

# The Kent Compendium of Historic Parks and Gardens for Sevenoaks District



## St Clere, Kemsing



September 2012



# St Clere

Kemsing, Kent

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## INTRODUCTION

This site dossier and description has been prepared as part of the **Review of The Kent Compendium of Historic Parks and Gardens for Sevenoaks District 2011 - 2013**. This site is one of many sites that have been researched, visited and written about across the District and as a consequence has been included in the revised list of Historic Parks and Gardens covered by the District Council's Planning Policies. The list is not conclusive and further gardens may be added over time as research continues or information comes to light

The research was carried out by volunteers of the Kent Gardens Trust with support and training from the project consultant Virginia Hinze. The project was supported by English Heritage and Kent County Council.

The extent of the area identified represents the remains of the designed landscape and does not necessarily cover all remaining elements or the historical extent of landscape changes and takes no account of current ownership. Further Information is available from the contacts listed below. The partnership would like to thank the volunteers and owners who have participated in this project and given so much of their time, effort and hospitality to complete this challenging and rewarding task.

Development Services  
Sevenoaks District Council  
Council Offices  
Argyle Road  
Sevenoaks  
TN13 1HG  
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Kent County Council  
Heritage Conservation  
Invicta House  
County Hall  
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01622 696918  
[www.kent.gov.uk](http://www.kent.gov.uk)

Kent Gardens Trust  
[www.kentgardenstrust.org.uk](http://www.kentgardenstrust.org.uk)

## **STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

### **Age**

St Clere was established as a manor from at least the C13 and displayed significant recorded garden layouts in the late C17 or early C18, the late C18, the C19 and some additional features from the late C20.

### **Rarity and survival**

The late C19 layout survives substantially intact

Some earlier features such as the entrance courtyard to the house and the 'Wilderness' (drwg dated 1719) survive from the early C18 or possibly late C17: the site of the avenue to the west, the north drive, lake and orangery survive from the late C18.

### **Evidential Value**

Contemporary plans for the development of the garden in the late C19 survive, as do planting lists of trees planted in the Pinetum from early C20 to c198

### **Historic Association**

St Clere has strong associations with significant British horticulturalists in the C18 C19 and C20; it was owned by the Evelyn family (John Evelyn was the famous diarist, horticulturalist and author of 'Sylva' or 'A Discourse of Forest Trees) from 1719 to 1878; the family was connected by marriage with the influential horticulturalist Sir Abraham Hume. Sir Mark Edleman Collet (owner from 1905) had assistance from the Scottish arboriculturist F.R.S. Balfour of Dawyck in planting the Pinetum.

William Evelyn was Sherriff of Kent and a local M.P. in the mid C18; two later owners, in the mid C19 and mid C20, became Governors of the Bank of England.

### **Designed Landscapes**

Anthony du Gard Paisley (1929 - 2009 Kent- based designer, author, lecturer and assistant to both Brenda Colvin and Dame Sylvia Crowe, founders of the Landscape Institute) designed borders to the west of the house in c1980

### **Landmark Status**

The house and garden and Pinetum are in a prominent position on the North Downs and contribute to the scenic quality from a considerable distance. The 35 trees listed as champion trees in the Tree Register of the British Isles are a particular feature

## **SITE DESCRIPTION**

KENT  
SEVENOAKS  
KEMSING PARISH

ST. CLERE

Landranger Sheet 188  
TQ 578592

## **SUMMARY OF HISTORIC INTEREST**

Formal late C19 and early C20 terraced gardens, partly on the site of and incorporating remnants of, earlier C17 and C18 gardens associated with the family of John Evelyn (the C17 diarist and author of 'Sylva') around an early C17 house. The site includes a detached C19 and early C20 Pinetum.

## **CHRONOLOGY OF THE HISTORIC DEVELOPMENT**

In the C13 the property was known as Aldham and owned by the family of that name (Hasted). It was also known as West Aldham or West Yaldham. Sir Thomas de Aldham died without male issue in the early C14 and the manor passed to his daughter Isolda and her husband John de St. Clere. It remained in the St. Clere family and became known as Aldham St. Cleres and eventually Sancleres or St. Cleres (Hasted).

The St. Clere family died out during the Wars of the Roses and early in the reign of Henry VII the estate was appropriated to Henry Lovell who built a new house there (V E Bowden, *The Story of Kemsing*). After his death the manor of St. Clere was divided between his two daughters. In 1519 Richard Farmer acquired the whole estate and sold it in 1537 to George Multon of Hadlow (Hasted). King James I licensed George Multon and his wife and Robert Multon and his wife to alienate the manor to Sackville Pope Esq. (Licence of James I 1617 Kent History and Library Centre U1287 T1).

The estate was sold in 1625 to Sir John Sidley Bart. who built a new mansion, which still survives, on the foundations of the old (Harris). This was completed in 1633 when a chapel was consecrated by Bishop Bancroft. Sir John died in 1673 leaving St Clere to his son Isaac who in turn left it to his son Charles. By 1702 when Sir Charles Sidley died the estate had become neglected and encumbered with debt and the house had fallen into disrepair (V.E. Bowden, *The Story of Kemsing*). His heirs applied to the court to have his will set aside on the grounds of his weak understanding and undue influence (Hasted) and St Clere was sold in 1719 to William Glanville Evelyn, great nephew of John Evelyn the diarist. The property remained in the Evelyn family until 1878 when it was acquired by Mark Wilks Collet.

