

Sir Geoffrey Jellicoe

Geoffrey Jellicoe was a founder member of the Institute of Landscape Architects, an architect, town planner, landscape architect and writer. He played a pivotal role shaping the Institute into an identifiable and viable organisation. He was visionary and determined in his approach, a man of phenomenal energy, broad interest and charisma, evident in his involvement both with the institute and in his own practice.

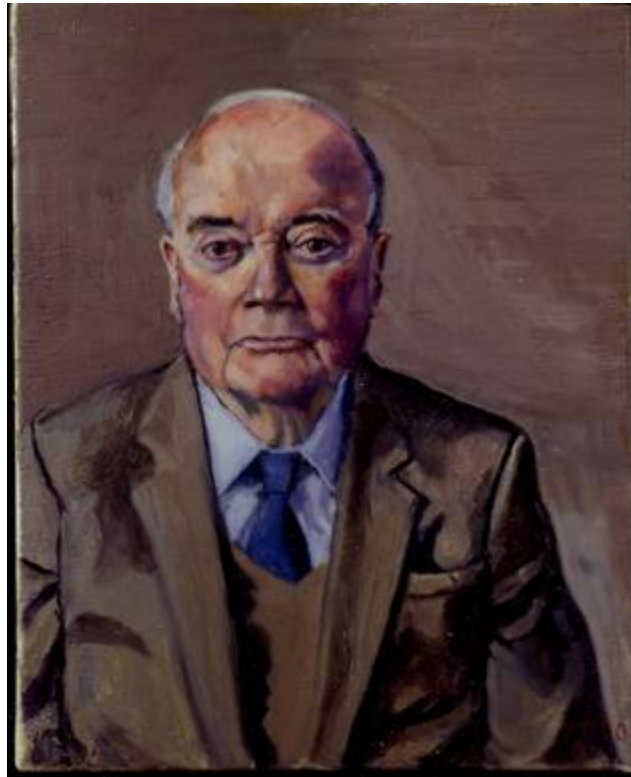
He was elected president of the ILA in 1939 soon after the outbreak of WW2, but in his case, the usual two year office lasted for 10 years. During this time the Institute operated from his office and shared his secretary. So between Jellicoe, Ellen Heckford and especially Mrs Douglas [Gwen] Browne, communication lines were kept open with members: he produced occasional war time editions of the journal following the collapse of Landscape and Garden, and continued to run Council and committees. In addition to all this he subsidised the running of the Institute both during his term as president and for several decades after, and he diverted fees from one of his jobs to help establish the landscape course at Newcastle. In 1948 he became founding president of the International Federation of Landscape Architects.

Although his training was in architecture, from the beginning of his time in practice in the 1920s, his work included garden and landscape design as well as architecture and town planning. He was to become one of the most celebrated landscape architects during his lifetime. In his favour was long life, hard work, and good opportunities in terms of visionary clients, good commissions and budgets; he was also an extremely effective communicator through his writing, speaking and teaching. But he clearly delighted in his work and in very few of his designs does he adopt an obvious or easy option. There are common hallmarks throughout including structured geometry, vistas, water, and designing to a human scale, but each of his designs is an inventive response to the site and the brief; he was invariably moving the game on, evolving from English traditional to modernist to allegorical and unclassifiable, and always at the forefront.

All his books focus on aspects of landscape and gardens. By the early 1970s when Jellicoe was in his early 70s and had earned himself an international reputation in landscape architecture, he launched into his most productive and creative period of work. The collection of drawings he donated to the Landscape Institute is mostly from this period 1970-1995, and it includes some of his most important projects, Shute House, Sutton Place and the Moody Gardens.

No longer part of a practice where others translated his ideas onto tracing, we see for the first time his own drawing style and its rapid development, from fairly ordinary keyed plans in thin wobbly lines to intricate and exquisite drawings often covered with handwritten notes to convey the design intentions: viewpoints, references to historical associations or allusions to mythological concepts. With some commissions he was invited back over a period of years and the sequence of drawings reveal the progress; with other commissions where the client disagreed with the first proposal [as with Moody Gardens], Jellicoe designed an alternative. The collection includes most of his output. Interestingly there are no working drawings, the closest is a series of more detailed sketches and plans for the water gardens at Shute House. There are two sketchbooks, but no job files or correspondence. The rest of the story about projects has to be extracted from articles and books he and others have written.

