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Dominic Cole honoured, once again

We are delighted to announce that our President, Dominic Cole OBE, was awarded **The Veitch Memorial Medal** by the Royal Horticultural Society on 22 February 2017.

The Veitch Memorial Medal, instituted in 1870, is awarded to 'individuals of any nationality who have made an outstanding contribution to the advancement of the science and practice of horticulture'. The Medal is part of the RHS People Awards, celebrating individuals who have made outstanding contributions to horticulture and gardening, and very well deserved.

Editorial from **GHS Quarterly Newsletter, May 1972**

'Bits of nature improved by being received into the soul', Samuel Palmer.

On the wall, facing me as I write is a reproduction of a small painting, Samuel Palmer's *In a Shoreham Garden*. By chance it is both the painting which I love above all others, and a springtime garden scene, and, at the same time, a historic garden scene, since it was painted in a real garden over a century ago, in 1828 or 1829. It is a frail painting the reproduction shows a tiny patch, almost in the centre, where the pigment bang in the middle of a cloud of pear tree blossom, has fallen away. When the original, from the V & A, was exhibited at the Arts Council Gallery in 1959, this damaged area excited me quite beyond measure, since somehow it seemed to confirm the accuracy of my modest reproduction. But it is, much more important,

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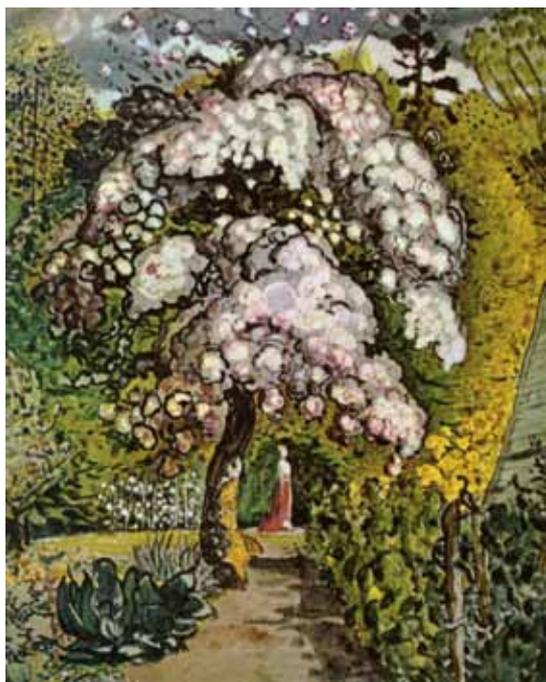
Company number: 03163187
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Membership enquiries and applications to:
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The Gardens Trust gratefully acknowledges
the support of **Alan Baxter**

Our cover shows a detail of the Yipou in Suzhou
See p.24 for more on our October Conference



Victoria & Albert Museum, Wikimedia Commons

In a Shoreham Garden by Samuel Palmer, late 1820s or early 1830s.

a painting with the clotted, total richness; I know no other to equal it, though it is two seasons apart, of Keats' *Ode to Autumn*. In this Shoreham Garden, nature is "sprinkled and showered with a thousand pretty eyes, and buds, and spires, and blossoms gemm'd with dew".

This, triumphantly, is our concern. Unscrupulously I use Palmer's masterpiece as a handle to drag in the gorgeous breadth and depth of our concerns. Goodness knows who has studied that Shoreham garden. To my knowledge, no one. Yet it inspired a supreme creation of English romantic art. Does it exist? Or has it gone? Where was it? What was it like? And who was the woman in crimson, queenly, mysterious, who stands gazing in quiet expectation to one side of the scene? No Queen of Love, no Helen was ever more beautiful than this. And yet she, and her garden, remain unknown.

Were we studying Shakespeare, we'd be down to Shakespeare's laundry-bills; or his hairstyle; or the vexed question of why he never uses a !!! in purple passages. But the glorious field, or prospect, or even parterre, of garden history is wide open, and we are still quite remarkably free to study, question, examine, ponder and enjoy our entire subject, from the history of garden plants to the history of plantations and of those who planted them. What is our subject, but "bits of nature improved"? It is ours, and we are lucky.

Dr Christopher Thacker
then editor, now GT Vice President

Announcing a new Lecture Series for 2017, in Birmingham

Our first West Midlands winter lecture on the restoration of Boughton House, Northamptonshire with garden archaeologist Brian Dix proved to

The 13th Mavis Batey Essay Prize 2017

Our Annual Essay Prize was renamed last year in honour of our former President, the late Mavis Batey. It is a fitting memorial to such an inspirational woman, who did so much to build the discipline of garden history through her various roles in the garden history field.

Our annual competition is intended to encourage vibrant, scholarly writing and new research, especially by those who have not yet had their work published. It is open to any student, worldwide, registered in a *bona-fide* university or institute of higher education, or any student who has graduated from such an institute in the past twelve months.

Submissions must be 5,000 to 6,000 words

and the only restriction on subject matter is that it must be of relevance to garden history. The prize includes an award of £250, free membership of The Gardens Trust for a year and consideration for publication in our peer-reviewed, scholarly journal ***Garden History***.

All previous winners have been accepted for publication, and often the best of the non-winning entries are invited to submit to the journal as well.

Full details on how to enter for the prize are on our website(s), along with the submission form.

Closing date for submissions is Monday 8 May 2017. Any further enquiries can be made to: essayprize@thegardenstrust.org

news

be a great success. The lecture was held on the evening of 8 February at the Birmingham and Midland Institute.

As a result of the overwhelmingly positive feedback we are pleased to announce our plans for a series of further lectures in Birmingham. We aim to hold the next lecture in June followed by a second in September. Lectures will be held once again at The Birmingham and Midland Institute on Margaret Street. The speakers, dates and other details will be on our website in due course or you can contact Advolly Richmond:

lllex@advolly.co.uk for further information.

'Capability' Brown Festival roundup Linden Groves

Well, it's 2017! 'Capability' Brown's 2016 Festival year is finished, and hey did you pull it off in style! Dozens of events and thousands of research words, the County Gardens Trusts really made the celebrations fly, and we cannot thank you enough. The Festival team tell us that the Heritage Lottery Fund are tickled to bits with how the Festival went, especially as it was the first project of its kind that they have funded, so it was something of a learning curve for every one of us, including them. Do also take a look at their article, which is about the fantastic contributions made by volunteers, including a nice mention of CGTs: www.capabilitybrown.org/news/thank-you-our-amazing-volunteers

Time will tell what a difference this year has made to the historic landscapes sector and its place in wider society, but without a doubt, we can all be very proud of our contribution, which has been widely recognised as one of the Festival's great successes.

I am continuing to work on 'Capability' Brown matters for another couple of months to make sure that we really nail its legacy, and as you will see below, there are still a few things to report.

The Research legacy

Many CGTs have been contacted over recent months by Susannah Charlton, who has been tasked with managing the research legacy of the Festival. We are tremendously grateful that almost all of you have now collaborated with Susannah to allow her to use your leaflets, books, web pages and other publications in order that she can produce web pages for up to 100 Brown sites, and

downloadable leaflets for the 36 key Festival sites.

As you will know, Susannah has been able to pay CGTs £50 for each site on whom they have research, and I know that for many of the CGTs this has added up to a useful sum even if it is only a token compared to the sheer quantity of hours it has taken to accumulate that work.

Susannah is still in full flow pulling this work together, but it is beginning to be published on the CBF website so do take a look at the interactive map at www.capabilitybrown.org/map where you can click on sites to see the full entry. I believe that Susannah has managed to complete Norfolk and Kent already, so do hover over those counties, or for an example of the finished web page, try www.capabilitybrown.org/garden/chilham-castle

To contact Susannah directly:
susannah.charlton@capabilitybrown.org

Enriching the List

We all know that an extraordinary amount of information on Brown has been gathered by CGTs this year. Much of this has been published in a plethora of CGT books, and lodged on www.parksandgardens.org. We also have an opportunity to add details to the Heritage List entries for those sites on the Register of Parks and Gardens, thanks to Historic England's **Enriching the List** project, in which members of the public or, indeed specialist groups, are able to add additional comments to the Heritage List entries (and a plug for themselves!). You can see an example of Buckinghamshire Gardens Trust Enriching the List at: historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1001290

Brown in 2017!

Don't be fooled into thinking that it's all over for Brown, now that we are into 2017! For example, there is ongoing interest on Brown in Berkshire, where the Berkshire Records Office and Berkshire Gardens Trust are planning to mount the exhibition, '**Brown in Berkshire**', at the Records Office in Reading in the spring. This exhibition has been seen at several locations in Berkshire but on this occasion original maps referenced in the exhibition will also be on display.

Berkshire has also produced a booklet on Brown's work at Caversham Park.





PANSHANGER from COLLEGREEN, HERTS. — Seat of Earl Gower.

Nigel Temple collection, GT

Pain at Panshanger

Most of us have picked up that Kate Harwood has had her plate full recently trying to liaise with Tarmac over their use of Panshanger Park, Hertfordshire (see [GT news 2](#) p11).

Kate writes now with a (relatively) positive update: "Panshanger Park, a Grade II* Repton and Brown landscape, has suffered over the years from gravel extraction and neglect. Last year's proposal to excavate the banks of Repton's Broadwater and thus completely destroy his key feature was met with a storm of protest, both locally, including an on-line petition and nationally via the Gardens Trust. This resulted in a heritage meeting of Historic England, the Gardens Trust and Hertfordshire Gardens Trust with Tarmac, where not only was the decision rescinded but it was announced that the gravel pit next to it was to be filled in and the landscape restored.

"A key element in this was the discovery in the local archives of a record of Repton being on site and overseeing the construction of the Broadwater. The Brown landscape is currently a giant hole following gravel extraction but the planning conditions for permission to import inert materials to fill it include money for restoration and a heritage committee to oversee this. Herts Gardens Trust has been in discussion with Tarmac and the planning authority on all these issues and will be represented on the heritage committee."

Record of time spent

We all worked our socks off through 2016 and the Heritage Lottery Fund is apparently extremely impressed by the contribution made by CGTs. As ever though, there is a need for hard data to reinforce the extent of our contribution.

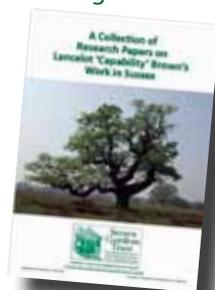
The Festival Administrator, Catherine Hempenstall, has told me that she more than understands that CGT volunteers do not have the time or willingness to fill in timesheets, but would be

tremendously grateful for a quick email with a rough estimate of the number of volunteer hours you or your team have spent on marking 'Capability' Brown's Festival Year, which she will then put into the correct formats and records. It would be useful for us too to be able to show the HLF just how sizeable our free labour has been, so do please drop Catherine a line at:

Catherine.Hempenstall@capabilitybrown.org

'Capability' Brown in Sussex

So many CGTs have produced books on Brown in their counties this year, between them giving a brilliant suite of detailed views. Most recently, Sussex have published 'Capability' Brown in Sussex, a collection of research papers. This is available for £7.50, with details at: www.sussexgardenstrust.org.uk/capability-brown-1716-2016



Brown and Biodiversity webinar

The Festival year has produced some brilliant events and 'upskilling' opportunities, but there never seems to be enough time to get round to them all! The Festival website now includes several webinars of interest, whereby you can watch a powerpoint presentation with narration from the convenience of your own desk. We particularly recommend this Natural England webinar, originally given on 10 November, in which Senior Heritage Adviser Leslie Pearman briefs users on biodiversity in Brown landscapes. (As well as enjoying it for yourself, do consider linking to it from your own website, to demonstrate to the wider world how Brown is about more than pretty views!):

www.capabilitybrown.org/news/going-wild-biodiversity-brownian-landscapes-0

Humphry Repton

Finally, I hardly dare mention it, but there is also the big Humphry Repton bi-centenary coming up in 2018, and I know that some of you are already busy working on exciting plans for it. My work supporting the 'Capability' Brown Festival comes to an end in March, but it would nevertheless be useful to have an idea of what, if anything, you're planning for Repton, and whether you'd find it useful to have some kind of central coordination. Keep in touch:

lindengroves@thegardenstrust.org

Humphry Repton 1752–1818: a proposal

Johnny Phibbs



Tradecard of Humphry Repton, Landscape Gardener, c.1788/9. Though detached, the same plate was used on the inside cover of most Red Books. Engraving by Thomas Medland, after Humphry Repton.

2016 has been and gone, but in 2018 we shall commemorate the 200 years that have passed since the death of Humphry Repton (21 April 1752 to 24 March 1818). I would like to help build on the platform that we established in 2016 for the tercentenary of ‘Capability’ Brown’s birth.

Repton is a very different kettle of fish from Brown. He had his own style and his own agenda and he lived in very different times yet he was a worthy successor; if Brown was the father of the English landscape, we might call Repton the father of its complement, the English garden.

His red books, however, his voluminous publications and manuscripts, have always stood in the way of a true appreciation of his ability as a landscape gardener. If we are to understand Repton we have to collect together and collate this material in order to be able to look beyond it, to what actually happened on the ground. This makes the business of presenting his work to the

public in 2018 a very different task from Brown in 2016, and it is here that I have a contribution to make which may be of interest to researchers on particular sites and to county gardens trusts.

My practice, **Debois**, has written reports and management plans for around 40 Repton sites, but in addition to that I have a collection of more or less all of his 130 or so surviving Red Books and reports, and I have transcriptions of about 70 of these. In addition to that I have bibliographies for all the Repton sites (more or less all of them additional to the references in Ray Desmond’s *Bibliography of British Gardens*). My aim, when there is so much to be done on Repton, and such a short run in time to 2018 is to prevent any needless duplication of this effort.

I therefore propose to distribute my material *gratis* to any county gardens trust or researcher that has an interest in a particular site, all I ask is that they reciprocate by letting me have copies of

such transcriptions as they may make of the Red Books and source material. This means that while each county will quickly build up its own store of information, it will also be collected centrally. I shall be working closely with **Parks and Gardens UK** on this. They are the natural leaders for the project, and the natural eventual repository for the resource that we shall create. I assume that the benefits of this arrangement will be obvious.

Others might like to collaborate: Repton is peculiarly attractive because so many documents survive, and indeed a great deal has already been done at many sites.

One thing we learnt from **CB300** was that individuals working independently could be brilliantly effective when working to a common goal. I know that the Gardens Trust is putting together plans to pull together County Gardens Trusts' Repton initiatives into a unified celebration, and look forward to helping develop these together.

