



SPRING ISSUE 1994

PROFILE—Professor Tom Pritchard

Thomas Owen Pritchard was born on the Llyn peninsula and North Wales is still his home, but the career which sprang from an early interest in botany has carried him far and wide. After reading Agricultural Botany (at that time regarded somewhat dubiously) at Bangor, he went on to study Genetics at Leeds, where his involvement in the Post-Graduates Union awoke him to the fascination of administration and policy-making. This, with his scientific interests, led happily to his job with Nature Conservancy. His name began to be associated with a stream of environmental bodies, not only in Britain and Europe but worldwide. In 1973 he became Director for Wales of the Nature Conservancy Council. He is Chairman of Coed Cymru Ltd, the Welsh Broadleaved Woodland programme, and Chairman of the Council of the Bardsey Island Trust. Serving on the National Trust Committee for Wales has given him an understanding of what he calls heritage management and he feels that he learned a great deal from it, so that it was perhaps natural that he should have been a prime mover in setting up the Gwynedd Branch of the WHGT and have been its first Chairman. The enthusiasm he has encountered in Gwynedd is one of the reasons why he was encouraged to accept nomination as Chairman of the Trust as a whole.

Describing the future of the Trust as he would like to see it, he is enthusiastic. He believes wholeheartedly in the importance of the branches, both in the work they do on the ground and in their role as communicators, raising the image of parks and gardens in the mind of the public in general. He feels, passionately, that, while much has been achieved, the task of extending and consolidating the initial structure is one which can only grow more vital as we advance in knowledge and understanding of our threatened heritage.



Professor Pritchard has agreed to stand as Chairman of the Trust at the 1994 AGM.

A.G.M.

The Annual General Meeting
will be held on Saturday
14th May 1994 at Gregynog.
Speaker: Ms Janie Burford

EDITORIAL

Having taken over the editorship of **The Bulletin** on a temporary basis, I find myself, as my fourth issue goes to press, doomed, like the traveller in the old tale, to carry my burden. So, resigned to my fate and, I have to admit, rather enjoying myself, I can sit back in my editorial chair and consider the future. Is the pattern which seems to be evolving the one our readers want? As more news comes in from branches, would you prefer some longer items about

particular projects to a brief overall resumé? Would a series on individual Welsh gardens be well received? Are you happy with the present eight pages or would it greatly increase your enjoyment of **The Bulletin** if we could run to twelve? Letters on these and any other subjects, concerning the magazine or the Trust in general, whether or not for publication, are always welcome.

Anne Carter

WHAT'S IN A NAME

Donald Moore

A provisional register of historic gardens in Ceredigion has been compiled by Ros Laidlaw, and is now being studied by members of the Branch. Before any detailed investigation or recording of sites can begin, there are three essential steps to take: (i) to establish the name by which each garden is to be known, (ii) to identify its location, and (iii) to discover its past and present owners.

The name of a garden is central to the investigation. This might be thought the least of problems, but a brief consideration of the Ceredigion list shows that many ambiguities can arise. Gardens take their names usually from a great house or estate. In Wales, most of the names will have originated in the Welsh language. They were often given their written form before there was general agreement on Welsh orthography, and attempts were made to use letters of the English alphabet (which is not quite the same as the Welsh), to represent Welsh sounds. During the last fifty years, however, great efforts have been made to standardise the spelling of Welsh place-names according to Welsh conventions, which incidentally make the derivation of the names clearer. Thus we may now find that the current name of a locality differs from that of the house or estate situated there.

Sometimes the difference between forms is slight; for instance, *Pantyrodin* ('kiln hollow'), is now spelt *Pantyrodyn*, with a y in the last syllable, to conform with the spelling of *odyn*, meaning 'kiln'. *Voelallt* ('bare hill') is now spelt *Foelallt* because the single f has been adopted in Welsh for the sound represented by v in English. The ff is used in Welsh for the English f sound, as in *Ffoshelyg* ('willow ditch'), but the estate of that name used to be spelt *Foeshelyg*, in an attempt to represent the sounds in English orthography.

