

3.5 LANDSCAPE INTERPRETATION STRATEGY

The story of Marble Hill and Henrietta Howard will be interpreted in a unified scheme across both landscape and the interior of the house, using multiple methods to appeal to the widest variety of users.

Interpretation in the landscape will include:

Maps of the park

At each of the four main entrances, there will be a large map, to orient visitors, with additional interpretation on a key area of historical or biodiversity interest. One map will also include an updatable noticeboard for community notices.

Illustrated Frames

To recreate scenes from Henrietta's day, frames will be positioned in key locations, showing 'look through' illustrations of how the gardens were used in the eighteenth century, and caption information explaining the scene. The frames will be of a height that works for families and wheelchair users and will be carefully placed so as not to interrupt key historic vistas.

Feature Interpretation

Illustrated panels will interpret other important areas: the grotto, the icehouse, the black walnut tree and associated biodiversity stories and the market garden.

Embedded Interpretation

Playful quotes from Henrietta and her contemporaries will be embedded in surprising places, including within the grotto and 'play incidents' such as the beehive and icehouse seat and even the nine pin bowls themselves

Hand Cart

We will create a family friendly mobile hand cart, which will be manned by volunteers. It will tell the stories of the gardeners at Marble Hill, and the games played there, and will store the nine pins and other Georgian era games which will be available for all visitors to enjoy.

Sports Block

There will be a community noticeboard inside the Sports Block, which will also include information about the history of sport at Marble Hill, featuring memories from park users today gathered as part of our Contemporary Resonance Projects

Trail

A take around resource will be created for families to engage them in activities across both landscape and house. It will be developed in close consultation with our user groups.

- INTERPRETATION:
- ▲ Orientation Panel
 - Interpretation Frame
 - Feature Panel
 - Embedded Interpretation
- WAYFINDING:
- ◆ Directional Fingerpost
 - Statutory Signage



Diagram of proposed interpretative and wayfinding signage elements within Marble Hill Park



3.6 TREE MANAGEMENT AND WOODLAND QUARTER MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

Across the majority of the park trees define circulation routes and reinforce the historic parkland boundary structure. The approach promoted in these areas is to maintain all trees as healthy and safe specimens within the context of other design and park uses.

A priority is to protect and prolong the longevity of trees of heritage significance. The longer term strategy is to provide for tree succession through new planting and review of tree species to move towards a treescape that is diverse, references the 18th century landscape design and acknowledges that climate change and issues of biosecurity will influence species selection.

The trees in the Woodland Quarters are a significant landscape feature of the park. However they suffer from a lack of proactive management and successional planting to maintain healthy diverse habitats of varied ages. These trees require a different management approach to the other parts of the park in the context of the lost 18th century landscape design and intended reinterpretation of this plan.

There are several key considerations:

- Recreate the verdant enclosure, evergreen screening and hedging to the Woodland Quarters
- Removal of poor quality self seeded species
- Pro-actively manage species that would have been understorey plantings notably yew and holly through selective thinning and coppicing
- Snowberry, a London Invasive Species Initiative plant species, will be removed from the understorey, providing further space for light to reach the woodland floor and encourage ground flora
- Use tree planting to frame views to and from Marble Hill House
- Develop and commence a successional management and planting strategy for the avenues
- Reinstatement of the avenues
- Diversify the tree species planting with reference to the research undertaken by Mark Laird (see chapter 2.12)
- Reinstatement of understorey and ground level planting consistent with the historic design intent

As part of the woodland management proposals, 277no. trees are proposed for removal within the Woodland Quarters and 45no. coppiced. These tree works will allow more light to reach the woodland floor, enabling a wider range of understorey and ground flora to establish, providing a richer source for wildlife. To compensate for tree losses, the project proposes a 20% increase in tree numbers across the whole park, with 342no. new trees to be planted.

KEY

- Cat. A Tree
- Cat. B Tree
- Cat. C Tree
- Cat. U Tree
- Root Protection Areas
- Proposed Tree Removal
- ▨ Proposed Woodland Group Management:
Understorey clearance; yew and holly to be coppiced
Specimen trees of note to be retained



Based on the Tree Survey Report, May 2017 Ref CBA 10677 V2 - Drawing ref. 581_PL_L_10_E