

“What plants councils could plant for pollinators”



A brief history of planting trends (the last 500 years...)
private and public
Man conquers nature



17th Century Formal



17th Century Formal



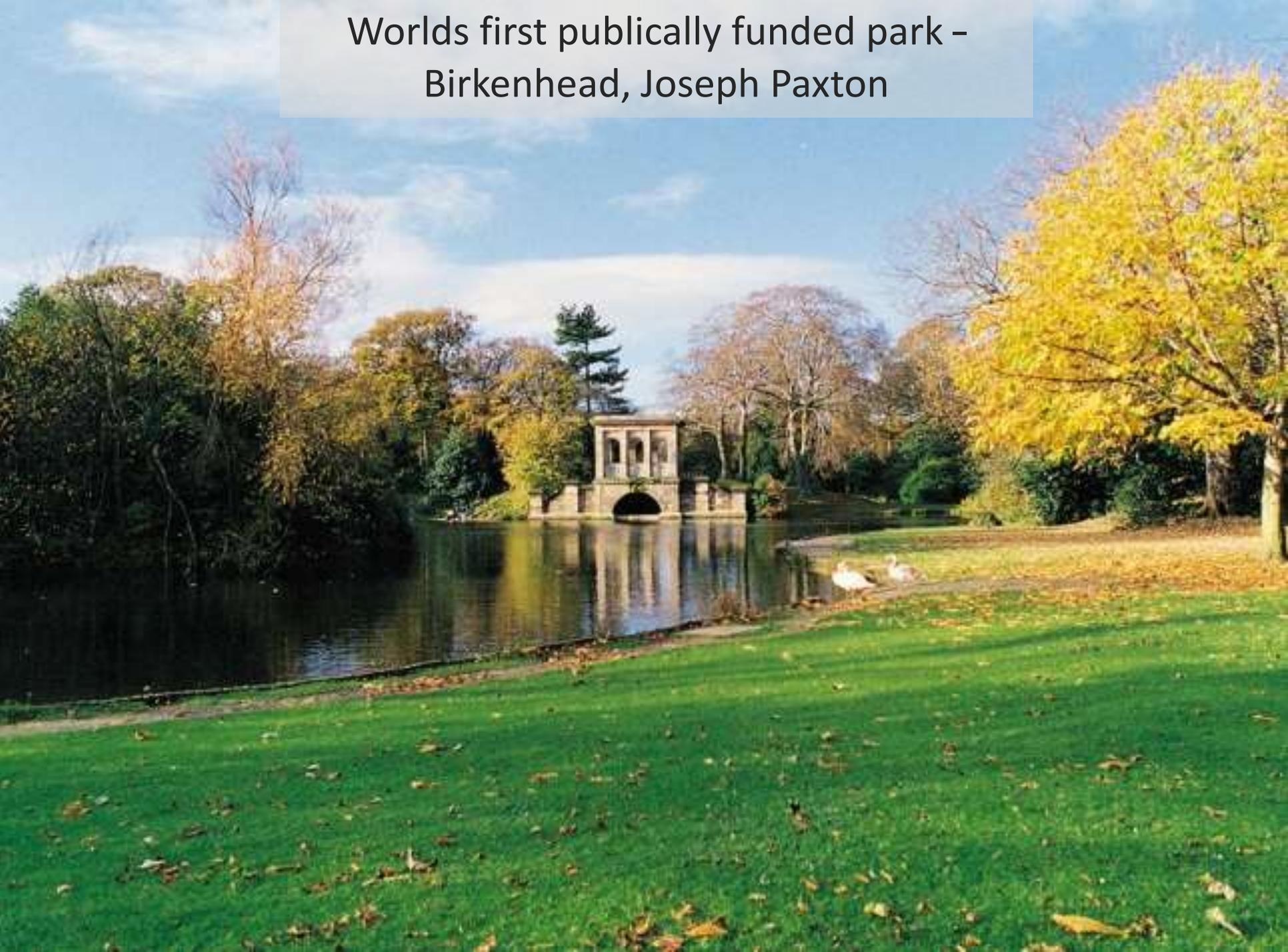
English Landscape, hedges - picturesque, rockeries, lawns, flowerbeds



