

Local Green Space: **Holly Hill**

Description of Site

'Holly Hill' is the area of planting bounded by the roads Holly Hill and Mount Vernon and the tarmac footpath going up to the top of Mount Vernon. It is a raised-up bank due to the steepness of the hill here with a wall and drop on the west side of the road Holly Hill.

Historical Significance



Holly Hill in 1840

The site of 'Holly Hill' can be seen to the west of the steep cart track that was Holly Hill in a painting of 1840. In c.1900 Holly Hill was under threat for road widening in connection with railway works but opposition from local people prevented this, meaning that the green bank 'Holly Hill' was retained for locals to continue to appreciate.



Recent History

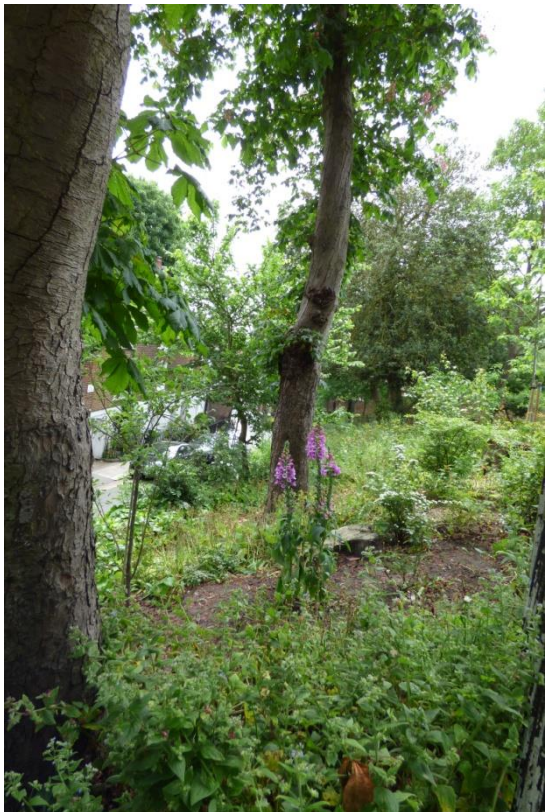
Since the late 19th century / early 20th century it has been maintained by Hampstead Borough Council as an area of regularly mown grass. This was continued by LB Camden Parks & Open Spaces Department, but it eventually turned to scrub.



Use by local community

The original desire of the local community to protect and improve this area is continuing. The *Holly Hill Conservation Volunteers* were formed in October 2013, signing an agreement with Camden in September 2014 for permission to access the Holly Hill site to enhance it. This would be by clearing the ivy, brambles and scrub and sowing, growing and maintaining this area for plants, flowers, fruits, grasses, herbs and shrubs.

The group is a member of Conservation Volunteers and has around 20 members, of which about half regularly help with gardening on the site. The annual membership fee pays for insurance and plants; plant donations also received. Access is otherwise not safe for members of the public.



Richness of Wildlife

An area within the site is retained for wild flowers and by using organic methods, insects and birds can visit without harm. The site is very popular with bats who swoop around the area on warm evenings. The volunteers have put up a bat box on the Holly Hill bank and have a bat detector. This demonstrates the regular seasonal presence of bats and is useful for introducing children to the fascination of our local bats.

Beauty and Tranquility

While it is on a moderately busy thoroughfare it nevertheless provides visual beauty through its interplanting of a variety of trees, shrubs, bulbs, garden flowers and wild flowers. It has become a local amenity in the sense that people often stop to admire the view/flowers and children enjoy learning the names of the plants as they come into bloom. The planting is of native varieties e.g. evening primrose, foxgloves, damson and sage. Snowdrops, primroses and daffodils provide beautiful early cover until the (pre-existing) bluebells come out.

Owners of the land

London Borough of Camden

How will the green space be managed in the future?

It is expected that LB Camden ownership will continue, with the Holly Hill volunteers continuing to maintain it.

Special Policy Area:

Area of Special Character: Hampstead & Highgate Ridge.



Other LA designation:

Holly Hill Bank is in the Hampstead Conservation Area.

Hampstead Local Plan:

Holly Hill Bank lies east of the Plan's Biodiversity Corridor H (Hampstead Grove, Admirals Walk, Upper and Lower Terrace) and Local Green Space 'Fenton House Garden' in the Plan Area.

Supports Local Plan Policies:

Designation of Holly Hill Bank as a Local Green Space would support **Camden's Local Plan Policy A2 'Open Space': c, e, f and h; A3 'Biodiversity': a, c, e, f and h. Through its provision of a beautiful space for local people to nurture and to admire and of interest to children,** it is consistent with Local Plan Policy C1 'Health and well-being': a, and Policy C2 'Community facilities'.

