Lyme Access Statement 2016

Disley
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SK12 2NX

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Introduction
Lyme is a 1400 acre estate consisting of managed parkland and moorland. Located on the edge of the Peak District the park is very hilly including some steep paths particularly on the moorland. The central area of the Park is relatively flat and accessible although there are still a number of slopes. The Garden is built into the side of a hill and has distinct terraced levels linked by steps or sloping pathways which can be steep at times. The House is displayed over 3 floors which are accessed via staircases. The 1st floor is accessible to all through the stag parlour entrance as are the shop, catering outlets, ticket office and toilets from the ground floor courtyard.

Mobile signal
Mobile phone reception is poor across the site, although the higher areas tend to have better signal. In an emergency 9-5pm call 01663 762023 and choose opt2, alternatively all staff and volunteers are connected via a 2-way radio system and can raise the alarm. For emergencies outside of this time call 999.

Dogs
Assistance dogs are welcome throughout the property. In the park owners should keep their dogs on leads near vehicles and under close control throughout the rest of the park. Areas of the park have seasonal grazing of cattle and sheep, dogs should be kept on a lead in these areas. Dogs are welcome in the garden on the second weekend of each month from Mar – Oct and must be kept on a lead. Dogs must be kept on leads and under close control around the Red deer herds.

Specifics
Visitors are required to hand over large bags to be securely scored before entering the House, lockers are available.
Arrival & Parking Facilities

By car:
The only vehicle access to Lyme is from the main A6 trunk road that runs between Manchester and Buxton. The Park is signposted using brown highways agency signs from Stockport (A6), Macclesfield Rd (A523) and Buxton Road (A6). We recommend not using satellite navigation as several will direct you to the wrong gate location, however using SK12 2NR can work for some systems. The entrance to the estate is 1.5km mile from the main car park.

By bus:
There is a bus stop on the A6 adjacent to the end of the driveway. This is serviced by the 199 bus operated by High Peak Buses, for details please visit: http://www.highpeakbuses.com/Documents/199%20-%20Skyline.pdf
The entrance to Lyme Park is 1.5km from the House, Garden and visitor facilities. A free National Trust minibus service runs every day from 15 Feb – 30 Oct 2016 (10.30am – 5.00pm) transporting visitors from the admissions kiosk on the driveway (200 metres from the estate entrance) to the House and Garden. Please ask at the admissions kiosk to be collected. Please note the minibus service is not accessible to wheel chair users unless you are able to transfer yourself independently from your wheel chair to a seat on the bus.

By train:
There is a train station in Disley which is 1km from the estate entrance. Trains are operated by Northern Rail. Disley station is on the line between Manchester Piccadilly and Buxton. For details please visit: http://www.nationalrail.co.uk/stations/DSL/details.html
The entrance to Lyme Park is 1.5km from the House, Garden and visitor facilities. A free National Trust minibus service runs every day from 15 Feb – 30 Oct 2016 (10.30am – 5.00pm) transporting visitors from the admissions kiosk on the driveway (200metres from the estate entrance) to the House and Garden. Please ask at the admissions kiosk to be collected. Please note at present the minibus is not accessible to wheel chair users unless you are able to transfer yourself independently from your wheel chair to a seat on the bus.

Accessible Blue Badge Parking
Accessible Blue Badge parking can be found in 3 locations at Lyme: the main car park, Timber Yard and Orangery Yard. Please enquire at the admissions kiosk as to which area will be most suitable for your visit. Please display your Blue Badge documentation on your dashboard. Visitors with Blue Badge parking documentation park free of charge at Lyme.

The main car park has 6 Blue Badge bays and 1 large designated space in the coach park section. A free shuttle service runs every day from 15 Feb – 30 Oct 2016 (10.30am – 5.00pm) to transport visitors to the House and Garden from the car park. Please note the electric buggy service is accessible to wheel chair users, the minibus isn’t unless you are able to transfer yourself independently from your wheel chair to a seat on the vehicle. The House and Garden are 200 metres from the main car park either using set of stone steps, an
uphill sloping footpath or by shuttle. The car park surface is compacted gravel, with tarmac access roads.

