

Nicholas Pearson Partnership LLP

Historic Landscapes • Landscape Management • Landscape Design

Project Example

Tortworth Park, Gloucestershire

Client

Private Client

Our contributions

- Conservation Management Plan
- Quarry Restoration Plan
- Woodland Management Plan
- Lake desilting work under a Historic England Grant
- Scheduled Monument conservation under a Stewardship agreement



Tortworth is best known today for the Tortworth chestnut, the outstanding nineteenth century arboretum and its landmark specimen trees. Beneath these trees lie two parks; one medieval, and one a picturesque and dramatic eighteenth century landscape with a great lake, Iron Age hillfort, Roman archaeology, anchorite cell of the Celtic Church, and an 'ancient' vineyard.

The parkland and its associated tree collections and woodlands are of outstanding historic interest and scenic appeal, but have been added to the *Heritage at Risk* register due to subdivision of the core area, following wartime requisition, prison development, and more recent Home Office disposals. The Conservation Management Plan identifies how some of these impacts can be addressed, as well as improving the conservation of the scheduled monument, and restoring the full extent of the lake. Most importantly, the plan identifies potential sources of funding, and a methodology for silt landfarming consistent with the current Nitrate Vulnerable Zone designation.



Nicholas Pearson Partnership LLP

Historic Landscapes • Landscape Management • Landscape Design

Project Example

Newton Park



Client

Bath Spa University
Duchy of Cornwall

Our contributions

- Grant aid has been secured from Task Force Trees, Higher Level Stewardship agreements and from the Heritage Lottery Fund.
- Preparation of a Conservation Management Plan
- Replanting of parkland and avenue trees
- Lake restoration works, including desilting, and repair of weirs and cascades
- Hard and soft landscape enhancement works to the park and campus
- Creation of a permissive public path route
- Project management of restoration and landscape works

Bath Spa University is one of the fastest expanding educational institutions in the country. The campus, located within a registered historic landscape by ‘Capability’ Brown which includes a Scheduled Ancient Monument and a number of listed buildings, is undergoing major development to meet the needs of its students.

Our initial work as Nicholas Pearson Associates involved detailed historical research to establish the importance of the site and set out appropriate restoration and management of the landscape, including a system of watercourses and lakes. We then secured grant funding from a variety of sources to support the repair and restoration of a diversity of features within the park, including the upper lake, temple and cascade system.

Following on from this, as part of a multi disciplinary team, we have contributed towards a development masterplan which provides the basis for the integration of new buildings and facilities as well as significant enhancements to the historic landscape, the campus setting, and public access (see: www.bathspa.ac.uk/about/campuses/newton-park).

We have also worked with the Duchy of Cornwall and farm tenants to deliver major improvements in the wider landscape park. Grant aid has been received from Task Force Trees, Higher Level Stewardship agreements and from the Heritage Lottery Fund, and we are currently assisting in a further major phase of parkland restoration works for the University and for the Duchy, restoring the *Old Park*, ha ha and ponds.

Nicholas Pearson Partnership LLP

Historic Landscapes • Landscape Management • Landscape Design

Project Example Chartwell



Client
National Trust

Our contribution

- Landscape Conservation Management Plan

The former home of Sir Winston Churchill, Chartwell is extremely popular and receives over 150,000 visitors a year.

Visitor numbers peak in the summer season when car parking, access and capacity of the site can become an issue. To address this problem, the Property Business Plan recommended developing the out-of-season attractions of the site and increasing its capacity by extending public access into the park and woodland. Our Conservation Management Plan addressed these requirements as well as the conservation and management of the park and woodland and to improve to the overall visitor circulation.

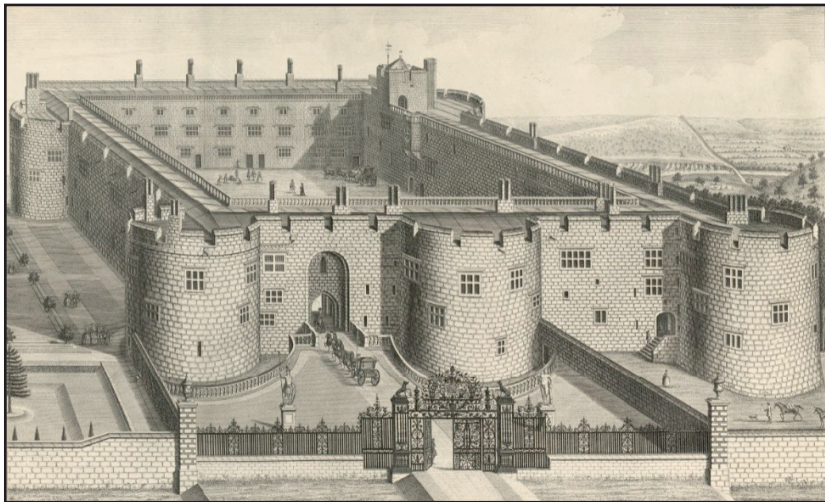
Our plan, commissioned by the National Trust, demonstrated both the historic and present importance of the park. Recommendations included interpretation focused on a number of key themes arising from the history of the site; new visitor circuits into the park and woodland; identifying areas for new play activities and events appropriate to the landscape and its history; repairs to ponds and lake while enhancing biodiversity areas; replanting of parkland trees; and replacement of visually intrusive fences with drawn wire railings.



Nicholas Pearson Partnership LLP

Historic Landscapes • Landscape Management • Landscape Design

Project Example Chirk Castle



Client

National Trust

Our Contribution

- Conservation Management Plan

Chirk Castle is a thirteenth century castle later developed as the country seat of the Myddelton family from the late 1500s. Parts of the scheduled Offa's Dyke earthwork run through the 18th century landscape park and medieval deer park which, together with the Castle and grounds, are a Site of Special Scientific Interest.

The Castle is a highly successful visitor attraction, which is now straining the capacity of the site's visitor infrastructure. Our plan reviewed options to address the issues posed by car parking, visitor welcome, catering, circulation and presentation, and set out policies and proposals to address these in ways which respond to new and developing information about the significance of the site's built fabric, wildlife, archaeology, and history.



Nicholas Pearson Partnership LLP

Historic Landscapes • Landscape Management • Landscape Design

Project Example West Dean



Client

Edward James Foundation and Weald and Downland Open Air Museum

Our contributions

- Landscape Conservation Management Plan
- Options appraisals and outline scheme designs for new interpretation and visitor facilities at the Weald and Downland Open Air Museum.

West Dean Park, the home of the poet and patron of surrealism, Edward James (1907-1984) is now the setting for the internationally renowned West Dean College and the Weald and Downland Open Air Museum.

Both are highly successful centres for heritage training and education, using the historic landscape and a remarkable collection of historic buildings. The continuing development of these two great institutions within the South Downs National Park and registered park required a shareholder consultation process to establish a consensual approach.

Initially, we prepared a landscape conservation management plan for the Edward James Foundation and the Open Air Museum, to guide the management of the extensive registered parkland, arboretum, woodland and pleasure grounds. The plan, grant-aided by English Heritage, also addressed options and the capacity of the landscape to accommodate visitor facilities and car parking. We have since helped the Museum develop scheme designs for new interpretation and other facilities in conjunction with Edward Cullinan Architects.

