

The 200th anniversary of Humphry Repton: landscape gardener of 'beauty in addition to profit'

Start date	29 th June 2018	End date	1 st July 2018
Venue	Maddingley Hall Maddingley Cambridge		
Tutor	Caroline Holmes	Course code	1718NRX067

Director of Programmes	Emma Jennings
For further information on this course, please contact	Public Programme Coordinator, Clare Kerr clare.kerr@ice.cam.ac.uk or 01223 746237
To book	See: www.ice.cam.ac.uk or telephone 01223 746262

Tutor biography

Caroline Holmes lectures regularly for the Institute of Continuing Education, University of Cambridge including the International Summer School Programme as Course Director; for The Arts Society formerly NADFAS around the UK as well as Germany, the Netherlands, Spain, New Zealand and Australia; for the Royal Horticultural Society, Landmark Trust, National Galleries of Scotland, Martin Randall Travel in France, Ciceroni Travel in France and Italy, and Clio Voyages' French-speaking clientele in the UK. She is author of eleven books, her latest *Water Lilies and Bory Latour-Marliac, the genius behind Monet's water lilies* received the Elizabeth Crisp Rea Award 2017. Her *RHS Herbs for the Gourmet Gardener* was finalist in the 2014 Garden Media Guild Reference Book of the Year Award. Other titles include *Impressionists in their Gardens* and *Follies of Europe - architectural extravaganzas*. Design consultancies include Tudor-inspired gardens for a Humanist Renaissance 'journey' around Notre Dame de Calais, 16th-18th-century orchards and gardens with modern operatic borders at High House for the Royal Opera House, and the poisons planting in the Alnwick Garden. She co-presented 'Glorious Gardens' on Anglia TV and has presented several series for BBC Radio 4. Caroline was the recipient of 'The Gertrude B Foster Award for Excellence in Herbal Literature' in 2011 from the Herb Society of America. See also www.caroline-holmes.com

Course programme

Friday

Please plan to arrive between 16:30 and 18:30. You can meet other course members in the bar which opens at 18:15. Tea and coffee making facilities are available in the study bedrooms.

19:00	Dinner
20:30 – 22:00	Introduction: Growing up in Georgian England and its Brownian landscapes
22:00	Terrace bar open for informal discussion

Saturday

07:30	Breakfast
09:00 – 10:30	Sources of influence and inspiration: Grandees - William Wyndham of Felbrigg and Thomas Coke of Holkham Practitioners - Nathaniel Kent, William Marshall and Robert Masham
10:30	Coffee
11:00 – 12:30	A Prophet in his own land – Norfolk, Suffolk and Essex
13:00	Lunch
14:00 – 16:00	Free
16:00	Tea
16:30 – 18:00	Sketches and Hints on Landscape Gardening – Living or Picturesque?
18:00 – 18:30	Free
18:30	Dinner
20:00 – 21:30	Other landscapes Students are invited to bring in late Georgian and Regency prose, poetry or music to share with the group and discuss
21:30	Terrace bar open for informal discussion

Sunday

07:30	Breakfast
09:00 – 10:30	Never put your trust in princes ... but leave your mark in print – the Royal Pavilion, Brighton

10:30

Coffee

11:00 – 12:30

Progressive and lucrative - The Duke of Bedford and his extensive estates

12:45

Lunch

The course will disperse after lunch

Course syllabus

Aims:

- To examine the wider Regency context of Repton's gardens and landscapes
- To engage with the contemporary tastes for outdoor entertainment and pleasure
- To discuss Repton's horticultural success, failure and legacy

Content:

Humphry Repton lived through interesting times, not least the loss of Britain's American colonies, the threat of Napoleonic invasion and not forgetting the 'Madness of King George'. An able flautist he worked for a time as a theatre critic. He was employed as both a political aide, taking him to Ireland, and estate manager in East Anglia, which introduced him to the economic advantages and social disadvantages of the Agrarian Revolution. He took up 'Capability' Brown's landscape legacy, introducing greater interest in the house's setting and its distant prospects. At the height of his career he was **the** Landscape gardener for 'polite' society for whom he produced a series of before-and-after watercolours with detailed commentary in a copperplate hand, often exquisitely bound in red Moroccan leather. These formed his celebrated Red Books. Many of his landscapes survive which will be the subject of much of our focus. Despite mismanaged finances and lost opportunities, Jane Austen wrote that he would '... give as much beauty as he could ...'

Presentation of the course:

Use will be made of powerpoint presentations illustrated with contemporary and surviving landscape views, plans, cartoons and portraits. The class is encouraged to engage in debate, possibly with Regency cut and thrust throughout the weekend. Weather permitting we will walk in Madingley's own landscape and gardens to examine plants and styles that would have been favoured.

As a result of the course, within the constraints of the time available, students should be able to:

- Have an enhanced understanding of what constitutes a Repton landscape
- Enjoy an interactive evaluation and analysis of these landscapes and their wider implications from both the Tutor and varied perspectives of the group
- Gain a serious and amusing appreciation of gardening in Regency society

Reading and resources list

Listed below are a number of texts that might be of interest for future reference, but do not need to be bought (or consulted) for the course.

Author	Title	Publisher and date
Daniels, Stephen	Humphry Repton Landscape Gardening and the Geography of Georgian England	Yale University Press 1999
Batey, Mavis	Jane Austen and the English Landscape	Barn Elms 1996
Batey, Mavis	Regency Gardens	Shire Garden History 1995

Website addresses

<https://archive.org/details/landscapegardeni00rept>

Note Students of the Institute of Continuing Education are entitled to 20% discount on books published by Cambridge University Press (CUP) which are purchased at the Press bookshop, 1 Trinity Street, Cambridge (Mon-Sat 9am – 5:30pm, Sun 11am – 5pm). A letter or email confirming acceptance on to a current Institute course should be taken as evidence of enrolment.

Information correct as of: 04 August 2017