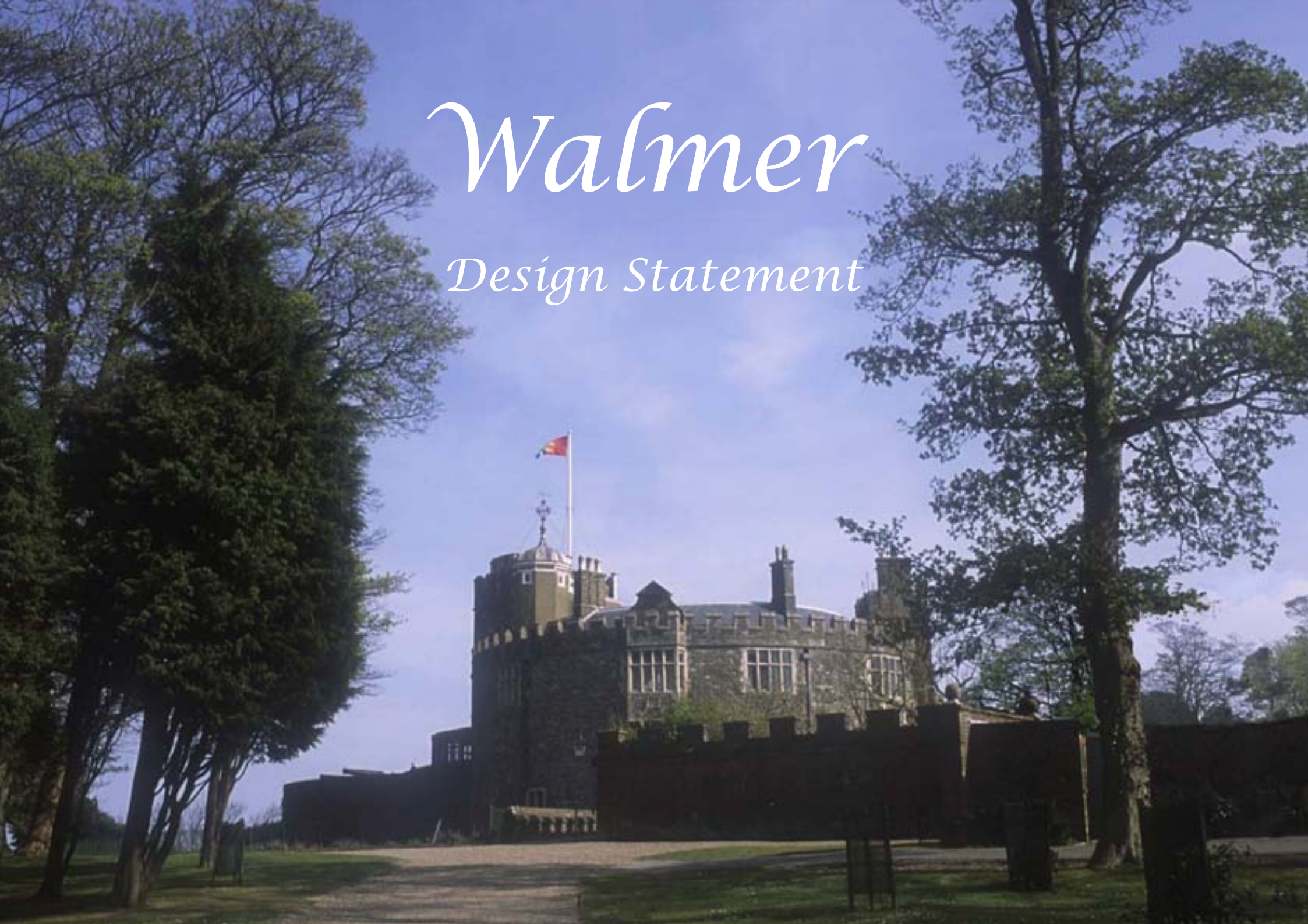


Walmer

Design Statement



This document is dedicated to the memory of

Derek W. Featherstone

Chairman of the Walmer Design Statement Group

April 2001 - August 2003



The Walmer Design Statement Group

The Group was formed in April 2001, with the support of Walmer Parish Council, to prepare and publish a Design Statement for the Parish of Walmer. It is recognised that decisions made on planning matters within the parish must conform to current local authority planning policy. This Statement has been produced by the local community and is intended to influence the operation of the statutory planning system and give guidance for the design of all development in Walmer.

Our objectives were:

- to focus on the special character and design features in different parts of this large and diverse parish,
- to set out Design Principles that could be applied appropriately, and
- to give local residents an opportunity to influence future planning decisions in a constructive way. The document prepared had to represent their vision.

The document has been the subject of a six-week public consultation exercise arranged by Dover District Council. Some alterations were made on the basis of comments received. Dover District Council has agreed to adopt the Walmer Design Statement as a material planning consideration in the assessment and determination of planning applications.

Front Cover: Walmer Castle
Back Cover: Royal Marines Memorial Bandstand

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1 *Walmer—Where the Countryside Meets the Sea*

The A258 from Dover winds through rolling fields and dips through the woods of Oxney Bottom and the village of Ringwould before offering the first panoramic view of Walmer and its surroundings. Walmer and Deal fill the foreground, and across the fields to the northwest, towards Sandwich and Pegwell Bay, appear the chalk cliffs of Thanet. To the northeast and east is the sweep of water separated from the English Channel by the treacherous Goodwin Sands and known as the Downs. Fishing boats and coasters may be visible in the Downs and a variety of ships pass in the Channel itself. France may also be visible - with one or more ferries going to or from the Continent.

The narrowing of the road forces drivers to slow and makes it possible to appreciate the delightful variety of architecture in the old village of Walmer - which grew up around Old St. Mary's Church (established in the twelfth century) and Walmer Castle (established by Henry VIII). The road continues down Drum Hill, past Walmer Castle Road, and runs through the residential area that grew up between Upper Walmer and Lower Walmer.

Dover Road enters The Strand as you escape the sombre walls of Cavalry Barracks (formerly the South Barracks) that rise on your left. The sea, first seen as part of the



East side of Dover Road in the old village, Upper Walmer

more distant, wider view, is now on your right. Walmer Green, the pebble beach, the Downs Sailing Club, the fishing boats and the Lifeboat Station, together with the wide horizons and the salty tang in the air, all testify to the presence of the sea. The Royal Marines Memorial Bandstand on the Green and the impressive clock tower on the Admiralty Mews (formerly the Royal Marines School of Music) at the north end of The Strand, confirm the enormous influence of the military. Henry VIII's Deal Castle, and the Captain's Garden opposite, denote the northern boundary of Walmer.



Walmer Green and The Strand, Lower Walmer



The beach, Lower Walmer

2 *The Parish of Walmer*

Walmer lies seven miles northeast of Dover, in East Kent, on a stretch of coast which extends from the famous White Cliffs to Sandwich Bay and the Isle of Thanet to the north. The shape of the parish is that of a long, thin triangle pointing to the north.

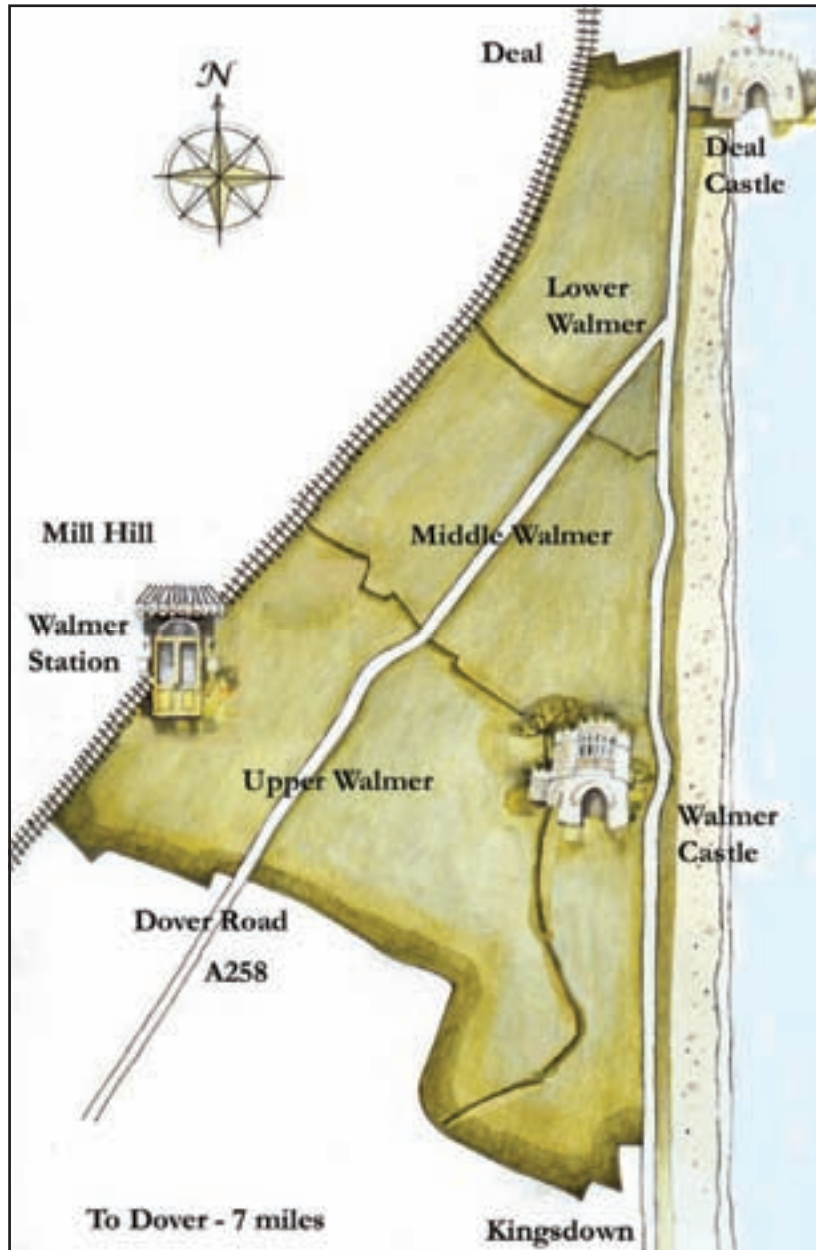
To the north, the boundary between Walmer and Deal lies just before Deal Castle, which, with its sister, Walmer Castle, dominates this part of the coastline.

To the east is the natural boundary of the English Channel, reaching across the Goodwin Sands to the coast of France. The northernmost part of the parish, called Lower Walmer, is only just above sea level. Extending directly southwards along the coast, from Deal Castle and past Walmer Castle, is the through road to the former fishing village of Kingsdown – a distance of about two miles. On the east side of the road is the coastal strip – comprising mainly marine grassland, rich with wild flowers, and bordering the wide and steeply shelved shingle beach.

Inland from, and to the south of, Walmer Castle the coastal downs rise steeply to a height of around 100 feet to form the undulating farmland that runs southwards and westwards from Upper Walmer.

The southern boundary, forming the base of the triangle, runs east to west through this rolling countryside and is about 1.5 miles in length. Panoramic views to Deal and beyond are available from various points in Upper Walmer.