The Timber Yard car park has 4 Blue Badge bays. These bays are only to be used by those visiting the Timber Yard Café / Shop, toilets and Crow Wood playscape. The car park surface is tarmac with a tarmac access road, the Timber Yard area has a combination of cobbles at the entrance, and fine gravel in the central area.

The Orangery Yard car park has 7 blue badge bays. These bays are only to be used by those visiting the House (1st floor) and Garden who require level access and are primarily for wheel chair users. The car park is finely compacted gravel, with tarmac access road.

Busy periods
If all the Blue Badge spaces are occupied we will always endeavour to find a suitable location for parking based on the circumstances of each visitor. Please ask at the admissions kiosk on entry to the park. We regret we cannot reserve parking bays in advance.

At busy times such as weekends and school holidays we use grass over flow parking. If you require accessible Blue Badge parking please ask at the admissions kiosk and we can arrange a suitable parking location.
Toilets
Accessible toilets can be found in 3 locations at Lyme: the House, Garden and Timber Yard.

House
- Located on the ground floor next to the Ale Cellar restaurant, please note this is on the floor below the house accessible route. The nearest accessible parking is in the main car park with shuttle service used. Toilets are 50 metres from the House shuttle stop.
  - Room size: 1.5m x 2.5m
  - Right hand transfer
  - Area lit by fluorescent light
  - Paper hand drying

Garden
- Located in a building behind the herbaceous border in the garden. Nearest accessible parking in the Orangery Yard car park, then 90 metres (with steps), 150 metres (no steps) through the garden
  - Room size: 2.2m x 1.7m
  - Left hand transfer
  - Area lit by a window and fluorescent light
  - Automatic hand drier

Timber Yard
- The accessible toilet is located at the entrance to the Timber yard opposite the café. Accessible parking at the Timber Yard is 30 metres from the toilet and is the easiest and quickest to access from accessible Blue Badge bays
  - Room size: 3.5x 2m
  - Right hand transfer
  - Area lit by fluorescent light
  - Automatic hand dryer

We currently don’t offer a Changing Places facility.
Visitor Reception

House and Garden ticket office
- The ticket office is located on the ground floor of the house in a wood panelled room with a carpeted floor.
- The entrance is flat from the courtyard through the door
- The door is 1100mm wide
- The door is manual and opens into the room. Staff will assist with opening the door if required
- The reception desk is 900mm high, however there is an adjacent lower area at 750mm. Staff will also come round to talk to someone who cannot see over or reach up to the desk.
- There is a clipboard to write on if a visitor cannot reach the desk.
- The room is lit by natural light and 1 floor standing lamp, 1 angle poised lamp and a ceiling light using LED bulbs.
- 4 chairs are available, 2 of which have arms
- There is an induction loop available at the reception desk
- There is a portable induction loop available at the membership recruitment desk.
- 2 members of staff have basic Makaton communication skills, although there is no guarantee they will be on the property every day.
- Manual wheelchairs: 2 from the Garden entrance, 2 from the Orangery Yard, 3 from the House accessible entrance. Visitors cannot book them in advance.
- There is no requirement for NT members parked in the Orangery Yard Blue Badge parking spaces to visit the ticket office. For paying visitors 1 member of the visiting party only is required to visit the ticket office on the ground floor off the courtyard.

Information Centre
- The information Centre is located in a single storey building, with lino flooring.
- The entrance is up shallow short slope with flat access into the room.
- The door is 1700mm wide with both doors open.
- The door is manual and opens into the room. Staff will assist with opening the door if required.
- The information desk is 750mm high.
- There is a clipboard to write on if a visitor cannot reach the desk.
- The room is lit by natural light, and there are LED lamps recessed into the ceiling.
- 4 chairs are available, none of them have arms
- There is an induction loop available at the reception desk
- 2 members of staff have basic Makaton communication skills, although there is no guarantee they will be on the property every day.
- Manual wheelchairs are available from the House and Garden as detailed above.
House

