



**ARCHIVES
AND SPECIAL
COLLECTIONS**

UNIVERSITY OF SURREY



heritage open days



HERITAGE AND SCULPTURE TRAIL

Explore our beautiful campus

Discover some of the wonderful sculptures and places of interest at the University of Surrey. This digital booklet will act as your guide around our beautiful Stag Hill campus as you learn more about our University's cultural heritage.

The University of Surrey Heritage & Sculpture Trail covers a total of 28 different artworks, installations, and other items of interest. Depending on how much time you have, you may want to explore everything all in one go, or to split the routes up over several visits.

To help you plan your time on campus, this guide is divided into several sections:

- A short guide to the sculptures on the **Austin Pearce Piazza** – *page 5*;
- A **Central Campus Trail** exploring the history, community and environment – *page 9*;
- A **Lakeside Trail** taking in the sculptures displayed around the University lake – *page 22*;
- Details of additional sights to see while on Stag Hill Campus – *page 31*;

Travelling to Stag Hill

The University of Surrey has good public transport links, and we encourage visitors to travel in by bus where possible.

Stagecoach service No. 1 runs regularly throughout the week, connecting Stag Hill campus with Guildford train station and the Friary bus station in Guildford town centre. Stagecoach service No. 9 also runs on weekdays between Stag Hill campus and Stoughton. If travelling to the University by bus, we recommend that you get off at the '**University of Surrey – Austin Pearce Piazza**' stop, as this marks the beginning of the sculpture trail.

There is also a visitor car park opposite the **Austin Pearce Piazza** if you are travelling in by car: this can be reached by entering Stag Hill campus via the Cathedral roundabout (off the A3), and then driving along Perimeter Road, following the directional signs. Please be aware there is a pay-and-display charge for using this carpark during the University working week.

Please note: travel information may be subject to change, and access to campus may be limited on certain days due to other events on campus. Please check <https://www.surrey.ac.uk/visit-university/how-get-here> for the latest travel information.

Accessibility on Campus

Stag Hill campus is built on a hilly landscape, and some of the older parts of campus lack step-free access. Although this self-guided trail is designed as far as possible to be accessible to wheelchair users, it is not possible to provide close-up access to all of the individual artworks, some of which are only accessible via steps or over uneven terrain. Where specific barriers to access exist, this is noted in this guide.

For further information on Accessibility at the University of Surrey, including step-by-step instructions for accessible routes around campus, please visit:

<https://www.accessable.co.uk/university-of-surrey/>

On the Piazza

Our trail begins at the **Austin Pearce Piazza**, opposite the pay-and-display visitor car park and the University Austin Pearce bus stops. The Piazza, which is named after former Pro-Chancellor Sir Austin Pearce, serves as a gateway for visitors to the University, and is home to several of the University's sculptures.

Starting from the bus stops, turn left and walk east towards the Rik Medlik Building. Directly in front of the buildings is ***The Surrey Stag (Piazza)*** by Marc and Rebecca Ford of 2 Circles Design. Installed in 2019, this woven steel sculpture depicts a stag standing beside a large heraldic key – a nod both to the University of Surrey's logo,



The Surrey Stag (Piazza)

and the history of Stag Hill as Guildford's medieval Royal Deer Park.

The use of reclaimed materials within the sculpture, and the planting of pollinator-friendly and drought-resistant species around it, also represent the University's ongoing commitments to sustainability and the environment.

What about the other Stag?

Another sculpture, *The Surrey Stag* by Allan Sly, stands at the road entrance to the University campus beside the Cathedral roundabout. See page 33 in this guide for further information.

To the right of *The Surrey Stag* (Piazza), in the centre of the paved area, stands John W. Mill's statue of *Alan Turing*. The pioneering computer scientist and wartime codebreaker was a resident of Guildford for a part of his early life, and the installation of Mill's statue in 2004 celebrates this local connection as well as Turing's achievements.

In recent decades Turing has also been increasingly recognised as an important figure in British LGBT history, standing as a high-profile example of the historic persecution of homosexual men, and the sculpture has been featured in recent University and local efforts to mark LGBT history month.

Walk back towards the bus stops, and you will see a central path running across a lawn towards the Austin Pearce

building. On the lawn, between the path and the main paved area, is the piece *Knife Birds* by Bridget McCrum.



Alan Turing

Knife Birds



The sculpture is comprised of two bronze blade-like figures shaped to resemble birds, and was inspired by African tribal knives encountered by McCrum at the British Museum.

Continue along the path to reach the Austin Pearce building, at the south

end of the Piazza. Within the lobby of this building hangs the suspended figure of *Acrobat* by Natalie Staniforth, who trained at Wimbledon College of Art and used to live in Guildford.