S.R. Meyrick's *The History and Antiquities of the County of Cardigan* (1808) describes and illustrates a house called *Llanvaughan*. Few people could locate this place today. The locality now appears on the map as *Llanfechan*. The first element is *Llan*, standing for 'church', and the second, *fychan* or *fechan*, meaning 'small'. The latter description was also applied indi-

vidually to persons, and it later became a widespread family surname in its anglicised form *Vaughan*.

There can be several Welsh versions of the same place-name. A little-known estate near Aberaeron, now administered by the National Trust, has been known by various names: *Llanychaeron*, *Llanayron*, *Llanaeron*, *Llannerch Aeron* and *Llanerchaeron* (the last with one n). A stranger might be pardoned for assuming that these names represented at least three places.

Another problem is the recurrence of the same name, usually referring to a common building or natural feature. There is more than one *Noyadd*, not surprisingly, since it stands for *neuadd* meaning 'hall'. *Tyllwyd*, 'grey house', *Yr Henbant*, 'the old hollow', and *Llwyn-y-groes*, 'the grove of the cross', are similar cases. Recurrence can also occur in an English name, such as *Castle Hill*. In such cases a map reference is vital.

In a different category are the places which have parallel Welsh and English names, the one a translation of the other. The mansion of the Vaughans at Abermagwr was known as *Crosswood* while the family resided there. Now occupied by the Welsh Office Agriculture Department, it is called *Trawsgoed* (with a g). The local railway station, however, used to bear the sign *Trawscoed* (with a c). *Peterwell*, near Lampeter, is famed in Welsh literature as *Plas Ffynnon Bedr*; there is a poem about the ruined mansion and its grounds by David Davis (1745–1827). A bilingual pair not involving English is the Latin *Strata Florida* and the Welsh *Ystrad-fflur*.

Anyone who wants to check the spelling of a Welsh place-name should begin with *A Gazetteer of Welsh Place-names*, edited by Elwyn Davies and published by the University of Wales Press in 1958 (revised 1975). This was the first modern list of authoritative Welsh place-names to appear. Then in 1969 a longer work came from the same press, *Welsh Administrative and Territorial Units*, by Melville Richards.

But for the garden historian the best check-list is the *List of Welsh Place-names*, compiled by Gwyn Ellis, and issued in typescript by the National Museum of Wales in 1968. This contains all the place-names of Wales, both English and Welsh, found in the old One-Inch-to-One-Mile maps of the Ordnance Survey. It is arranged alphabetically by historic Welsh counties. This index does not aim to give approved forms, simply those used at the time on the maps. A copy is available for consultation in the Department of Pictures and Maps at the National Library.

A detailed treatment of the whole subject, including the use of map references, appears in the introduction to the *Gazetteer* mentioned above, and there is an article in *The Indexer*, Vol. 15, No. 1, April 1986, pp. 3–8, on 'The Indexing of Welsh Place-names' by Donald Moore.

To sum up, a garden should be listed under its best historic form, as used by the family or institution chiefly concerned. Alternative versions should follow, and cross-references should be given elsewhere in the list, where widely different names are recorded. The location should be the modern form of the place-name, followed by a four- or six-figure map reference.



Llanerchaeron. View of the house.

