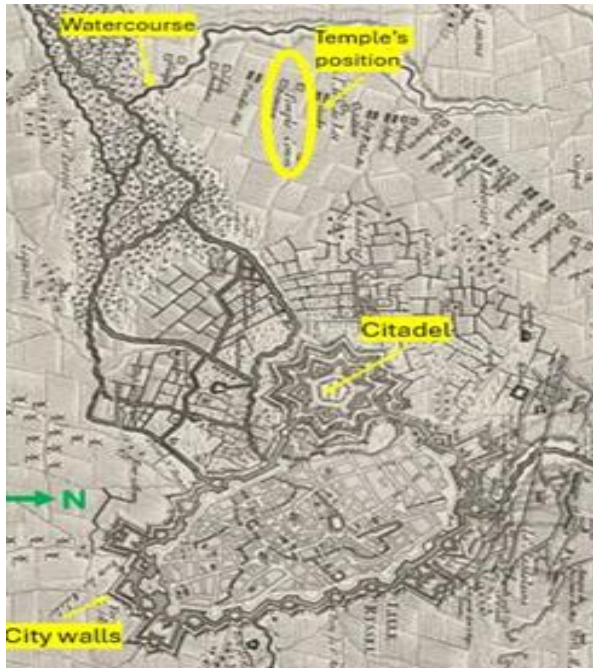
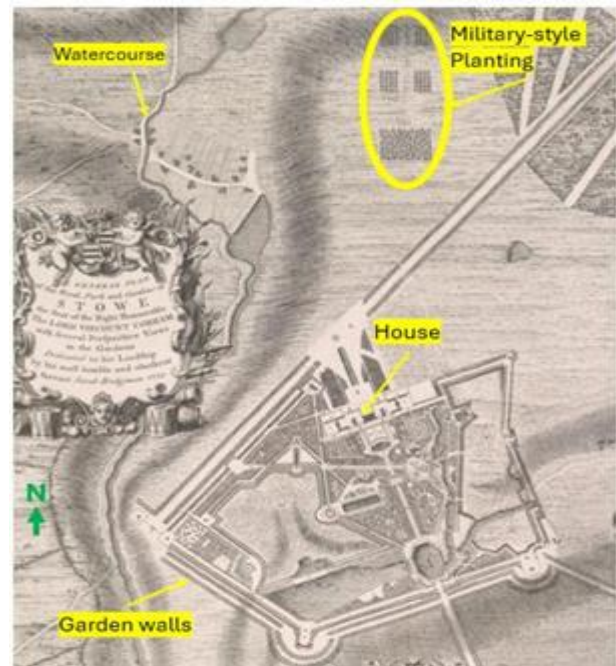




Birkbeck Garden History Group 24th Winter Lecture: Thursday 26 November 2026 at 6.30 pm



Siege of Lille, Nicolaes Visscher, 1708, Rijksmuseum



A General Plan of the Woods, Park, and Gardens of Stowe,
Jacques Rigaud, 1739, Yale Centre for British Art.

WAR AND PEACE Early Eighteenth-Century 'Personalised' Military Gardens Dr Jacqui Edwards

Did some of Britain's leading military commanders create gardens that reflected their experiences of war?

During the War of the Spanish Succession (1702-1714), senior British commanders spent their summers campaigning on the Continent before returning to their country estates. New research suggests that a number of these men incorporated personally significant references to battlefields, sieges, and fortified towns into the designs of their gardens and landscapes..

Dr Jacqui Edwards, inspired by Tim Richardson's recent observations on the grounds of Blenheim Palace, explores fascinating evidence that further estates, including those at Stowe, Cliveden and Claremont, may have been designed to echo specific military victories and locations.. Her research raises important new questions about the meaning and purpose of early

eighteenth-century landscape gardens and their place within the social and cultural world of the period.

About the Speaker

Dr Jacqui Edwards recently completed an MA in Garden History at the University of Buckingham, researching the development of Lord Orkney's early eighteenth-century landscape gardens at Cliveden. Her professional background is in scientific research and engineering, and she has also worked as a volunteer gardener and historical talks volunteer at Cliveden, now owned by the National Trust.

Location

The lecture will be held **in The Lumen, 88 Tavistock Place, London WC1H 9RS, in Community Room 1**. Doors open at 6 pm.

Directions

The Lumen is within walking distance of King's Cross St Pancras, Euston and Russell Square Train/Tube station. It's located at the junction of Tavistock Place and the corner of the northern end of Regent Square, next to the brick building marked United Reformed Church House.

Tickets

£14 for members and £16 for non-members. Included in the price are a drink and nibbles after the lecture. If you have any queries, please email Sandra Pullen on spullen6@outlook.com

Card and cash payments will be accepted on the night, but advance booking would be much appreciated for catering purposes.

Tickets are available **through Bookwhen** <https://bookwhen.com/bghg> or click here to book.



[Tickets](#)