

100 20th - Century Gardens & Landscapes

Twentieth Century Society

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BATSFORD

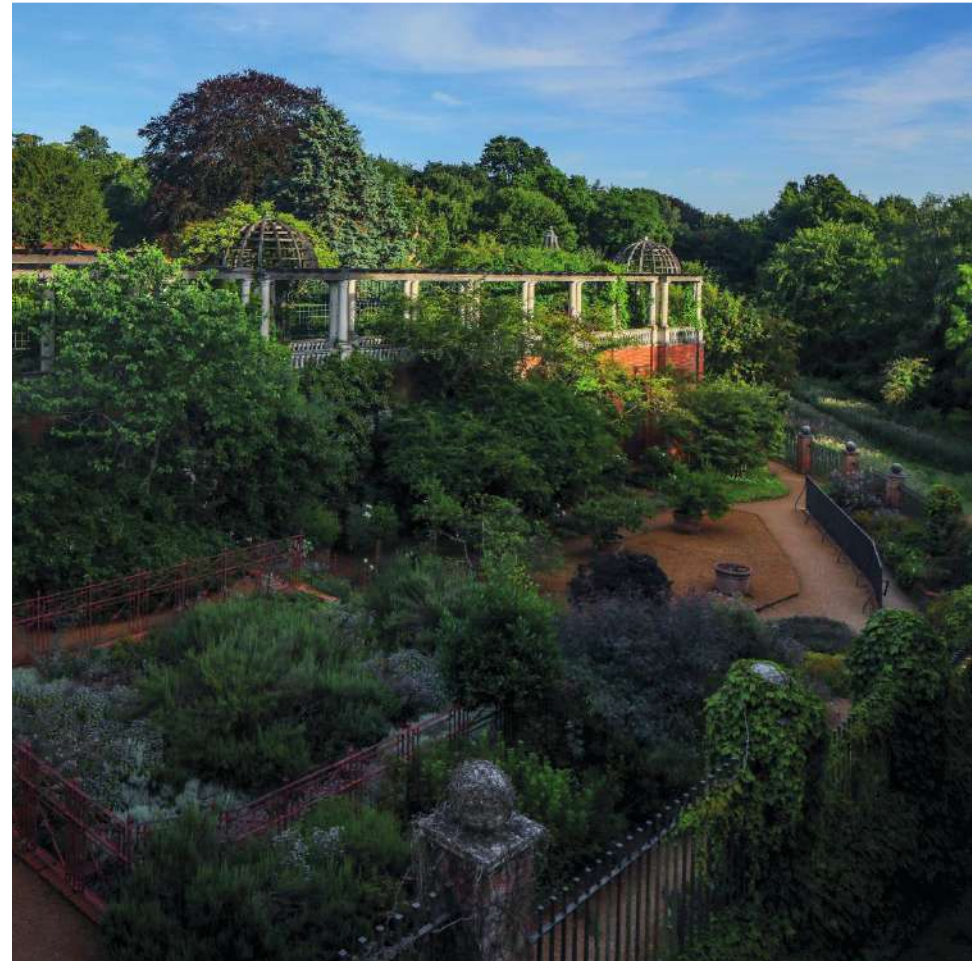


The Hill (Inverforth House)

Location: Hampstead, London
Designed by: Thomas H. Mawson
Created: 1920
Registered:

Mawson designed an extraordinary garden at The Hill with a demanding brief and a difficult site. He had worked on previous projects for his client, the industrialist William Lever, 1st Viscount Leverhulme, who had bought the property in 1904. In a little over three acres on steeply sloping ground, Mawson had to conceive a way of hiding the garden from people on Hampstead Heath, while keeping the sweeping outward views open. He juxtaposed spaces for lavish entertaining with a working area for the gardeners. Using soil excavated from the Northern Underground line and building high retaining walls, Mawson designed a formal garden of terraces, lily pond and lawns around the house, and an elevated pergola walk built in three phases between 1906 and 1922. The garden suffered badly in the 1987 storm, which led to a magnificent restoration of the garden and pergola.

Camilla Beresford





St Ann's Court

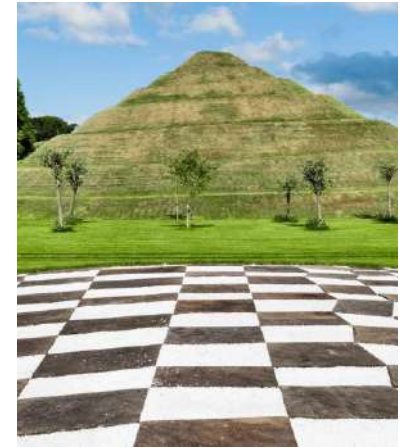
Location: Egham, Surrey
Designed by: Christopher Tunnard
Created: 1930
Registered:

In *Gardens in the Modern Landscape* (1938), Canadian-born Christopher Tunnard (1910–79) claimed 'it is the duty of the landscape architect, as well as the architect, to adapt and use [concrete, steel and glass] in harmonious compositions.' At St Ann's Court (originally St Ann's Hill), he collaborated with the Australian-born architect Raymond McGrath who replaced an earlier dwelling with a spectacular concrete drum-shaped hilltop house.

Tunnard edited mature existing planting and restored a late Georgian grotto and tea house. The 'modern' part of the garden is a terrace extending from the south side of the house with a glazed temperate house set back behind a small pool, terminated by a curved wall, adapted from existing fabric. A Paul Nash-like concrete beam with two openings frames the view blurs the inside/outside distinction, while a Willi Soukop abstract sculpture originally terminated the view. Below the house towards the north, a curved swimming pool echoes the drum shape.

Alan Powers





Garden of Cosmic Speculation

Location: Portrack, Dumfries
Designed by: Charles Jencks
Created: 1988
Registered: Xxxxxxx

The Garden of Cosmic Speculation uses nature and the senses to celebrate new discoveries in cosmology and complexity science. It started to take form when Jencks, with his late wife Maggie Keswick, excavated a serpentine lake in the grounds of her family home on the Scottish borders. They sculpted the spoil into sinuous, contoured landforms that suggested Chinese dragons (Keswick grew up in the Far East, and her book *Chinese Gardens* of 1978 remains the best general introduction to the subject).

Since Keswick's death in 1995, the garden has metamorphosed into about 30 spaces that explore aspects of recent science, including a Universe Cascade, Quark Walk, DNA Garden and Black Hole Terrace. Wave-like landforms, terraces and lawns are combined with intricate areas of planting enhanced with sculpture, such as an aluminium double helix of DNA. The garden is open to visitors for one day a year as part of the Scotland's Gardens Scheme.

Geraint Franklin