"Tivoli has looked after English Heritage's grounds maintenance needs at our Isle of Wight sites since 2003. The contracted work is varied from cutting formal lawns to organising compost sifting but the operational staff know the contract, understand and perform their work to the standards required and as they are based on site at Osbourne they feel very much part of the English Heritage gardening team. We have a very good working relationship with the Tivoli contract manager; extra work requests have always been accommodated and he has found some good solutions to some tricky jobs. I am very happy with the service Tivoli gives English Heritage on the Isle of Wight."

Toby Beasley Head Gardener at English Heritage



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English Heritage





BACKGROUND

Since 2003, Tivoli has been working in partnership with English Heritage and delivered high specification grounds maintenance to prominent Isle of Wight sites including Osbourne House, Carisbrooke Castle, Yarmouth Castle and Appuldurcombe House.

In 2021 Tivoli was further commissioned to deliver services at an additional 14 landmark locations across the south east of England, including Bramber Castle, Bishop's Waltham Palace, Fort Brockhurst, Southwick Priory, Waverley Abbey, Portsmouth Royal Garrison Church and Wolvesey Palace.

English Heritage is a charity that cares for over 400 historic buildings, monuments and grounds – from world-famous prehistoric sites and grand medieval castles to Roman forts and a Cold War bunker.

Through their sites the organisation brings to life the story of England for over 10 million people each year.

PROJECT

In order to ensure that the historic grounds and woodlands are maintained, Tivoli employs two fulltime staff and one seasonal staff member to work closely with the English Heritage team.

Tasks include: large-scale grass cutting operations; aeration works; hedge cutting; shrub border maintenance; weed control; tree base maintenance and removal of epicormic growth; control and management of invasive weeds such as common hogweed and Japanese knotweed and paddock maintenance. Tivoli is also responsible for the maintenance of Durbar Lawns, which regularly attracts audiences in excess of 8,000 for the concerts hosted there. This requires regular spraying for disease, top-dressing and over-seeding as well as impeccable weed control and turf management, all of which needs to be carried out in accordance with the site's historical nature.

RESULT

Since 2003, Tivoli has:

- Helped English Heritage enhance its user experience through a sustained and proactive grounds maintenance programme
- Provided one of the Isle of Wight's main tourist attractions, Carisbrooke Castle, with a dedicated team of grounds maintenance professionals
- Integrated counteractive measures to ensure that the castle's lawns are not negatively impacted by high wear and tear attributable to the 120,000 people who visit the castle each year
- Maintained the former privy gardens of Queen Victoria's daughter,
 Princess Beatrice
- Managed and maintained Appuldurcombe House's lawned areas, which are regularly used for weddings and high-profile events
- Ensured that the iconic Osbourne House remains a world-class attraction through a rigorous and wide-ranging grounds maintenance programme.

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SERVICES

- Grass cutting
- Turf maintenance
- Aeration works
- Hedge cutting
- Shrub border maintenance
- Tree base maintenance
- Weed management
- Earthworks
- Re-turfing, re-seeding and conservation