Death by Fear or Drowning

Andrew Sclater

The importance of Hafod as an example of the Picturesque

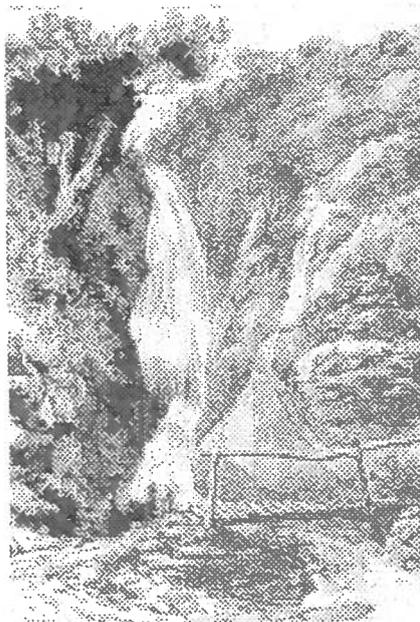
"I have just finished a new walk far superior in grandeur and variety to any I had. It even surpasses my expectations. You will be delighted when you see it for it is indeed beautiful and completes the circuit on each side the river. I mean to have a swing bridge of Chains from Rock to Rock, so do not be surprised if you read in some Tourist of my having caused the death of several by fear or drowning."

Thomas Johnes, Letter to Robert Liston, Hafod, 3 Feb. 1804.

There are only a very few designed historic landscapes which are pure expressions of the Picturesque in Britain. There are no pure expressions of this original British concept of the Picturesque outside Britain. Hafod is almost certainly the most important British representative of this rare breed of landscapes for the following reasons, amongst others: it was (and remains) an extremely 'natural' landscape, almost devoid of architecture; it was described in detail by numerous writers of the late 18th and early 19th centuries; its current restoration can recapture the totality of the original concept, which will not be compromised by major changes in land use or divided ownership; the quality of its native site perfectly reflects the essence of Picturesqueness.

The special significance of the Picturesque in the histories of literature and art

The Picturesque is a recognised phenomenon in the history of Art. It originated in Britain, came into being in the 1770s and remained a dominant aesthetic category until about 1815. The Picturesque was significant in that it no longer confined aesthetic experience to Beauty alone. Furthermore, it made use of new philosophical ideas which asserted that aesthetic experiences could occur in the domain of the senses and were not limited purely to the process of Reason, which had reigned supreme since the Renaissance. A whole new range of 'heightened' experiences was recognised as aesthetic categories. These belonged to the domain of 'the passions' and constituted The Sublime, in contrast to the more



The Upper Fall at Hafod. Drawn and engraved by J. Laporte. Pub. 1804.

civilised experience of The Beautiful. The Picturesque developed to incorporate Sublime and Beautiful and, thus constituted, may be seen as a fulcrum between the Neo-Classical rational world view and the visionary image of the world, as constructed by the Romantics (e.g. Wordsworth and Coleridge), which enlarged the scope of art in the Nineteenth Century.

The aesthetic of the Picturesque

The Picturesque aesthetic accounted for Nature as the source of all aesthetic experience, and as the fundamental spiritual and material source. Initially, the Picturesque applied itself to the principles of composition of landscape sketches and paintings. In seeking to portray Nature to its best advantage, rules were formed about the ways in which elements of natural scenery should be arranged 'most naturally'. This led landscape gardeners to consider the way in which natural scenery itself might be subtly manipulated to be 'most natural'. In order to be truly natural, and expressive of Nature's power over Reason, the 'natural' sense-based responses were favoured. In the 1750s, the philosophers Burke and Hume had recognised the potency of sensations of fear, self-preservation, and natural instincts in

forming experience, and of the role of experience in determining human activities. Experience was processed by another new conceptual category—Imagination. By comparison with literature and art, designed landscapes provided scope for a more comprehensive expression of the philosophical and aesthetic tenets of the Picturesque. The true character of Nature was best expressed in Nature, requiring deft manipulation of Nature with the proviso that the 'hand of art' should be concealed.