A drawing probably intended to be engraved by Badeslade for inclusion in Harris (published 1719) and reproduced in *Country Life* in 1968 shows formal gardens to the west of the house and a main entrance courtyard on the north side with stone piers and iron railings. An area north west of the house called

'The Wilderness' in the 1<sup>st</sup> edition O.S. map is shown planted with trees in this drawing. An avenue to the west of the house shown in William Mudge's map of Kent (1801) and in subsequent O.S. maps does not appear in the drawing and must therefore have been planted later in the C18.

William Glanville Evelyn died in 1766 and his son William inherited the estate and carried out improvements to the house, evidenced by the date 1767 on a rainwater head. He may have been responsible for the C18 parapet (Pevsner). William Evelyn was sheriff of Kent in 1757 and M.P. for Hythe. On his death in 1797 the estate passed to his daughter Frances who was married to Alexander Hume brother of Sir Abraham Hume, a notable horticulturalist and plant collector. Alexander Hume took the name Evelyn (Greenwood). The Orangery north west of the house dates from this time. Fanny Boscawen, daughter of William Glanville Evelyn by his first marriage, occasionally visited her half brother at St. Clere and wrote of the fine views from the house. Frances and Alexander Hume Evelyn had no children and St. Clere was inherited by a cousin, Lt. Col. William John Evelyn, in 1837 who occupied the mansion only 'occasionally' (Bagshaw).

The 1841 tithe map shows that the main house and grounds were then occupied by William John Evelyn. Lower St Clere (called Little St Clere), a C16 building 400 metres south of St. Clere itself, was occupied by a tenant, John Lockyer, but areas around it are shown as being occupied by William John Evelyn including the Fish Pond (which can be seen from the main house) and three areas of woodland called Ladies Walk, Dog Kennel Plantation and Boat House Plantation near the lake at Lower St. Clere indicating that these areas formed part of the pleasure grounds. Evelyn is also shown as occupying an area of woodland known as Birches Wood about 2 km north of St. Clere which is depicted as being planted with conifers. This area forms a pocket of acid soil (pers. comm.) suitable for growing lime hating plants. A substantial Wellingtonia survives here which is likely to date from the C19 and a number of other mature exotic trees thirty five of which are recorded as Champion trees in the Tree Register providing evidence that an arboretum was planted here in the C19.

St. Clere was owned by the Evelyn family until 1878 but after 1841 they lived mainly at Yaldham Manor and the house was occupied by a caretaker (Bowden). In about 1850 St. Clere was rented to Rev. John Ogle who ran the St. Clere Collegiate School there until the 1870s when the school moved to Sevenoaks and the house was left empty (Bowden and Garden Information Sheet).

In 1878 the St Clere estate was sold to Mark Wilks Collet (Governor of the Bank of England 1887-9 and created baronet in 1888) who embarked upon substantial work to the grounds and outbuildings which were continued after his death in 1905 by his son Sir Mark Edelman Collet. W.H Fletcher of 38 Welbeck Street, London drew up plans (some of which are lodged in the Kent History and Library Centre) for a series of terraces and formal gardens to the south and west of the house and, east of the house, a walled kitchen garden with substantial glasshouses, all of which were carried out. A racquets court and pergola were built on the west side of the house in 1908. New lodges and

entrance drives were made from the west and eastern sides of the estate. Sir Mark Wilks Collet sought advice on planting from F.R.S. Balfour of Dawyck (Kent History and Library Centre Norman archive). Sir Mark Edelman Collet planted many trees in the garden and in the pinetum in Birches Wood north of the house (Kent History and Library Centre Norman archive, Bowden). Sir Mark Edelman Collet left St. Clere in 1935 to live abroad and the property passed to his nephew Montague Collet Norman (1871-1950) who became Governor of the Bank of England and was later created Lord Norman. The estate remains in the Norman family and the garden continued to be developed. The garden designer Anthony du Gard Pasley was commissioned to design two parallel borders to the west of the house immediately south of the main drive in about 1980.

## **SITE DESCRIPTION**

### **LOCATION, AREA, BOUNDARIES, LANDFORM and SETTING**

St. Clere is situated approximately 400m north-east of the village of Heaverham, 6 km north east of Sevenoaks and 4 km west of Wrotham on the lower slopes of the north downs just south of the Pilgrims' Way with extensive views to the south over the weald of Kent. To the north are woods and downland and the estate is surrounded to the south, west and east by arable land and pasture. The site slopes gently down to the south while behind the house the land rises rather more steeply to the north.

The 5.6 ha site is bounded to the west by Heaverham Road, to the north by the Pilgrim's Way and on the south and east by arable land and pasture forming part of the wider St. Clere estate. The detached 30 hectare Pinetum is situated about 0.5 km north of the Pilgrim's Way on the downs above St. Clere. It forms part of an area of woodland called Birches Wood and its north east boundary is Knock Mill Lane.

### **ENTRANCES and APPROACHES**

The main entrance to St. Clere is on the south-west side of the property, 200m north of the village of Heaverham, off Heaverham Road. The entrance is flanked by West Lodge. A gravel driveway created between 1875 and 1897 runs east for about 1km to East Lodge and a secondary entrance with a wooden painted gate on Kemsing Road. Both lodges are brick and tile hung buildings and were built c 1885 to designs by the firm W H Fletcher (plans held by Kent History and Library Centre). About 80m east of West Lodge a fork in the drive leads north for 250m through open pasture with scattered mature trees and then east for 150m through an area of about 4 hectares closely planted with many substantial conifers and other exotic trees including cedars and Wellingtonias along what was the central ride of an area described in the 1<sup>st</sup> edition OS map (1862-1875) and in all subsequent editions as The Wilderness. This area is described as a 'Plantation' in the tithe map of 1842. The drive emerges from the trees into a 100 m stretch between mown grass and shrubs to lead through a red brick 19C carriage arch to a gravelled entrance forecourt with a central rectangular mown lawn on the north side of the main house.

