

# Welcome to WESTONBIRT — GARDENS —

# Map of WESTONBIRT GARDENS

Westonbirt Gardens are an outstanding example of high Victorian landscape design which incorporate both formal and picturesque styles.

The gardens were laid out between 1840 and 1885 by their wealthy owner, Robert Holford (1808-1892). He also built the spectacular Westonbirt House and was responsible for planting Westonbirt (now the National Arboretum).

Robert's son George (1860-1926) inherited the estate in 1892. Like his father he had a passion for trees and continued to develop the arboretum. He was also a keen gardener and an expert in the cultivation of orchids.



Robert Holford



Sir George Holford

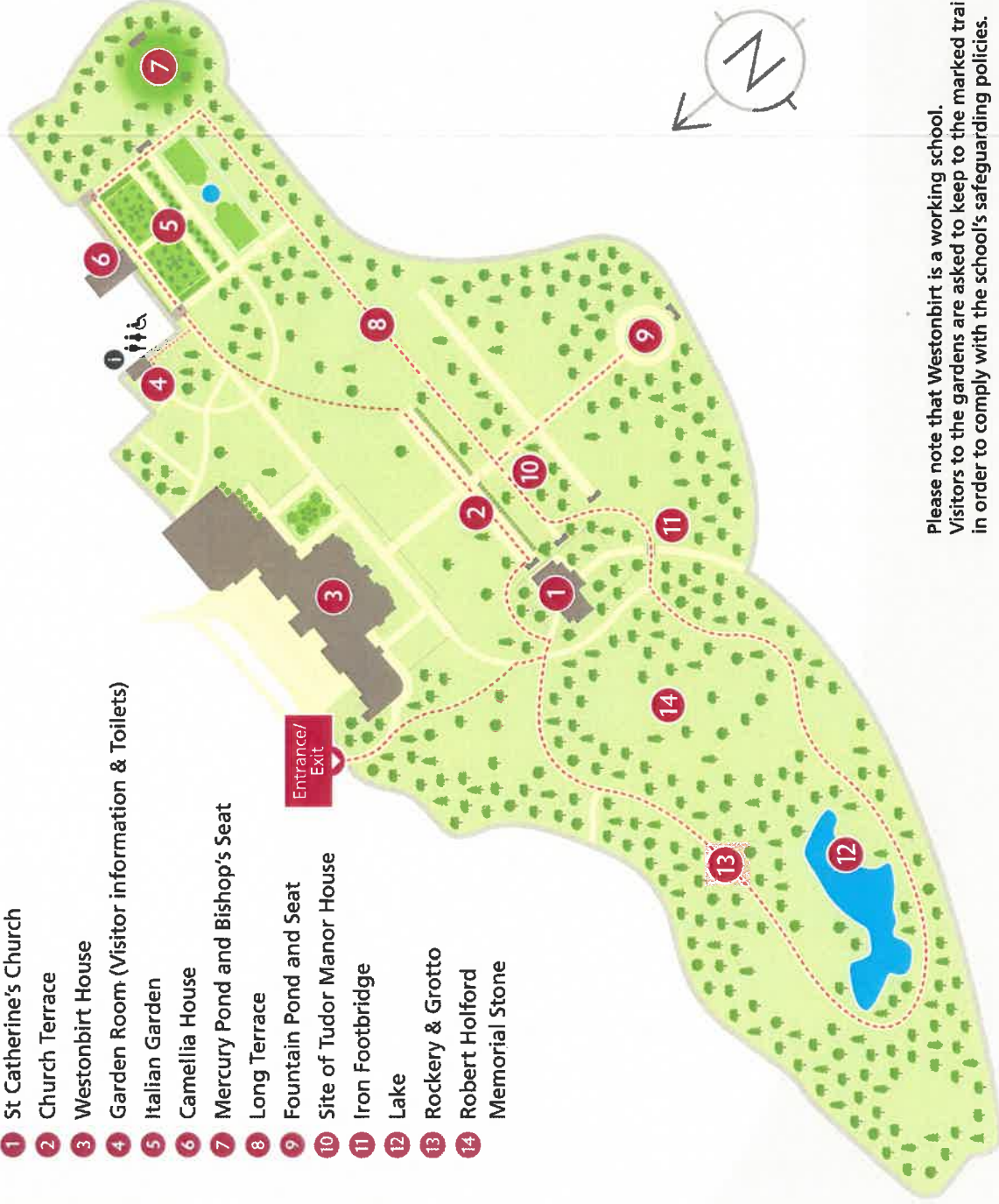


School lesson in the Italian Garden c1930s

After Sir George's death in 1926 the Westonbirt estate was broken up and the ownership dispersed. In 1927 the house and its grounds became a school and in 1956 the arboretum was acquired by the Forestry Commission (now Forestry England).

Today the gardens are managed and cared for by the Holfords of Westonbirt Trust. The main aim of the trust is to enable the long-term conservation of both the house and gardens and to make them more accessible to a wider range of people.

- 1 St Catherine's Church
- 2 Church Terrace
- 3 Westonbirt House
- 4 Garden Room (Visitor information & Toilets)
- 5 Italian Garden
- 6 Camellia House
- 7 Mercury Pond and Bishop's Seat
- 8 Long Terrace
- 9 Fountain Pond and Seat
- 10 Site of Tudor Manor House
- 11 Iron Footbridge
- 12 Lake
- 13 Rockery & Grotto
- 14 Robert Holford Memorial Stone



Please note that Westonbirt is a working school. Visitors to the gardens are asked to keep to the marked trail in order to comply with the school's safeguarding policies.