

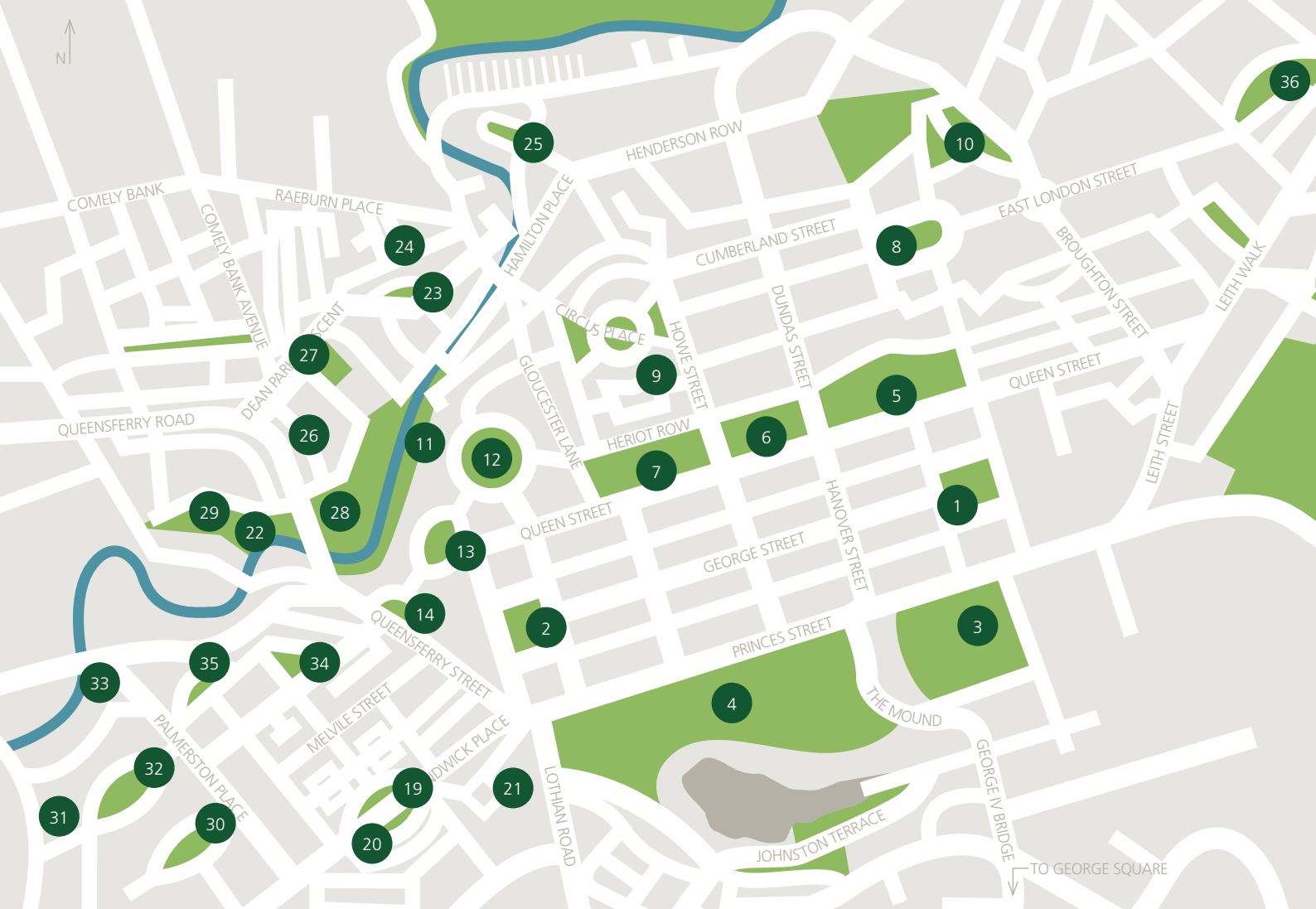


# EDINBURGH GARDENS AND SQUARES CONFERENCE

The Scottish enlightenment as  
manifested in the gardens and  
squares of Edinburgh's new town

**26th September 2014**

THE GARDEN  
HISTORY SOCIETY



N

COMELY BANK

COMELY BANK AVENUE

RAEBURN PLACE

DEAN PARK CRES.

