

RHS GARDEN BRIDGEWATER

Location: Salford, Manchester

Client: Royal Horticultural Society

Dates: 2015 - 2016

Masterplan for the RHS' new fifth garden, bringing back to life the lost historic grounds of Worsley New Hall in Salford, including the restoration of one of the largest Walled Kitchen Gardens in the UK.

We collaborated with the landscape design practice, Tom Stuart-Smith, to create a dramatic masterplan for the phased transformation of this overgrown and inaccessible former Bridgewater Estate into a new public garden.

The initial phase of the plan includes a new arrivals building, a car park with extensive new horticulture and the regeneration of the eleven acre kitchen garden which dates back to the mid-nineteenth century. Future phases will see the creation of a learning centre (similar in function to our design for the RHS Hyde Hall Learning Centre), a lakeside restaurant, a school of horticulture, a gallery and a grand glasshouse standing on the hill where the imposing edifice of the former Worsley New Hall once stood before its demolition in 1949.

The landscape will be opened up and developed; new features include an arboretum, a paradise garden, a therapeutic garden, and the reinstatement of the formal terraces designed by Nesfield in 1846 with imaginative new horticulture.

We have been working with the RHS since 2013. At their Hyde Hall Garden in Essex, we provided designs for the Hilltop buildings, including a Learning Centre, Restaurant and Activity Barn, as well as providing masterplanning services for the whole Garden.

Below: View of the new arrivals buildings from the Garden, across the new lake.

