

LEISURE

The old *Crown* inn at Morden was a lovely pub and had a huge fireplace and in the winter would have a huge log fire lit. (Note the old blue police box in the foreground.)

Mavis



Many bands entertained us in the Bandstand in Morden Park, at no cost to us. What a relaxing time for all, just sitting comfortably and listening to a variety of lovely music on a Sunday afternoon. People always dressed for the occasion. My Dad always enjoyed it.

Gladys



MerMor_23_5-6 Morden Park, Morden, USAF Band September 1999 (c) Croydon Times

*Morden Park: USAF Band
12 August 1956 (c) Croydon Times*



Photo Bill Rudd 1970

One thing I looked forward to was the Saturday morning children's film show at the local cinema. How we all enjoyed those Saturday morning films, usually a double bill, firstly Flash Gordon, the heroic spaceman. It always left off at a cliff-hanger situation, which meant having to go the following week to find out what happened. In the interval the organ played for a singsong, the words of which came up on the screen. One song was their own jingle and I've forgotten most of the words, but I remember the bit I was meant to remember, which was 'Every Saturday morning at the O-de-on'.

Ron R

Harold and I used to attend the Wimbledon Welsh Society's dinner and dance, which was held for many years in the function room of the new *Crown* inn, which was built behind the Civic Centre.

Gill



Michael Taylor 2013

The ground and small hut of the Central Ward Residents and Sports Club in Ashridge Way was donated to the local residents in the 1930s by H W Selley, builder of the main estate in Hillcross Avenue and surrounding areas. It was a place to relax and make new friends in the new communities springing up in the suburb of Morden. Over the years it has seen many changes, expanding its buildings and number of members. It provides bars, entertainment and function facilities today, as well as many clubs that can be joined such as Irish and Line Dancing, Football, Darts, Golf and Fishing and it has added the Sports Club to its name. Moving with the times, it has a website too which provides details of forthcoming events and information for residents –

www.central-ward.co.uk

Ron L



Michael Taylor 2011

Morden is fortunate to have so many public open spaces, such as Morden Park (*right*), created as a wealthy merchant's country estate in the late 18th century out of former farmland. Cannon Hill Common (*below*) was also formed from the parkland of a rich man's country estate, and was never common land, but now can be enjoyed by all.

Peter



Peter Hopkins 2011

I have always loved reading, so I was a frequent visitor to the old library at the corner of Bow Lane and Lower Morden Lane. It opened here in 1946, housed in a former WW2 Civil Defence depot. It closed around 2000, and has recently been demolished prior to redevelopment.

Peter



David Roe 2005

Cherry Wood has developed over the centuries, having been abandoned as arable land in the 14th century and gradually reverting to scrubland. Many of the larger oak trees are 200 years old. The wood survived within Merton Park Golf Course, and was given to Merton and Morden District Council by the developers, Messrs W H Selley, in the 1930s as a permanent open space.

Peter

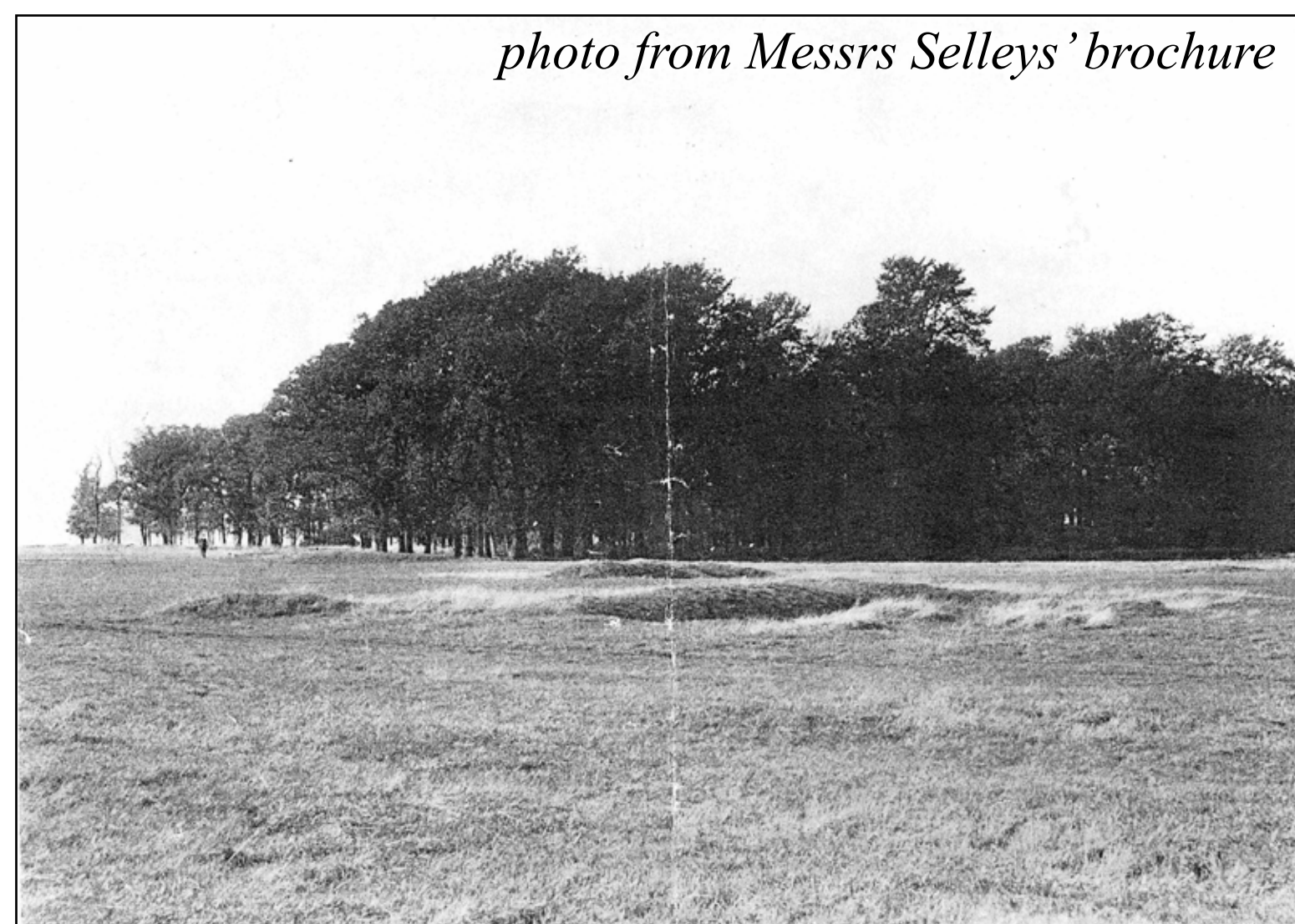


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