QUEENSFERRY ROAD

HAMILTON PLACE

HENDERSON ROW

CUMBERLAND STREET

EAST LONDON STREET

BROUGHTON STREET

LEITH WALK

QUEEN STREET

LEITH STREET

HANOVER STREET

GEORGE STREET

PRINCES STREET

THE MOUND

JOHNSTON TERRACE

LOTHIAN ROAD

MELVILLE STREET

MIDWICK PLACE

PALMERSTON PLACE

QUEENSFERRY STREET

TO GEORGE SQUARE



## EDINBURGH NEW TOWN GARDENS

- 1.** St Andrews Square
- 2.** Charlotte Square
- 3.** East Princes Street
- 4.** West Princes Street
- 5.** East Queen Street
- 6.** Central Queen Street
- 7.** West Queen Street
- 8.** Drummond Place
- 9.** Royal Circus
- 10.** Bellevue Crescent
- 11.** Mory Bank
- 12.** Mory Place
- 13.** Ainslie Place
- 14.** Randolph Crescent
- 15.** Regent Terrace Garden  
(front Bank Garden)
- 16.** Regent, Royal and Carlton Terrace
- 17.** London Road
- 18.** Hillside Crescent
- 19.** Coates Crescent
- 20.** Atholl Crescent
- 21.** Rutland Square
- 22.** Dean Bank
- 23.** St Bernard's Crescent
- 24.** The Raeburn Garden
- 25.** Saxe-Coburg Place
- 26.** Clarendon Crescent
- 27.** Oxford Terrace
- 28.** Dean Gardens
- 29.** Belgrave Crescent
- 30.** Grosvenor and  
Lansdowne Crescent
- 31.** Magdala Crescent
- 32.** Eglinton and Glencairn Crescent
- 33.** Douglas Crescent
- 34.** Drumsheugh Gardens
- 35.** Rothesay Terrace / Place
- 36.** Hopetoun Crescent

Several squares and gardens will be open on Saturday 27th and Sunday 28th of September for visits and guided tours. See separate 'Doors Open Day' brochure for details.



## PURPOSE OF THE CONFERENCE

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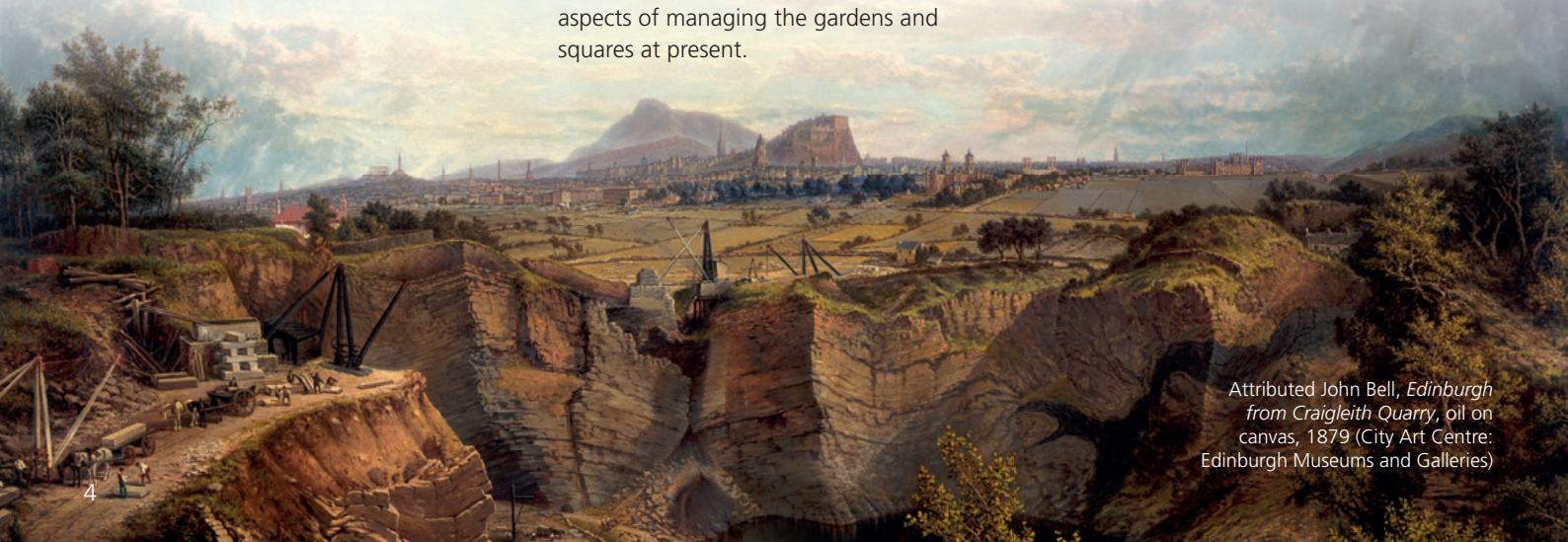
The Age of Enlightenment had a vast impact on 18th century approaches to science, sociology and urban planning. The Enlightenment philosophy influenced the design of Edinburgh's New Town, which featured structured street plans and the inclusion of squares and gardens for residents to enjoy. These are now an integral part of the Edinburgh World Heritage site.