Local Green Space: **Fenton House Garden**

Local Significance: (Historical and Beauty)

Fenton House was built c1693 as a merchant's house in Hampstead, receiving its present name after 1793 when the house was bought by the merchant Mr P I Fenton. It now belongs to the National Trust, bequeathed to them in 1952 by Lady Binning, its last owner and resident. The house is kept much as it was 300 years ago. The house has Historic England grade 1 listing. This does not extend to the 1½ acre walled garden, though the garden gates, railings and walls (dating from C17th and C18th with alterations) are listed (grade II) and the garden provides an important setting for the house.

A description of the garden in 1756 records that it had fruit trees and a kitchen garden. The layout today is not dissimilar to that of the 1860s with a lawn to the south with central gravel path leading from the entrance gates to what was then the main entrance of the house. Although there are no longer flower beds here, the South Walk has been planted with over 3,000 snowdrops.

North of the house were terraced gardens with perimeter walks comprising a flower garden and walled kitchen garden. By the 1880s there was a lawn tennis court and vinery.



Nowadays Fenton House garden to the north is on three levels: it has a delightful formal walled and terraced garden including a small sunken rose garden, and an orchard and working kitchen garden with a wide range of vegetables. The more formal parts of the garden include colourful herbaceous borders edged with box and a sunken rose garden. Scented herbs include lavender, rosemary and dianthus. It was the regional winner of the National Trust Gardens Award 2000.

Richness of Wildlife

The 300 year old orchard is kept unmown all through the summer to encourage the growth of wild flowers, maintaining this area as supportive of a wide range of insects. There are spring bulbs including native bluebells amongst the fruit trees in the orchard that boasts over 30 varieties of apple.



Use by the Local Community:

Fenton House Gardens are open to the public with a voluntary donation every day except Mondays during the open season - March: Sat/Sun 2-5pm; April- Oct: Wed-Fri 2-5pm/Sat/Sun/BH 11-5pm. There is a self-guided walks leaflet. Local people are frequently to be found sitting within the garden, quietly enjoying its peace and tranquillity, while visitors walk around looking at the wide range of flowers and shrubs. The *Fenton House garden volunteers* are mainly drawn from local people who gain enjoyment and gardening experience while regularly working here.

In addition various events take place in the gardens:

- Open Garden Square weekend
- National Garden Scheme
- Garden Easter Egg Trail
- Apple Weekend
- Bank Holiday picnics

Special Policy Area:

The garden is within the Area of Special Character: Hampstead & Highgate Ridge.

Other LA designation:

Fenton House and garden is within the Hampstead Conservation Area.

Supports Local Plan Policies:

Designation of Fenton House Gardens as a Local Green Space would support **Camden's Local Plan Policy A2 'Open Space': c, e, f and h; A3 'Biodiversity': a, c, e, f, h and i. Through its provision of a restful and beautiful space with facilities for National Trust visitors, local people and children, it is consistent with Local Plan Policy C1 'Health and well-being': a, and Policy C2 'Community facilities'.**

Hampstead Local Plan:

Biodiversity corridors, Historic tree lines.

Links to other Green Space in the Hampstead Local Plan area

Fenton House gardens hold a key place within the Plan's Biodiversity Corridor H that runs from Hampstead Heath and Upper Terrace Reservoir, through the Lower Terrace and Admiral's Walk area, and along Hampstead Grove towards the SINC 'Hampstead Parish Churchyard'. It is close to Local Green Space 'Footpath Admiral's Walk to Windmill Hill' and to public Open Space and London Square 'Holly Bush Hill' and public Open Space 'Heath Street Shrubbery'.

How will the green space be managed in the future?

The National Trust employs a gardener Andrew Darragh to work full-time in on-going design and maintenance of the garden and activities taking place in the garden, which he does with the help of the *Fenton House garden volunteers*.

Have the landowners been consulted and if so what were their views on designation?

The National Trust have been approached but have not replied yet.

'APPLE DAY' AT FENTON HOUSE - a poem by Christine Fox (2009)

Sunday morning, late September,
apple skims the edge of country
in an urban garden.

Lined up in rows, partitioned, named,
on trestle tables in the sun,

Lemon Pippins,

Beauty of Kent,

by the cash till, Worcester Pearmaines -

the sort we stole that day, you and I,

from next-door's garden:

top of the tree,

big and sweet,

glistening white flesh -

apples, like years,

we didn't doubt would be renewed

over and over.

My memory reaches out

to the textured redness,

leafy scent,

juice-dribble on the chin

and flavour of us, my brother,

our theft and our delight;

a childhood steal stashed safe and

memorised in glossy fruits,

under Turner and Constable skies.

This is no sunstruck vicarage garden

in a country lane.

It's city grown but ancient,

seeming rural, as the house it borders;

a watercolour, closely framed

in michaelmas daisy mauve.

And each September Apple Day

the need for something still and quiet,

round, core-centred,

smelling freshly of past life,

draws me,

along with all these others here,

to covet and secure

cool country treasures,

pieces of the years.