We also learnt that while it is important to break the UK up into areas for research purposes, it is also important to have a national reach. It would not have been easy to advise on the pleasure grounds of 'Capability' Brown's late masterpiece at Berrington, Herefordshire, without a familiarity with his contemporary plan for the pleasure ground at Heveningham in Suffolk. Just so with Repton, his Red Books cross-refer and are strikingly interrelated. Some important ones, such as Wyddial, Hertfordshire, only survive as fragments quoted in other Red Books. Thus all will benefit from allying county-based research with a national over-view. Hertfordshire and Yorkshire are amongst the counties that have already kicked off their programmes.

I will be writing a book in the same vein as those I have written on Brown in which I shall make the case for Repton as a great practical landscape designer much of whose advice was taken and survives in good condition all over the country. I shall also write a blog akin to <http://thebrownadvisor.com/> with, one hopes, 200 FAQs about Repton (it's a bi-centenary, not a ter-centenary), and, again as I did for Brown, I hope to put out an up-to-date and constantly revised list of his landscapes; the most recent published version is in Stephen Daniels' book.

I expect that 2018 will also include the round of excellent visits, lectures, and conferences besides TV radio and media coverage that made such an

impact in 2016. There will also be huge potential for exhibitions, given the quality of his Red Books. Nowadays, as André Rogger has argued, they are regarded as works of art in their own right.

Perhaps the greatest success of the CB300 Festival lay not in any new understanding of Brown's work but in the tremendous publicity that it generated. This gave all the volunteers who helped a sense that they were involved in a valuable project. We can consolidate the achievement of CB300 by controlling the programme of activities so as to ensure that these are spread throughout the country and throughout the year, and that they build from one to the other. In 2016 there was a tendency for everything to go off with a bang in June with the results that some events were not so well attended as they might have been and that by August we were hearing that people were 'browned-off with Brown'. There was no sense of building up to a climax such as the ICOMOS Conference in September, or Brown's wedding day in November, might have been.



Charles Boot

GT members and friends of Brown strew the path to Stowe church in celebration of Launcelot [sic] and Bridget's 22 November 1743 wedding

I would like to think that funders such as the HLF would be pleased to consolidate the successes of Brown in 2016 with Repton in 2018.

By celebrating his work:

- We can show that landscape is not a one-man show and endow Humphry Repton with the status of national treasure, as we did so successfully with 'Capability' Brown.
- We can build on the appetite for landscape that CB300 has generated and on the enthusiasm of volunteers whether in the Gardens Trusts and NADFAS or amongst the general public.

news

- We can support and encourage the publication of more of his Red Books and of guides to his surviving landscapes.
- We can encourage the media to take a further interest in the great world of landscape design. Perhaps we could adapt and continue with the web-site that was created for Brown.

The AGM of the Gardens Trust this year (2017) is to take place at Plymouth, it is the perfect venue to launch the Repton year, with a host of superb Reptons within reach: Anthony, Endsleigh, Pentillie, Port Elliott, etc., and some putative ones such as Saltram and Mount Edgcumbe. Plymouth was a boom town during the Napoleonic wars and it is hardly surprising that Repton did so much work there.'

Bibliographical resources

A final tip: the three books on Repton that I have found most helpful are:

George Carter, Patrick Goode & Kedrun Laurie

Humphry Repton, Landscape Gardener 1752–1818 Sainsbury Centre for Visual Arts, 1982.

Stephen Daniels *Humphry Repton Landscape Gardening and the Geography of Georgian England* Yale University Press, 1999.

André Rogger *Landscapes of Taste, The Art of Humphry Repton's Red Books* Routledge, 2007.

I discussed the first of these with Dorothy Stroud and she felt that the Sainsbury's exhibition catalogue surpassed her own work on Repton. It sets a standard against which all subsequent interpretations of Repton's work should be judged. All three books do however focus more or less exclusively on his Red Books and other published works.

See p.17 for our first Humphry Repton event.

As part of this collaboration Charles Boot of the GT will be bringing the complete Peacock's *Polite Repository* illustrations by Humphry Repton, as collected by the late Nigel Temple, back into print.

The Gilly Drummond Volunteer of the Year Award 2017

Our annual Volunteer of the Year Award celebrates the efforts of people who have contributed to the work of the Gardens Trust, their County or Country Gardens Trust, and thereby greatly adding to the enjoyment, learning and conservation of designed gardens, parks and landscapes.

If there is an individual or group that you or your CGT committee would like to nominate, please complete the nomination form, obtainable from Teresa, our CGT co-ordinator: teresaforey@thegardenstrust.org

Please provide as much information as you feel necessary in order to demonstrate your support of this nomination. **Nominations to be received by 25 July 2017.** Please note that Directors of the Gardens Trust are not eligible for nomination.

Areas of voluntary contributions that qualify for consideration include:

- **Administration:** developing membership, secretarial assistance, financial assistance, meetings and minutes, circulation of the GT and CGT information to members, involving volunteers, working with related organisations in a county or country (Wales)

- **Communications:** newsletters, magazines/journals, books, website, photography, disseminating information, exhibitions, social media
- **Conservation:** site visits, planning, reports, public enquiries, practical conservation projects
- **Education/Schools:** contacts with schools and developing practical projects with them, bursaries, awards, innovation in school projects, learning skills and good practice, long term nurturing of committed schools, conferences
- **Events:** visits, tours, talks, lectures, conferences, national and CGT celebrations
- **Projects:** new contemporary garden projects, restoration projects, community garden projects, public park projects
- **Research:** archives, field surveys, documentation, administration of site visits, training and courses, entering/checking data

The enclosed form should be returned to Teresa, Gardens Trust Finance Officer and CGT Co-ordinator: teresaforey@thegardenstrust.org by 25 July 2017. If you have any queries please use the above email or phone 020 7251 2610.

New Research Symposium at Robinson College, Cambridge

Reports compiled by Phil Christie at our 2016 event

From the Chair of the Symposium

Dr Patrick Eyres

The Gardens Trust's New Research Symposium, replacing the former GHS Graduate Symposium, was held in the comfortable Umney Theatre at Robinson College, Cambridge, on the occasion of the combined Brown Tercentenary Conference and the second Annual General Meeting of the Gardens Trust, following the merger of The Garden History Society and the Association of Gardens Trusts, and hosted by Cambridgeshire Gardens Trust.

As well as providing an extra stimulating dimension to the Conference, the Symposium

aims to provide a professional forum for the presentation of new research in the field of Garden History; to encourage researchers whose subject is as yet unpublished, and to provide an opportunity for researchers to hone their presentation skills in front of a safe but knowledgeable audience. A packed theatre of over 100 attendees from all over the country assembled to hear the speakers introduced by Dr Patrick Eyres, author, garden historian, editor of the *New Arcadian Journal* and both Convenor and Chair of the New Research Symposium.

Details of how to apply to appear at our New Research Symposium 2017 are on p.16.

Richard Richardson and his botanical exchanges in the early-18th century

Victoria Pickering

Victoria Pickering has an MSc in the History of Science, Medicine and Technology (University of Oxford), BA (Hons) in Economic and Social History with an Intercalated Year in Computer Science (University of Birmingham) and has recently finished her PhD in the School of Geography at Queen Mary University of London, and the Centre for Arts and Humanities Research at the Natural History Museum, London (NHM). She is now a post-doctoral research assistant at the British Museum (BM).

Victoria's PhD research forms part of a wider collaborative project called **Reconnecting Sloane: Texts, Images, Objects**, which aims to understand Sir Hans Sloane's (1660–1753) collecting practices within the Enlightenment. Sloane was a physician, naturalist and collector, as well as a former president of the Royal Society and Royal College of Physicians. He provided part of the British Museum's founding collection and yet has received relatively little scholarly attention. Victoria's project investigates part of Sloane's botanical collection called the 'Vegetable Substances', which items are largely contained within individually labelled boxes at the NHM and housed alongside 300 volumes of dry pressed plants (the Sloane Herbarium), in order to study the production and exchange of natural knowledge during the early modern period. Knowledge appears to have been created and disseminated through networks of correspondents and Victoria's project uses



The Historical Collections Room in the NHM, London

the collection material, over 12,000 samples of 'Vegetable Substances' comprising seeds, leaves, barks, gums and fruit stones, as a case study to understand how it was put together, where different items came from, and by whom and why particular objects were collected.

Sloane collected collectors and interacted with people all over the world including the Americas and the East Indies where his connections were influenced by networks of the established trading companies. He corresponded with ships' captains, merchants, Fellows of the Royal Society and (even) women. Mary Somerset, née Capel, Duchess of Beaufort (1630–1714) had a London house near to Sloane's, and contributed over 380 samples to his 'Vegetable Substances', bequeathing her twelve-volume herbarium to him when she died.

New Research Symposium 2016 reports

One of Sloane's correspondents was the physician and naturalist Richard Richardson (1663–1741), who lived in North Bierley, Yorkshire between the late-17th and early-18th centuries. Richardson was educated at Bradford school and matriculated at both University College Oxford (1681) and Leyden (1687) where he lived in the house of Paul Hermann, professor of botany. After taking a doctor's degree from Leyden in 1690, he returned to England where he practised as a physician but travelled extensively in England, Wales and Scotland to collect specimens.

Richardson and Sloane exchanged personal, professional, and botanical news as well as books and natural history specimens. Richardson's letters paint an interesting picture not only of his love for his garden at Bierley Hall and of natural history, but also the relationships between many of the prominent botanists of this period including Robert Uvedale, James Petiver, Adam Buddle, Philip Miller, Ralph Thoresby, William Vernon, Robert Wood and the Sherard brothers, William and James, as well as Sloane.

Richardson contributed natural material to Sloane's collection, which the latter documented and described. Sloane sent to him a seedling cedar of Lebanon, which Richardson planted at Bierley Hall. The tree became conspicuous in engravings of the hall, where Richardson had constructed only the second hothouse that was made in England. Over several decades, Richardson was part of a network of scientific interchange and there were mutual exchanges between Sloane and Richardson for almost 40 years. Richardson's surviving correspondence, held at the Bodleian Library in Oxford, comprises twelve volumes of letters organised chronologically that document exchanges of botanical samples around the world with much discussion about gardening practices and technologies, and problems of growing plants. Victoria treated us to a number of snippets from letters sent to Richardson by his various correspondents:

- Sloane, 4 May 1703, acknowledging a fee sent for 'a small matter' and anticipating the 'naturall things you have sent me';
- Uvedale, 29 May 1701, sending a box of cuttings from four sorts of Aloes with advice on how to propagate them;
- Uvedale, 26 June 1703, complaining about the



Sloane's 'Vegetable Substances' collection, NHM

- weather and advising on protecting spring flowers from heavy showers;
 - James Sherard, 19 March 1722, offering to replace plants lost by Richardson over the winter;
 - William Sherard, 10 May 1720, offering his brother's help, who was busy 'in building his Greenhouse & two stoves, one at each end, & had laid out another, according to Dr Boerhaaves design';
 - Wood, 6 April 1724, complaining about neglectful 'Newcastle and Berwick Carriers' who had lost a box of seeds sent by Richardson;
 - William Sherard, 25 March 1703, advising collection from Calais of 'dryd plants & a pacquet of seeds' on a vessel exchanging prisoners of war between France and England during the War of Spanish Succession;
 - Thoresby, 10 April 1712, citing receipt of 'Indian curiositys from Ireland', illustrating the global exchange of plant material at the time;
 - Sutherland, 4 January 1701, requesting East India seeds from Richardson which he plans to raise in a heated greenhouse;
 - Wood, 6 April 1724, expressing satisfaction that 'many rare exotick seeds... from the East and West Indies... are rising extremely well in my hot beds';
 - Uvedale, date unknown, expressing concern at the interruption in shipments due to the war (presumably that of the Spanish Succession);
 - William Sherard, 12 November 1720, an invoice for books supplied with the comment, 'I'me sorry some of them are so dear, but natural history of all sorts is much in demand.'
- As the collection of Richardson's letters clearly illustrate, this period saw a huge growth in

correspondence as well as an exchange of samples within a global network, which was based on both professional and personal relationships. Many contributors were members of the Royal Society, as well as various botanical

clubs, and Victoria ended her fascinating talk by musing on how the growth and extent of this network depended upon Richardson, Sloane and the Royal Society, which opened up a lively question and answer session.

The Reverend Thomas Birch Freeman, Victorian Botanist and Plantsman

Advolly Richmond

Advolly Richmond is an independent researcher looking at gardens, landscapes and social history. She is also a trustee of the Welsh Historic Gardens Trust and a member of The Shropshire Parks and Gardens Trust. Advolly's research interests include 18th and 19th century social archery, Lancelot Brown's landscapes in Shropshire and North Wales, Harare Botanical Gardens, 19th century African Botanical Stations, and the Revd Thomas Birch Freeman. The latter was the subject Advolly had chosen for her talk, in the hope of affording Birch Freeman some recognition for his botanical work in West Africa.

Thomas Birch Freeman (1809–1890) was born in Twyford, Hampshire of an African father, Thomas Freeman, and an English mother, Amy Birch. His grandfather and possibly his father were slaves, perhaps on St Vincent, and his mother was a housekeeper. It has been suggested that he might have been trained at Kew but pre-1841 records have not survived and so we cannot be sure. By all accounts, he was a handsome man, nearly 6ft tall with a cultured bearing. In 1834, at the age of 24, Birch Freeman was employed as a botanist by Sir Robert Harland at his Orwell Park estate near Ipswich in Suffolk [right].

Sir Robert evidently took an interest in Birch Freeman's education and might have been his benefactor at Kew but Birch Freeman was obliged to resign from his position for changing his religious allegiance from Anglicanism to Wesleyan Methodism. In 1837, Birch Freeman offered his services to the Wesleyan Missionary Society, who quickly appointed him to the newly-formed mission to the Gold Coast but advised him that he should find a wife. This he duly did, marrying



Elizabeth Boote, the lady housekeeper from Orwell Park, and both sailed to the Gold Coast, landing on 3 January 1838. Sadly, both caught malaria but while Thomas recovered, Elizabeth did not, and she died on 20 February 1838.