This conference aims to explain the significance of gardens and squares in Edinburgh's New Town, as well as celebrate and investigate how their enjoyment can be maximised for the benefit of the social, economic and cultural life of the city in the 21st century.

The day-long event will take place in the heart of the New Town at the George Hotel and has been divided into three sessions. The first two sessions will set the scene describing the history, philosophy and development of the spaces within the city. The third session will discuss the practical aspects of managing the gardens and squares at present.

The day will conclude with a reception at Banking Hall at Dundas House, St Andrew Square, where the delegation will be able to enjoy the stunning surroundings of this remarkable 18th century building over a glass of wine and some nibbles.

The conference has been developed by the Garden History Society and will be delivered by Historic Scotland. Other partners involved in the organisation include Edinburgh World Heritage Trust, Cockburn Association, Architecture History Society Scotland and Built Environment Forum Scotland.



Attributed John Bell, *Edinburgh from Craigleith Quarry*, oil on canvas, 1879 (City Art Centre: Edinburgh Museums and Galleries)

8:30 – 9:00	Registration	
9:00 – 9:10	Opening address	Kristina Taylor, GHS Trustee
SESSION 1: HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE		CHAIR: SUE HEWER (GHSS)
9:10 – 9:30	Enlightenment and post-enlightenment context for Edinburgh's New Town – How ideas of the landscape informed the urban design	Dr John Lowrey, Edinburgh University
9:30 – 9:50	In search of free air and an agreeable prospect – The flight from Edinburgh's Old Town	Christopher Dingwall, Landscape Historian and Heritage Consultant
9:50 – 10:10	The builders of the New Town – How the streets and squares were built in the 18th century	Dr Anthony Lewis, Glasgow Museums
10:10 – 10:30	The humours of power and space – Changes in the European plaza and city square from the 1100s to the present	Dr Desmond McCabe, PRONI
10:30 – 10:45	Q&A	
10:45 – 11:10	Coffee break	

SESSION 2: SOCIAL ASPECTS		CHAIR: PETER RANSON (HS)
11:10 – 11:30	Who lived in the New Town and how were the gardens used?	Ian Gow, NTS
11:30 – 11:50	Edinburgh's arcadia – Significance and future vision	Peter Burman, GHSS
11:50 – 12:10	Afterlife in the New Town – Edinburgh Western Cemetery a picturesque place of rest on the valley of the water of Leith	Vanessa Stephens, GHSS
12:10 – 12:30	The genius Loci of the Athens of the North – The cultural significance of Edinburgh's Calton Hill	Dr Kirsten Carter McKee
12:30 – 12:45	Q&A	
12:45 – 13:45	Lunch	