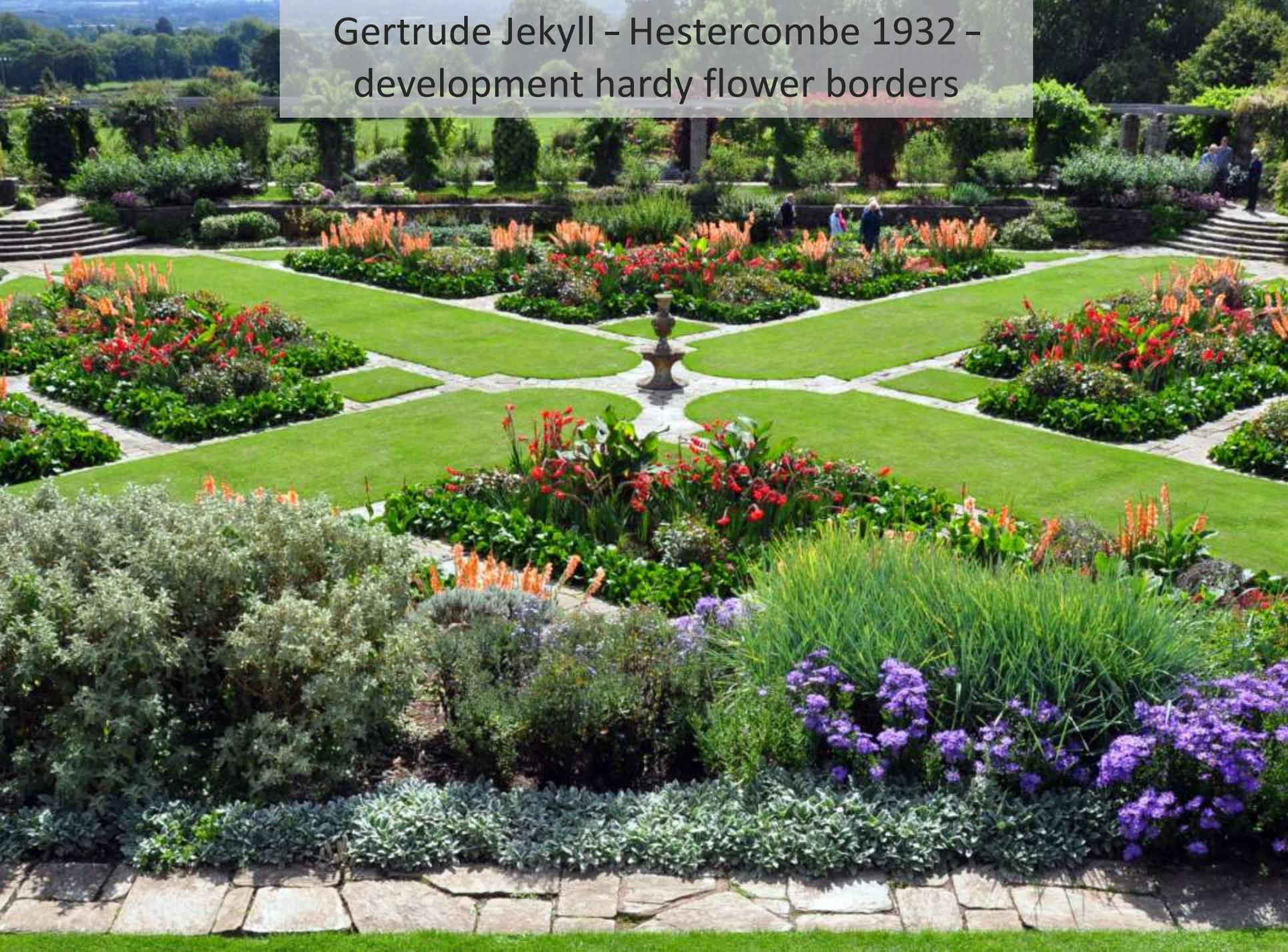
Reaction against industry - Rolling hills,
grouping trees, romantic wilderness



