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Bulletin

FOLAR

Friends of the Landscape Archive at Reading

# Welcome to FOLAR's January 2022 Bulletin.

## Invitation for applications for fully funded PhD studentship

**Plants on the move: Kew and the circulation of people, knowledge and plants during 18th-19th century between Britain and continental Europe.**

Project supervisors: Prof Mark Nesbitt (Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew) and Dr Kristof Fatsar (Kingston University landscape architecture )

**Deadline for expression of interest: Sunday 23 January 2022 midnight GMT**

- [More information about project](#)

[Research degree funding opportunities at Kingston School of Art](#)



From: A view of the Palace from the South side of the Lake with the Temples of Bellona and Aeolus and the House of Confucius in the Royal Gardens at Kew Engraving by Pierre Charles Canot (c1764) after William Woollett Credit: Yale Center for British Art, Paul Mellon Collection

## FUTURE HISTORY: Teaching history in landscape schools

History is important as a basis to any profession, as a point of reference, and in our case, as an inspiration for new design... Should we not use learning from the past as a prerogative to improve future landscapes and make them more sustainable?

Jan Woudstra and Robert Holden are planning a 2 day conference at University of Sheffield with FOLAR on 8-9 Sept 2022.

- [Details and call for papers](#)

**15 Feb 2022 deadline for ideas and abstracts.**



A visit to Painshill Park, an opportunity to discuss a landscape history of private eighteenth century park, afforested with Sitka spruce in the 1940s and remade in part since the 1980s as a valued tourist attraction

(Photo: Robert Holden)



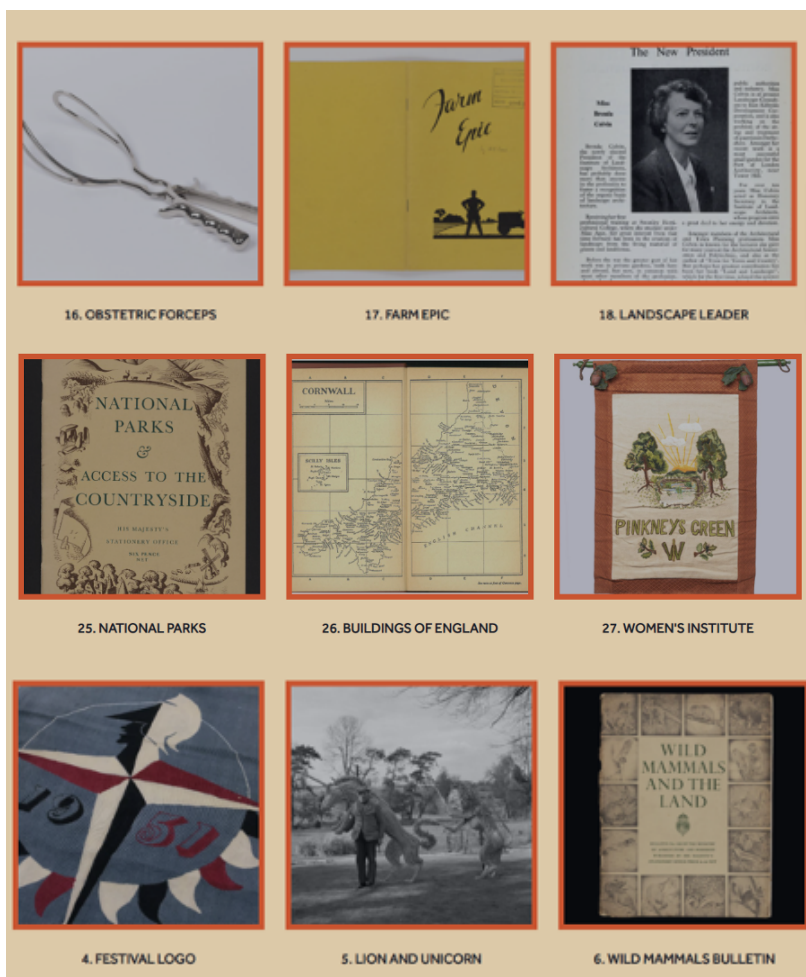
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**MERL 51** - marking the 70th year of the Museum of English Rural Life (MERL), the museum is exploring a fascinating array of objects they hold connected with 1951, the year the Museum was established, and of course the year of the Festival of Britain. Working with artists and writers, including members of FOLAR, this online exhibition of [51 Voices 51 Objects](#) reveals priorities and passions of the past, present, and future.



