



WINTER ISSUE 1994

Falcondale: a Victorian Vision

by PENNY DAVID

This was the theme briefly explored by the Ceredigion Branch when they visited the gardens at Falcondale, Lampeter, on 23 October.

Falcondale Mansion, now a hotel, was built in 1859, in 'Italian villa style on an unusually large scale', according to Cadw. It sits on a small apron of formal terracing and faces south-east, contemplating the Creuddyn valley as it approaches Lampeter (St Peter's church tower provides an eyecatcher). The pleasure grounds include many of the original walks, some ornamental rockwork in local quartz, an encaustic-floored shelter; a 'shell house' has now disappeared. Tucked into a north-facing slope is the ice house. Other Victorian mod cons included a walled garden with glasshouses and frame yard. A further building phase dates from the 1880s, when the handsome model farm complex was completed. The house is approached by two leisurely driveways, from north and south.

Apart from a house called Falcon Dale with a nearby service block, none of these features appears on the 1845 tithe map. The new layout was evidently conceived and executed as an entity. This fact, its relatively modest scale, and the background of its creators, the Harford family, make Falcondale an interesting case-study in mid-Victorian needs and aspirations. A concern with the 'picturesque' might be expected from the Blaise Castle family, with its associations with John Nash and the Reptons. But John Battersby Harford's aims in rescuing the Peterwell estates from decades of absenteeism and neglect were improved management tinged with philanthropy. After reading for the bar, J.B. Harford decided in the late 1840s to settle at Falcondale 'and gradually to bring order out of the chaos into which the estate had sunk, and to provide decent houses and buildings for the tenants'. This was not simply good business: in 1854 he wrote, 'If Falcondale were like Blaise Castle and Lampeter like Henbury, I might sit down quietly to enjoy the annual accession to my capital of "many hundreds a year"; but this...is completely out of the question as long as cottages remain to be built and schools to be encouraged.'

None the less, the landscape we see was obviously designed for recreation and visual amenity in equal measure. The course of the Creuddyn was considerably altered—not least in the

creation of Pond Wood, which was planned with many ornamental features. (Silting, strangling undergrowth and general neglect have now made this impenetrable.) Maps of 1886 and 1887 show a pheasantry in Lodge Wood, as well as a 'fishpond', variously known as Falcondale Lake and Henfeddau Lake, with a boathouse.

Horizons are limited in this part of Ceredigion—the contours are intimate rather than sublime—but the modest hills offer attractive backdrops, and controlled effects can be achieved on a small scale. To leave Lampeter along the A482 and see Falcondale framed across the valley makes as striking a picture in the 1990s as the photograph taken c. 1870 'from the high road' in one of the old Harford family albums. The house already looks mature and established in its landscape setting.

The earlier Falcon Dale was partly subsumed into the 1859 villa: 'New and spacious rooms and out-buildings surrounded the original house of Pant-y-Curyll, anglicized into Falcondale for simplicity's sake,' wrote Alice Harford. The tithe map of 1845 shows the old house approached directly from the main road: today's north and south drives were non-existent. Extensive woodland looks like plantation, but J.B. Harford enhanced this considerably, carefully using it to mould the terrain and adding shelter belts, copses and strategically planted specimen trees. It would be interesting to know the origins of the earlier property. One suggestion is that it was built for Richard Hart-Davies, who acquired the extensive Peterwell estates in 1812. His bankruptcy in 1819 passed them into the hands of the Harford family, among them his son-in-law J.S. Harford. The earlier Falcon Dale cannot have been significant: eminent personages engaged in discussing the establishment of St David's College in the early 1820s stayed at Derry Ormond or Highmead—or even Abergwili—rather than here in Lampeter.

The transformation of the terrain was done with some conviction. The new approach from the north-west is signalled by a striking building—sometimes called 'the Cockerell lodge'—whose low-pitched roof and deep eaves echo those of Falcondale. The visitor is then plunged into a wooded valley beside the Creuddyn for a considerable distance, which could be justified

by the steepness of the valley sides at this point. The length of the drive has the effect of heightening the sense of anticipation, which is prolonged as the route loops behind the pleasure grounds, between the walled garden and the stable block, before turning to reveal the prospect of the open valley; a further turn is necessary before you glimpse the house contemplating this view.

