Our children were born here. We work here, our friends are here. So for us Hackney and the African Community School is Africa. You don't have to go far to feel African. It's all around us and that's what makes Hackney so unique".</p>	<p>Naming hub</p>	<p>Founder of Hackney's African Community School (previously based at Princess May Primary School) providing enrichment education for hundreds of Hackney children and young people.</p>
<p><b>Enoch Williams (d2021 aged 80)</b>          After moving to England from Antigua, Enoch Williams opened his first salon Afro Glamourland in Dalston in 1973. In 1978 he established The Ebony School of hairdressing which became the first Afro Salon in the UK to provide a recognised professional qualification.</p> <p>Enoch made a huge impact on the UK hairdressing industry and inspired businesses and entrepreneurs around the world. He manufactured his own Sahara Oil line of hair products distributed by Dyke and Dryden and brought new hairstyles to the UK including the iconic Jheri curl.</p>	<p>Naming hub</p>	<p>Open his first salon Afro Glamourland in 1973, in Dalston.</p>

<p>In 1984 Enoch helped his sons launch New Wave hair and beauty products. Based in Stoke Newington, New Wave was the first 'Black' owned factory in the country manufacturing and packing hair and beauty cosmetics.</p>		
<p><b>Eliza Askew</b>  Eliza Askew worked at Bryant and May in Fairfield Road Bow and was one of the striking Matchgirls who won concessions from the company in 1888.  Their action helped to trigger the growth of unionism among unskilled workers and was an inspiration to the gas workers and the major 1889 dock strike.</p>	<p>Naming Hub</p>	<p>Lived at 10 Percy Terrace, Hackney Wick and campaigned for worker rights (striking for pay and conditions)</p>
<p><b>Len Dyke (1926 - 2006)</b>  Co- founded business Dyke &amp; Dryden as a record stall in Ridley Road Market, later selling hair care products and cosmetics for the African and Caribbean community and shortly after opened their more stores in Tottenham and Birmingham, growing an international brand despite the racism they faced. They became Britain's first African Caribbean millionaires,</p>	<p>Naming hub</p>	<p>First stall in Ridley Road market. One of the few African-heritage owned businesses in the UK and pioneering in the field of African hair care products</p>
<p><b>Dudley Dryden (1926 - 2002)</b>  Co- founded business Dyke &amp; Dryden as a record stall in Ridley Road Market, later selling hair care products and cosmetics for the African and Caribbean community and shortly after opened their more stores in Tottenham and Birmingham, growing an international brand despite the racism they faced. They became Britain's first African Caribbean millionaires.</p> <p>Dryden was active within the Hackney Community, including being a founding member and vice president of the Hackney</p>	<p>Naming hub</p>	<p>First stall in Ridley Road market. Dudley Dryden Reference Library was opened in Dalston Lane. One of the few African-heritage owned businesses in the UK and pioneering in the field of African hair care products and campaigner for racial equality</p>

<p>Racial Equality Council. In 1994, the Dudley Dryden Reference Library was opened in Dalston Lane</p>		
<p><b>Barbara Burford 1944-2010</b>  Barbara Burford was a pioneering researcher for the NHS, lifelong diversity activist, playwright and poet. Born in Jamaica in 1944 she moved to London in 1955 and was educated at Dalston County Grammar School (now Petchey Academy). During her research at NHS her team made breakthroughs in heart and lung transplants for children. she was active in feminist politics and wrote poetry, plays and short stories. In 1980 she contributed to the first Black British women's anthology of poetry. In the 1990s she moved away from medical research to pioneer diversity initiatives in the NHS and civil service. from 2005 she was appointed Deputy Director of the centre for Inclusion and diversity at School of health studies Bradford uni.</p> <p>In 2017 Gay Times included her in the Gay Times honours list, set up to recognise LGBT individuals</p>	<p>Naming Hub</p>	<p>Studied at Dalston Grammar school</p>
<p><b>Eddie Noble (1917-2007)</b>  Born in Jamaica, Eddie served in the RAF during the Second World War. His life story was the inspiration behind the novel 'Small Island'.</p> <p>He was a published author, including the book 'Jamaican Airmen'. He is the subject of the documentary 'Eddie Noble: A Charmed Life'.</p>	<p>Naming Hub</p>	<p>He lived in Stoke Newington/Hackney from 1973 until their passing in 2007</p>
<p><b>Fisk Jubilee Singers</b></p>	<p>Naming hub</p>	<p>In 1873 the Gazette reported that a group of freed slaves from Tennessee were coming to sing in Hackney on a tour to raise</p>