After recovering his health Birch Freeman set about completing the Wesleyan church at Cape Coast and became fully engaged in missionary work, building schools and churches, but while he was devoted to his religion he was also passionate about plants, believing that plant studies were good for the health. In the Gold Coast, he encountered and described many plant specimens including *Synsepalum dulcificum*, commonly known as miracle fruit or miracle berry on account of its ability to make the taste buds perceive sour foods as sweet. The plant was widely used in West Africa but unknown to European botanists until about 1725.

by kind permission of Paul Ellingworth



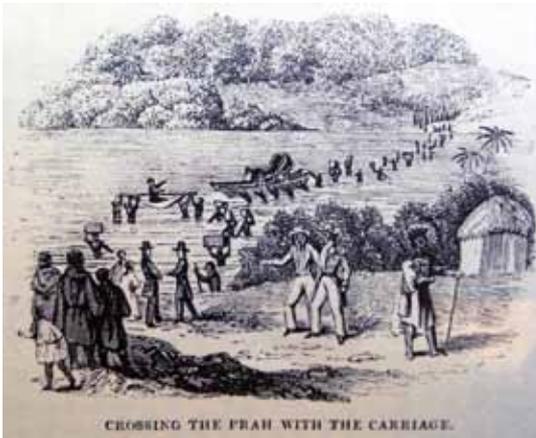
British Library

Birch Freeman's ability to organise and motivate people quickly gave his missionary activities significant impact on the Gold Coast and he

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developed an ambition to bring Christianity to the Ashanti people in the interior of the country, who practised fetishism and human sacrifice. Armed with a letter of recommendation from Governor George Maclean, the Scottish-born chief administrator of the Cape Coast settlement who also wished to develop friendly relations with the Ashanti, Birch Freeman became the first Christian to be admitted to the interior of the Ashanti kingdom in April 1839. Kept waiting for a long time before being granted an audience at Kumasi with the Ashanti King Kwaku Doah (1797–1867), Birch Freeman had time to observe and to record what he saw around him. It was a successful encounter, resulting in invitations to return and, eventually, permission for Birch Freeman to establish a mission station in Kumasi.

Birch Freeman visited England in 1840 to raise funds and was entertained by the Harlands at Orwell Park, where 'Lady Harland had a house constructed for the care and culture of some valuable tropical plants which their former gardener and brought as a present' Birch Freeman again married and returned to the Gold Coast in the same year only to lose his second wife from illness shortly after arrival, along with other missionary companions. Nonetheless, he continued on, returning to Kumasi in November 1841 with a selection of presents from each manufacturing region in the UK including a special delivery: Advolly showed a wonderful image of a phaeton, a gift from Queen Victoria and the Wesleyan Methodist Society to King Kwaku Doah, being carried into the interior [below].



Birch Freeman established the Ashanti mission and founded many other churches and schools in

Gold Coast, Nigeria and Dahomey but eventually resigned from the Methodist Mission in 1856 for over-spending his budget, although without any suggestion of impropriety. He then accepted from Governor Sir Benjamin Pine the post of administrative and civil commandant of the Accra district. In 1860 he built a house where he established a 14 acre model farm called Beulah Gardens near the banks of the river, and moved there with his third wife. Here he cultivated fruits and vegetables, and collected rare orchids from the forests.

In 1864 Richard Francis Burton (1821–1890) visited Birch Freeman at Beulah gardens in Accra, reporting that Birch Freeman had created an agricultural paradise planted with cassava, maize, plantains, cabbages, peppers, sugarcane, grapes, and a whole array of other crops. Birch Freeman's plantation showed what an able and energetic man could achieve and he experimented with agricultural improvements albeit, perhaps, with mixed success.

For many years, Birch Freeman corresponded with Kew to whom he sent plant specimens and provided useful information. Advolly cited



Liberian coffee tree next to *Coffea arabica* shrub with *Hemileia vastatrix*. From *Liberian Coffee in Ceylon* G. A. Crüwell, 1878

an example relating to the near monoculture in coffee from the Arabica shrub that had been established over many years in Ceylon. When the coffee crop in Ceylon catastrophically fell victim to a fungal infection by *Hemileia vastatrix* in 1869, Birch Freeman suggested the introduction of the larger Liberian coffee species, sending 400 seeds of the varietal to Kew where they were intensively tested for their ability to resist the coffee infection and then sent on to Ceylon. This action may have had a beneficial effect in arresting the fungal infection but the Ceylon coffee plantations were decimated and many owners moved to growing tea instead. Nonetheless, his work proved to be a turning point in the production of coffee in many parts of the British Empire.

Doneraile Park, Co. Cork: a provincial park of exceptional pedigree

Michael J. O'Sullivan

After taking BSc (Cork) and MSc (Aberdeen) degrees in aspects of earth sciences, Michael O'Sullivan took further degrees and qualifications from University College Cork in Environmental Engineering, Law and Environmental Law. Michael is an environmental planning consultant and a lecturer in environmental impact assessment and his chosen topic was his research into the gardens at Doneraile Park, County Cork.

The gardens at Doneraile Park, Co. Cork, Ireland are a unique inheritance in the 21st century. Dating from the early 17th century, a number of fashionable and quality interventions were made over a period of c.400 years. The St Leger (Viscounts Doneraile), Boyle (Earls of Cork and Earls of Orrery) and O'Brien (Earls of Inchiquin) families all had close association with Doneraile Park.

Sir William St Leger was appointed Lord President of Munster in 1627. In 1630 he acquired lands at Doneraile and set up his presidential court here; hence the proper title of Doneraile Court applies to the demesne lands at Doneraile to this day. Some 13 generations of St Legers resided at Doneraile Court between 1630 and 1969 [right]. Eleven of the thirteen generations to reside here were entitled Viscounts Doneraile. The 1st Viscount, Arthur St Leger, was elevated to the peerage in 1703. There were four viscounts of the first creation and seven viscounts of the second creation. The title is now in abeyance and since 1969 the property has been in the hands of the Irish State. A public park, running to c.400 acres,

In 1873 Birch Freeman rejoined the Methodist Mission, and supported the work in the southern Gold Coast where he eventually died in Accra in 1890. In discussion, Advolly noted that history has tended to focus on his energetic and largely successful missionary work rather than his botany but in the latter he had also been something of an innovator. She hopes that a study of archives in Accra as well as this country may enable a greater understanding of Birch Freeman's life and times. Advolly is in touch with the Public Records Office in Accra where the Birch Freeman's family papers are held. She will be visiting Ghana in May 2017 in order to further her research into to perhaps one of West Africa's greatest missionary-botanists.

now occupies the residual core of the original demesne. The garden assemblage presented today is notable by virtue of its scale, quality and preservation. It is perhaps unique as a peripheral representation of historical English and European garden styles translated to Ireland.

Sir William St Leger (1586–1642) constructed a manor house (Doneraile Castle) adjacent to a 13th century Anglo-Norman tower house at Doneraile Park in the early 1630s. The castle was located on the north bank of the River Awbeg, a tributary of the Munster River Blackwater, overlooking the bridge point on the river. Examination of early 18th-century plans and extant topographical features reveals a set of open earthen terraces extending eastwards from the castle parallel to the river on its north bank. The terraces



St Leger family in Doneraile Gardens, late C19th

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descended by grass banks to river level. A wide pathway is identified aligned on the castle, running eastward along the uppermost terrace. Cross paths interrupt the principal axis at regular intervals. Uninterrupted and open views were to be had of the river from these terraces.

The conceit for such a garden, in a wild and uncultured colony, may be surmised from its presidential nature and the need to impress. St Leger and John Tradescant the Elder were simultaneous acolytes of the 1st Duke of Buckingham in the 1620s. Consequently, a courtly taste in garden making would not be unusual or out of place for the Lord President of Munster. The eager 1st Earl of Cork, a mainstay and close confidante St Leger's Irish circle, had also experimented with the construction of rudimentary terraces at his residences in Youghal, Co. Cork and Lismore, Co. Waterford, some years earlier. His daughter, Countess of Barrymore, was godmother to St Leger's first grandson (born in 1637). The Countess laid out similar, though more extensive, terraces at Castlelyons, some 30 miles downstream on the River Blackwater, at the same time in the 1630s.

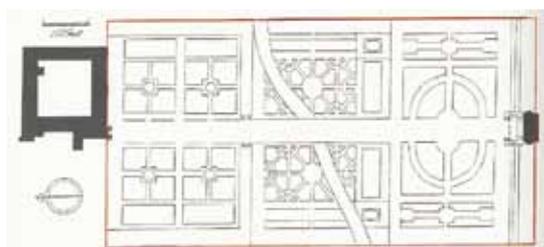
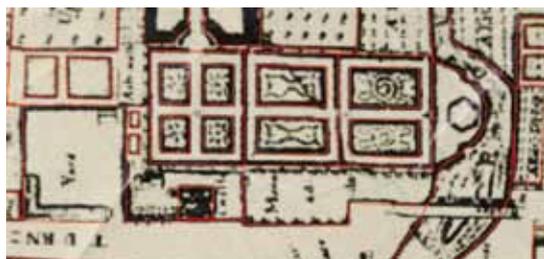
Doneraile Castle was sacked during the confederate wars of the 1640s and rebuilt by the president's son, John St Leger, in the 1650s. It is possible that the garden terraces were planted over with fir groves, oak woods and orchards during the interregnum following the style of Samuel Hartlib. Hartlib was a member of Lady Ranelagh's circle who, in turn, was daughter of the 1st Earl of Cork.

Roger Boyle, son of the 1st Earl of Cork, was elevated to Earl of Orrery and appointed new Lord President of Munster by Charles II in 1660. Boyle established a new presidential court and gardens at Charleville, some 10 miles to the north of Doneraile.

The Restoration period marked the development of an expansive formal walled garden at Doneraile Castle. This was orientated perpendicular to the river adjacent to the castle and overlying, in part, the 1630 suite of terraces.

This largely extant and fine rectangular space, c. six acres in area, was enclosed by a limestone rubble wall, 8ft high, 0.6 miles long and faced internally with red brick. The space is orientated as a tripartite division of equi-sized terraces, about one acre each, with regimented, regular, square and rectangular expanses of box or yew planted plats. An additional space abuts the river in a

bastion-like terrace where the walls extend into an excavated and broadened river. The bastion terrace was accessible from the river by way of arches in the boundary wall. The entire is laid out with military precision, best observed when a topographical plan is overlaid with close tolerance upon the early 18th-century estate plan.



Comparative views of the gardens (phase 2) at Doneraile Castle, 1660s [above], and at Wilton, 1630s [below], shown at same scale

The occasion of this construction may well have been a major family celebration, the coming together of St Leger, Boyle (Earl of Orrery) and O'Brien (Earl of Inchiquin) families in a marriage during 1667. In style the layout most closely resembles the 17th-century disposition at Wilton, albeit smaller in scale. The 1st Earl of Cork was on intimate terms with the 4th Earl of Pembroke, Lord Chamberlain of the day, and used his 'artificer', Isaac de Coeur, to assist with the reorganisation of his property at Stalbridge in Dorset in the 1630s. The 1st Earl of Orrery (son to the 1st Earl of Cork), most likely the constructor of this Restoration garden at Doneraile, was familiar with Wilton and Stalbridge in this period. He regularly visited his brother, Robert Boyle (the noted chemist), who lived at Stalbridge in the years 1645 to 1655.

Doneraile Castle was sacked again during the Williamite Wars in the 1690s. This led to the abandonment of the castle and the construction of Doneraile Court on a rise to the south of the River Awbeg. This is the focal point of the demesne as we know it today.



Interpretation of the 18th century features of the demesne at Doneraile Castle

The demesne was expansively enclosed in the early part of the 18th century. Some 7 miles of limestone rubble demesne wall, over 8ft high, enclosed c.400 acres of parkland. Limestone rubble-walled ha-has, up to 6ft high and 750 yards in length, were set out as a piece with the house to protect newly developed pleasure grounds and wilderness. Fish ponds to the east of the court were formalised perpendicular to these ha-has, into a sheet of water 500 yards in length. The River Awbeg was expanded, diverted, and channelised on a substantial scale, while principal vistas north and east were laid out from the house. In the doing of this, part of the village was demolished, a fish-pond lane diverted, and formal gardens adjacent to the court removed. A lime-tree walk was established between the house and the fish ponds, formal rubble and snecked limestone-arched bridges crossed the river to connect the north and south parks, and a substantial number of trees planted on the periphery and along the river banks.

Family genealogy and cartographic records suggest the 2nd Viscount (of the first creation) as the instigator of this demesne expansion, assisted

most likely by his brother, the future 4th Viscount. The 4th Viscount, through marriage, was closely related to the 1st Earl of Shannon (Henry Boyle) and the 3rd Earl of Burlington (Richard Boyle).

The 1st Earl of Shannon had William Kent advise on landscape proposals at his house at Castlemartyr, also in Co. Cork, some 40 miles to the south of Doneraile, in 1727. Kent was a noted admirer of *The Faerie Queene*, penned by Edmund Spenser while living at Kilcolman Castle, Doneraile, in the late 16th century. Kilcolman Castle and its lands formed part of the St Leger estate at Doneraile. Kent was most likely given a copy of *The Faerie Queene* by the 3rd Earl of Burlington, a kinsman of Edmund Spenser. Kent often stated his interest in gardening was sparked by Spenser, and he used scenes from Spenser at Richmond and Stowe. Kent's illustrations of *The Faerie Queene* were posthumously published in a 1751 edition of the epic poem. The manipulation of waters at Chiswick, Castlemartyr and Doneraile, at or about this time, display many parallels of feature. It is probable that Kent visited Doneraile (c. 40 miles from Castlemartyr) in 1727.

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The prospect of a visit from the newly crowned King George IV sparked another phase of demesne development and consolidation in the early part of the 19th century. Captain John Hayes St Leger (1756–1800) was a close friend and ally of the Prince of Wales in his younger days. So much so that the prince had Gainsborough paint similar portraits of himself and Captain St Leger for each to own a painting of the other. The 3rd Viscount of the second creation, being the scion of the household and anticipating a much heralded visit to Ireland, set about the construction of a new triumphal arched entrance and gate lodge to the avenue, a new front porch and kitchen to the court, a conservatory, new park gateways and entrances, and the development of coronation gardens enclosed by expansive limestone rubble and brick walls, up to 15ft in height covering 12 acres to the south of the house. The 3rd Viscount was a noted horticulturalist and wished to make an impression but, in the event, George IV did not visit Doneraile on his 18-day tour of Ireland in August 1821.

Mid-century, his daughter, Lady Mary Doneraile, 4th Viscountess (second creation) became a noted horticulturalist in her own right. Over a period of 20 years (1850s to 1870s) she entered into correspondence with Sir William Hooker and his son Joseph Hooker, successive directors

of Kew Gardens, London. The 1858 edition of Curtis's *Botanical Magazine* was dedicated to her. Her father, George Lenox Conyngham, chief clerk at the Foreign Office, facilitated her horticultural interest with the acquisition of rare plants and seeds of non-native species from disparate parts of the British empire. In one correspondence to William Hooker she notes that a 'miniature Kew' has been planted at Doneraile. Mid to late 19th-century commentators (e.g. Smith, Young) all applaud the intention and style of the 4th Viscount.

The late 19th century and early 20th century saw the flower gardens active as a reasonably large supplier of fruit, flowers and vegetables to the Dublin, and sometimes British, markets. The death of Lady Castletown (daughter to the 4th Viscount) in 1936 saw the inception of demesne neglect. By the 1950s the productivity of the demesne had come to a standstill and by the 1970s the demesne buildings were in ruin.