Apart from the apparent lack of a good lodge, the approach from Lampeter is more overtly grand from the start—the size of the fields and the grouping of trees hints at parkland, while the leisurely curve of the drive across the rising contours prepares the gaze for the sight of the façade in all its splendour. The remnants of an avenue of red chestnuts still punctuate the ribbon development of bungalows along the lower reaches of the drive. Some puzzles remain to be solved regarding the dating of the different-sized chestnuts and the existence of two estwhile lodge buildings.

The presence of a main road through the valley does not seem to have deterred J.B. Harford's landscaping schemes, but a railway line would have been too much. J.C. Harford is said to have gone to a great deal of effort and expenditure in the early 1900s to ensure that the Aberaeron branch line was routed to

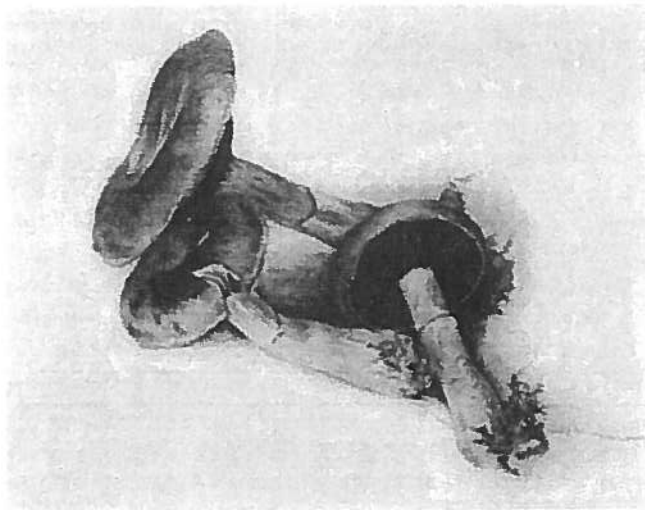
the north through Silian rather than through Falcondale lands, but this is a rumour that needs to be checked out.

Aspects of Falcondale still strike the visitor as they did in its heyday. The approaches to the house still conjure the intended emotions. Steve Smith, the proprietor, is maintaining the front-of-house plantings and the pleasure grounds to a high standard. Visitors looking outwards can recognize the main bones of the created landscape surrounding them. The kitchen garden has recently fallen prey to recession and willow-herb, but is eminently rescuable. The dismantled greenhouse range and its attendant service units—potting sheds, boiler rooms and so on—are a sadder story, calling for garden archaeologists rather than gardeners. Investigation could be rewarding: two chimney pots atop the north wall of unknown thickness (with strategically placed holes—for flues?) suggest a possible double flue wall. The Harfords' background, and the spirit in which the whole enterprise was set up in the 1850s, imply that the technological back-up of services like greenhouses would have been state-of-the-art.

Our visit was sufficient to raise many more questions. The Harford papers, local records and the reminiscences of local people could all reward further investigation.

Mushrooms at Middleton

Maurice Rotheroe and Penny David



The British Mycological Society made a field excursion to the Middleton estate on 20 September as part of its 1994 autumn foray, based this year at the University of Wales, Swansea. A full list of fungi collected is not yet available, but preliminary identifications confirm the special quality of the site under consideration for a Welsh Botanic Garden. The very large lichen flora of Middleton was already known, indicating the favourable humidity levels and the unpolluted nature of the air. The mycological records add a further dimension to the importance of the site from a botanical point of view.

Coed Pont Felin-gât yielded a collection of interesting fungi associated with undisturbed, semi-natural woodland, including a number of rare species, several new Welsh records and at least one new British record. Among the mycorrhizal fungi, growing in symbiosis with tree species, were examples previously associated primarily with beechwoods on calcareous soil in southern England; to find them in this part of Britain is unusual and somewhat unexpected.

The walled garden area with its improved grassland and sparse tree population was predictably less rich in species of higher fungi—the familiar mushrooms and toadstools. One of the most exciting finds, however, was *Pulcherricium caeruleum*. This resupinate fungus is remarkable both for its striking appearance—it forms a vivid sea-blue encrustation on wood—and for its significance as an indicator of favourable climatic conditions. It is common on the Mediterranean coasts; there are a few British records from Devon, but the species is absent from most of mainland Britain. It has been found in a very small number of locations in West Wales, always in sheltered habitats: its range is limited by its total intolerance to frosts. The fact that it was found in this situation clearly indicates the effectiveness of Middleton's double walls in creating a favourable microclimate.

Maurice Rotheroe is Deputy Conservation Officer of the British Mycological Society and is working on a programme to increase awareness of the importance of fungi in gardens. As unimproved grassland becomes more rare, old lawns may be a valuable refuge for endangered mushroom species.

