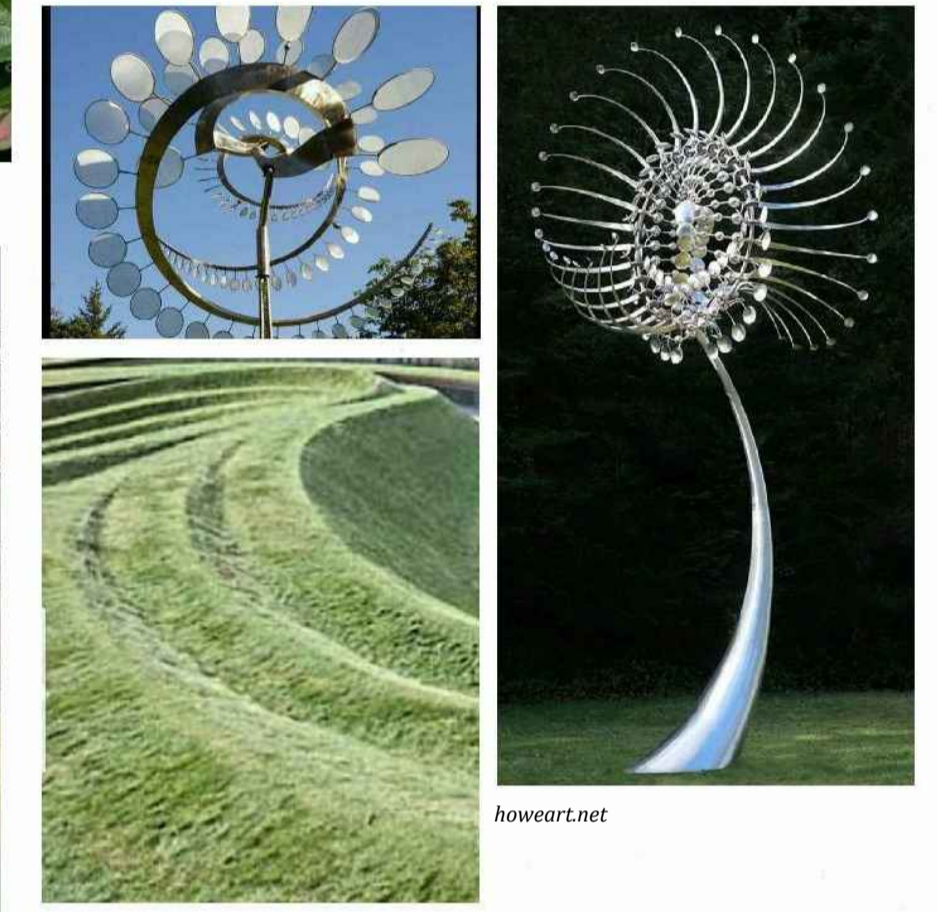
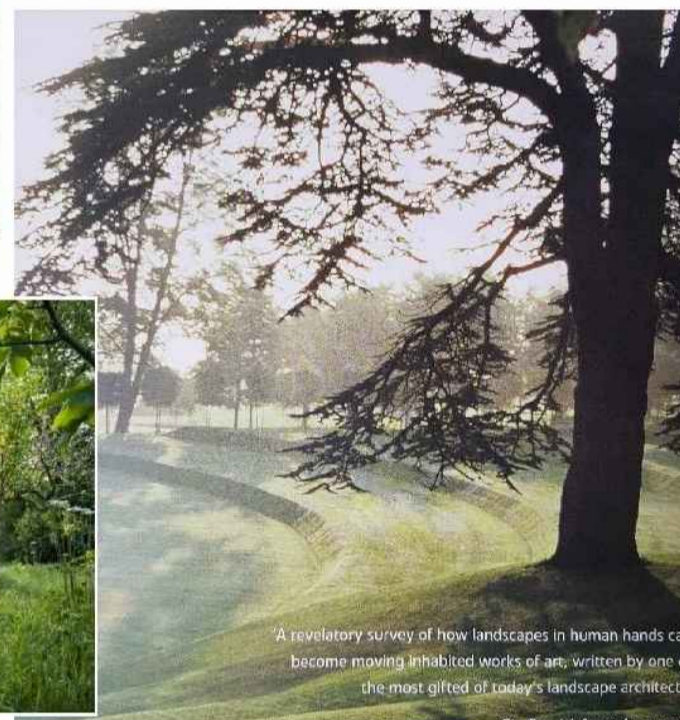


