

Landmark News

The Landmark Trust newsletter

Issued twice yearly

Spring 2010

Five new Landmarks open in 2010

In 2010 we will add another five buildings to Landmark's collection illustrating the breadth and richness of our architectural past. **Oxenford Gatehouse** near Elstead in Surrey (for up to four people) was designed by A W N Pugin and opened in January. With its Picturesque profile and setting and furnishings carefully chosen to evoke Pugin's distinctive style, we are confident it will prove as popular as **The Grange**, our other building designed by Pugin.

Cavendish Hall in Suffolk (for up to twelve people) is a lovely Regency country house that came to us as an exceptionally generous bequest from Mrs Pamela Matthews. An endowment has allowed us to refurbish and refurnish the house, and bookings are already open. Cavendish Hall will welcome its first visitors in May.

With the other three buildings, Landmark embarks on an exciting new initiative, extending our activities into France. The internationally known site is called **Le Moulin de la Tuilerie** at Gif-sur-Yvette, south west of Paris, and was the former country residence of the Duke and Duchess of Windsor. Set at the mouth of a beautiful valley designated a *Parc regional*, yet less than an hour from central Paris by direct train, these Landmarks are a fitting introduction to Landmark in France. Turn to pages 4 and 5 to find out more.

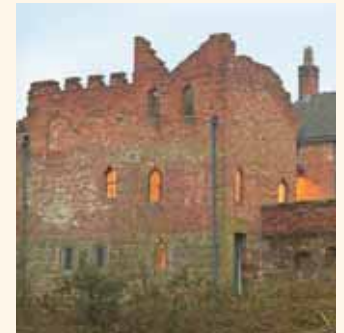


Oxenford Gatehouse, Surrey

The Landmark Trust is a building preservation charity that rescues historic buildings at risk for everyone to enjoy, giving them a new life by letting them for inspiring holidays.

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Landmark Holidays

Letter from the Director

Landmark has always been centred in the UK, and always will be, but we have a presence abroad in Italy, and in the USA through our sister charity there. However a Landmark in a new country constitutes a red letter day. Le Moulin de la Tuilerie near Paris, the country home of the Duke and Duchess of Windsor after the abdication, is beautiful and atmospheric, and a place to fascinate British and French Landmarkers alike.



Peter Pearce at the opening of Queen Anne's Summerhouse with English Heritage's Greg Luton.

This excitement, of course, will not be allowed to disturb the momentum of our work in this country, where we have just opened the wonderful Pugin gatehouse at Oxenford in Surrey. We will also open in May the most magnificent bequest we have ever received, Cavendish Hall in Suffolk, the gift of Mrs Pamela Matthews and accompanied by a donation of £1 million to create a new large Landmark. This could hardly be bettered as an example of the value of a bequest to us, whether of a building or money, but every bequest however large and small is equally gratefully received - and valued.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Peter Pearce'.

Peter Pearce, Director

Cavendish Hall, an outstanding legacy



Cavendish Hall, Suffolk

As a little girl, Pamela Matthews fell in love with this charming Regency country house in rural Suffolk, not far from Newmarket (where her ex-cavalry officer father was Starter at the racecourse). Years later, her second husband, journalist and writer Tom Matthews, bought it for her. Mrs Matthews wanted others to enjoy the house, and so left it to Landmark in her will, adding a very generous endowment. The house has been beautifully redecorated according to its period, and much else done to make it comfortable for the 21st century – new kitchen, bathrooms, heating and wiring. The grounds too have been re-landscaped. Cavendish Hall can be booked from May and sleeps up to twelve people.

For further information on making a bequest to Landmark, please contact Emma Seymour on 01628 825920 or email eseymour@landmarktrust.org.uk.

Oxenford Gatehouse: another gem by A W N Pugin

Oxenford was once owned by Waverley Abbey and later by the Viscounts Midleton of Peper Harow. In 1843, the 5th Viscount Midleton commissioned A W N Pugin to design a gatehouse, barn and outbuildings in 'the Abbey Style'. The Picturesque scene that resulted is rightly judged among Pugin's best work. Today's owners of the still-working farm at Oxenford had no use for the Grade II* listed gatehouse and approached Landmark to let it on their behalf. We have been closely involved with the restoration works and, newly landscaped too, the gatehouse now stands revealed next to ancient fishponds as a masterpiece of the Gothic Revival. Its rural setting belies its proximity to London, a very special weekend retreat for up to four people.



