

The rhododendron gardens were originally planted in the early 20th century by Sir Robert Grenville Harvey, resident and landlord of Langley Park at the time. Once planted, Sir Robert brought 1600 tonnes of peat down from Scotland by train to Langley Station for mulching this by horse and cart to the garden. Local women and children were employed each spring to dead-head the plants to help extend their flowering period.

## 2 The Temple Gardens

Follow the black arrows to find your way



To find your way, use the trail map enclosed, follow the black arrows on site and look out for the history panels on route. Its own unique story to tell. Palladian Mansion House, each landscape feature has Arboretum, to the stunning Brownian Lake and all to enjoy. From the formal Temple Gardens and in a beautifully rich and varied environment for Over 800 years of history in Langley Park has resulted

## 1 Welcome to Langley Park

Look out for the history panels located on site



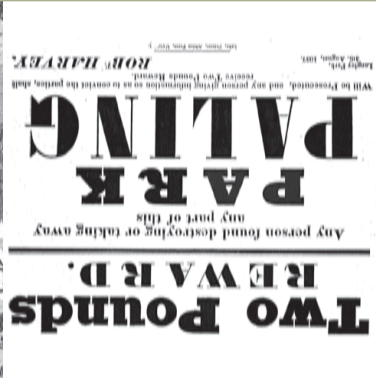
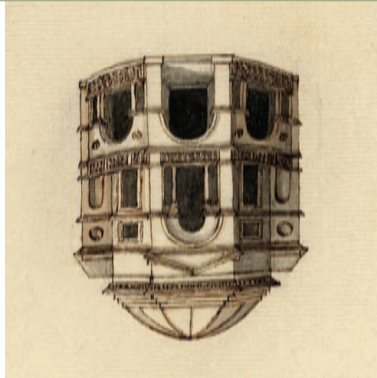
The Harvey family bought the Langley Park estate in 1788 for £38,000 (over £2.2m in today's money) and proceeded to own and reside here for more than 150 years. In 1837 Robert Harvey put up posters offering a £2 reward (£100 equivalent today) for anyone that could provide him with information on the theft and vandalism of his park palling.

## 4 The Harvey Family

An octagonal banqueting pavilion, known as 'The Temple', was originally built here in 1743 by the 3rd Duke of Marlborough. The main views from the balcony were said to represent the three most important aspects of life at the time; God, King, and Country. In 1860 The Temple was demolished and replaced by the Harvey Memorial Tower, a 50ft high viewing tower. The foundation plinth that you can still see today includes some of the original brickwork from the tower. Local knowledge has it that if you could see the Sussex Downs from the top, it would rain the next day.

## 3 Can you see Windsor Castle?

The octagonal banqueting pavilion built in 1743 known as the Temple



The original creation of a rectangular lake in 1610 is thought to be the result of the extraction of brick clay from the ground to build Sir John Kederminster's 'Chief Lodge'. This would have left a large rectangular brick pit.

## 7 The Kederminster Family

a longer, serpentine shaped lake.

One of the main landscape features influenced by Lancelot 'Capability' Brown during the mid 1700s was the altering of a rectangular water body to make

## 6 Capability Brown's influence on Langley Park

servants quarters.

Built in 1756, Langley Mansion originally had a second building next door for the servants quarters, connected to the house by a tunnel. The wings on the building we see today were an addition in 1873 by the Harvey family. The southern wing housed a billiard table and the northern wing housed the new

## 5 The Mansion House

18th century etching of Langley Mansion with original servants' building



# Langley Park

## History Trail



## How to get here



Address: Langley Park, Billet Lane, Wexham, South Bucks, SL0 0LS.



A Roe Deer in the Arboretum



Inside the walled kitchen garden in the early 20th century

Langley Park is located off the A412 Uxbridge Road between Slough and Uxbridge. (signposted off A412).

## Contact Details

The Countryside Centre, Black Park Country Park, Black Park Road, Wexham, Bucks SL3 6DS.

Telephone: 01753 511 060

24hr emergency telephone number: 07734 734 337

Email: [countryparks@buckscc.gov.uk](mailto:countryparks@buckscc.gov.uk)

Websites: [www.buckscc.gov.uk](http://www.buckscc.gov.uk) and

[www.friendsofangleypark.co.uk](http://www.friendsofangleypark.co.uk)

Thank you to John Watson for his help in researching the history of Langley Park. © Buckinghamshire County Council 2011

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## 8 The Arboretum

The Arboretum is a fine collection of specimen trees and gardens running around the outside of the walled garden. Originally, inside the walled garden was a kitchen garden for the residents of Langley Mansion where they grew their own fruit and vegetables. The western stretch of the Arboretum is known as 'Queens Walk' because Queen Victoria used to pass through the Arboretum when visiting Sir Robert Bateson Harvey.

## 9 A Hunting Tradition

Up until the mid 17th century, Langley Park was primarily a Royal deer park in the gift of Kings. Today, both Roe and Muntjac deer live in the park and can regularly be spotted.