The two mile long western boundary lies close to the Mill Hill ridge, where the earliest signs of settlement in the area, some dating from Neolithic times, have been discovered. This border is marked by the railway line which runs southwest from Lower Walmer to Dover, as does the A258 which, as Dover Road, roughly bisects the parish.



3 Historic Walmer

Walmer's history and development are inextricably linked to its coastal location, to the proximity of the notorious Goodwin Sands and to its nearness to mainland Europe - and thus, at various times, to fishing, the victualling of ships, rescue and salvage, the threat of invasion and, perhaps to a lesser extent, tourism.

The origin of the name "Walmer" is uncertain and references can be found to at least three possibilities. Firstly, that it derives from "Wahl Mere", indicating an ancient and discrete community settled around a pool, secondly that it derives from the Latin "Vallum Mare", meaning a fortress against the sea and, thirdly that it derives from the meaning "the sea coast of the Weallas (or slaves)" - the slaves being those of the Jutish invaders of circa 450/500 AD.



Old St. Mary's Church

There is evidence of Neolithic, Bronze and Iron Age man in the area and of Saxon settlements near to the Old St. Mary's Church in Walmer itself - and it is also generally accepted that it was at Walmer that Julius Caesar landed his first expeditionary force in 55 BC.

Over the years, the growing local population became increasingly engaged in fishing and other occupations related to the sea. This process of change from agriculture was speeded up, and consolidated, as changes in the coastline rendered it increasingly difficult for shipping to use the harbours at Dover and Sandwich. Ships began to lay close inshore in the calmer stretch of water (the Downs) between the coast and the Goodwin Sands - as much to take on supplies as to shelter.

In the mid-16th Century, Henry VIII built Walmer Castle - one of three he built within a mile or so of each other on this stretch of coast - as part of his defence against invasion from Europe. Today, much altered and added to, it is the attractive official residence of the Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports. The Duke of Wellington died at the castle, as Lord Warden, in 1852.

The threat of invasion during the Napoleonic wars led to the building of Army Barracks and the establishment of a naval hospital in Walmer - with living accommodation for dependants, and various support establishments, developing around them. After the Battle of Waterloo, the military presence in Walmer was reduced and parts of the Barracks served, firstly as the headquarters of the anti-smuggling Coastal Blockade and then as a coastguard station.



RNLI Lifeboat Station

From 1840 the Barracks housed various line regiments until, in 1869, they were transferred to the Admiralty to become The Depot, Royal Marines. In 1930 some of the buildings became the home of the Royal Naval School of Music - to become the Royal Marines School of Music in 1950. In 1989, eleven musicians were killed by an IRA bomb - a tragedy that hastened the transfer of the Royal Marines to Portsmouth. The Barracks closed in March 1996.

The proximity of the Goodwin Sands, some four miles off the coast, led to the establishment of the Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI) lifeboat station at Walmer in 1856 and, apart from a fifteen year period (1912-1927), the station has been in operation ever since.

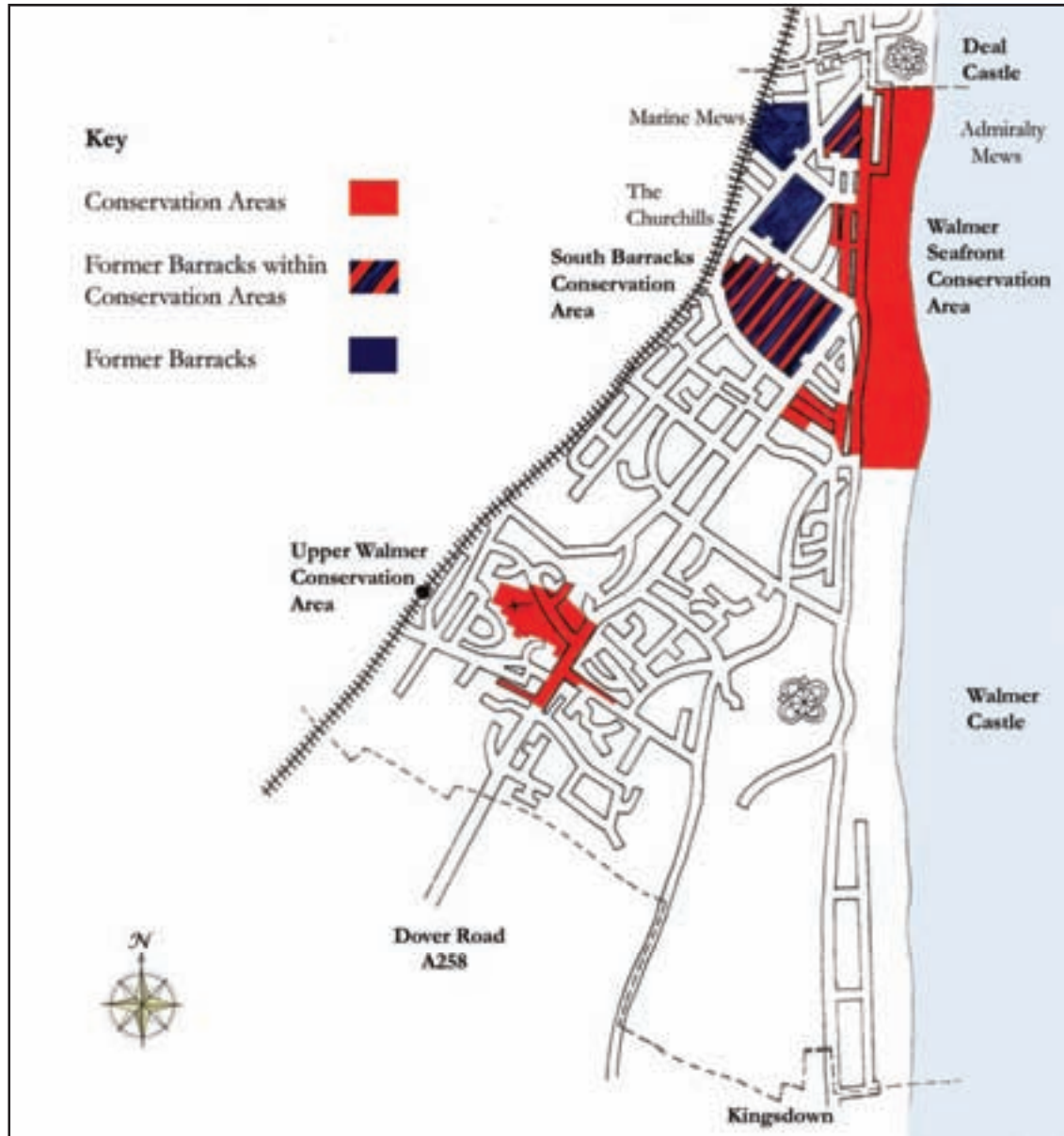
It was not until the nineteenth century that a rail link was established at Walmer and encouraged visitors to the area to compensate, at least in part, for the decline in maritime related employment.

Today, Walmer remains relatively insulated, but by no means isolated, from the worst excesses of modern day life - quietly and proudly reflecting on its past, while confidently looking to the future.



Former Royal Marines School of Music

4 Conservation Areas and Historic Monuments



Walmer remains rich in historical and architectural interest. Walmer Castle is perhaps the most prominent of the 29 listed properties in the parish with Deal Castle lying just beyond the northern boundary. There are two scheduled Ancient Monuments in the parish – Walmer Castle and the ruins of the 11th Century Manor House near Old St. Mary’s Church in Upper Walmer. Walmer Castle, together with its extensive grounds, is registered by English Heritage as a Park and Garden of Special Historic Interest.

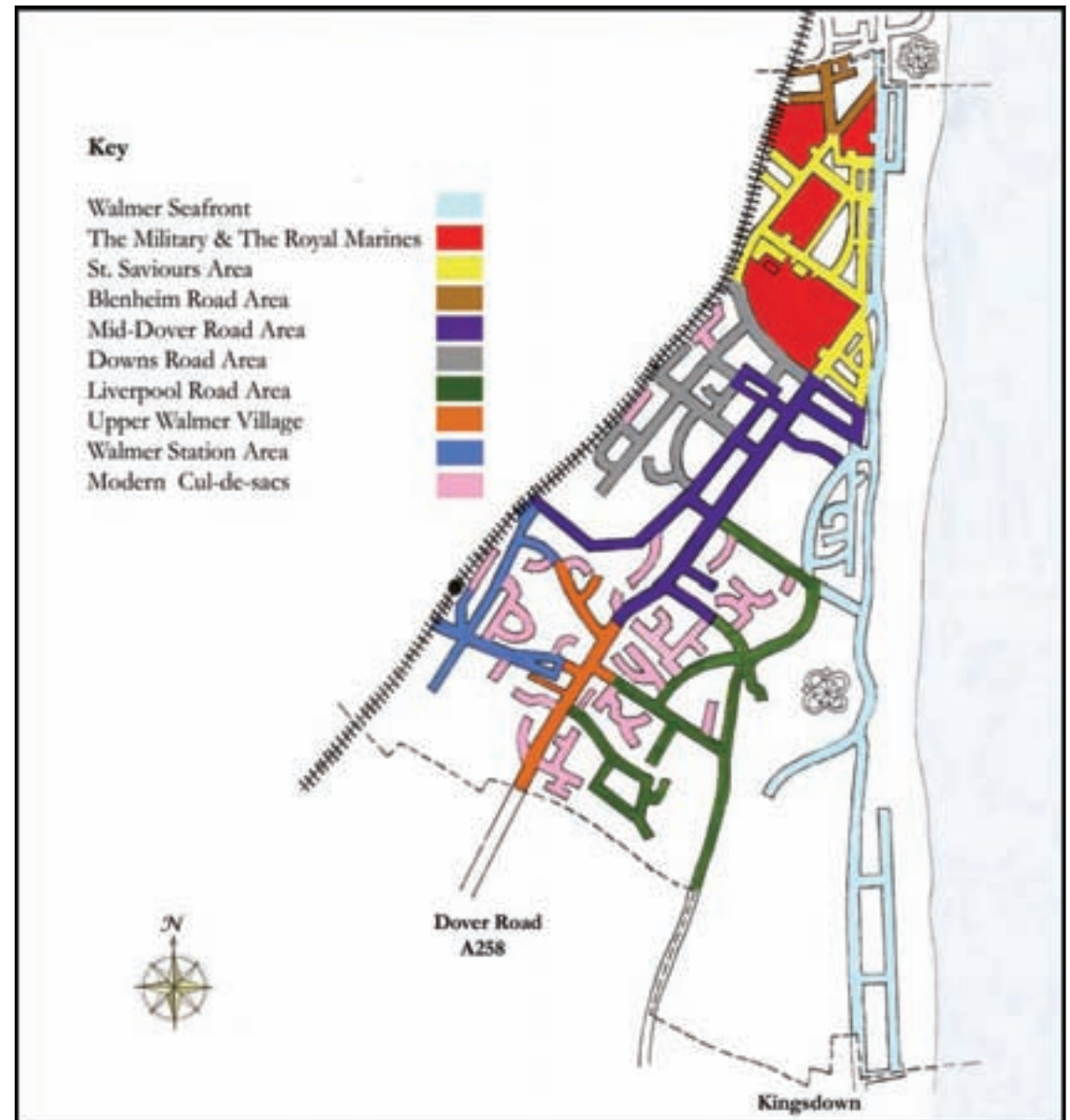
The parish has three conservation areas, shown in red on the adjacent map. The Upper Walmer Conservation Area includes buildings that were part of the original village of Walmer. The Walmer Seafront Conservation Area takes in Admiralty Mews – the former Naval Hospital and later the Royal Marines’ School of Music, most of Archery Square and seafront properties along Marine Road, The Beach, The Strand, York Road and Campbell Road. The South Barracks Conservation Area includes the buildings and open spaces that were formerly part of the South Barracks of the Royal Marines.