Oxenford Gatehouse, Surrey

Booking Office 01628 825925 Monday to Friday 9am - 6pm and Saturday 10am - 4pm

Anniversary for Chopin

Composer Frédéric Chopin was born 200 years ago and was fêted in British society under the wing of his pupil and friend, Jane Stirling. Jane's brother Charles owned **Gargunock House** (for sixteen) and it is said this formed part of the composer's tour of country house soirées, the 1848 Broadwood piano there being bought especially for the composer.



Gargunock House, Central Scotland

Stargazing

It gets ever harder to see the stars against the night-time glow of our towns and cities. Galloway Forest Park, however, has recently been named the UK's first Dark Sky Park, for the superb visibility of the constellations there. **Glenmalloch Lodge** stands at the edge of the Park, with **Castle of Park** and **Old Place of Monreith** close by. Keen stargazers can find near equivalent conditions at **Appleton Water Tower**, **Nicolle Tower** and **Fort Clonque**, and on **Lundy**.



Appleton Water Tower, Norfolk

Keeping up appearances

Landmark is constantly working to keep its buildings up to scratch. A major refurbishment has just taken place at **Tixall Gatehouse**, with repairs to its fine exterior stonework and roof terrace. We have also installed new bathrooms, new heating and hot water systems, redecorated and improved insulation. The furnishings have also been revisited, making this magical building an altogether cosier place to stay. **Knowle Hill** (pictured on front cover) and **Castle of Park** have also been brightened by redecoration and refurbishing, so now is a particularly good time to visit (or re-visit) these lovely Landmarks.



Tixall Gatehouse, Derbyshire

World Heritage Sites

Just three examples of the UK's many World Heritage Sites within easy reach of Landmarks.

Castles and town walls of King Edward in Gwynedd

The **Bath Tower** occupies a part of the fortified town wall, built by Edward I to protect Caernarfon. The castles and fortified towns of North Wales constitute some of the finest and best preserved examples of medieval military architecture in Europe.



The Bath Tower, Caernarfon

Frontiers of the Roman Empire

The **Pineapple**, **Gargunock House** and **Hill House** are all within easy reach of the Antonine Wall, and **Brinkburn Mill**, **Coop House** and **Causeway House** are close to Hadrian's Wall. At different times, both walls protected the northernmost limits of the Roman Empire in Britain.

Cornwall and West Devon mining landscape

The ruins of engine houses, foundries and ports still litter this pock-marked landscape which at one time supplied the world with copper and arsenic.

Danescombe Mine is one such site, where Landmark accommodation has been created within an old engine house. **Whiteford Temple**, **Endsleigh**, **Lower Porthmeor** and **Frenchman's Creek** are all also close to many of the sites.

See the full list on our website.

2010 Open Days

Landmark Open Days are open to all and admission is free. Please check our website for the latest information and opening times.

Anderton House, Devon

11 and 12 September

Auchinleck House, Ayrshire

5 September

Cavendish Hall, Suffolk

27 June

Clavell Tower, Dorset

11 and 12 September

Dolbelydr, Denbighshire

23 to 26 April*

10 to 14 September*

Freston Tower, Suffolk

21 to 24 May*

10 to 14 September*

The Gothic Temple, Buckinghamshire

23 May⁺

11 and 12 September⁺

3 October⁺

The Grange, Kent

9 April to 12 April*

10 to 14 September*

Keeper's Cottage, Bedfordshire

10 to 12 September

Morpeth Castle, Northumberland

12 September

Queen Anne's Summerhouse, Bedfordshire

11 to 13 June

10 to 12 September

The Ruin, North Yorkshire

11 and 12 September

Villa Saraceno, Vicenza

4 July

Wilmington Priory, East Sussex

7 May to 10 May*

10 to 14 September*

*On the final Open Day the Landmark will only be open in the morning from 10am to 1pm.

⁺Please note that there is a National Trust admission charge to Stowe Gardens.

We are currently planning further Open Days. Check our website for more information.

Le Moulin de la Tuilerie la

In 2007 Landmark received an invitation from France's coastal conservancy agency, the Conservatoire du littoral, to help them provide a new future for threatened historic buildings they have acquired on stretches of coastline they buy to protect from development, an aim similar to that of the National Trust's Enterprise Neptune.