Try Hal Moggridge on [Brenda Colvin](#) (Object 18), Mark Loxton on National Parks (Object 25) and Annabel Downs on Festival Landscapes and landscape architects (Object 34). And there is a lovely tale also about the larger than life lion and unicorn made from straw.



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**Why so Special?** FOLAR and the Gardens Trust series of talks continues in the New Year, with a further 10 talks on 20C landscapes recently added to the Register of Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest in England.

Full details of all these talks available [here](#) Bulk booking for discounted tickets available for [semi-public gardens series](#) and/or [private gardens and private housing series](#). See descriptions on next page & book now!

Kate Harwood's [talk](#) on 'A People's Arcadia: The Ian Hamilton Finlay Garden at Luton' sets the ball rolling on 11 Jan 2022.





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## PUBLIC & SEMI PUBLIC PARKS & GARDENS

11 January **A People's Arcadia: The Ian Hamilton Finlay Garden at Luton** by Kate Harwood



Aphrodite Ian Hamilton Finlay Image: Kate Harwood

The IHF garden at Stockwood, commissioned and funded by the local council, is a complete programme of sculptures designed by Ian Hamilton Finlay and complemented by planting by Bob Burgoyne, Master Gardener at the council and very much in sympathy with Finlay's vision. The site is not only in a public park, but also an 18th century parkland. The garden draws on the work of Claude Lorraine and the English Landscape Movement. This talk looks at the commissioning of the garden, its influences, other examples in Finlay's oeuvre and its importance.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/why-so-special-iconic-c20-landscapes-improvement-garden-stockwood-park-tickets-166991896257>

18 January **Roper's Garden: a Meeting of Form, Function and Art** by Ed Bennis



Ropers Garden, Chelsea. Drawing by Peter Shephard; Landscape Institute Archive @ The Museum of English Rural Life

Originally Sir Thomas More's orchard in the early 16th C, this is a modern urban space built on a WW2 derelict site that remained essentially derelict until the 1960s. Peter Shephard developed a sensitive and understated design utilising the basements of the destroyed buildings to provide a sheltered and sunken garden. There are distinctive Shephard elements such as path and kerb details often found in his other designs; a strong geometry of spatial form, and restrained planting of a knowledgeable plantsman.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/why-so-special-iconic-c20-landscapes-ropers-garden-tickets-166992161049>

25 January **The John F Kennedy Memorial: Stories from the Archives** by Annabel Downs



Image: Photo by Susan Jellicoe, Museum of English Rural Life Susan Jellicoe/ LI collection

The huge Portland stone slab that forms the John F Kennedy Memorial was listed Grade II in 1998. It is located on the fringe of a finger of woodland and set in an 'acre of Runnymede' on grazing land rising above the meadow. It is this, the rest of the site that was recently added to Historic England's register, although it is surely hard to find a design that is not more integrated with its landscape. The JFK Memorial soon became a celebrated landscape design, it was significant to Jellicoe's career, and it has continued to attract widespread interest and praise.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/why-so-special-iconic-c20-landscapes-kennedy-memorial-tickets-166992251319>

1 February **Arne Jacobsen and the 'Total Design' of St Catherine's College, Oxford**

by Tim Richardson



St Catherine's College, Oxford: landscape and

Having written books on the gardens of both universities, Tim Richardson describes St Catherine's (universally known as St Catz) as the premier modernist exercise among the Oxbridge colleges. In this talk he describes the genesis of the design and Jacobsen's uncompromising approach to every detail. The design is unusual in that Jacobsen oversaw both building and landscape in a spirit of complete equality, lending the whole a balance and seamlessness which is rare indeed. Nevertheless, our speaker has certain reservations about the result, in terms of its fitness for purpose as a college and as a home for students.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/why-so-special-iconic-c20-landscapes-st-catherines-college-tickets-166992391739>