While you, my brother,

fourteen years dead,

inhabit the same deep earth

that nurtures apple roots,

plumping their blossoms,

swelling their progeny.



Local Green Space: **Admiral's Walk to Windmill Hill**

Description of Space:

This footpath is a public right of way running south from Admiral's Walk to Windmill Hill by the service entrance of Fenton House.



Northern end of footpath, opposite Admiral's House



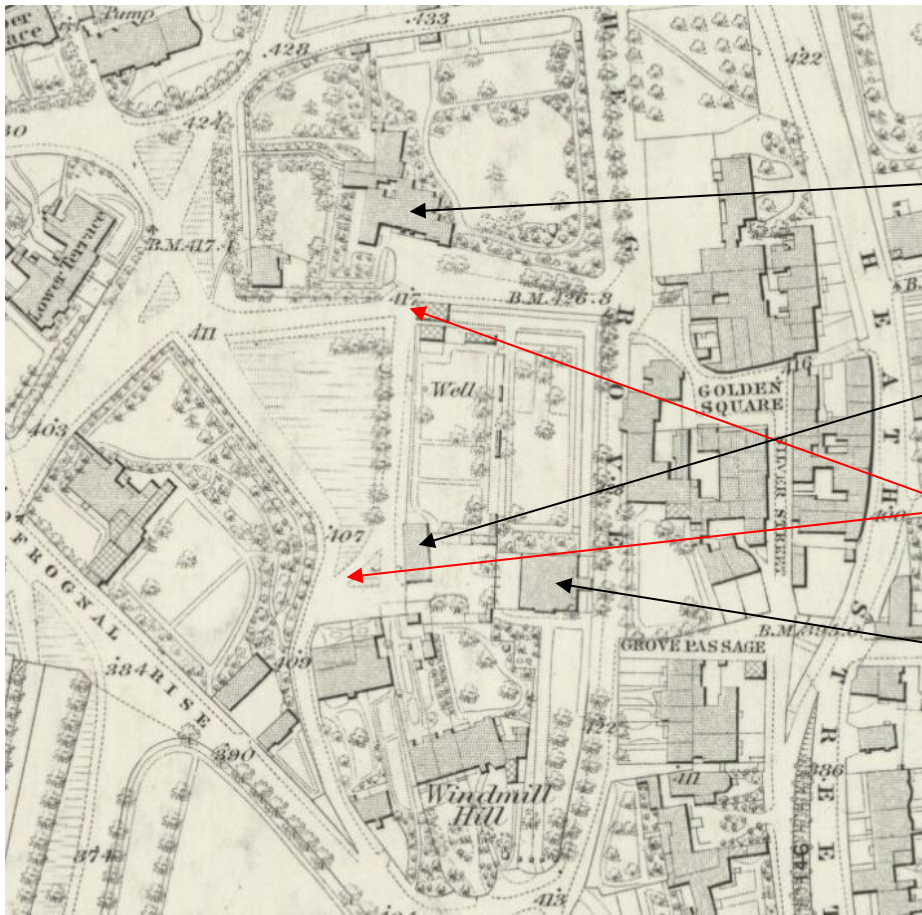
Southern end of footpath seen emerging between Willow Cottage black gate (to left) and service entrance to Fenton House (to right).

It runs between the rear, western wall of Fenton House gardens and Fenton House Cottage, and the eastern boundaries of Fleet House in Admiral's Walk and Willow Cottage in Windmill Hill. The footpath has trees and ground cover either side and is maintained by footfall. Clock House pond (also called Crockett's pond) was to its west until the mid-19th century when the pond was filled in. It appears in a painting of Grove Lodge by John Constable c1821-2.



Local Significance: (Historical and Beauty)

This footpath is clearly shown on the 1866 Ordnance Survey map as well as possible to make out on Stanford's Library map of 1862 and the Manorial maps of 1762. Attempts by developers to cut down trees or to use the path as an area for parking construction vehicles has been vigorously fought. Camden Tree Officers have refused all attempts to unreasonably fell trees and Camden have refused permission to park on the footpath, particularly within Construction Management Plans.



