

6. Proposed planting strategy

Zone C

The Car Park area

Context

5.13 The Car Park area is currently fully accessible to all visitors. It requires a sense of enclosure to provide privacy, safety and screening.

5.14 The planting directly in front of the house will be left intact and has recently undergone renewal and horticultural management.

Proposed trees and hedges

5.15 Two varieties of *Cornus kousa* (Figure 29) will provide interest and structure and are placed on either side of the entrance to the car park. They will also extend the collection of flowering dogwoods at Leonardslee. A national collection of these trees is currently planned.

5.16 A native hedges (Figures 34 / 35) will provide the key structural element through the zone and along the car park facing edge of route 1.

5.17 It will vary in height to frame views where required with a minimum height of 75cm. The base of the hedge will contain a selection of low shrubs such as Sweet Box (*Sarcococca*) and additional perennial planting to provide seasonal interest and increased biodiversity value.

5.18 Perennial planting will be an extension evergreen to the 'Streeter Collection' utilising a collection of *Agapanthus* varieties and include other plants such as *Erigeron karavinskianus*, *Nepeta 'Walkers Low'*, *Teucrium x lucidrys* and *Thymus* vars.. A bulb layer will provide seasonal interest and include *Narcissus 'Thalia'* and *N. 'February Gold'*.



6. Proposed planting strategy

Zone D

The Screen and Streeter Collection

Planting beds

5.19 The new planting areas (Figure 36) will provide an extension to the garden spaces described in the CMP and are a continuation to Leonardslee Gardens history of plant acquisitions and unique collections.

5.20 In association with the Head Gardener at Leonardslee, selections of planting have been retained to provide maturity and as elements of screening. This follows historical precedent for views across the area. These include the specimen Rhododendrons (Figures 36 / 37).

5.21 One mature trees - a *Cryptomeria japonica* (T97) is proposed for removal in order to facilitate the creation of the large central bed and the associated public realm circulation and facilities.

5.22 The following Rhododendrons, which form part of the National Collection, have been retained in situ - R. 'Loders White', R. 'Leonardslee Giles', R. 'Goldstrike' and R. 'Golden Coach'. A rare and unusual Camellia 'Judge Solomon' has also been retained.

5.23 This area is proposed to contain a 'Streeter' collection of plants that relate to the owners and their connections with Southern Africa. See Figure 39 - Kirstenbosch Botanic Gardens in Cape Town. These will include diverse family and genera such as Restios, Agapanthus, Dierama, Kniphophia, Watsonia, Aloe and Phygellus and planted in an appropriate substrate. These will be supplemented with evergreen plants including small trees and shrubs from other Mediterranean regions.

5.24 The planting also reflects concerns about climate change and water management. Dry gardens exist already at important gardens such as NT Nymans, RHS Hyde Hall (Figure 39), Wildside in Dorset and Beth Chatto's in Essex. The beds provide both a resource for education about climate resilience and as well as a new ornamental collection.



6. Proposed planting mixes

Zone D



Fig. 41 Species rich lawn turf © London Turf Company



Fig. 42 Arbutus unedo © 2016 Acabashi Wikimedia Commons



Fig. 43 Agapanthus inapertus © 2008 jack holloway Flickr



Fig. 44 Kniphofia vars. © 2013 Cham Wikimedia Commons



Fig. 45 Asclepias tuberosa © 2006 Mayfield Wikimedia Commons



Fig. 46 Pittosporum tobira nanum © 2013 Flora On Ramos



Fig. 47 Eucomis bicolor © 2008 T. Voekler Wikimedia Commons



Fig. 48 Elegia capensis © 2013 Daderot Wikimedia Commons



Fig. 49 Phygellus Yellow Trumpet © 2013 W. Hagens Wikimedia Commons

Planting mixes to include:

Species rich lawn turf

To ensure good sight lines to the Mansion and also provide a route for maintenance, the central area of the main bed will contain a species rich lawn turf (Fig. 41) comprising of over 26 species of wildflowers which can be mown regularly and kept tidy. This will also provide good BNG value.

Perennials and bulbs

Planting to include Kniphofia vars., Nerine bowdenii 'Alba', Tulbaghia violacea Crocosmia vars., Agapanthus var., Phygellus vars., Dierama vars., Dianella vars., Eucomis vars., Galtonia vars., Helichrysum italicum subsp. Serotinum, Helichrysum aureum, Asclepias tuberosa, Zaluzianskya ovata, Berkheya purpurea, Hesperantha coccinea, Watsonia vars., Dimorphotheca aurantiaca, Tritonia disticha, Sternbergia lutea, Gazania vars., Osteospermum vars..

Restios - Elegia capensis, Elegia tectorum

Grasses - Chionochloa, Anamanthele lessoniana, Carex testacea

Trees (small) - Arbutus unedo,

Shrubs- Pittosporum vars, Corokia x virgata, Coprosma vars., Myrtus vars., Erica canaliculata.