

Turn End Garden



designed and made by Peter Aldington OBE RIBA www.turnend.org.uk turnendgarden@gmail.com

Turn End - Visitor Information

Thank you for arranging a visit to Turn End. We look forward to welcoming you.

ABOUT TURN END

Turn End is one of three houses designed and built in the 1960s by architect Peter Aldington in the village of Haddenham, Buckinghamshire.

The three houses received a Royal Institute of British Architects Award for Architecture in 1970 and were listed at Grade II* in 2006; only a handful of post war houses are listed at this grade. In November 2017 Historic England listed Turn End's garden at Grade II and added it to the Register of Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest in England. Turn End is the only post-war listed house and garden created by the same hand.

As modern housing, made of wood, concrete block and glass, in a traditional setting, the group has always been celebrated as a rare British representative amongst the best of European housing design and has welcomed visitors from all over the world. Turn End's garden, designed and made by Peter as a natural extension to the house, grew with the buildings, maturing into a world renowned garden. In less than an acre, space is used to create an illusion of size. A house courtyard with a naturalised pool; a small woodland area around 100 year old apple trees; a curved glade leading to a series of garden rooms, sunken or raised, sunny or shady, geometric or informal, yet all harmonious and unifying irregular geography with the buildings. Turn End is still the Aldington's family home.

The garden and group of three houses is the subject of a book 'A Garden and Three Houses' in which the late Sir Peter Shepherd commented 'I know of no other garden which packs such riches into so small a space with such interesting and beautiful plants.'

Artist in Residence Heather Hunter regularly exhibits and works in her small studio at Turn End and she is often able to open her studio during public events and for group visits.

The estate is also the location of award winning portrait photographer Paul Wilkinson.

'The witty way in which Turn End is conceived as a series of walled enclosures, some open to the sky, others roofed... There is nothing else like Aldington's houses and garden at Haddenham in post-war British architecture'

Dan Cruickshank, RIBA Journal, Oct.1996

DIRECTIONS & PARKING

3m NE of Thame, 5m SW of Aylesbury. Turn off A418 to Haddenham. In the village centre, turn off Thame Road at Rising Sun pub into Townside. Turn End is located opposite Dovecote, behind a low white wall, under a large walnut tree and with a gravel entrance.

Turn End was created as a family home, as such there is no visitor parking on site. We are located in the historic centre of Haddenham village and there is free, but sometimes limited, on street parking on surrounding roads. **Please park with consideration for our neighbours, parking on wider areas of road and avoiding driveways.** We are a 10-15 minute walk from Haddenham & Thame rail station.

If travelling by coach, we recommend that you approach via the wider roads of Thame Road - Marriotts Lane - Dovecote and disembark on Dovecote. As parking for large vehicles is limited in the vicinity, coaches may wish to park elsewhere during your visit.



FACILITIES

A small selection of books and home-grown plants are available for purchase. We can accept payment by cash or cheque on the day.

One unisex toilet is available at the entrance, via two steps.

For house visits, we ask that visitors either remove footwear or wear the plastic shoe covers we provide.

ACCESS

The garden includes gravel and stone pathways, lawns, narrow archways and several steps, including steps to the photography studio. The house is compact and includes 3 small steps to an upper level. Please contact us for further information, we would be delighted to help facilitate your visit.