

6. Proposed planting strategy
Zone E

Generator Block wall

The Camellia sasanqua collection

5.25 The East facing side of the Engine house / Generator Block supports a series of important Sasanqua Camellias (Figure 51)

5.26 These Camellias were introduced into cultivation after 1869 and are an important historical part of the collection.

5.27 They provide a continuous pruned screen along the eastern flank wall of the Building.

5.28 Camellias are able to tolerate a good amount of careful pruning and can regenerate from old wood.

5.29 Careful selective pruning of the Camellias would allow the new windows into the side wall of the Former Generator Block Cafe to be created.

5.30 No additional plantings are proposed for this area.



Fig. 50 Generator Block wall plantings



Fig 51 Camellia sasanqua collection retained and pruned

7. Planting summary

Leonardslee Lakes and Gardens Public Realm

Summary

5.31 The aims of the proposed planting proposals are to:

- enhance the appearance of the landscape;
- retain the historically important Rhododendron and Azaleas
- contextualise the plantings;
- improve the seasonality and diversity of plantings;
- enhance the Grade 1 Historic Gardens listing of Leonardslee Lakes and Gardens;
- complement the existing landscape design by Purcell UK; and
- perpetuate the historically important heritage collection.

5.32 These proposals for the differing zones:

- give consideration of how the planting beds will work alongside the hard landscape design and in particular the central public areas;
- provide direct links to the long history of planting collection and display at Leonardslee with the addition of new collections;
- takes into account the CMP in the selection of plant material for each zone;
- increase the understorey planting, seasonality and diversity of the collection with new introductions and thereby improving habitats; and
- improve and strengthen the nationally important and historic existing collections of Rhododendrons and other ericaceous plants.

5.33 The proposed planting strategy illustrates these with examples of planting types includes typical mixes.

5.34 The new planting includes a high percentage of non-native species which is in keeping with the Grade 1 listed planting collections at Leonardslee and which will extend the collections in new directions.



Fig. 51 View east across the valley in spring