5 Character Areas of Walmer

The objective of Design Statements is to describe and identify the distinctive character of the parish and to draw up design principles based on that character. The aim is that they be used in partnership with the local authority to guide and support local planning and to influence future policy.

Walmer is a large and diverse parish with a population of around 8,000 and a heritage that spans many centuries and many different architectural styles. The design characteristics of properties vary widely across the parish and it was therefore decided to divide the parish into different Character Areas based on shared history and design details as shown on the accompanying map. The following pages set out the dominant and distinctive characteristics of each of these Areas, characteristics which the Design Statement urges new development to respect and reflect.

The modern cul-de-sacs have been placed in one Character Area though they are geographically dispersed throughout the parish and reflect a variety of popular architectural styles adopted for expediency and economy in the late 20th century. Some of these are sensitive developments respecting and reflecting the distinctive characteristics and design features of the Character Areas in which they are sited. The Design Statement requires that all future proposals for cul-de-sacs should take into consideration the good characteristics and features identified in this Design Statement as existing in the surrounding Character Areas.



5.1 Walmer Seafront

History/Evolution



Shoreline, grasses and sky

Walmer seafront with its two mile pebble shoreline extends from Deal Castle to Walmer's southern boundary where it is overshadowed by the White Cliffs. The geographical features of this shoreline and its proximity to France and the Goodwin Sands have been major contributory factors to the development of the area.

Historically, Walmer seafront is accepted as being the site where Julius Caesar landed in 55 BC and the commemorative stone marking this occasion is sited on Walmer Green. In 1540 Henry VIII built Deal and Walmer Castles as part of his defences against foreign invasion. The castles remain significant landmarks and Walmer Castle has been the official residence of the Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports since the early 18th century. At the beginning of the Napoleonic Wars troops were encamped in Walmer for dispatch to the continent, leading to the establishment of the military barracks and the naval hospital. In the mid-19th century the Coastal Blockade and then the Coast Guard occupied a portion of the barracks. Supporting services for the barracks were concentrated along The Strand. The retiring military and wealthy families from London, with access made easier by the establishment of the railway to Deal in 1847, built elegant seaside villas and promoted Walmer's growth as a seaside resort.

Boatmen have always been in evidence on Walmer seafront—fishing, servicing vessels in the Downs, smuggling and salvaging wrecks. The Royal National Lifeboat Institute established the lifeboat station on Walmer Green in 1856.



Lord Warden Avenue, Liverpool Road



Houses and boundaries, Wellington Parade

General Character

The overall impression is of space and light created by wide, open skies and uninterrupted sea views. The ever changing colours of the sea and sky, the many tones of brown on the steeply shelved pebble beach and the vibrant colour from the broad grass sward provide a multi-coloured spectacle throughout the year. The beach, the promenade and Walmer Green provide a multitude of informal recreational activities.

The beach at its northern end, between the Sea Scouts' Hut and the Downs Sailing Club, remains a working beach with the clutter and smell of fishermen's boats and huts. The colourful paraphernalia is greatly appreciated by artists and photographers. A well used promenade and parallel cycle path separate Walmer Green from the beach. Sited on the Green is an area set aside for recreational activities. On the surrounding brick wall is a mosaic on a marine theme marking Queen Elizabeth II's Golden Jubilee in 2002. Also present are the Royal Marines Memorial Bandstand, the Lifeboat Station and a small café.

All properties along the seafront are built to maximise their view of the sea. Overlooking Walmer Green and the undeveloped shingle beach are the imposing individually designed Victorian and Edwardian seaside villas, which line Marine Road and The Beach. The buildings on Marine Road are detached properties featuring architectural details on the side walls, whereas terraced properties are more common on The Beach. Many of these properties have been converted into flats. High front walls and large shrubs accentuate privacy. A few properties own enclosed private gardens situated on the Green.

In contrast to the tranquillity of Marine Road and The Beach, The Strand is an active commercial area overlooking the widest part of Walmer Green and the working beach. It provides facilities for residents and tourists. All the properties form an interesting, undulating roofline, varying from two to four storeys. Many are tall narrow buildings with ground floor shops and with accommodation above, a result of speculative building. St. Saviour's Church occupies a central position and is the site of a memorial to those who died in World War I. There are also a number of public houses. With the advent of cars and supermarkets some of the shops have been converted to homes, but The Strand remains busy.

To the south where the formal grass of Walmer Green ends the shingle supports a vivid display of wildflowers and native grasses. This stretch of the promenade,

known as Wellington Parade, continues past The Lord Warden Estate and Walmer Castle and becomes an unadopted road giving vehicular access to the beach properties at the southern boundary of the parish. Kingsdown Road runs parallel to Wellington Parade.

Lord Warden Estate was developed in the 1960s in the extensive grounds of Walmer Place, a 19th century estate. While there are some Neo-Georgian two storey terraces and semi-detached houses, three storey blocks of flats dominate the site. Architecturally, these flats are unlike any other development in Walmer with their flat-roofs and box-like 1960s design. However, they are bounded by the 19th century estate wall and mature gardens. They also have sea facing balconies and overlook a broad green area between the estate and the sea, replicating features characteristic of the seafront area. Quiet roads within the estate and the green setting make it a sought after place to live, particularly by the retired. A significant number of its trees are protected.

Walmer Castle, facing a large area of natural shingle beach and flanked on two sides by its meadow, trees and formal gardens, dominates the central part of the seafront area. This sense of spaciousness is reflected in the lower density of development in the roads around the Castle making an important contribution to its setting. The Castle's imposing aspect, its historical significance and the attraction of its various gardens make it a popular tourist site and a well used amenity for the local residents.

Hawkshill Road is just south of Walmer Castle on the slopes of Hawkshill Down and consists of a series of detached properties. At the top of Hawkshill Down is Hawkshill Freedown (Common), an area of open downland owned and maintained by Walmer Parish Council for its residents. The Freedown was a World War I aerodrome and is now the site of a memorial to pilots who flew from here and were killed fighting in France. Extensive views overlook open farmland and the sea.

Properties on Wellington Parade are built on a pebble ridge facing the narrow unadopted shingle road and the beach. The land slopes down into the rear gardens. There are a few Edwardian houses similar to those on Marine Road but most of the houses were built later in the 20th century, reflecting the designs of that period and varying from three-storey detached houses to large bungalows. All are designed to take advantage of their proximity to the sea.



Terraces on The Strand overlooking Walmer Green with the bandstand and Lifeboat House



Commercial properties on The Strand



North end of The Strand



Turreted property and carriage drive, Marine Road



Porches and balconies, Marine Road



Terraces with balconies viewed from the promenade on Walmer Green, The Beach



Colourful boundary wall, The Beach



Carriage driveway, The Beach



Private walled gardens on Walmer Green belonging to substantial properties on The Beach

Design Detail

- | | |
|------------|--|
| Scale | - predominately Victorian and Edwardian detached houses or terraces of three or four storeys; many with basements; a few two-storey houses on The Strand; three-storey blocks of flats and two-storey terraces in Lord Warden Estate; some large bungalows on Wellington Parade |
| Roofs | - pitched or hipped, slate or red tile; many unique features such as turrets, parapets, Mansard roofs, decorative ridge tiles and finials; impressive ornate chimneys, centrally distributed in terraces but widely distributed in large family houses; ever changing roofline |
| Walls | - mostly red brick; some rendered and painted white or pastel colours; first floor hanging tiles; significant design details on the sides; ornate canopied balconies - wrought iron, timbered and glazed |
| Doors | - Solid and partially glazed wooden panel doors; often three or four steps up from pavement and/or down to basement with iron railings or brick rendered banisters; many side entrances, encaustic tile entrances and recessed shop entrances; elegant canopies, porches and verandas |
| Windows | - two-storey Victorian and Edwardian bays; large-pane and multi-pane sash; first floor picture windows; ground floor shop windows on The Strand |
| Gardens | - many properties opening onto street, pavement or small paved gardens; some large gardens with carriage drives on Marine Road and The Beach; unique, private, hedged and walled gardens on beach side of The Beach belonging to properties across the road; Lord Warden Estate with communal grounds and features retained from previous estate |
| Boundaries | - low brick walls, some with metal railings; high brick walls with large wooden gates and hedges along The Beach |
| Garages | - where available, situated at the rear; often accessed from road behind; uniform garage blocks in Lord Warden Estate |
| Streets | - relatively quiet roads except for The Strand, a busy shopping thoroughfare between Deal and Dover |

5.2 The Military and The Royal Marines

The area of Walmer occupied by the military and the Royal Marines was divided into four sites.

Military/Royal Marine Name	Current Name
East Barracks	Admiralty Mews
South Barracks	Cavalry Barracks
North Barracks	The Churchills & undeveloped site
Infirmiry Barracks	Marine Mews

History/Evolution

The area of Lower Walmer, just south of Deal Castle and the once thriving naval yard in Deal, developed rapidly in the 18th century due to the building of a naval hospital, a military hospital and barracks for a cavalry regiment and two infantry battalions. By 1869, the Admiralty had acquired all the military sites in Walmer and the Royal Marines occupied these until 1996. The facilities were then closed down and the land was sold to private developers.

Admiralty Mews was the site of the naval hospital, rebuilt in 1812 after being struck by lightning. To the south of the hospital, four imposing houses known as Royal Buildings were erected for senior staff. In the latter half of the 19th century additional buildings were added to the west to meet the needs of the Royal Marines Depot. Admiralty Mews has been part of the Walmer Seafront Conservation Area since 1993 and many of the individual buildings, as well as the front wall and gates, are grade-II listed. There is a military cemetery in the southwest corner. The conversion of these buildings into forty residential units began in 1997 but the external features of the hospital buildings and later additions have remained largely unchanged.

Cavalry Barracks was the home of cavalry and infantry units from 1795. In 1896 land to the west was acquired, extending the area to 30 acres, making this the largest of the four sites. While much of this new land was used as drill fields and playing fields, it was also the site of the barracks church of St Michael's and All

Angels', consecrated in 1907. It is believed that the Jubilee Gates added to the Dover Road entrance commemorate Queen Victoria's Jubilee in 1887. All the barrack buildings have been transformed into either individual residential units or flats. Many are grade-II listed because they represent historic examples of the country's first purpose-built military barracks. New properties have been built but the original open spaces have been retained. St. Michael's and All Angels' has been converted into six substantial homes. Walmer Parish Council now owns part of the original playing fields (The Drill Field) and manages the grounds for the benefit of the residents. A primary school has been re-sited on the remainder of the space. The South Barracks Conservation Area was established in 1996 and the development of the South Barracks site into houses and flats is almost complete. This area was allocated in the Dover District Local Plan 2002 (Policy AS4) for redevelopment and designated for leisure and tourism, institutional, residential and/or B1 employment uses.