About 320 m west of East Lodge a fork in the driveway leads north uphill for 300m skirting the walled kitchen garden to the east and arriving at a red brick C18 carriage arch (which the C19 arch on the west side was built to match) and through to the forecourt on the north side of the house.

On the north side of the entrance forecourt is a low brick wall topped with iron railings. Brick gate piers with stone ball finials support iron double entrance gates and two side gates marking an earlier driveway which led north up the hill to a lodge on the Pilgrims' Way. This driveway which is shown as an avenue in the 1<sup>st</sup> edition O.S. map (1862-1875), (a few ancient lime trees remain) was no longer in use by 1897 and the lodge on Kemsing Road, which was rebuilt after being bombed in WWII, is now in separate ownership.

An avenue to the west of the house which appears on Mudge's map of 1801 and subsequent maps may mark the route of an earlier entrance from Heavenham Road but it was not in use by the time of the survey for the 1<sup>st</sup> edition O.S. map.

## PRINCIPAL BUILDING

St. Clere (listed grade I), a large, brick, five bay, double pile, three story house with octagonal angle towers on the north front (described by Pevsner as 'freakish Jacobeanism'), was built in the second quarter of the C17. It has a high pitched hipped slate roof with a row of chimneys all along the ridge. A cornice and parapet was added in 1767 (date on rainwater head). On the north front is a C19 central porch with rusticated brick columns and stone entablature with ball finials. The south front is plainer with a balustraded stone terrace up seven steps. A bow window with a lead roof was added to the west front c1882. The house is related in style to neighbouring Chevening which is linked with Inigo Jones and this, according to Pevsner, 'gives St Clere a national importance as one of the earliest examples of the house-type ... which only became standardised after 1660'.

The L-shaped red brick C18 building which incorporates a carriage arch with a cupola over it to the north east of the forecourt, and a matching C19 building built for symmetry to the north west, form a group with the C19 red brick wall with flint panels, tall stone-coped piers with ball finials and wrought iron railings and gates to the forecourt on the north side of the house. The south face of the L-shaped outbuilding to the north east forms the north side of a cobbled courtyard and is of Tudor brickwork. All are listed grade II.

Some 500m south of St. Clere itself, stands Lower St. Clere, a two storey L-shaped red brick house built c1600, refaced in C18 and with some C19 alterations including gabled dormers and bay windows.

## GARDENS AND PLEASURE GROUNDS

Immediately around the south and west sides of the house is a narrow paved terrace with a stone balustrade. A short flight of stone steps in the centre of the south side leads down to a larger paved terrace on the south side of the house,

25 metres wide by 12 metres deep, where numerous small shrubs and alpine plants grow between the paving stones; a row of clipped *Malus* is planted along the southern edge. The terrace was created c. 1985 to a design by Martin Lane-Fox using stone from the paths which originally bisected the terraces to the west of the house (St. Clere Garden Information Sheet). The brick retaining wall of this terrace is about 2 metres high and below it is an area of informal meadow planted with ornamental trees and bounded on the south side with iron park railings which run along the southern boundary of the garden.

South west of the house is a series of terraces probably designed c1880 for Sir Mark Collet by the firm of W.H. Fletcher of 58 Welbeck Street, London W1 (drawings in Kent History and Library Centre) rather than by F. Inigo Thomas as stated by Christopher Hussey in his articles in *Country Life* in 1962. The terraces, which are edged by low brick walls capped with stone, descend gently following the natural fall of the land.

Stone steps lead down from the west side of the terrace in front of the house to a rectangular enclosure running east to west (15x20 metres) of mown grass edged by low brick and stone capped walls. At the far end a view to the west is framed by a pair of clipped hornbeams. This area is shown with formal flower beds in an early photograph (Kemsing Heritage Centre) and provides a view of the lake to the south east at Lower St. Clere. At the western end of this enclosure a short flight of stone steps leads down to an area of mown grass 100 metres long which follows the route of a ride which ran east/west through the Wilderness and is shown on the 1<sup>st</sup> edition OS map. The grass area is planted with ornamental trees and terminates with another flight of steps flanked by brick piers topped with stone balls beside which stand a pair of columnar Lawson Cypress. These lead down to an avenue of lime trees planted in 1992 to replace trees destroyed in the 1987 gale (St. Clere Garden Information Sheet) on the site of the avenue shown in Mudge's map of 1801 and subsequent OS maps. A grass mound created at the same time close to the Heaverham Road provides a focal point at the west end of the avenue.

To the south of the steps is a tennis court screened by informal plantings of shrubs and trees and on its west side by a conifer hedge. This is on the site of the southern compartment of the Wilderness shown in the 1<sup>st</sup> edition OS map as having a winding path between trees.

A wrought iron gate in the wall linking the north west corner of the house to the carriage arch leads from the west side of the entrance forecourt onto a wide grass terrace 20 x 30 metres. This is linked by steps down to a narrower lower terrace which runs west for approximately 150 metres, part of the 'stately extension of the garden westward' described by Christopher Hussey in *Country Life*. The upper terrace is bounded on the south by a low brick and stone wall with steps down to the enclosure on the south west side of the house described above. A curved stone balustrade and steps down to the lower terrace form the western edge of the terrace and on the north side stands the red brick racquets court built in 1908. Wide stone paths, shown in photographs taken in 1981/2 (KCC), one leading west from the gate the full length of the terrace and the other running south from the racquets court, were grassed over c.1985 on the

advice of Martin Lane Fox (pers. comm. and St. Clere Garden Guide). Borders beneath the walls of the terraces near the house are planted with climbing roses, shrubs and herbaceous plants.