SESSION 3: MANAGEMENT IN THE 21ST CENTURY		CHAIR: MARK TURBULL (LIS)
13:45 – 14:05	Managing Edinburgh's historic parks in the 21st century – Princes Street Gardens, Calton Hill, and other city centre parks	Alan Bell, CEC
14:05 – 14:25	Is Edinburgh's planning governance good enough to protect World Heritage status?	Marion Williams, Cockburn Association
14:25 – 14:45	Period, planting and plants – Aspects of planting design and management in Edinburgh's New Town gardens	Peter McGowan, Peter McGowan Associates
14:45 – 15:15	St Andrew Sq – History, use and identity in the 21st century	Prof. Brian Evans, Glasgow School of Art
15:15 – 15:30	Q&A	
15:30 – 16:00	Coffee break	

SESSION 3.2: MANAGEMENT IN THE 21ST CENTURY		CHAIR: EUAN LEITCH (BEFS)
16:00 – 16:20	Reinstating John Nash's picturesque vision for the Regent's Park, London	Todd Longstaff-Gowan, Landscape Advisor to the Crown Estate
16:20 – 16:40	Re-thinking green spaces	Drew Bennellick, HLF
16:40 – 17:00	International practice – What's everyone else doing?	Krzysztof Jan Chuchra, EWHT
17:00 – 17:40	Q&A and general debate and closing remarks	Magnus Linlaker, The Times
17:45 – 19:15	Drinks reception in the banking hall at Dundas House, St Andrew Square	
18:00 – 18:15	Dundas House the finest town house in the New Town of Edinburgh. Hosted by Royal Bank of Scotland	Simon Green, RCAHMS & AHSS





# Scottish Paintings & Sculpture

Auction Thursday, 11th December  
33 Broughton Place Edinburgh EH1 3RR

This sale is open for consignments until the end of  
October. For more information please contact  
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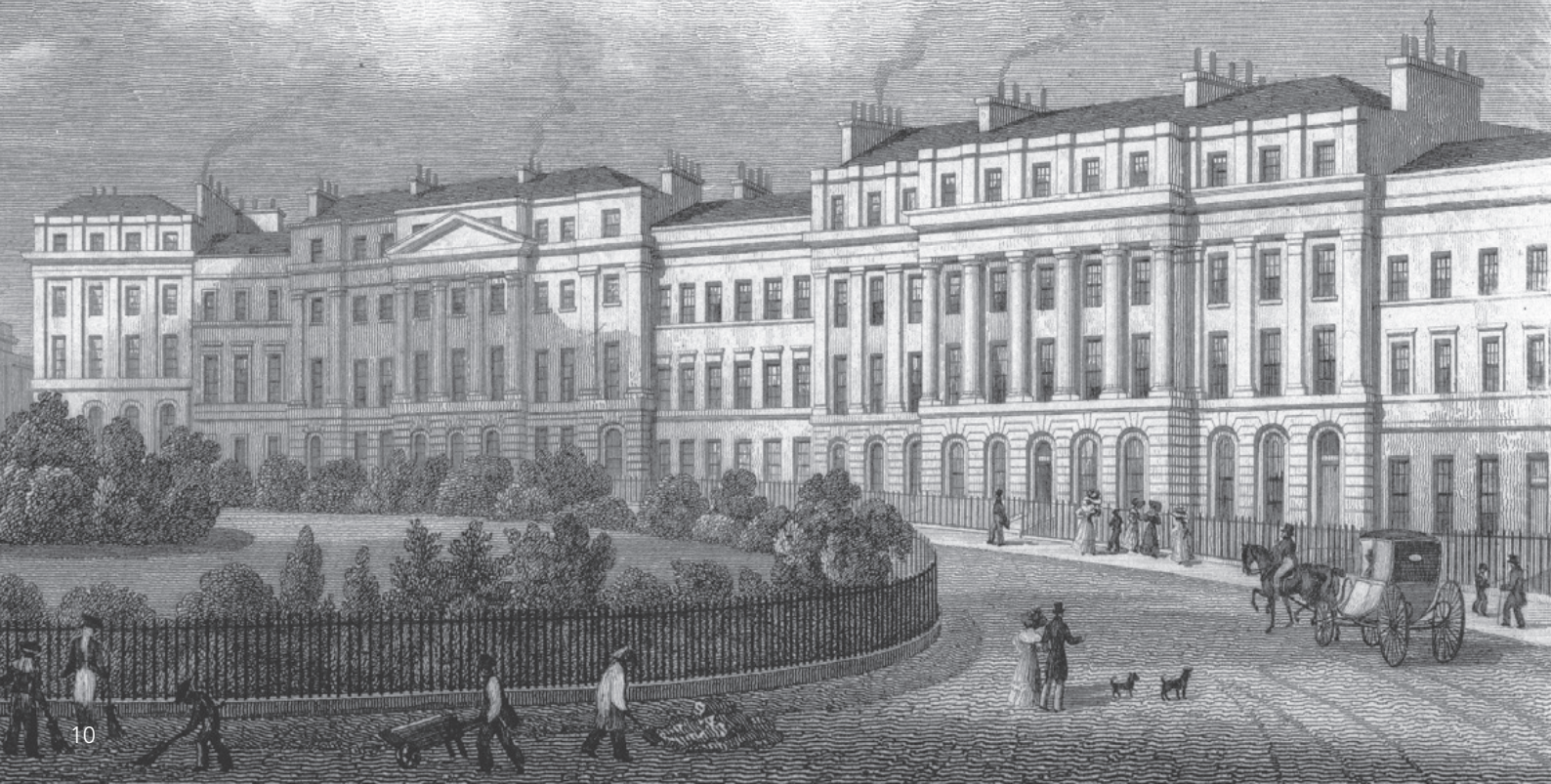
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EDINBURGH LONDON GLASGOW

