

THE GARDEN
HISTORY SOCIETY

~ IN SCOTLAND ~

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Historic Scotland
Longmore House
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For the attention of Jim Macdonald

Dear Sirs,

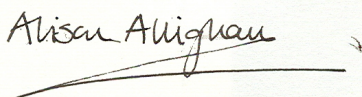
**HISTORIC SCOTLAND GUIDANCE NOTES:
MANAGING CHANGE IN THE HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT**

The Garden History Society attended the joint Historic Scotland – BEFS workshop held on 11 November 2009 to discuss the Guidance Notes, and following that has signed up to the BEFS response which we feel covers the majority of our general concerns raised at the meeting. Accordingly we will not repeat those concerns here.

Our greatest concern is currently the lack of any Guidance Note for Gardens and Designed Landscapes; despite being one of the first sections of the Memorandum of Guidance (1998) to be withdrawn in March 2008 with the Publication of the then SHEP 3, nothing has yet been produced to fill this void. Of the current suite of leaflets issued for consultation, Setting and Boundaries are probably the most relevant for Guidance Notes for designed landscapes but remain focused strongly on the built elements of the historic environment, e.g. no mention is made of natural boundaries, often so important within a designed landscape. Anybody searching for relevant information would be required to trawl through various leaflets often finding little of any great relevance.

We would therefore request that Historic Scotland now gives urgent consideration to the preparation of a composite free-standing Guidance Note for Gardens and Designed Landscapes which takes account of both the built and natural elements of these historic assets.

Yours faithfully,



Alison Allighan
Conservation Officer, Scotland

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