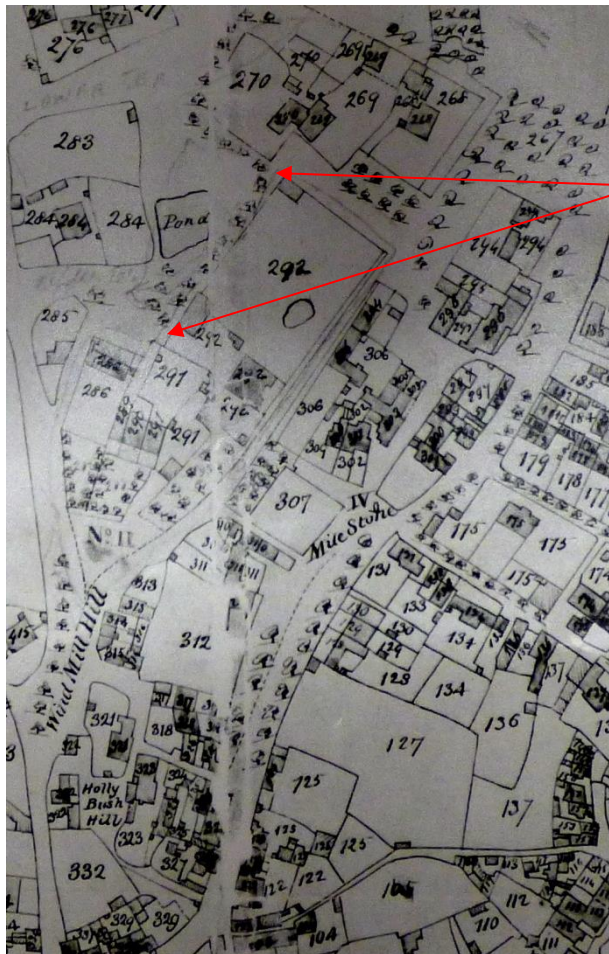
'Grove Lodge',
now Admiral's
House

Fenton House
cottage

Extent of
footpath

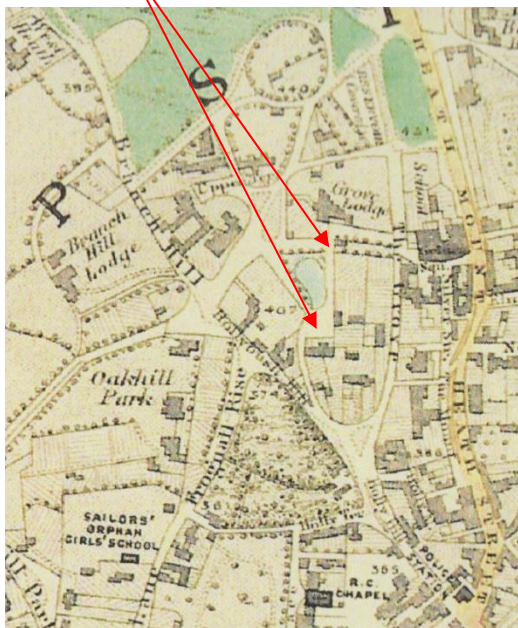
Fenton
House

1866 OS map
showing
the footpath



Extent of
footpath

Extent of
footpath



Stanford's Library map 1862

1762 Manorial map



John Constable's painting c1821-2 of The Grove (now Admiral's House) with the Clock House pond and a young willow tree in the foreground and the footpath seen running behind a row of tall trees on the right

Richness of Wildlife

Trees found along the footpath include hawthorn, elder, yew, sycamore, false acacia, goat willow and Norway maple. Pipistrelle bats fly along this footpath during warm evenings and the extensive ground cover - mainly ivy - provides good habitat and cover for mammals and invertebrates. This is one of the last remaining areas of true 'scrub' land within Hampstead village.

Use by the Local Community:

The footpath is a public right of way and its use is evident from the maintenance of the path by this footfall.

Special Policy Area: Within the Area of Special Character: Hampstead & Highgate Ridge.

Other LA designation: Within the Hampstead Conservation Area.

Hampstead Local Plan: Biodiversity Corridor H that runs from the Upper Terrace Reservoir, through the Lower Terrace and Admiral's Walk area, and along Hampstead Grove.

How will the green space be managed in the future?

The lack of management and maintenance is the footpath's main attribute. Local people and Fenton House are keen that the footpath is retained as a wild area and a soft treed background to the Fenton House walled garden. The area is unlit and the path maintained purely by footfall, ensuring good conditions for the wildlife that use the cover to nest, feed or to travel through. Since the underlying soil is mainly Bagshot sands it is well drained. Local people plan to work with Camden on retaining its



The line of trees along the footpath behind Fenton House garden western wall

wildness, and continuing to prevent unnecessary tree felling or pruning, wildlife disturbance, or access by vehicles.

Have the landowners been consulted?

It is understood that the footpath is owned by the Maryon Wilson family, past Lords of the manor. Efforts to track them down are on-going.

Local Green Space: **Burgh House Gardens**

History

Burgh House was built in 1704 by Henry and Hanna Sewell. The garden was already a key feature of the house.

Auction particulars from *The Times*, 24th April 1822:

'The house has a handsome approach, commanding extensive and delightful views of the hills of Kent and Surrey ... butlers' offices detached, housekeeper's room, with servants sleeping rooms, a double coach house and a four stall stable, large brewery and laundry, with plenty of excellent water and dry and capacious cellaring: a detached kitchen garden, enclosed with lofty walls covered with fruit trees in good bearing, with greenhouse, hothouse and cold bath; the whole replete with every convenience requisite for a highly respectable family.'