Early 19th century view of the north  
west side of Moray Place, Edinburgh.  
© RCAHMS





# SPEAKERS BIOGRAPHIES

## › ALAN BELL

Alan Bell is the Parks and Gardens Manager for Edinburgh City Council with over 35 years experience in horticulture. He has worked in gardens such as Holyrood Palace and Culzean castle and also has many years experience working for and promoting therapeutic horticulture and community gardening. He is a founder and Chair of Trellis, a voluntary organisation promoting and supporting social and therapeutic horticulture, and is a Vice President of the Royal Caledonian Horticultural Society.

## › DREW BENNELICK

Drew Bennellick joined the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) in April 2009 and is Programme Director for the Parks for People and Landscape Partnerships targeted grant programmes, as well as being responsible for providing expert advice to the HLF Board and regional/country teams on designed landscapes such as parks and natural heritage. Prior to joining HLF, Drew was Deputy Director of English Heritage's London Region dealing with regional policy development and building partnerships with key organisations.

## › PETER BURMAN

Peter Burman MBE FSA is a past Chairman of Garden History Society in Scotland. He read History of Art at Cambridge and has alternated between practical conservation and academic life. He is a trustee of two great Scottish houses with 'Inventory' garden landscapes and practices as a private consultant. His research interests include not only historic gardens and landscapes but also historic gas lighting and the tangible and intangible aspects of heritage related to the house in the service of humanity.

## › CHRISTOPHER DINGWALL

Christopher Dingwall is a landscape historian. After fifteen years involvement in environmental education, he went on to serve as Conservation Officer with the Garden History Society in Scotland for twelve years from 1992 to 2004. Since relinquishing that role, he has continued to research, write and lecture on various aspects of garden history.

Brian Evans is a partner of Gillespies, an international landscape design and planning practice based in the UK. He has worked in 16 countries and in numerous UNESCO sites. He led the historic public realm regeneration projects of St Andrew Square, Grassmarket and Castle Street, Edinburgh. Brian is Head of Urbanism at the Mackintosh School of Architecture, Glasgow School of Art and was previously Artistic Professor of Urban Design & Planning at Chalmers School of Architecture in Gothenburg, Sweden. From 2005 until 2010 he was Deputy Chair and Chair of Design Review with Architecture+Design Scotland. He is a founding director of the Academy of Urbanism, London and a member of the Garden History Society. He practices, researches, teaches and speaks widely on ecological urbanism and landscape planning.