The park has been in the care of the State for the past 50 years, and a slow but progressive restoration has been underway. Today nearly half a million visits are made to the park annually for recreational purposes. Key elements of the demesne, such as the 17th- and 19th-century gardens, and the house, Doneraile Court, require further restoration.

7th Annual New Research Symposium 2017 CALL FOR PAPERS at Plymouth University, Devon Friday 1 September 2017

Our New Research Symposium is a stimulating extra dimension to the Annual Conference. It is open to all researchers and scholars, regardless of whether they are independent or attached to an academic institution. Launched in 2011, the six symposia have hosted papers from 26 researchers, many of whom are also members of County Gardens Trusts.

Researchers in all fields of activity are encouraged to submit a 200-word proposal for a paper whose subject is as yet unpublished. Any subject relating to Garden History will be considered, from explorations of little known gardens to aspects of botany, ecology, horticulture, archaeology, social history, architecture, design or sculpture. The paper will be no longer than 20 minutes (approximately

2,000 to 2,500 words) and illustrated with a PowerPoint (or similar) slide presentation.

Applicants are asked to identify their status as an independent researcher and/or member of the GT and/or a CGT, or their institutional affiliation, the academic programme of study they are undertaking, and the award outcome; or both, where appropriate.

The Gardens Trust will provide one night's bed and breakfast accommodation beforehand, including supper, but the GT is unable to cover travel expenses. The Conference Welcome Evening is an informal opportunity to meet the other speakers as well as members of the GT's committees and Board.

Researchers who are interested but who have queries are invited to contact Dr Patrick Eyres for clarification: patrickjeyres@gmail.com

Proposals for Symposium presentations should be sent by Monday 8 May 2017, to: newresearchsymposium@thegardenstrust.org

Gardens Trust events for 2017 and beyond

also on our website www.thegardenstrust.org

Drawing on Denmark: the mid-to-late twentieth-century landscape practice of Preben Jakobsen in Britain

Karen Fitzsimon

GT Winter Lecture Series 2017, London

6.30 pm, Wednesday 5 April

Karen, a chartered landscape architect, garden historian and horticulturist, will elucidate on her 2016 research trips to Denmark in preparation for her monograph on Jakobsen, during which she retraced his footsteps from his childhood home to the Royal Academy of Fine Art, Copenhagen.



By courtesy of Landscape Institute Library, MIERL

Garden for a private client in Stanmore, north London, designed by Jakobsen in 1979/81

On the way she explored landscapes designed by his mentor Prof. Carl Th. Sørensen and those by designers whom he admired, such as Sven Hansen. She will consider their influence on Jakobsen's practice in the UK.

At The Gallery, 77 Cowcross Street, London EC1M 6EL. Details of how to book online are available on our website, or pay on the door. Individual tickets: £10 for members of GT, £12 for members of a CGT, £15 for non-members. Ticket includes one glass of wine.

Contact Sally Jeffery for further details of the London lectures: sally.jeffery1@btinternet.com

County Gardens Trusts' turn their attention to Humphry Repton

Thursday 20 April, Russell Square, London

The Gardens Trust is keen to support County Gardens Trusts' initiatives to celebrate the **Humphry Repton Bicentenary** in 2018 by facilitating a coordinated approach, so we would



Nigel Temple collection, The Gardens Trust

be delighted to welcome a representative from any interested CGTs at an afternoon meeting at Russell Square on **Thursday 20 April.**

Please email Linden Groves: lindengroves@thegardenstrust.org for details.

We will additionally showcase the range of Repton events, research and publications that will be on offer from CGTs and others via a Repton Bicentenary page on the Gardens Trust website, so do get in touch if you have material to share.

Historic Landscape Project events update

Our HLP officers will be in contact with County Gardens Trusts in the next couple of months to confirm the programme for the coming year. Further HLP events will be featured in the next edition of the **GT news**, and of course on our website.

Gardens and landscapes of eastern Sicily Study Tour in the last week of April

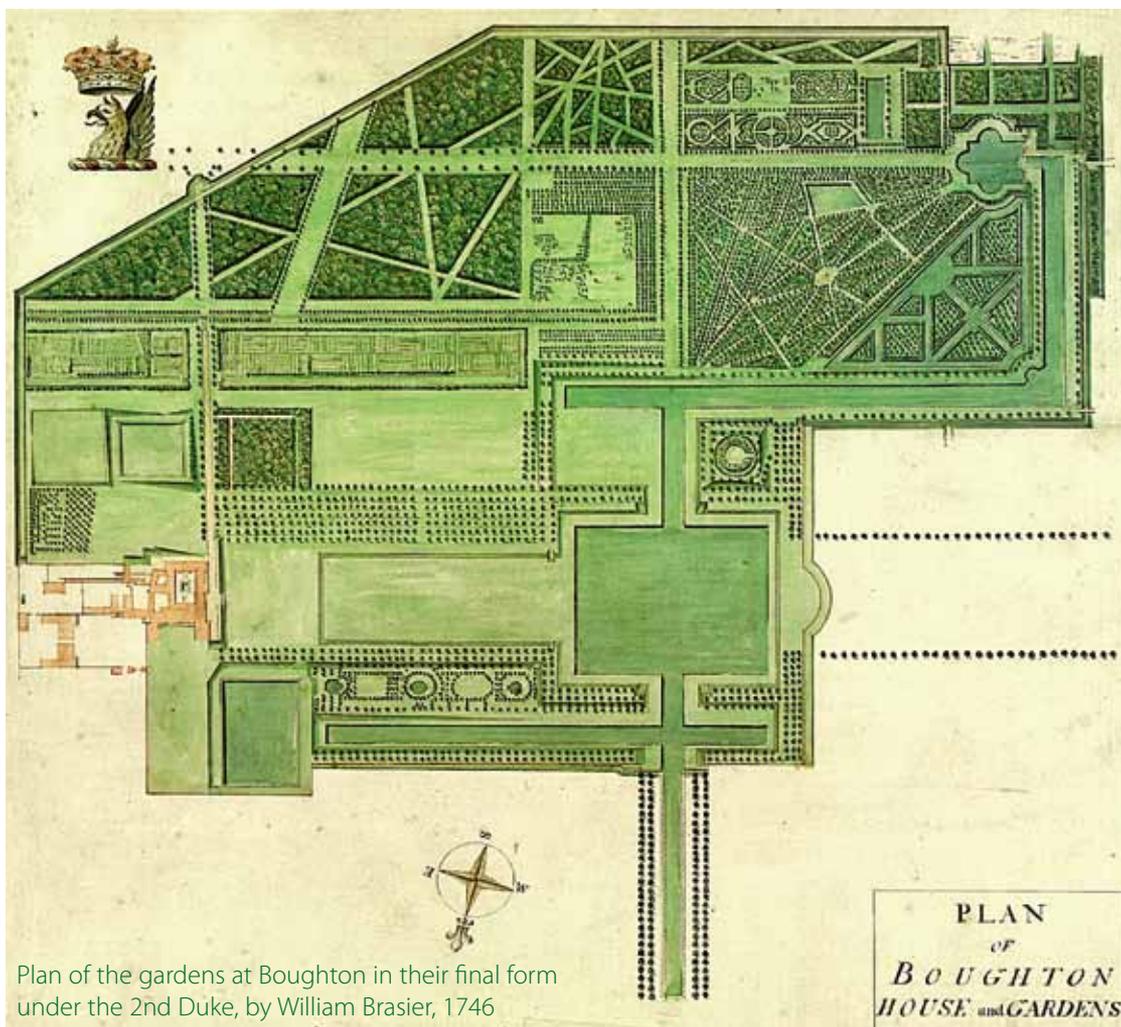
Now Fully Booked

See **GT micro-news 1b** for full details.

Spaces may become available, so do contact Robert Peel: rma.peel@btopenworld.com

A study day at Boughton House, Northamptonshire with Brian Dix, consultant archaeologist Wednesday 10 May

The Gardens Trust has been fortunate to arrange a visit, by kind permission of the **Duke of Buccleuch**, to see the restoration works on the garden and park at Boughton by consultant archaeologist **Brian Dix**. Our study day complements Brian's winter lectures given earlier this year, in Birmingham and London.



Plan of the gardens at Boughton in their final form under the 2nd Duke, by William Brasier, 1746

PLAN
OF
BOUGHTON
HOUSE and GARDENS

Trustees of the Boughton Estate

The gardens of Boughton House comprise extensive remains of formal layouts dating from the late-17th and early-18th centuries. Rides and avenues of the same period extend far out into the surrounding countryside, set within the deer park of late medieval origins. The visit will include a tour of Boughton House (Grade I listed) whose transformation by Ralph Montagu from a 'large but rambling house' to its current form began in 1685.

Brian Dix has been working for the Duke of Buccleuch for the last few years and has been involved in re-constructing the *Grand Etang*, or small lake, the centrepiece of which is a *jet d'eau* [the rectangle below/right of the house, above]. We hope that His Grace will be kind enough to turn on this spectacular fountain for us. Brian has also undertaken extensive archaeological work around the site and is now overseeing the restoration of the bastion to re-establish the vantage viewpoints out to the rides and park.

Tickets: £45 GT members; £48 CGT members; £50 non-members, to include sandwich & soup lunch, and tea/coffee & homemade biscuits

Book online using Eventbrite at no extra fee, or post the downloadable booking form with your cheque. See our website for full details of this event and how to attend. For further information or to obtain a printed booking form, contact Claire de Carle: 4 Pearce Courtyard, Oakley, Aylesbury HP18 9WY (before 24 April), or by telephone: 01844 237701, or by email: claire@decarle.plus.com

Summer walk to explore the Duke of Northumberland's River with London Parks & Gardens Trust 2pm, Saturday 20 May

The Duke of Northumberland's River is an artificial river dug in the sixteenth century to power watermills at Isleworth. The western section



From London's Lost Rivers by Paul Talling

The start of the Duke of Northumberland's River, to the left of this picture, as it branches off the Crane

brings water from the River Colne at Longford to supplement the River Crane, and the eastern section, which we shall follow, diverts from the Crane at Kneller Gardens, Twickenham, and follows a zigzag course past the Stoop and Rugby Stadium, through Mogden Purification Works as a straight tree-lined shallow canal, through green inter-war suburbia along Riverside Walk, and along Mill Platt with its small public garden, ice house remains and C17 almshouses, to the deep tidal basin and former flour mill site at Isleworth where the river joins the Thames.

A culverted section (not part of tour) feeds a small ornamental pool in the grounds of West Middlesex Hospital and thence into 'Capability' Brown's lakes in Syon Park.

Walk (about two hours; 5.5 km, 3.25 miles) led by Chris Sumner and Susan Darling, and Sally Williams. Please note that most of the route is fine and level with a decent path, but in some stretches the riverside path is very narrow and muddy, there are also steps and ramps, and a very long stepped ramped bridge to cross a main road (A316). We advise that it is not suitable for small children, buggies, wheelchairs or people with impaired mobility.

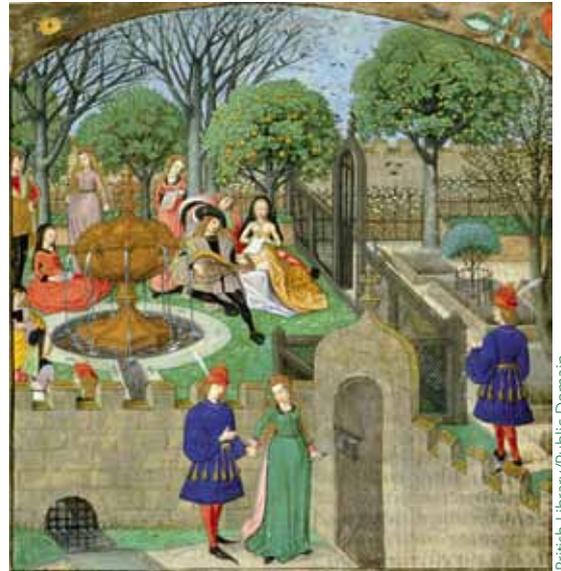
Meet at 2pm at Whitton station (in Zone 5 on main line from Waterloo to Windsor via Richmond, and also on the Hounslow loop line. H22 bus). Finish at Isleworth (Isleworth and Syon Lane stations in Zone 4 on the Hounslow loop line and Waterloo to Weybridge line via Barnes Bridge. Also buses to Richmond, Hounslow, Brentford, Chiswick).

Cost: £5 payable on the day.

Medieval and Tudor Gardens Our Annual Weekend School at Rewley House, Oxford Friday 2 June to Sunday 4 June

Gardens were an important part of the medieval and Tudor world, but have been difficult to understand owing to their poor survival rate. In recent years, however, there has been an upsurge of interest in them, and our weekend will present a selection of current research and new thinking. Organised by **Dr Paul Barnwell**, Director of Studies for Architectural History, OUDCE, and **Michael Symes**, of the Gardens Trust.

Following Registration on Friday afternoon, there will be a reception and dinner, and a lecture with **James Bond**, landscape archaeologist, on *Medieval gardens: the archaeological evidence*.



British Library/Public Domain

Detail from a page of *Roman de la Rose*, c.1490–1500 by 'The Master of the Prayer Books of c.1500'

On Saturday lectures are **Elizabeth Herbert Mcavoy**, Professor of Medieval Literature, Swansea University, and **Theresa Tyers**, Post-Doc Research Assistant, Swansea University, on *Unearthing the medieval walled garden: greening and healing body and soul*; **Rachel Delman**, DPhil Student, University College, University of Oxford, on *'Sche bare the key of this gardeyn': women and gardens in the middle ages*; **Spencer Smith**, PhD Student, Manchester Metropolitan University, formerly with the RCAHM of Wales, on *Parks, gardens and designed landscapes of medieval north Wales*



by courtesy of Landscape Institute Library, MERL

The Commonwealth Institute's landscape approach, London, now destroyed. Detail from the 1962 photo, later the cover of Dame Sylvia Crowe's *Garden Design* (2nd edn, 2003) [see also **GHS news 95** Spring 2015]

and north west Shropshire. There will be a coach trip to Kenilworth Castle in the afternoon, with a further talk by **John Watkins**, Head of Gardens and Landscape, EH. Dinner is followed by a final lecture by **Stephen Wass**, DPhil student, Kellogg College, University of Oxford, on *Hesdin: getting mud on your boots in a garden of earthly delights*.

On Sunday morning we conclude with two lectures by **Paula Henderson**, architectural and garden historian, on *Clinging to the past: medievalism in the Tudor garden* and **Michael Symes**, Course Director and Tutor, GT, on *Garden themes in the poetry of Spenser*. Following lunch the course disperses.

Cost: Tuition only: £152. Single room B&B: £145.20, Twin Room B&B: £104.20.

See our website for further details of fees, and full booking information.

