



The COUNTRY LIFE Top 100

The past year has left many of us with a desire to ensure that our houses and gardens work harder than ever before. For the fifth year, COUNTRY LIFE's Top 100 suggests architects, interior designers, garden designers, builders and craftspeople with the skills and experience required to get it right

INCREASINGLY, country houses are being seen as places to work, as well as play. Remote working and flexible commutes have transformed the opportunities for those once tethered to the grind of daily travel. Yet it's not only houses that are

being reappraised. Increasingly, outbuildings and gardens are the focus of greater attention than ever before, offering a chance to create spaces that cater for a wider range of needs, from home offices and outdoor entertaining areas to secondary accommodation and party

barns. With these many opportunities comes a growing need for professionals who have sympathy for country houses. COUNTRY LIFE has selected those with all the skills and experience required to make the most of what a rural sanctuary has to offer. ➤



Rose of Jericho supplied the traditional paint for this house, constructed among the ruins of Stogursey Castle in Somerset

are the hallmarks of a design by this full-service garden-design consultancy, headed by former art historian Charlotte Rowe. Landscape bones are clean lined and architectural in style, softened with planting, and each garden is carefully considered in its relation to the building it surrounds. Based in west London, the boutique studio takes on landscape and planting design, project administration and garden styling across the UK and internationally, with equal numbers of town and country gardens. The studio is also known for its garden lighting design. Current projects include a family space with kitchen garden and woodland areas in North

Yorkshire, a walled garden with a swimming pool in the Surrey Hills and a tiered garden in Hampshire built into the slope of the land, complete with grasses mixed with perennials. 020-7602 0660; www.charlotterowe.com

Marian Boswall Landscape Architects

Leading landscape architect and plantswoman Marian Boswall is a fellow of the Landscape Institute and heads a small team of horticultural specialists and designers working across the UK and internationally from a studio in Kent. The practice offers a complete landscape-design service, from conception through planning and tender to

the supervision of landscape construction and planting. Current projects include the restoration of the Philip Sassoon garden for the new Giraffe Hall hotel at Port Lympne in Kent, a contemporary landscape around the walled garden of 19th-century socialite and plantswoman Lady Dorothy Nevill, and a private sculpture garden and meditation retreat for a 20th-century art dealer.

Known for a strong understanding of how a garden relates to both the house and the land beyond and for planting that feels natural to the site, Mrs Boswall favours timeless and sustainable design, combined with a deep understanding of the natural world. She is a fervent believer in the healing power of plants and sits on the board of the Blackthorn Trust healing garden in Kent.

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Mazzullo + Russell Landscape Design

Directors Emma Mazzullo and Libby Russell joined forces in 2014 to create their own practice, after working for a combined 35 years for the distinguished garden designer Arabella Lennox-Boyd. Their extensive experience allows them to take on the largest sites and a wide variety of projects, yet they can turn their hands to a small courtyard garden and make it magical. Working across the UK and internationally—from France to Greece ➤

Marian Boswall's projects include work on the garden of this historic priory