Ian Gow was appointed Curator of National Trust for Scotland (NTS) in 1998. He has written extensively on the architecture and decorative arts of Scotland, including many guidebooks. He was born and brought up in Edinburgh.

Simon Green is an architectural historian currently working in the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland. He has recently published a book on the architectural development of Dumfries House, Ayrshire. He is researching the architecture of the Baronial and the Arts and Crafts Movement in Scotland. He is the President of the Architectural Heritage Society of Scotland.

Sue Hewer spent 30 years as a linguist/educationalist until her retirement when she transform herself into a landscape historian with archaeological overtones. She is particularly interested in the transfer of concepts in landscape and garden design and the technology to make them happen from continental Europe to Scotland in the 17th century.

John Lowrey is Senior Lecturer in Architectural History and Undergraduate Dean in Humanities and Social Science at University of Edinburgh. His research interests fall mainly in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries and cover a broad field, from the country house and its designed landscape, to urban design and architecture, and from domestic planning to sewage disposal. He was architectural historian to the Scottish Parliament project and has recently been supervising PhD research on the cultural significance of the Calton Hill.

Dr Kirsten Carter McKee has recently completed her PhD in Architectural History at the University of Edinburgh. Her work has focused on the cultural significance of Edinburgh's Calton Hill – a project exploring a major part of Edinburgh's World Heritage site, funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council and UNESCO through the Edinburgh World Heritage Trust. This considered both the structures and their strong connections to Scottish cultural identity. Kirsten has also published widely on themes of Scottish memorials and Empire, and will turn her thesis into a book to be published in 2015.

## › EUAN LEITCH

Euan Leitch is the Advocacy and Communications Officer for Built Environment Forum Scotland (BEFS). Previously, as the Assistant Director of the Cockburn Association (Edinburgh's Civic Trust) he co-ordinated Edinburgh's Doors Open Day and was a freelance Historic Building Consultant while the Vice Chair of the Architectural Heritage Society of Scotland. Edinburgh born, educated and resident, he has studied Architectural History and Urban & Regional Planning. Euan has a particular interest in Brutalist buildings.

## › ANTHONY LEWIS

Anthony Lewis has researched the life and work of James Craig and the builders of Edinburgh's New Town for over 25 years. In 1995 Anthony contributed to several books and an exhibition that celebrated the bicentenary of James Craig. He achieved a PhD from Edinburgh University on The Builders of Edinburgh's New Town from 1767 to 1795 in 2006 from which a book has been based and will be published thanks to Spire Press and Historic Scotland, the Strathmartine Trust and Carnegie Trust.

## › MAGNUS LINKLATER CBE

Magnus Linklater CBE is a columnist and former Scotland Editor on The Times of London. A former Chairman of the Scottish Arts Council, he was Editor of The Scotsman newspaper from January 1988 until July 1994, and has held a number of senior journalistic appointments in British newspapers over the past 40 years. He is President of the Saltire Society, Chairman of the Little Sparta Trust which manages Ian Hamilton Finlay's garden in Lanarkshire, Chairman of the Horsecross Arts Company in Perth, and is the author of several books on current affairs and Scottish history. He is married and lives in Edinburgh and Perthshire.



Charles Halkerstone, *View of Princes Street from the Mound, Edinburgh, 1843*, oil on panel (City Art Centre: Edinburgh Museums and Galleries)



Todd Longstaffe-Gowan is a landscape architect, historian and author based in London. He is Gardens Adviser to Historic Royal Palaces, Landscape Adviser to the Crown Estate Paving Commission in Regent's Park and President of the London Parks and Gardens Trust. His most recent book *The London Square: Gardens in the Midst of Town* was published by Yale University Press (UK) in 2012.