Reflections on the Picturesque

John Borron

The Herefordshire Picturesque Exhibition at Hereford with its accompanying book of essays coupled with the publication of *The Politics of the Picturesque* (Copley and Garside, eds, C.U.P. 1994) provides the background for these random reflections. Appreciation of which was greatly helped by going on The Society of Architectural Historians Study Tour of Downton, Foxley and other landscapes in July 1994.

There is a danger that study of the Picturesque may become so abstruse that few people will be able to understand it. Indeed having read all the above essays I could not help wondering whether Thomas Johnes could have passed a test in it! Nonetheless all these studies help to elucidate the importance of the landscapes that have survived. My remarks are confined to Downton, Foxley and Hafod.

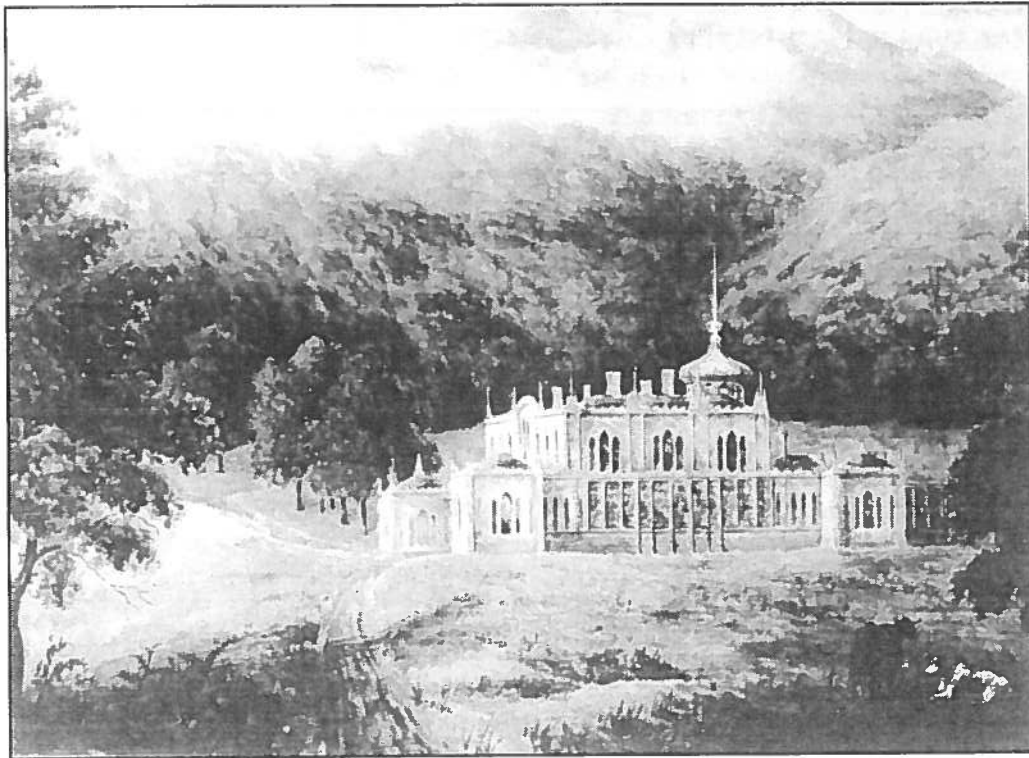
All three landscapes are currently being maintained and developed by their differing owners and their individual priorities were fascinating to note on recent visits. Foxley is still a private estate and Major Davenport's interest in forestry is as great as that of any of his predecessors. It is in this that Foxley bears closest similarity to Hafod. It is a working forestry landscape as was Hafod until 1914. Downton was not in this sense a forestry estate. The relationship of forestry between Foxley and Hafod is an important one which would repay close study.

Interesting as these forestry comparisons are, it is at Downton that one is overwhelmingly aware of the parallels with Hafod. It is impossible, walking up the Teme Valley, not to feel that it greatly influenced Thomas Johnes' development of the Ystrwyth Valley. The whole feel of the walk up the Teme with its tunnels and viewpoints recreates on a smaller scale the atmosphere of Hafod.

The major part of the walk up the Teme at Downton is in the care of English Nature who are totally opposed to large scale visiting. This may well in future preserve the atmosphere of the picturesque at Downton better than at Hafod where Forest Enterprise feels constrained to adopt a more open policy. The conflict between people and the concept of the Picturesque is one that John Wale (op. cit. pp. 176-7) has emphasized and it needs bearing in mind at Hafod. Admirable though the intent of the restoration of paths at Hafod has been, it is impossible when walking at Downton not to feel that it has been achieved with some loss. It is above all to Downton that one should go for the atmosphere of the Picturesque.

