



# CAMBRIDGESHIRE GARDENS TRUST

## NEWSLETTER No. 12 April/May 2002

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There are several items I need to inform you about in this letter.  
These are not in any particular order of importance.

To begin with, the small sub-committee which has been progressing the Trust's involvement at Ramsey Abbey School Walled Kitchen Garden has now considered that the Trust should formerly apply for a long lease to restore the grounds as an Educational Resource. The lease to enable the Trust to carry out the restoration work has now been applied for. It has been proposed that a separate Charitable Trust be set up to cover this work with people drawn from the Ramsey area to organise the progress of the restoration. The Gardens Trust would be an advisory body helping the new Trust at all times.

The Gardens Trust has been greatly encouraged by the support given to our project by the Ramsey Rural Museum which is situated just to the north of the garden. Their suggestion for allowing visitors to the garden to park in their grounds on open days has solved a major problem, which could have caused problems in the town. A meeting is arranged in April when representatives of several organisations will meet to discuss the forming of a new Trust and I hope that this meeting will become a major step forward along the route to the restoration of the garden.

**Please do not forget to buy your tickets for our Social Evening at Island Hall, Godmanchester on Saturday 8th June from 5.00pm to 7.00pm. Tickets are £10 to include a talk by Mr Christopher Vane Percy and wine. This is our major fund raising event for the restoration of the Walled Kitchen Garden at Ramsey Abbey School. Please ask your friends to come and enjoy this elegant garden situated on the Great Ouse River. By kind permission of Mr Christopher and Lady Linda Vane Percy.**

**Please try and sell as many tickets as possible, as this is our only fund raising event this year for the restoration of the walled kitchen garden.**

The Trust was asked at the end of last year to become involved with objecting to a planning application which had been received by an owner of a Grade II listed Park and Garden in the County. Members may remember when Anthea Taigel came and spoke to the Trust about such matters, and I have included elsewhere in this newsletter information about listed sites and planning

applications. I understand that the particular planning application has been turned down but an amended planning application may be sought.

The Trust was consulted recently by English Heritage to advise on possible listing of cemeteries in the county. To date three cemeteries have now been added to the Register Grade II – The Histon Road Cemetery, Cambridge (CGT GAZETTEER 7.1); The Mill Road Cemetery, Cambridge (CGT GAZETTEER 8.3) (there is a short article on this cemetery in this newsletter); and the American Cemetery, Madingley, Cambridge (CGT GAZETTEER 11.1).

The Park and Garden at Croxton Park (CGT GAZETTEER 22.11) has now been listed as Grade II\*.

Several lectures about the Gardens of Cambridgeshire have been given to various Gardening Societies during the winter months by Jill Cremer, Audrey Osborne and myself. This has benefited the Trust not only financially, but has enabled several copies of our Gazetteer to be sold. In fact at the last lecture at the Sue Ryder Home at Ely, 14 copies were sold following the lecture. The largest audience was at Cuffley in Hertfordshire where 120 members sat quietly for over an hour and were so taken by the gardens I talked about, that they wish to arrange a visit to Cambridge next summer to see some of the gardens not normally open to the public. Each lecture enables us to promote the Trust and the work it carries out. Please contact us if your gardening club needs a speaker for a meeting, and we will come.

The research for our next publication is becoming very exciting. I realised that we had many gardens to look at in the Cambridge parish of St Giles to the west of the city, but I never thought that it was going to involve those researching in such a range of interests. We have nearly cracked the names of the original owners and architects of the new houses built when dons were permitted to marry and live outside their colleges. We are now looking at early aerial photographs of the city, which are just as informative as the OS maps. It is amazing how many garden buildings survive, and how large plots are later subdivided and sold for new dwellings.

With the help of the contents of the library of the Botanic Garden, we have been investigating Horticulturalists, Botanists

