

The Old Manor, Puddletown, Dorset

Teasdale
Environmental Design

Client: Private client
Project dates: 1997 - 2000

The present manor of Puddletown was extended by the 5th Earl of Huntingdon in 1690. It passed by marriage into the Walpole family in 1724. Between 1724 and 1977 the property was owned by just two families: the Walpoles until 1861 and then the Brymers until 1977, when it passed again into other ownership.

In 1997, The Old Manor was bought by the client, who embarked on a careful programme of conservation and restoration of both the house and the garden. The aim was to strike a balance between period correctness and creating a contemporary home.

The gardens were restored following a phased programme of work. An 18th century framework of formal avenues and compartments survived and is still defined today by venerable yew trees, paths and evidence of old walls and structures. These have been conserved and the new gardens were created within this strong historic structure. New terraces were created close to the house, as well as smaller, more intimate spaces, formal walks, water features, herbaceous borders and seasonal gardens.

