



# High Elms Audio Trail: **Activity Sheet**



[www.darwinatdowne.co.uk](http://www.darwinatdowne.co.uk)



# High Elms Audio Trail: Activities



## 1 Car Park

Welcome to the High Elms estate. These activities complement the High Elms Audio Trail, and it is recommended that you undertake them as you listen to each track, but they can also be done on their own.

A map and directions are also available as a separate PDF and these will help you find your way from one stop to another.

Record information or jot down any notes in the space below. Perhaps you may like to record how long it takes you to do the walk, what species you've seen on the way or any problems you encounter.

Notes: .....

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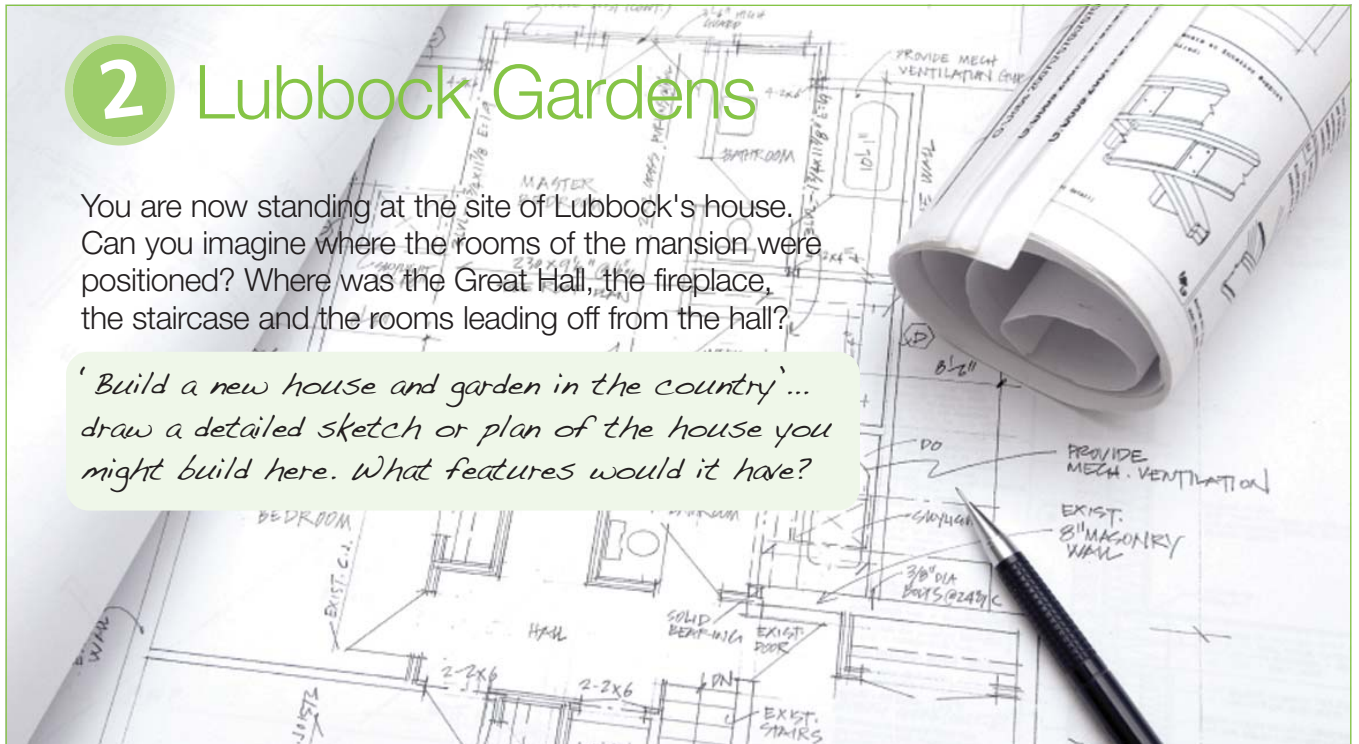
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## 2 Lubbock Gardens

You are now standing at the site of Lubbock's house. Can you imagine where the rooms of the mansion were positioned? Where was the Great Hall, the fireplace, the staircase and the rooms leading off from the hall?

