

The Kent Compendium of Historic Parks and Gardens for Medway



Peverel Green Rainham



March 2014

Peverel Green

Rainham

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INTRODUCTION

This site description and accompanying dossier have been prepared by the Kent Gardens Trust as part of its wider review of ***The Kent Compendium of Historic Parks and Gardens***. This part of the review, carried out for Medway Council in 2013 -14, covers sites within the Medway local authority area with the aim to:

- a) Review the historic nature, content, current state and significance of the sites currently identified in the ***Kent Compendium of Historic Parks and Gardens*** for the Medway local authority area along with others identified by Medway Council. The review has been undertaken using English Heritage's criteria for identifying the significance of local heritage assets to provide a consistent approach. The revised list of sites has the potential to support development of a Local List of historic sites in Medway should the Council wish to progress this in future¹. The list of sites researched and evaluated in this review would be subject to consultation as part of any Local List development and is therefore not intended to be final.
- b) Inform future funding applications for historic spaces by the identification of significance
- c) Inform future conservation and/or any development of sites by the identification of the significance of key historic character, features and association including that of setting and viewpoints.

The extent of the area identified represents the current surviving area of the designed landscape, the boundary line generally reflecting the maximum extent of the historic gardens or parkland (although there are exceptions such as where land has been irreversibly lost to development). The boundary line 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.

Medway Council
Greenspace, Heritage
& Library Services
Gun Wharf
Dock Road
Chatham
ME4 4TR
www.medway.gov.uk

Kent County Council
Heritage Conservation
Invicta House
County Hall
Maidstone
ME14 1XX
01622 696918
www.kent.gov.uk

Kent Gardens Trust
www.kentgardenstrust.org.uk

English Heritage
www.english-heritage.org.uk

¹ English Heritage (2012) 'Good Practice Guide to Local Listing'

LOCATION

**KENT
MEDWAY
GILLINGHAM**

PEVEREL GREEN

Centred on 580750 163590

Long Catlis Road, Parkwood, Rainham, Gillingham, Kent ME8 9UP

Peveler Green lies 0.5km south-west of Parkwood Green, c5.5km south-west of Gillingham and c2.5km south of Rainham

BRIEF HISTORY

For centuries, the whole area now known as Parkwood was covered by ancient woodland. Early editions of OS maps show the entire area as woodland, known as Rainham Park. Pathways intersect the area but there is no evidence of a designed landscape or any historic buildings. Apart from the addition of a broader pathway joining the west-east path at a central point from the north, and the removal of part of the pathway to the west, there is no material difference between the 1st and 4th edition OS maps.

From the mid-1960s onwards, the land was given over to large-scale development of new housing. Peveler Green² is an area of land in the middle of the housing estate and is utilised as a green space.

SITE DESCRIPTION

A 0.8 hectare irregular area of grass interspersed with closely-planted trees, mainly oak. There are three intersecting pathways. The green is bordered by housing to the north, east and south, and Long Catlis Road to the west.

LISTING STATUS

Peveler Green is not registered as a park and garden by English Heritage and there is no entry in Parks and Gardens UK; nor has it been included in the KGT Kent Compendium. There are no listed buildings on the site.

CONCLUSION

Although the site offers a pleasant green space to the community, and therefore an important community asset, there is no evidence of an historic designed park or landscape on the site. In the absence of an historic designed landscape falling within requisite English Heritage criteria, we have not completed a full review.

² There are no references to Peveler Green in the Medway Archives catalogue; further evidence of the development of the site may be available from local authority committee records and other local sources.