- The standard House entrance is 200 metres from the main car park, shuttle service is available (see page 2). Blue Badge holders can park in the Orangery Yard Blue Badge car park and enter the house through the Stag Parlour accessible entrance which is 55 metres away. There is no requirement for NT members parked in the Orangery Yard to visit the ticket office. For paying visitors 1 member of the visiting party only is required to visit the ticket office on the ground floor off the courtyard.
- The standard access to the house has a circle of cobbles, the majority of which can be circumnavigated using a compressed fine gravel path. The courtyard floor consists of large flat stone.
- The standard access to the House is from the ground floor courtyard via 17 stone steps with handrails. The Stag Parlour accessible entrance can be accessed from the Orangery Yard Blue Badge parking area. There is a flat fine gravel path to the Stag Parlour, which is 55 metres from the car park. Access from the Orangery Yard into the Garden is on a request basis, either do this through the admissions kiosk or use the phone box on the wall of the parking area. Visitors will be greeting by a volunteer who will give them all the welcome information required and guide the visitor to the Stag Parlour entrance to the House, the entrance of which is flat.
- Both the standard access door and Stag Parlour entrance door are opened manually by a volunteer, the standard access door opens into the house and is 1400mm wide. The Stag Parlour entrance door is 1150mm wide.
- The only room without soft furnishings is the Long Gallery (2nd floor) which has wooden walls and floor.
- All of the rooms in the House are lit by natural light, as well as LED lighting. Some of the rooms have a lower light level to protect paintings and tapestries.
- The accessible route using the Stag Parlour entrance includes rooms only on the first floor, this includes the: Drawing room, Stag Parlour, Dining room, Ante room, Library, Staircase Hall, Saloon, State Bedroom and dressing room, Oak and Acorn rooms, Yellow bedroom suite and a view of the Entrance Hall via the Drawing room. The 2nd floor is only accessible using a staircase, the rooms on this floor are the: Long Gallery, Knights bedroom, Oak bedroom, School room, and Nursery bedroom. The Chapel on the ground floor is accessible from the courtyard only and has a short ramp, the Family Pew is only accessible via 5 steps. The Butler’s rooms and Wardrobe dept are also only accessible using a short staircase.
- There are no narrow corridors and doorways in the house.
- There is space to turn a wheelchair easily in each room on the first floor.
- There are seats for visitors to use around the house including some with armrests
- There are volunteers in each room.
- The toilets are on the ground floor of the house, with one fully accessible toilet (see page 4).
- There are introductory talks by volunteers, however they don’t use induction loops or communicate using BSL.
- There is no audio guide or tactile model. Guides are available in large print and Braille. Virtual tours are to be introduced in summer 2016 using hand held tablet devices.
- Powered wheelchairs and powered mobility vehicles can access the first floor of the House only (due to steps) using the Stag Parlour entrance.
• The library is an ideal quiet area where people can sit if they don’t want to do the same amount of the visit as other members of their group.

Catering (House)
Servant’s Hall tea room, Ale Cellar restaurant, Salting Room tea parlour

All 3 outlets are located on the ground floor of the house which can be accessed without the use of steps from the courtyard.

• The standard entrance to all 3 outlets is 200 metres from the main car park, shuttle service is available. For Blue Badge holders who have parked in the Orangery Yard (see page 6) and entered the 1st floor of the house through the stag parlour, there are 2 routes available to the ground floor of the house avoiding steps and stairs: 1.through the garden around the Reflection Lake, through the West Terrace gate and into the courtyard via the North Front (300 metres) 2. Return back to the Orangery Yard car park, walk down the path to the North Front entrance of the house (150 metres). An accessible guide and map is available as well as staff and volunteers to help orientate visitors. Level access to the outside seating area for the Salting Room (Wyatt Garden) is available from the North Front, please ask a member of staff.

• Access to the catering outlets is from the House courtyard and is flat, with a short ramp from the corridor into the Ale Cellar restaurant.

• All entrance doors are manual and are propped open at all times
• No alternative access routes available (with the exception of the Salting room outside seating area detailed above), main route from the courtyard is fully accessible.

• The Servant’s Hall door is 1250mm wide. The Ale Cellar door is 880mm wide. The Salting Room door is 1250mm wide. The outdoor seating area entrance is 950mm wide

• All rooms have a carpet floor covering
• The Servant’s Hall and Salting Room are lit by natural daylight, standing lamps and ceiling lights using traditional style bulbs. The Ale Cellar has no windows and is lit by a combination of traditional style bulbs and LED lamps.