*'Build a new house and garden in the country' ... draw a detailed sketch or plan of the house you might build here. What features would it have?*



### 3 Pond



There used to be three large ponds here. The one you can see was restored in 2006, another is buried under the golf club car park and the remains of the other pond can still be seen today.

*Look for evidence. Find the clues that tell you where this pond was. What tells you that these ponds were man made and not a naturally-occurring habitat.*

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### 4 Clubhouse



Look carefully at the golf course. What animals would you expect to see? Given that this habitat is heavily managed by people, how would it look without human influence?

*Sketch what you might see, include details of the plants and animals you would find.*

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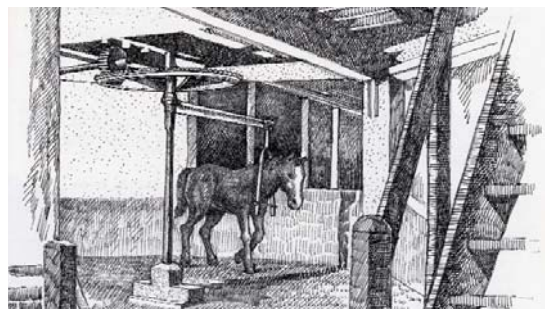


### 5 Clockhouse Farm

Lubbock was always keen to introduce 'new technology' into his home and work. If we think about the water pump in his house we can see that the results of using such technology was not always favourable.

*Note down where technology is used in your life. Think about your home and the many gadgets we use to make life more comfortable today. Would life be better or worse without them? Think of the environmental impacts?*

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Above: Lubbock's horse-driven water pump

## 6 Meadow

There are now 25 native species of bumblebee in Britain and Ireland, 3 species have already become extinct. They play a vital and important role in the countryside and as a result they are a conservation priority.

*How can we encourage bees into the countryside?*

*If the bumblebee were to disappear what would the consequences be?*



## 7 Gamekeeping

Can you think of any local conservation projects aimed at protecting the environment? Think about what threatens the environment in your area.

*If you were the MP for nature conservation and responsible for protecting wildlife, what would your policies be? Might people object to your plans? Give your policies a slogan or punchy title.*



### my policies

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### any objections

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# 8 Beechy Walk

Many scientists believe that we are accelerating climate change leaving some species unable to adapt and survive. With the rise in global temperature we are seeing frequent extreme weather events e.g. drought, flooding and hurricanes.

*From what you have heard in the media can you think of ways that we are affecting the global climate? What impact does extreme weather have on local wildlife and people.*



Notes: .....

# 9 Race track

Lubbock's Acts in Parliament enabled ordinary people to enjoy leisure time. He wanted people to use the countryside as he did, to appreciate its beauty and feel closeness to nature. In the 1950's the Country Code was introduced. Now revised, it offers 5 pieces of advice or rules for the public to respect, protect and enjoy the countryside whilst protecting it for future generations.

*What do you think the five rules are? Would you add any more to them?*



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The country code can be found at [www.countrysidesccess.gov.uk](http://www.countrysidesccess.gov.uk)



# 10 Lubbock Mansion

John Lubbock wrote a famous book called 'Ants, Bees and Wasps' in which he studied the behaviour of each of these species.

*Spend some time here in the gardens. Count how many of each insect you find, and record the results next to the images.*

**HOW MANY?**  
Are all the wasps the same as each other?



Wasps: What are their differences/their similarities?

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**HOW MANY?**  
Are all the ants the same as each other?



What **factors** could have influenced the number of insects you saw today?

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Bees: What are their differences/their similarities?

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**HOW MANY?**  
Are all the bees the same as each other?



Ants: What are their differences/their similarities?

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# 11 Stableyard

Feel the bark on trees. Are they all the same?



# 12 BEECHE

The Bromley Environmental Education Centre at High Elms (BEECHE) is an eco-friendly or sustainable building. After exploring the building you will see its environmental features. What are they and where?

*Look at the house in the country that you planned or sketched at the start of the trail. Would you make any changes in light of what you have seen?*

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