Downton also has the great advantage that the house, though much altered since the eighteenth century, dominates the landscape. At Foxley and Hafod the main house has gone. This matters less at Foxley where the large and uncompromising mass of the Georgian house was totally unrelated to the Picturesque. At Hafod the loss of the house does leave a void in the landscape—even though the house itself was never a satisfactory architectural unit.

The relationships between these landscapes needs careful study both visually and theoretically. For instance looking at the lovely series of views by Thomas Hearne of Downton at the Hereford exhibition one could not help wondering if Thomas Johnes had not been inspired by them to commission the Views of Hafod by John (Warwick) Smith. After visiting these landscapes I was left with admiration for the dedication of their owners and a feeling that closer cooperation between those responsible might well be mutually advantageous.



Hafod in 1839. Watercolour by Lord William Clinton, by courtesy Christopher Gibbs.

Leeswood Planning Inquiry

19th–21st October 1994

An application was submitted to Delyn Borough Council for the development of a Welsh cob breeding and schooling centre with stables and a manager's house within the Leeswood Conservation Area and the Switser designed garden of Leeswood Hall which is a grade I historic garden on the Clwyd Register. The Clwyd Branch of the Welsh Historic Gardens Trust and the Garden History Society formally logged their objections to the proposals and Delyn Borough Council were mindful to grant a refusal. Subsequently the application was called in by the Secretary of State on the grounds that he was of the opinion that the development raised planning issues of more than local importance and therefore considered that he ought to determine the application himself. A local public inquiry was convened on 19th October and terminated in a site inspection on 21st October. Evidence was presented in opposition to the proposals by Delyn Borough Council, Clwyd County Council, David Lambert Conservation Officer for the Garden History Society representing the Clwyd Branch, Jane Harding of the Georgian Group and local objectors. A survey of the historic garden by Jane Furse and David Jaques was fundamental to the evidence presented. This could well be a test case for the determination of planning applications which affect historic gardens and parks.

News from the Branches

NELSON GARDEN

Good news from Gwent. Lloyds Bank has declared its intention of restoring the Nelson summerhouse.

ANCIENT GARDENS FROM THE AIR

On 17th October the Pembroke Branch enjoyed a talk by Thomas Lloyd on 'Discovering ancient gardens from the air and old prints'. We all learnt a lot, both on the art of aerial photography—and how to interpret it—and on how to keep one's eyes open when looking at old papers, whether of auction sales, family papers or prints of family homes. Once again, we are much indebted to Miss Charlotte Kelway for lending her comfortable home for our winter lectures.

Pembroke 1995 Programme

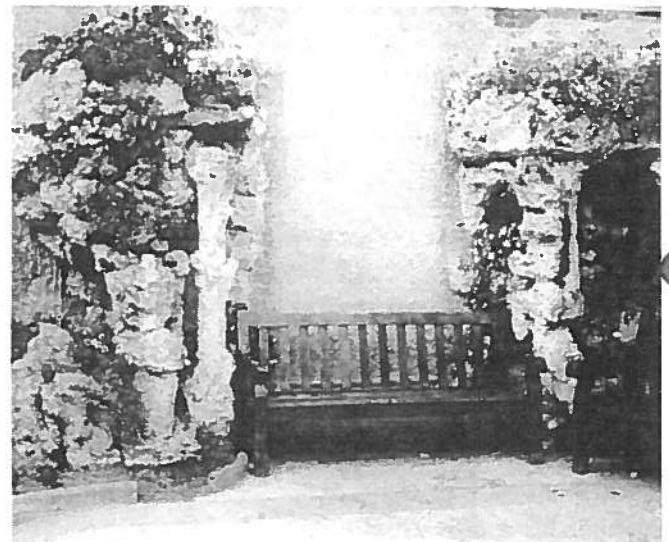
Jan. 16 Susan Lloyd Fern—'Discovering a lost garden'.
Feb. 27 Mrs Ruth Haydon—'Mrs Delany, Artist and Gardener'.
Mar. 27 Mr Michael Norman—Title to be announced.
All to be held at Cottesmore near Haverfordwest at 7.30 pm by kind permission of Miss Charlotte Kelway, but please note that the February and March meetings are on the fourth Monday of the month, not the third as is our norm.

