

## Joint Statement for the Protection of the '*Essential Setting*' of Lydiard Park

We\*

- agree that the '*Essential Setting and outlying features to the designated landscape*' of Lydiard Park should be protected from any residential development or any other development which is unsympathetic to the character of the adjacent Historic Park, Garden, House and Church in order to preserve and avoid harm to the "heritage experience<sup>1</sup>" of the Grade II listed Park, the Grade I listed House or Grade I listed Church

-and request both Swindon Borough Council and Wiltshire Council reject all such applications for consent to build within the Essential Setting of Lydiard Park.

<b>Community Groups*</b>	<b>Statutory Groups*</b>	<b>Members of Parliament*</b>
<b>Shaw Residents' Association</b> <a href="http://www.shawresidents.org.uk">www.shawresidents.org.uk</a> Kevin Fisher - Chair	<b>The Gardens Trust<sup>2</sup></b> <a href="http://www.thegardenstrust.org">www.thegardenstrust.org</a> Dr Marion Harney - Chair, conservation committee	<b>Robert Buckland QC MP</b> Conservative MP for South Swindon <a href="http://www.robertbuckland.co.uk">www.robertbuckland.co.uk</a>
<b>Lydiard Park Heritage Trust</b> <a href="http://www.lydiardtrust.org.uk">www.lydiardtrust.org.uk</a> Mike Bowden - Chair	<b>Campaign to Protect Rural England</b> <a href="http://www.cprewiltshire.org.uk">www.cprewiltshire.org.uk</a> Anne Henshaw - Wiltshire Branch chairman	<b>James Gray MP</b> Conservative MP for North Wiltshire <a href="http://www.jamesgray.org">www.jamesgray.org</a>
<b>Love Lydiard Trust</b> <a href="http://www.lovelydiard.org.uk">www.lovelydiard.org.uk</a> David Barnard – Chair	<b>Friends of Lydiard Park</b> <a href="http://www.friendsoflydiardpark.org.uk">www.friendsoflydiardpark.org.uk</a> Rev Canon Alastair Stevenson - Chair	<b>Local Councils*</b>
<b>Lydiard Fields Action Group</b> <a href="mailto:contactus@lydiardfields.org.uk">contactus@lydiardfields.org.uk</a> David Barnard - Chair		<b>Lydiard Millicent Parish Council</b> <a href="http://www.lydiardmillicent-pc.gov.uk">www.lydiardmillicent-pc.gov.uk</a> Alan Pfleger – Chair
<b>Lydiard Heritage Action Group</b> c/o Shaw Residents' association Kevin Fisher - Chair		<b>West Swindon Parish Council</b> <a href="http://www.westswindon-pc.gov.uk">www.westswindon-pc.gov.uk</a> Nigel Gibbons – Chair

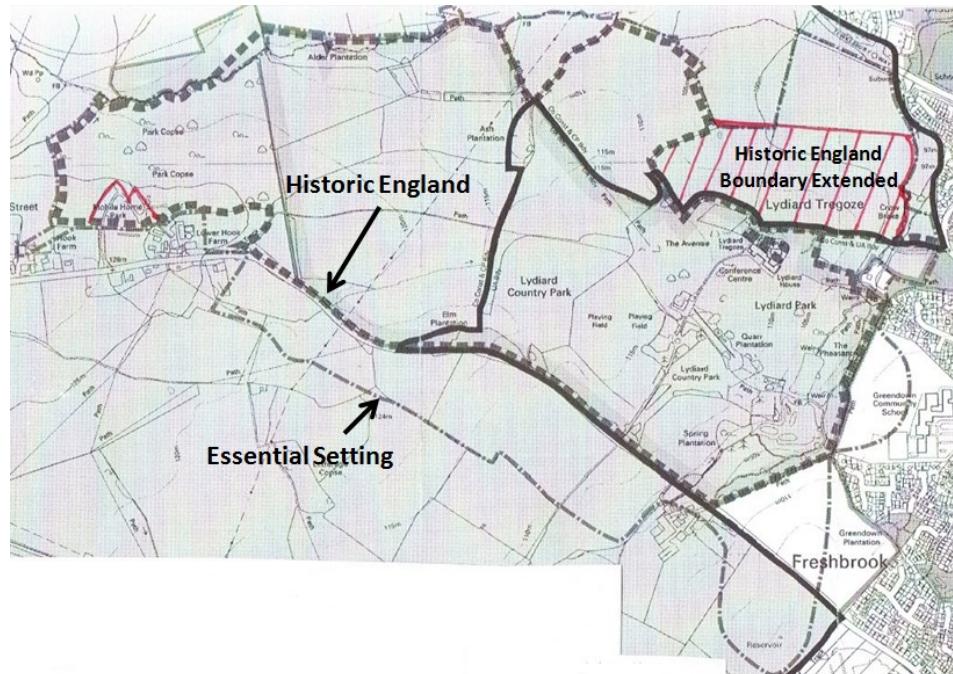
<sup>1</sup> NPPF (March 2012); Page 56, Annex 2: Glossary - '*Setting of a heritage asset: the surroundings in which a heritage asset is experienced*'.

<sup>2</sup> The Gardens Trust is happy to support the vision for Lydiard Park expressed in the joint statement for the "Essential Setting and outlying features to the designated landscape" which has been taken from the HLF funded park restoration scheme, defined and mapped by Nicholas Pearson. Any speculative future applications should be submitted in accordance with guidance based on a Conservation Management Plan for Lydiard Park.

## Boundaries

Lydiard Park has two boundaries, the '*Historic England Registered Boundary*' and a larger area called the '*Essential Setting and outlying features to the designated landscape*'.

The Essential Setting was identified and agreed by Swindon Borough Council in June 2002 as part of the Lydiard Park Restoration and Development plan. This formed SBC's bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund for £3.1m to restore the Park. *It is designed to identify the minimum area required to protect the registered landscape by maintaining the rural context of the Park.*



## Register of Parks and Gardens of Special Historical Interest

Lydiard Park is included on the Register of Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest at Grade II for the following principal reasons:

- Date and rarity: it is a good example of a mid 18th Century park where the layout clearly reflects its original design, and which contains archaeological evidence of its earlier, 17th Century, formal layout
- Representative example: it is a representative example of a mid 18th century park associated with an important country house
- Group value: the park forms a strong group with its associated heritage assets, including Lydiard House (listed at Grade I), the Church of St Mary (listed at Grade I) and the listed garden structures situated within it

## History

Mentioned in the Domesday Book (1086), Lydiard Park is a former Manor of Alfred of Marlborough which was acquired by the Tregozze family in c.1198. In 1270 Henry III gave Robert Tregozze a royal licence to create a deer park in nearby woodland. From 1300 until 1348 Lydiard was owned by the Grandison family, and subsequently by the Beauchamps. In 1420 the estate came to the St John family through marriage (whose main seat was at Battersea, London), and they were to hold it until the Second World War. The court met at Lydiard in 1592 during Elizabeth I's royal progress, and John St John was knighted. In 1583 it was recorded there was a park at Lydiard Tregozze owned by Nicholas St John, and much correspondence exists from 1659-64 from Johanna St John, wife of the third baronet, who was a keen amateur gardener.