

London Evening Standard

By **David Spittles**

Smart moves

Catch up with the arty set in NW5

KENTISH TOWN has come a long way since the 1820s when Frankenstein author Mary Shelley dismissed it as an "odious swamp".

These days the area has a definite spring in its step, with popular music venues, trendy bars and restaurants, a French lycée school, restored listed Victorian baths and swimming pool – and a growing buzz created by the new generation of arty Londoners moving in. One of the capital's best contemporary gallery spaces, Zabłudowicz Collection, is in NW5, housed in a former Methodist chapel.

The Furlong Collection, a reference to a racetrack in the area in the early 1900s, is a gated scheme of eight houses in cobbled Little Green Street, one of the oldest Georgian terraces in London.

While the modern architecture strikes a discordant note with neighbouring heritage cottages,

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homes are likely to chime with buyers looking for compact, light-filled, open-plan interiors with underfloor heating and air conditioning. Prices from £1.6 million. Call Hamptons International on 020 3451 1544.

Nearby, the same agent is selling loft-style flats at **The Maple Building**, a former furniture factory. Prices from £570,000.



From £570,000: above and left, loft flats at The Maple Building; right, open-plan apartments at The Furlong Collection, also in Kentish Town