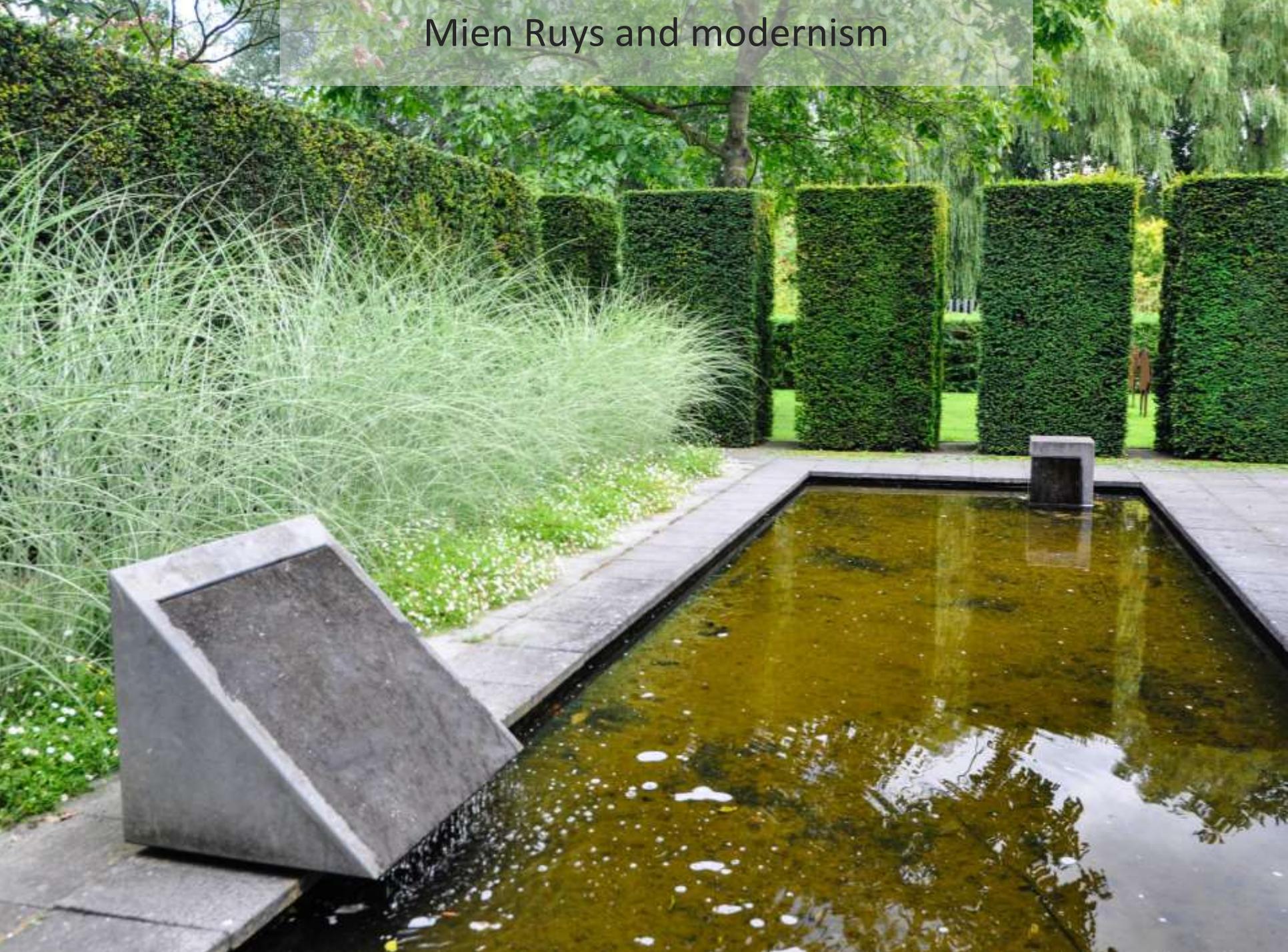
Worlds first publically funded park -
Birkenhead, Joseph Paxton