<p>The Fisk Jubilee Singers were freed slaves who were on a mission to raise funds for the first black university in America after emancipation in 1865, and to fight for the right for all African Americans to be educated.</p>		<p>money for their university. Performed in Hackney Downs</p>
<p><b>Jack Cohen, Sir (1898-1979)</b> Entrepreneur and founder of Tesco stores. An 'east end' Jewish boy who grew up in Whitechapel. He was the second son and last of five surviving children of Avroam Kohen, a tailor and immigrant Russian Jew. Leaving school at 14, he joined his father in the tailoring business. In 1917 Jack joined the Royal Flying Corps but was demobilised two years later. In order to avoid returning to his father's workshop, he spent his £30 demobilisation gratuity on surplus NAAFI foodstuffs, which he sold in a Hackney street market, quickly developing the selling strategy - low prices and fast turnover – which earned him the nickname "Jack the Slasher".</p>		<p>First market stall in Hackney  The Cohen family also lived in Clapton. The name represents Jewish heritage in Hackney.</p>
<p><b>Alexander Baron (1917-1999)</b> A British author and screenwriter. He is best known for his highly acclaimed novel about D-Day, <i>From the City, from The Plough</i> (1948), and his London novel <i>The Lowlife</i> (1963).  Baron's father was Barnet Bernstein, a Polish-Jewish immigrant to Britain who settled in the East End of London in 1908 and later worked as a master furrier. Baron was born in Maidenhead, where his mother Fanny (née Levinson) had been evacuated during Zeppelin raids. The family soon returned to London, and Baron was raised in the Hackney district of London. He attended Hackney Downs School.</p>		<p>raised in the Hackney district of London. He attended Hackney Downs School. The name represents Jewish heritage in Hackney.</p>



<p><b>Breen Lester Lewis (1857-1994)</b>  Prince Ntum ba Azah) founder of the Hackney Black Peoples Association, Pan African activist, indefatigable organiser, historian and writer.  Lester was a councillor in Hackney Council with special responsibility for education. He was also a Race Equality Officer in Reading where members of his family still live. He was instrumental in the establishment of 'Black History Month' in the UK and in getting African Labour party activists late Bernie Grant, Paul Boateng and Diane Abbott elected to the UK parliament in 1987.</p>		<p>Hackney councillor</p>
<p><b>Ralph Straker OBE (c1936-2013)</b>  Ralph Straker moved to London from Barbados in 1956 aged 20. He did so much community work for Hackney, he is responsible for twinning Hackney with Barbados, hence why the bar in the Hackney town hall is named the Bridgetown Bar, he was a toast master and a JP</p>		<p>Worked in Hackney</p>
<p><b>David Alexander Pollard (1954- 2018)</b>  Founder and landlord of Joiners Arms  <b>The Joiners Arms</b> was an LGBT pub and nightclub on Hackney Road in East London.  The original pub, which closed in 2015, had been central to the East London gay scene since it was opened in 1997 by David Alexander Pollard. It had been described as "Britain's trendiest gay dive" with gay public figures including Alexander McQueen, Christopher Kane and Patrick Wolf known to have frequented the venue, and with events hosted by gay entertainers Scottee and</p>		<p>Joiners Arms, Hackney Road on the Shoreditch/Tower hamlets boundary (in Tower Hamlets)</p>

