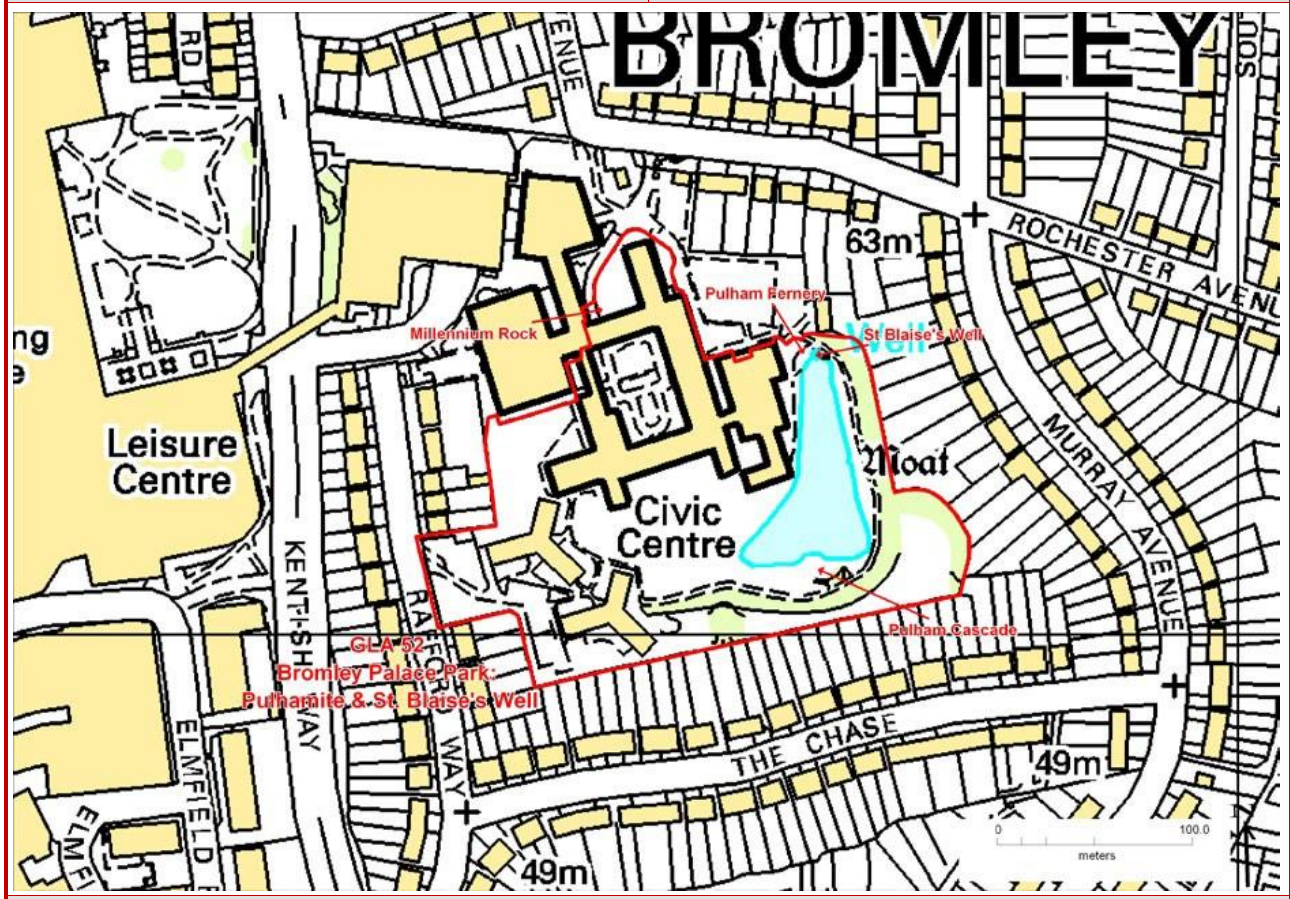


GLA 52 Bromley Palace Park, Pulhamite and St. Blaise's Well

| | |
|---|--|
| Grid Reference: TQ 408 691 | Site Type: Man-made artefacts on lake inflow and outflows |
| Site Area (hectares): 3.55 | Current use: Recreational Land |
| Site ownership: London Borough of Bromley | Borough: London Borough of Bromley |
| Field surveyor: Paul Rainey | Date: November 2011 |
| Last visited: Paul Rainey | Date: 2018 |
| Current geological designation: LIGS | Other designation: Listed Buildings, Grade II; Local SINC (Bromley Civic Centre Grounds) |
| Site Map | OS Topography © Crown Copyright |



Stratigraphy and Rock Types

| | |
|----------------|---|
| Time Unit: N/A | Rock Unit: N/A |
| Rock Type: N/A | Details: Artificial (Pulhamite) but incorporating blocks of Hythe Beds (Cretaceous, Lower Greensand Group). |

Site Description

The sites are waterfall structures at the inflow (Pulham Cascade) and an outflow (Pulham Fernery) of a lake (part of a former mediaeval moat) in the grounds of the former Bishop's Palace now the Bromley Civic Centre. They are formed of Pulhamite and were constructed by the Pulham Family business in 1865. The inflow structure is adjacent to a modern fountain in a circular basin on the site of St Blaise's Well, a chalybeate spring which was used for its curative properties in the 18th century. A large plaque tells the story of St Blaise's Well. To the north of the Palace is the Millennium Rock, a boulder of Lewisian Gneiss presented to Bromley by the Highland Council.

The site is listed in *Durability Guaranteed: Pulhamite rockwork – its conservation and repair*. English Heritage, 2008 and with a little more detail in *Rock Landscapes: The Pulham Legacy* by Claude Hitching, 2012.

Assessment of Site Value

Geodiversity topic: Geology, hydrogeology

| Access and Safety | | |
|--|---|---------------|
| Aspect | Description | |
| Safety of access | Within public park | |