Gertrude Jekyll - Hestercombe 1932 -
development hardy flower borders



Mien Ruys and modernism

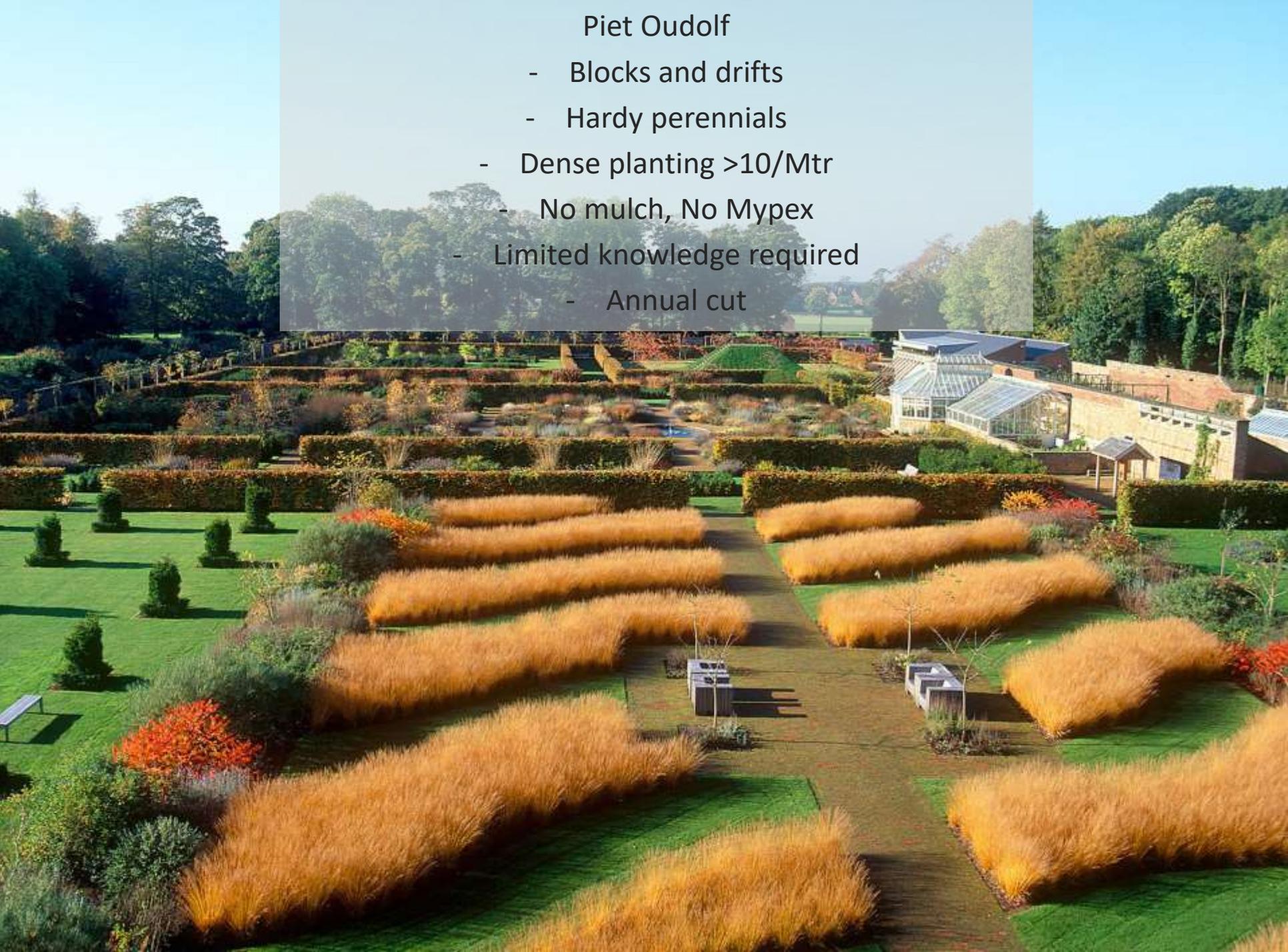




20th Century concerns over
biodiversity, sustainability,
population growth, peak everything