Desmond McCabe, graduate of University College Dublin, is currently a curator in the Public Record Office Northern Ireland (PRONI, Belfast). Having worked on the official history of the Office of Public Works (Ireland) for a number of years, he published the study *St Stephen's Green, Dublin: 1660-1875* (Dublin, 2011). The publication investigates the development of a square from medieval commonage to inner-city Victorian private park. Most of his published work has been in the field of 19th century social history, legal, criminal, demographic, architectural, urban and anthropological. But he strays from these specialisms whenever he can get away with it.

Peter McGowan is a landscape architect with 40 years experience of a wide range of projects, with a specialism in heritage projects. His practice is one of the leading firms dealing with gardens and designed landscapes in Scotland undertaking conservation management plans, restoration proposals, visitor management projects for clients including the National Trust for Scotland, Historic Scotland, councils, development companies and private landowners. He has been a member of the Garden History Society for about 30 years and has chaired GHSS's Scottish Gardens Advisory Group since its inception.

## › PETER RANSON

Peter Ranson is an award-winning architect who has worked both in private practice and the public sector before joining Historic Scotland in 1997. At Historic Scotland he is currently responsible for the maintenance of Properties in the Care of Scottish Ministers within the areas of the Scottish Borders, Falkirk and the Lothians.

## › VANESSA STEPHEN

Vanessa Stephen is a freelance Landscape Architect trained at Heriot Watt University under the guidance of David Skinner. Her interest in historic landscapes stems from her year out spent in London in easy reach of the famous Victorian burial grounds, followed by a period spent in Italy studying the gardens of the Italian Renaissance, which became the subject of her final year dissertation. After graduating in 1988 she worked in Birmingham before returning to Edinburgh in 1993 to work for Turnbull Jeffrey Partnership where she was responsible for preparing with Norman Gray and Partners the landscape management plan for Dean Cemetery.

## › KRISTINA TAYLOR

Kristina Taylor is a garden historian and writer with a background of wildlife and ecological filmmaking for television. Brought up in the New Town, Edinburgh at a time when the conservation of its buildings was being debated and fought over in the 1960s, she advocates a holistic approach to town and landscape planning.

## › MARK TURNBULL

Mark Turnbull is a chartered Architect, Landscape Architect and IT Professional. He studied Landscape Architecture under Professor Ian McHarg at the University of Pennsylvania and worked on his influential book *Design with Nature*. After working in the USA for a number of years he returned to Scotland and was a Partner in W J Cairns and Partners before founding Turnbull Jeffrey Partnership. Since 1998 he has been principal of Mark Turnbull Landscape Architect and chair of Envision3D a company specialising in computer visualisation. He was a member of the Countryside Commission for Scotland and then the Royal Fine Art Commission for Scotland. He is currently a director of the Edinburgh and Lothian Green Space Trust and chair of the Landscape Institute Scotland, chair of the Institutes Technical Committee and is on the Board of Trustees.

## › KRZYSZTOF JAN CHUCHRA

Krzysztof Jan Chuchra currently coordinates Edinburgh World Heritage engagement with European Programmes, international relations and cultural diplomacy. These activities aim for bringing the organisation and the city closer to Europe in areas of heritage and city management, urban regeneration and conservation. He also takes an active role in building Scottish and Polish connections – both parts of the world are very close to his heart.

## › MARION WILLIAMS

Marion Williams has been the Director of the Cockburn Association for the past four year. She has a background in education, cultural heritage, planning and the environment as well as having experience in a variety of roles in local, regional and national government. She has worked in the private, public and voluntary sectors and sat on a number of cultural, health, environment and educational committees from local to international levels.