His drawings were the beginning of the Landscape Institute drawings archive.



Oil painting by Michael Tree, 1990; Landscape Institute

Geoffrey Alan Jellicoe
8.10.1900 – 17.7.1996

Architect, town planner, landscape architect, author
FRIBA, PPILA, FRTPI, RA

CBE 1961; Kt. 1979;

Founder member of ILA [1929], President ILA [1939-49]; Principal of Architectural Association [1939-42], Founder member and First President of International Federation of Landscape Architects [1948]; Life President IFLA [1954]

Member of Royal Fine Art Commission [1954-68]; Trustee of Tate Gallery [1967-74]

American Society of Landscape Architects medal [1981]; LI Gold medal [1985];
Australian Institute of Landscape Architects Gold medal [1990]; Royal Academy elect
[1991]; RHS Victoria Medal of Honour [1995]

Educated at Cheltenham College and Architectural Association; Rome Scholar [1923-24]; Bernard Webb student at British School Rome [1930]

Marries Susan [Ursula] Pares 1936 [d. 1986]

Practice:

1925 Joins Tubbs, Son and Duncan,
1925-31 Shepherd and Jellicoe [Jock Shepherd architect, illustrator];
1931-38 Jellicoe, Page and Wilson
1939 G A Jellicoe
c1955 GA Jellicoe and Partners [Allan Ballantyne, FS Coleridge, James Dartford]
1957 GA Jellicoe and Partners [Allan Ballantyne and FS Coleridge]
c1959 Jellicoe, Ballantyne & Coleridge
1964-1973 Jellicoe & Coleridge
1973 - Jellicoe Coleridge and Wynn [Jellicoe as consultant]
1970s-1995 GA Jellicoe

Work:

Architecture: Gordon Russell Ltd Workshops, Worcs; restaurant, Cheddar Gorge, Somerset; Gordon Russell shop front, Wigmore St, London; factory Gordon Russell Ltd, Park Royal; Calverton Colliery, Nottinghamshire; Min of Supply wartime housing schemes at Theale, Hereford, Newport, Cardiff, Worcester, Poole; Livingstone Airport, Zambia; Broken Hill hospital, Zambia; Schools in Copper belt, Zambia; Ashmore Benson and Pease works, Cleveland; Heron's Beach, Barbados; Lansbury neighbourhood housing, London; Ridgeway Hotel, Lusaka; Bennet's End housing, Hemel Hempstead; Levylsden housing, Surrey; Sylvania-Thorn Colour TV Lab, Middlesex; Basildon New Town, Essex; Harvey's Dept Store, Guildford; Totnes civic hall, Devon; Plymouth civic centre and landscape, Devon; Digbeth St Walsall, Warwickshire; Gloucester City centre, Glocs; Civic Centre, Chertsey and landscape; Tollcross, Edinburgh; Westcliffe housing estate, Humberside; Oaklands development, Bahamas; Durley Park, CEGB building, Avon; Sports Centre and park Cheltenham, Glocs

Landscape plans:

Broadway, Worcs; Goldsmiths' Estate, Middlesex; Hope Cement works, Derbyshire; Pittstone Cement works, Bucks; Mablethorpe and Sutton-on-Sea, Lincolnshire; Cement works, Sussex; Cadbury Bros factory, Moreton, Cheshire; Volta river project, Africa; University of Nottingham; St Margaret's Bay, Kent; Barry, S Wales; Ruskin Park club, Lancs; Park Royal, Middlesex; Rutherford High Energy Lab, Harwell, Berks; Oldbury Power station, Avon; QEII Hospital Welwyn, Herts; Cornwall County Hall, Truro; Isles of Sark, Channel Islands; Castle Green, Norwich; Fish Hill country park, Worcs; Hilton hotel landscape, Bridgefoot, Stratford upon Avon, Warwickshire; New Palace Yard, Westminster; Delta Metal Works, West Bromwich; Fitzroy Sq, London; Landscape plan for central roads, Leicester; oil platform construction works, Kishorn, Scotland; University of California, Berkeley; Luntley Court, Herefordshire; Moody Gardens, Galveston, Texas; BlueWater shopping centre, Kent; Atlanta historical gardens, Georgia