Mid to Late C20 Designed Landscapes: Overlooked, Undervalued and At Risk? Conference at the Garden Museum, London Monday 5 June

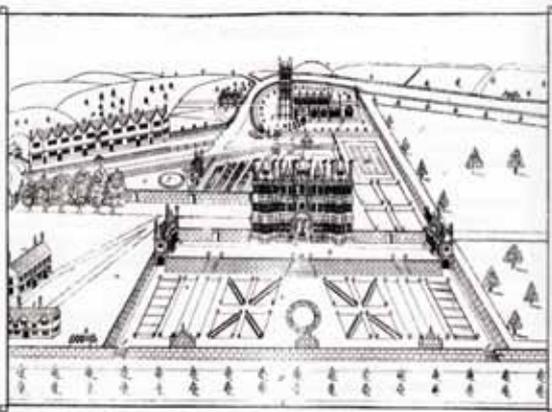
This Gardens Trust Conference aims to promote the understanding and significance of mid to late C20 designed landscapes, those laid out between the mid 1960s and 1990, and to review how they might be better recognised and conserved. Covering a wide range of landscapes from urban civic spaces to crematoria, business, institutional, industrial and country parks these designs have often been treated as of secondary importance to both the gardens of the period and to the built architecture of a place; consequently they are poorly represented within national designations.

They have often suffered at best neglect and at worst have gone unrecognised, unvalued,

poorly managed; and even occasionally been destroyed. Promoting late C20 designs is timely too; 2016 and 2017 mark the 20th anniversaries of the deaths of **Sir Geoffrey Jellicoe** (8 October 1900 to 17 July 1996) and **Dame Sylvia Crowe** (15 September 1901 to 30 June 1997).

Key speakers from the heritage world include: architectural critic **Rowan Moore**, landscape architects **Oliver Rock** (HTA Design), **Robert Holden** and GT President **Dominic Cole**, HE's Director of Listing England **Dr Roger Bowdler**, C20 architectural expert **Elain Harwood** and **Annabel Downs** from the Landscape Institute's Archive. The conference venue is provided by kind invitation of the Garden Museum and forms one of the events celebrating the Museum's re-opening after its major refurbishment.

The Gardens Trust aims to set up a post-conference project to find out more about these neglected mid to late C20 designed landscapes and, as important, to increase the number offered protection through national designation. We have a working title: 'Compiling the record: the essential mid to late C20 landscapes' and would like to find and research 50 sites over the next year or so that might qualify. We are calling for everyone interested in and knowledgeable about these landscapes, especially the civic, institutional, commercial and residential sites, to explore their cities and regions to identify those of significance and worthy of designation. We are particularly keen to hear from County Gardens Trust members who will have detailed local knowledge. More details on what kind of information will be needed and how it might best be captured for assessment for potential designation will be



'Birdseye view of Campden House, burnt down in the year of Naseby, 1645 (from an old drawing)'

available at the conference. The GT may be able to offer some research and recording training in this rather special period of historic landscape design.

Cost: £65 Garden Trust members; £68 County Gardens Trust members; £75 non-members; £45 registered students; to include lunch and tea/coffee. Book online using Eventbrite, or download a booking form from the Events pages of our website where you will find full details of the Conference. Post your cheque made payable to 'The Gardens Trust' and form to: Karen Fitzsimon, 73 St George's Ave, London N7 0AJ, or by email: kfla@blueyonder.co.uk or by phone: 07890 636917

Visit to Chipping Campden, Gloucestershire Friday 23 June

A few places remaining...

This day visit, led by **Caroline Stanford** of the Landmark Trust and **Dr Paula Henderson**, will provide an opportunity for a privileged and detailed look at the remaining buildings and site of Sir Baptist Hicks's Manor House and important gardens in Chipping Campden, built in the early years of the reign of James I. Hicks (1551(?)–1629), an exceptionally wealthy Mercer who provided finance to the King, chose this beautiful small Cotswold town for one of the most spectacular of Jacobean houses and gardens, constructed from 1613. The house was burnt down by the departing Royalist garrison in 1645, leaving only a fragment, but the gate and porter's lodges, and the banqueting houses at each end of the long terrace remain and have been restored by the Landmark Trust. The stables are now known as Court House and the laundry is now known as the Almonry.

The great terraced gardens, created at the same time as the house, were recorded in a seventeenth century bird's-eye view which is known through some later copies. The terracing and other physical features remain on the ground, providing accurate evidence of the appearance of this important garden, and throwing light on other fashionable gardens of the period. Below the great terrace was a parterre garden, an orchard, a canal, a water parterre, a viewing mount, a reed bed and a culvert linked to a sophisticated water supply system which started with a conduit house on the hill above the town.

Courtesy of the Landmark Trust, we will be given access to the surviving buildings and the whole

Gardens Trust events

site, and will be able to view the evidence of the extensive garden. Further investigation is currently being carried out by archaeologists, and we will hear about their recent discoveries. Our visit will start with a view of the impressive monuments to Hicks and his daughter and son-in-law, Edward Noel, in St James's church. Hicks's benefactions to the town included the almshouses (1612) and the market hall (1627), which can be viewed by participants after the visit.

Tickets (limited to 25 only): £55 GT members; £57 CGT members; £60 non-members, to include tea/coffee on arrival, and a lunch of sandwiches, strawberries & cream and a soft drink. For the full programme, see our website link to Eventbrite. We regret there will be no refunds. Book online using Eventbrite via the Gardens Trust website, www.thegardenstrust.org at no extra fee.

To book by post or for further information, please contact Sally Jeffery, by email: sally.jeffery1@btinternet.com phone: 0208 994 6969, or by post: 67 Devonshire Road, London W4 2HU.

Study Tour of The Gardens of North East Scotland Friday 30 June to Thursday 6 July

Two places left for this Wonderful Tour!

Based at the Park Inn Radisson hotel in the centre of Aberdeen, the study tour encompasses a variety of historic gardens from the last four centuries as well as new creations. Some are very private gardens created in old spaces while others are designed for public show. From Renaissance palaces, Her Majesty's retreat at **Balmoral** and the glorious summer borders of **Pitmuies House** created by the late Margaret Ogilvie near Forfar, we shall visit a wide range of gardens showcasing the glory of Scotland's north east.

Bill Brogden, a founder member of the old GHS (now GT) and the National Trust of Scotland's gardens advisor will be our guest guide on this tour.

Please contact **Kristina Taylor**: wowkristina@hotmail.com for more details.

The Gardens Trust Annual Conference and AGM 2017, at the University of Plymouth Thursday 31 August to Sunday 3 September

The Gardens Trust Conference 2017, based at the University of Plymouth from Thursday 31



G Sansom, Cornwall Environmental Consultants

The newly restored Colonnade and planting, Drake's Place Gardens & Reservoirs, 2014

August to Sunday 3 September, is to be three days packed with fascinating lectures, wonderful garden visits, and an abundance of highlights.

Following scene-setting talks early on Thursday evening, discover **Drakes Place** restored to an original 1910 design by Treseder Nurseries of Truro and reopened in 2014. The gardens were laid out in 1891 below Victorian reservoirs built on the course of Drakes Leat that brought water from Dartmoor to Plymouth.



Nigel Temple collection, GT

'Plymouth from Mount Edgcumbe', from Peacock's *Polite Repository* 1833

Friday begins with the ever-popular **New Research Symposium** in the morning.

A boat tour of **Plymouth Sound** affords the traditional approach to **Mount Edgcumbe**, once the go-to destination for royalty and nobility. The Grade I gardens and parkland with fifty-five listed structures and myriad breath-taking views have changed little since their main development in the second half of the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. After exploring the gardens, a welcome rest over tea and talks, then dinner will be taken at Mount Edgcumbe before return by coach.

Saltram, on the outskirts of Plymouth, is the first visit on Saturday. Now National Trust, but once the home of the Parker family, whose estate extended from their original Boringdon mansion with its interconnected landscape that was cut in two by the building of the A38 dual carriageway in the 1970s. Nathaniel Richmond had a hand in the design of the gardens that more recently have been encroached by landfill and large housing projects.



Dianne Long

Devonport Park, Plymouth

Next is **Devonport Park** designed by Frederick Meyer, a fine example of the resurgence of public parks in Plymouth, most originating from the Victorian period, with friends' groups playing a vital role. **The AGM** takes place mid-afternoon. Prior to dinner we go down to **The Hoe**, the multi-faceted iconic heart of Plymouth, with the post WWI **Royal Navy memorial obelisk** towering over its vast parade ground, Victorian terraces, outdoor lido (the **Tinside Pool**), and **Smeaton's Tower**, the upper section of the Eddystone Lighthouse; all overlooking the bay. In a short walk is the **Civic Square** designed by Geoffrey Jellicoe, and adjacent is **Plymouth Guildhall**, rebuilt after World War II, where the **Conference Dinner** will be held.

On Sunday the first stop is the thirty-five acre Victorian **Ford Park Cemetery**, and then, looking to 2018 and the anniversary of Humphry Repton's death, the conference ends with the garden he designed at **Endsleigh** for the Duke and Duchess of Bedford. The fishing and hunting lodge, begun in 1810, was designed by Sir Jeffry Wyattville, its location chosen because it was so reminiscent of the Duchess' Scottish homeland. Since 2005 Endsleigh has been run as a small hotel and its 100 acres of gardens, registered Grade I, have undergone extensive restoration, including the



Trustees of the Bedford Estate

The Children's Cottage and Garden, from the Red Book for Endsleigh, 1814, again recently restored

shell house, valley garden, great formal terrace, dairy and children's garden.

The fully inclusive delegate price of £468 includes three nights' bed and breakfast, dinner on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, lunches on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, teas/coffees etc, and all entrance fees, coach and boat transport.

For full details and booking information see the enclosed Conference flyer, or our website.

Tour of the landscapes of the Boston area

We very much regret that our projected study tour of the gardens and landscapes of Boston, USA, and the surrounding area has been postponed, due to a variety of factors.

Please contact Liz Goodfellow to find out more: lizgz@aol.com

Two-day Conference: New Research on Chinese Gardens and Landscapes with the Department of Landscape at the University of Sheffield Thursday 26 and Friday 27 October

When **Maggie Keswick** published *The Chinese Garden, History Art & Architecture* in 1978 there was very little else available in English, and her ground-breaking book quickly became a classic. Since that time, and especially during the last twenty years, much more has been discovered, and many aspects and periods have been explored in more detail. The subject of Chinese gardens continues to be a very fruitful field of research.

The Gardens Trust is planning a fascinating two-day international conference, to be held in association with the Department of Landscape at

Gardens Trust events



Gu Linyuan

The Yipou in Suzhou

the University of Sheffield, at which a selection of the most recent research will be presented. This is an opportunity to hear about Chinese gardens and landscapes from the earliest period up to the present day by both professionals and post-graduate students from China and a number of other countries.

The conference will be opened by **Dr Alison Hardie**, and topics to be covered include the Chinese concept of paradise, Feng Shui symbolism, east-west encounters in Cantonese gardens, Jesuit theatrical landscapes, gardens as museums, public parks and the Chinese park movement, gardens in Chinese painting, and botanical watercolours painted in China for the Royal Horticultural Society.

Tickets for two days including coffee, tea and a sandwich lunch will be £100 for GT members; £110 for CGT members; and £120 for non-members, with a reduction for students, and an additional option to book for the evening (Chinese) dinner on 26 October. Full details of ticket prices, the programme and suggested hotels in Sheffield, are available on Eventbrite via our website, and you can book there at

no extra fee. For further information, or if you prefer to book by post, please contact Sally Jeffery: sally.jeffery1@btinternet.com or at: 67 Devonshire Road, London W4 2HU.

Looking ahead: Japan Study Tour 2018 end of March

Places still available, costs available shortly

Japanese gardens reflect the philosophy of their people who live close to nature and combine their ancient spiritual beliefs in Shinto with their particular form of Buddhism, developed there from the seventh century onwards. This 'Cherry Blossom Spring Tour' is based initially in **Kyoto**. We will look at gardens ranging from the earliest archaeological reconstructions in **Nara** from 750 AD to the 20th century gardens of **Shigemori Mirei**, who both restored historical gardens and designed new ones.



Kristina Taylor

Picnicking under cherry blossom

A day will be spent at the **Miho Museum** the Chinese architect I M Pei's masterpiece near Kyoto. He describes it as an embodiment of two aspects of architecture: a structure standing in nature and at the same time being a part of nature. It sits in a natural forest with wild camellias, azaleas and cherry trees as well as the autumn glowing maples. In Hiroshima we will visit the **Peace Garden** and **Miyajima island** with its Shinto shrine on the shore approached through a giant red Torii gate in the sea. The final visit is to **Himeji Castle** surrounded by its hierarchical townscape and with a series of new gardens in its grounds before spending our last night in Osaka.

We will be taking deposits in April, contact Kristina Taylor: wowkristina@hotmail.com

Garden History Grapevine courses

new courses on the history of Public Parks in association with the Gardens Trust

Garden History Grapevine, in association with the Gardens Trust, are running two new courses on the **History of Public Parks**. In April and May there will be a series of five study days on individual London parks and then in the autumn, a 12-week course on more general park history. As usual the classes will be small [max size 16] with lively illustrated lectures, opportunities for discussion and further personal reading and research suggestions, if you wish. The course tutors will be Letta Jones, M.A., Stephen Smith, M.A., and Dr David Marsh.

Park Study Days

5 weeks, on Mondays from 3 April to 22 May

Each Monday morning will start with a classroom based session on the park, its history and planting at the IHR from 10.30 to 1pm. Coffee/tea and light refreshments are available in the IHR Common Room but only after 10.30. The small coffee stall in South Block of Senate House is open earlier and you're welcome to bring a drink into the class.

After lunch [not provided, so bring a picnic or get something en route] there will be a guided tour of the park. Transport is not provided but all the sites are easily accessible by public transport and full directions will be given. The afternoon visit will go ahead whatever the weather, so do please come prepared.

You may think you know these places quite well but we guarantee you'll learn a lot more!

3 April **Kensington Gardens**, with Letta Jones

10 April **Brompton Cemetery** with Letta

24 April **The Hill & The Pergola, Hampstead Heath** with Letta

8 May **Wanstead and Valentines** with Stephen Smith

22 May **The Gardens of the City of London** with Stephen.

Each study day will be £34 but although each is 'contained' and not necessarily dependent on the others, we are offering them initially at a group discount price of £145, a saving of £25 over the £170 cost of 5 individual tickets. Individual tickets will only be available if we have not sold all 16 places. Book with Eventbrite: <https://parkstudydays.eventbrite.co.uk>

History of Public Parks

12 weeks, on Tuesdays from 19 Sept to 5 Dec

This twelve-week course will look at the history

of places deliberately designed as parks or other public open spaces.