From the Editor

The Planter was a Bandstand

The picture of the large brick planter in the Autumn Bulletin has produced fresh information. It was, in fact, constructed to form the base of a bandstand, which explains its characteristic shape. What the superstructure looked like, when it was built and when demolished, I have so far been unable to discover. It certainly looks post war.

The park in question was once the garden of a house built for Dr Bowen-Davies, medical officer of Llandrindod Wells. He died in 1908 and the house subsequently became the Town Hall. Later, the museum was built in the grounds. For those who would like to know more about the doctor's garden, which still contains some fine trees, and provides a site for the town's war memorial, and especially about the conservatory—the remains of which are pictured here in their present incarnation—there will be an article in the Spring Issue.



Part of Dr Bowen-Davies's Conservatory, planted with petunias for summer 1994. Behind the seat was a stained-glass door leading from the house.

Subscriptions

Owing to reorganisation of the Trust Office, members may not have received reminders when their subscriptions fall due. We apologise for this and ask you to check that you are not in arrears. Thank you.

Heartsease

The item on Heart's-ease in the Autumn Issue reminded me that 'Heartsease' occurs in several places along the Welsh Borders as a farm name. It would be interesting to discover its origin. Has anyone any ideas or information?

PAXTON'S BRITANNIA PARK PLEASURE GROUNDS AND TREBORTH BOTANIC GARDEN

by Pauline Perry

In 1852 twenty-five acres of pleasure grounds, laid out under the direction of Sir Joseph Paxton, were completed on part of the site known at the time as Britannia Park. Situated on the south-east side of the Menai Straits between the two bridges, the area was made accessible by the newly constructed railway line to Holyhead via Britannia Bridge. Paxton's pleasure grounds were to be part of a grandiose scheme consisting of a large hotel and a complex of villas. Bearing in mind the popular view point of Snowdonia from the other side of the Strait we should perhaps be thankful that financial problems soon brought to a halt the construction of the buildings. It was, however, sad that Paxton's pleasure grounds received little interest from the local population and fifteen years after their completion the area returned to farmland.

In November of 1851 an observer visited works in progress in the area and reported in the *North Wales Chronicle* of November 6th: 'Ornamental grounds laid out by Sir Joseph Paxton are considerably advanced and from the specimen already afforded I am quite satisfied that Britannia Park will surpass in beauty anything of the kind in Europe.' The *North Wales Chronicle* of Sept. 3rd, 1852 indicated that the grounds had been finished.

In 1960 the area originally covered by Britannia Park was bought by the University of Wales, Bangor. Part of the area has been developed as sports fields and another part became Treborth Botanic Garden. Although as yet we have

not been able to trace Paxton's plans, from information studied and a series of maps, of various dates, covering the area, it seems certain that the present six acres of landscaped garden together with surrounding areas of mixed woodland correspond to Paxton's development. Only the comparatively small areas of ancient oak woodland appear to pre-date the pleasure grounds.

A part of the original scheme that was not constructed was to have been a glass entrance from the railway station forming a conservatory 'in which the rarest plants and flowers would be preserved.' No doubt Paxton would not have approved of the actual construction of the present glasshouse complex, but surely he would have approved of the large range of interesting exotic plants housed therein.

Other information available states that pontoons were to be erected not far distant from Swelly rocks to be used for bathing and landing places with

convenient approaches to the upper grounds. The pathways, 'forming a delightful promenade of some miles in extent,' were to be 'so firm and clean that in the wettest weather a lady might deign to walk on them.' Possible traces of these pathways can be seen in the woodland areas together with walls of previous farm field boundaries.

Paxton's plans for the pleasure grounds have not been traced. Some idea of the possible lay-out can be gleaned from studying some of the surviving parks designed by Paxton such as Prince's Park in Liverpool and Birkenhead Park. A study of his many writings also gives some clue to his ideas. For example in Paxton's *Magazine of Botany* (1844), he writes in an article entitled 'On planting showy shrubs in masses': 'Nothing in the whole range of gardening is more distasteful than a fine lawn dotted all over with isolated specimen plants, and having no large open spaces to give it breadth and repose.'

This article is extracted from Pauline Perry's recent research work on Britannia Park, part of which site now houses the Treborth Botanic Gardens. The Gwynedd Branch became involved with this site earlier this year when the integrity of the garden was threatened by the proposed installation of an all-weather athletics track, access to which would be provided by a road going straight through the gardens. Not only would this involve felling fine old specimen trees, damage an SSSI of great importance, but it would also damage the microclimate of the Botanic Gardens and make it very difficult to protect the gardens and their glasshouses from random access by the public. Unfortunately, in spite of considerable protest, the track was allowed and work is at present being undertaken. In the meantime, the Gwynedd Branch hopes to spearhead an approach to Arfon Borough Council and the University of Wales, seeking possible alternative access to the site, thus protecting the gardens.