The courtyard at Le Moulin de la Tuilerie. The main residence, Le Moulin, is to the left, with the gardens beyond.

Landmark France (as we have called this new initiative) is now working actively with the Conservatoire on two projects,



The Duke and Duchess of Windsor in the garden at Gif-sur-Yvette in 1966

with others in the pipeline. For this we have set up Landmark France as a charitable entity in France (known as an *Association Loi 1901*), through valuable *pro bono* advice from international law practice, Lovells LLB, and accountancy firm, Mazars.

The restorations will be mostly funded by the Conservatoire with Landmark advising and paying for a minority share of costs, for which we will fundraise in France.

However, the historic place with which we now launch Landmark France comes from another source. About a year ago, the owners of an important site in a spectacularly

beautiful setting contacted us for help with its future. This was **Le Moulin de la Tuilerie** (more prosaically in English, the Tile Mill) at Gif-sur-Yvette, a pretty town just 45 minutes south west of central Paris by direct train. Here, the suburbs of Paris finally melt into true countryside in the lovely Vallée de la Haute Chevreuse. The buildings and location are worthy destinations in themselves, but what sets them apart is that Le Moulin de la Tuilerie was formerly the country retreat of the Duke and Duchess of Windsor, who took up residence in Paris when the French government offered them tax-free status after the Second World War.

Landmark in France

After Edward VIII, Duke of Windsor, gave up his throne in 1936 to marry his adored American divorcée, Wallis Simpson, the couple led a sociable existence at the heart of European café society. They also had use of 4 rue du Champ d'Entraînement in the Bois de Boulogne, but Le Moulin de la Tuilerie was the only house they ever owned.

Here, both were happy. The converted eighteenth-century mill house itself was the main house, and the outbuildings were charmingly converted into additional accommodation for their guests: *La Maison des Amis* and *Le Célibataire* (loosely, the bachelor pad). The buildings are restrained and characteristically French in style, their quiet dignity and beauty deriving from their original honest purpose and materials.

The Duke commissioned garden designer Russell Page to create an English country garden which became his pride and joy. The Duchess organised lunch parties and country house weekends, the house festooned with geraniums



Russell Page designed the garden at Gif-sur-Yvette, its layout survives.

and with canasta on the terrace. Famous guests – Cecil Beaton, Marlene Dietrich, Richard Burton, Henry Ford and many others – came to stay. It was here, more than anywhere else, that characterised the Windsors and their fascinating existence.

Today, the place retains all its charm, and the garden its layout if not its cottage planting. Le Moulin will become a Landmark for twelve, *La Maison des Amis*

for four and *Le Célibataire* for two, to be booked together or separately. Gif-sur-Yvette is just three and a half hours from St Pancras by train, perfect for a short break to explore Paris, Versailles and much more. You will, however, almost certainly want to stay for longer. *La Moulin de la Tuilerie* will open in Summer 2010. Please contact the Booking Office or visit our website for further information.



*The Windsors themselves converted the outbuildings, *Le Célibataire* (pictured) and *La Maison des Amis* into additional accommodation for their guests.*

Everyman books in Landmarks

We are grateful to have been offered free copies from the Everyman series for our Landmark libraries. Joseph Dent founded Everyman in 1906, as a self-taught publisher and tenth child of a Darlington housepainter who came to London with just half a crown in his pocket. Dent wanted 'a whole bookshelf of the immortals' for just a few shillings available to every reader – a democracy of purpose which fits well with our own charitable aims.



Every Landmark has its own carefully chosen library, such as this one at Howthwaite.

Hear first

To receive our regular emails including special offers and project updates, please register on our website at: www.landmarktrust.org.uk/register.

Projects & Restoration

Lundy 40th Appeal

The response so far to our call for help has been wonderful, with a little over £56,000 donated from various sources. However, we need this generosity to continue in order to be able to secure a sustainable future for Lundy.

The money raised to date will help us to fund the maintenance of footpaths and drystone walls, and continue to control invasive rhododendron. We plan to replace the island's main fresh water tank and enhance the visitor information point to improve the understanding of Lundy and its delicate ecosystems but we urgently need further help for this.



Repairing a dry stone wall near Stoneycroft, Lundy

Please support Lundy by donating now at www.landmarktrust.org.uk, or by calling the Development Office on 01628 825920.



