We protect London’s historic landscapes in the planning process. We increase knowledge and appreciation of historic parks, squares, community gardens, cemeteries and churchyards in London.

In 2020 we...

Championed green space in London by:

- Probing 175 consultations with potential impacts on historic landscapes across 29 London boroughs.
- Listing 6 Twentieth Century Landscapes with the Gardens Trust and Historic England.
- Providing in-depth analysis on 23 planning applications to protect historic parks and gardens.
- Giving early design advice on 3 greenspace projects.
- Going to the High Court to defend Victoria Tower Gardens (a Grade 2 public park and the setting for the Houses of Parliament World Heritage Site) from threatening development, supported by £10k crowdfunding and 1,000s of fellow campaigners.
- Bringing expert witnesses to two planning inquiries, for Victoria Tower Gardens and Lambeth Palace Gardens.

Celebrated our love of London’s historic green places by:

- Circulating fortnightly e-bulletins to over 30,000 people packed with interesting news about historic gardens.
- Keeping 550 paid members informed with 10 e-newsletters packed with information about events and activities.
- Motivating a core group of more than 40 regular volunteers with regular online contact.
- Posting regularly for 1,000s of social media followers.

Behind the scenes (during lockdown) we:

- Refreshed our website.
- Won a grant from DCMS Round 1 Culture Recovery Fund to go towards core costs and helping us trial a new virtual event.
- Recruited a new administrator and volunteer coordinator to improve our systems for coordinating volunteer effort.
- Launched our first Winter Prize Draw.
- Managed all this with the equivalent of 1.8 members of staff working remotely.

Cultivated knowledge and appreciation by:

- Moving our Inventory of over 2,500 gardens on to the cloud for free public access.
- Researching and updating 34 site records and adding 3 sites on to the Inventory.
- Digitisation of 100s photos taken mainly in the 1990s and linking them to sites on the Inventory.
- Moving our Lecture series online during the pandemic to continue to deliver:
  - More than 10 lectures
  - Selling over 850 tickets
  - Increasing attendance to up to 300 people per lecture.

Thank you to all our Donors, Sponsors and Supporters in 2020:

We launched our first crowdsourcing fundraising initiative to support our legal costs raising over £10k.

We were very grateful to all the donors from our Emergency President’s Appeal raising £18,600 including Gift Aid to help us survive into 2021 and offset our losses from cancelling Open Garden Squares Weekend.

We received gifts in kind from:

- Royal Parks who continue to host us at Duck Island Cottage.
- Alan Baxter Associates and LDA who gave us use of rooms for meetings prior to lockdown.

Members supported us with their annual subscriptions and attendance at online events.

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