The function of the Walks in expressing the aesthetic

In a sequence of Picturesque tableaux, the walks lead the visitor through the range of perceptual experiences described by Burke. Beautiful experience is contrasted with Sublime experience, light with shade, closeness with vastness, leafy softness with rocky hardness, peaceful water with turbulent water, and so on. In each of these pairs, the latter element is the Sublime component, and according to the aesthetic contains danger which elicits the sublime sensation of self-preservation. In our restoration of the walks at Hafod, this element will be the most difficult to convey to the visitor. The 20th century mind is to some extent hardened to sensations of danger. However, it is an integral part of the totality of the Picturesque experience, currently unavailable anywhere in its pure form. Since this experience is potentially a living, interactive key to much of the thought which has given rise to modern European culture and art, it is imperative that we do all that is possible to allow the Picturesque full expression at Hafod. To lessen the carefully controlled sublime character of the walks would be to deny to Hafod the more elusive side of the Picturesque equation, and to render it conceptually meaningless. While safety must be assured, we must attempt to provide it in such a way that the visitor can still feel relatively unsafe in those sections of the walks where the designed character is that of The Sublime.

Dr Sclater is the landscape consultant responsible for designing and implementing the Trust's proposals for Hafod.



News from the Branches

CAMARTHENSHIRE BRANCH

Feb 5th: Course in Pruning of Old Fruit Trees. **Feb 13/14:** Course in the art of Turfing. **Feb 26/27:** Course in Hedge Laying. **March 26/27:** Course in the Renovation of Old Stone Walling.

All the above courses will be held at Derwydd Mansion, Llandbie, under the tuition of Barrie Downes. £15 p.p.

Contact: Barrie Downes 0269 850351.

April 23rd: A Tour of the gardens of Stradey Castle (Camellias a speciality) followed by tea. By the kind invitation of Mr David and Lady Mary Mansel Lewis. Contact: Clare Mansel Lewis 0558 822273.

May 15th: A Tour of the woodland garden at the Post House, Cwmbach, Whitland. Tea available. By the kind permission of Jo and Frank Kenaghan. Contact: Jo Kenaghan 0994 484213.

May 21st: A Tour of Middleton, led by William Wilkins. Contact: Wendy Foulger 0267 231880.

June 11th: Garden Painting and Drawing with tuition from a well established artist in the garden of Derwydd Mansion. £15 p.p. buffer included. By the kind permission of Mr and Mrs Stepney Gulston. Contact: Wendy Foulger 0267 231880.

June 26th: The Pottery, Rhandirmwyn, 2.30 pm. A large cottage garden kindly opened to us by Mr and Mrs Marno. Bring a picnic. Contact: Mr & Mrs Marno 0550 6206.

CEREDIGION BRANCH

Trawsgoed meeting

The first Branch meeting of the year was scheduled for 26 February, a lecture by Gerald Morgan on 'Trawsgoed—a house

and its family', held at Trawsgoed mansion by kind permission of the Welsh Office Agriculture Department. The papers of the Vaughan family of Crosswood (or Trawsgoed) are conveniently accessible in the National Library of Wales at Aberystwyth, and members have already examined some of the old estate maps there. An extensive photographic record of the development of the gardens has been made available by the family, and photocopied for Branch use. The next step is to initiate a recording scheme.

19 March: A visit to Middleton, jointly with Mid and South Glamorgan Branch.

16 April: A forest visit to Bwlch Nantyrarian, near Llywernog, led by Mr Alec Dauncey, Forest Enterprise.

It is also hoped to arrange a one-day meeting at Llanerchaeron jointly with the Ceredigion Antiquarian Society on **7 May**.

CLWYD BRANCH

It is planned to hold our next AGM on Saturday **5th March**, at 2.30 pm. Also at this meeting Jonathan Marsden will give an illustrated talk on the landscape at Stowe.

Our Study Day for 1994 is to be held at Wynnstay and is being organised in close cooperation with Lindsafarne College. The date set for this event is Saturday **April 9th**, starting at 10.30 am. John Phibbs will speak on landscape, and Bill Pritchard on the Wynns of Wynnstay with particular reference to the gardens there. The house will be open, and we hope to make a little money to aid the restoration of the ha-ha to Lancelot Brown's shrubbery.