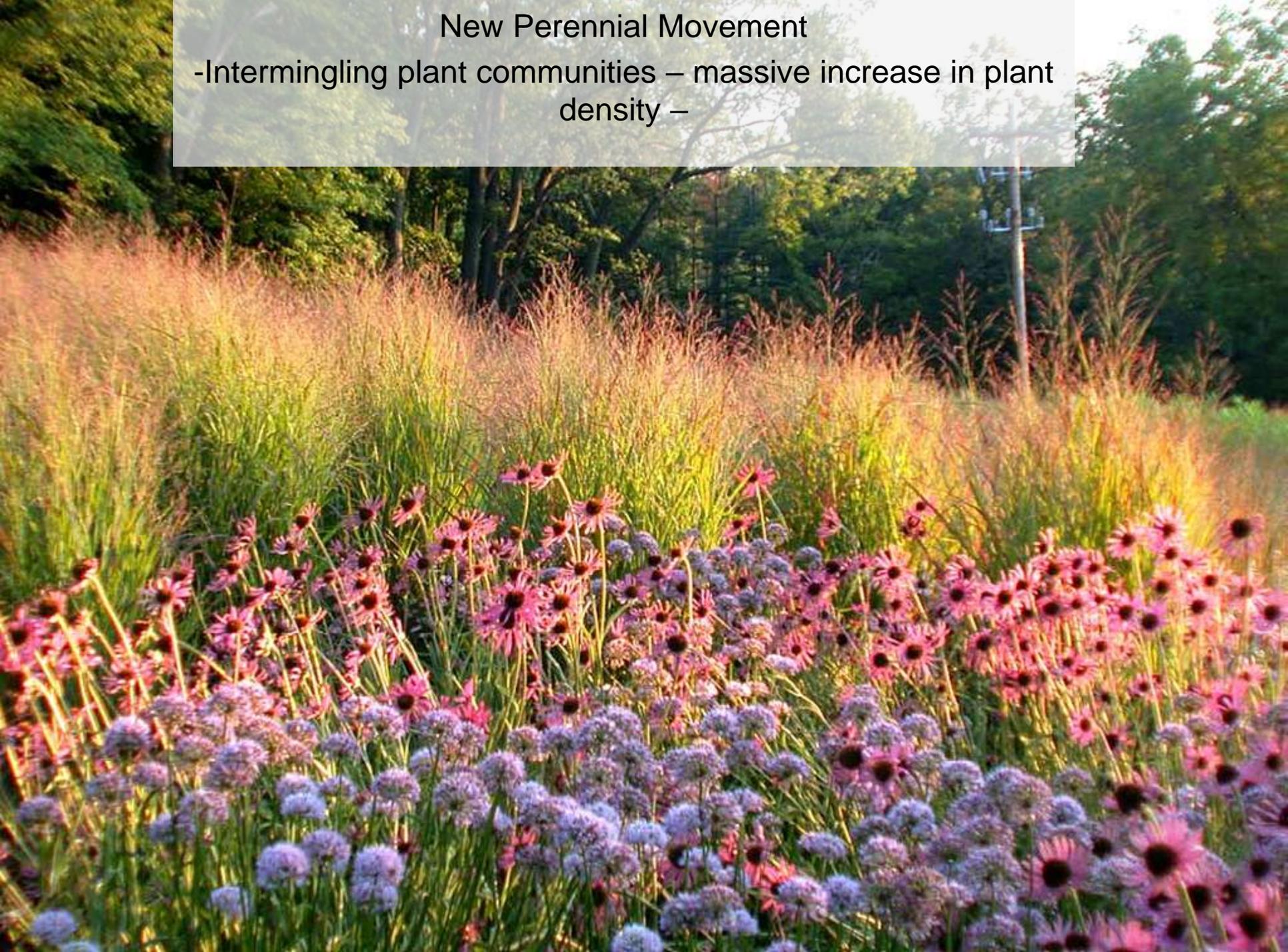
Piet Oudolf

- Blocks and drifts
- Hardy perennials
- Dense planting >10/Mtr
- No mulch, No Mypex
- Limited knowledge required
 - Annual cut



New Perennial Movement

-Intermingling plant communities – massive increase in plant density –



- James Hitchmough - spontaneity, self sowing vegetation - London Olympics 2012 - agricultural origins
 - <100 plants per M2
 - No Mypex!
 - Soil overlaid with 75mm clean sand as planting substrate
 - High degree of knowledge required - identification of common weeds



James Hitchmough - spontaneity, self sowing vegetation - London Olympics 2012



Meadows a history of human intervention





E.O Wilson - Origins of humans - Savana of Africa

Co-existence with large ungulates



Oudolf and E.O Wilson
The post industrial landscape



1Hr maintenance per
10M2 per year



Limited palette of plants
until knowledge base is
established



The promotion of a looser
aesthetic



The importance of winter structure



Peace Park Kilkenny - 2000m²

River

Section aa

path

existing lawn

Vc Sinear M

Vc Sinear M



- Shrubs
- Cotoneaster
- Forsythia ma
- Cornus sang
- Rhus glab L
- Vitis coignet

Gravel path

- Bulbs Quant
- Crocus anay
- Allium Glad
- Cassima Qu
- Lilium regale
- Muscari Ear

All bulb loca



Planting images above and below



Planting Oct



End of first season





Teagasc, Moorepark, Fermoy



Teagasc, Moorepark, Fermoy



Loose aesthetic
Clean crisp design



Gateway to the Wild Atlantic



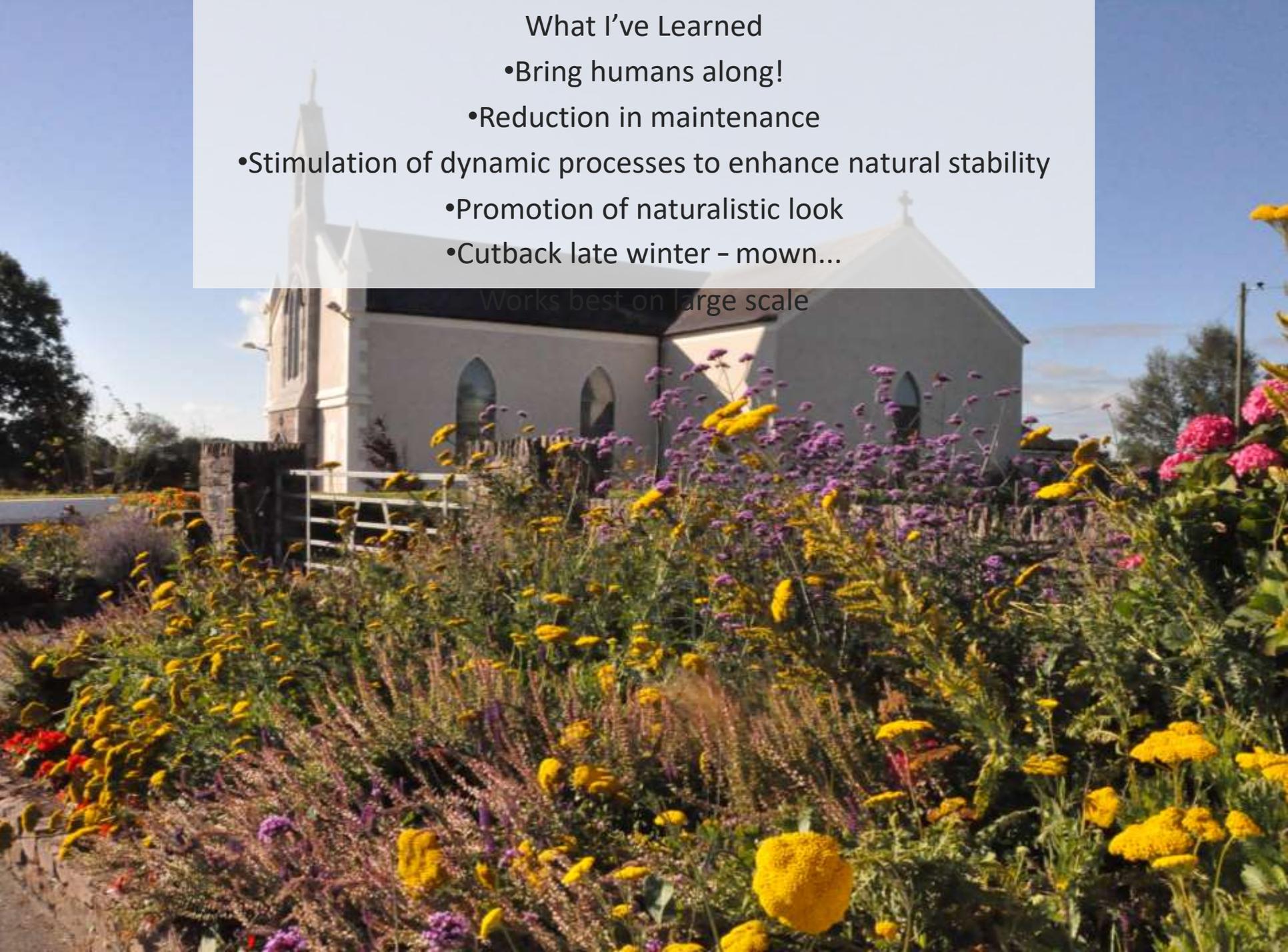
Recreation of upland grasses and hedgerow species



