

# CASE STUDY

## W R Dunn & Co Ltd.

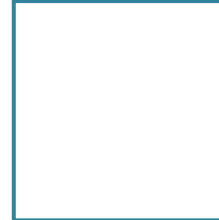
CHARTERED BUILDING SURVEYORS AND ARCHITECTS



### Historic Building Assessments at Yorkshire Sculpture Park

The Landscape Agency (Lead Consultant)

W R Dunn & Co Ltd. (Historic Building  
Consultant)



The Yorkshire Sculpture Park has been based at the Bretton Hall estate near Wakefield for over 30 years, but only took over full management of the park within the last 12 months following its sale by the University of Leeds.

Bretton Hall is included on English Heritage's *Register of Parks and Gardens of special historic interest in England*, where it is awarded Grade II status and is a landscape of national significance. There are also a number of Grade II and II\* Listed buildings and features within the gardens and park.

In order to realise the long term vision for the park, and in partnership with the Landscape Agency, W R Dunn & Co Ltd. were involved in the preparation of a Historic Landscape Management Plan, funded by Natural England with the aim of achieving the Higher Level Stewardship (HLS) status.

The Higher Level Stewardship agricultural/environmental scheme is managed by Natural England and is specifically targeted to deliver significant environmental benefits. The primary objectives of HLS are:

- Wildlife conservation.
- Maintenance and enhancement of landscape quality and character.
- Protection of natural resources.



- Protection of the historic environment.
- Promotion of public access and understanding of the countryside.

In order to assess applications for HLS, a detailed Historic Landscape Management Plan is produced, and as part of this W R Dunn & Co Ltd. were commissioned to undertake assessments of the condition of historic buildings and structures within the various parks, providing recommendations as to the works required. These structures ranged from garden follies, cascades, bridges, and weirs to gates, walled gardens and glasshouses.

The surveys have also incorporated the Grade II\* Listed Bretton Chapel, constructed in 1744, and a Camellia House described in contemporary reports as one of the "most magnificent plant structures in the Kingdom".

The Historic Landscape Management Plan will be used to inform crucial decisions about the future direction of estate management, and to identify parkland features and structures which are in need of repair and/or restoration, and where funding may be available to assist.