A visit to Hawkstone Park in Shropshire is planned for Saturday **21st May**. These spectacular late 18th century gardens and parkland, currently undergoing extensive

restoration, have commanding views of the surrounding countryside.

On Saturday **18th June**, at 2.30 pm, John and Sue Harrop will welcome us to their walled garden at Garth Gynan near Llanfair D.C. It is on the Clwyd proto register.

For organisational purposes, members wishing to attend any of these events are asked to let the chairman know in advance (tel: 0352 770360). Visitors from other branches are cordially welcome to any of these events. Bed can be arranged.

GWYNEDD BRANCH

Wednesday **18 May:** Plant Fair, Glynllifon.

More than just a plant sale, the Fair will be sited in the Conservatory of the mansion and on the staff car park of the College. However, in the event of wet weather we will be able to use the Long Room to accommodate the stalls set up by various nurseries in the county, others selling tools and garden-related goods, as well as our own Trust stall selling plants, seeds and other goodies donated by members. There will also be flower-arranging demonstrations, a raffle and the opportunity to visit the East Walled Garden, currently being restored with the help of WHGT.

Thursday **16 June:** Visit to Talhenbont Hall, Chwilog.

This house is a very old Welsh Mansion and our visit offers the chance to see how such a building and gardens have been adapted to meet the demands of 20th century living.

Thursday **7 July:** Plas Newydd and Penrhyn Castle.

With the help and cooperation of the Head Gardeners of both sites, we have organised a day's outing to these two

National Trust properties. We will spend the morning at Plas Newydd under the guidance of Mr Dennis, have lunch at Penryn Castle and then spend the afternoon being conducted round the gardens there by the Head Gardener, Mr Anderson. The emphasis in these unique guided tours will be on the work involved in actually running an historic garden, dealing with the history of the past 200 years and yet planning, at the same time, for the next century.

Sunday **24 July**: 9.30 am. AGM followed by a lecture by Peter White on the Extended National Database.

MID AND SOUTH GLAMORGAN BRANCH

Wednesday evening, **27 April**: The Branch has arranged the Trust's second Annual Lecture. The Chairman of South Glamorgan County Council will host the occasion at County Hall, Atlantic Wharf, Cardiff Docks. John Sales, Gardens Adviser to the National Trust, will speak on 'Dilemmas and Decisions in Garden Restoration'. Tickets from Patricia Moore: 0222 707754

Saturday **19 March**: Visit to Middleton Estate (with Ceredigion Branch).

Saturday **21 May**: By kind permission of Sir Cenydd Traherne. Visit to Coedarhydyglyn Gardens and Arboretum. Tickets from Janice Spears: 0222 761683.

Saturday **25 June** (provisional date): By kind permission of Mr and Mrs Murray McLaggan. Visit to Merthyr Mawr.

The Branch AGM will be held on Friday **29 April** at Craig-y-parc (Mallows house and garden).

WEST GLAMORGAN BRANCH

22nd March: Illustrated Lecture, "The Landscape of Wales". Richard Keen of the National Trust. 7.00 pm Gwyn Hall, Neath.

16th April: Trip. A Guided tour of St Fagans' contemporary gardens.

11.00 am Entrance Tent, near car park.

22nd May: Our annual pilgrimage to Clyne Gardens in Rhododendron time. 2.30 pm, Woodman Club car park.

9th June: Visit to Gelly Farm, Cymmer. Four small gardens grouped around an historically listed hill farm. Open annually, but a special opening for our visit. 10m N.E. of Port Talbot on A4107. ½m beyond Cymmer, towards Treorchy, turning off road on R. 7.00 pm.

14th July: Our A.G.M. Meet our new National chairman. 7.00 pm, Swansea Museum

Any queries? Please ring our secretary. Elizabeth Belcham 0639 721868.

THE GARDEN HISTORY SOCIETY

The AGM
on Thursday 21st July 1994
will be at the
University of Wales, Bangor
8.0 pm.