The piece is visible through the windows on the outside of the building, but visitors are welcome to enter the lobby during building opening hours in order to view the work more closely.

The Central Campus Trail

This route takes in the sculptures and artworks at the very centre of campus, exploring elements of the University's past as well as celebrating present-day University life. The walk is a linear route, and takes about 35 minutes to walk from start to finish.

Begin from outside the Austin Pearce building. Facing the entrance, turn right and walk along the building towards the trees at the edge of the Piazza. Turn left on to the footpath and, walking uphill, continue southwards along the path, going past the James Joule Building on your left. When you reach the road, turn right and follow the path around towards the mini roundabout.

Before you round the bend, look back along the road to see the art installation *Walkways* decorating the two glass bridges spanning between the buildings on either side. The artwork by Peter Jeffery, which he produced in 1996 as a project for his MA Course at Wimbledon College of Art, was originally intended as a temporary installation, but has since become a permanent and distinctive feature of the campus.

Walkways



Continue past the mini-roundabout, then cross over the road and follow the brick footpath leading uphill to the left of Performing Arts Technology Studio.

The path opens out onto a brick patio, bearing the design of the *University Shield*, which forms part of the coat of arms granted to the new University upon its foundation.

The elements at the top of the shield represent the University's ties with Surrey: the checkered square element is derived from the arms of the former Earls of Surrey, while the two shapes on either side depict woolpacks referencing the heraldry of the Borough of Guildford. Beneath them are three swords - adapted from the earlier arms of Battersea Polytechnic, each sword represents one of the three planned polytechnic colleges for the South of London.

Standing at the shield, look through the gap in the hedge on your right and you will see on the wall of the building a bronze cast of the work *Charmer* by the sculptor Jon Edgar. Reproduced from an original slate carving by Edgar, the piece depicts a snake charmer and serpent. It was acquired by the University following an exhibition of Edgar's work on campus in 2011.



Charmer

From the top of the shield, cross over the road towards the Library and Learning Centre, and continue uphill, following the road around. On the grassy bank beside the road junction, you will see the *Battersea Lamp Post*, a further reminder of the University's London origins.



Battersea Lamp Post

The lamp post, which apparently once stood at what is now Clapham junction - and was even at one point painted bright red - was brought to Guildford in the 1970s having been rescued from the scrap heap.

Continue walking past the Library, and you will come to a small square canopy beside the bicycle racks. Under the canopy is a stainless-steel sculpture of a fish riding a tricycle, one of the three sculptures that make up the artwork *Fish* by Daren Greenhow. The other two pieces can be found on *The Lakeside Trail*, later in this booklet.



***Fish* (tricycle figure)**

Follow the footpath past the Simply Fresh shop and continue walking along the outside of the Library. After a short while, you will see steps to your right leading up to a series of raised patio areas, opposite the main Library entrance.

This site, which is adjacent to the student accommodation block Battersea Court, is home to the *HABITAT Community Eco Spaces project*. Established in 2022, the installations were the result of an Arts Council funded partnership between Surrey Hills Arts, University of Surrey and Surrey Wildlife Trust. The focus of the project was to explore whether sculptural habitats could positively impact biodiversity by providing structures that might support or encourage a range of wildlife species.



Habitat comprises 6 installations by 4 artists. Will Nash's *HexB* structures are to the right of the steps and provide a home for solitary bees; Russell Jakubowski created two large coloured box structures *Benjes Ark*, filled with wood to attract invertebrates and insects; nestled in the wildflower grass to the left of the space is Amy Haigh's installation *Reconfigured Cycle Rack* which, as its name suggests was made from repurposed metal; and crowning the site is Livia Spinolo's *Vertical Undergrowth* made from discarded paving slabs providing spaces for invertebrates to inhabit. (Please note: there is no step-free access to much of the space.)



Returning to the main footpath, continue past the Library until you come to a series of steps down to the lower levels. Look to your left, and you will see the *Duncan Newton Mural* along the side of the Lecture Theatre Block. The mural, which Newton created in 1980 by painting three separate aluminium panels, was commissioned by the University Arts Committee, with financial support provided by the Arts Council.



The final stop along this route is the **University Amphitheatre**, at the very heart of Stag Hill campus. This space has long been a popular venue for students to socialise and perform in, and was a stage site for the famous Surrey Free Festivals in the 1970s. The Amphitheatre can be reached by walking down the steps beside the *Duncan Newton Mural*.