The North Barracks, dating from 1795, was originally designed as a military hospital but was always used as a military barracks. Officers' houses and a guardhouse were erected on the northern boundary between 1810 and 1830 and remain as grade-II listed buildings. A military cemetery lies along the western wall and is also protected. The rest of the western half of the site has been demolished and replaced by The Churchills,



Main gates,
Admiralty Mews (listed)



Main building,
Admiralty Mews (listed)



Former Officers' Mess,
Cavalry Barracks (listed)



Jubilee Gates, Cavalry Barracks (listed)



Perimeter wall, Cavalry Barracks



Converted building, Cavalry Barracks



New accommodation, Cavalry Barracks



Original stables, Cavalry Barracks (listed)



Cavalry Court, Cavalry Barracks

a high-density development of family homes. The eastern part of the site is currently allocated in the Dover District Local Plan 2002 (Policy AS3) for redevelopment and designated for B1/B2 employment, residential, community and/or institutional uses, but detailed development plans still have to be agreed. Within this area, in the shadow of the original barracks chapel built in 1858, the Royal Marines Memorial Garden was established marking the site of the IRA bombing in 1989. A fire in 2003 destroyed much of the chapel, but, fortunately, the gable wall which forms the southern boundary of the garden survived and adds to the visual impact of this memorial. The garden, which is open as a memorial to all Royal Marines and their families, is owned and maintained by Dover District Council and was refurbished in 2004.

In 1900, a new infirmary was opened on a former drill field to the west of Gladstone Road and was known as Infirmary Barracks. It was in use until 1988, when it was sold and redeveloped as Marine Mews. This is another high-density development which includes terraces, houses, flats and sheltered accommodation. Only the perimeter walls have survived. The estate's military origin is reflected in some of the design detail.

General Character

The pedestrian route south from Deal Castle along Gladstone Road as far as Cornwall Road passes all four of the former barracks. The perimeter brick walls, some as high as two and a half metres, are a distinctive feature along the route. There are glimpses of the original three-storey buildings in both Admiralty Mews and Cavalry Barracks contrasting with the high-density development in Marine Mews and The Churchills. The open areas associated with Cavalry Barracks come into view at the southern end of Gladstone Road. Mature trees, many as high as the tallest buildings, are a feature along most of the site boundaries. Returning to Deal Castle along Cornwall Road, Dover Road and The Strand, this route is along the perimeter walls of Cavalry Barracks and Admiralty Mews. The imposing facades, central pediments, cupolas and clocks on the range of buildings within these walls are easily visible through the ornate iron gates.

The symmetry and orderly layout of the old barracks buildings and their somewhat forbidding and functional design are typical of 19th century institutions such as barracks, hospitals and prisons. These institutions have similar requirements for disciplined living and training, and the walls are a reminder of the need, on the one



Royal Marines Memorial Garden,
former North Barracks

hand, to provide segregation and privacy inside and, on the other, to minimise the risk of desertion. Admiralty Mews and Cavalry Barracks are operated as private estates.

The original barracks acquired open space for training and sporting activities and much of it has been retained. This provides some relief from the high density of housing in many parts of Lower Walmer away from the seafront. However, within Marine Mews and The Churchills, no provision has been made for

landscaped communal areas of significant size. On all four developments some of the open spaces have been used for off-street parking.

Design Detail

Scale	- substantial detached and terraced properties of two or three storeys with bungalows and single-storey utility buildings along perimeter walls
Roofs	- pitched or hipped slate or red tile
Walls	- mostly yellow stock brick with some decorative red brick over windows, doors and in stringcourses; extensive use of Flemish bond
Doors	- wooden doors, solid or half glazed
Windows	- multi-pane Georgian sash
Gardens	- many properties opening onto pavement or street; front and rear gardens, if present, small and lack privacy; views over large areas of common green land, for example, former parade grounds, drill and sports fields, and military cemeteries
Boundaries	- high perimeter brick walls complemented by elaborate wrought iron gates; low brick walls and railings between individual residential units in some locations
Garages	- most parking is in designated parking bays; garages incorporated in some new properties
Streets	- streets around older buildings straight and wide; narrower and warren-like in areas of new building



Townhouses, The Churchills



Detached houses, The Churchills



St. Michaels & All Angels, Cavalry Barracks



Officers Quarters, North Barracks (listed)



Perimeter walls, The Churchills



Flats, Marine Mews

5.3 St. Saviours Area



Tilehung house, Liverpool Road



Decorative features, Cambridge Road



Former library & cottages, Liverpool Road



Large terrace & cottages, Liverpool Road



Former hotel, Dover Road



Large terrace, Cambridge Road



Commercial properties Dover Road



Public house & shops, Dover Road

History/Evolution

Early housing for local boatmen and those associated with the military was replaced around the middle of the 19th century by the comparatively more desirable terraced properties that exist today. They were built to a standard layout, mostly as speculative building for sale or rent.

Commercial properties were established throughout the 19th century along the east side of Dover Road, usually consisting of a ground floor shop front with one to three floors of accommodation above. These have been altered many times. One of Walmer's first hotels was also established during this period with additions being made to the building as demand increased. This property has now been converted into apartments. On Liverpool Road three substantial properties with significant decorative features were built, with plainer terraced properties sandwiched in between. Infill sites, including old alleyways, were developed in the late 20th century and have generally complemented and reflected the original design characteristics of this area.

General Character

This is a densely populated area developed in the shadow of imposing brick walls surrounding the military site. It is an area full of interest and diversity with an irregular layout of streets, sympathetically developed old alleyways and a wide variety of properties. Parking facilities are limited leading to on-street parking and severely congested roads. In recent years, many of the terraces with small and medium-sized houses have been painted, either in white, pastel or bright shades. York Road and most of Campbell Road are part of the Seafront Conservation Area.

On Campbell Road there is a large, well established allotment area. This is a highly popular community facility with a long waiting list for plots.

Design Detail

- Scale - mainly two-storey terraced houses with two or three bedrooms; larger medium-sized properties along Canada, North Barrack and Upper Gladstone Roads; occasional detached period properties especially in Cambridge and Liverpool Roads
- Roofs - mainly slate, some clay tiles; a few roof-lights; some dormers; red tiles with decorative ridge tiles and tall chimneys on period properties
- Walls - brick; some rendered, with colourwash and/or pebble dash; few with decorative brickwork; some upper storeys tile hung
- Doors - mainly opening onto the street, some with steps and wrought iron hand railings; larger properties with porches; plain fanlights
- Windows - usually sash; some one or two-storey bays
- Gardens - small gardens, if present; often paved
- Boundaries - low brick or rendered walls to front gardens; three metre brick walls forming boundaries with former military sites
- Garages - few individual garages; one block of off-site garages
- Streets - pavements on either one or both sides; on-street parking; many double yellow lines



West end, Canada Road



Terraces, Canada Road



Allotments, Campbell Road



Small terraces, York Road



Sensitive infill, York Road



Infill terraces off Cambridge Road



Small terraces, Campbell Road



Colourful cottages, Campbell Road

5.4 Blenheim Road Area

History/Evolution



Brick terrace, Blenheim Road



Military wall & terraces, Blenheim Road

At the end of the 19th century as Deal expanded, speculative building occurred along Gladstone Road, Blenheim Road and Granville Street, filling the area between Deal Castle and the railway line as far south as the military barracks. This expansion took place around the two-metre high walls of the Captain's Garden, dating from the 18th century. This was the kitchen garden for the Captain of Deal Castle and remains part of the Crown Estate, though no longer being cultivated. An initiative on the part of Walmer Parish Council, Deal Town Council and English Heritage involves reclaiming the garden and redeveloping it as a quiet space



Colourful terrace, Gladstone Road



Terrace bays, Gladstone Road



Rendered terraces, Ravenscourt Road



Gate to Orchard Mews, Granville Street

for the enjoyment of local people and visitors to Deal Castle. A Burma Star Memorial stands in the land near the entrance to the Garden on The Strand.

Further development took place before World War II including the completion of Douglas Terrace and Ravenscourt Road and the building of a commercial garage on Gilford Road. A group of business properties built on the southeast side of Gladstone Road, against the walls of what is now Admiralty Mews have since been converted for residential use. In recent years backland development has occurred at Orchard Mews with access from Gladstone Road and the end of Granville Street.

General Character

Housing in the area consists primarily of Late Victorian terraces. Most retain their original decorative features though some rendered properties have been painted in pastel shades. Most of the properties sited near Deal Castle, The Captain's Garden and the listed buildings of Admiralty Mews face away from these significant sights and are not greatly influenced by their presence. Some modern infill and backland development has occurred. The streets are narrow with few facilities for off-street parking and are severely congested with residents' cars.

Design Detail

Scale	- two-storey terraces with few garages or parking facilities
Roofs	- pitched roofs of slate or moulded concrete tile; crested ridges common; shared chimneys
Walls	- yellow/brown brick, some rendered and painted, some with red decorative stringcourses, quoins and arches around windows and doors
Doors	- doors recessed in small porches under round brick arches
Windows	- three-sided bay windows, flat roofed with one or two storeys or two-storey bays with gabled roofs, finials and carved bargeboards; some original horned sashes
Gardens	- small front gardens; some paved
Boundaries	- low brick walls with gate pillars at front; high walls associated with historic properties near by
Garages	- few garages; some off-site garage blocks
Streets	- narrow streets with on-street parking

5.5 *Mid-Dover Road Area*

History/Evolution

Since the end of the 18th century the A258, which becomes Dover Road on entering Walmer, has been the main link between the communities along the coast from Dover to Deal. In the latter half of the 19th century, substantial properties were built along Dover Road to the north of Walmer Village. These were homes for retired military personnel and seaside holiday homes for wealthy London families. When built they would have had unobstructed views of the ships anchored in the Downs. Similar properties exist at the west end of Walmer Castle Road.

While this development was taking place in Upper Walmer, similar properties were being built in Lower Walmer. Archery Square, originally a subscription garden known as The Green Park, was established east of Dover Road near the barracks and well-appointed leasehold properties were built around it. This was a green area with a two metre wide path around the edge shielded from the street by shrubbery. Archery and croquet were available. After 1875, tennis became fashionable and other activities were relegated to a secondary position. In 1883, the leasehold on The Green Park was purchased by one of the residents to protect the park from the threat of development and the Walmer Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club was founded. In 1960, the club bought the freehold to the site.

At the end of the 19th century substantial semi-detached housing, followed by individually designed detached housing, began spreading south from the barracks area along Dover Road and Balfour Road. In 1900, Herschell Square, at the north end of Balfour Road was also marketed as a speculative development around a central green park. Some large semi-detached properties were built facing onto the square, but other properties faced Herschell Road East and Balfour Road and the concept of a pleasant Edwardian square was lost. In the 1960s, a variety of bungalows were built on the central green completing the loss of the original design concept.