Town plans:

Wolverton, Bucks; Guildford, Surrey; Wilton, Yorks; Wellington, Shropshire; Hemel Hempstead New Town, Hertfordshire; Lusaka, Zambia; Warwick bypass

Miscellaneous:

Motorways for Britain exhibition; River Thames bridge; Christchurch Meadow relief road; M4 motorway report; Isles of Scilly conservation plan; English Cities report; Hussey stone, Scotney Castle; urban road through Cardiff, report

Civic landscape:

Church Hill memorial gardens, Warwickshire; Hemel Hempstead water gardens;, Oxford; Kennedy Memorial, Runnymede, Surrey; Crematorium, Lincs; Armagh Cathedral; Processional Way, Exeter Cathedral, Devon; Civic park, Modena, Italy; Brescia public park, Italy; Turin sports park; Italy; Walsall civic centre competition

Gardens:

Bingham's Melcombe, Dorset; Kingcombe, Glocs; Ditchley Park, Oxfordshire; Stanmore, Middlesex; Royal Lodge, Windsor Great Park; The Holme Gardens, Regent's Park, London; Kelmarsh Hall, Northampton; Broughton House, Drumlanrig; Mottisfont Abbey, Hampshire; Pusey House, Oxfordshire; Hever Castle, Kent; Overbury House, Gloucestershire; Cottesbrooke Hall, Northamptonshire; 19 Grove Terrace, London; St Paul's Walden, Hertfordshire; Mulgrave Castle, Yorkshire; Sandringham House, Norfolk; Uckfield, Sussex; Ballater, Scotland; Harvey's Store roof garden, Guildford; Cliveden, Bucks; Horsted Place, Sussex; Wexham Springs and Fulmer Grange, Bucks; Villa Corner, Treviso, Italy; Tidcombe Manor, Wilts; Shute House, Wilts; Framingham Hall, Norfolk; Wisley gardens, Surrey; Chequers, Bucks; Cheveningham, Kent; Stratfield Saye, Berks; Buckenham Broad, Norfolk; Everton Park, Beds; 27 Grove Terrace; The Grange, Hants; Dewlish House, Dorset; Aberford Court, Yorks; Hartwell House, Bucks; Sutton Place, Guildford; Barnwell Manor, Northants; Wilverley, Hants; 35 Upper Addison Gardens, London; Quattrocentro Villa, Asolo, Italy; Danemore Park, Kent; Denbies, Surrey; Cairo garden, Egypt

Books:

Italian gardens of the renaissance with JC Shepherd, (1925) Benn
Gardens and design with JC Shepherd, (1927) Benn
Baroque gardens of Austria (1932) Benn
Garden decoration and ornament for smaller houses (1936) Country Life
Gardens of Europe (1936) Blackie
Studies in landscape Design 3 vols (1960, 1966, 1970) OUP
Motopia, a study in the evolution of urban landscape (1961) Studio Books
Modern private gardens with S Jellicoe (1968) Abelard-Schuman
Water the use of water in landscape architecture with S Jellicoe (1971) A & C Black
The landscape of man shaping the environment from prehistory to the present day with S. Jellicoe (1975, revd 1987, 1995) Thames and Hudson
The Guelph lectures on landscape design (1983) University of Guelph
The landscape of civilisation: created for the Moody historical gardens (1989) Garden Art Press

See main catalogue -

www.landscapeinstitute.org/library_and_information_services/catalogue

For drawings, photos of his projects by Susan Jellicoe, journal articles by Jellicoe and books and articles on Jellicoe and his work held at Landscape Institute Library, and other links.