Milton Abbey Church and Brown designed



Milton Abbey in Dorset

The historic 14th-century Milton Abbey church near Blandford Forum, Dorset, has received a grant of over £1.2million.

The Grade I listed building sits within a stunning 500-acre landscape designed by Capability Brown, regarded as one of the finest examples of his work.

The money will be used to repair the key features of the abbey including internal and external masonry, the tower windows, ceilings and vaults.

Historic walks, drives and viewpoints in the grounds will be rediscovered and discreet oak-clad pods will be installed to host toilets, a kitchen and office and storage facilities.

The news of the grant comes as a major multi-media exhibition opens at the abbey celebrating the 300th anniversary of the birth of Capability Brown.

[quote=Nerys Watts, Head of HLF South West]“This National Lottery grant will breathe new life into the Grade I listed building and surrounding parkland.”[/quote]

The exhibition is open daily from 10am-5pm until 21 August and features photos, art and film. Visitors will also be able to access selected parts of the stunning landscape and take part in interactive activities.

Nerys Watts, Head of HLF South West, said: “The tercentenary of Capability Brown’s birth has inspired a great deal of interest in the work of England’s greatest gardener. So there’s no better time to be embarking on this ambitious project at one of Brown’s most impressive landscapes at Milton Abbey.

"This National Lottery grant will breathe new life into the Grade I listed building and surrounding parkland, ensuring visitors can discover its many charms for years to come.”



The East Lawn at Compton Verney Compton Verney

Celebrating the father of the English garden