Land for Marke Wood on Dover Road was purchased in 1927 by the daughter of Agnes Marke Wood, fulfilling her wish to provide 'a recreational area with playing fields for the children and people of Walmer'. It was stipulated that the ground should be kept to a 'meadow type' and no building should take place except as 'pavilions and shelter for recreational purposes'. Dover District Council now administers the land in trust. The purchase also included land on the west side of Dover Road and along Liverpool Road, which was designated for residential use. Covenants controlled what could be built.

Before the end of the 20th Century the two communities of Upper and Lower Walmer had merged as a result of development along Dover Road, Balfour Road and Salisbury Road. A number of small businesses were established within this residential area encouraged by the large amount of traffic along Dover Road. A notable landmark along Dover Road is the Baptist Church, established in 1904.

General Character

This area developed on the gradually rising land between the military barracks and the original village of Walmer on Drum Hill. The varying scale and architectural design of the properties combined with the green open spaces, front gardens and significant protected trees define its character.

Archery Square and Marke Wood reflect the desire of the more affluent for the benefits of green open spaces and opportunities for recreational activities. In Archery Square there are substantial properties of two or three storeys making the maximum use of the land available. On the South side most properties are of grey stone and yellow brick, some having extensive decorative features. Victorian tiled paths lead from the pavement up five or six steps to the front doors. In contrast,



Football being played in Marke Wood



Bungalows, Salisbury Road



Former vicarage, east side upper Dover Road



Detached house, upper Dover Road



Detached house, east side upper Dover Road



Semi-detached houses, Herschell Square



Large Semi-detached houses, Herschell Square



Semi-detached house, Balfour Road



Detached houses, east side upper Dover Road



Edwardian bungalow, Warwick Road



Mixed properties, Balfour Road



Edwardian house, Dover Road



Substantial property, Warwick Road

all the properties on the north side are rendered and painted white, some with wrought iron balconies. The listed terrace at the junction with Liverpool Road features a Dutch gable, a steep red tiled roof and dormer windows. Most of Archery Square is part of the Walmer Seafront Conservation Area.

Around Marke Wood, individually designed detached and semi-detached houses and bungalows occupy large plots. Many have interesting architectural features and some have high brick walls giving a feeling of seclusion. The properties benefit from the presence of trees in the park. Those on Warwick Road enjoy a feeling of remoteness from traffic.

There remain fine examples of the distinctive 19th century properties on Dover Road near Walmer Village. They include two and three storey terraces and detached properties with distinctive decorative features –turrets, balconies, iron railings and grand door cases. Most now have extensions and alterations, many having been converted to multiple occupancy.

Between the two areas of substantial terraces and houses described above, the homes vary in scale and reflect the changing social needs and architectural designs that were evident throughout the 20th century. There are two or three storey detached and semi-detached properties mixed with bungalows and chalet bungalows, most with garages. They are linked harmoniously by the use of common materials and similar design details. They are set on wide roads with green verges and have cultivated front gardens bounded by low brick walls. The playing fields on Salisbury Road form the southwest boundary of this area.

Design Detail	
Scale	- terraces, semi-detached and detached houses of two or three storeys and bungalows, generally of individual design; early properties with distinctive Edwardian features
Roofs	- pitched tile/slate roofs; some hipped; chimneys common; some ridge tiles, finials and decorative bargeboards
Walls	- red brick walls; some polychromatic brick/plaster decorations; pebble dash common in early bungalows
Doors	- doors set within arched porches; Edwardian glazed doors with glazed side panels common in houses and bungalows
Windows	- two-storey bay windows in larger properties in north Dover Road and Balfour Road; original horned sash windows evident; bays common in bungalows; casement windows in later properties
Gardens	- older properties have small front gardens; larger gardens on Warwick Road
Boundaries	- generally low brick walls; mixture of brick walls, hedges and board fencing on Herschell Square and Warwick Road; higher walls on Warwick Road
Garages	- no garages on site for earlier properties on Dover Road and Balfour Road; integral garages and hardstanding with later properties; garaging to properties on Archery Square accessed from service roads at the rear
Streets	- wide streets; trees on grass verges and in front gardens; Victorian style street lights on Archery Square; traffic heavy on Dover Road and Salisbury Road; some traffic calming measures in place



Turreted terraces, Walmer Castle Road



Crenellated bays, south Archery Square



Dutch gable, Archery Square (listed)



Substantial terrace, north Archery Square

5.6 Downs Road Area



Terraces, Cornwall Road



Terrace, south Downs Road



Terraces & Drill Field, Cornwall Road



Hard standing, south Downs Road



Terrace, west side mid-Downs Road

History/Evolution

At the end of the 19th century, farmland between the barracks and Upper Walmer adjacent to the railway line became available for development. Speculative building of modest two storey Victorian terraces began along Cornwall Road and continued along Downs Road. By 1935 building was complete on these roads except for some bungalows and terraces built at the south end of Downs Road and in Owen Square after World War II.

Land between Downs Road and Dover road was acquired by Deal Borough Council at the end of World War II for a housing estate centred on Churchill Avenue.

General Character

This is a high-density residential area situated near the three schools in the parish. Though originally leasehold properties, most of the late Victorian terraces on Cornwall Road and Downs Road are privately owned and many alterations have been made.

Housing centred on Churchill Avenue consists of two-storey terraces and semi-detached houses with small front gardens. Central green areas with trees and flowerbeds along a curved road enhance this area. Many of these properties are also privately owned. Most extensions and alterations have maintained the original style and colour scheme.

The lack of off-street parking leads to congestion throughout the area.



Enclosed arched doorways, Downs Road



Early terrace, north Downs Road

Design Detail

- Scale - two-storey terraces and semi-detached houses; a few single-storey terraces and bungalows
- Roofs - pitched roofs of slate or red moulded concrete tiles
- Walls - brick of varying colours; some with decorative brick arches on windows and doors and a decorative stringcourse; some rendered, half-rendered or first floor fronts with hanging tiles
- properties on the Churchill Avenue estate - flat-fronted, rendered and painted cream with moulded red roof tiles on sills, porches and the walls connecting adjacent properties
- Doors - many doors recessed in arched porches, some enclosed with loss of original decorative features; many doors on flat-fronted properties enclosed with porches extending into the front garden
- Windows - three-sided bay windows of one or two storeys, sometimes rendered or with hanging tiles; bays in early properties with Victorian horned sashes; bays in newer properties with casement windows; flat-fronted properties on the Churchill Avenue estate with casement windows
- Gardens - small front gardens; many front walls removed and hard standing formed
- Boundaries - low brick walls with iron gates onto pavement; some rendered, some with railings; low brick walls on Churchill Avenue onto common green area; two metre high rendered walls with red tile topping link adjacent terraces
- Garages - few off-street parking facilities in the area
- Streets - Cornwall Road and Downs Road relatively straight and wide; heavy traffic, either from parts of Deal to the Dover Road or to the schools on Gladstone Road and at the end of Downs Road; Churchill Avenue and Dorset Gardens narrow and curve through communal green space containing flowerbeds and trees; extensive on-street parking



Sensitive extension, Churchill Avenue



Added porches, Wellesley Avenue



Central green, Churchill Avenue



Single-storey terrace, Churchill Avenue



1950s Housing, Churchill Avenue



Linking walls, Palmerston Avenue

5.7 Liverpool Road Area



Substantial residence, St. Clare Road



St Clare Road from Liverpool Road



Retirement accommodation, St. Clare Road



Gardens at Trinity Homes, St Clare Road



Leelands, Grams Road (listed)



View to west along Grams Road

History/Evolution

In the 19th century this area consisted of large green spaces and meadowland on the borders of four large estates – St. Clare, Roselands, The Shrubbery and The Lawn. These estates were established taking full advantage of the topography, being built on the higher ground giving the owners commanding views across their estates over meadowland and farmland to the sea. At the beginning of the 20th century, development began on the perimeter of these estates reflecting the gradual change to manageable sized properties in reasonable grounds. These developments were sensitively sited to retain the spacious character and appearance of the area, using the landscape features to their full advantage. Development on this scale continued until the end of the century.

In recent years retirement accommodation has become available in the area with the conversion of some of these larger properties. One of the more interesting developments was the retirement provision made by Trinity House in 1957. Quality terraced bungalows were built on the edges of landscaped gardens enabling residents to take full advantage of the views and spacious surroundings.

Several older distinctive properties on the west side of Walmer Castle are listed. The only other listed building in the area is Leelands – the main house of one of the original four estates (St Clare).

General Character

This is an area of substantial, individually designed houses set among mature trees and large gardens to the west of Walmer Castle, establishing a spacious setting for this landmark building. These properties are within walking distance of the Parish Church of St Mary's and the village shops. Panoramic views into open countryside and out to sea remain a notable feature.

Hawksdown, which occupies a large acreage set on top of sloping countryside, is the only gated private estate in Upper Walmer. A small number of houses were built before World War II, but many more were added after the war. Access is available at the west end via Dover Road onto Hawksdown Road. At the east end, a large five-bar gate restricts access onto the narrow private roads with grass verges either side, frequently protected with stones or logs from unnecessary parking. Mature trees, hedges and some closeboard fences contribute to privacy.

Design Detail

Details on walls, doors and windows were often difficult to determine because of large walls, hedges and garden planting. Noticeable were the variety and high quality of design detail displayed.

Scale	- individually designed detached properties on substantial plots; mostly large two-storey houses; some substantial bungalows
Roofs	- pitched tile/slate roofs; some multi-gabled with dormers; most with chimneys
Walls	- red brick; some rendered and some pebble dashed; some decorative rendering or hanging tiles on first floor
Doors	- sturdy wooden doors with minimal glazing; variety of porches, becoming elaborate on listed properties of 19 th Century
Windows	- in keeping with the age of the property from Georgian sash around Walmer Castle to casement windows of wood, metal and UVPC
Gardens	- large green plots with mature trees and hedges; some open plan gardens in newer properties; slope of the land utilised to maximise views to sea or rural landscapes
Boundaries	- greater privacy for older properties with high hedges, brick or rubble walls and closeboard fencing
Garages	- all with garages and hard standing, often for two or three cars; many secured by gates and accessed by long drives
Streets	- generally wide with pavements or wide grass verges



Bungalow in large garden, Liverpool Road



Post WW II house, Hawksdown



Private tree-lined road, Hawksdown



Substantial property, Granville Road



Early 20th century house, Hawksdown



St Clare Road



Entrance to Hawksdown off Dover Road



Long green driveway, Liverpool Road



Liverpool House, Liverpool Road (listed)

5.8 Upper Walmer Village



Pugin designed chapel, Dover Road (listed)



Large house in village, Dover Road



Large house in village, Dover Road



Rubble brick house, Dover Road



East side Dover Road south of village



Shops in original Walmer village



Dutch gable on old terrace, Dover Road



Large house, Church Street & Dover Road



West side Dover Road near Church Street



Wellington House, Dover Road



West side Dover Road south of village

History/Evolution

The original village of Walmer, situated at the top of Drum Hill, grew up around the Manor House with its associated farm and Old St Mary's Church, both built in the early 12th century. Cottages for workers and tradesmen soon followed and by Victorian times this small agricultural community had become a thriving village containing the Manor House (Walmer Court), the farm and the church together with a school, shops, inns, a large brewery and a convent with chapel.