• The Servant’s Hall is all on the ground floor and is level. The Ale Cellar is split in half across two levels linked by a flight of 3 steps. An alternative accessible entrance is available to the upper level. A member of staff will help with access through this door. The inside of the Salting Room is all on 1 floor with level access, the outdoor seating area can be accessed by 3 steps or alternatively through the North Front entrance detailed in point 1.

• The counter height in the Servant’s Hall is 900mm The Ale Cellar and Salting Room are table service, hence there are no counters.

• Staff will assist visitors as required including coming out from behind the counter (Servants Hall) and re – arranging seating (all outlets).

• There is 1200mm of circulation space in all 3 outlets.

• Till points in the Servants Hall and Ale Cellar have induction loops

• Menus are available in large print

• Large handled cutlery, double handled mugs, straws are available
Catering (Timber Yard)
Timber Yard café, Ice Cream parlour

Both outlets are located on the ground floor of the Timber Yard and can be accessed without the use of steps (a ramp is used to enter the ice cream parlour).

- The entrance to both outlets is 200 metres from the main car park or adjacent to the Timber Yard Blue Badge parking area. Access to the catering outlets is from the Timber Yard courtyard which has a slight slope.
- The roadway up to the entrance of the Timber Yard is tarmac, inside the Timber Yard the surface is cobbled, with tarmac path linking the shop and café, and loose gravel towards the Ice Cream parlour.
- Access to the Timber Yard café is flat, the Ice cream parlour has a shallow ramp to aid entrance.
- All entrance doors are manual and are propped open.
- No alternative access routes are available or necessary.
- The Timber Yard café door is 1300mm wide. The Ice Cream parlour door is 1800mm wide.
- Both outlets have hard floors and no soft furnishings
- The Timber Yard café is lit through natural daylight and LED lights. The Ice Cream parlour is also lit by natural daylight and fluorescent lights.
- Both outlets are on the ground floor of their respective buildings.
- The counter height in the Timber Yard cafe is 900mm. The Ice Cream parlour does not have a counter instead it has an ice cream freezer and decorative till point unit at 900mm in height.
- Staff will assist visitors as required including coming out from behind the counter / serving equipment and re–arranging seating in both outlets.
- There is 1200mm of circulation space in both outlets.
- The till point has an induction loop.
- Menus are written on blackboards in large text in the Timber Yard café. Ice cream prices are in large text.
- Large handled cutlery, double handled mugs, and straws are available in the Timber Yard café upon request.
Retail (House)
Hall shop and Pre-loved Bookshop

Both outlets are located on the ground floor of the house which can be accessed without the use of steps from the courtyard.

- The standard entrance to both outlets is 200 metres from the main car park, shuttle service is available (see page 2). For Blue Badge holders who have parked in the Orangery Yard (see page 6) and entered the 1st floor of the house through the stag parlour, there are 2 routes available to the ground floor of the house avoiding steps and stairs: 1. through the garden around the Reflection Lake, through the West Terrace gate and into the courtyard via the North Front (300 metres) 2. Return back to the orangery car park, walk down the path to the North front entrance of the house (150 metres). An accessible guide and map is available as well as staff and volunteers to help orientate visitors.
- Access to both shops is from the House courtyard which is made of stone tiles and is flat.
- All entrance doors are manual
- No alternative access routes available, main route from the courtyard is fully accessible.
- The Hall shop and Pre-loved bookshop doors are 950mm wide.
- Both rooms have a carpet / rug floor covering
- Both shops are lit by natural daylight. The house shop has shelf fluorescent lighting and LED bulbs. The pre loved bookshop has ceiling lights using traditional style bulbs.
- Both shops are on the ground floor only.
- The counter height in the Hall shop is 920mm, the Pre-loved Book shop has no counter, payments are taken in the Hall shop.
- There is circulation space of 1200mm between display stands.
- The till point has an induction loop.
- Staff will assist by reaching down items to view if they cannot be reached by customers.
- There isn’t a large print version of the price list however staff will assist in telling visitors the price of items.
Retail (Timber Yard)