A pergola with stone pillars and wooden transverses built in 1908 (drawing in Kent History and Library Centre) runs 10 metres north from the gate from the forecourt of the house along the east side of the wall connecting it to the racquets court and then 15 metres west along the south side of the racquets court. In this corner is set a rectangular lily pond (4 x 8 metres) with a stone surround. A small area (about 8 metres square) in the corner between the west wall of the racquets court and a wall which runs west from that building parallel to the driveway leading to the C19 western carriage arch and is known as the Governor's Green. It is laid to grass with borders of climbing shrubs beneath the walls.

The southern boundary of the lower terrace is formed of a low brick and stone wall capped with stone. A central flight of steps leads down to the grass enclosure described above. On the north side a C18 orangery stands against the brick wall mentioned above which is 4 metres high and runs west for about 80 metres from the north-west corner of the racquets court. Two Italianate well heads stand one on each side. The wall is all that remains of a kitchen garden and glasshouses which is shown in the 1<sup>st</sup> edition OS map as extending west and north of the orangery and being divided into four compartments. The route of the present gravel driveway passes through the centre of the former walled kitchen garden. This terrace terminates with a pierced brick balustrade and a flight of steps leading down to a flowering thorn tunnel planted c 1919 which is now (2012) deteriorating. A marble statue terminates the view behind which is a clipped yew screen.

A wrought iron gate leads north from the Governor's Green through to a gravel path running east/west on the north side of the orangery wall (and south of the main driveway) with mixed borders containing roses, shrubs and herbaceous plants on each side and a stone urn at its western end. This area was redesigned in the 1980s by Anthony du Gard Pasley (pers. comm.). A small paved courtyard with a lead water cistern was created in about 1980 in the corner formed by the north wall of the racquets court and the west wall of the carriage arch. A metal arch leads south from the path out onto the long terrace to the east of the orangery through plantings of tree peonies. A mature blue cedar grows here.

On the north side of the main drive curved blocks of clipped laurel in mown grass provide a screen for the swimming pool built on the site of an orchard to the north of the former walled kitchen garden (1<sup>st</sup> edition OS map). This area now contains many substantial trees and was the site of extensive iris beds in the 1930s (Bowden and photographs in Kemsing Heritage Centre).

A flight of stone steps on the east side of the paved terrace on the south side of the house leads down to a small paved area enclosed with a chamaecyparis hedge in the centre of which is an ivy-covered statue. A mown grass path winds 75 metres south east from this enclosure through some old yew trees and out

into an area of meadow grass planted with decorative trees and shrubs to a raised circular mound about 12 metres across now known as the Bear Garden or Bear Pit. There is no sign of this feature in the 1<sup>st</sup> edition OS map (1862 – 1875) which shows a rectangular structure in this position described as a Ball Court. A circular area with winding paths and shrubs and trees appears in the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition OS map (1897-1900) and this may be part of the changes to the garden attributed to F. Inigo Thomas (Garden Information Sheet). The Tree Register lists three champion trees in the area of the Bear Pit: *Sorbus* 'Joseph Rock', *Syringa emodi* and *Malus kansvensis* var. *calva* which is described as the original tree introduced in 1904. These still survive. Archaeological excavations of the area in the 1980s did not reveal any signs of a building here (pers. comm.). The mound is surrounded by a low yew hedge planted after the 1987 gale (pers. comm.).

Immediately beside the east side of the house is an area laid out in the 1980s for use as a kitchen garden containing two glasshouses and surrounded by a yew hedge. A brick path leads north beside the house through a gate to the cobbled stable yard.

About 500 metres south of St. Clere the area around Lower St. Clere (house listed grade II and built c1600) was formerly part of the designed landscape. The house is now (2012) occupied by the parents of the owner of St. Clere and remains part of the St. Clere estate. Immediately south-east of Lower St Clere's house is a 0.75 hectare lake, described in the tithe award as a Fish Pond occupied by the landowner, William John Evelyn. An area of woodland on the north-east side of the lake is referred to in the tithe award as the Boat House Plantation though no traces of a boat house survive. Another area of woodland to the south is named Ladies Walk and the 1<sup>st</sup> edition OS map shows trees planted along the north-east boundary of Lower St. Clere, perhaps to screen the buildings from St. Clere itself. The lake can be seen from the garden of St. Clere and appears to be incorporated into the designed landscape. A small classical temple made of fibreglass was erected on the south bank of the lake in the 1950s (pers. comm.).

The (detached) 30 hectare St. Clere Pinetum is situated on the downs above St. Clere about 0.5km north of the Pilgrims' Way in a pocket of acid soil in an area called Birches Wood. It is shown in the tithe map as a small conifer plantation in the occupation of John Evelyn. The 1<sup>st</sup> edition OS map (1862-1875) shows broad rides radiating from a central point in a star pattern. A tree survey (private archive) conducted in 1978 lists 130 mature trees, including several rare species, and records the dates of planting. The trees are underplanted with rhododendrons and azaleas. The rides are (2011) no longer maintained. The tree survey records that many trees were planted in 1910-1918 after Sir Mark Edleman Collet had inherited the estate in 1905. Thirty five trees are listed as champion trees in the Tree Register of the British Isles including *Picea breweriana* noted as having been 'brought by Balfour' in 1908, presumably a reference to F.R.S. Balfour of Dawyck with whom Sir Mark Edelman Collet was in correspondence in 1920s (Kent History and Library Centre), *Picea likiangensis* subsp. *Balfouriana* and a 'remarkable' *Tsuga caroliniana*. Several

trees appear to be more than 100 years old. Planting continued in the second half of the C20 (tree survey).