Lecture by Prof. Tom Pritchard

As associates of the GHS, WGHT members will be welcome to attend this and other events associated with the AGM weekend.

Further information from Gwynedd Branch

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,
Your review of the recently published *A Glossary of Garden History* rightly praised an attractive work, full of information and local examples, well presented. However, you suggested that it was suitable for beginners and this is indeed the case. The serious garden historian surely looks forward to the appearance of a glossary with a considerably more extended treatment of terms, one which may well incorporate, for example, dates of early usage of a word, information which at present has to be sought in the *Oxford English Dictionary*. Continuing archival study may well produce new datings and it will be interesting to see such information aired in garden history journals

There are two issues I would like to raise. One concerns the definition given in the *Glossary* for the term *cromlech*. The word (and we know it well in Wales) is used in English in archaeological writing to describe an exposed burial chamber, a chambered tomb of Neolithic age. In its simplest form, this giant box-like monument is composed of large upright stones supporting a massive horizontal capstone. Such a genuine antiquity can

be found in the grounds of Plas Newydd, Anglesey. It was drawn (and described as a cromlech) by Moses Griffith in 1776, and by John 'Warwick' Smith in 1792. A cromlech is not a circle of standing stones, the definition given in the *Glossary*, unless you are speaking French. You will be in Brittany for a stone circle to be a cromlech. This entry should be addressed before the book is reprinted. Secondly, there are many words for the structures found in gardens, including garden house, summer house, gazebo, summer banqueting house, pavilion, belvedere and gloriollette. Children have play houses, tree houses and Wendy houses. At The Court, St Fagans we encountered a 1920's Wembley hut. Their definition needs more rigorous study and attention given to the vocabulary of their time. The word gazebo, for example, according to the OED, is first found in print in the 1750s. Perhaps manuscript sources can push back this date but personally I would hesitate to call a sixteenth century structure by the name gazebo. We need more stringent thought on these terms.

Patricia Moore

CONSERVATION IN ACTION

We are often asked how the Trust carries out its project work. The new issue of the Statement of Conservation Policy illustrates the process with a hypothetical case study of Pantgwyn—somewhere in Wales!

The entry in the Branch Gazetteer notes that the 19th century garden landscape at Pantgwyn, though nearly derelict, is of local interest and its condition should be monitored. The mansion has long-since gone and the only protection for the site stems from a general policy in the environment and heritage section of the Local Plan, which also notes the shortage of public amenity space.

A copy of an outline planning application is received from the borough development control officer, stating that a comprehensive development of housing and a business park is envisaged for a large area of derelict industrial land which envelops Pantgwyn; the application also confirms that the site is now owned by the property division of an insurance company.

The Branch Conservation Group writes to the insurance company, drawing attention to Pantgwyn's importance and condition; an objection to the application is lodged on the grounds that both the site and its setting are threatened by the development. The local wildlife trust confirms the importance of Pantgwyn in terms of species and habitats and the civic amenity society writes to the Argus to highlight the fact that Pantgwyn has been long regarded as one of the few places locally where people walk for quiet enjoyment.

The insurance company sends a non-committal reply but, obviously sensitive to public opinion, offers a site meeting. The development control staff are sympathetic and receptive to the idea that Pantgwyn—restored and safeguarded—would be of public benefit and it seems likely that the planning committee would take a similar view.

Following the guidelines in the Conservation Policy Statement the Branch Group notifies the Conservation Committee and an informal meeting is held with Borough officers, the wildlife trust and the civic amenity society at which it is agreed that 'something should be done'

and that the Branch will seek authority from the Trustees to act as coordinator of an ad hoc project team in the first instance.