Timber Yard shop

- The entrance to the shop is 200 metres from the main car park or adjacent to the Timber Yard Blue Badge parking area. Access to the shop is from the Timber Yard courtyard.
- The roadway up to the entrance of the Timber Yard is tarmac, inside the Timber Yard the surface is cobbled, with tarmac path to the shop.
- Access to the shop is flat.
- The entrance door is manual
- No alternative access routes are available or necessary.
- The door is 1350mm wide with both sides open.
- The shop has a hard floor with no soft furnishings
- The shop is lit through natural daylight, LED ceiling lights and fluorescent tube lighting in the shelves.
- The shop is on the ground floor only.
- The counter height in the shop is 910mm.
- Staff will assist visitors as required including coming out from behind the counter.
- There is 1200mm of circulation space.
- The till point has an induction loop.
- Staff will assist by reaching down items to view if they cannot be reached by customers.
- There isn’t a large print version of the price list however staff will assist in telling visitors the price of items.
Garden

- There is a detailed access map of the garden and surrounding area showing options for routes round the garden and suitable entrance points (see appendix). The garden is on several tiered levels so some of the paths have slopes and the routes can be longer compared to the stepped paths.
- There is a route round the garden avoiding any steps, stiles or other difficult areas for people with mobility difficulties.
- The paths are made from finely compacted gravel.
- Several paths have shallow to short steep gradients (e.g. Killtime area), these are marked on the map and can be avoided if necessary.
- There are many flights of steps throughout the garden, however flat paths allow access to the vast majority of the garden area.
- Steps do have handrails.
- The only gate on the route is for the accessible entrance to the garden which is supervised by garden volunteers.
- There is written signage in the garden and an accessible guide is available. There is currently no tactile model or audio tour.
- There are benches throughout the garden.
- There are several water features including a large lake, stream, water feature and fountain.
Estate

- Lyme Park is a 1400 acre estate consisting of managed parkland and moorland. Located on the edge of the Peak District the park is very hilly including some steep paths particularly on the moorland, hence a large percentage of the park can be very challenging for people with limited mobility. The central area of the Park is relatively flat and accessible although there are still a number of slopes to negotiate.
- The Information Centre in the main car park is open every day from 15 Feb – 30 Oct 2016 (10.30am – 5.00pm) and stocks maps and walk guides. The staff will also suggest suitable routes given any mobility issues visitors discuss.
- A map of the estate is available free of charge (see appendix) and a walk leaflet is also available showing 3 routes. These routes are also marked with coloured markers in the park. A ranger guide is also available for a small fee which describes additional routes and conservation of the estate.
- There are several routes that are flat and accessible such as the Mill pond circular path which is fine compacted gravel and some tarmac. The route to the Cage is the most popular with visitors, this is mainly on a shallow gradient however there are 2 short steeper slopes to negotiate. Most of the route is grass or compacted gravel.
- Many of the paths marked on the estate map are made from finely compacted gravel, however routes across the moorland and through some of the woodlands can be rutted, steep, narrow, muddy and grass covered.
- There are a number of gates and stiles to negotiate across the estate (marked on the estate map), although many have been removed to aid access where possible.
- There is level compacted fine gravel surface to and inside Crow Wood Playscape. Elements of the play equipment have been designed for children with limited mobility and for adults and children to play on together. The nearest accessible parking for the playscape is the Timber Yard Blue Badge parking area, the route from here is flat and 70 metres from the playscape entrance.

Contact details for more information
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Date: 12/02/16

Map Appendices:

1. Full estate map
2. Accessible parking and route map
3. Garden Accessible guide map
How the garden has grown...

1609 The first evidence of gardening at Lyme appears in a document, with a description of a new boat house, plants and hedges.

1643 Elizabeth Legh begins major garden work, including the creation of Lime Avenue in 1670.

1687 Peter XII, Elizabeth’s son develops the garden, adding a canal and fountain. He is influenced by Chatsworth.

1744 Upon Peter’s death, interest in the garden waned. One visitor refers to the Italian garden as ‘a hanging garden now neglected’.