From the earliest parks in London and cities like Exeter laid out in the early 17th century, to the development of the square and the rise of the municipal park via the Prince Regent's attempts to become a property magnate, the term ends with an exploration of the seaside park. In the spring term of 2018 we will continue the same theme, particularly investigating those places which have been converted from private gardens or estates into public parks, and also looking at the rise and decline of municipal parks departments etc.

Normal class meetings will be on Tuesday mornings from 10.30 to 1pm, but four of them are all day sessions; two of those have lectures in the morning and a visit in the afternoon, while two are all day visits out of London.

Provisional Programme

19 Sept **An overview of the history of Parks and public Open Spaces in Britain** with David Marsh

26 Sept **The Open Spaces and Parks of early modern London** with David

3 Oct Walking tour of some of the **Surviving Open Spaces of early modern London** with David

10 Oct **The Rise of the Garden Square**, with afternoon Visit to **Brunswick and Mecklenburgh Squares** with Stephen Smith

17 Oct **The History of Regents Park** with Letta Jones

24 Oct Visit to **Regents Park** with Letta

31 Oct **John Claudius Loudon and the 'invention' of the Public Park** with Stephen

7 Nov **Derby Arboretum**, all day Visit with Stephen

14 Nov **The Victorian Public Park** with afternoon Visit to **Battersea Park** with Letta

21 Nov Visit to **Crystal Palace** with Letta

28 Nov **Seaside Parks** with Stephen

5 Dec All day Visit to **Folkestone** with Stephen

The course fee is £245 [plus Eventbrite's booking fee] but please note that that does not include transport or admission fees for the visits. Booking Via Eventbrite:

<https://publicparks.eventbrite.co.uk>

If you require further information about any of these courses then please email the organizers direct, either via Eventbrite or: gardenhistorygrapevine@zoho.com

The Dowager Marchioness of Salisbury

July 1922 – December 2016

It was recorded in the Minutes of our Annual General Meeting (of The Garden History Society) on 25 July 1982, 'the meeting heard with much pleasure' that the Marchioness of Salisbury, along with Miss Dorothy Stroud, had 'accepted invitations to become Vice Presidents'. She served in that role until her death on 12 December 2016. Perhaps Miss Stroud was there to welcome Lady Salisbury as the celebrations of *her* great hero Mr Brown drew to a close.

In September 1982, the then GHS held a Symposium on Knot and Herb Gardens in the RHS's larger Hall at Vincent Square. Lady Salisbury gave the first address, on Knot Gardens illustrated with plates from John Tradescant's Orchard, from the Bodleian Library, her many illustrations including designs for embroidery and ceilings which might have been too complex to realise in a garden. She emphasised the important part played by fruit trees on the surrounding walls and other enclosures. Rosemary Verey was the other speaker, on Herb Gardens, illustrated with her own slides of herb gardens including the Marchioness's at The Manor House, Cranbourne where the then Viscount Cranborne, son and heir of the 5th Marquess of Salisbury, had lived from 1948 until 1972, when they moved to Hatfield on the death of his father. In 2005 the boldly symmetrical garden she created at Cranbourne, filled with historic plants, was named as one of the 10 best gardens in Britain by David Wheeler, Editor of the gardening quarterly *Hortus*.

The two talks were followed by an afternoon visit to the then new Tradescant Trust's garden at St Mary-at-Lambeth, now the Garden Museum. Mrs Rosemary Nicholson, its founder, explained that Lady Salisbury had been instrumental in the formation of the Trust and the creator of the overall plan of the newly formed garden, with John Drake, and a team under Mary Searls to look after it. The following day there were three further garden visits, the first to Hatfield House, where Lady Salisbury was a keen and inspiring hostess, along with head gardener Mr Beaumont. She summoned up the spirit of the original gardens, despite the changes that had occurred over the years, and talked of how she was incorporating



Hubert Cecil

The Dowager Marchioness of Salisbury at Château de St Clou in 2016

collections of old (though perhaps not strictly contemporary) varieties of plants, using old paintings and descriptions of the originals. Such a pragmatic approach was born out in her decision to incorporate a donated collection of 'Florist's tulips, "strictly speaking of a slightly later seventeenth century date". The group then went on to visit the gardens at Knebworth House and St Paul's Walden Bury.

The Society was to return several times to Hatfield, perhaps most notably in May 1987, when Lady Salisbury again conducted the group around the gardens, as she so often did. She described how the second Marquess had started the process of 'restoring' the gardens in the second half of the nineteenth-century, although following his initial efforts it had slipped back again, following the second World War,

until it was hard to make out the garden at all, "it was awash in a sea of gravel". Lady Salisbury in turn had been responsible for the complete replanting of the Privy Garden with its James I mulberry trees, and had created the new scented garden within its 400 year old walls. By the old Palace she had designed and created a new Knot Garden with three smaller knots and a 'foot maze' surrounding a central fountain, picking up on the designs illustrated in her talk of 1982. On the warmest day in May for 40 years, and attired in her 'customary straw hat', she then led the group through the seven acre Wilderness, and on to the East Gardens, 'stopping on the way to answer such *divers* questions as the name of a rose, or the age of the maze below the croquet lawn. On the East Terrace, Lady Salisbury amused her audience by recounting the experiments that took place before the final placing of the four seventeenth-century Italian statues that crowned the [new] stone staircase leading to the Lower Parterre,' the four statues were too large to manhandle into place, so "four of the smaller men on the estate were asked to come and pose, draped in dustsheets and hey presto!" The visit was rounded off with luncheon hosted by Lady Salisbury in the old Palace's restaurant.

As President of the Garden Museum until her death, she remained a staunch supporter of the GHS, now the Gardens Trust, throughout. She was a regular presence at our London Garden Parties, and an enthusiastic participant at our Graduate Symposia, and AGMs.

Lady Salisbury was a noted pioneer of organic gardening and wouldn't allow chemicals to be used in her gardens. It was perhaps on this issue that she and Prince Charles united, and she was an early influence on his gardens at Highgrove.

Among other projects she will be remembered for are the tiny auricula theatre for the New York Botanic Garden, the vast 222-acre White Birch Farm in Connecticut and the World Youth Alliance's garden in Manhattan, as well as the gardens of the revived Cosby Hall in London, her nearby Chelsea roof garden, and, "as if Hatfield weren't enough," the restoration, since 1984, of her Château de St Clou in the Vaucluse, France, all described in her book *A Gardeners Life* (2007).

On a personal note, Lady Salisbury was born at Orwell Park, on the banks of the Orwell estuary near Ipswich [see also Advolly Richmond on p.11].



H Inigo Triggs, Batsford 1902



Derry Moore, 2007

Two views of the East Parterre and Maze at Hatfield House, separated by 100 years and representing two visions of garden 'restoration'

Although some of the more obvious garden elements had long gone by the time I attended the now Orwell Park School some 50 years later, I do think many of my gardening thoughts crystallised there, as well as in my mother's London garden. It was certainly there that my appreciation of the huge variety of trees began, through climbing many of them. I loved the long established 'climbing' fuchsias and magnolias on the house walls and a huge and ancient wisteria on the brick garden walls surrounding the school's open air swimming pool, that the then Marjorie Olein might have known at her maternal grandparents home; a pulsating scent I will certainly always remember from the long hot summers of 1975 & 1976.

Charles Boot

in brief...

contributions from all our members and readers are warmly welcomed by the editor

Troy House: A Tudor estate across time

Troy House lies close to the Welsh-English border in Monmouthshire. Its past is that of an aristocratic seat with ownership by the Herberts and Dukes of Beaufort, but it is rarely discussed in the history of the great country house and garden. Members of The Gardens Trust first heard Dr Ann Benson talk about her research on Troy's gardens at the GHS Graduate Symposium 2014, in Cardiff. Since that time she has extended and refined her work to produce this book published by the University of Wales Press in March 2017.

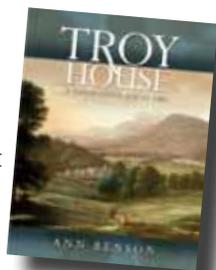
Dr Paula Henderson has endorsed Ann's book and writes: 'Dr Ann Benson's exhaustive study of Troy House, its historic gardens and estate is a model for scholars of garden history, employing all possible methods of research from unpublished manuscripts to modern archaeological techniques. Generously illustrated and rigorously argued, Benson's book traces the ownership of this seemingly modest Welsh estate from powerful medieval lords, through the Earls of Pembroke and especially the Somerset family (Earls of Worcester and later Dukes of Beaufort) and finally to a small order of French nuns in the twentieth century. Benson's fascinating book teases out the contributions made by them all.'

The house is now 'at risk' and as Professor Maurice Howard says in his endorsement of the book, 'future historians will be in Ann Benson's debt for a timely investigation of somewhere so fascinating and yet so fragile.'

The book is available at £29.99, from University of Wales Press website: www.uwp.co.uk

'Now let me tell you about that wonderful plant'

Claire de Carle spoke at our Research Symposium in Newcastle, 2015. She too has now published a book. Maud Grieve was born in London in 1858 and spent her early married life in India. On their return to England, at the end of the 19th



century, the Grieves built a house 'The Whins' at Chalfont St Peter, Bucks, where Maud established a beautiful garden. On the outbreak of War in 1914, she transformed her garden into a herb farm to meet the urgent need for medicinal plants by the pharmaceutical industry. She was also involved in setting up the 'Herb Growing Association'. As well as supplying the plants and seeds, she established a training school for women, in order that her pupils could spread the word about their important work. Towards the end of the war she also trained ex-servicemen from the colonies and in 1918 let out her drying shed to the war artists Paul and John Nash where they accomplished some of their finest war artist scheme commissions.

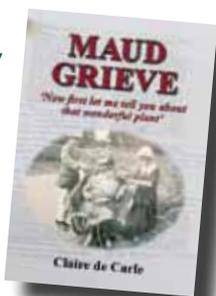
Maud is probably best remembered now for her book *The Modern Herbal* which was published in 1931, still considered relevant today. Claire's book is the first biography to be published about this remarkable woman, it examines her work in depth and in the wider context of herbalists, pioneering women gardeners and the social events of the time. It includes images from the period and the authors photographs of the area today.

Available now, from Claire de Carle at £10, with £2 for post/packing. Phone: 01844 237 701 or email: claire@decarle.plus.com

Archibald Menzies Appeal

One of Scotland's greatest plant collectors and explorers, Archibald Menzies, was born near Aberfeldy, Perthshire in 1754. As a teenager he worked alongside his father in the gardens of Castle Menzies. The laird, Sir Robert Menzies, collected new species of trees to plant on his estates and this may have inspired the lad's interest. He moved to the Royal Botanic Gardens in Edinburgh to take up botany, the study of which was closely linked with medicine, at a time when reliance on herbal remedies was widespread. Menzies went on to Edinburgh University to take courses in the sciences and medicine, and qualified as a surgeon. In 1782 he took up the post of assistant surgeon in the Royal Navy, a career which was to take him all over the world. Besides his post as a surgeon, Menzies was appointed as a plant collector by the eminent Sir Joseph Banks of the Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew.

Menzies made many voyages over the years



to come, to the eastern and western sea boards of America, and to Alaska, China, Hawaii and the Antipodes. Not only did he assiduously collect thousands of plants, sending both live plants and seeds back to Kew, but he also studied and collected many specimens of fauna hitherto unknown to the western world. He had a particular interest in the culture and skills of the native people he encountered, and made valuable collections of weapons, hunting tools and all kinds of artefacts, many of which are still on display in museums today.

As a surgeon he succeeded in curbing the appallingly high death rate from scurvy on British naval vessels, dosing the crews with his own concoction of spruce needles, berries and molasses.

On later voyages Menzies was called upon to record the climate, geology and customs of the native peoples in the lands he visited. This was a time when European powers were competing to establish territorial claims on newly discovered lands, and Menzies assisted the endeavours of his captains with coastal surveys and charts. In 1791 he undertook a four-year voyage under Captain George Vancouver to Africa, Australia, New Zealand, Tahiti, Hawaii and western America. On this voyage he charted the coast from California to Alaska, and was the first Briton to visit the forests of giant Californian redwoods. During the return journey the ship made a stop at Chile, and it was here that Menzies acquired the seeds of the Chile pine, popularly known as the Monkey-Puzzle tree.

After retiring from the Navy in 1802 Menzies settled in London, married the sister of one of his shipmates, and continued with a successful medical and surgical practice for many years. During his years in the Navy he was recognised for the scrupulous care he took of the health of the seamen in his charge, and he displayed the same care and humanity towards his patients in civilian life. Hailed throughout Europe as an authority on botany and natural history, Menzies had become a member of the Linnean Society of London in 1790, and was made a fellow and later designated a 'father' of this prestigious society. The University of Leipzig honoured him with a diploma, and the great American botanist Asa Gray referred to him as 'that Nestor of botanists, Mr Menzies'.

His hospitable home became a meeting place for the leading botanists of the time, and he delighted in recounting his traveller's tales.

Younger botanists and collectors came to consult him before embarking on their own journeys of discovery. The Scottish plant hunter David Douglas visited Menzies before and after his own voyages, and reported in a letter to a mutual friend that in Hawaii, which Menzies had visited 40 years previously, he was still remembered by the natives as 'the Red faced Man who cut the Limbs of Men off and gathered Grass!'

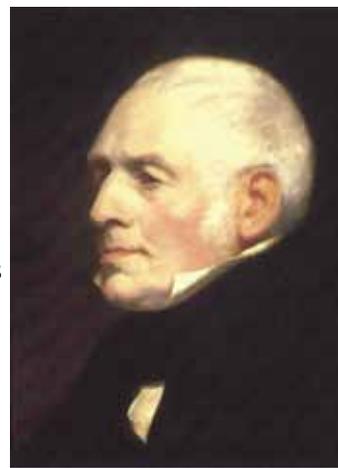
Menzies deserves to be more widely known and remembered: he introduced more species of plants, and had more named after him, than any other botanist of his time. Countless flowering plants flourishing in gardens all over Britain today, were discovered by him, and his contribution to the forestry industry is immense. The Douglas fir of north America, *Pseudotsuga menziesii*, was first recorded by Menzies and not by David Douglas. It holds the record as the tallest species of tree in the United Kingdom.

In 1842, at the venerable age of 88, he died, and was buried in Kensal Green Cemetery in London alongside many famous names from the 19th century. Over the years his grave has fallen into neglect, its headstone shattered. In 2016 the decision was taken to raise funds for the restoration and maintenance of Archibald Menzies's grave and the provision of a suitable and lasting memorial to this great Scotsman. A natural boulder of granite, taken from the area of Perthshire where he was born, will be inscribed and placed at the head of his restored grave, which will be planted with some of the species he discovered and brought back to Britain.