Encouraged by this backing and armed with the documentary evidence of the historic importance of the site the Branch meets the developer's agent on site and makes a convincing case, not only that Pantgwyn is important enough to be saved from being swamped by the development, but that positive steps should be taken to reinstate it for public benefit—and that the developer ought to bear the cost as an element of development gain and to burnish his public image. These agreements are eventually enshrined as conditions in the planning agreement, which the Branch now supports.

Supported by the Conservation Committee, the Branch has now obtained approval for its proposed plan which sets out a costed programme of comprehensive surveys and analyses of the site, reinstatement, conservation and long-term stewardship. This last point attracts a lot of discussion because the costs of maintenance are usually much more intractable than capital costs; the developer won't want to be involved a moment longer (or for a penny more) than necessary, so both tenure and revenue funding have to be worked out at this stage. Appropriate and sympathetic commercial enterprises are considered—and will be again at the next step. All this is done in close cooperation with the ad hoc project team whose interests must be fully taken into account at this stage. A senior officer of the Borough and the local elected member are invited to attend meetings of the team as observers. The Trust Committee has already taken note of the proposed plan and the Branch submits quarterly reports to the Trustees.

Professional assistance is almost certainly needed now and the Trust representative advises the project team on drawing up tender documents and raising the money to pay for what will start as a feasibility study and will form the basis of a Conservation Strategy and Business Plan. The money is usually raised on the basis of one-third shares: from the owner, national bodies and local bodies. In this case the developer has already

agreed to contribute and will take up a full one-third share. Countryside Council for Wales (because of the species and habitat interest) are persuaded to take a one-sixth share and the Development Board for Rural Wales another one-sixth. The Borough Council—probably thinking of its long-term requirement for amenity space—then takes up the final one-third, although there is a delay until the necessary authorisation for ancillary spending is forthcoming. Each contributor is now invited to join the project team which agrees that 10% of the funds now allocated will be set aside to meet the costs of the Trust in this exercise.

The consultant reports favourably and his study and plans set out the capital and revenue works, as well as recommendations on how they are to be funded and the type of tenure. In this case the project team decides that a separate trust should be set up to manage Pantgwyn on the basis of a 99-year lease from the developer; that the revenue costs will be met from car-parking, a 'choice plant' sales area and a snack-bar; and that much of the maintenance work will be done by the new 'Friends of Pantgwyn'.

Its 'initiating' stage successfully completed the Branch now relinquishes its coordinating role and joins its peers on the steering group of the nascent trust—formed from the project team. The Branch is therefore directly involved in 'assisting' with the conservation and management of the site, but no longer in the leading role.

Thus the Branch has admirably fulfilled its role by taking the initiative in 'saving' Pantgwyn, using its powers of organisation and expertise. It has done so in close cooperation with other organisations and resources (including those available through the Trust nationally) and covered its costs in so doing. Finally it has stepped out of the leading role to free itself for the next such task; Plas Tyllwyd perhaps!

If you know a 'Pantgwyn' that is threatened by neglect, damage or development, please contact your local Branch now. If you would like a copy of the Trust's latest Conservation Policy Statement please contact the Trust Office.

Michael Norman

Hafod

Hafod's folds and floating veils
Clays and chlorophylls and shales
Fractured quartz on forest floor
Shattered snow in Ystwyth's roar—

Thomas Johnes came to this waste
And redrew rules of landscape taste
Along the river's winding course
He struck the mountains' heaving force

And laid like thread a path of stone
On which the traveller, alone,
Traversed that philosophic ledge,
Unsteady by the water's edge.

Should breath be torn by nails of frost?
Heaven's sunshine faltering, lost
To discord, fear, eternal light,
Peace and beauty, quaking night?

Here Nature, by Imagination burned,
From semblance into Psyche turned,
Splintering Reason's heavy tree,
Cast out the Temples, setting free

The Spirit that the kites' flights fold
In beeches deep as mountains' gold
Through water rising out of stone
Through chilling wind that blows alone—

Hafod's vacant Temple gray—
Library burning, cavern, spray—

Andrew Sclater.
October and December 1993.