REFERENCES

Ordnance Survey map: 25" to 1 mile:

1st edition (1862-1875)

2nd edition (1897-1900)

3rd edition (1907-1923)

4th edition (1929- 1952)

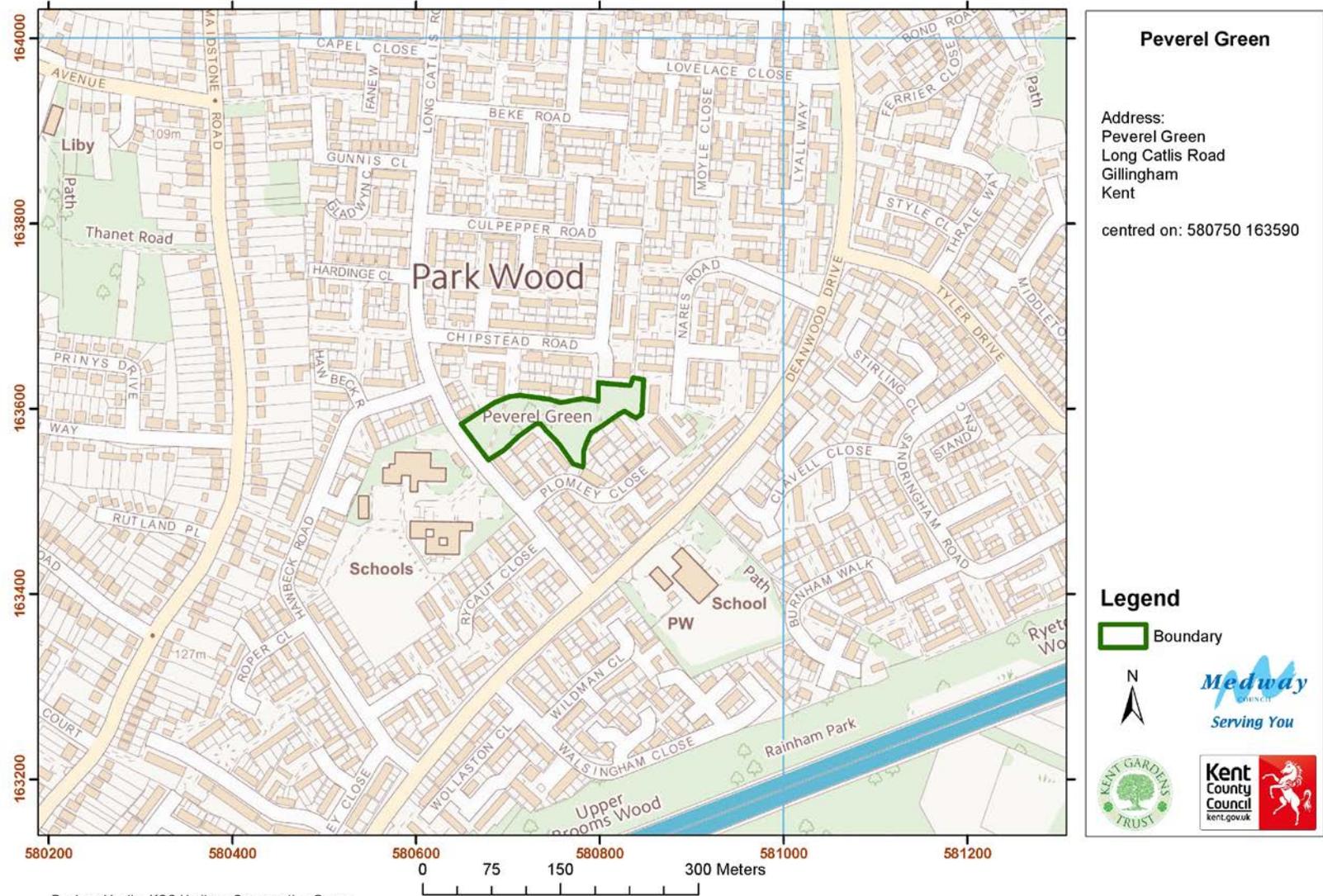
G. Hufton, *Off the Beaten Track: A Short History of Bredhurst, Wigmore, Parkwood and Hempstead* (Meresborough Books, 1993)

Paul and Beverley Howarth

March 2014

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Fig. 1 Boundary map



Produced by the KCC Heritage Conservation Group
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Fig. 2 Aerial photograph (2012)



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Fig. 3 Photograph of Peverel Green