Step-free access to the Amphitheatre

During building opening hours, step-free access to the Amphitheatre is also available via the Lecture Theatre Block: entering through the side door (pictured), proceed down the corridor and then



follow the signs labelled accessible route to the My Surrey Hive, using the lifts in the central lobby to travel between levels.



Full step-by-step details are available on the [AccessAble website](#) – see directions for Route 8.

From the centre of the Amphitheatre you can see the last two works on the Central Campus Trail. First, on the lawn above the Amphitheatre steps can be seen the piece *Thinking of My Future* by the Zimbabwean sculptor Christopher Chipfuya. (Please note: there is no direct step-free access to this sculpture, although the piece is visible from the base of Amphitheatre.)



Thinking of my Future

Finally, on the ground in the centre of the Amphitheatre is the floor art piece *The Pride of Heritage* by University of Surrey student Adaugo Yvonne Okenwa. The work is the result of a 2020 competition jointly held between the University and the Students Union to create a student-led piece of floor art in support of anti-racism.

Okenwa's piece incorporates 21 different symbolic elements drawn from the rich heritage of Africa and its peoples, and is intended to stand as a testament to the University's commitments to equality, diversity, and inclusion, and as an expression of solidarity against racism.



Connecting the Trails

The *Pride of Heritage* marks the end of the **Central Campus Trail**. However, if you wish to continue directly on to the **Lakeside Trail**, you can take a shortcut (via steps) to reach the second route more quickly.

Starting from the base of the Amphitheatre, begin heading back towards the direction of the Library, but do not walk up the ramp. Instead, turn right at the edge of the yellow-columned building, and walk down the alleyway between the two buildings.

You will emerge into a central pedestrianised area, with benches to your left and steps leading down directly ahead. Go down the steps, and then turn right on to a second set of steps. Walk down to the level of the roadway, with Terry's Pond and the University Lake ahead of you.

On your left you will see a small car park, raised up from the road level, with a number of standing stones. From here you can begin the **Lakeside Trail**, starting with the second *Fish* sculpture and *The Brick Path*.

The Lakeside Trail

The **Lakeside Trail** takes in some of the beautiful scenery on Stag Hill Campus, exploring the sculptures and other features standing alongside the Perimeter Road and the University Lake. It is a circular route, taking roughly 25 minutes to walk from start to finish.

To start the trail from the **Austin Pearce Piazza**, begin at the bus stops and then walk east along the side of Perimeter Road towards *The Surrey Stag (Piazza)* and the Rik Medlik Building (identifiable by the large digital screen). Continue along the path running beside the road, with the building on your right. As the road curves around, you will begin to see the University Lake on the far side of the road, with a number of sculptures on the grass bank (you will get to see these more closely later on).

Continue on your side of the road for now, walking past the bus stop, until you come to a road crossing point directly ahead of you. Looking to your right, you will have another view of Peter Jeffrey's *Walkways* on the two connecting bridges spanning the roadway (see page 9 for further information on this artwork).

Crossing the road, you will come to a raised car park with several standing stones on your right.

In the centre of the stones is the second of Daren Greenhow's *Fish*: this particular sculpture depicts in stainless steel the figure of a fish riding a bicycle.



Fish (bicycle figure)

Behind the sculpture you can also see *The Brick Path* running alongside the standing stones. Each brick bears the names of former students, staff and friends of the University who have given money to the Annual Fund, supporting a variety of projects and activities across the University.

Continue towards the entrance to Senate House, and you will see a wide set of outdoor steps

directly ahead. Roughly halfway up the steps, between the flower beds, stands the third element of *Fish*: this sculpture depicts a fish on a unicycle, juggling balls with its fins. Greenhow intended this artwork to raise smiles from passers-by on campus. (Please note: there is no step-free access to the sculpture, although parts of it are visible from the road level.)



Fish (unicycle figure)

Head back down the steps to return to road level, and then cross over the zebra crossing towards the trees on the opposite side. Turning left, begin walking along the footpath back towards the direction of the Piazza.

After a short distance the trees will open up on the right, giving a view of Terry's Pond with its central fountain. The pond is named after former head groundsman, Terry Bennett, in recognition of his work shaping the University campus.

On the near bank of the pond stands the piece *Narcissus* by the sculptor William Pye. Pye's stainless steel artwork was inspired by its seventeenth-century namesake, the painting *Narcissus* by the Italian artist Bernini.



Continue further along the path, and your eyes will soon be caught by the reflections of light from *Spine*. This tall metallic sculpture by Diane Maclean appears to change colour depending on its surroundings, reflecting light levels and the colours of the nearby trees. Maclean designed the piece as a memorial to her father, a surgeon.