Of all its enterprises, the brewery, originally Tudor, had the most significant impact on the area. In 1816 Edmund Thompson acquired this small brewery and operated it as Thompson & Sons. In 1867 John Matthews bought the business and greatly expanded and modernised it, although it always kept the title of Thompson Brewery. The maltings, bottling plants, brew house and stables with a blacksmith eventually covered a very large area in the village and created much employment. Further houses were bought in Dover Road for use as offices and to house staff, and a long terrace of brick cottages was built in Belmont to house more workers. In 1974 production ceased at the brewery and it was demolished in 1981 to make way for the housing development on Downlands. The old bell once housed in the belfry at the brewery rests in the last remaining public house in the village, now aptly named the Thompson Bell.

Across Dover Road from the brewery was a large builder's yard owned by the Denne family, reported to have been in the brick making and building trade for over four hundred years. They built the seawall in Ramsgate, municipal buildings and homes all over East Kent and supplied bricks to the Admiralty for local use. Wellington House on Dover Road, owned by Mr. William Denne, was sold in 1887 but the adjacent builder's yard was retained by the business. This yard was closed at the end of the 20th century and developed as St. Margaret's Close.

The convent of the Order of the Visitation of Holy Mary moved to Walmer in 1875 because of persecution in Poland and Germany. It occupied Roselands, an estate of seven acres with a large Georgian house. Additions were made to the house to accommodate the convent. The Sisters' Choir and the Gothic Chapel of the Sacred Heart, designed by Pugin, were built in 1890. The convent, an enclosed order, left Walmer in 1971 because of increasing traffic noise on Dover Road. Most of the convent was demolished in 1982 and its land was used for housing on Roselands and Poet's Walk. However, its walls and the chapel were retained. The

chapel's impressive tower, rising above a group of well established trees on Dover Road, creates a distinctive landmark.

The usage and design of many other buildings in the village have altered over the centuries. Some of the shops, the schoolhouse and two of the inns are now converted into dwellings. The original ancient cottages were extended and updated in the 18th century and encased in Georgian shells. Some of these older houses incorporate sturdy old timber salvaged from ships wrecked on the Goodwin Sands.

General Character

Walmer Village continues to be a focal point for those living in Upper Walmer with the churches and remaining shops, housed in Victorian buildings, offering all the essentials expected in a village environment. The surrounding houses are mostly Georgian and Victorian. Their different heights, widths, roof pitches and window patterns, haphazardly juxtaposed, create an interesting variety protected now as a conservation area.

Although there are attractive houses in the shopping area, most of the listed buildings are in the Church Street area. Gothic House, with its profusion of wooden detailing, and The Rattling Cat, once a coaching inn, are on Dover Road near the east end of Church Street. In Church Street itself, there are some fine substantial 18th century houses with Georgian features such as railings, multi-paned windows and grand door cases. Off Church Street is Green Lane, a narrow country byway with small Victorian cottages nestling amongst variously shaped hedges. Significant landmarks can be found at the culmination of the conservation area on Church Street.

Old St Mary's Church remains and services are still held lit only by candlelight. The ruins of the original Manor House are now an Ancient Monument. Walmer Court, with its small flint gatehouse and long wooded drive, has now been converted into flats.



Gothic House, Dover Road (listed)



Gatehouse, Walmer Court



Church Street at Green Lane



Mainly Georgian house, Church Street



Old Bakery, Church Street



Wingrove & Adelaide House (listed)



Vine Cottage, Church Street (listed)



Falkland House, Church Street



Walmer Court, Church Street (listed)

Design Detail

Scale	- small, medium and large terraced and detached properties, predominantly Georgian and Victorian
Roofs	- pitched, hipped or half-hipped; slate or plain clay tiled; Gothic styling to some gables; one eye-catching Dutch gable
Walls	- Georgian red/brown bricks or yellow bricks; some rendered and painted light colours; a few painted bricks; a few rubble brick walls with red brick edging
Doors	- mostly Georgian and Victorian panelled; some with canopies; some fanlights and door cases with carved brackets or pillars; some with steps up from the pavement
Windows	- multi-paned Georgian sash, Victorian sash; shop display windows
Gardens	- some properties front directly onto pavement; some small/medium front gardens
Boundaries	- brick or rendered walls of various heights; variously shaped hedges along Green Lane
Garages	- garages and off road parking minimal
Street	- Dover Road, a busy trunk road, narrow in parts; remaining streets very narrow and unadopted or narrow with on-street parking

5.9 Walmer Station Area

History/Evolution

The railway from Deal to Dover was completed in 1881 and a cluster of Victorian houses, a stationmaster's house and a public house were soon built around the station at Walmer. During the 20th century small parcels of land between the station and Walmer Village were sold off for development.

General Character

Station Road, Court Road and Mayers Road contain houses from every decade of the 20th century and display a diversity of styles and materials. The area is enhanced by a grouping of mature trees at the east end of Station Road and to the south are public footpaths and locally valued views across agricultural land to the windmill at Ripple. These provide an attractive transition from the predominantly developed parish of Walmer to the open countryside.

Design Details

Scale	- generally small to medium two-storey terraced, semi-detached and detached properties
Roofs	- pitched with slate or red/brown tiles; some dormers
Walls	- various brick; some rendered, painted, weatherboarded or tile hung
Windows	- wide variety including Victorian sash, Neo-Georgian casement and picture windows; some bays
Gardens	- small to medium front gardens
Boundaries	- mostly low brick walls, some with hedges or fences
Garages	- garages on many properties; mainly adequate parking; no garages or off-road parking on Mayers Road
Streets	- generally wide; roads in station area narrow and congested; limited parking at the station for rail users



Panoramic view into the countryside



Victorian terrace, Court Road



Trees and green area, Station Road



Semi-detached houses, Station Road



Detached houses, Court Road



Semi-detached houses, Station Road



Terrace off Mayers Road



Terrace, west end of Station Road

5.10 Modern Cul-de-sacs



Positioned for solar panels, Whiteacre Dr.



Bungalows, Greenacre Drive



Houses, flats and bungalows, Poets Walk



Bungalows, Badgers Rise



Curving drive and trees, Blake Close



Bungalows, Menzies Avenue



Semi-detached houses, Church Street



Houses, St. Marys Road



Former military housing, York and Albany Close



Semi-detached houses, Meryl Gardens



Chalet bungalows, Willingdon Place



Dutch Gable, Kingsland Gardens

History and Evolution

From 1960 to the present there have been a large number of cul-de-sacs formed off the roads already present on the 1906 map of the parish. The land used for such developments was formerly part of large 19th century estates, Walmer Court Farm near the railway station, the Convent of the Visitation and Thompson Brewery. Smaller plots, which had been orchards, a fire station and commercial nurseries, were also developed. Developers included London City Council/Greater London Council - under their 'Retire by the Sea' scheme for the overspill of senior citizens, the Ministry of Defence - supplying family quarters for the Royal Marines, and private contractors. These cul-de-sacs are concentrated in Upper Walmer where the majority of the land was available.

General Character

Most of the cul-de-sacs contain houses or bungalows constructed with common characteristics related to the materials and styles in vogue at the time they were built. The more visually interesting cul-de-sacs have a mix of bungalows, houses or terraces with harmonious variation in design details. One fortunate shared characteristic is the abundance of mature trees. Most of the trees from earlier properties have been retained and new trees have been planted in common green areas.

Two estates display characteristics that mirror design details in older properties nearby and fit harmoniously into their site. Badger's Rise, at the junction of Grams Road and Liverpool Road, consists of substantial bungalows with very large multi-gabled roof spaces mirroring the roofline of an older two-storey terrace across the road. In Kingsland Gardens, the two-storey terraces facing Dover Road have Dutch gables similar to an older property in the conservation area nearby. However, a number of other cul-de-sacs feature standard pattern-book house styles seen in similar estates all over the country.

On Dover Road, opposite the entrance to Gothic Close, are a group of houses similar to ones found in these modern cul-de-sacs but unlike the other houses on Dover Road. They are situated on what was the main entrance to The Shrubbery estate redeveloped in the 1970s. They are fronted by an enormous well-tended open garden space that makes a significant contribution to the street scene along Dover Road.

Design Detail

Scale	- detached or semi-detached two-storey houses, bungalows or chalet bungalows; some two-storey terraces
Roofs	- pitched concrete tile roofs; some L-shaped with gables facing forward; a few gabled dormers; chimneys not prominent
Walls	- most red brick, some yellow; some rendered; hanging tile or plastic weatherboarding common at first floor level in front; mock Tudor fronts on some properties in pattern-book estates
Doors	- some wooden, but mostly modern UPVC, with glazing; glass panels around doors; protective overhangs or enclosed porches common
Windows	- most white casement windows; large central pane common; some replacement with multi-pane Georgian windows; some leaded glass casement windows in pattern-book estates
Gardens	- generally open plan, broken by beds and low shrubs between properties; some grassy common islands retained; mature trees from older demolished properties retained and protected
Boundaries	- generally none in front; a few low brick walls, hedges or small wooden fences; closeboard fences to rear visible from street
Garages	- all with hard standing; most with garages, some attached; garages for two or three cars plus brick hard standing common in pattern-book estates
Streets	- roads reasonably wide and short; some curved and branching



Large front gardens along Dover Road



Bungalows, The Shrubbery



Mature trees & bungalows, Channel Lea

Architectural Detail



Georgian hip and half-hipped roofs, Dover Road



Georgian roof, Church Street



Georgian doorway with stone surround



Georgian roof



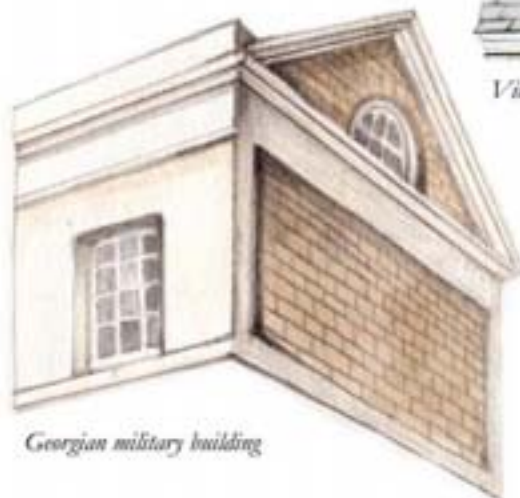
Georgian military building, Admiralty Mews



Georgian dormer window



Victorian dormer window, Archery Square



Georgian military building



Georgian doorway, Church Street



Victorian stucco facade with quoining, Archery Square



Georgian fanlight, Church Street



Recessed Victorian doorways



Decorative tile roof, Dover Road



Edwardian grandeur, Dover Road



Edwardian turret, The Beach



Edwardian tile hung gable, Dover Road



Dutch styled gable, Dover Road



Edwardian stained glass, Warwick Road



Decorative bargeboard and finial, Dover Road



Edwardian bungalow gable, Warwick Road



Mock Tudor gable with pebble-dash, Grams Road

7 Green Spaces



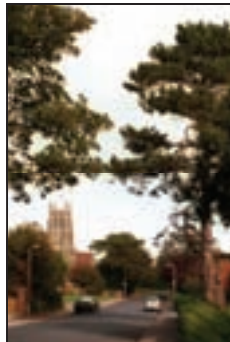
Trees, Channel Lea



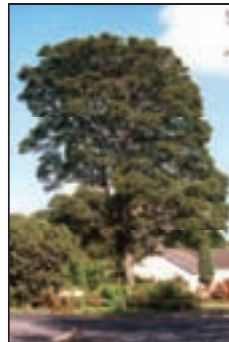
Trees near Walmer Castle



Trees, walls & hedges, Walmer Castle Rd



Mature trees, St. Clare Road



From the beach towards Liverpool Road



Formal garden, Marke Wood



Trees planted in a modern cul-de-sac



From Hawkshill Freedown to Hawksdown



From Hawkshill Freedown

Walmer is rich in green spaces, large and small, and although not all are open to the public, they add to the pleasant leafiness that is one of the characteristics of the parish.

