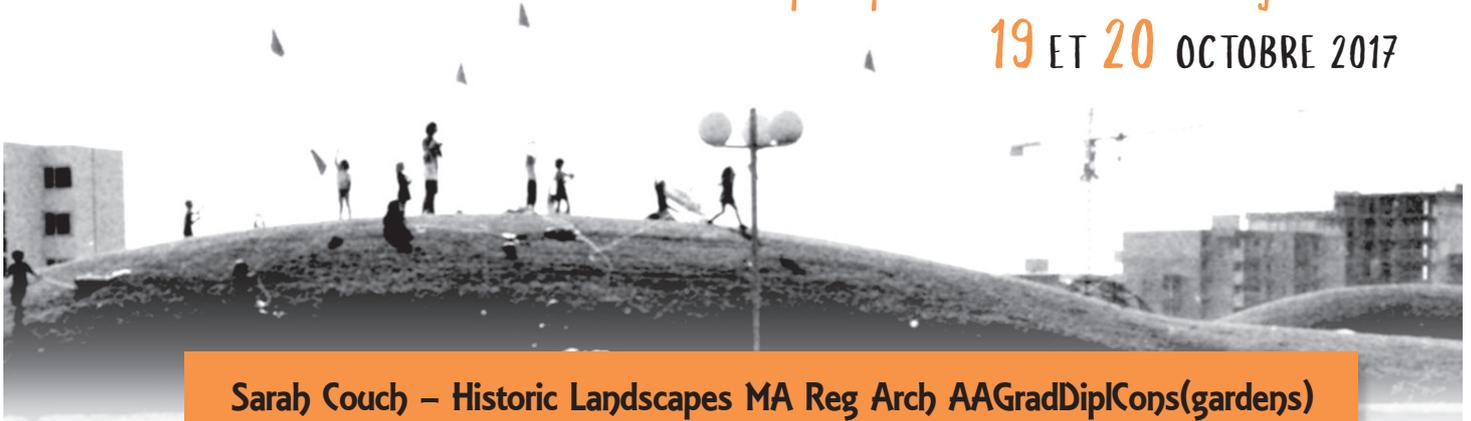


# ARCHIVES DE PAYSAGISTES ET PROJET DE PAYSAGE

des archives vivantes pour penser la ville durable aujourd'hui

19 ET 20 OCTOBRE 2017



## Sarah Couch – Historic Landscapes MA Reg Arch AAGradDiplCons(gardens) HortCert (RHS)

Sarah is qualified in architecture, the conservation of historic landscapes and horticulture and specialises in historic landscape conservation. She has wide experience of working on landscape conservation projects and has written several Conservation Management Plans. She lectures on the subject and for many years taught on the MSc in Conservation of Historic Gardens and Cultural Landscapes, University of Bath, the MSc in Sustainable Heritage, University College London and was tutor for the 'Conservation in Action' module of the Architectural Association's Diploma in the Conservation of Historic Landscapes, Parks and Gardens, later MA in Landscape Conservation and Change. She has worked as a Conservation Officer for the Garden History Society and has undertaken work for English Heritage and the National Trust.

## Researching and conserving Alexandra Road Park- a unique modernist landscape in London (Recherche et conservation du parc du quartier Alexandra Road - un paysage moderniste unique à Londres) - communication en anglais.

Alexandra Road is the best known housing project designed and built by Camden borough council in London in the period 1965–78 and is internationally recognised as being among the most important housing schemes of the past half century. It provides a model for low-rise high-density urban housing that is still relevant today. The building was recognised for its importance to the heritage as early as 1993 and it was the first building of under thirty years of age to be listed. The whole site was treated as a three-dimensional sculpted 'playable' landscape including a complete public park, yet the landscape had received much less attention than the celebrated building. By 2010 the park was overgrown and neglected. Residents were instrumental in gaining Heritage Lottery (HLF) funding to rejuvenate the park and Sarah Couch researched and wrote the Conservation Management Plan which guided the project. It was an unusual heritage project in many ways: it was the first public park within a housing estate funded by the HLF and the architect, Neave Brown, and landscape architect, Janet Jack, were both living. Janet Jack was involved in the project and her archive of drawings and photographs was an invaluable resource for the team in developing the project. She was able to explain her innovative design intentions for features such as the five playgrounds and her approach to planting. The park was re-opened in 2015 to great acclaim. Dr. Jan Woudstra of Sheffield University has stated that Alexandra Road was revolutionary at the time and is unique in the international context.