Any information or suggestions for further research would be appreciated.



HELIBORE

The Beauties of Creation – 5

Grows well in Italy, Austria and Lombardy. It thrives best on high situations. It has a plain stalk, unadorned with leaves, until it produces the blossom on its summit: the flower is yellow, and composed of five or more petals. The root is fibrous. This plant should be propagated by offsets, and the roots should be taken

out of the ground and transplanted. When their leaves decay, which is generally from the beginning of June to October, the roots should be planted in small clusters, in order to improve the appearance of their blossoms. If planted alternately with Snowdrops, their effect will be the more agreeable, as they flower about the same time.

During 1994 we have spent a considerable amount of time over changes in the organisation of the WHGT, but made rather slow progress on a range of other activities which, to some of us, are the main reasons for joining the Trust. Our main aims include the documentation and preservation of the best Welsh gardens and landscapes. One of the highlights of 1995 should have been the completion of the core of our WHGT Gazetteer. I am pleased to hear that good progress has been made in some regions, but we have, overall, fallen behind our original targets—so we are in the bad company of those numerous firms writing new computer software packages that arrive at least a year late! So how can we generate a new, improved survey to make considerably more progress in 1995?

We have to modify the original proposals since we did not obtain the financial backing we had hoped for from the various county councils. In hindsight, it was an unsuitable time to approach them in 1993 when many of them would soon be reorganised into new unitary authorities. This is a pity, since it could have given us a chance to have acted in a positive advisory capacity when important sites became the subject of planning proposals. We still have some positive backers, particularly CCW who have been prepared to provide financial support, and CADW who have indicated that the WHGT would have an important role to play in the future of maintaining a garden and landscape database for Wales. Earlier this year your Conservation Management Committee (CMC) did obtain your approval to approach CCW for the funding of a research student to produce a thesis and database on Welsh Gardens, using the WHGT gazetteer as the main source of information. He/she would obviously have been involved in assisting with coordinating our gazetteer activities during 1994–6. It would not have cost the WHGT any cash since the research and grant would have been associated with one or more of the Welsh universities, although we would, I hope, have had considerable input. With our own internal problems, I felt that it was inappropriate to approach CCW this year, but now we have come through the mire, even though slimmed down, I hope that we can make further progress in 1995.

The main reason for this article is to get you all to put the topic of Welsh gardens and landscapes on top of the agenda so that we can produce, within the next few years, a gazetteer which will be as good as, or even better than, those now being produced by many other garden trusts. We cannot aspire to equal those recently produced for Devon and East Yorkshire, but we should be able to follow the style of the *Gazetteer of Historic Parks & Gardens in Avon* produced by members of the Avon Gardens Trust (1991). This provides a broad overview; for those wishing to go into more detail, it will be up to each branch to go into greater depth in compiling historic accounts of the main sites within their own areas.

We have to make considerable simplifications to the original gazetteer proposals. These may have been suitable for Grade I and II sites, but for most of us something more basic is required for those numerous interesting gardens that will not be included in CADW's lists. These could include many of the more recent late twentieth century gardens, hardy perennials in the famous Yellow Book, and now visited by many enthusiastic gardeners.

STANSHAWES COURT HOTEL, Yate. ST 715 818. 8a.

C19 pleasure grounds: now part hotel, part public park known as Kingsgate Park; coach-house; crinkle-crankle wall; ha-ha; lodge; remains of Victorian planting, fine specimen trees, shrubbery; modern planting; lake.

House mid to late C19.

STOKE PARK HOSPITAL, Stoke Gifford, part Bristol. ST 624 773. 300a. SMR 4241.

English Heritage Register grade II*.

Stapleton and Frome Valley Conservation Area.

C18 landscape park on C16 park on medieval site, by Thomas Wright for Norborne Berkeley, Lord Botetourt: formal gardens depicted 1712 by Kip altered and extended by Wright 1749 - 1768; parkland laid out and improved by Berkeley and Wright 1740s - 1780s; earlier coppices redesigned as ornamental woodland gardens with serpentine walks linked by stone tunnels by Wright 1749-1764, now overgrown. Many garden buildings by Wright; Bladud's Cell, a root-house (1749); Sands Gate Lodge (1762), all gone; Duchess Pond, a 3a ornamental lake (1768) infilled 1968 for M.32 Parkway.

