



English Landscapes wins 14th BALI Award

Project: Joint Services Command and Staff College, Shrivenham, Wiltshire



English Landscapes has won their 14th BALI Award since 1991, continuing the Company's success in providing a high quality service to its clients in the field of landscape construction and grounds maintenance.

The winning project was built under a Private Finance Initiative for Defence Management and has been established by the Ministry of Defence to attract the highest quality of officers from both the United Kingdom and many overseas nations. It is a college of excellence and is already achieving world class educational standards.

Landscaping works carried out on this contract, worth in excess of £1 million, included the construction of a County Standard cricket pitch and artificial wicket, football and rugby pitches, six tennis courts, an International Standard sand-filled artificial hockey pitch, four



external and four internal courtyards and a large water feature. 3,500 square metres of slab paving were laid, street furniture was supplied and installed and 35,000 shrubs, 400 trees and several acres of grass seeding were planted.



The landscape construction team, headed up by Mike Martin, Area Manager, and Ian Williams, Contracts

Manager, should be praised for their ability to provide value engineered solutions to the problems caused by the site and the requirements of the end user.

Serco will be responsible for facilities management for the next 28 years and has awarded English Landscapes the contract to carry out the maintenance of the landscaping and sporting facilities, together with the 290 houses for military personnel which are on the site.

Peter Hope from Defence Management said "from the opening day of the JSCSC, both students and visitors have commented on the magnificent grounds in which the college is situated and the high quality to which they are being maintained by English Landscapes – Robin Gumbrell and his team are to be congratulated on their achievement."

Construction of the Academy was completed by Laing Limited
Landscape Architects: HLM Architects Limited



Message

from Simon Stephens,
Managing Director

Looking back on the three years since our Management Buyout, one can see a clear transformation of our company.

Our Landscape Division has found a solution to the problem of ensuring the quality of soft landscaping when fighting with other trades to get works completed – do it all yourself! When we take responsibility for the groundworks, lighting, hard landscaping and anything else that might impact on the soft works, the quality – as seen in sites featured here – really shows. This strategy has meant substantial investment in the skills held within the company but is giving an increasing number of clients an excellent solution.

In the Grounds Maintenance sector, English Landscapes is now seen as one of the leading contractors in the country. We are regularly invited to tender for the largest and most prestigious contracts while still maintaining a personal and innovative approach. Clients are showing ever increasing confidence in the service we deliver – as demonstrated by Portsmouth City Council's willingness to take up our proposal to turn two five-year contracts into a 15-year deal (details on right).

We are in exciting times with success coming from the enthusiasm and commitment of all our staff – especially those on the ground – in producing a job we can be really proud of.



Maintenance and care of internal plants used for functions, including the 'Mayor-Making' ceremony

Maintaining the London Borough of Redbridge

Working in partnership with the London Borough of Redbridge, English Landscapes is in the process of completing the first year of a three-year Grounds Maintenance contract worth approximately £500,000 per year.

The work consists of maintaining seven parks, including Valentine's Park – one of the largest and most attractive in the area – nine bowling greens, 10 cricket tables, 19 football pitches, two rugby pitches and a 'pitch and putt' course. Also maintained are other open spaces, homes for the elderly, day care centres, libraries and highway verges.

London Borough of Redbridge said "despite the very wet weather during the early part of the year, the service was provided to the specific contract



standards. Those standards

have been maintained during the year and are reflected in

staff attitudes and performance. The Client Officer at Redbridge Council has received a number of compliments from service customers in respect of the standard of work by English Landscapes and their staff have established excellent working relationships with Redbridge officers. We look forward to further developing working relationships in the future."



English Landscapes wins £19.5 million Grounds Maintenance contract in Portsmouth



Having already secured a five-year contract with Portsmouth City Council, which commenced in January 2001, for the maintenance of the seafront and southern area of the city, English Landscapes has recently succeeded in winning a further two contracts with the Council for maintenance of the northern and eastern areas of the city. Both are for a period of 15 years and, under a

re-negotiation with the Council, the 'Seafront and South' contract has been extended to match. Subject to approval, these contracts are worth approximately £1.3 million per annum in total.

The maintenance focuses mainly on parks, playing fields, bowling greens, mini golf courses, grass cricket wickets, grass tennis courts, housing sites and, of course, the sea-front itself, with its specialist bulb borders and heather and alpine bed maintenance.



English Landscapes also undertakes animal husbandry at some of the parks, which consists of maintaining enclosures housing a variety of birds and small animals such as guinea pigs, rabbits and goats.

Innovative initiatives include using environmentally-friendly electric buggies, introducing a green waste recycling programme and, in time, setting up an apprentice training scheme for young people based on the 'old-fashioned' parks apprenticeship scheme.

Lottery funds aid restoration of Victorian Park



Fossilised tree in Lister Park

English Landscapes was delighted to be awarded an external works package, worth £1.5 million, at Lister Park, by Bradford Metropolitan District Council. Bradford MDC were awarded more than £3 million from the Heritage Lottery Fund for the restoration of this 21 hectare Victorian Park. This project has formed a 'first of its kind' for the Heritage Lottery due to the listed nature of the park and the extent of the restoration works being undertaken.

