

# A tour of Kett's Heights

Kett's Heights is a public open space owned by Norwich City Council. It is steeply wooded and contains a medieval chapel, 19th century garden terraces and a fantastic view over Norwich.

# Location

The entrance is on Kett's Hill. Buses on routes 23/24 (Red Line) run frequently from the City Centre: use the stop on Bishopbridge Road. Parking is mainly resident permit (not applying on Sundays), but there are some

2-hour bays for non-residents just by the entrance, on Spitalfields and on Bishopbridge Road. The site is open all hours. Please note that there are steps and steep slopes and some unsurfaced paths.

Ketts Hill NR1 4EX

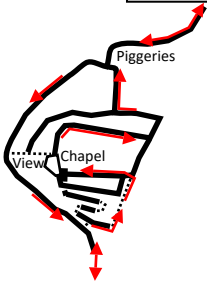
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Entrance

Piggeries

Chapel

View



# History

The oldest structure on the site is a wall that was once part of St Michael's chapel, built by the Normans in compensation for a church in Tombland destroyed to make way for the cathedral. Around that wall now are

remains of  
greenhouses built by  
the gas works in the  
19th century when  
the site was  
developed as a  
garden with the  
terraces and steps  
that you follow  
today. On the south  
side, overlooking  
where the gasworks  
were, the slopes are

particularly steep as this area was quarried for chalk and flint. In 1549 this was where Robert Kett and his 10,000 followers gathered to lay siege to the city, hence today's name. In the 18th and 19th centuries, the chapel ruins, known as "Kett's Castle", were

a popular destination and the subject of several works of art. The site underwent much restoration in the 1980s after ownership was transferred to the City Council. But subsequent maintenance has been largely reactive, which is why the site



became rather  
overgrown. Work by  
community payback  
teams in winter  
2014/15 started the  
clearance, which is  
now ongoing through  
regular practical work  
by the Friends of  
Kett's Heights.

**The entrance path**  
This was built in the  
1980s.



# The piggeries

These were created from old stables in World War II for food production by keeping pigs.



# The Lower Green

The Lower Green is our event space and home to apple, pear and walnut trees.

Take the path to the right.



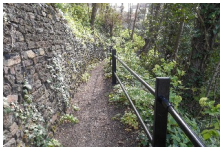
# The lower path

The path runs along the line of a gas pipeline, a link to the site's former ownership by the gas works.



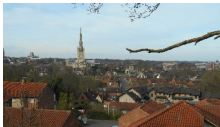
# Chalk workings

Where the slope gets steeper you are where chalk and flint was mined for buildings in Norwich.



# Gas Works

Continue along an unmade path to a view over the flats, on the site of the former gas works. Here is a very old oak tree.



# Boundary wall

Retrace your steps and keep to the right up a long flight of steps. The wall is made from recycled gas works materials.





# The Upper Green

At the top turn left along an unmade path opened up by the Friends. At the end the Cathedral is framed in view.



# The viewpoint

In 2016 the Friends restored the view, painted the railings and installed the panorama showing key features.



# St Michael's Chapel

Behind you are the remains of the chapel built in the 12th century and used by monks from St Leonard's Priory.



# The Upper Green

This part of the upper green is managed as a wildflower meadow. Walk alongside the chapel wall or on the path at the side of the green.



# The orchard

Turn left at the end and follow the path down. The trees on the right are cherry plums, being restored by the Friends as an orchard.



Continue to follow the path back to the entrance or explore further around the site. We hope you have enjoyed your visit.

Friends of Kett's Heights  
[www.kettsheights.co.uk](http://www.kettsheights.co.uk)