Spine

At this point in the trail, you are welcome to walk out on to the grass down towards the University Lake (please note: the ground here is uneven and may be slippery when wet). This area is known as **Corbett's Lea**, after the former University Council member E.V. Corbett who, as a member of the Building and Estates Committee, played a key role in the development of the University's green spaces.

As you walk down the bank towards the lake, you will see to your right ***Shepard's Crossing***, spanning the water cascade running between Terry's Pond and the University Lake. This bridge, which was opened in 2021, is named after the illustrator E.H. Shepard. Best known for his illustrations of A.A. Milne's Winnie-the-Pooh books, Shepard also produced cartoons for the periodical *Punch*, and wrote and illustrated his own books *Ben and Brock* and *Betsy and Joe*.

Shepard was a resident of Surrey for much of his life and, in 1974, donated his personal archive to the University, where it is looked after by the Archives & Special Collections team.

Shepard's Crossing



To the other side of the lake, rising above its northern bank, is the distinctive form of the *Geodesic Dome*. This large spherical sculpture was presented to the University to mark the occasion of a Space Structures Conference in 1982, and has since become an iconic fixture of Stag Hill campus. The structure usually stands on the grassy bank above the lake; however, in one notorious incident in 1984 whilst the piece was awaiting installation, a student prank resulted in the dome being rolled into the water. These days the dome is securely attached to its fittings which prevents any further mischief!

Geodesic Dome



Return to the path by the road, and continue towards the Piazza. On the raised bank to your right you will see the final sculpture on this trail: *All The Gang Are Here* by the Animalier sculptor Carol Orwin. Consisting of three bronze figures, the sculpture depicts a wolf pack prowling through the trees. The piece is particularly striking in low light, with the silhouettes of the wolves greeting those visiting the University as they travel along Perimeter Road.

This last piece completes the trail – cross back over the zebra crossing and continue to follow the road to return to the Austin Pearce Piazza.

All The Gang Are Here



Elsewhere on Stag Hill

With so much to see on campus it's not possible to include everything on the trail – however if you are keen to explore further there are two additional pieces by the Cathedral roundabout entrance to campus that are worthwhile seeing.

First, spanning the road near the Guildford School of Acting is the University's *Rainbow Crossing*. The University of Surrey was the first UK university to introduce a permanent rainbow crossing on its campus, representing the University's solidarity and commitment to its LGBT+ student and staff community. The vibrant colours of the crossing, reflecting the rainbow stripes of the Pride flag, are even visible on Google Maps!



Second, directly beside the entrance to campus is Allan Sly's original version of *The Surrey Stag*. This iconic sculpture was unveiled by the University of Surrey's chancellor, HRH the Duke of Kent, in 2009. Like the stag on the Piazza, this sculpture is inspired by the University's crest and logo. Constructed of brushed steel on a tubular frame and with internal lighting, it stands on a large stone plinth bearing the name of the University; this commanding sculpture is one of the University of Surrey's most recognisable landmarks and is a must for those seeking a photographic encounter to remember the University by.

Both the sculpture and the rainbow crossing can be accessed on foot by walking from the **Austin Pearce Piazza** along the footpath running beside Perimeter Road. If you are walking the Central Campus Trail, you can also take a detour after seeing the *University Shield* and *Charmer*, turning right to walk along the footpath running past the Teaching Block Building, which leads directly to the *Rainbow Crossing*.



The Surrey Stag

Further Information

We hope that you have enjoyed our Heritage & Sculpture Trail, and that this guide has helped you to discover aspects of the University's history and cultural heritage that you may not have known about. If you have any questions about any of the works featured in the trail, or if you would like to find out more about the University's art collection more generally, then please email us at archives@surrey.ac.uk.

Visit our website and social media channels for more information on the work of the Archives and Special Collections Department:

Website:

<https://www.surrey.ac.uk/library/archives-and-special-collections>

Blog: <https://blogs.surrey.ac.uk/archives/>

Instagram: [@uniofsurreyarchives](https://www.instagram.com/uniofsurreyarchives)

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Surrey: The Rise of a Modern University by Roy Douglas (University of Surrey, 1991)

The University of Surrey: A History of Shaping the Future by Jaqueline Mitchell (University of Surrey, 2015)

'Raising racial equality through meaningful culture change and sustained actions, June 2021', *University of Surrey: Vice-Chancellor's Blog and Selected Speeches*, 2 June 2021. Available at: <https://blogs.surrey.ac.uk/vice-chancellor/2021/06/02/blog-raising-racial-equality-through-meaningful-culture-change-and-sustained-actions-june-2021/>

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