



THE NEW TOWN HALL

A jam factory', 'a blooming gaol', and 'just like Turnpike Lane Tube Station' were some local reactions to Hornsey Town Hall when it was opened on November 4 1935. But its modernistic design won the RIBA Bronze Medal for 1933-35 and in spite - or perhaps because of- its simplicity it became greatly loved.

The land was bought by the Borough of Hornsey for £4625 in the 1920s, but because of high building costs and the 1929 Depression it lay unused until 1934, when both labour and loan rates were cheaper.

In a competition the £150 prize for designing the Town Hall was won by 27 year old New Zealander, Reginald H Uren, and it cost £100,000 to build.

Currently, the Town Hall together with its grounds are undergoing restoration and redevelopment. Completion of the work is scheduled for the third quarter of 2021 and will include an arts centre and hotel, an improved public square and a collection of studio, one, two and three bedroom apartments.