In 1911, Dr George Williamson who owned and occupied the house from 1906-1924, commissioned renowned garden designer Gertrude Jekyll to renovate the grounds. Though little remains of the garden today, her legacy lives on through her signature mill-wheel designs on the paving stones, the continuation of some of her favourite plants and flowers and the terrace that bears her name. When the Burgh House Trust took over the running of the House in 1979, they enlisted volunteers to clear up and replant the garden, which was overgrown and suffering from years of neglect. The garden is still cared for by a dedicated team of volunteers, led by Head Gardener Chris Coll, which works tirelessly all year round to ensure that it stays looking beautiful.

The Burgh House gardens were originally more expansive than the space seen today. At the front of the House, there was a large lawn that extended beyond the terrace. There was also a garden at the back as well as one to the right, which extended all the way from where Wells House now stands to Christchurch Hill and Well Road.

Sales particulars by Hamptons Estate Agents, 1924

'Charming formal garden with fruit trees and Yorkstone paved paths with ornamental column in centre, greenhouse, forcing frame, rustic summer house, etc. Soft water in tank area. Separate garden with entrance from New End Square.'

Sales particulars by Potters Surveyors and Valuers, late 1930s

'Queen Anne Residence to be sold with delightful well planned and laid out secluded gardens of over one acre, planted with Roses, Rhododendrons, Lilac, Azalea, Clematis, Japonica, Wisteria and a charming variety of choice flowering shrubs and mature trees. Sloping lawns, terraces, lily ponds, flagstone walls, Dutch garden.'

In 1946 the house and gardens were in a poor state after the war, and Hampstead Borough Council bought and restored the house. In 1979 Camden Council awarded a lease to the Burgh House Trust and the house was opened to the public.

Within the gardens of Burgh House, only the front terrace now remains of Gertrude Jekyll's garden which is maintained in her style. The lower gardens now associated with Wells House still exist though much altered (see Local Green Space 'Gertrude Jekyll's Garden & Wells House Gardens').



Burgh House rear gardens 1930s



Burgh House and its front garden with the Royal East Middlesex Militia, 1870



c1884-97 Burgh House front steps



c1990 Burgh House front steps with wisteria

Use by local community

Burgh House and its gardens are now open to the public four days a week as an independent charitable trust for arts, heritage and the community. The garden, maintained by the gardener and by volunteers, has outdoor seating both on the front terrace and in secluded areas in the garden around the house.

Special Policy Area:

Area of Special Character: Hampstead & Highgate Ridge.

Other LA designation:

Burgh House is in the Hampstead Conservation Area.

Supports Local Plan Policies:

Designation of Burgh House gardens as a Local Green Space would support **Camden's Local Plan Policy A2 'Open Space': c, f and h; A3 'Biodiversity': a, c, e, f and h. Through its provision of a restful and beautiful space with facilities for local people,** it is consistent with Local Plan Policy C1 'Health and well-being': a, and Policy C2 'Community facilities'.

Hampstead Local Plan:

Views; biodiversity corridors

Links to other Green Space in the Hampstead Local Plan area

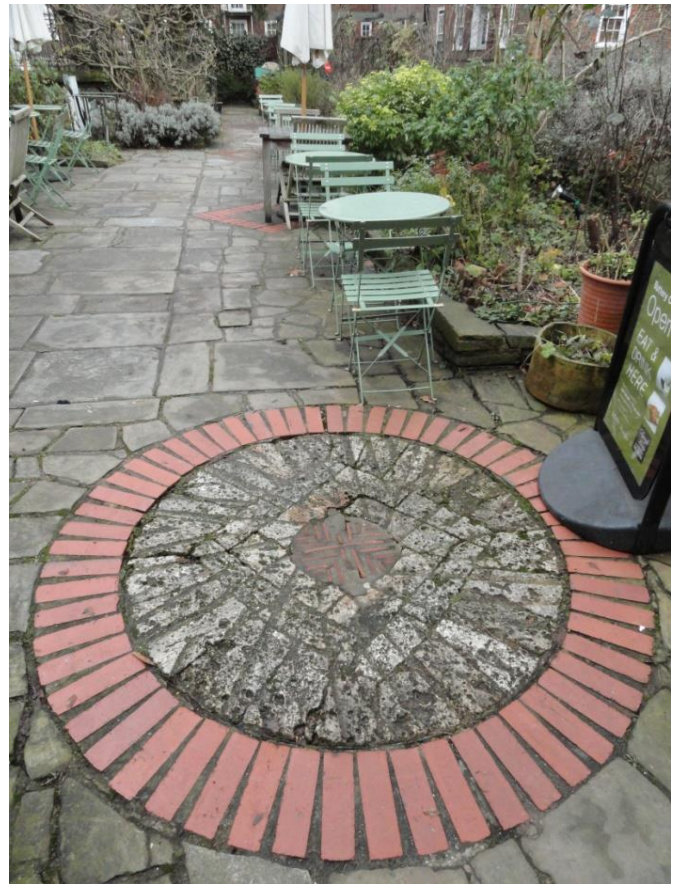
Burgh House is within Biodiversity corridor A, a long historic tree line and a key link for wildlife between the Heath and the town. Burgh House gardens are also close to Biodiversity corridor B with its direct links to Biodiversity corridors C, D and F. It is also close to the old village green and open public space in Flask Walk, to the designated village green and open space 'Gainsborough Gardens', and is immediately next door to Local Green Space 'Communal Gardens of Wells House and Gertrude Jekyll's Garden'.