English Landscapes undertook the re-creation of the botanical garden by restoring the stream and constructing three raised circular seating areas and three formal rockeries with associated specialist planting; the creation of a formal garden; the refurbishment of the Samuel Lister and Sir Titus Salt statues and Norman Arch; the moving of a fossilised tree; the associated drainage, tarmac, earthworks, fencing, street lighting, electrical and CCTV installation. Additionally, general soft landscaping works were undertaken, which involved seeding and turfing, and the supply and

planting of many thousands of trees, shrubs and herbaceous plants.

Members of Bradford MDC's Design Services have commented that they have been pleased to work in conjunction with English Landscapes on this prestigious project.



*Cartwright Hall (prior to park restoration).
Picture courtesy of Bradford MBC*



In brief...

English Landscapes has won their second contract for Bovis Lend Lease at Vodafone's World Headquarters in Newbury, Berkshire. This contract for £1.5 million, awarded in November 2001, is for the lakes, hard landscaping and external works, including footways, re-enforced turfs, earthworks and drainage.



The initial contract, which is being overseen by English Landscapes' on-site management team, was won in September 2000. This £1.3 million contract is for the soft landscaping of the site, consisting of extensive semi-mature tree planting, birch copses, major shrub planting and grass seeding. The overall soft landscaping, designed by Fletcher Priest and Barton Willmore Partnership, is naturalistic in order to integrate with the surrounding rural landscape.

Following on from English Landscapes' success at Digbeth and Leamington Spa, the Midlands Regional Office opened in Kenilworth early this year. This office, headed up by Dot Shepherd, Landscape Development Manager, will form the base for operations in the Midlands and will focus on developing future growth in this area.

A further Regional Office has also opened in Huddersfield. Mark Oliver, Northern Landscape Operations Director, heads up this team, which will concentrate on consolidating and expanding on operations in the North of England.



Employees at the Huddersfield Office

Landscape maintenance continues to grow with North and South Operations managing a total of approximately 2,300 sites nationally, mobilised by 17 teams. This underlines English Landscapes' commitment to deliver a local service backed by national coverage. Customers currently include Monterey (BT), Post Office, Co-Op, Homebase, Entertainment UK, Warden Housing and One2One.

A new Database Management System is currently being trialled which will enable all multi-site maintenance to be pre-scheduled and will allow Managers to monitor progress at the touch of a button. The system will also act as a call handling package to log all calls received and to build up a site history.

Axis One and Two, Langley, Slough

English Landscapes, working in conjunction with architects McGregor Smith, has carried out nearly £250,000 of soft landscaping at Axis Park for MEPC, who are regarded as market leaders in the operation of business and science parks.

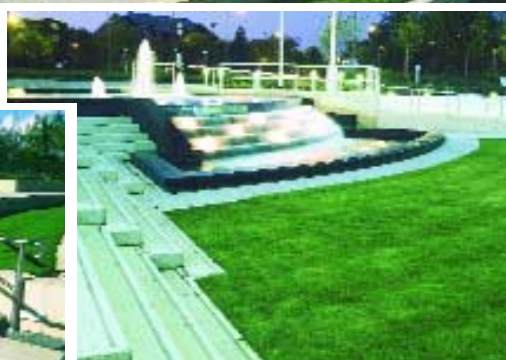
The work surrounding two prestigious office blocks commenced in January 2001 and English Landscapes was committed to a tight programme to complete the first phase of semi-mature tree planting prior to the end of the planting season in March. Other works included top-soiling, turfing and shrub planting – mainly specimen 10 litre and 15 litre containers – which produced an immediate impact on site. The contract ran in two phases, finishing in July 2001.



Millennium Point, Birmingham

English Landscapes was delighted to be involved with the Millennium Point Project, one of the United Kingdom's landmark millennium lottery-funded schemes.

The works, carried out in the Northern Gardens, incorporated the construction of a cascading waterfall clad in Chinese granite, the creation of formal terraces clad in blanc de bierge paving, and the formation of resin-bonded footpaths finished in flint aggregate, with uplighters throughout to illuminate the site. Extensive earthworks were undertaken in connection with the terraces, which had to be built up from a flat plateau. In the main car park to the Northern Gardens, soft landscaping included the planting of 80 semi-mature trees together with 7,000 ornamental shrubs. Additional works carried out were the laying of the ducting for the lighting and the surfacing of a 'space net' climbing frame floor.



Landscape Architects: Mason Richards

People

Since English Landscapes was initially recognised as an Investor in People in July 1997, the number of directly employed staff has increased from 120 to over 500. We strongly believe in the very positive benefits of training and developing our staff and have a busy programme of in-house management workshops, in addition to technical training for field staff. Individual professional, NVQ and day release courses are also supported. Due to the rapid expansion of the Company over the last few years, and our policy of promoting from inside the company whenever possible, we are able to offer excellent career opportunities. Each year we select a number of students for our Graduate Training Programme, at the end of which we offer some permanent positions within the company.



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