G.I. Hopley contractors repointing Cowside

Reviving Cowside

Cowside in Upper Wharfedale has now been re-roofed with traditional stone slates and largely repointed, although this year's deep snowfalls inevitably brought work to a halt for several weeks and delayed the programme of works. Meanwhile, the seventeenth-century wall paintings known to exist beneath later paint in the parlour have been protected. We must curb our impatience to uncover and decode them fully until works are more advanced and humidity levels in the house have stabilised later in the year. Vernacular wall paintings are a great rarity in Yorkshire: all that can be said for now is that they appear to be two monochrome Biblical texts in rectangular cartouches. As Spring begins to creep up the wild and beautiful Dales, work will once more gather momentum. Check the website for updates on progress at Cowside.

Become a Landmark Patron

It is ten years since we launched the Landmark Patrons and during this time their vital support has contributed over £1.3 million in total to a variety of projects, for which we are extremely grateful. Our Patrons continue to play a crucial role and in return for their support they receive benefits such as early booking privileges and opportunities to see work in progress. The annual subscription is £1,000 (joint £1,500) and Life Patronage is £10,000 (joint £15,000).

For further information or to become a Patron please contact Anna Clayton on 01628 825920 or visit our website.

Award-winning conservation



Clavell Tower, Dorset

In October, Clavell Tower at Kimmeridge Bay in Dorset was announced as the winner of the RICS Conservation Award for 2009, which recognises excellence in conservation and construction. Already a regional finalist, Clavell Tower had to beat international competition for this accolade, of which

we are very proud. The judges praised in particular the high standard of craftsmanship and detail involved in dismantling and reconstructing the tower, whose spectacular setting now makes it one of our most popular buildings.

The Silver Darlings & the Shore Cottages



The Shore Cottages, Caithness

Publicity for our appeal for the Shore Cottages at Berriedale in Caithness received a welcome boost last Autumn through association with a Scottish touring theatre production of Neil Gunn's epic tale of the herring fishery, *The Silver Darlings*, which vividly portrays the triumphs and disasters of families like those who lived and fished from the Shore Cottages. Thanks to this and a great number of supporters, we have now raised £227,316 towards the total project cost of £600,000. Eight private individuals so far have very generously become Guardians, each contributing £6,000 or 1% of the total cost. If we are to rescue these evocative remnants of Scotland's past, we urgently need more donations of any size. You can donate quickly and easily on our website, or to find out more on becoming a Guardian, please contact Anna Clayton on 01628 825920 or aclayton@landmarktrust.org.uk.



BTCV volunteers at Astley Castle

design a new knot garden for the castle site. The downloadable entry pack will include information on the history of knot gardens and their planting. All this is made possible by the generous support of the Heritage Lottery Fund. To find out how to volunteer at Astley, visit our website or contact Kasia Howard at khoward@landmarktrust.org.uk.

Warder's Tower

We have been quietly working to save this picturesque castellated gamekeeper's cottage in Staffordshire's Greenway Bank Country Park for years. The next decisive step will be our application for support from the HLF, which we are working on at the moment. We hope to have more news for you soon and all donations continue to be welcomed.



Warder's Tower, Staffordshire

Get involved at Astley Castle

Gentle consolidation work is continuing on the ancient fabric of Astley Castle in Warwickshire. While the final details of the architectural scheme are worked up, there are plenty of opportunities to become involved with the project. We are already working with the British Trust for Conservation Volunteers (BTCV) to clear the moat and undergrowth. We also have plans for Landmark Friends and Patrons to help repoint the curtain wall – a chance to learn something of lime and how to use it. If you fancy something more desk-based, keep an eye on our website soon for news of a competition for all ages to

Order your Handbook

To order a Handbook or make a donation to help us rescue buildings at risk, please complete the form below, telephone the Booking Office or go online.

The Handbook costs £10 plus postage and packing:

- £3 UK second class post
- £5 UK first class post
- £10 to Europe and rest of the world

Please send me ___ Handbook(s) £ _____

Postage and packing (per item) £ _____

I would like to give a donation of £ _____

Total enclosed £ _____

Increase your gift by 28%* at no extra cost to you

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I would like the Landmark Trust to reclaim the tax on any qualifying donations made by me in the previous six years up to 5 April 2010/four years from 6 April 2010 (whichever is applicable) and all donations I make hereafter as Gift Aid donations until further notice*.

Signature _____ Date _____

* You must be a UK taxpayer and pay an amount of income tax and/or capital gains tax equal to the tax we can claim as Gift Aid on your donations.