Dower House, formerly Stoke Park House. (LB II*) c1563 remodelled by Wright for N. Berkeley 1749-52 and 1760-64; terrace and balustrade (LB II) C16; orangery (LB II) c1720 by Sir James Thornhill for John Symes Berkeley; Memorial to 4th Duke of Beaufort (LB II) c1756, restored 1987; obelisk (LB II) 1762; Duchess Gateway (LB II) 1762, formerly Sands Gate, undergoing restoration 1991; two stone tunnels (LB II); cold bath (LB II): all by Wright for N. Berkeley; anti-aircraft gun and camp site (Ancient Monument) 1939-42.

Stoke Park is currently redundant hospital land.

Public access by network of public footpaths.

THORNBURY CASTLE, Thornbury. ST 634 907. 5a. SMR 4214.

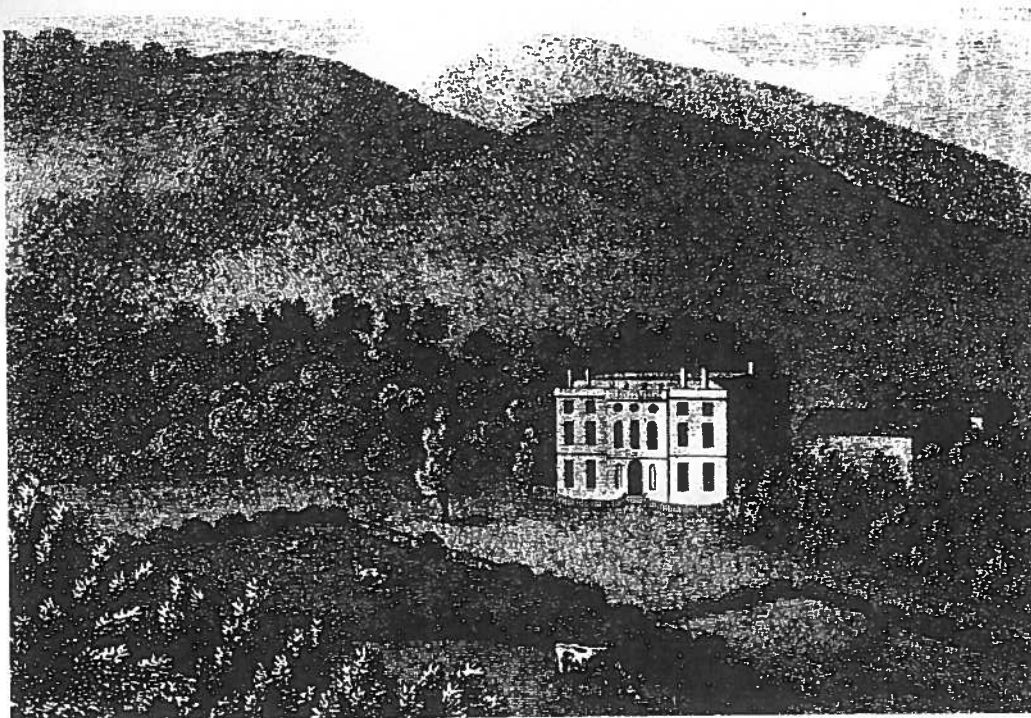
English Heritage Register grade II.

Thornbury Conservation Area.

Remains of elaborate enclosed Tudor garden on pre-Conquest site: formal planting from time of Henry VIII; C16 bee-boles; C18 ha-ha; specimen cedars and sequoia; yew topiary hedges and arbor; lawns and flowerbeds enclosed by castelated walls; Armillary sundial; recent vineyard.

Castle (LB I) 1508-21 for the Duke of Buckingham, restored 1850 by Anthony Salvin.

Now a hotel and restaurant.



Engraving by J. Storer after S.R. Meyrick, 1808

NANTEOS

A Cardiganshire Mansion and its Grounds

In September members of the Ceredigion Branch enjoyed a rare opportunity of visiting an estate which has been virtually inaccessible to the public for many years—Nanteos in the parish of Llanfihangel-y-Creuddyn, not far from Aberystwyth. Nanteos is now owned by Mr Gary Hesp, who is making strenuous efforts to restore both the house and the grounds.