The most scenic open space is along the seashore promenade. At the north end of Walmer the promenade borders the large grassed area known as Walmer Green. On the shore side is a shingle beach where fishing boats and the dinghies of the Downs Sailing Club stand. Seats are sited at frequent intervals along the promenade, which continues to Kingsdown. Where the grassed area ends, the pathway becomes known as Wellington Parade and is bounded on both sides by wildflowers and grasses. It passes Walmer Castle with its extensive and attractive open spaces and Garden, all of which are open to the public. The promenade ends with the seashore housing on the southern boundary of Walmer.

Hawkshill Freedown has been designated a Site of Nature Conservation Interest (SNCI). It is an area of open chalk downland enjoyed by walkers and nature enthusiasts, which is rich in wildlife and rises inland southwards and westwards of Walmer Castle. Views from these heights encompass open farmland, the English Channel, the Goodwin Sands and, on a clear day, the coast of France. A footpath descends from here into a small valley – The Glen, an area of mature gardens and large trees.

Although the former Royal Marines Barracks and School of Music retain their high walls, their green spaces add to the attractiveness of the parish.

Surrounded by mature trees, Marke Wood Recreation Ground is an extensive flat green area, which includes a well maintained formal garden.

As well as these large green areas there are a number of significant ‘green wedges’ throughout the community that enhance the green character of the parish.

In the nineteenth century, the planting of trees in the grounds of, and in the land surrounding, the larger houses transformed the appearance of the parish. Trees remain a treasured part of our environment. They flourish particularly well in Upper Walmer where the downland provides protection from prevailing winds. Many of these trees and other garden features were retained during re-development to give the area an air of maturity.

8 Leisure Areas



Observing the Sun, Walmer beach

There is a wide range of provision for leisure pursuits in Walmer Parish. Most of the seashore leisure pursuits are quiet and informal – sea fishing off the beach, dinghy sailing, bird watching, dog walking, children’s games, kite flying and astronomy.

The seashore promenade is part of the Saxon Shore Way and the White Cliffs Country Trail.

The recently installed cycle way along the route is part of the Cliffs and Castles Cycle Track and National Cycle Route 1.

At the north end of Walmer Green is a walled recreational area containing a children’s paddling pool, putting green and crazy golf. The Royal Marines Memorial Bandstand hosts popular Sunday afternoon concerts during the summer. This is where the travelling fair sets up for two weeks and the Church Parish Fayre is held.

Playing fields for sporting activities are attached to Walmer School, The Downs CE Primary School and the Parochial School. At Archery Square there is a long established tennis and croquet club. Walmer has a cricket club with its own ground off Court Road, and at the Drill Field in the South Barracks Conservation Area are playing fields used and maintained by a local rugby club as well as a toddlers’ play area and a floodlit ball court. Facilities at Marke Wood Recreation Ground include a children’s play area, hard tennis courts and several football pitches, which serve as cricket pitches in summer. A small pavilion with public toilets and changing rooms add to the amenities in this leisure area.

There are three allotment areas within the Parish - each providing space for those who enjoy spending their time in the cultivation of flowers and vegetables.



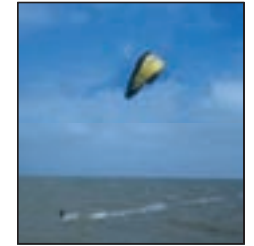
Swimmers on Walmer beach



Walkers, Hawkshill Freedown



Cyclists, Promenade on Walmer Green



Kite surfing



Rugby, Walmer Drill Field



Paddling Pool, Walmer Green



Lighted ball court, Walmer Drill Field



Croquet, Archery Square



Downs Sailing Club, Walmer beach



Fishing from Walmer beach

9 Traffic and Transport



Congestion due to loading, The Strand



Green parking, Dorset Gardens



Pavement parking, Canada Road



Congestion on Mayers Road

Traffic can greatly affect the quality of life in a community and planning decisions affect traffic. Residents of Walmer want a free but safe flow of traffic, safe crossings of major intersections for pedestrians and cyclists, adequate parking facilities in commercial areas to help the survival of local businesses and safe and attractive cycleway and public footpath provision.

Dover Road and Kingsdown Road, both feeding into The Strand, are the only major north-south roads through the parish. Dover Road and The Strand link the towns of Dover and Deal, and Dover Road is the arterial road with which all the major east – west feeder roads link. These feeder roads funnel all the traffic from Walmer and Deal onto Dover Road with the result that intersections on Dover Road and The Strand are difficult to negotiate and dangerous. Traffic control measures have been introduced on both these roads. The creation of parking bays

on The Strand by the building of protruding crossing points, while providing welcome assistance for pedestrians crossing the road, has reduced the available parking in this commercial area and adversely affected businesses. Traffic control measures have also been introduced on Salisbury Road – unfortunately these measures have diverted traffic onto other congested routes and into two very busy intersections with Dover Road.

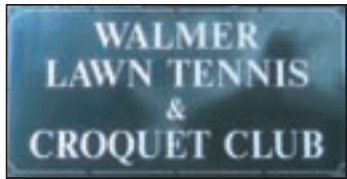
Public consultation on the introduction of such traffic calming and control measures has been minimal in the past. This Design Statement urges that local residents are given the opportunity to comment on any future such proposals before they are implemented to ensure that adequate attention is paid to local concerns, traffic patterns and problem areas.

Congestion and parking problems exist in the older areas of Walmer where streets are narrow and there are no garage facilities. The limited number of exits from the redeveloped military sites has increased congestion by channelling all traffic onto Canada Road which is already busy. Therefore, this Design Statement welcomes the requirement for a traffic impact assessment to be carried out for any proposed redevelopment of the North Barracks, as set out in Policy AS3 of the Dover District Local Plan (2002).

There are limited public transport services serving the parish of Walmer. The parish has a railway station in Upper Walmer with, on average, hourly services. Limited parking facilities are available at the station and in the interests of sustainability and encouraging increased train use it is hoped that opportunities to increase and improve such station parking will be taken. Rail connections are however slow given the circuitous rail network linking Walmer with the rest of the county. It is hoped that current improvements under way on the rail tunnels between Dover and Folkestone will enable Walmer to partake in the new high-speed rail connections soon to be made available elsewhere in the county.

Bus services cover only limited parts of the parish and make travel within Walmer and to Deal difficult. There are also limited bus services connecting Walmer to other areas of southeast Kent where essential services are provided. These limitations give rise to concern within the community.

10 Street Furniture



The design and dimensions of, and the materials used in, much of our street furniture are specified by central and local government. Bus shelters, refuse bins, street lighting and floral display tubs are therefore, generally, starkly utilitarian in nature.

Commercial advertising in the community, other than shop fronts, is limited to the Local Council sponsored bus shelters. Information signs for clubs and other non-commercial organisations tend to be informative and sympathetic to their surroundings.

There are other examples of more traditional and attractive items – such as Victorian lamp standards, wall-mounted post boxes and “red” telephone kiosks. The environment is also enhanced by the presence of a number of wooden, and often memorial, seats along the whole of the seafront boundary of the parish. In general, our roads, footpaths and cycle ways are well signposted.



11 Design Principles

National Planning Policy Statement 12 : Local Development Frameworks (2004) supports the inclusion of supplementary planning documents, including design statements, within local development frameworks provided that such documents have been prepared by the community and are consistent with national, regional and local planning policies. The Walmer Design Statement has been prepared (as set out in Section 12) by the community of the parish of Walmer to supplement the policies of the Dover District Local Plan (2002) and the emerging Kent and Medway Structure Plan which places great emphasis on quality design. Where applicable cross-referencing is made to the Local Plan, as well as to policies and guidance of Kent Design (2000).

The purpose of Village Design Statements is to capture the detailed design characteristics of a settlement, and, once adopted by the local planning authority, to act as a tool to manage change, whether that change is major new development or cumulative small-scale alterations, to the built and natural environments of the area to which the Design Statement applies.

As set out on preceding pages the built and natural environments of the parish of Walmer have been shaped over many centuries by the presence of the sea and the military. It is important therefore that such maritime and military heritage, fundamental to the character of Walmer, is acknowledged, preserved and enhanced in any developments in the parish.

WDS 1 : Development should be consistent with the policies of the Dover District Local Plan (2002) and the principles and objectives of Kent Design (2000) and should acknowledge, preserve or enhance the built and natural heritage of the parish of Walmer. For the purposes of this and each of the following Design Principles, ‘development’ refers to both new development and alterations to existing buildings.

The Walmer Design Statement divides the parish into 10 Character Areas on the basis of the design characteristics particular to each area, including the three conservation areas in Walmer, and the historical evolution of each of these areas. Such delineations are designed to supplement Policies DD1 and HE2 of the Dover Local Plan by establishing the spatial and visual characteristics of each area, and Objective 6 of Kent Design by setting out contextual design details.

WDS 2 : Any future development in the parish should respect the origins, and reflect strongly the character, appearance and design details of the Character Area (as delineated in Section 5) in which it is situated.

The scale, materials, design, density, and boundary treatments characteristic of all areas of the parish are described in this Design Statement for each Character Area. In summary, properties in Walmer are predominantly two storey, with no buildings in the parish exceeding four storeys in height. Roofs are pitched and of slate or tile, often with crested ridges. Walls are of brick, sometimes rendered and painted, with use made of decorative stringcourses and detailing around doors and windows. Some limited tile-hanging and weatherboarding does occur at first floor level, as well as canopied balconies in the seafront area, but these materials are not common. Windows are sash or casement in form, with one or two storey bays a distinctive feature in a number of the Character Areas. Many properties in Walmer front straight onto the pavement and front gardens, where they do occur, are usually small and bounded by low brick walls. The main exceptions to this pattern are the former military sites which are bounded by high brick perimeter walls and elaborate gates and the larger properties in the environs of Walmer Castle which are set in spacious grounds, bordered by high hedges, fences and brick walls. More recent housing developments are open plan in layout.

Certain design features and materials are not prevalent in Walmer. Weatherboarding, including plastic weatherboarding, stone facades, and brick pavior road surfacing for example are not typical and are therefore considered inappropriate.