## PARKLAND

The areas immediately to the north, south and south-west of the house are shown as parkland in the 1<sup>st</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> edition OS maps and with the exception of the land directly to the south of St. Clere which is now under arable cultivation, are still managed as open pasture with a few scattered mature trees.

## KITCHEN GARDEN

The 0.4 hectare walled kitchen garden built by Mark Wilks Collet between 1878 and 1905 is on a south facing slope to the east of the north-east carriage arch and measures 55 by 70 metres. The 4 metres high brick walls are capped with hipped tiles. The west and east sides are stepped to accommodate the sloping ground and the southern boundary was formed of a hedge with a wooden gate (photo c1940 Kemsing Heritage Centre) which has since been removed. The north side incorporates a two story building known as the bothy and under renovation in 2011. In the centre of the west and east walls are iron gates with brick piers surmounted by stone balls. None of glasshouses, which included a cucumber house and strawberry house (Kent History and Library Centre Norman Archive) and until recently (2011) a vine house on the north wall, now survive and the garden is uncultivated. In its heyday and until the 1940s there was a central lily pond and fruit trees trained over metal arches which are now gone (photograph Kemsing Heritage Centre). A gardener's cottage at the north-west corner was designed by W.D. Fletcher (drawing in Kent History and Library Centre).

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- V.E. Bowden *The Story of Kemsing* pp. 37- 41

Information Sheet for garden visitors produced by Mr. Ronald Norman c 1980  
(Kemsing Heritage Centre)  
Kent County Council Tree Survey of St. Clere Pinetum 1978 (Private archive)

## **Maps**

William Mudge, *An Entirely New and Accurate Survey of the County of Kent*  
(1801)

Tithe Map, Ightham Parish (1840) Kent History and Library Centre,  
Ightham Tithe Award Schedule

OS 1<sup>st</sup> edition 25" map (1862-1875)

OS 2<sup>nd</sup> edition 25" map (1897-1900)

OS 3<sup>rd</sup> edition 25" map (1907-1903)

OS 4<sup>th</sup> edition map 25" (1929-1952)

## **Illustrations**

Photographs c.1900 (Kemsing Heritage Centre)

Photographs 1981/2 (Kent County Council)

Postcard c. 1900 possibly from a drawing of St. Clere by Caldicott (Kemsing  
Heritage Centre)

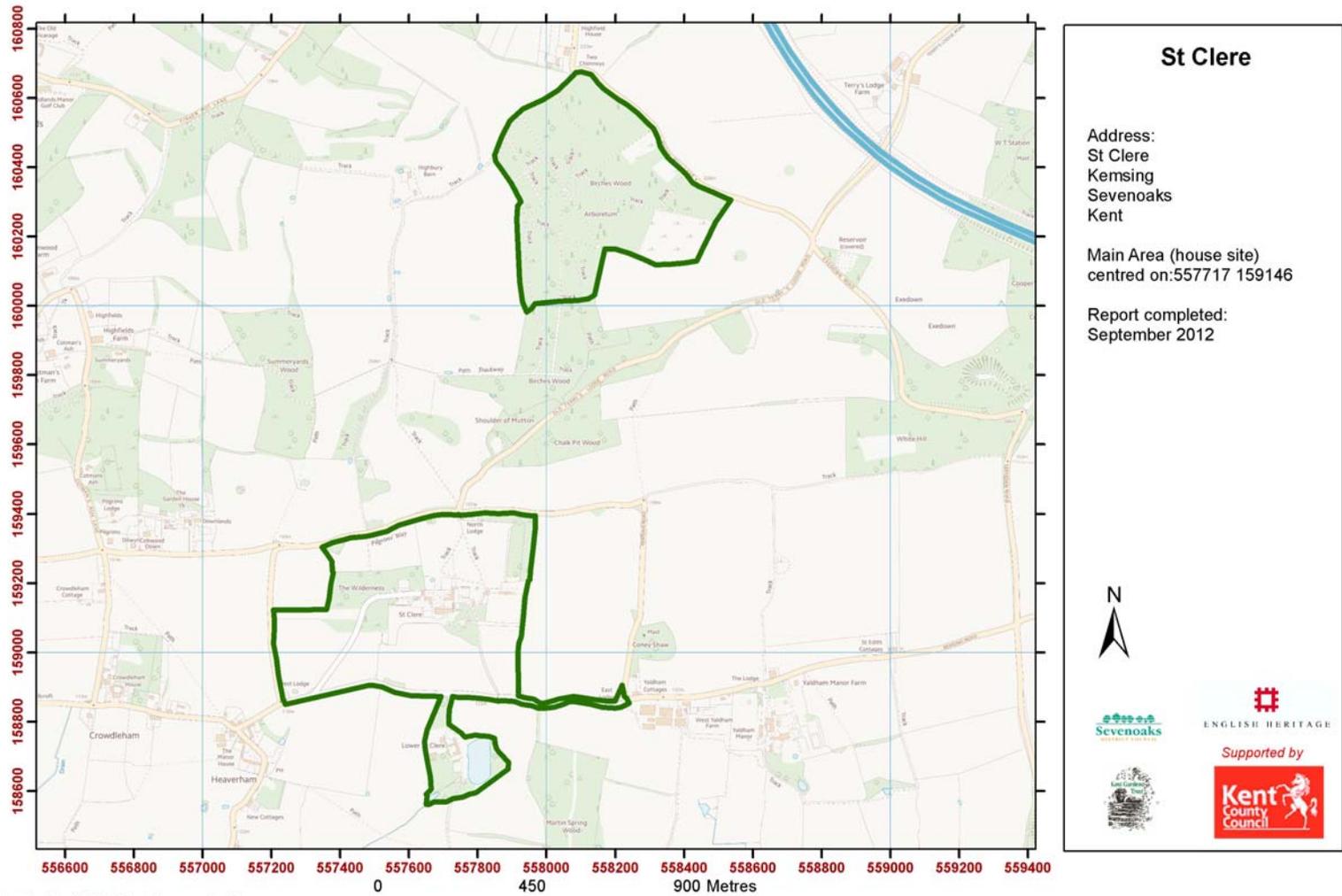
Postcard of St. Clere c. 1930 (Kemsing Heritage Centre)