Produced by Fitzpatrick Woolmer Creative - 0800 130 3630

A 4.5 km (2.75 mile) circular walk around Langley Park's historic features





# Langley Park



Sir John Kederminster



Charles Spencer, 3rd Duke of Marlborough



Palladian Mansion House with mature Cedar of Lebanon



The Harvey Memorial Tower



New building with tea room, toilets and visitor information

## Key

- Grass Path
- Country Park Boundary
- History Trail
- Primary Route (accessible)
- Bridleway
- Public Footpath
- Private Property
- Toilets
- ☕ Refreshments
- i Information
- D Dog Waste Bin
- P Picnic Area
- P Parking

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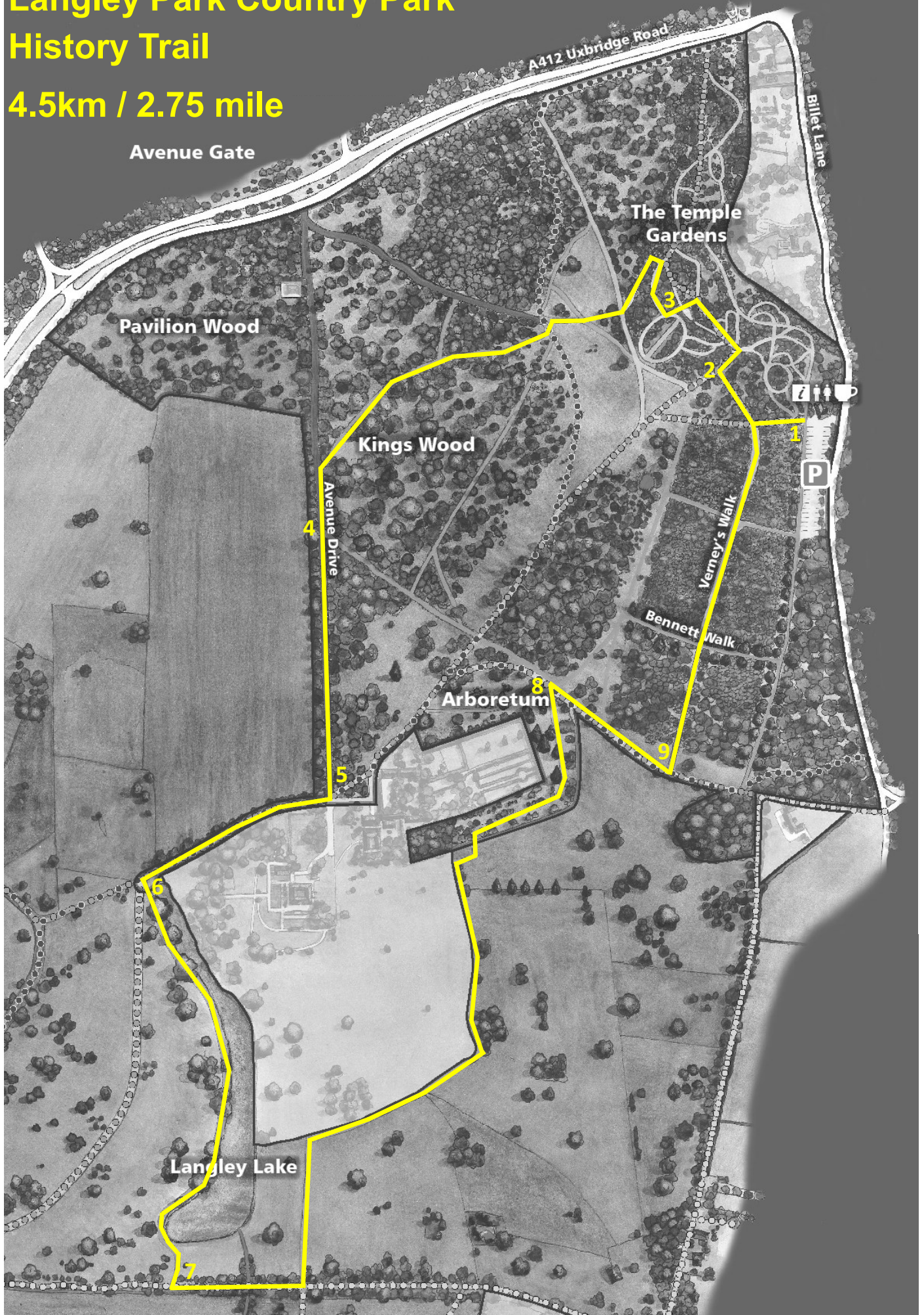
- 1206 — Langley Park's existence was first noted
- 1547 — John Kederminster made Head Ranger by King Henry VIII
- 1626 — Langley Park given to Sir John Kederminster
- 1738 — 3rd Duke of Marlborough bought Langley Park
- 1743 — The Temple was built
- 1756 — Palladian Mansion House built
- 1763 — Capability Brown advised on the landscape
- 1788 — Sir Robert Bateson Harvey bought Langley Park
- 1865 — The Harvey Memorial Tower was built
- Late 1800s — Creation of the Victorian Pinetum
- Early 1900s — Creation of the Rhododendron Gardens
- 1914-1918 — WWI – An Officers hospital
- 1940 — WWII – SE Regional Headquarters of the Home Guard
- 1944 — WWII – Headquarters for the Polish Units preparing for D Day
- 1945 — Buckinghamshire County Council bought Langley Park
- 1959 — Harvey Memorial Tower demolished
- 1982 — Langley Mansion leased for commercial purposes
- 2007 — Successful HLF grant to restore Langley Park
- 2010 — Restoration complete and new building with tea rooms and toilets opens



# Langley Park Country Park History Trail

4.5km / 2.75 mile

Avenue Gate



Pavilion Wood

Kings Wood

The Temple  
Gardens

Avenue Drive

Verney's Walk

Bennett Walk

Arboretum

Langley Lake

A412 Uxbridge Road

Billet Lane

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