Your donation is welcome. Please send cheques to The Treasurer, The Clan Menzies Society, Castle Menzies, Weem, Aberfeldy PH15 2LL, UK

Garden restoration at Fulham Palace rewarded

The Fulham Palace restoration project was a collaboration of Walled Kitchen Garden Network and Urquhart & Hunt. The successes of the project are due to the amazing work of the entire team; Susan Campbell, Mike Kleyn, Tom Petherick, the



Archibald Menzies at the Linnean Society of London

in brief

late Fiona Grant, Adam Hunt and Lulu Urquhart; garden historians, horticulturalists and designers. Their collaboration has been recognized by The Society of Garden Designers, with their Restoration Award for 2016.

The restoration of the Tudor Walled Kitchen Garden at London's Bishop Palace Gardens, Fulham Palace was truly collaborative. They researched historical maps and plans, and read old gardener's inventories and plant lists written through the last centuries. The presence of pits within the unique curved Glasshouse and other key features led the team to determine that they were originally Pinery/Minery Glasshouses, growing pineapples and grapes for the Bishop's Palace. Analysis of historical maps also led to the detection of a central cistern, or dipping pond, at the heart of the garden, though there was no evidence of it above ground. When archaeologists looked in this location the dipping pond was duly found, originally fed from the river Thames.

This magical, overgrown, secret though public garden, found through a Tudor gate in the wall, has been rebuilt from ruins, and run with help from a group of volunteers with limited resources. Some of the restoration plans are still a work in progress, but the garden has come alive again; it fulfils the life of many of the voluntary and learning and disability groups that help run it. Head gardener Lucy Hart is never at a loss for the next project to embark upon and the next growing mission to undertake. Last year she planted wall fruits around the whole perimeter. It is lovely to celebrate an iconic and historic walled garden in the centre of London in the grounds of one of our less known Palaces, and raise public awareness of this endeavour. It is also a nod to all those who collaborated on the design and fulfilment. The garden remains free to all, and open all year.

Details on the garden's restoration and other projects can be found on the Walled Kitchen Garden Network: www.walledgardens.net/

'Capability' Brown arrives back in Hammersmith

Richard Jackson

Lancelot 'Capability' Brown is to be commemorated with a bronze full-size statue in Hammersmith, a permanent legacy to the great man paid for by public subscription. Designed by sculptor Laury Dizengremel, the statue shows Brown striding



Richard Jackson

Brown called in at Trentham on his way back home

forward, coat flying, tricorne hat in hand and a roll of plans under his arm. Alan Titchmarsh commented 'the sculpture is delightful, and it is a fitting monument to a man who gave us some of the finest landscapes in England.'

Hammersmith is where Brown settled with his wife Bridget and family in the thirteen years between leaving Lord Cobham's estate at Stowe and being appointed Royal Gardener with a grace and favour house at Hampton Court Palace. I realised that a site by the River Thames in Hammersmith, close to where Brown lived, would be an ideal location for a statue. Working closely with Rosemary Pettit, whose local knowledge proved invaluable, a suitable site was found, and the difficult job of fund-raising commenced. The statue, supported by the Hammersmith Society, is now fully funded by private, charitable and corporate subscription, and ready for its unveiling in May 2017.

See: www.capabilitybrownstatue.org or contact Richard: capabilitybrownstatue@gmail.com

Historic Environment Good Practice Advice in Planning: 4

Enabling Development and Heritage Assets Jennifer White, Historic England

Enabling development is a term to describe development that would normally be unacceptable in planning terms. In certain circumstances, this type of development may be allowed because it can bring public benefits. The refurbishment and conservation of a heritage



asset is an example of this type of development.

This draft advice document explains how to balance considerations for and against enabling development. It also explains how the future conservation of a heritage asset (or a group of assets) can be secured as a result. It aims to provide advice to help local authorities, planning and other consultants, owners, applicants and other interested parties. It is an updated and revised version of *Enabling Development & the Conservation of Significant Places*, originally published in 2008

Paragraphs 34 and 35 are specifically about historic gardens and landscape settings:

34 There may be cases where securing the future of the heritage asset would justify re-establishing something of its historic garden or landscape, particularly elements crucial to accessing and enjoying the building or structure and necessary to sustain its future use and conservation.

35 If restoration of the landscape is on balance desirable, thought needs to be given to the means and sustainability of the works. Unlike buildings or structures, historic parks and gardens can often be restored after a longer interval of neglect. To ensure that further restoration to such landscapes may take place incrementally and, perhaps, not be damaged by subsequent changes by division of ownership or intrusive uses outside planning control, it may be appropriate to establish a long-term conservation management plan.

Historic England are seeking views on this consultation draft. The closing date for comments is Sunday 14 May. If you have any comments, please respond to: governmentadvice@historicengland.org.uk

The web link is: <https://content.historicengland.org.uk/content/docs/guidance/enabling-development-consultation-draft.pdf>

Appeal for the Little Sparta Trust

Magnus Linklater, Chairman

Little Sparta is hugely important to the cultural scene in Scotland. It now needs to reach out to a wider audience. Would you be prepared to help the Little Sparta Trust achieve an important new stage in its development, to significantly improve access for the wider public in Scotland and beyond.

The garden, which has been declared a major artwork itself, and has been described by Sir

Roy Strong as the most important created in Britain since the second world war, has been the focus for a year-long artists' residency, funded by Creative Scotland, which has revealed the inspirational qualities of the garden, and its major significance in influencing Scottish culture today.

It seems clear to us that we must now expand this theme of sharing to the wider public, to engage with an audience that stretches beyond the cultural centre, and broadens access to the garden, so that others too can learn and benefit from its inspirational qualities.

We now have three main objectives:

- To invest in the infrastructure of Little Sparta; disabled access, parking facilities, and the small and somewhat dilapidated, glass-fronted entrance area, where visitors are received.
- To raise the profile of the garden by improving our advertising and membership strategy, by restructuring our website, and by establishing a year-long series of art events in conjunction with Edinburgh University/College of Art and the National Galleries of Scotland, our partners.
- To recruit and employ a trainee gardener to work alongside our head gardener, and carry forward the work of managing and maintaining the garden in the tradition of Ian Hamilton Finlay

If you, or an organisation you work for, is able to contribute financially to these objectives then please email the Trust administrator Laura Robertson: contact@littlesparta.co.uk who will arrange a meeting with me. It is also possible to make small donations via our website.

Marble Hill, Twickenham Searching For A Lost Landscape

During March 2017 Historic England archaeologists have been exploring the original layout of Henrietta Howard's garden. They have dug several trenches to look for garden features shown on a plan of 1752. The areas they're hoping to shed light on are:

- the 'Ninepin Alley', a court for a bowling game that resembled skittles
- the area south of the grotto, to investigate formal garden elements including paths and a possible structure that may be linked to another grotto, described in contemporary literature but not yet found
- the 'Palissade', a shaded garden walkway made from trees, here HE will look for evidence of the

in brief

- structure on which the trees were trained
- the area behind the ice house, to confirm the existence of a seat, shown on the 1752 plan within a roofed alcove.

John Warwell, who he?

Peggy Stembridge

I am just making a fresh start on my Goldney article Part II, for *Garden History*, and though an answer to my query is not entirely relevant to it,

I would like to include a mention, and to solve a nagging question of some years standing.

John Warwell must have been something of a specialist in shellwork or grotto-decorating, as I now see Goldney paid him £3 a week for work in the grotto at various times from 1757 to 1759; his good gardener was only paid £15 a year! It was clever stuff and includes the elaborate 3-D work at the pool end. So he ought to crop up somewhere other than in Goldney's notes. I may

have an approximate likely date of his death in late summer/early autumn 1764, and I hazard a guess he may have 'belonged' in London.

Contact Peggy by phone:
01275 373 043 or email:
pks.ableigh@btinternet.com

Can you identify this statue?

Alison Moller

It is a life sized, limestone statue with beard and 'wings', in a holly hedge, in a garden in Derbyshire. Neither I nor Paula Henderson, my supervisor, know who it is, or represents.

Your suggestions would be gratefully received. Contact
Alison Moller:
molleralison@yahoo.co.uk



Detail of the statue's bearded visage, with a curious top knot...

In our upcoming journal, mid/late June 2017

Garden History 45/1: Summer 2017

Sarah Law	Early 18th-century Rides in estate context: practice at Rufford Abbey, Nottinghamshire (1700–1743)
Liyuan Gu	Trends in Chinese garden making: the Quianlong Emperor (1711–1799) and gardens at Jiangnan
Ian Gordon Brown	'A fitter place for Campania than Yorkshire': Sir John Clerk and Thomas Blackwell at Studley Royal
Stephen Wass	Parco dei Mostri, Bomarzo: some preliminary observations on the use of water
Elisabeth Whittle	Ornamental and utilitarian water features and their water supply in Cambridge at the beginning of the seventeenth century
Beverly F. Reynolds	Ronalds Nurserymen in Brentford and beyond

Note

Michael Symes	The importance of the 'Fabrique'
Maria Teresa Pulido-Salas	Tetzcutzingo Hill complex: a pre-Hispanic garden in Mexico

Book reviews

other exhibitions, courses and events

please note these are **not** GT events, appropriate contact details are given for each event

Chiswick House and Gardens Camellia Show until Sunday 2 April

Many of the Camellias have been growing for over 200 years in the Grade I listed Conservatory. The collection is thought to be the oldest under glass in the Western world and includes rare and historically important examples, many believed to be descended from the original planting in 1828. The future of the heritage Camellias has been secured by an on-site propagation programme run by the gardeners in the newly restored Chiswick Melon House, and visitors to the show have the opportunity to purchase a choice of heritage varieties from Chiswick's original collection.

Open 10am to 4pm (except Mondays), admission free: chgt.org.uk

'Capability' Brown in Kent

Kent Gardens Trust and the Kent History and Library Centre (KHLIC) are collaborating to continue the celebration of the 300th anniversary of the birth of Lancelot 'Capability' Brown. In 2016 Kent GT published *'Capability Brown in Kent'* and, in August, held an open day at Chilham Castle which included an exhibition illustrating Brown's five commissions in Kent, at Chilham Castle, Leeds Abbey, Valence, Ingress and North Cray Place.

KHLIC will display this exhibition together with relevant artefacts from their archive collection. The purpose of the exhibition is to promote continuing interest in Brown's work which may still be seen in nearly every county in England.

The exhibition is to be held at Kent History and Library Centre, James Whatman Way, Maidstone ME14 1LQ and will run until 3 April and again from 1 July to 31 July (library opening hours). Entry is free.

Friends of the Landscape Library & Archive at Reading: AGM & Annual Seminar at MERL, University of Reading

Landscape Architecture and Management Education in the UK: past present and future 10am to 4pm, Saturday 1 April

This year's FOLAR Seminar deals with the origins and history of landscape architecture and management education in the UK, past, present and the future. The chair will be **John Stuart-Murray** of the University of Edinburgh,

and speakers include **Guy Baxter**, the University of Reading Archivist, on the history of the first landscape architecture course in the UK, that at Reading (1930–1959); **Jan Woudstra** will survey the origins and growth of landscape courses nationally; **Richard Bisgrove** will outline the story of the BSc Landscape Management at Reading (1986–2010); **Robert Holden** (formerly University of Greenwich) will review current trends, speculate about the future and in particular look to the past to see lessons that can be applied today.

The AGM is from 10.30am to 12 noon, and all (members and non members) are welcome from 10am onwards, lunch is at 12 noon and the afternoon seminar will run from until 4pm. Cost: for FOLAR members £15, with lunch (a £35 payment on the day includes FOLAR membership renewal. For non members the cost of the seminar with lunch is £25. Please book asap as we have a limit on numbers, 50 maximum. At MERL (Museum of English Rural Life), Redlands Road, Reading, RG1 5EX.

Adrian Berg: A Time and a Place Exhibition at Hall Place & Gardens, Bexley 10am to 5pm, 1 April to 3 September

Adrian Berg (1929–2011) painted landscapes, often returning to the same place again and again over weeks, months and years. This exhibition, the first survey since his death, includes paintings of four of his favourite places: Regent's Park and Kew Gardens in London; Stourhead in Wiltshire [below]



Copyright Adrian Berg Estate

Stourhead, 16th August, 1991. Adrian Berg

and Beachy Head on the south coast of England. His exuberant, colourful oil paintings glow. Like

'Not in my Back Yard?'
Hertfordshire Gardens Trust Conference
at the Riding School, Hatfield House
10am to 4pm, Saturday 22 April

As with so many other places Hertfordshire is threatened with a massive house building programme. This significant one day Conference will bring together planners, land-owners and estate managers with representatives from organisations whose interests lie in the conservation and preservation of the counties' parks and gardens, wild-life and woodlands, to show that a collaborative approach to development now can be the most effective form of protection for the rural and urban environment of the future.

The day includes: *The Threats to Hertfordshire's Historic Parks and Gardens* by Kate Harwood; *The Green Corridor Project* by Anthony Downs; *Neighbourhood Plans* by Gary O'Leary; followed by discussion and lunch. In the afternoon, by kind permission of Lady Salisbury, members are invited to join Head Gardener **Alastair Gunne** for a tour of the Hatfield House East and West gardens.

The cost of the day will be £45 per person.

A Study Day at Hertingfordbury
with the Friends of Panshanger Park
10am to 4pm, Tuesday 2 May

Panshanger Park [see p.5] lies within the area of the 'Green Corridor'. This event will trace the involvement of Herts GT and of the Friends in the conservation and restoration of this historic Repton designed landscape from extensive gravel extraction. The day will end with a guided walk through this historic landscape.

Cost: £25 per person, including a light lunch.

An afternoon with the Friends of the Jellicoe
Water Gardens at Hemel Hempstead
2 to 4pm, Friday 9 June

An opportunity to visit and walk around the fully restored Jellicoe Water Gardens, to learn of their history and the involvement of Herts GT, together with Dacorum Borough Council and the Friends, in their restoration and upkeep following years of neglect.

Cost: £10 per person

For more info email: hertstalks@gmail.com

Claude Monet, the artist he admired above all others, Berg found new ways to paint the same places. He was a contemporary at the Royal College of Art of David Hockney and the two artists remained lifelong friends.

Hall Place is a stunning Tudor house with magnificent gardens sitting on the banks of the River Cray in Bexley: Hall Place & Gardens, Bourne Road, Bexley, Kent DA5 1PQ.
Info: 01322 526 574 or www.hallplace.org.uk

Kemp Walks in Cheshire's Parks to
celebrate the bicentenary of Edward Kemp

Edward Kemp was a leading 19th century landscape gardener and Superintendent of Birkenhead park.