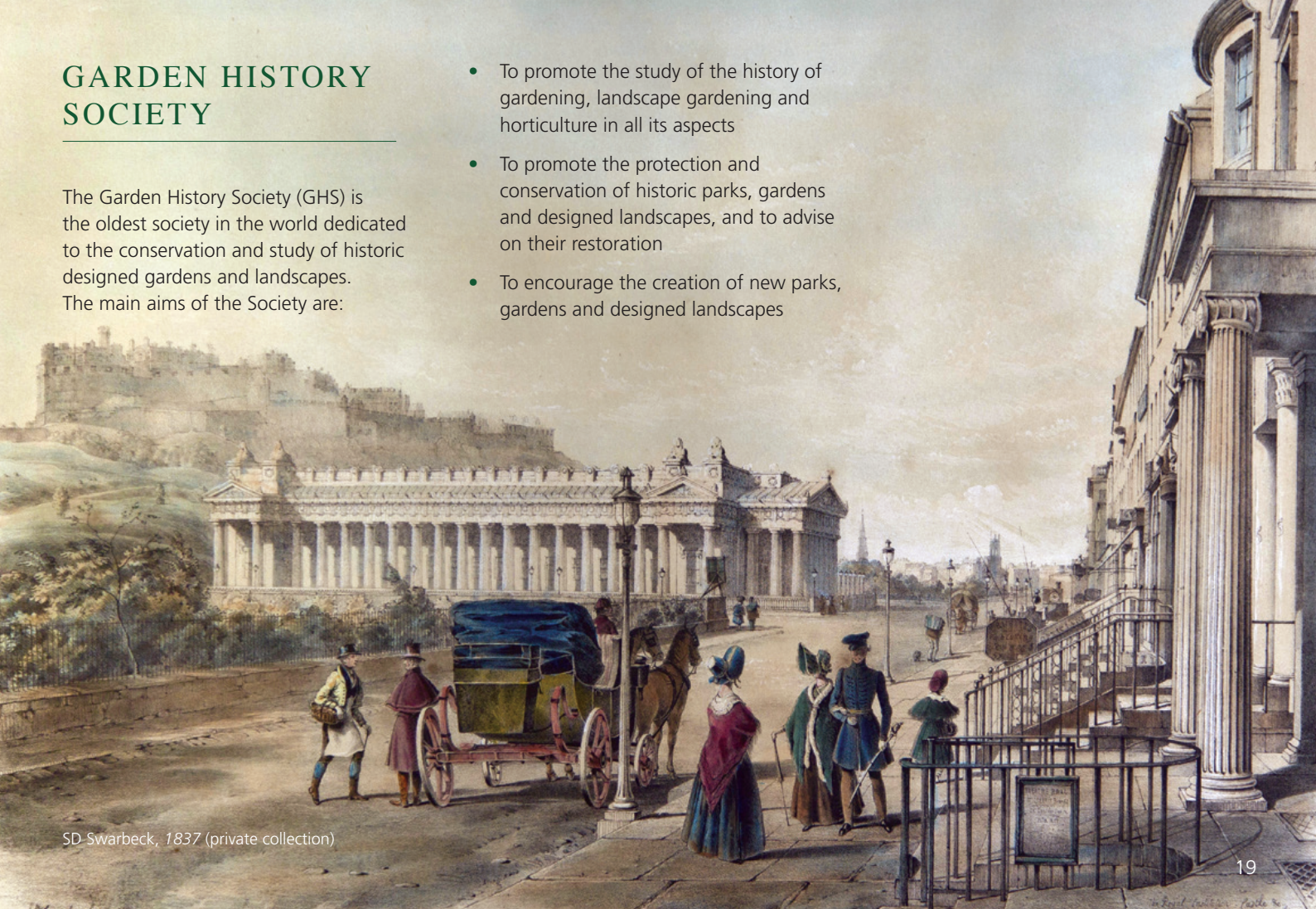


# GARDEN HISTORY SOCIETY

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The Garden History Society (GHS) is the oldest society in the world dedicated to the conservation and study of historic designed gardens and landscapes. The main aims of the Society are:

- To promote the study of the history of gardening, landscape gardening and horticulture in all its aspects
- To promote the protection and conservation of historic parks, gardens and designed landscapes, and to advise on their restoration
- To encourage the creation of new parks, gardens and designed landscapes



SD Swarbeck, 1837 (private collection)



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