

THE HALL GROUNDS AND PARKLAND TRAILS

In addition to the Walled Garden, the Hall grounds contain 80 acres of gardens, parkland and lakes, and you will find several marked trails to help you explore.

There are two different parkland trails to choose from; you will find these colour-coded with posts. A number of interpretation boards will also give you further detail about the various features of the landscape and buildings along your route:

- The **Cascade Circuit** is just less than one mile in length and takes you on a journey around the woodland gardens and lakes that surround the Hall.

- An alternative extension, open at certain times of the year, is the **Old Aviaries Trail** which includes a walk through an area currently being restored back into parkland.

Please be aware that the walks are uneven in places and unfortunately are not suitable for wheelchairs or large buggies.

Dogs are permitted on the parkland, but not the Hall grounds. Please ask in the Ticket Office if you are unsure of dog-friendly routes.

Please note that there is open water along the routes and children should be carefully supervised.

Capability Brown



In 1771 W.H. St Quintin, 5th Baronet, first wrote to Capability Brown and requested his help with the re-design of the park at Scampston, to replace an earlier garden built to a design by Charles Bridgeman in the early eighteenth century. He continued to visit over the following years to monitor the progress as his plans were brought into fruition.

Brown's landscapes were designed to be both practical and elegant. They appear seamless owing to the use of the 'ha-ha', or sunken fence. At Scampston this sits just before the A64. The 'ha-ha' was used to confuse the eye into believing that different pieces of parkland, though managed and stocked quite differently, were one. His expansive lakes were made to appear as if a river running through the landscape, that like the parkland itself, ran on indefinitely.

Brown's work at Scampston is best admired from the upper bedroom window which sits beneath the dome. From here you clearly see how he created vistas across the landscape, framed carefully by trees and other natural features. On a clear day you can see all the way across to Deer Park Lodge, built originally as a folly to admire from the Hall, and incorporated fully into Brown's designs for the landscape. If your visit is during the Hall's opening season, it is well worth joining an afternoon tour.

Fortless coherence is taken for granted today in a way that was predicted in his obituary:

*'Where he is the happiest man he will be least remembered,
so closely did he copy nature his works will be mistaken.'*

Guided Heritage Walks: 'Walking in the Footsteps of Mr Brown', take place throughout the season. Check our website for more details.



SCAMPSTON GARDENS GUIDE

THE WALLED GARDEN AND
PARKLAND TRAILS



Welcome to Scampston!

This guide will help you discover all that Scampston has to offer, with suggested routes for both the Walled Garden and Parkland.

The Walled Garden and Parkland you see today are the handiwork of two world famous designers from very different periods in time: Piet Oudolf and Lancelot 'Capability' Brown.

On your journey through the gardens and parkland here at Scampston you will become more acquainted with the style of each, and the ideas behind the designs.

We would love to see your pictures of your visit.
Share them with us on Facebook, Twitter or Instagram



Scampston Hall and Walled Garden



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The Hall (6) Originally built in the early 17th century, the Hall was remodelled between 1795 and 1803 by architect Thomas Leverton. It was designed to sit harmoniously within the Capability Brown landscape.

The Parterre (7) Sitting on the site of a 19th century rose garden, the parterre and four crataegus trees were planted in 1995 as part of the renovation of the gardens.

Rock Garden (8) Explore the winding paths that twist among the many mounds within the rock garden. This garden was created by Backhouse of York in 1909 for the owner W.H. St Quintin. The rock garden is currently undergoing renovation due to infestation by invasive weeds.

Pump House (9) The pump house, built in 1778, once contained a waterwheel which was used to pump water from the nearby lake to the top of the Hall. The sloping wall was built in this way to support the weight of the wheel.

Palladian Bridge (10) The Palladian Bridge stands at the end of three linked lakes in the park. Designed by Capability Brown in the style of the great renaissance architect Palladio, it makes a grand statement and dams an existing stream.

Old Aviary or Rock House (11) There is evidence of a building on this spot as early as 1793. The old aviaries consisted of several large pens and small ponds that were used to house W.H. St Quintin's collection of exotic birds in the late 19th century. The wall you see here was actually a decorative façade hiding a shed where the feed was kept.

Play Area (12) Children will love to discover the forest creatures that reside in the woodland area. Play in the 'wigloo' or have a game of 'Ladybirds and Bumblebees' – the Scampston version of Noughts and Crosses! – on our **Game Board (13)**. Discover the teeming life within the **Bug Hotel (14)** though be careful not to disturb the creepy-crawlies within!

Old Ice House (15) The ice house (1759) has recently been restored. The building's walls are multi-layered which used to keep the ice from the lake insulated. It would then be crushed and moved to a deep shaft beneath the Hall to be used in the kitchen.

The Cascade (16) This is the site of a cascade waterfall created by Capability Brown between the two lower lakes. The original cascade was destroyed when the dam, further upstream, burst in the 1950s. Today you see the replacement, built for Sir Thomas Legard.

Spanish Chestnut Tree (17) This magnificent specimen is one of the oldest trees in the grounds, dating back to the mid-1700s.

Old Horse Shelter (18) This horse shelter and others around the estate are typical of those used by brood mares in the 18th century, including the famous Cypron. Today they provide roosts for bats and barn owls.

Gate Posts (19) This pair of gate posts date from the 1770s marks the start of an avenue of lime trees, one of the early entrance routes to the Hall from the Scarborough direction.

Chain Avenue (21) The lime avenue eventually becomes Chain Avenue, named after the posts and chains that once ran the whole length of the way.

The Lodge (22) The lodge, built in the 18th century to house the gatekeeper, is at the end of the track which was once the main drive up to Scampston Hall.

Dairy Cottage (23) As its name suggests this was once the site of the dairy for Scampston, where milk, butter and cheese were produced for the Hall. It was built at the same time and to the same design as the lodge.