

History and Gardens Information



Tylney Hall
HOTEL, HAMPSHIRE

A Brief Garden History



1. Italian Garden

This area of the gardens was laid out by Seldon Wornum at the turn of the century, and was an elaborate, formal garden with many varieties of roses. The original statues and fountains were lost whilst Tylney Hall was a school and two tarmac tennis courts laid over the top. On excavation of the tennis court we found the remains of the original fountain which was used to re-construct the one now in place.



2. Rose Gardens and Azalea Gardens

The Rose Garden was encircled by a Yew hedge, originally a grass crucifix path ran through the middle, centred on a well head with an ornate iron overthrow. The Azalea Garden was set out on a cartwheel style with paths radiating outwards. This area has many fine species of trees and many types of rare orchids, which bloom in June. These gardens form part of our ongoing restoration plan.



3. Boathouse Lake

Originally this lake provided the Hall with its water supply which was pumped across to the Water Towers by the Dutch Garden and Kitchen Garden. In 1986 the lake had completely silted up and was full of dead trees so was dredged, refilled and the boathouse bridge rebuilt in its former style.



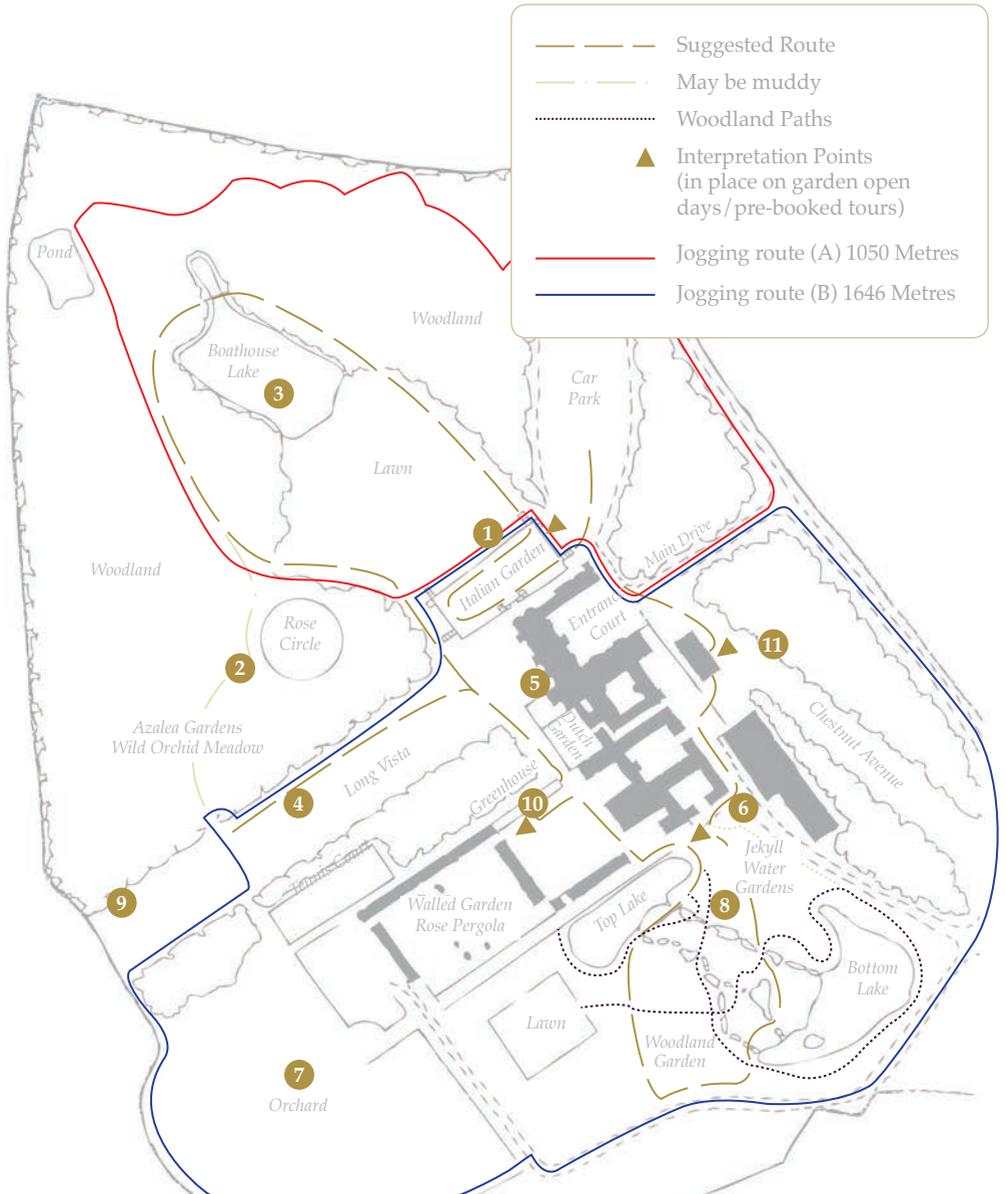
4. Vista and Tea House

The view from the Hall is one of the longest uninterrupted Vistas in Hampshire lined by Giant Redwoods. Along the Vista on the right hand side you can see the foundations of the Victorian Tea House, once an elaborate building with ornate furnishing and shell studded cornices.



