

SPRING OUTING

On **Saturday 12th May 2018**

The Haslemere Gardening Society visited

Upton House and Garden, Nr Banbury

Haslemere
Gardening
Society

Upton is a long low house built of local yellow sandstone. It was considerably expanded from 1927-1929 for the 2nd Viscount Bearsted by Morley Horder who retained the Carolean style appearance of the exterior while introducing some art déco elements in the interior, particularly in the bathroom for Lady Bearsted, where the walls are covered in aluminium leaf. The style of interiors at Upton has been described by art critic Osbert Lancaster as Curzon Street Baroque.



Every stately home needs a spectacular garden and Lady Bearsted certainly created one. Her passion for plants bloomed with early spring bulbs, lavish herbaceous planting, a thriving kitchen garden and a large lake with water lilies in a small valley. In use since the 12th century, the gardens were largely transformed by Kitty Lloyd-Jones for Lady Bearsted in the 1920s and 1930s, including the creation of a rare Bog Garden on the site of medieval fish ponds.

A lawn, with huge cedar trees, sweeps gently down from the house and below is an extensive terraced garden. The terracing, unseen from the house and on a first visit unsuspected, contains the National Collection of *Aster*.



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