Equipment for the Picturesque Tourist

The following is an extract from an unpublished travel diary written in September 1798 (National Library of Wales KS 4419E). The anonymous author set out from Blackburn with two companions to tour parts of Wales, the borders, and the Wye valley on foot, taking with him just a few essentials:

"Evans's reduced map of N. Wales, Gary's map of England, a telescope, microscope, reflecting-mirror, pocket-compass, and the following authors—Sullivan, Windham [sic], Aikin and Warner; for conveying these etceteras and a necessary change of linen, each of the party was supplied with a light bag capable of being attached over the shoulders or conveniently slung under the arm. This mode of travelling in England I am aware will excite the smile of indignity, but, let it be remember'd that we were quitting for a while this stylish hemisphere, and those who are accustomed to pursue a phaetonic race on southern turnpike-roads are unfit to decide on the most judicious manner of travelling with baggage over the mountainous principality of Wales."

Only one change of linen, you notice, and no spare outer clothes or boots!

Jennie Macve
Aberystwyth

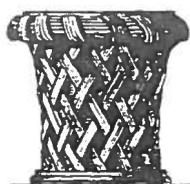
LONG TOMS AND THUMBS

The Garden Flowerpot

The recent sale of thousands of terracotta flowerpots from the royal gardens coincided with the publication of two articles on the subject of flowerpots.

One, by Kay Saneki, appeared with coloured illustrations in *Country Life*, 16 September 1993. It described the use of both decorative and everyday pots through the centuries, indeed millennia. It quoted examples of usage from archival and pictorial evidence and the story was brought forward to the firms which mass-produced intriguingly-named sizes of garden flowerpots up to the 1950s.

The longer article, by C.K. Currie, was published in the winter issue of *Garden History*, the Journal of the Garden History Society. This dealt more fully with our knowledge of the everyday flowerpot since 1600. Archival sources had been searched for evidence of the use and purchase of pots and archaeological evidence examined from sherds found at Kirby Hall, Northamptonshire, Castle Bromwich Hall, West Midlands and at Tredegar House, Gwent. Typological details of rims, side or bottom position



No. 10751.—Flower Pot, 11 inches high, in terra-cotta.

of drainage holes, and profile, were clearly set out in section drawings and archaeological information added. Now that archaeologists' eyes are being opened to garden history, we may hope for more material being identified, even though garden potsherds often had a continuing life as drainage crocks. Material from Tredegar House is a beginning. What more can we offer from Wales? Comments and information, please.

Patricia Moore

Laburnum Hedges in West Wales

The note in the last Bulletin brought a fine response. Many thanks to all who wrote or telephoned. A digest is being made for the next issue.

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Gwent:	Mrs Sheila Thorneycroft (0600 83334)
Gwynedd	Mr Simon Evans (076 685 324)
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Notes for Members

GARDEN ARCHAEOLOGY

The Bulletin has received information about a one week training excavation at Dartington Hall, Devon, from 17–23 July 1994 which may be of interest to members. The course caters for beginners and experienced professionals, with tuition geared to individual needs, and includes, as well as on site tuition in archaeological methods, a series of evening lectures and seminars. Fees are £98 (£68 for those under 21 and full-time students) and full board accommodation £162.50. Camping facilities are available and non-residential students are welcome.

Bookings and enquiries are through C.K. Currie, 15 Claudeen Close, Swaythling, Southampton, SO2 2HQ. Phone or Fax: 0703 558500.

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TROBI

The Tree Register of the British Isles is a registered educational charity whose main object is to identify and record exceptional trees anywhere in the British Isles. It is available for reference and research and currently has more than 100,000 entries on its records.

Further information can be obtained from the Secretary: Mrs V.E. Schilling, The Tree Register of the British Isles, 2 Church Cottages, Westmeston, Hassocks, W. Sussex BN6 8RJ. (Tel. 1273 845312)