WDS 3 : The scale, materials and boundary treatments used in development should be appropriate to their surroundings and the design details of the Character Area in which the development is proposed. Harmonious variety in design details within developments is encouraged to maintain the tradition of visually interesting streetscapes which is a characteristic of Walmer.

WDS 4 : In accordance with Principle 6.6 of Kent Design (2000), a confused application of architectural styles or inappropriate historic imitation should be avoided.

Walmer is a predominantly densely developed parish and development opportunities are therefore in the main limited to alterations to existing properties and to small sites and 'infill' schemes. As a result the sensitive integration of new development into its surroundings is crucial and the community supports Policies DD5 and DD6 of the Dover Local Plan (2002).

As set out in Section 5.7 a lower density of development prevails in the vicinity of Walmer Castle and its associated Historic Parks and Gardens with the townscape and landscape of this area characterised by large, individually designed houses set in spacious gardens with views out over open countryside and to the sea. Such development serves to enhance the setting of Walmer Castle and provides an appropriate context for this nationally important landmark building. The character of much of the seafront of Walmer together with Hawkshill Common, Archery Square and Marke Wood also provide important areas of open space in the landscape of the parish. Mature trees are a welcome characteristic of many streetscapes in Walmer including along the perimeters of the former military sites, on the east side of Dover Road at the southern entrance to Walmer, the area west of Walmer Castle and in Upper Walmer.

WDS 5 : The density of new development should have regard to that prevailing in its locality and to the local pattern of streets and spaces. The quieter, less densely developed character of the townscape around Walmer Castle and along the seafront should be protected and respected.

WDS 6 : When development occurs every effort should be made to retain mature trees where they exist and to augment them with appropriate planting of indigenous species.

As set out in Section 5.1, Walmer's long coastline is visually, socially and environmentally integral to the character of the parish. The protection of the seashore environment, the shingle beach, wildflowers and natural grasses, the footpaths and cycleways and the uninterrupted views out to the open sea are therefore of considerable importance to the community. The environmental significance of the seashore is reflected in its designation as a Site of Nature Conservation Interest and the area around Walmer Castle being designated an area

of Undeveloped Coast in the Dover Local Plan. The shoreline in front of Walmer Castle is currently 'dark' and thus of importance for astronomical observation. Much of the seafront also falls within the Lower Walmer Seafront Conservation Area. As detailed in Section 8, Walmer seafront also provides opportunities for a range of leisure pursuits.

WDS 7 : Development in Walmer should respect the SNCI, Undeveloped Coast and Lower Walmer Conservation Area designations along the coastline of the parish. No development or planting should be permitted that would obstruct or restrict the open character of the Walmer seafront and public access to the beach and coastal public footpaths and cycleways. Care should be taken to preserve the current 'dark' shoreline in front of Walmer Castle due to its significance for astronomical observation.

The boundaries of Walmer are clearly defined by the coastline and the railway line to the east and west, while to the north the parish merges into the town of Deal. The southern boundary of the parish marks the transition to open countryside, much of which lies within the North Downs Special Landscape Area (SLA). This rural edge is an important element of the visual character and setting of Walmer and the community therefore supports policy CO3 of the Local Plan in seeking to ensure that priority is given to the conservation and enhancement of the natural beauty of the landscape over other planning considerations in this SLA .

WDS 8 : The layout and design of any development affecting the southern edge of Walmer should demonstrate a suitable, carefully landscaped transition with the adjacent open countryside and the North Downs Special Landscape Area. Development that would have an adverse affect on the rural setting of the parish and the landscape character of the North Downs Special Landscape Area should not be permitted. Development on or adjacent to the southern boundary of Walmer parish must be appropriate in location, and incorporate design and associated features and measures to minimise visual impact.

The densely developed character of much of the parish, with the majority of residential properties dating from periods when off-street parking provision was not required or provided, has given rise to particular problems regarding parking facilities and traffic congestion in certain areas of the town. These include Canada Road, Gladstone Road, North Barrack Road, Walmer Castle Road and Mayers Road. Problems have been exacerbated where planning permission has been granted for mews or backland developments. Parking opportunities have been reduced to allow access into such sites. Inadequate parking facilities in some developments have led to increases in on-street parking and traffic levels.

WDS 9: The provision of adequate parking facilities is an important element of the design and planning of new development. Given the densely developed character of the parish of Walmer all planning applications should demonstrate adequate off-street parking provision. Evidence should be provided to show that the impact of the additional traffic resulting from such new developments on the amenity of surrounding properties and residents has been addressed and minimised.

WDS 10 : In accordance with principle 5.9 of Kent Design (2000) adequate linkages to the existing networks of footpaths and cycleways of the parish (including the planned cycle routes set out in the District Council's Cycling Action Plan) should be an integral part of new developments to encourage the use of non-vehicular forms of transport.

Walmer, in common with many other parishes has seen an increase in street signage and furniture in recent years giving rise to a visual, and physical cluttering of the public realm. By Design (CABE 2000) advises that co-ordinating the design of streetscape avoids clutter and confusion. This includes all elements of the street scene including signage, lighting, railings, litter bins, paving, seating, bus shelters, bollards, kiosks, cycle racks as well as sculpture, bandstands and fountains. Whilst there is no uniform style for elements of the street furniture across the parish of Walmer, it is recommended that attention should be drawn to the context and setting of any proposed new items of street furniture and to opportunities to utilise

and complement existing elements of the street scene. The community is also concerned with the visually polluting effects of increased provision of external lighting and therefore supports policies in the Local Plan and Kent Design to reduce light pollution in new development.

WDS 11 : Where new street furniture is proposed every effort should be made to reduce the cumulative impact of such elements on the street scene through the use of existing fixtures such as signage posts where possible. The provision of new street furniture should respect their proposed setting and context and be of a design and quality commensurate with that setting

WDS 12 : An appropriate level of lighting should be provided in new developments in the parish to enhance safety and security in accordance with the technical appendix to Kent Design whilst having specific regard to minimising the impact of light pollution on the wider landscape. The use of full cut-off lanterns as required by Policy ER6 of the Local Plan is supported.

With increased car ownership, supermarkets and out of town retail centres the commercial element of Walmer has declined. Today only small groups of local shops remain along The Strand, Dover Road and in Upper Walmer. These local shops provide important shopping facilities for local residents, are popular with the parish's many visitors and are considered by the community to be of considerable importance to the character and economic and social well-being of the parish. The valuable service provided by such local shops is recognised in the Dover District Local Plan.

WDS 13 : The social, economic and sustainability benefits to the parish of its local shops should be acknowledged and taken into account when considering planning applications which would result in the change of use and resultant loss of a local shop.

The North Barracks site, formerly occupied by the Royal Marines, is allocated for development in the Dover District Local Plan (Policy AS3). A memorial garden laid out at the southern end marks the site of the IRA bombing in 1989 and is dedicated to the memory of the eleven Royal Marine musicians killed. This garden, extensively refurbished in 2004, is important to the community of Walmer. The requirement to retain public access to the site, required in Policy AS3 (iii) of the Local Plan, is therefore strongly supported by the community.

WDS 14 : Any re-development of the former North Barracks site must retain public access to the memorial garden, as required by Policy AS3 (iii) of the Local Plan. The nature and form of proposed land uses immediately adjacent to the Royal Marines Memorial Garden should reflect the need for an appropriate setting and sense of place for quiet contemplation for visitors.

12 Statement of Community Involvement

After participating in a seminar run by Kent Rural Community Council (KRCC) - now Action with Communities in Rural Kent - in May 2000, Walmer Parish Council set up a sub-committee to explore the possibility of producing a Community Appraisal and/or Design Statement. It was considered essential that volunteers from the community lead this initiative and so contacts were made with local clubs and organisations and two public meetings were held, at which officers from Dover District Council talked about planning, development and the role of conservation areas. From these public meetings and group contacts volunteers were invited to a meeting in April 2001 where a Steering Committee for the Walmer Design Statement Group was set up and appropriate officers were elected.

The Steering Committee, with the assistance of a local field officer from KRCC and financial support from Walmer Parish Council, promoted the concept of a Design Statement and sought financial backing for the process. Promotion involved letters and flyers to organisations in the community, articles in the East Kent Mercury (EKM), a radio interview on Radio Kent Live, flyers distributed with the Walmer Resident's Handbook, posters in local business windows, a display table at the Church Parish Fayre, a newsletter from the Chairman to members and two sponsored talks relating the local history and architecture.

Our treasurer enlisted financial sponsorship from KRCC and the National Lottery 'Awards for All' scheme which was added to the support received from the Parish Council.

By the end of April 2002, four all-day photographic workshops had been conducted to survey the Parish and three sub-groups had been set up to begin writing text describing the Parish and to explore the lay-out of the finished document.

Residents were kept aware of the Design Statement through articles in the EKM and the Resident's Handbook. A competition was held at the Church Parish Fayre

asking residents to identify some of the 1000 photographs taken of the Parish – a surprisingly difficult task. This was a means of keeping the work of the Design Statement Group before the public.

Work on the Design Statement proceeded through a series of drafts during 2002 and in June 2003 the fifth draft of the Design Statement was distributed to representatives of local organisations and groups. A meeting was held on 12 June 2003 to receive comments and suggestions. Prior to the meeting comments were taken by telephone, letters and e-mails. All comments were tabulated, analysed and used to produce Draft 6 which was widely circulated in the community. Draft 6 was displayed at the Church Parish Fayre of 21 June 2003 and, for two weeks, at eight prominent sites in the community. Posters, flyers distributed with the Resident's Handbook and another article in the EKM advertised the public meeting that was held on 30 June to receive further comments from residents. All these comments were considered in the production of Draft 7 which was submitted to Walmer Parish Council in July 2003, considered by the Planning Committee and supported by the full Parish Council in September 2003. They agreed to provide assistance to the Design Statement Group in getting the document accepted by Dover District Council as Supplementary Planning Guidance.

Dover District Council was involved in providing information leading to the establishment of the Design Statement Group and was kept informed of work on the document in Walmer. Staffing constraints prevented full participation during most of the survey and drafting stage, therefore, extended negotiations, the use of a consultant and further consultation with the residents has been necessary to produce the information collected in a format acceptable for adoption as a Supplementary Planning Document to the Dover Local Development Framework. Dover District Council provided financial assistance for this additional work.

This is the first Design Statement produced in Dover District.

This document has been produced with generous support from the following:





*There grew two fellow limes, two rising trees,
Shadowing the lawn, the summer haunt of bees,
Whose stems, engraved with many a russet scar
From the spear-burlings of our mimic war,
Pillar'd the portico to that wide walk,
A mossy terrace of the native chalk
Fashion'd, that led thro' the dark shades around
Straight to the wooden temple on the mound.
There live the memories of my early days,
There still with childish heart my spirit plays;
Yea, terror-stricken by the fiend despair
When she hath fled me, I have found her there;
And there 'tis ever noon, and glad suns bring
Alternate days of summer and of spring,
With childish thought, and childish faces bright,
And all unknown save but the hour's delight.*

A description of his childhood in Walmer by Edwardian Poet Laureate, Robert Bridges: from *The Summer-House on the Mound*