What I've Learned

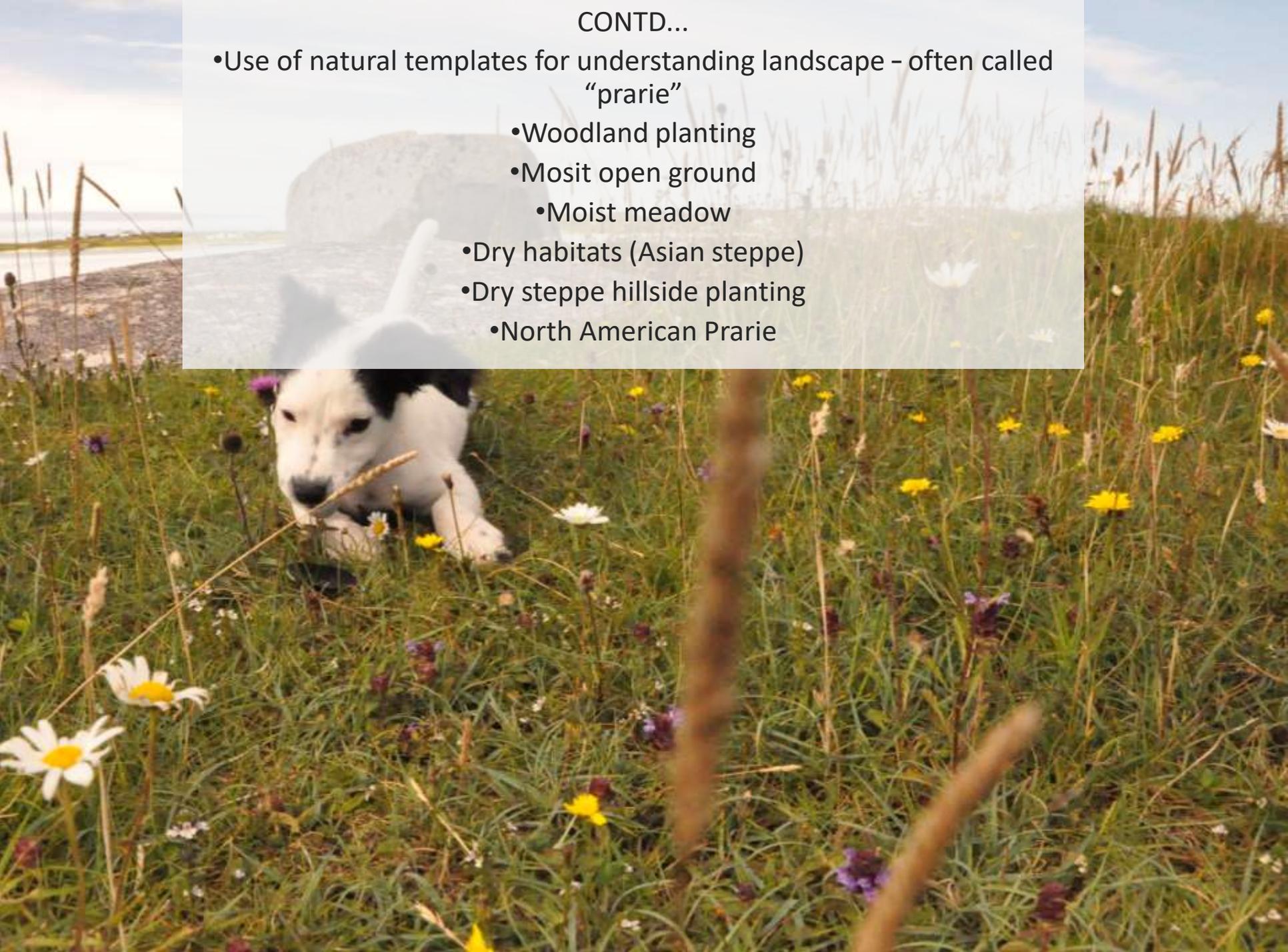
- Bring humans along!
- Reduction in maintenance
- Stimulation of dynamic processes to enhance natural stability
- Promotion of naturalistic look
- Cutback late winter - mown...

