



Christopher Clarke



4 September 2014.

Planning Policy,
North Dorset District Council,
Nordon,
Salisbury Road,
Blandford, DT11 7LL.



Dear Sirs,

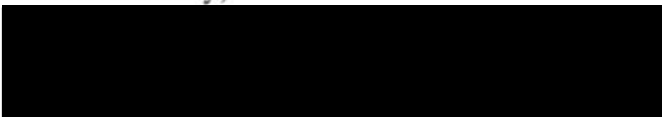
Consultation on Part 1 Pre-Submission Focused Changes

I write on behalf of the Dorset Gardens Trust on this latest Change to the emerging Core Strategy.

In short, the Trust supports the removal of the Crown Meadows site from development locations. The reason concerns the importance of the park that surrounds Bryanston House. I enclose the Trust's latest entry from the Gazetteer of registered and local parks and gardens, a copy of which is with your conservation staff.

It was long believed that the origins and development of Bryanston, leading to the development of the current third house on the estate, was confined to the west of the river Stour. More recent work now indicates that the parkland extended across the river to the edges of the town. Although the evidence on the ground for this is slight, the historical linkage is now much clearer. It would be valuable for this relationship not to be broken so soon after it has been established.

Yours faithfully,



C Clarke
For the Dorset Gardens Trust



Bryanston House (Updated 22 July 2014 Ver. 18b)

Address: Bryanston, Blandford Forum, Dorset DT11 0PX

District: North Dorset District Council **Parish:** Blandford

Map Series: Landranger **Map Sheet:** 194 **Grid Reference:** 870 074 **Area (ha):** 182 ha

Site owner(s): Bryanston School

Designation: Dorset Gardens Trust Local List

Site designers: James Wyatt, Norman Shaw

Brief description of site

The site of Bryanston lies north and west of the town of Blandford Forum on land which falls gradually to the centrally running River Stour. West of the river are water meadows and St. Martin's Church marking the spot where the first two original houses once stood. North west of the Church, the land rises steeply and leads to the present house at the highest point. A drive from the south, running parallel to the area known as 'The Cliff', enters the estate via a gateway built by James Wyatt c1778 and runs to the north west front entrance of the house. Another drive leads from the former estate village of Durweston via a Middle Lodge. Below the south east façade are large descending terraces. The land both east and west of the river were laid out as parkland with the eastern side of the river developed as an 18th century Deer Park.

Brief history of site

Purchased by Sir William Portman in 1662 from the Rogers family who had been Lords of the Manor since the early 15th century. There have been three Bryanston houses, the first two close to the river where the Church now stands. The first house and extensive landscaped grounds were illustrated by L. Knyff and J. Kip in *Britannia Illustrata* (1707). However, scant evidence remains. The date of the first (Rogers) house is unknown but the second was built by James Wyatt in 1778 and the third, on an entirely new site by Norman Shaw in 1894 with formal terraces to the south east. Despite the involvement of leading architects, there is no known connection with landscape designers. Current fashion seems to have been followed by the estate family initiative and much of the landscape remains despite the evolving activities of Bryanston School and the spread of housing and local authority schools to the east of the river. The Portman West Country estates were surrendered to the Crown between 1920 and 1948. Bryanston House and much of the land west of the river was bought by Bryanston School in 1927. Although the school have made many developments they have made a significant contribution to the upkeep of the grounds. The land east of the river has been retained by the Crown Estates and with private owners.

Significance

There are layers of landscaping since the 16th century. 18th century rides with walks, late 19th century formal gardens are linked to surviving 18th century parkland. A grand entrance gate by James Wyatt and a densely wooded cliff drive remain important historic features. The parkland east of 'The Cliff' extends over the river to the 18th century Deer Park with its listed Ha-Ha,

Sources:

John Hutchins *The History and Antiquities of the County of Dorset* Vol. p87
L. Knyff & J Kip *Britannia Illustrata* (1714) Vol. I
Timothy Mowl *Historic Gardens of Dorset* 2003 p 42 illus. p43
Journal of Horticulture and Cottage Gardening Vol. 38 pp79-80 1867
Gardeners Chronicle ii 1898 pp 429-30 W. Watts *Seats* 1779, Pl. 83
J P Neale *Views* Vol. 1 1818, *Gardeners' Magazine* Vol. 11, 1835, p333-4
J.Beeverell *Les delices de la Grande Bretagne* v. 5, 1707

Byanston House, Blandford

