

KENT GARDENS TRUST RESEARCH GROUP



1. What we have achieved

2. How we went about it

3. Problems – only a few

The Kent Garden Compendium

Commenced in 1988 and revised in 1996 in conjunction with Kent County Council.

3 volumes.

2003/7

A Comprehensive Register of Parks and Gardens of Historic, Horticultural, Amenity or Other Value in the County of Kent Produced by Kent County Council's Planning Department in Conjunction with the Kent Gardens Trust and in Consultation with the Fourteen District Councils

Volume I - Main Text

First Revision - 1996





In 2008 it was decided to carry out a further revision

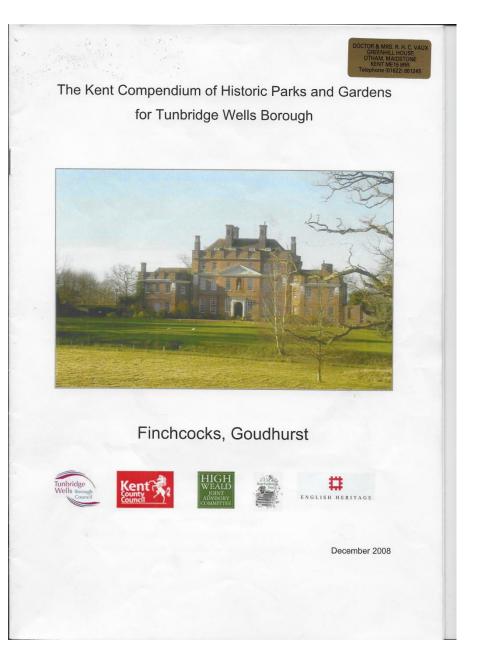
Tunbridge Wells (27)

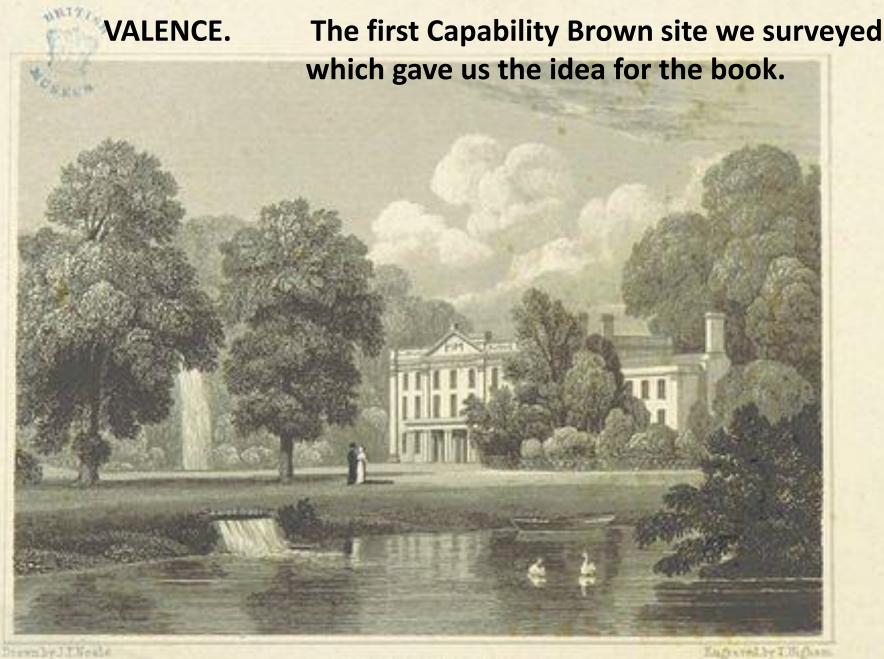
Sevenoaks (20)

Medway (27)

And now Dover

Extra sites in Margate and Lamberhurst





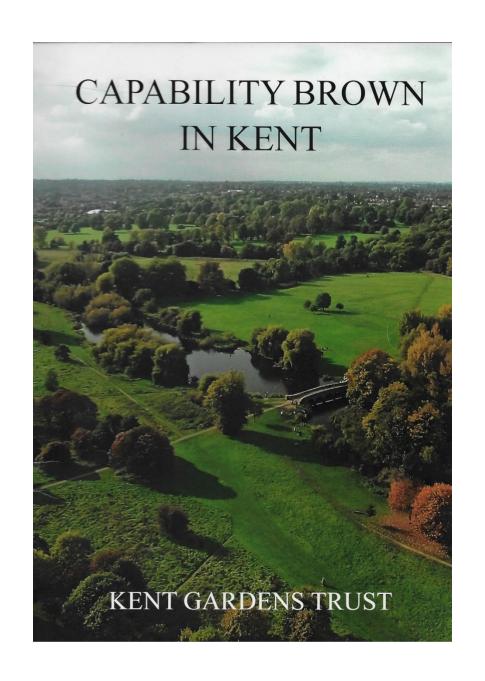
HILL PARK.

Engerelly Digham.

In May 2016 we published

'Capability Brown in Kent'.

