Local History

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1897 - Royal Agricultural Society Showground

In 1879 The Royal Agricultral Society chose Willesden as the site of its annual show. A 100 acre site was designated at Kilburn, and on 30th of June the show was opened. Queen Victoria and the Prince of Wales attended to view a working diary, agricultral machinery and a wide range of farm animals.

The show ran for a week, in extremely bad weather. Although it attracted 185000 visitors, it made a loss of £15000. It was decided to set up a permanent venue for the show, and the Society chose a place in Twyford.

A part of the Kilburn site (30 acres) became Queen's Park. Queen's Park is managed by the Corporation of London. Education From: Historical Notes on Westminster Schools... The first Board schools were opened in Queens Park in 1878 and 1881, followed by two more in Amberley Road (1881) and Campbell Street, Maida Vale (1881), and a further two, the Moberley (1884) and Kilburn Lane (1885). Essendine Road opened in 1900, making a total of seven Board schools... Beethoven Street
Queens Park. Opened 1881 as a Board school for boys, girls and infants. (Was in Chelsea division). The London School Board’s first manual training took place here, where the school keeper, a carpenter, taught woodwork to senior boys from 1885. The costs, disallowed by the local government auditor were met by the City Guilds until the education Department modified its code in 1890. In 1903 it had accommodation for 1,173 pupils. Had become a Higher Grade school by 1906. Mixed secondary school; boys only by the time it closed in 1961. The building was used by Paddington Technical College from 1963-1967. The Tube11-02-1915 the Bakerloo line was extended from Kilburn Park to Queen's Park