## **Research by Elizabeth Cairns**

**Virginia Hinze (editor)**

# Kent Compendium of Historic Parks & Gardens 2011 - 2013 review of Sevenoaks District

## Fig. 1 Boundary map

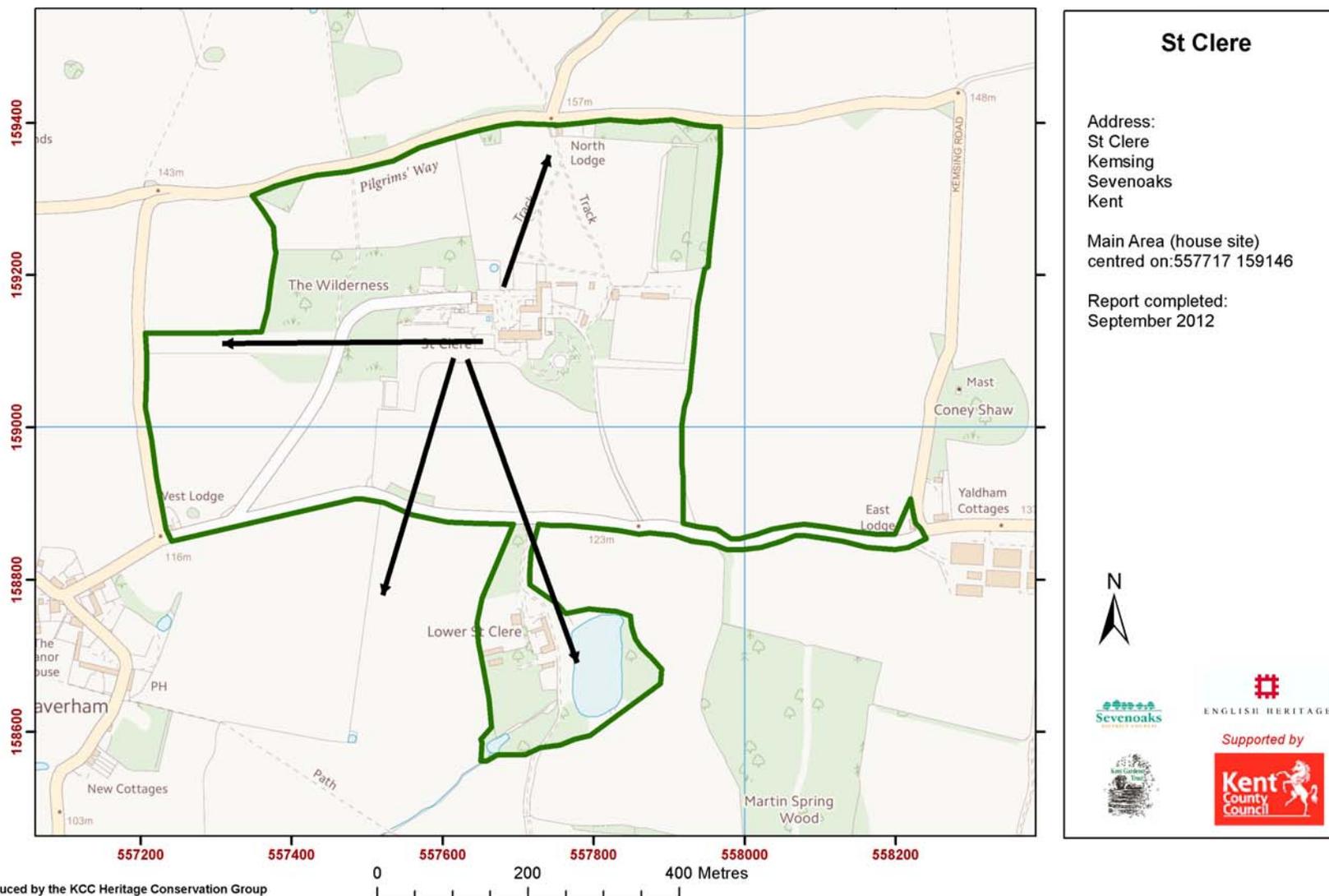


Produced by the KCC Heritage Conservation Group

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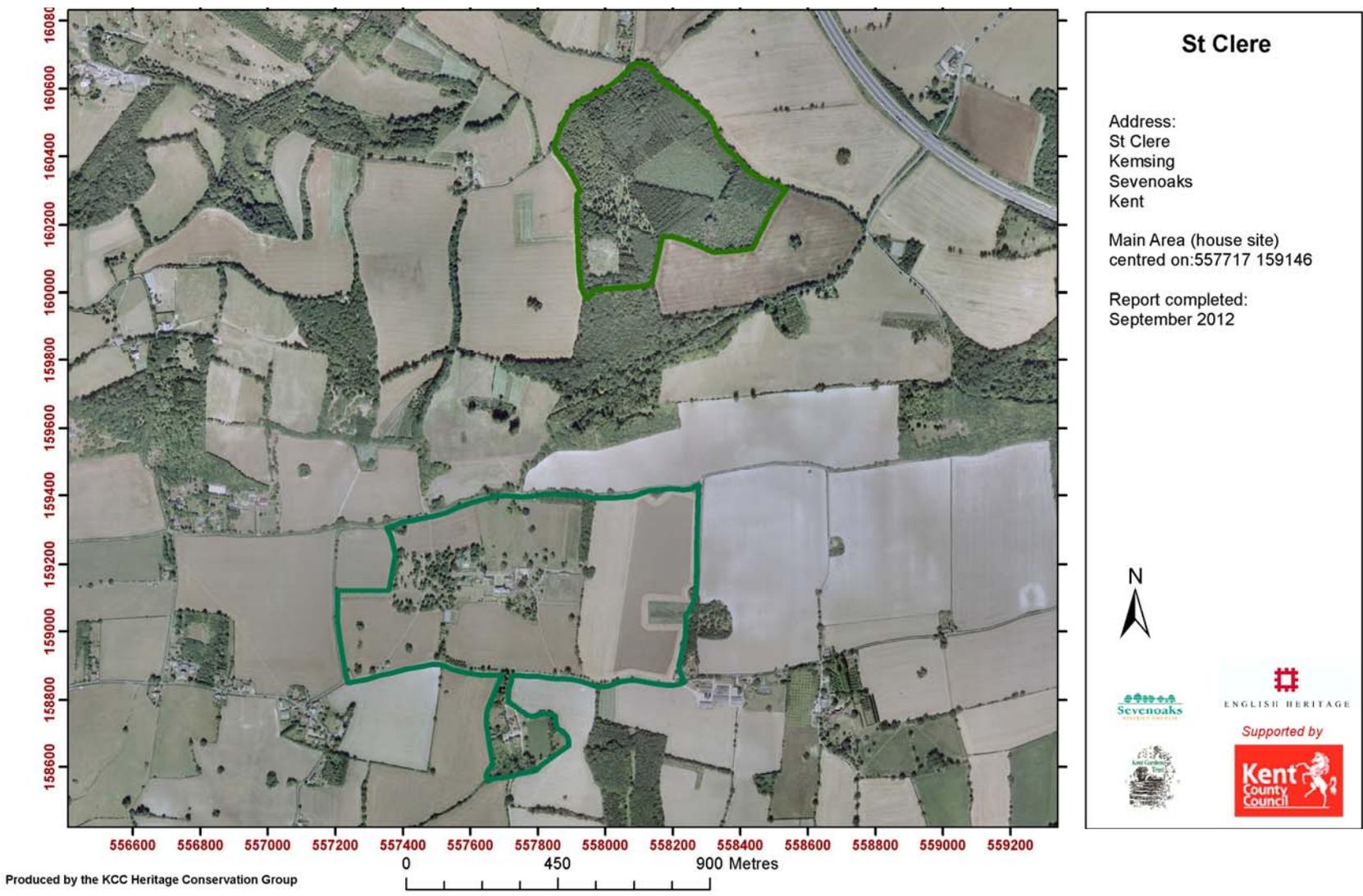
# Kent Compendium of Historic Parks & Gardens 2011 - 2013 review of Sevenoaks District