Chilham Castle
Leeds Abbey
Ingress
Valence (Hill Place)
North Cray Place



The reports were laid out in English Heritage format

- 1. Summary and Statement of Significance
- 2. Chronology of Historic Development
- 3. Description of Site
- 4. References
- 5. Images

What did we do with the reports?

Published them in paper format and on KGT website

Nearly all are on the Parks and Gardens UK data base.

What have they been used for?



- 1. A source of information which is available to everyone
- 2. Planning permission
- 3. Grant applications
- 4. Local listing
- 5. Basis of other publications eg Medway booklet

How did we go about it?



- 1. Initial enthusiasm of Tunbridge Wells BC, Kent CC and KGT and our trainers
- 2. Spreading the word and recruiting volunteers
- **3. Training** . Formal sessions, example and mentoring.
- 4. Into action.

Part of the cloister gardens at Rochester Cathedral



Kent HER packs. Maps, listing, aerial photos, previous compendium entry

Collecting information. Owners, Internet, local societies, record offices

Visiting the site. Walking, recording and photographing

Collating info and writing drafts

Editing

Final draft

Compilation into pdf file with images by Kent HER

Publish. Paper and on line

Entry on Parks and Gardens UK website







PROBLEMS

Finance

Owner consent

Copyright

Communication with local authorities

Volunteers

FINANCE

Needed for?

Running study days

Paying editor

Publishing - including website

Volunteers expenses

Where from?

Grants and donations

KGT funds

The time given by volunteers

FUNDING OF REPORTS from

FUNDING OF BOOK from

English Heritage

Historic Houses Association

Kent County Council

Kent Archaeological Society

Tunbridge Wells Borough

Rochester Bridge Trust

Council

John Swire 1989 Charitable Trust

High Weald Advisory Committee

Roger de Haan Charitable Trust

Sevenoaks District Council

Stanley Smith (UK) Horticultural

Trust

Medway Council

Dover District Council

Thanet District Council

Kent Gardens Trust Historic Gardens Research Project

LETTER OF CONSENT

Name of Garden:

We are very grateful to you for allowing us to have access to your garden for the purposes of our research project. We hope that you will find the results interesting.

The purpose of the project is to discover more about the historic parks and gardens in Kent and record our findings in order to provide the best possible protection for them in future years. This will involve writing up our research and publishing it in hard copy which will be available to local planning authorities and to researchers in libraries. It will also be accessible on line on your local authority website.

We would like to include photographs and other images of your garden in our report and would be most grateful if you could give your permission for this by selecting **Yes** or **No** in answer to the statements below.

- •I agree that Kent Gardens Trust may take photographs of the garden and include them in their report
- ·Yes/No

I agree that the maps, plans, paintings, drawings and other images listed on the attached sheet which are owned by me/us may be photographed and included in the report

•Yes/No

Kent Gardens Trust may wish to include the report on your garden on their website and submit the information we have obtained including some images to the Parks & Gardens UK database and website. This will increase wider understanding and appreciation of the history of parks and gardens.

Please indicate if you agree to this.

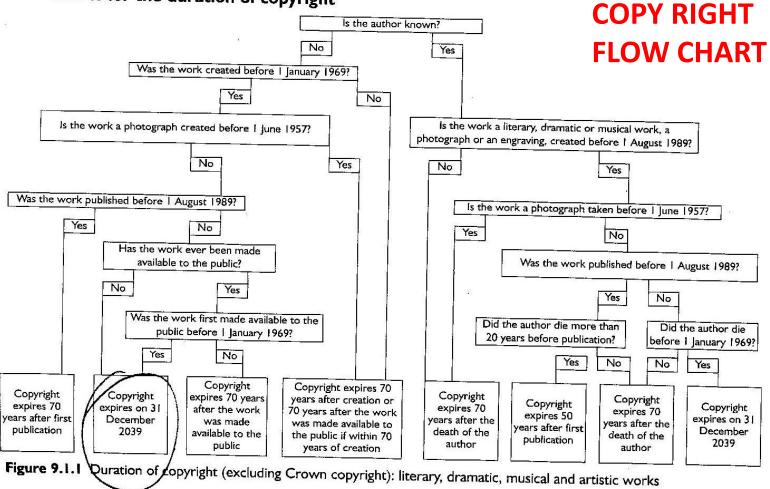
- •I agree to the report on our garden being included on the Kent Gardens Trust website
- ·Yes/No

I agree that Kent Gardens Trust may submit the report to be included on the Parks & Gardens UK database and website •Yes/No

The Parks & Gardens UK database is a free source of information about historic parks, gardens and green spaces in the UK. For more information please visit its website: www.parksandgardens.ac.uk

Signed Date

9.1 Charts for the duration of copyright



Most

Communication with local authorities

Some more enthusiastic than others

Those you are dealing with change jobs

Volunteers

Integrating new volunteers – mentoring

Very occasionally one gives up but another takes over

But almost everyone finds the whole process of being a garden detective

is addictive

and above all fun

(even the writing up)