# Orchard and Wild Flowers Central Area with Kinetic Sculpture and Sinuous Bank



LED BY THE LAND  
LANDSCAPES BY KIM WILKIE

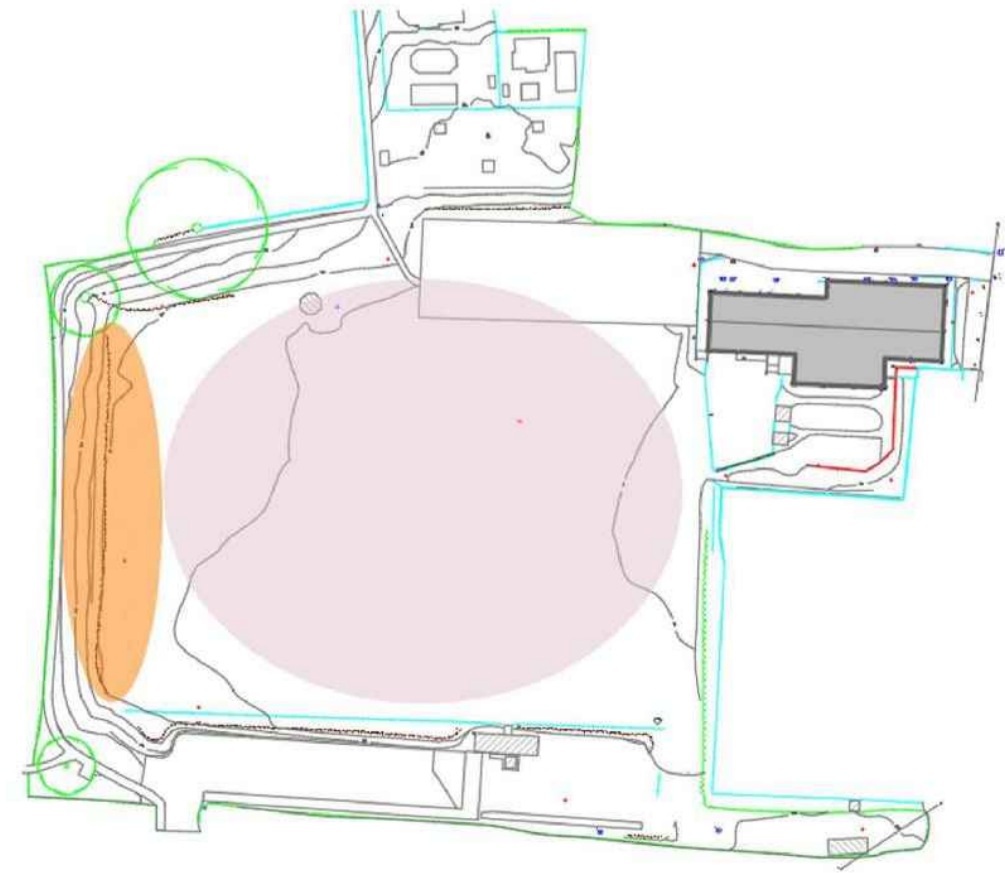
### Orchard with Wild Flowers

On the western flank of the site a small orchard set amongst long grass sprinkled with wildflowers provides fruit for the community and wildlife habitat for small rodents which in turn feed the owl population. The wild flowers and tree blossom provide bee forage and habitat for insects. The meadow requires great care to establish and maintain. Cutting in July ensures weed seed has set and dropped before being removed. This part of the project could involve the local community in selection of apple varieties and in the establishment and monitoring and maintenance of the meadow, for wildlife and collection of fruit. Traditional scything may be the best way to maintain the grass, as strimming has a detrimental effect on insect populations.

Nearby RHS Rosemoor have spent much effort establishing wildflower meadows and may be able to advise with site preparation. A species-rich meadow includes yellow rattle to help reduce more vigorous grass varieties, whilst scarifying and planting small plug plants, as well as scraping off some top soil can help establishment. Where the apple trees themselves are to be planted, the soil must be deep ... Musk mallow, birdsfoot trefoil, knapweed, ox-eye daisies, geranium pretense, cowslip, milk maids, snakeshead fritillary, grape hyacinths, buttercup, canassia, foxes and cubs and gladiolus byzantinus are some of the species to be encouraged. Orchard link and Adam's Apples can provide advice. Laxton's fortune and Ashmeads kernel (both eating apple varieties) come recommended! Selecting fruit trees that will cross pollinate because they flower at the same time, as well as selecting the correct root stock for the desired size of tree are important considerations. Pruning of apple trees takes place over the winter months...

### Central Area

The Open Ground in the centre of the site is preserved and yet transformed by the way various elements interact around the periphery - helping the middle to feel protected, enclosed and enlivened. In this way there is still room for thousands to gather for festivals, for the Devon Air Ambulance helicopter to land, and for marquees to be erected. A feature kinetic sculpture acts as a mesmerizing focal point and is so unusual and distinctive that it becomes a local attraction. Re-contouring the level playing field by means of a sinuous bank adds interest, another place to have a picnic, and reintroduces level changes by means of a stylized, sculpted landform that is a feature in its own right... of course ascertaining the composition of the existing layers of made up ground in a feasibility study will help determine the ease of re-contouring. Any existing services underground need to be located and rerouted. The Apple Orchard has to be given careful consideration as the trees need a good amount of topsoil to establish, while the wildflowers in the long grass thrive best in impoverished soil. The western most boundary path here could be removed and widened to allow for the tractor-based pruning equipment that tends to the boundary hedge to drive through the site unimpeded. The apple trees chosen should also be planted at a reasonable distance from the track to avoid branches impeding maintenance equipment.



Project address :	greenmantlegardens.com 62 North street, Ashburton Devon TQ13 7QG
<b>BOW VILLAGE HALL</b> Station Road Bow DEVON EX17 6HU	info@greenmantlegardens.com +44 (0) 7753 660 618
<b>GREENMANTLE GARDENS DESIGN</b>	February 2021
Director : Françoise Elvin Assistant landscape designer : Solenne Freulon	Scale : 1 : 100 @ A1
Client : Bow Village Hall committee	Plan : 4 of 7

