

# Nicholas Pearson Partnership LLP

Historic Landscapes • Landscape Management • Landscape Design

## Project Example      A la Ronde, Devon



### Client

National Trust

### Our Contribution

- Setting Study

A la Ronde is a striking and unusual assemblage of Cottage Ornée, pleasure grounds, non-conformist chapel, almshouses and manse, built in the early 1800s. The setting of A la Ronde extends far beyond the National Trust's ownership boundary and includes intellectual as well as historical links with *Point-In-View* to the north-east, and the open coastal fringe to the Exe Estuary to the south-west.

Commissioned by the National Trust, the report identifies the setting and significance of the historic landscape in order to influence decisions about local development and new highway design, as well as capacity for enhancement of the site area.



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## Project Example

## Montacute



### Client

National Trust

### Our contributions

- Setting Study
- Liaison with community over location of a new village hall and car park in the registered landscape

An outstanding example of late Elizabethan architecture, Montacute is one of The National Trust's most striking properties. The grade I listed house is set in formal gardens and a wider grade I registered landscape park, viewed in its entirety from a fine belvedere on St. Michael's Hill.

Like many historic properties, the setting of the house, its gardens and park is vulnerable to unsympathetic development in the surrounding area. At Montacute, the views out of the gardens, the distant vista along the principal parkland avenue, and the extensive panoramic views from St. Michael's Hill are at risk from the expansion of the nearby town of Yeovil.

As part of a wider programme by the Trust to protect properties close to expanding settlements, we were commissioned to produce a Setting Study for Montacute. The aim was to provide a robust definition of the setting of the house and park at Montacute. This was achieved by mapping the visual envelope around the property using computer modeling, and then identifying the areas within this that formed its visual, contextual and functional setting. Our study has helped the Trust raise the profile of Montacute's setting in the South Somerset Local Development Plan.