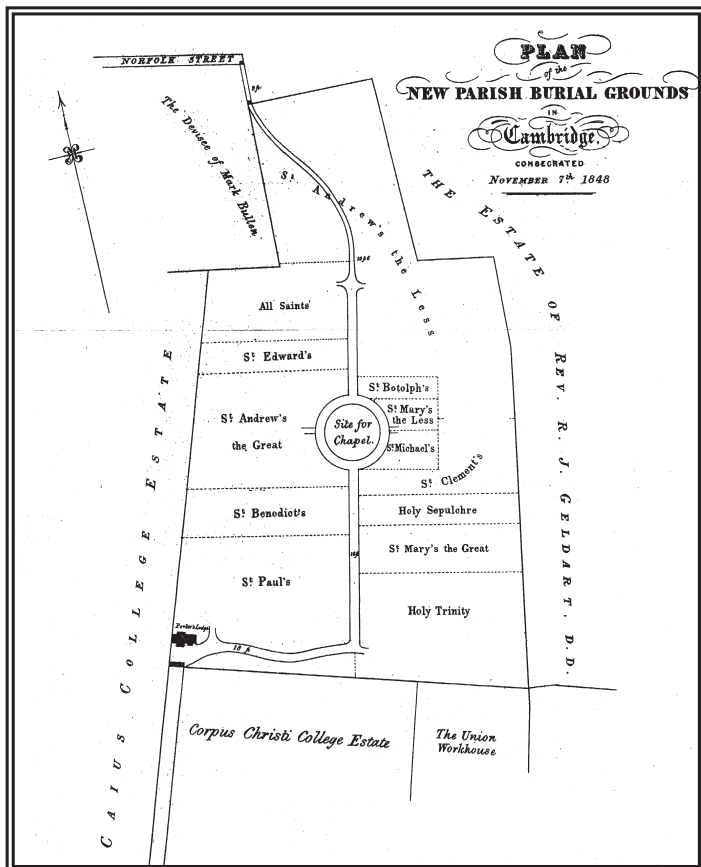
and Gardeners who worked and lived in Cambridge between 1880 and 1940. We have realised that in their small world of the University, the Botanists were all involved in studying the same group of plants and genetics. At last we have found a lead into the world of Cambridge Nurseries which has enabled us to examine the obituary pages in daily newspapers. So one thing is leading to another and what we thought was going to be a reasonably simple area of research is now turning into a much wider topic. So all those who are interested in researching the horticultural history of Cambridge are most welcome to join us on our walks in St Giles parish. The days are getting warmer and longer now.

**At the 2001 Annual General Meeting the Council of Management was given direction to review membership fees which have been held since the Trust was established in 1997. It has been decided that charges should be revised, with effect from 1st November 2002, to single person £12, couple at the same address £15, Life Membership single £120, couple at the same address £150, Horticultural Society £25, Corporate Membership £50.**

Finally I would like to welcome all those who have recently joined the Cambridgeshire Gardens Trust. Your support is vital to enable us to carry out the work we are already involved in. I look forward to meeting you at our garden visits during the coming season.

John Drake  
Chairman

## MILL ROAD CEMETERY, CAMBRIDGE (CGT GAZETTEER 8.3)



The Mill Road Cemetery in Cambridge was established by the parochial clergy and opened by the Bishop of Ely in 1848, in

response to the creation of a nonconformist burial ground at Histon Road, Cambridge in 1843.

Following calls for the new burial grounds by the Cambridgeshire Chronicle in 1832, the Cambridge Cemetery Company, a private non-profit making body, opened the Histon Road cemetery in 1843 for 'persons of all religious persuasions'. In response to this, the established church began to take action the following year and set up the Parish Burial Ground Committee (PBGC). This body was charged with the responsibility of raising funds by voluntary contributions to purchase a site for a burial ground.

In 1847 c3.5 hectares of land, formerly used as the University Cricket Ground, were conveyed to the Church Building



*The tomb of Robert Sayle in Mill Road cemetery.  
Photo: Audrey Osborne*

Commissioners, having been purchased from the estate of the Rev Dr Geldgart, for the use of 13 parishes in the city. Each of the parishes was allocated its own area within the cemetery and the boundaries were marked by small stones. A central area was set aside for the erection of a chapel when funds permitted. Once the land had been drained, boundary walls, gravel drives, railings, gates and a lodge were laid out and the grounds were consecrated at the official opening by the Bishop of Ely on 7th November 1848. This event was reported in detail in the Cambridgeshire Chronicle the following day.

By 1850 over 500 burials had taken place, and the committee noted that 'a very general and increased desire prevails that the erection of a chapel should no longer be deferred'. The committee had £400, so an appeal was launched to raise £600, making a total budget of £1000 for the building. The architect George Gilbert Scott (St John's College Chapel) was approached and asked to prepare a design for the chapel. His subsequent plans, dated 22 April 1851, show that the building would cost £1,800 to erect, so amendments were requested.

There followed protracted discussions and alterations, which went hand in hand with the fund raising efforts and finally contracts were signed in 1856, following the gift of £250 from Professor Wherwell, Master of Trinity College. Wherwell showed an interest in the design of the chapel and may have had a hand in asking for further alterations to Scott's plans. Problems with the interior meant that the chapel did not open until May 1858, ten years after the cemetery was established, and in the intervening years the lodge had been used as a mortuary chapel. Following the completion of the chapel the cemetery continued in use until some of the parish areas were filled and closed in 1904, with the remainder closing in 1949.