The house lies at the centre of a long secluded valley, through which runs Nant Paith, supplying water for a large ornamental lake. The house was built in 1739, a rectangular block of three storeys with a basement, its roof hidden behind a parapet. To judge from an engraving of 1808, its appearance has changed little since, apart from two small blocks added to the east side and a portion to the front. The house looks out across landscaped grounds to the rising slope opposite.

There are still people who remember the declining days of this stately home fifty years ago, when it was occupied by Mrs Powell, the last of that name. Then it was renowned as the home of the magical cup—Cwpan Nanteos—which had great curative powers if water was drunk from it. The house has since changed hands several times, amid continued deterioration until the arrival of the present owner.

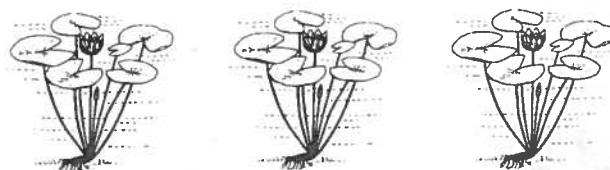
The autumn vegetation, the numerous garden features and outbuildings were described to the members by Dr Caroline Palmer and Dr John Savidge. There is a tree tunnel of old Cherry Laurels (*Prunus laurocerasus*) with Rhododendrons, known as 'The Lovers' Walk', leading from the mansion to the

gatehouse. From there one is drawn towards the lake with its dense growth of the water lily *Nuphar lutea*. An island provides a picturesque refuge for geese. The path continues along the nearer bank of Nant Paith, the water there directed along an artificial channel.

East of the house the monumental pomp of the neo-classical stable block takes everyone by surprise. The large, derelict kitchen garden beyond bears witness to a vanished self-sufficiency and hints at a past bounty of yellow raspberries, tansy and mint. That dreaded foreign invader, Japanese Knotweed, has gained a foothold in the further part.

To the south of the walled garden lies the dogs' graveyard, with 23 stones commemorating mostly hounds of the Nanteos Harriers; they surround a splendid Mulberry tree. Nearby stand four Ginkgo trees. Finally, one should mention a tall Cedar of Lebanon. Much hard work will be in store for anyone trying to bring the grounds back to their former glory

Donald Moore





CONTACTS

Brecon & Radnor:	Miss Anne Carter (0982 570 279)
Carmarthen:	Mrs Susan Lloyd-Fern (0267 211 307)
Ceredigion:	Mr Donald Moore (0970 828 777)
Clywd:	Mrs Sara Furse (0352 770 360)
Gwent:	Mrs Sheila Thorneycroft (0600 83 334)
Gwynedd:	Mrs Bettina Harden (0758 730 610)
Mid & South Glamorgan:	Ms Pauline Richards (0222 564 750)
Montgomeryshire:	Mr John Gleave (0686 640 494)
Pembrokeshire:	Mrs Eileen Wheeler (0239 820 464)
West Glamorgan:	Mrs Elizabeth Belcham (0639 721 868)
Trust Office:	Coed-y-Fynnon, Lampeter Velfrey, Narberth, Pembrokeshire (0834 83 396)
Trust Secretary:	Col. Richard Gilbertson (0834 83 396)
The Bulletin:	Miss Anne Carter, Betrws Mill, Hundred House, Llandrindod Wells, Powys LD1 5RP (0982 570 279)



INSURANCE FOR TRUST MEMBERS

Branches are reminded that members of the Trust are insured in cases of personal accident and for public liability under the terms of a policy issued through the British Trust for Conservation Volunteers.

Copies of the detailed 'Statement of Cover' are available from the Trust Office but—in essence—all members (including school children) are covered for Public Liability, and all members up to the age of 85 years for Personal Accident, 'whilst engaged on conservation or conservation-related activities'.

Because both forms of cover are restricted to members Branches are strongly advised to put in hand a 'day membership' system when arranging site visits which are open to non-members. A satisfactory system would consist of the payment of a 'day subscription' and a signing-in book.

“*G*od Almighty first
planted a garden. And indeed it is
the purest of human pleasures.”

— Francis Bacon: Essays

Books on garden design, studies of great gardens and gardeners, and the most important works of landscape history are offered at:

*Peter J. Hadley, Bookseller
132 Corve Street, Ludlow, Shropshire*

Where a selective range of literature and works on the visual and decorative arts may also be viewed.

Open 10am-5pm, Monday through Saturday; those travelling a distance are advised to telephone in advance and ascertain any temporary deviations from these hours. Catalogues are issued, and elusive titles sought upon your request.

telephone (0584) 874441 facsimile (0584) 873027