

# The Wilderness

## Pleasure Garden

You might think of a 'wilderness' as a rugged place, remote from humans. In the 18th century a Wilderness was a Pleasure Garden, easily walked and only 'wild' by comparison to the very formal styles that were going out of fashion.

## Designed Landscape

The Manor's Wilderness garden was created in the mid-18th century as a way to update the estate given its walled terraces were increasingly old fashioned. Paths wound between beds of scented shrubs and climbers, spring bulbs and exotics mixed with native trees and shrubs.

As well as beautiful views within, the Wilderness was designed to enjoy three key views out – across the water garden (the ponds and cascades were likely built at the same time), to the east across the Ha-ha, and (from the Doric Seat), across the Ouse valley to the north.

# Find

... as many different trees and flowers as you can.

The Wilderness style included a wide variety of evergreen,

The Wilderness is shown on the Ordnance Survey plan from 1900. See how the groups of trees end at the line of the Ha-ha, with the landscape beyond remaining as open pasture.

Image credit: Ordnance Survey, 1900