Castle Park, Frodsham
part of Frodsham Festival of Walks
2pm Saturday 22 April

Meet outside Castle Park offices
Email: council@frodsham.gov.uk
or phone: 01928 735 150

Queen's Park, Crewe

11am, Saturday August 19
Meet beside the clock tower
Email: elaine.webster@ansa.co.uk
or phone: 01270 686 708

Congleton Park, Congleton

2pm, Saturday 24 September
Meet outside Stock at the Pavilion, the cafe in the park
Email: ruth.morgan@ansa.co.uk
or phone: 01625 383 673

Humphry Repton Study Day
at Woburn Abbey, Bedfordshire
10am to 4pm, Wednesday 26 April

When the 6th Duke of Bedford inherited Woburn Abbey in 1802, he commissioned the famous landscape gardener, Humphry Repton (1752-1818), to create designs to enhance the gardens and parkland. His ideas were written and illustrated in his 'Red Book' of 1805. With the Duke being Repton's most important client, at a time of declining commissions, the Woburn Red Book is one of his largest works. It also contains Repton's

**Oxford of University Department of Continuing Education courses
Gardens of the Universities of Oxford
10 weeks starting 26 April (evenings)**

A Trinity term evening course for those interested in the history and development of Oxford's college gardens, consisting largely of field visits; to include the Victorian mansion Headington Hill Hall of Oxford Brookes University.

**English Landscape Gardens:
1650 to the Present Day (Online)
Wed 3 May to 7 July**

This course is the ideal introduction to English

garden history, providing an overview of five centuries of development, from Baroque formalism through the naturalistic landscape style, right up to contemporary planting styles.

**Gertrude Jekyll and the Arts & Crafts Garden
1 week course: 23 to 29 July**

The Arts and Crafts movement, inspired by William Morris, reflected reactions to the Industrial Revolution and the excesses of high Victorian design.

For all OUDCE courses: www.conted.ox.ac.uk
See also p.19 for our joint Annual Weekend School



Trustees of the Bedford Estate

Humphry Repton at work at Woburn Abbey, from the Woburn 'Red Book'

most ambitious and detailed designs covering the approaches to the Abbey, the lakes and plantings in the surrounding parkland and the formal Pleasure Grounds. Repton himself wrote that his designs "have nowhere been so fully realised" as they have been at Woburn.

Take an in-depth look at Humphry Repton's career, what made him such a remarkable and visionary landscape gardener, his techniques and processes and the creations he conceived. Woburn's 'Red Book' and Woburn Abbey's archived journals and account books from 1805 to 1810 will give first-hand accounts of Repton's methods and ingenuity. An exploratory guided walk through the gardens and deer park will reveal how Repton's designs were implemented, how they have fared throughout the centuries and the restoration and recreation projects happening today.

Writer and landscape designer **Keir Davidson**, presents two morning lectures, from 10.30am: *Landscapes of the Imagination; the art and gardens of Humphry Repton (1752–1818)*; and *Repton at Woburn*. Lunch (not provided), and then Keir will sign his book *Woburn Abbey The Park & Gardens*; before a guided walk through Woburn Abbey's deer park and gardens with Keir and Estate Gardens Manager **Martin Towsey**.

Cost: £50, to book please visit: www.woburnabbey.co.uk/events/gardening/repton/

**Garden Museum Annual Spring Plant Fair
Saturday 29 April**

The Museum's Annual Spring Plants Fair is taking place at the refurbished Garden Museum as a major event following its 18-month closure to the public. It welcomes old and new exhibitors and

other exhibitions, courses and events

visitors to the newly transformed museum with its brand new facilities and a cafe on site.

The Garden Museum's Plant Fair brings to central London the best nurseries from across Britain, with specialist growers of plants. Every plant you want for your garden, balcony or allotment in 2017 will be on sale and the nurseries can provide expert advice.

For more details exhibitors should contact: stephanie@gardenmuseum.org.uk.

Leeds Parks: Past, Present and Future at The Visitors' Centre (adjoining The Mansion), Roundhay Park, Leeds Saturday 29 April to Monday 1 May

What are the origins of public parks? How do people use and value them today? What are their future prospects?



by permission of Historic England Archive

View across Roundhay Park looking towards the bandstand and mansion, c 1900/1910

Based on new research from the University of Leeds, this free exhibition documents how Leeds parks have changed over time. Ever since they were founded in the Victorian era, urban parks have been valued for their role in improving public health, in promoting social mixing, and in providing a space for relaxation and enjoyment for families and communities. However, throughout their history, parks have also faced a series of challenges: from securing adequate funding and support, to managing conflict between different groups of visitors.

The exhibition will present the findings of a major research project into public parks, and showcase a new collection of images of Leeds parks through time, submitted by members of the public. Find out the reasons why public parks were first created, and how their founders hoped they would transform the city around them. Discover which

parks in Leeds are the most popular, how they are used, how they benefit the public and what challenges they currently face. And learn about people's hopes and fears for the future of public parks, in a time of financial cutbacks and growing demand for access to green space.

Free public exhibition, plus walks and talks on the history of Roundhay Park. More information: www.futureofparks.leeds.ac.uk

Sanctuary: Green Spaces and Social Value Garden Museum Symposium 4.30 to 7pm, 4 May

The first Symposium to be held at the newly redeveloped Garden Museum.

Sanctuary is convened by **Professor Eileen Hogan** of the University of the Arts, London, to coincide with her residency exhibition, 'Artist-not-in-Residence', at the Garden Museum.



Eileen Hogan, The eGarden Museum

Whilst artist-not-in-residence at the Garden Museum (the Museum has been closed during the year of her residency) Eileen Hogan created a 'virtual Garden Museum' by asking a cross-section of people to nominate a London green space that is important to them and to describe why. The selections are varied and range across private, public, community, guerrilla, corporate, remembered and painted. People value spaces which have intensity, history, resilience and provide sanctuary.

The symposium will be introduced by **Christopher Woodward**, Director of the Garden Museum and features a panel of experts: Eileen Hogan, Artist-in-Residence at the Garden Museum; **Adam Phillips**, writer and psychoanalyst; **James Peto**, Head of Public Programmes at the Wellcome Collection; and **Jo Gibbons**, landscape architect. They will respond to this artistic mapping of London's green spaces and what

it can tell us about the value of urban green infrastructure to issues such as mental health and biodiversity to the simple daily pleasure of millions. We will end with a panel discussion chaired by **Nigel Carrington**, Vice-Chancellor at University of the Arts London and will be followed by a Private View of the exhibition.

Cost: £15; £10, Garden Museum Friend and UAL Staff; £5, Students and under 25s. Tickets can be booked online at www.gardenmuseum.org.uk. Please note that online booking will incur the ticket agent's booking fee. To avoid the booking fee book directly by email: info@gardenmuseum.org.uk or by calling: 020 7401 8865 (10am to 5pm, Monday Friday).

Joseph Dalton Hooker Bicentenary Meeting: The Making of Modern Botany at The Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew 9.30am to 7pm, Friday 30 June 2017

A one day conference to celebrate the life and work of Victorian botanist, plant hunter and Director of the Royal Botanic Gardens Kew, Sir Joseph Dalton Hooker. There will be a varied programme of talks and an opportunity to see Joseph Hooker collections behind the scenes at Kew. Leading scholars and researchers will consider Joseph Hooker's place in the history of science as well as his continuing influence on current botanical research in related fields: plants and empire; exploration (from India to Antarctica), biogeography; and evolving botanical practices including the continued importance of botanical illustration.



Royal Botanic Gardens Kew

Speakers include: **Jim Endersby**, Reader in the History of Science at the University of Sussex, and author of *Imperial Nature: Joseph Hooker and the Practices of Victorian Science*; **Mark Carine**, Principal Curator in charge of the Algae, Fungi and Plants Division at the Natural History Museum, London; **Seamus O'Brian**, Manager of the

National Botanic Gardens, Kilmacurragh who has followed in Joseph Hooker's footsteps botanising in the Himalaya; **Sailesh Pradhan**, plantsman and Rhododendron expert from Sikkim, India; **William Baker**, Head of the Comparative Plant and Fungal Biology Department at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew speaking on the continuing relevance of botanical illustration; **Peter Ashton**, Bullard Professor of Forestry Emeritus at Harvard University, speaking about 'Thruways and Barricades', Asia plant interchange: J.D. Hooker's observations on north Indian plant geography; **Colin Clubbe**, Head of Conservation Science at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew speaking on Joseph Hooker's legacy in the UK Overseas Territories; **Lulu Rico**, Honorary Research Associate at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew speaking about her research in collaboration with **Cristina Duarte**, **Maria Romeiras**, **Arnoldo Santos-Guerra**, **Chiara Nepi**, and **Javier Francisco-Ortega** into the J.D. Hooker historical collections made in Madeira, Canary Islands and Cape Verde in 1839; we are also hoping to have a speaker from the the Swiss Polar Institute Antarctic Circumnavigation Expedition which is doing fascinating research along a very similar route to that taken by Joseph Hooker 175 years ago.

There will be an opportunity to sign up for lunch time tours on the day of the conference including tours: behind the scenes in the archive, the Herbarium, and Joseph Hooker highlights of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, and an evening event at the Shirley Sherwood Gallery of Botanical Art (from 6pm) for a chance to see **Putting Plants in their Place**, the exhibition showcasing Joseph Hooker's work through Kew's unique historic collections. The exhibition continues through the year until 17 September.

Cost: £25, £15 students. Price also includes entry into the Gardens, lunch and refreshments. Contact: joseph.hooker@kew.org

London Open Garden Squares Weekend Saturday 17 and Sunday 18 June

Tickets are already on sale for this year's Open Garden Squares Weekend, London's biggest garden visiting weekend. Organised by the **London Parks and Gardens Trust**, this event now in its 20th year highlights the significant social, cultural, environmental and economic contribution that gardens, squares and green

other exhibitions, courses and events

spaces make to the capital and its inhabitants.

With 237 gardens confirmed for 2017, a record number for the event, visitors will have the unique opportunity to discover and explore some of London's most fascinating squares, gardens and green spaces, most of which are not normally open to the public.

Advance tickets are priced £13 from: www.opensquares.org. A single ticket gains access to all gardens (excluding those with special conditions for entry) for both Saturday 17 and Sunday 18 June.

The 4th Garden Museum Literary Festival at Boughton, Northamptonshire Saturday 1 and Sunday 2 July

This year's Festival will be hosted by the **Duke and Duchess of Buccleuch** at Boughton House, Northamptonshire. The Festival brings together favourites of the gardening and literary worlds for a unique summer's weekend of talks and events. This year features **Lord and Lady Heseltine** who will speak about the creation of their garden at Thenford in conversation with **Sir Roy Strong**, garden designers **Dan Pearson** and **Isabel & Julian Bannerman** and **Kim Wilkie** who will talk about 'Orpheus', the acclaimed landform he created for the Boughton Estate. There are about 30 speakers over the weekend.

Events programme including: Tours of the gardens with Boughton Head Gardener **Bernard Opara**; an Exhibition illustrating the garden history of Boughton through treasures from the family collection; and on Saturday evening Vocal ensemble **I Fagiolini** in concert.

Tickets can be booked online at www.gardenmuseum.org.uk. Please note that online booking will incur the ticket agent's booking fee. To avoid the booking fee book directly by email: info@gardenmuseum.org.uk or by calling: 020 7401 8865 (10am to 5pm, Monday Friday).

Rustic Retreats: Grottos and Hermitages in the 18th Century Garden at Wrest Park, Bedfordshire 10am to 5pm, Thursday 13 July

Conference exploring the fascinating world of grottos, hermitages and root houses. These intriguing buildings, though often overlooked, offer insights into the interface between literature, antiquarianism, mysticism and garden design in



Charles Boot

Inscription on the notorious 'Mithraic Altar' at Wrest

the 18th century. Papers will be exploring their origins, popularisation and decline; the cultural, horticultural and aesthetic context in which they were created, and recent efforts to survey and restore them. The conference is being held at Wrest Park with an opportunity to visit the fabulous gardens, including the picturesque Bath House and Mithraic Glade, with its altar and the site of a root house.

Confirmed speakers include **Brian Dix**, garden archaeologist; **Prof. Gordon Campbell**, author of *The Hermit in the Garden*; **Katherine Myers**; **Dr Judy Preston**, **Hazelle Jackson**; **Diana Reynell** and **Daniëlle Westerhof**.

Cost: £20 with lunch and refreshments. To book tickets: 0370 333 1183 (8.30am to 5.30pm, Mon to Fri; 9am to 5pm, Saturday) or contact: andrew.hann@english-heritage.org.uk or: emily.parker@english-heritage.org.uk

Australian Garden History Society Annual Conference 2017 New Zealand venue cancelled now in Melbourne, Victoria, Australia late October/November 2017

The Annual Conference will now be organised with the assistance of the Victorian Branch Committee of the AGHS. The format will consist of a Friday evening Keynote presentation, Saturday all day Lectures, Sunday Tour and the Branch will be organising a Monday optional Day Tour.

The tour of the New Zealand South Island with Lynne Walker is still on, so that will be an additional offering to members this year (tbc).

There is still the possibility of New Zealand in 2019, the planned program is achievable and could occur, and include Stuart Read's intended Pre and Post Conference Tours.

Contact: info@gardenhistorysociety.org.au

Membership Application

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GT events diary 2017

Wednesday 5 April	London Lecture: Karen Fitzsimon on <i>Drawing on Denmark</i>
last week of April	Gardens and Landscapes of eastern Sicily, Study Tour
Monday 8 May	Mavis Batey Essay Prize & New Research Symposium proposal closing day
Wednesday 10 May	Study Day at Boughton House, Northamptonshire, with Brian Dix
Saturday 20 May	Duke of Northumberland's River Walk, with London P>
2 to 4 June	Medieval and Tudor Gardens Weekend School, at Rewley House, Oxford
Monday 5 June	Mid to Late C20 Designed Landscape, Conference at the Garden Museum
Friday 23 June	Visit to Chipping Campden, Gloucestershire
30 June to 6 July	The Gardens of North East Scotland, Study Tour
Monday 25 July	Gilly Drummond Volunteer of the Year Award 2017, closing day
Summer, tbc	Our Annual Summer Family Picnic
31 August to 3 September	The Gardens Trust Annual Conference, New Research Symposium and Annual General Meeting, Plymouth, Devon
26 & 27 October	New Research on Chinese Gardens and Landscapes, Sheffield Conference

2018

end of March Japan Gardens Study Tour

Details and booking information for all these events can be found inside on pages 17 to 24, or look at our website: www.thegardenstrust.org/events

Please watch out for Historic Landscape Project Events to be announced later this Spring, in your email box and on the website

GT news correspondence and items to The Gardens Trust head office, headed **GT news** or email the editor **Charles Boot**: news@thegardenstrust.org

Please make a note of our new publications schedule

GT news deadlines: 14 February, 14 May & 14 October, distribution mid March, mid/late June with Summer Journal & mid November with Winter Journal

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