| Safety of exposure | The site is well cared for by the London Borough of Bromley | |
| Permission to visit | Open access. | |
| Current condition | The Pulhamite rockeries are damaged by tree roots and are somewhat overgrown. English Heritage have surveyed the structures and Bromley Council is seeking funds for restoration (see https://bromleytownparks.wordpress.com/our-parks/bromley-palace-park-aka-civic-centre/) | |
| Current conflicting activities | None | |
| Restricting conditions | | |
| Nature of exposure | Artificial rockeries over small streams. A modern fountain in a brick basin. | |
| Culture, Heritage & Economic | | |
| Aspect | Description | Rating |
| Historic, archaeological & literary associations | At the site of a chalybeate spring, formerly of local economic significance. Examples of Victorian landscape architecture. Listed by English Heritage in <i>Durability Guaranteed</i> (Ref. to Pulham, c.1877, Festing, 1984) | 5 |
| Aesthetic landscape | Attractive lakeside features. | 5 |
| History of Earth Sciences | N/A | 0 |
| Economic geology | Former chalybeate spring exploited by local doctor | 4 |
| GeoScientific Merit | | |
| Geomorphology | None | 0 |
| Sedimentology | Manmade features incorporating blocks from the Weald | 3-4 |
| Palaeontology | None | 0 |
| Igneous/mineral/ Metamorphic Geology | Lewisian Gneiss (Millennium Stone) | 2 |
| Structural Geology | None | 0 |
| Lithostratigraphy | Site of chalybeate spring | 4 |
| Potential use | Aesthetics, education | |
| Fragility | natural overgrowing | |
| Current Site Value | | |
| Community | Valuable green space. | 8 |
| Education | Explaining springs | 8 |
| Geodiversity value | | |
| LIGS: | the site is interesting historically and aesthetically and is in a public place that has a story to tell about Pulhamite (see www.pulham.org.uk) and the chalybeate spring | 4 |

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Pulhamite cascade



St. Blaise's Well and lake

Photos: Laurie Baker, January 2012