works best on large scale



CONTD...

- Use of natural templates for understanding landscape - often called "prarie"
 - Woodland planting
 - Moist open ground
 - Moist meadow
 - Dry habitats (Asian steppe)
 - Dry steppe hillside planting
 - North American Prarie



Where to next?



Design the process not the plants!



Design the process not the plants!



Where to next?



Bring humans along!



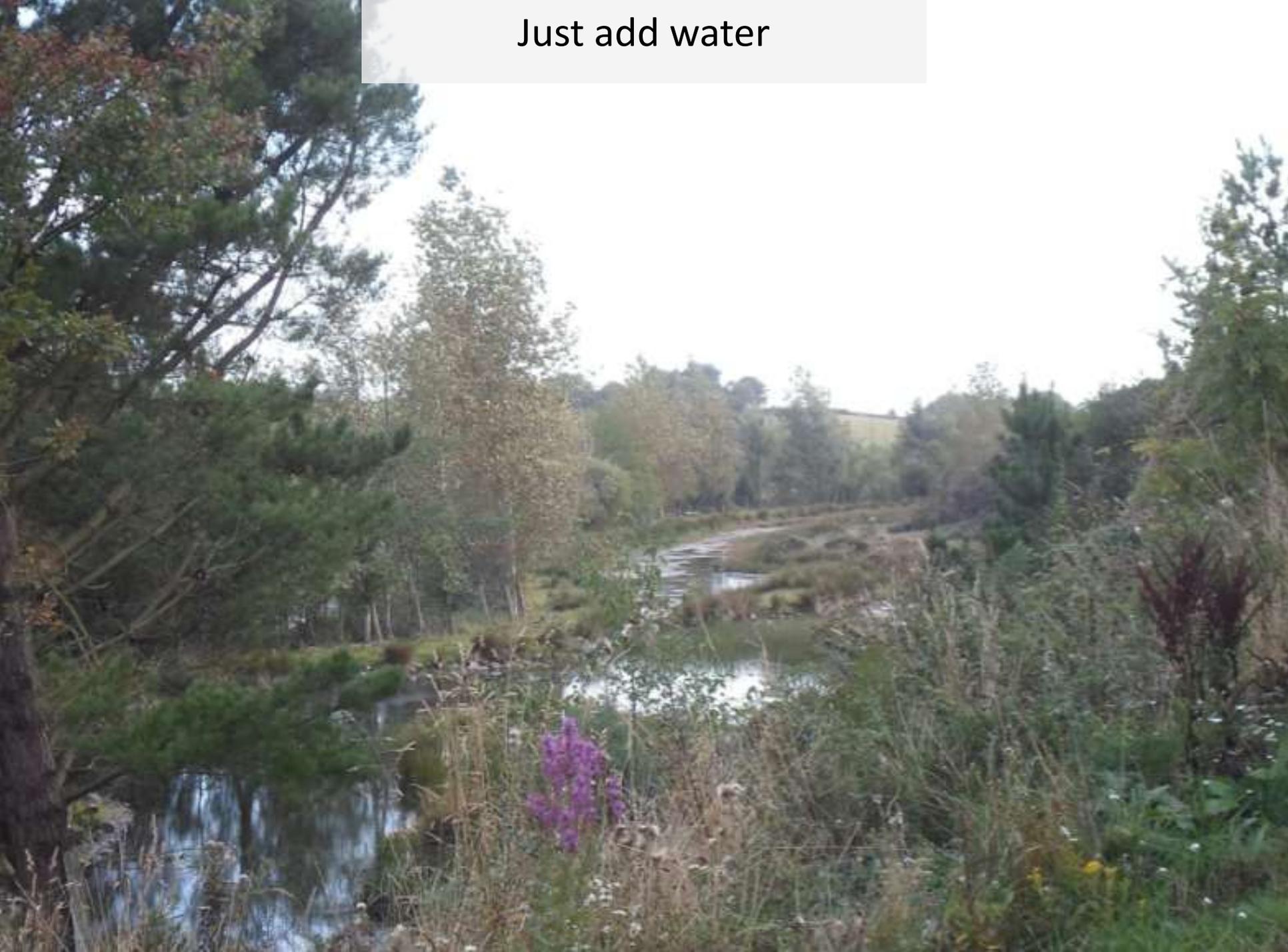
“Seek to protect animals and plants that lived in the farmed habitats of the last century, rather than imagine what could live there if they stepped back” – Feral - George Monibot