Owners of the land

Camden are the freeholders; Burgh House Trust lease the building and raise money for its upkeep, repair, and improvements.







Gertrude Jekyll's mill-wheel designs still feature in the paving stones on the terrace named in her honour

Local Green Space: **Communal Gardens of Wells House and Gertrude Jekyll's Garden**

Description of Site: The communal gardens of Wells House and Gertrude Jekyll gardens, Well Walk are part of the estate owned by Camden. Many of the flats have been bought under the Right to Buy scheme. The grounds are mainly laid to lawn with geometric bedding and planters around the lawns, and some trees.



Local Significance: (Historical and Beauty)

The flats and grounds are built on the site of the second Long Room and Ballroom of the Spa revival in the 1730s. These Spa buildings were converted to residencies, but bombed in WW2 and the current housing built in 1948. The Gertrude Jekyll gardens in front of Burgh House were originally part of Burgh House gardens. Jekyll was one half of one of the most influential and historical partnerships of the Arts and Crafts movement, thanks to her association with the English architect, Edwin Lutyens, for whose projects she created numerous landscapes.

Jekyll is remembered for her outstanding designs and subtle, painterly approach to the arrangement of the gardens she created, particularly her "hardy flower borders". Her work is known for its radiant colour and the brush-like strokes of her plantings.

Dr George Williamson commissioned Gertrude Jekyll in 1908 to design the gardens of Burgh House, and this is the main remaining section. While Camden have re-built the gardens and put new walls around them, nevertheless there are areas of path that retain the original materials and the outline of

paths and beds that is so typical of Gertrude Jekyll have been retained.





Google Earth: The communal gardens of Wells House and Gertrude Jekyll gardens, winter and summer



Some of the retained brickwork and materials

Use by Local Community: The flats of Wells House have no private outdoor space; these communal green spaces are residents' sole amenity for children's play, dog walking, gardening and outdoor recreation. Estate residents contribute towards caring for the garden, managed by Camden's Housing district area manager.

Hampstead Ward has only 0.1sqm of play space provision per child, by far the lowest in the borough, where the proposed quantity standard for children's play provision 0.65 sq.m per child. Atkins Camden Open Space, Sport and Recreation Study Version 1.0 24 February 2014.

Special Policy Area:

Area of Special Character: Hampstead & Highgate Ridge.

Other LA designation:

Hampstead Conservation Area.

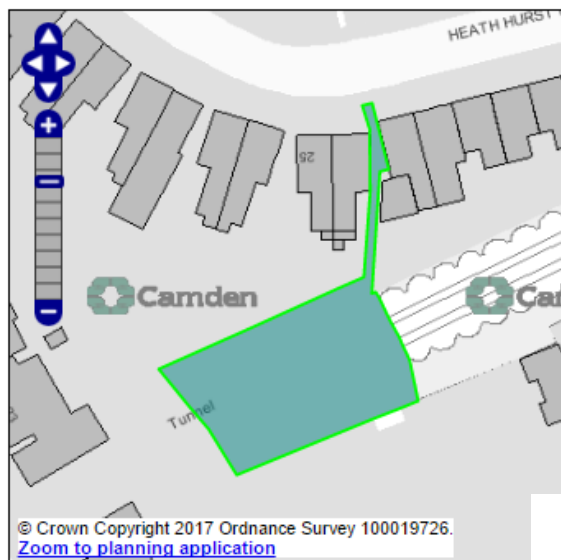
Supports Local Plan Policies:

Designation of the Communal Gardens of Wells House and Gertrude Jekyll gardens as a Local Green Space would support **Camden's Local Plan Policy A2 'Open Space': b, c, f and h; A3 'Biodiversity': a, c, e, f and h. By providing informal play space for its residents children as well as a restful and beautiful space for adult residents** it is consistent with Local Plan Policy C1 'Health and well-being': a, and Policy C2 'Community facilities'.



Local Green Space: **Heath Hurst Gardens**

This communal garden is sited over the entrance of the tunnel for the North London line west of Hampstead Heath rail station. The communal garden is approached via a pathway between 21 and 23 Heath Hurst Road on the south side of Heath Hurst Road. It is run by the Heath Hurst Gardens Association (HHGA) for all the residents of all houses in Heath Hurst Road, both north and south. HHGA have leased this garden since 1970.