<p>Jodie Harsh. The venue had been open to a range of gay subcultures such as the bear scene and drag queens.</p>		
<p><b>Len Goulden (1912-1995)</b>          Len Goulden was a creative inside-left who played for West Ham and England. He was Jewish, which is particularly relevant to his great 'moment'.          In 1938 England played Germany in front of a crowd estimated at around 115,000 at the Olympic Stadium in Berlin. Goering and Goebels were there. Hitler had hoped to use the game for propaganda. The all-German team included a player from newly annexed Austria (despite an agreement with the FA not to play Austrians).          Infamously, the foreign office pressured the England team into giving the Nazi salute during the anthems. The players were angry but were persuaded it would help world peace.          Goulden let his feet do the talking. He scored the winning goal as England won 6-3.</p>		<p>Born in Homerton. The name represents Jewish heritage in Hackney.</p>
<p><b>Doreen Rowe (died 2018)</b>          Lifelong campaigner, Doreen was a Windrush Generation nurse who rented out rooms to people denied accommodation through racism.          After retirement she trained as a journalist and became a reporter for Hackney Pensioners Press, the campaigning free paper. A paper which flourished from 1985 to 2000 as a 14,000-circulation quarterly free paper, distributed to day centres and libraries. She worked as both a reporter and a photographer, and interviewed the likes of Prince Charles, Diane Abbott and the former mayor of Hackney Shuja Shaikh.</p>	<p>Naming hub</p>	<p>Stoke Newington resident</p>

<p><b>Nazım Hikmet (1902-1963)</b>          “The Turkish community in Hackney have very few names in evidence in the area, fewer even than the afro-caribbean community. Nazım Hikmet was a [Turkish-polish] poet who suffered imprisonment and lived his final years in exile because of his socialist views but he never ceased to write off his love for humanity and his homeland. He's well loved by left-wing Turkish and Kurdish speakers from Turkey and many lines from his poems are household words for Turks.”</p>	<p>Naming hub</p>	<p>No Hackney connection, the name celebrates Turkish heritage in Hackney.</p>
<p><b>The 43 Group &amp; The Battle of Ridley Road (active 1946-1950)</b>          was a militant anti-fascist organisation, formed and mostly consisting of Jewish WW2 veterans, who fought the attempted return of Oswald Mosley's fascists between 1946-50. The 43 Group were by far the fascists toughest and most committed opponents. In their four year long campaign against the fascists they fought them wherever they could find them, across Hackney, London, and the entire country. As well as directly confronting the fascists they also infiltrated spies into the fascist movement, and publicised what the fascists were up to in the pages of their newspaper "On Guard."</p>	<p>Naming hub</p>	<p>The epicentre of the conflict was Ridley Road Market in Dalston, at the time an area known for its very large Jewish population.</p>
<p><b>Ugo Ehiogu (1972-2017)</b>          Footballer. England International (4 caps), central defender, played for Middlesborough, Villa, Leeds, Sheffield Utd. Prolific Hackney boy. Fantastic coach for young people, first Black England captain (under 21s). Award named after him on the Football Blacklist. Passed away age 44.</p>	<p>Naming hub</p>	<p>Lived in Sach Road, Hackney, Upper Clapton.</p>
<p><b>Medlin Lewis-Spencer (d 2014)</b></p>	<p>Naming hub</p>	<p>First Black female Mayor</p>

<p>Hackney's first black female mayor (1988/89) hailed her efforts in fighting racial equality in the 1980s and 90s. A former Caribbean Times journalist who charted her career, described her as an "amazing woman".</p> <p>He said: "She was a generous person that would give endlessly and she put her constituency first. Until Medlin relinquished her seat in 2002, she worked extremely hard representing her ward. "She described herself as a servant of the people and she would give people in need money from her own pocket."Among those who received financial assistance from Lewis-Spencer is the famous shoe designer Jimmy Choo who graduated from Cordwainers Technical College in Hackney, in 1983.</p>		
<p><b>Rav Pinter (d. 2020)</b> Rabbi Pinter died of Covid-19 in April 2020. The longstanding Principal at Yesoday HaTorah Senior Girls School and a director of the Union of Orthodox Hebrew Congregations, Pinter was an influential figure in the Charedi world and beyond, having mentored many of today's community leaders. In 1982 Pinter became the first rabbi elected as a councillor to Hackney Council.</p>	<p>Naming hub</p>	<p>Local Rabbi and ex-Hackney Councillor and linked to North Hackney, Stamford Hill. The name represents Jewish heritage in Hackney.</p> <p>North Hackney/Stamford Hill</p>
<p><b>Jermaine Wright (d. 2020)</b> A football official, the backbone of football officiating in East London and London as a whole, he was linked to the Hackney and Leyton league and he was one of the most progressive officials, helping the league to modernise and run more efficiently. He was a referee educator, used to train young referees. He was the guy that made things happen, helping run the youth league. He was an NHS worker at Barts and Royal Free.</p>	<p>Naming hub</p>	<p>Worked in Hackney</p>