

Pitmedden

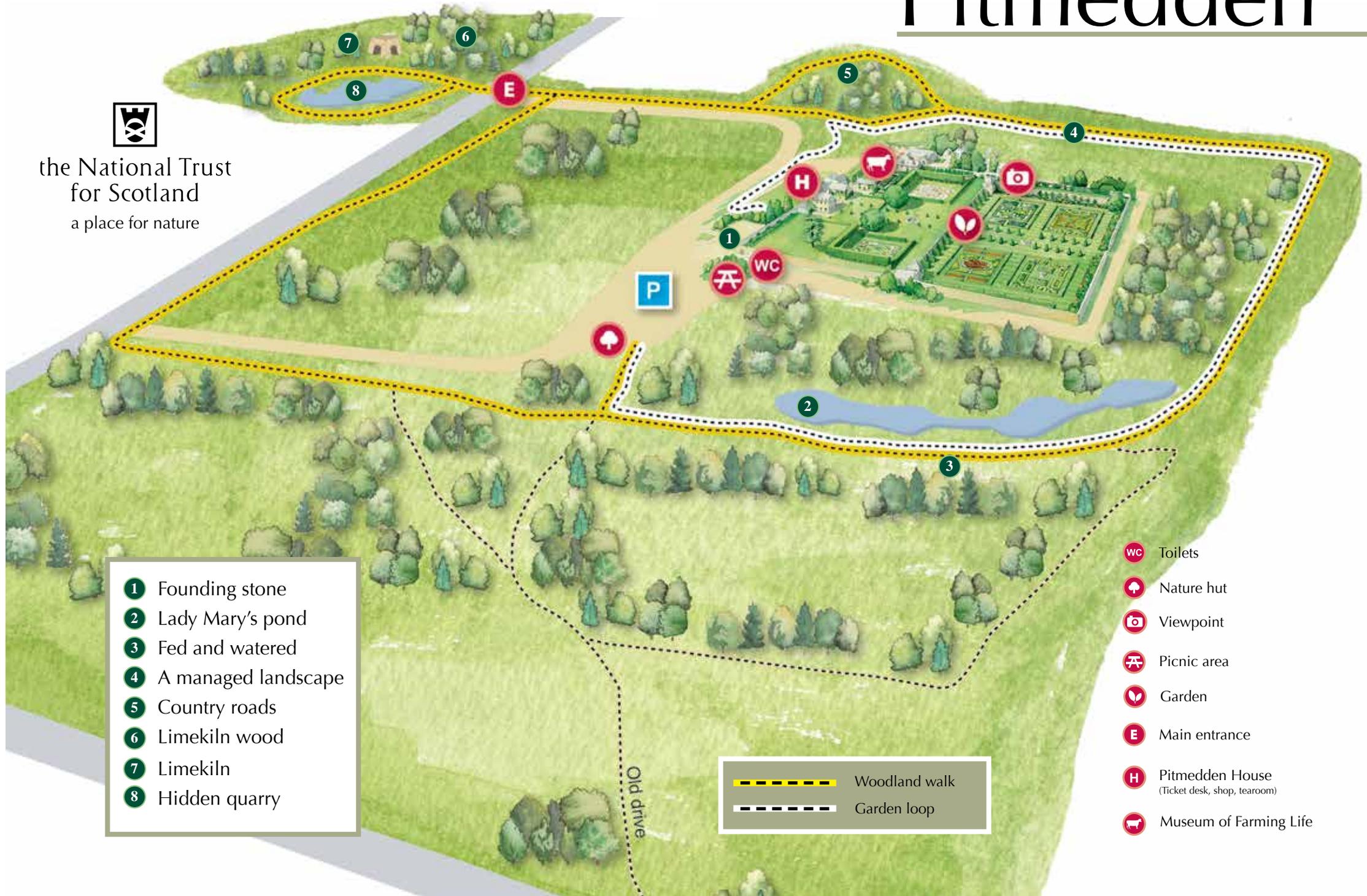


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- 1 Founding stone
- 2 Lady Mary's pond
- 3 Fed and watered
- 4 A managed landscape
- 5 Country roads
- 6 Limekiln wood
- 7 Limekiln
- 8 Hidden quarry

--- Woodland walk
--- Garden loop

- WC Toilets
- 📍 Nature hut
- 📷 Viewpoint
- 🍷 Picnic area
- 🌿 Garden
- E Main entrance
- H Pitmedden House
(Ticket desk, shop, tearoom)
- 🐄 Museum of Farming Life





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Pitmedden estate

Estate walks

Description

Pitmedden is one of the great formal gardens of Scotland. Pitmedden House and Garden lie at the heart of a historic managed landscape and visitors can enjoy a walk around the garden and then explore the woodlands within the estate. The woodland walk is a natural extension of the garden loop.

Grade

Easy

Terrain

The first stretch around the garden is on surfaced paths with a gentle gradient but not really suitable for wheelchairs and buggies. The woodland extension is on a mixture of surfaced and unsurfaced paths.

Distance

Garden loop	¾ mile	1.2km
Woodland walk	1½ miles	2.4km

Time

Garden loop	25 mins
Woodland walk	45 mins

OS Map

Landranger Sheet 38

Facilities

Parking
Shop
Cafe
Suitable for picnics
Toilets (May to September)



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1 FOUNDING STONE

Above the old doorway to the garden, look out for carved stones giving the date of the founding of the garden, and the initials of its founders: SAS (Sir Alexander Seton) and his wife, DML (Dame Margaret Lauder).

2 LADY MARY'S POND

This pond was created as an emergency reservoir for the new Pitmedden House half a century after a fire destroyed the earlier house in 1807. It still serves the same purpose today.

3 FED AND WATERED

Thirsty cattle would come from the fields to drink here. The 19th-century dykes on either side were to prevent the livestock from wandering off into the woods.

4 A MANAGED LANDSCAPE

Look out for beautifully built drystone walls. These are remains of the rectangular enclosures which surrounded Pitmedden Garden in the 17th century.

5 COUNTRY ROADS

As you walk through this wood, you're following the line of the old public road between Tarves and Ellon, in use before the modern road system was laid out in the 1800s.

6 LIMEKILN WOOD

This area of woodland was probably laid out as a picturesque feature in the early 19th century, when a more natural approach to landscape design was becoming popular. Look out for red squirrels, Pitmedden is a stronghold for them!

7 LIMEKILN

This kiln was used for processing limestone. Lumps of limestone were heated up until they formed a powdery mixture called quicklime. Quicklime was used to make mortar for building, and was also crushed and used on the fields around Pitmedden as a fertiliser, to improve the quality of the soil.

8 HIDDEN QUARRY

Below the surface of this pond lies the old limestone quarry. The quarry fell out of use around the 1790s, but we don't know whether the quarry filled up naturally with water, or if it was deliberately created as a water feature.