In 1954 the chapel, after years of neglect, was demolished. In 1999 the Friends of Mill Road Cemetery were formed to rescue the site from increasing vandalism and to raise awareness of its historic and ecological interest. The site remains in the ownership of the Church of England. It is administered by Trustees and is managed the City Council.

John Drake

In letters to owners of sites included in the *Register of Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest in England*, English Heritage draw attention to the following points:

“The National Heritage Act 1983 enables English Heritage to compile a register of gardens and other land of special historic interest. The resultant *Register of Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest in England* is compiled with the aim of identifying important historic parks and gardens in order to increase awareness of the existence of these sites, and to encourage their protection and conservation.

The Register in itself entails no additional statutory controls. The historic interest of a park or garden is, however, established as a material planning consideration, and the register provides the key means by which sites of special historic interest can be identified. It draws attention to the fact that the sites included should receive special consideration if changes or proposals for development are being contemplated.

Local Authorities are required to consult English Heritage over any planning applications they receive which may affect sites graded I or II\* on the Register. They are also directed to consult the Garden History Society on applications which may affect any site on the register regardless of grade. Additionally, the Register is used by many local authorities as the basis for relevant conservation policies in statutory development plans.

Many historic parks and gardens are now in divided ownership. In order that we can ensure that all the relevant parties are sent details, we would be most grateful if you (the owner of a part) could confirm whether you own all the land within the marked line on the map enclosed.

Any queries about the registration of the site, its grading, the content of the Register description, or the boundaries of the registered area, should be addressed to the Head of Parks and Gardens Register, English Heritage, 23 Saville Row, London W1X 1AB. Tel no 0207 973 3561.”

## **BRINKLEY WOOD CEMETERY**

Members may be interested to know of the Brinkley Wood Cemetery which is a meadow and woodland for Peaceful Remembrance on the Suffolk/Cambridgeshire border. It is situated between Six Mile Bottom and Brinkley.

Following the ever increasing requests from the public, woodland burials are now being provided in many parts of the country. In order to offer the choice of a woodland burial, a new site has been provided for those families wishing to arrange a burial in an informal woodland and meadow setting.

Some sites achieve this by the planting of trees which not only add to the natural beauty of the countryside, but also aid against global warming. The wood, together with the meadowland, will provide a natural habitat for insects, birds and wild-life. Trees will be selected from Ash, Oak, Lime, Beech, Larch, Wild Cherry and Hazel. The meadow will be sown with wild flower seed.

Over the years the cemetery will become an established meadow with copses of native trees. It is proposed that the grass will only be cut twice a year to encourage wild flowers, although walkways will be cut more frequently.

For more information please contact Bernard Edge, Countryside Burials Limited, The Old Courts, 147 All Saints Road, Newmarket, Suffolk CB8 8HH 01638 600693.

John Drake

## **THE MAGOG DOWN**

The Magog Trust was formed in 1989 to purchase 163 acres of land to return it from arable farming to its pre-farming era of open grassland and woods. The area has been named the Magog Down and it is located to the south of Cambridge alongside the A1307 opposite Wandlebury.

The Magog Trust is a registered charity with the objective of providing a space for conservation and public recreation. Over its first 10 years of existence, much effort was put into money raising activities to pay back the initial loans and all debts were repaid before the new millennium. At the same time the open land was planted with grasses and drifts of wild flowers native to the chalkland area.

Six new woods have been planted, starting in March 1991 and continuing throughout 1992: some 24000 saplings (about 1ft to 18ins. high) native to the area were planted by many teams of volunteers. These trees are now 10 to 15ft high and even during the very dry summers we had a few years ago we have only lost about 5% of them.

Activity by our enthusiasts is slower now the main structure is in place but work goes on. There is now a car park which is gradually being improved with a tarmac surface and a special perimeter runway for dogs where dog owners can safely let their dogs run freely without endangering the wildlife, especially ground nesting birds. Sadly many thoughtless dog owners ignore this facility and allow their dogs to roam across the main downland areas to the detriment of others.

A special car parking area has been designed and laid for the use of people with mobility difficulties; this, together with special gate locks and gravelled paths, makes the movement of wheelchairs much easier. We were proud to have Professor Stephen Hawking open this facility two years ago.

Over the years a wide variety of wildlife has gradually re-colonised the Down; butterfly and moth counts have been undertaken and during 1996 a special survey recorded 39 species of birds.

The Down is on one of the highest parts of Cambridgeshire and it is claimed that three counties can be seen from the south down; Suffolk, Essex and Hertfordshire, while the north down gives a panoramic view of Cambridge.

The Magog Down is open to the public throughout the year and provides interesting walks, particularly in fine, sunny weather.