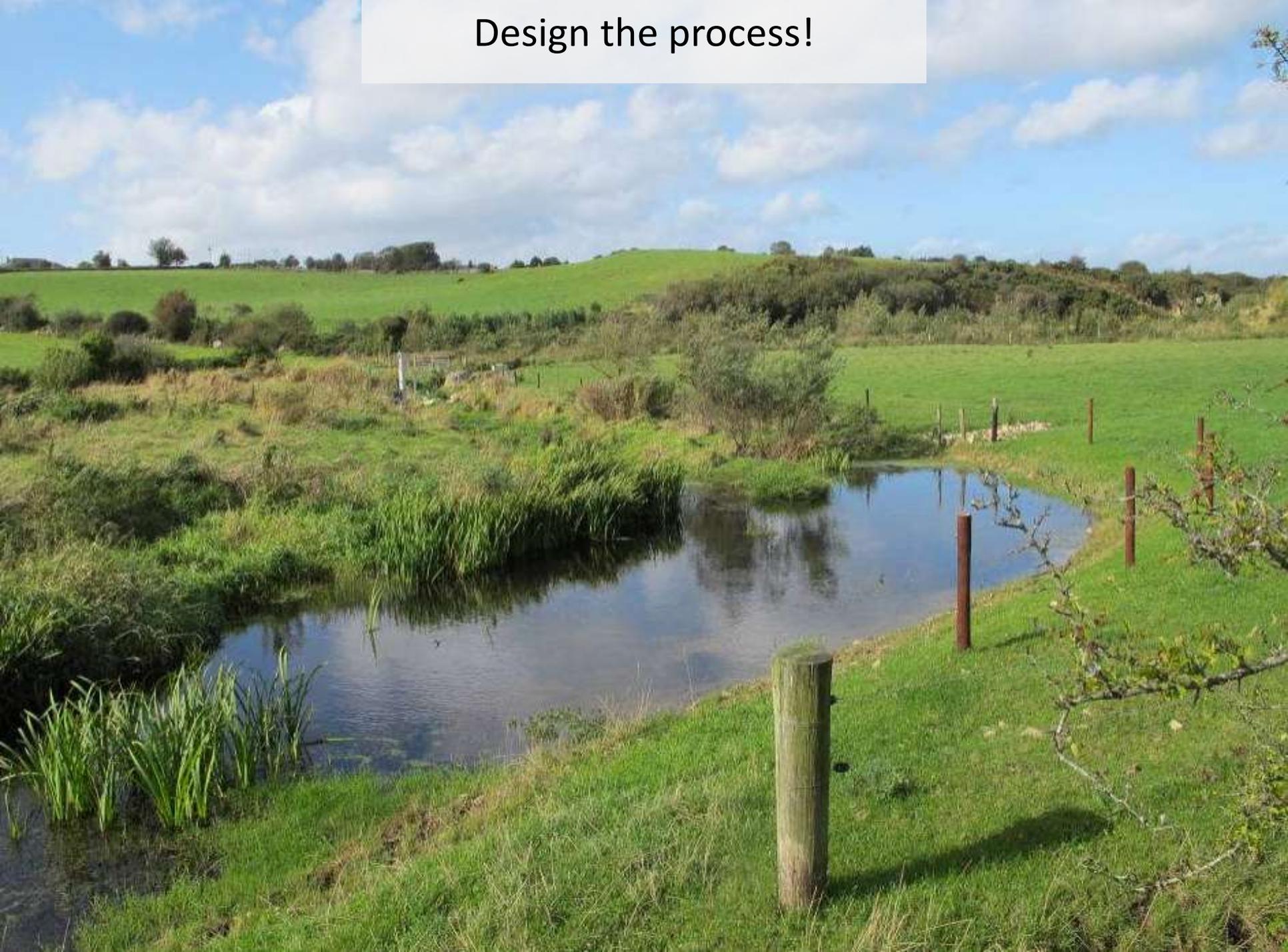
The Commeragh Mountains SAC



Just add water



Design the process!



Fin.

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