5. Dutch Gardens and Water Tower

The sunken garden was laid out by Seldon Wornum. Unfortunately the original statues and figurines are lost beneath the outdoor pool which was sunk by Lord Rotherwick in 1935. We now have a mixed planting of climbing plants, shrubs and herbaceous surrounding the outdoor pool. By the side of the garden you can see the Water Tower which still holds the Hall's water supply today.



6. Garden Pavilion and Schultz Arch

The pavilion was used as a vantage point to sit and admire the Water Gardens, the Schultz Arch at the side of the pavilion is a good example of Victorian arts and crafts design and creates a grand entrance to the Gertrude Jekyll Water Gardens.



7. Orchard

The remaining orchard is considerably smaller than in its heyday. However, there are 20 varieties of apple trees in this relatively small area producing dessert and culinary fruit and a fine display of narcissus.



8. Water Gardens

These were designed by Gertrude Jekyll based on a ground plan sent to her by Weir Schultz. Originally designed around one water course which linked the top to the bottom lake. In 1935 Woods of Taplow were commissioned to add the second water course and redesigned the first water course adding many pools and water falls using large quantities of Somerset Lime Stone.



9. Air Raid Shelter and Ha Ha Wall

At the bottom of the Vista, the Ha Ha Wall marks one of the boundaries of our estate. The Ha Ha wall was built to create the impression from the main house of a continuous strip of land extending beyond the boundary, a wall was constructed and turf laid over the top. The Air Raid Shelter was added to the back of the wall during the Second World War.



10. Glasshouses and Kitchen Gardens

The glasshouses are listed buildings in their own right. The central section constructed from galvanised steel pre-dates the existing main house (1876). Weir Schultz designed and added the wooden green houses to each end of the central section. The Kitchen Garden as a whole is a good example of a Victorian Kitchen Garden, and today we have a collection of fruit trees and a herb garden.



11. Chestnut Suite and Original Drive

By standing between the car park and Chestnut Suite one can see the main avenues of Chestnut and Lime trees, this design was based on the gardens of Versailles, Patte d'oie (goose foot) design.



A Brief History of Tylney Hall

A Mansion House has existed on this site since 1561 although, according to the inscription on Fredrick Tylney's tomb, the first Tylney Hall was not built until 1700. On the Estate Map of 1774 it will be seen that the Tylney family owned 'a vast acreage' extending into several neighbouring parishes and as far as Rye farm beyond Odiham. Frederick the last male Tylney, died in 1725 and the property passed to his niece who was married to Richard Child Viscount Castlemaine, who later became the Earl of Tylney.

By way of marriage, the estate passed into the grasp of William Pole-Long-Wellesley, who was responsible for the demolition of the original Tylney Hall, either for the price of the materials, or in order to sell the standing timber on the estate. One explanation is that, by the terms of the Trust, timber could not be felled within sight of the House, or while the House was standing, and he therefore demolished it.

In 1898 Sir Lionel Philips, purchased the Hall and Estate for £77,000 and this is the House which still stands today. The Smoking Room. The Smoking Room ceiling was copied from a 16th Century model but the crowning glory was the Great Hall partially panelled in Italian Walnut with a fine stone fireplace and an Italian ceiling brought in sections from the Grimation Palace in Florence.

During the First World War the Hall served as a Hospital and the Park was used as an ASC base for mules. Before the war was over the Hall was brought by Major Hennessy, later Lord Windlesham, and in 1919 both it and much of the original estate was acquired by Major Cayzer, later created Lord Rotherwick. During the Second World War, Lord Rotherwick's interests came together when Tylney Hall became the Headquarters for his famous shipping line, the Clan Line Steamers Ltd.

In 1948 the hall became a school until 1984 when it was closed. It re-opened on October 1st, 1985 as a hotel and Restaurant after extensive refurbishment.



Garden Open Days

Three times a year we hold Garden Open Days as part of the National Gardens Scheme (NGS). Highlights of the grounds at Tylney Hall include landscaped gardens designed by the influential 19th century garden designer Gertrude Jekyll and a tree-lined vista offering one of the longest uninterrupted views in Hampshire.

See www.tylneyhall.com for this year's Garden Open Day dates.

Garden Tours

We are pleased to announce that we are able to offer both tutored and self guided tours of the grounds of Tylney Hall for groups of five or more.

Tutored Tours

Tutored tours are hosted by members of our Estates Team who have been key in the painstaking restoration programme to reinstate the 66 acre estate back to its former glory and as close to the original plans as possible. They will guide you through the areas of the gardens and have a fountain of gardening knowledge to share and are happy to answer any of your gardening questions.

Self Guided Tours

Enjoy a self guided tour of the grounds following the suggested route. Key areas of the gardens are highlighted by interpretation boards giving more information on the area of the garden.

All garden tours must be booked in advance.

Please contact the hotel for details and pricing.

For further information or to book your garden tour please contact our Events Team on 01256 745519 or conference@tylneyhall.com



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