

The property remained in the hands of the Mansfield family for about 170 years until it was sold for public use recently.

This very beautiful addition of about 121 acres of wood and meadowland to the open spaces of this great city has been rendered possible by the energetic efforts of a local movement—the Ken Wood Preservation Council—formed with the object of preventing the land from falling into the hands of the utilitarian builder and of securing to the public for ever the amenities of an open space. To attain its object, the Preservation Council had to raise a sum of no less than £152,250—in this they were most generously helped by large donations from private individuals including one of £50,000, one of £25,000 (anonymously given), and two of £20,000 each. The Middlesex County Council, the Metropolitan Borough Councils of St. Pancras, Hampstead, Islington, Stoke Newington, Hackney, Kensington, Paddington and Shoreditch, the Hornsey Borough Council, the Finchley Urban District Council, the City Parochial Charities and the Reginald Clifford Poulter Open Spaces Trust made grants totalling £24,500.

The Preservation Council, having accomplished its object, then asked the London County Council to take over and maintain the whole of the property thus acquired as an addition to Hampstead Heath and Parliament Hill Fields. This we very willingly agreed to do, and after carrying out certain necessary works, by means of which we hope to preserve the exceptional beauty and sylvan character of the estate, it has been possible to invite Your Majesty to open the park to-day.

May we express to Your Majesty the feelings of gratification with which we respectfully welcome the presence of Her Majesty the Queen. We are very sensible of the great interest Your Majesties take in the Health and welfare of the people of London, and we realise the pleasure with which, for their sakes, Your Majesties will view this considerable addition to the "lungs" of London.

May it please Your Majesty to declare Ken Wood open for the use and enjoyment of the public for ever.

To which Address His Majesty was pleased to return the following gracious Answer:—

I thank you very sincerely for your loyal and dutiful address. It is a great pleasure to the Queen and myself to come here to-day and to open the Park of Ken Wood to the public. Anything which increases the health and happiness of the people of London always has our warmest sympathy. The acquisition of Ken Wood is the happy conclusion of more than a century's efforts to preserve this line of heights, so that their beauty of form and vegetation may refresh eyes and minds wearied by continuous streets and houses, and their wide expanse serve as a recreation ground for a crowded city population.

The topography of Hampstead Heath and its neighbouring open spaces, dominating as they do London on the North West, makes their preservation of exceptional importance, and the crowning glory is the beautiful woodland under the shade of which we are met to-day. We are deeply indebted to the activity and public spirit of the Ken Wood Preservation Council, to the noble generosity

of private benefactors, and to the co-operation of the local authorities and charitable bodies who have contributed towards the purchase of the estate.

We all realise the admirable skill and devotion of the London County Council in the discharge of its responsibilities with regard to the protection and improvement of open spaces and it is eminently satisfactory that Ken Wood is to be maintained by the Council as an addition to Hampstead Heath. This fragment of the ancient forest of Middlesex retains a wild unspoilt beauty in vivid contrast to the populous streets below it, and will give to town-bred children a glimpse of the magic of primeval woods and meadowland. I am especially glad to hear that the existing character of the estate will, as much as possible, be preserved. I earnestly hope that all who benefit by the use of Ken Wood Park will do their best to assist the authorities in their endeavours to protect it from the unsightly litter which, alas! in so many cases disfigures our Parks and other places to which the public resort for recreation and amusement.

Until recent years we were accustomed to regard the expansion of London as an inevitable and uncontrollable force, and could only regret the loss of so much natural beauty. Experience has now shown that, while the growth of towns cannot be retarded, it can be so guided by enlightened public spirit that the development of new areas need not destroy the present amenities of the district.

I have much pleasure in dedicating Ken Wood for all time for the use and enjoyment of the public: and I sincerely trust that the foresight and generosity which have secured this lovely spot will arouse a beneficent spirit of emulation in other areas which are affected by the expansion of London.

Foreign Office,
June 1 1925.

The KING has been graciously pleased to appoint:—

Alexander Telford Waugh, Esquire, C.M.G., to be His Majesty's Consul-General for the Vilayets of Constantinople, Pera, Chatalja, Gallipoli, Koja Ili (Ismid), Bolu Zunguldak, Kastamuni, Changri, Angora, Eskishehr, Brussa, Balikesri, Chanak, Bilejik and Kutahia, to reside at Constantinople,

Hyacinth Louis Rabino, Esquire, O.B.E., to be His Majesty's Consul-General for the Vilayets of Smyrna, Saruhan (Magnesia), Afon-Kara-Hissar, Denizli, Aidin, Burdur, Sparta, Menteshah (Mughla), and Adalia, to reside at Smyrna;

William Lowry Craig Knight, Esquire, to be His Majesty's Consul for the Vilayets of Trebizond, Sinope, Samsun, Kiresun, Lazistan, Artvin, Chorum, Amassia, Tokat, Kara Hissar Sharki, Gumushaneh, Erzerum, Ardahan, Yozgad, Sivas, Erzincan, Kars, and Bayezid, to reside at Trebizond; and

John McGillivray Dawkins, Esquire, to be His Majesty's Consul for the Vilayets of Adrianople, Kirk-Ili (Kirk Kilissh) and Rodosto, to reside at Adrianople.