

The Grove Park Carshalton

London in Bloom Award



- Excellent children's playground
- Café - open in fine weather
- Crazy Golf, Ball court
- Toilets
- Carshalton Bowling Club
For Further details. Phone 020 8647 5437
Web www.carshaltonbowlingclub.moonfruit.com
- Transport
Buses 127, 157, 407, & X26 stop in Carshalton High Street; 127 & 157 also stop in North Street near the Ponds.
Trains Carshalton Station North Street.

This Park Guide has been created by

The Friends of The Grove

London Borough of Sutton

Parks Service

Telephone - 020 8770 5070



GUIDE TO THE GROVE

The Lower Pond in the 17th Century was just a wet area crossed by small streams running from a line of springs in front of the Church. The streams were combined together by Thomas Scawen in the 18th Century to make the River Wandle flow north through a canal, with a Causeway built around 1700. The High Street Iron Gates, (*Grade II listed*), entrance Lodge and Drive were created in the 1860s.



Leoni Bridge (*Grade II listed*) is made of white Portland Stone and thought to be designed by Venetian architect Giacomo Leoni. The bridge has scrolls at the ends of the parapet and a griffin from the Scawen arms on the keystone. The River Wandle flows through an artificial canal. Many ducks, gulls, Canada geese, herons and other water birds feed here.



Stone Court was built around 1700 by John Cator in the area of the lawn, then demolished early in 19th century. The outbuildings were converted into a smaller residence and are now Offices. An historical excavation took place in 2005 on the Stone Court lawn.

The Upper Mill (*Grade II listed*) can be traced back to the Middle Ages, and was rebuilt in 1782 as a Flour Mill with two Portland stone wheel pits. This mill was demolished in 1886 and replaced by a chalet-style building as a water-powered turbine generator for electricity supply around 1909. The building was restored in 2004, with further repairs and a replacement roof in 2014. Below the Mill there was a swimming pool from 1923, now long disused.



Waterfall also known as the cascade or mill weir, can be traced back to the 1800s. The weir provided a head of water for the Mill. The 1.5 metre waterfall was rebuilt with sandstone blocks in 1968 when the ponds and canal were lined with concrete to stop them from drying up.



The Grove House was built about 1840. It was leased in 1856 to the Rev. W. A. B. Cator, who was Rector of All Saints, Carshalton. He was probably responsible for the landscaping of the Park with central features of a grass lawn sloping from the house down to the river with a shrubbery area near the pond.

The Grove House, together with the park came into Local Authority ownership in 1923. The kitchen garden survived and the ground is now used as a public car park.



The Nest or Old Apple Store, shown below, is a small two-storey building built after 1903 by Sir Samuel Barrow. It is built into the North kitchen garden wall near the Grove House, and may have been used as the gardener's office.



The Grove Hall to the East of The Nest was originally built as a private Bowling Alley for Sir Samuel Barrow. It is a long narrow building now used as a Day Nursery.

The Children's Play Area, now enlarged, is in a popular part of the park close to the Café, Crazy Golf, Ball Court and Bowling Club. Around the bowling green a cycle path, shared with pedestrians leads to the Westcroft Canal which forms the boundary of the Park. Only in very wet weather is there water in the canal, which is fed from a source of the Wandle to the south in Carshalton Park.