## Fig. 2 Key views map



# Kent Compendium of Historic Parks & Gardens 2011 - 2013 review of Sevenoaks District

## Fig. 3 Aerial photograph (2003)



# Kent Compendium of Historic Parks & Gardens 2011 - 2013 review of Sevenoaks District

## Fig. 4 Map of listed buildings

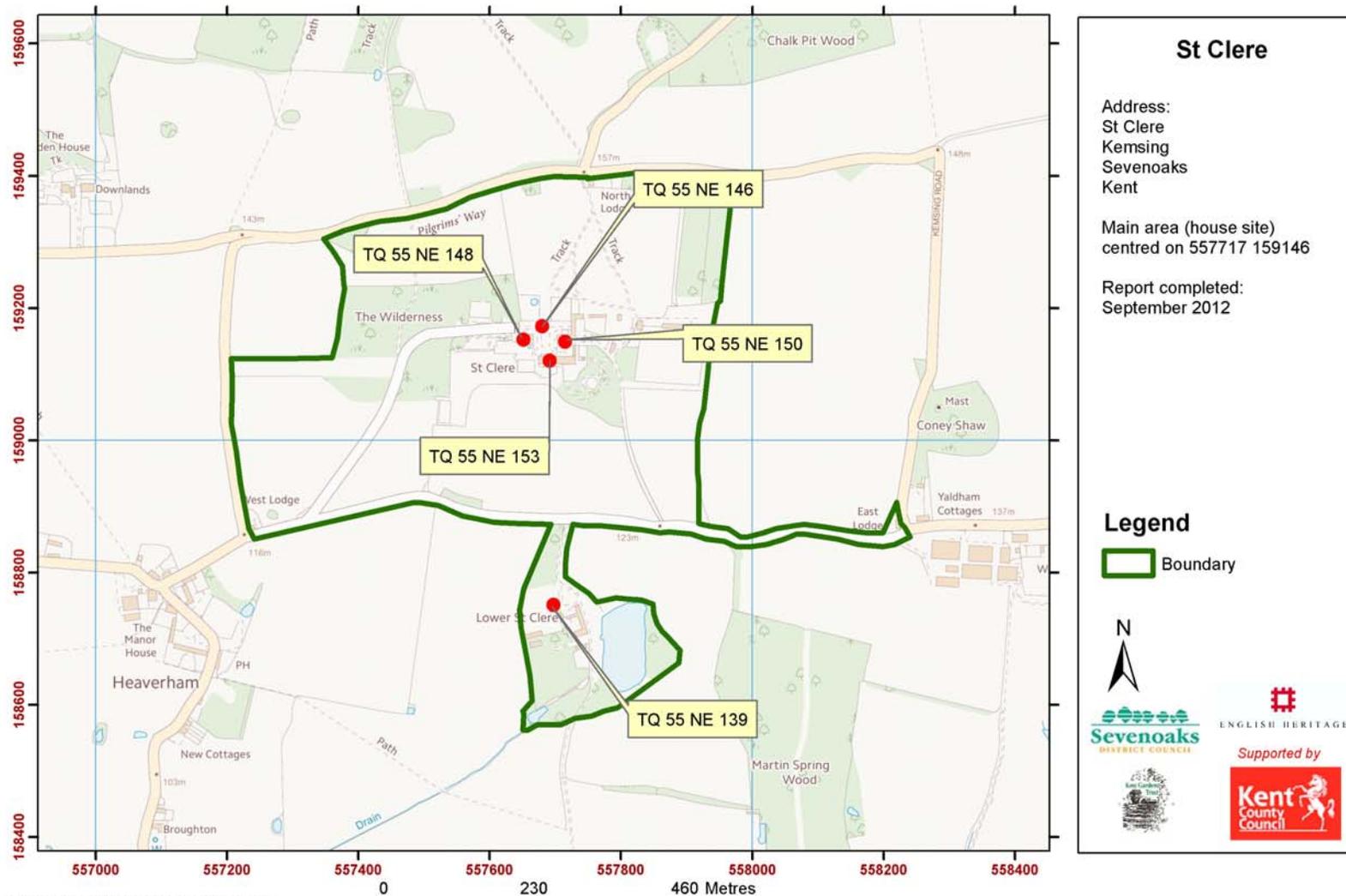


Fig. 5 Listed buildings at St Clere (from the Kent Historic Environment Record)

**Kent Historic Environment Record Reference: TQ 55 NE 153**

The following text is from the original listed building designation:

KEMSING HEAVERHAM 1. 5280 St Clere  
TQ 55 NE 43/588 IO.9.54. I GV 2. Large house of 2nd  
quarter of C17. Entrance front of 3 storeys, attic and basement. 5 windows,  
plus windows in octagonal angle towers. High pitched hipped slated roof has  
row of coupled tall chimneys, now rendered, all along ridge. 3 pedimented  
dormers. Modillioned cornice and parapet of 1767 (date on rainwater head).  
Raised brick quoins and shouldered architraves (now rendered) to sash  
windows with glazing bars in exposed frames. Projecting C19 central porch with  
rusticated brick columns and stone entablature with ball finials. Inside hall  
panelling of C18 and good C18 staircase. Also chimneypiece by Sir John  
Soane, brought from Bank of England. Simpler South front, without towers or  
porch, has balustraded stone terrace up 7 steps. Later additions to East of  
house. Related in style to original Chevening House. St Clere, the forecourt  
wall and gates, the outbuild to North-east and the outbuilding to North-West  
form a group.

Listing NGR: TQ5769259121

**Kent Historic Environment Record Reference: TQ 55 NE 150**

The following text is from the original listed building designation:

KEMSING HEAVERHAM 1, 5280 Outbuilding to North-East  
of St Clere (Formerly listed as Outbuildings  
and Coach Houses to St Clere) TQ 55 NE 43/590 10.9.54. II  
GV 2. L-Shaped building linked to house by wall. Northern parts C18. Carriage  
arch at North end has 1st floor and cupola over. Red brick with slated roofs.  
South face, forming North side of cobbled courtyard, is of Tudor brickwork with  
