

Dyrham Park, Gloucestershire Conservation Plan for the Park, Garden and Wider Estate

Teasdale
Environmental Design

Client: The National Trust
Project dates: 2004

When Dyrham Park and its west garden were first bought for the Nation in 1956, its role changed from being the seat of a local squire and his family, to that of a visitor attraction. It has since become a destination for many thousands of visitors every year.

Such a significant change brings its own dilemmas. It is crucial for those who manage the estate to have a detailed and balanced understanding of what is valuable and significant about the property in order to look after it carefully and correctly, while also enabling visitors to enjoy it to the full.

The apparent simplicity of the garden and parkland landscape belies a complex history, which has undergone many changes over the past thousand years or more, all of which have left traces of their passing.

In 2004, Teasdale Environmental Design was commissioned to prepare a Conservation Plan drawing together a summary of the extensive information that exists about Dyrham Park. The Plan defines the value and significance of the landscape and its components and sets out appropriate management strategies to ensure their preservation and renewal in perpetuity. It describes an ideal, long-term vision for the Dyrham Park landscape and then details practical steps to be taken in the short and medium term towards achieving this.



Lithograph of the East Front, c. 1845



The ponds of the West Garden, c. 1903



East front viewed from parkland created around 1800