1813 Under Thomas Legh, architect Lewis Wyatt begins to remodel the garden and start the orangery.

1862 Alfred Darbyshire completes the orangery.

1898 The 2nd Lord and Lady Newton take over Lyme. They add the rose garden, herbaceous borders and the Vicary Gibbs garden.

1902 The pump house is built to pump water to the house in case of fire.

1907 Joseph Addison becomes Head Gardener. He jokes that the orangery ‘had one apple tree that never had no apples.’

1910 The gardeners ‘kill time’ avoiding the family in the garden, giving this area the name Killtime ravine.

1940 The second world war saw the garden fall into neglect.

1946 The Legh family hand Lyme to the National Trust.

1980 Extensive work begins and the orangery is restored.

1985 Rhododendron walk is created.

1993 The Italian garden is renovated.

2001 The Wyatt garden is reinstated after being used as a car park.

2006 The rose garden is fully restored.

A labour of love...

‘Over one hundred volunteers work alongside a handful of gardeners to maintain the garden. During the Edwardian period, only twelve staff would have worked in the garden. I don’t know how they did it!

It takes around twenty hours a week to mow the lawns and over one hundred hours a week to edge, weed, rake and generally maintain the garden. Each year, it takes around forty five hours to trim all the hedges.

Despite all the hard work, the results are worth it. It’s a pleasure to see everyone enjoying this wonderful space.’

Keith, garden volunteer of 10 years

Feel free to stop and have a chat with the team.

Neglected in the 1940s, now gloriously restored

Although the garden dates back to 1570, it wasn’t until 1643 when Richard and Elizabeth Legh came to Lyme that major garden works began.

In its natural state, the garden would be heather moorland. At 240 metres above sea level, with a cold and wet climate, this site is less than ideal for a formal garden. However, the Leghs endeavoured to tame the wilds and create a fashionable garden to be proud of. Letters from 1683 describe gravel walks, bowling greens, tennis courts, grass-plots, hotbeds and greenhouses in the garden.

The 1st Lord Newton added an Italian garden in 1860. With the introduction of spring time tulips, this area became known as the Dutch garden. The cherub statues represent the four elements - Earth, Air, Fire and Water.

The 2nd Lord Newton added the rose garden in 1913, on the site of two sunken pit greenhouses. The herbaceous borders were also created, with the nearest two beds being hot colours and the further two beds being cooler shades.

Edwardian Lyme saw the garden much loved and used.

‘They had cranes as tall as a man. There were silver and golden pheasants, and pairs of all the most beautiful ducks... they had to go when the war came.’

Dora Addison, the head gardener’s wife

The garden has grown and changed over time, redesigned by the architects who shaped Lyme Hall; Giacomo Leoni in the early 1700s and Lewis Wyatt in the 1800s. Yet it has always remained a much loved space in which the Legh family entertained and relaxed.

Enjoy this beautiful space today.
Enjoy the Garden

If you've got 30 minutes
1. Enter the rose garden and relax in the peaceful surroundings.
2. As you exit, turn right and visit the Victorian orangery (one step at entrance).
3. Enjoy the terraces and spot the beautiful sundial.
4. Have a peep at the Wyatt garden.

If you've got one hour
1. Head up to the herbaceous borders.
2. Go past the top lawn and on to Hampers Bridge.
3. Escape to the stream garden in Killtime ravine.

And if you have a little longer
1. Follow lakeside walk and take in the fabulous view of the house.
2. Discover the Edwardian pump house.
3. Gaze down at the sunken Italian garden.
4. Play croquet on the west terrace.
5. Head down towards the Vicary Gibbs garden to see stunning hydrangeas.

You're always welcome to enjoy a picnic on the lawn.

Key
- Benches
- Direction of view
- Toilets, accessible toilets and baby change
- Restaurant
- Hall shop
- Accessible entrance to house (open Friday – Tuesday)
- Accessible parking
- Phone for accessible garden entry and exit
- Minibus stop
- Accessible route with some slopes but no steps
  - Slope
  - Steep
  - Very steep
- Cobbled area
- Steps with handrails. Number of steps
- Wheelchairs available on request

Keep a look out for water features, uneven paths with loose surfaces, and some steep drops. Please take care of yourselves and others in your group at all times.