Entrance to the North London line tunnel



Use by local community

Heath Hurst Gardens are kept locked with all residents of all houses of Heath Hurst Road having access. Principally it is an area for children from Heath Hurst Road to play safely, and for adults to have a tranquil green area for relaxation. This is very welcome as some Heath Hurst Road houses - due to the railway line and lay-out of other roads in the area - do not have large private rear gardens. HHRA maintain the communal garden and trees, and the access.

Richness of Wildlife

The communal garden consist mainly of grass (a large area with football goal posts), trees including poplars, sycamore, ash and elder, shrubs and flowers both wild and cultivated, and a play area with swings and a climbing frame.

Wildlife that the residents note include foxes, squirrels, many bird species, newts, frogs, abundant insect life hence bats that hunt here too, and bees that are enticed by the flowers and flowering shrubs.

Special Policy Area:

Heath Hurst Gardens are a short distance from the western end of the strategic biodiversity corridor 'North London Line railway corridor'. This railway corridor is a narrow corridor across the Borough and although in places is of limited value for wildlife, the areas of greenspace are valuable 'stepping stones' for wildlife movement.

It therefore has recognised links to the strategic Hampstead Ridge corridor (a hilly ridge that bisects Camden and runs through from the neighbouring boroughs of Barnet and Haringey) and the Nash Ramblas Link corridor (a link corridor running up from Parliament Square and the Thames, through the Royal Parks and Primrose Hill to Parliament Hill and Hampstead Heath)¹.

Other LA designation:

Heath Hurst Gardens are in the Hampstead Conservation Area.

Supports Local Plan Policies:

Designation of Heath Hurst Gardens as a Local Green Space would support **Camden's Local Plan Policy A2 'Open Space': c, e and j; A3 'Biodiversity': c and j. Through its provision of safe and secure play facilities for its residents' children**, it is consistent with Local Plan Policy C1 'Health and well-being': a, and Policy C2 'Community Facilities'.

Links to other Green Space in the Hampstead Local Plan area

Heath Hurst Gardens are a link in a local chain. They connect the most southerly part of Hampstead Heath, along the rail sides with the South End Green and Mansfield Allotments (also part of the SINC CaB104), then on to Hampstead Local Plan Biodiversity Corridors F (the rear gardens of Hampstead Hill Gardens, Heath Hurst Road and Keats Grove) which is an historical tree line and hedgerow, Biodiversity corridor D (an historical tree line between Downshire Hill and Pilgims Lane) and thence on to Biodiversity corridor J along Shepherds Walk, Spring Walk and Spring Path.

How will the green space be managed in the future?

HHRA wish to maintain the communal garden and trees and are about to re-sign a further lease on this plot.

Owners of the land

Age Concern, Camden are the freeholders.

¹ Mayor of London's 'Green Infrastructure and Open Environments: The All London Green Grid' Supplementary Planning Guidance March 2012





Communal gardens stability over the years as seen with Google Earth: 1999, 2003, 2006, 2010, 2013, 2015

Local Green Space: **The Pryors**

Description of Space

The Pryors are two blocks of private flats, Block A and Block B, situated on the edge of and within Hampstead Heath with a large communal garden between them. It is mainly laid to grass but has many specimen trees, hedges, shrubs and flower beds.

Local Significance: (Historical and Beauty)

The Pryors was originally a large single house with stabling and extensive gardens, owned by the Pryors family. It is shown as present on Rocque's *Map of London* (1741-5). Walter Field, water colour artist of some repute, and main founder of the Hampstead Heath Protection Society, lived here up until his death in 1901. He was untiring in his efforts to preserve the natural beauties of Hampstead Heath. The whole plot of 1¾ acres was sold the following year with its grounds described as charming and secluded, shaded by cedar and other trees. The house was then pulled down and the present two large blocks of flats built, but retaining much of the gardens.

SALE THIS DAY.

HAMPSTEAD-HEATH.—Within five minutes' walk of Hampstead-Heath Station (North London Railway) and a like distance of tram and omnibus routes and a cab rank, thereby ensuring ready access to all parts of Town. Notice of Sale by Auction by

MESSRS. G. W. and H. G. POTTER, at the Mart, Tokenhouse-yard, E.C., THIS DAY (Friday), June 6th, at 2 o'clock precisely, the exceedingly valuable FREEHOLD PROPERTY, equally suitable for residential purposes or development, known as **The Pryors, East Heath-road, Hampstead**, occupying a choice position on the edge of the heath, which surrounds it on three sides, having very valuable building frontages to existing roads, commanding extensive views, and comprising the old-fashioned mansion, containing 15 bed and dressing rooms, bath room, with hot and cold water supplies, billiard room (28ft. by 18ft., 16ft. high), dining room with bay (29ft. by 15ft.), drawing room (23ft. by 17ft.) with French casements opening to garden, morning room, smoking room, servants' hall, two staircases and extensive domestic offices; detached stabling for four horses, with double coach-house, harness room, loft, and living rooms; also a brick-built modern detached Artist's Studio, containing lofty studio, storeroom, model's room, and lavatory accommodation. The charming and secluded grounds, shaded by cedar and other trees, comprise pleasure gardens, tennis lawn, and lawn tennis court, and contain stove-house, vinery, shrubberies, and flower beds, &c. The whole comprises an area of nearly 1½ acre. The drainage has been reconstructed and kept up to date throughout.

