

YMDDIRIEDOLAETH GERDDI HANESYDDOL CYMRU - WELSH HISTORIC GARDENS TRUST

Bulletin No. 4, May 1991

Royal Patron

We announce with great pride that His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales has graciously agreed to be Patron of the Trust.

Speaking on behalf of the Trust, the Chairman, William Powell Wilkins, said that "this news will be greeted with immense satisfaction by all who share our concern for the historic gardens and landscapes of Wales. The signal honour done us by the Prince of Wales confirms our feeling of the need for urgent action to care for these all-too-often threatened or neglected components of the national heritage. That it has been bestowed less than two years after the inception of the Trust is also a mark of the immense strides that we have made in that time in our contribution to safeguarding the national heritage".

Charitable Registration

The Trust has now been registered by the Charity Commission as charity Number 1002542. The beneficial implications of registration will be set out in the next bulletin.

Course: Conservation Research and Survey. 28-30 June 1991

A one-and-a-half-day Trust course at Gregynog, near Newtown, Powys; the programme will introduce the Trust's approach to conservation management, with the emphasis on practical work with documents and on sites. Most of the work will be at Gregynog itself - a proto-Register site of some importance - but there will also be an opportunity to visit a smaller, private garden that exemplifies the type of site of great historic interest with which members may well be familiar in their own localities.

The course will be of particular value to branches and members who plan to become involved in site work. Some prior knowledge would be helpful but is by no means essential (other than the ability to read an Ordnance Survey map).

We are particularly fortunate in having Mr Peter Goodchild (Centre for the Conservation of Historic Parks and Gardens, University of York) to lead the course.

The subsidised cost, including full board and tuition, will be £20 per head. Please telephone your reservation to the Trust office - 0239 810432 (24 hour answering service) - or write to: The Executive YGHC-WHGT, FREEPOST, Plas Tyllwyd, Tan-y-groes, Cardigan SA43 2ZZ. The closing date for firm reservations is Friday 14 June 1991.

Groups

Replies to questionnaires indicate that there is strong interest among members in participating in specific activities on behalf of the Trust. They include: *Archival Research, Conservation Management, Local History, Photography, Plant Identification and Surveying.*

It is therefore planned to set up informal groups of members who would be interested in pursuing their specialisation in company with like-minded members.

Those who have already expressed interest need do no more at this stage but other members who would like more information are asked to telephone the Trust office - 0239 810432 (24 hour answering service).

American Visitors

We look forward to welcoming two visitors to the Trust in the coming weeks. Professor William Kelso is an archeologist specialising in garden sites. He is probably best known for his work at Monticello in Virginia, the home of Thomas Jefferson.

Mr Marc Morfei is a second-year post-graduate student at the College of Environmental Science and Forestry at the State University of New York at Scyracuse. He will be attached to the Trust for ten weeks and we hope to be able to give him wide-ranging experience and insight into our historic gardens and landscapes. His work will include helping to run the course at Greynog (see above), as well as a specific project.

Where's This...and What's Happened To It?

Robinson describes it as "...a terraced garden...that shelters every treasure of our garden flora, from the Cyclamen to the Tea Rose". He also speaks (for those who need further clues!) of a sea-wall and "facing a little to the South-east".

Where is this Welsh garden which served to illustrate the master's still-influential views on the development of gardens? Does it still exist, and in what condition?

No particular prizes are offered but ring the Trust Executive (0239 810 432) if you know the answers - particularly the last two.

Post Script

If there's a reminder in this envelope saying that your subscription has run out, PLEASE don't ignore it!

We depend heavily on your support through subscriptions during these formative years for the Trust.

M.C.N.

May 1991