hollow-chamfered 3-centered stone arches to doorways. A stable wing extends  
Eastwards from North end. St Clere, the forecourt wall and gates, the outbuild  
to North-east and the [outbuildings to North-West form a group.

Listing NGR: TQ5769259121

**Kent Historic Environment Record Reference: TQ 55 NE 148**

The following text is from the original listed building designation:

KEMSING HEAVERHAM 1. 5280 Outbuilding  
to North-West of St Clere TQ 55 NE 43/591 II  
GV 2. C19 L-shaped building, made for symmetry with the outbuilding to North-  
East. Red brick with slated roofs. Carriage arch in Northern end has 1st floor  
and cupola over, similar to that on other building. St Clere, the forecourt wall

and gates, the outbuild to North-east and the [outbuildings to North-West form a group.

Listing NGR: TQ5769259121

**Kent Historic Environment Record Reference: TQ 55 NE 146**

The following text is from the original listed building designation:

KEMSING HEAVERHAM 1. 5280 Forecourt  
Wall and Gates to North of  
St Clere TQ 55 NE 43/589 II GV 2. C19 red brick wall with flint  
panels. Tall, stone-coped brick piers with ball finials. Wrought iron railings and  
gates.

St Clere, the forecourt wall and gates, the outbuild to North-east and the  
outbuilding to North-West form a group.

Listing NGR: TQ5769259121

**Kent Historic Environment Record Reference: TQ 55 NE 139**

The following text is from the original listed building designation:

KEMSING HEAVERHAM 1. 52it+ Lower St  
Clere TQ 5758 18/592 II 2. Circa 1600. L-shaped house, refaced in C18 and  
with angle of L filled in, in late C19. Entrance front of 2 storeys and attic, 3  
windows. Fairly high pitched hipped swept tiled roof with 2 C19 gabled  
dormers. Red brick with some blue headers and dentil cornice. Large galletted  
rubble foundation. C19 2-storey canted bays, with sash windows, flank half-  
glazed 6-panel door under modern wood gabled porch. C19 casements above.  
Old rubble masonry on left return. Inside inglenook and heavy beams with much  
roll moulding.

Listing NGR: TQ5769958748