The premises can only be viewed by appointment, to be made through the Auctioneers. Particulars, with views, plans, and conditions of sale, can be obtained at the Mart, Tokenhouse-yard, E.C.; of Messrs. Pennington and Son, Solicitors, of 64, Lincoln's-inn-fields; or of the Auctioneers, 28, Rosslyn-hill, Hampstead, N.W. Telegraphic address, "Pulmonary, London," Telephone, No. 57, King's-cross.

1902 sale announcement for the old house and its garden

Thomas J Barratt in his 'The Annals of Hampstead' of 1912 reported (vol iii, page 214) 'A fine Copper Beech stands immediately in front of a new block of buildings known as The Pryors in the East Heath Road.'

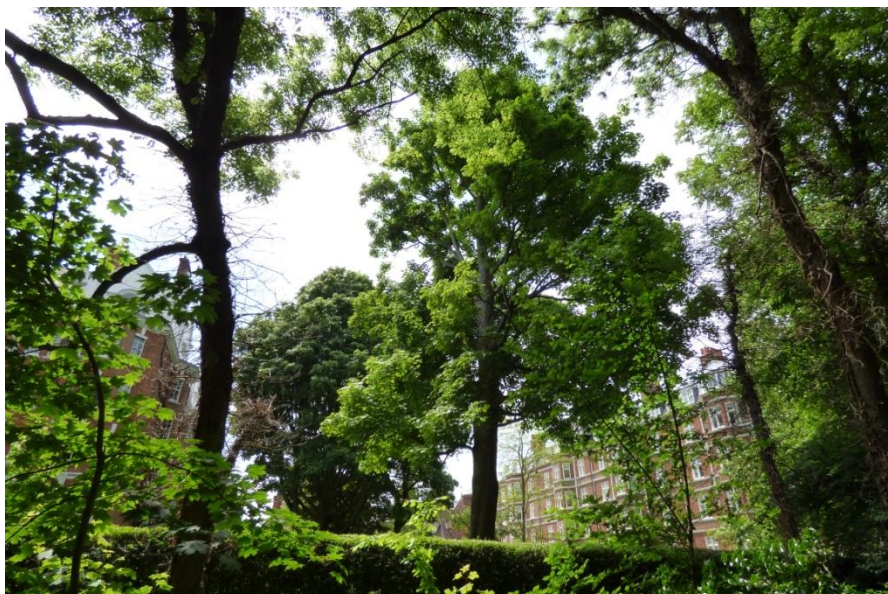
The Pryors Ltd was set up in 1976 when the lessees bought the freehold. It is expected to continue into the future with the continued help of a managing company. The garden is managed by the 'Garden Group' which is a subcommittee of the Board of The Pryors Ltd. They produce a newsletter about the garden twice a year for the residents.

The Pryors garden is important to residents; a very popular amenity particularly with young families giving safe enjoyment to people of all ages, including children. It has 550 yards of hedges, 115 yards of planted beds around Block B, further beds in the car park and in the main garden. In addition there are hanging baskets and tubs adjacent to both blocks, a rose garden between Block A and the Heath, and a composting area for both garden and kitchen waste. There is an important and much used huge area of grass and 27 trees.

The trees in the garden are inspected annually. There are 17 different tree species, including maples, beeches, holly, birch, cedar, oak, whitebeam, oriental plane, ash, tulip tree and various fruit trees.



The Pryors photographed from Hampstead Heath, demonstrating how well it blends into its surroundings





Richness of Wildlife

Being quite literally within the Heath, the trees in the gardens here are managed for their habitat as well as their beauty; one can be seen from the Heath with a splendid set of holes. The smaller bats are regularly seen to fly around in the garden and the larger noctule bats are known to fly high over the Heath at dusk from this direction.

Special Policy Area:

Area of Special Character: Hampstead & Highgate Ridge

Other LA designation:

The Pryors are in the Hampstead Conservation Area.

Supports Local Plan Policies:

Designation of the gardens of The Pryors as a Local Green Space would support **Camden's Local Plan Policy A2 'Open Space': c, e and j; A3 'Biodiversity': c and j. By providing informal play space for its residents children as well as a restful and beautiful space for adult residents** it is consistent with Local Plan Policy C1 'Health and well-being': a, and Policy C2 'Community facilities'.

Hampstead Local Plan:

Heath fringes; Biodiversity corridors