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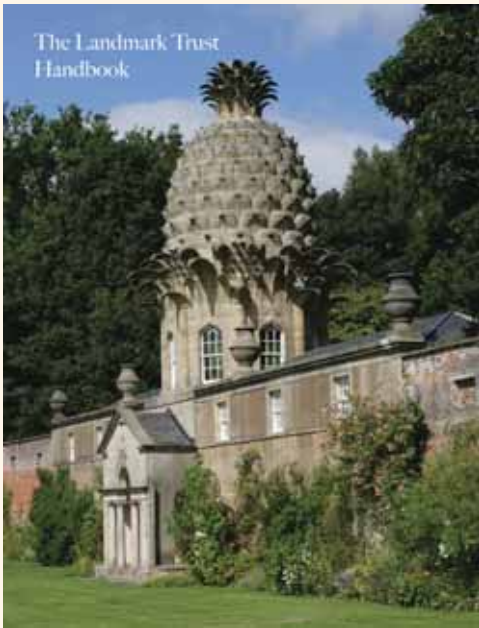
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Return to: The Landmark Trust, Shottesbrooke, Maidenhead, Berkshire SL6 3SW



The 23rd edition of the Landmark Trust Handbook* features 190 historic buildings available to stay in – follies, castles, towers, banqueting houses, cottages and other unusual buildings. Through the building entries and a collection of articles, the Handbook traces our architectural heritage from the 12th to the 20th century.

The 232-page Handbook costs just £10 plus postage and packing. The Handbook cost is refundable against your first booking or you may wish to use the refund voucher to make a donation to support Landmark's work in rescuing historic buildings.



Order your Handbook

- Online at www.landmarktrust.org.uk
- Booking Office on **01628 825925**
- Or complete the form overleaf and return it to The Landmark Trust, Shottesbrooke, Maidenhead, Berkshire SL6 3SW

*Published in October 2008

Win a £3,000 holiday

Enter our Spring Raffle by 30 April for your chance to win your dream holiday in a Landmark, whilst contributing to our current restoration projects. First prize is a holiday to the value of £3,000, and there are second prizes of £1,000 and third prizes of £300. You can buy tickets online at www.landmarktrust.org.uk/raffle.

Chris Crook

After more than 40 years, Chris Crook, our custodian at **Woodspring Priory** is retiring.

Chris has been the contact for many Landmarkers and visitors, and has worked tirelessly running the Priory's museum, maintaining the grounds, and promoting Woodspring Priory to schools and local groups.

We are enormously grateful to Chris for his long contribution to Landmark and wish him a relaxing retirement.



Chris Crook at Woodspring Priory

Landmark goes greener



Wortham Manor, Devon

As part of our continuing improvements programme, we now have a policy of installing 'greener energy' systems where possible. Technological advances mean that heat is now captured more efficiently, so that ground- and air-source heat pumps can be used to heat radiators, rather than just underfloor heating as previously. Heat pumps typically provide triple the heat output per unit of energy consumed, enabling us to reduce our carbon footprint as well as saving on heating costs (the payback period can be as short as seven years). At **Wortham Manor** an air-source heat pump has replaced an oil-fired boiler and night storage heaters (the great hall retains its traditional heating, a massive open fireplace). At isolated **Woodspring Priory**, a new heat pump has replaced a Liquid Propane Gas boiler.

Flying trees at Crownhill Fort

Unchecked growth of self-seeded trees at **Crownhill Fort** long predated our involvement there but had been a cause of concern for a while. Some trees were in danger of being blown over and damaging the Fort's fabric; elsewhere roots were already beginning to affect the Fort's structures, especially the *Chemin de Ronde* where roots had broken through.



The felling team at Crownhill Fort, Devon

However, the steep surrounding ditch, nearby houses and proximity of the A38 made the felling and removal extremely hazardous. After a bat survey, full risk assessment and extensive consultation including with English Heritage, it was agreed that one major felling campaign would be the least damaging approach, with further lower-level vegetation clearances to follow. Early February saw some dramatic scenes at Crownhill. Over two days, 200 tonnes of felled timber were lifted off the site by helicopter, at a rate of a journey every few minutes. Not surprisingly, this generated considerable interest locally and this Palmerstonian fort now stands properly revealed once more. See our website for photographs of the work.

The Landmark Trust

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