Members of the Cambridgeshire Gardens Trust who may like to enjoy membership of the Magog Trust as our aims are similar, should contact the administrator for an application form at Head Office of the Trust, 43 Mingle Lane, Stapleford, Cambridge CB2 5BG or visit the website at [www.Magogtrust.fsnet.co.uk](http://www.Magogtrust.fsnet.co.uk)

Michael Nurse

A few miles further south lies the park around Babraham Hall (CGT Gazetteer 17.19) which was owned by Horatio Palavicino during the reign of Queen Elizabeth I. Recently I noted an entry in a guide book of Italian Gardens about the Villa Durazzo Pallavicini in Genoa. (The spelling of the family's surnames is different in the guide book.)

## VILLA DURAZZO PALLAVICHINI, GENOA, ITALY

At No 11-13, Via Pallavicini in Genoa, is a romantic park created in 1837 by the Marquis Ignazio Pallavicini near his villa at Pegli.

By the early nineteenth century the Italian Riviera had already become a magnet for foreign visitors, because of its mild climate and its spectacular gardens filled with exotic flowers. Pallavicini employed the painter Michele Carizio to provide plans, and when the garden was completed it was opened to the public and became an instant success not only with foreign visitors but also with the local population. It has remained open for the last 150 years.

Edith Wharton visited these gardens and commented that they were 'a brummagem creation . . . to which the guide books send throngs of unsuspecting tourists, who come back imagining that this tawdry jungle of weeping willows, and Chinese pagodas, mock Gothic ruins and exotic vegetation, represent the typical "Italian garden" '. Written at the turn of the last century, her comments do less than justice to a garden that has given pleasure for so long to so many. Carizio's other source of income was from designing theatrical sets and this garden should be regarded as an absurd and two-dimensional joke.

A long avenue of ilexes and palms wound up the hill to the villa, crossing the railway line on its way. At the top of the avenue the villa had what was once superb views over the Bay of Genoa and below lies the botanical garden set up by Clelia Grimaldi. The entrance today is along a fire escape attached to the cliff below the villa, past palms and camphor trees, up a flight of steps past the neo-gothic chapel and at last to the long avenue leading to the entrance proper. This is a neo-classical arch with a pavilion above. The visitor is advised by a Latin inscription to 'say farewell to those urbane cares that trouble the soul; I am called by the high mountains, woods, fountains and all that is sublime and eloquent in nature and raises the spirit to God'.

Steep paths past grottoes and cascades lead up through the bosco to the lake. A boat lies rotting in the undergrowth, evoking scenes of holiday pastimes. Boating parties exploring the lakeside grottoes would have been drenched by the giochi d'acqua with which the boats were fitted. Their friends would have enjoyed the spectacle through holes pierced in the grotto ceilings, before losing themselves in the maze. Children might have swung out over the water on the iron swing that still stands on the water's edge. Lovers, doubtless, would be found everywhere, from the Mogul pavilion to the summer house with its mirrored covered

walls and broderie garden dedicated to Flora.

The boats no longer cross the lake, but otherwise little has changed: families still stand on the wrought-iron bridge to feed the turtles and enormous carp, and while they picnic beneath the weeping willow, oblivious lovers occupy the Chinese pagoda. Proof, as if it were needed, of how little human pleasures have changed over the years.

It is interesting to note that the Pallavicini family continues to be interested in laying out gardens around their houses, even up to the mid-nineteenth century. If any of our members know of other Pallavicini properties which are associated with fine gardens, please contact the Trust.

John Drake

Although we have been unable to find much information about the gardens at Babraham Hall, we were delighted to come across the Diary of Baron Walstein who, when a young man, journeyed through Southern England in 1600. Jill Cremer writes about this gentleman and the gardens he saw in England. This gives historians details of water features in eminent gardens of that time, and an insight into what visitors may have seen at Babraham Hall. Walstein is lavishly entertained when visiting the University of Cambridge.

## THE DIARY OF BARON WALSTEIN

### INTRODUCTION

In 1981 *The Diary of Baron Walstein – A Traveller in Elizabethan England*, translated and annotated by G W Groos, was published by Thames and Hudson.

The diary is a fat little parchment-bound book, which measures only 6¼ by 6”.

Walstein Latinizes his name in the first page of the Diary as 'Zdenkonius Brtnicensis Baron a Waldstein'. He had been born in 1581, and his father had died when he was a child. From his uncle, Chief Justice of Moravia, he had inherited the Budejovice estates. Soon after his eighteenth birthday Walstein gave a farewell dinner and left Strasbourg for his travels which, with occasional intervals for study, were to occupy him for the next three years.

After Strasbourg he made a tour through part of France and spent a few weeks at his studies in Paris. His next trip was to the Netherlands, where he spent two months seeing all the cities of what is now Belgium and Holland. He returned to France for a period of study in Orleans: after this comes a journey to Provence, the Loire, Chartres, Paris once more, and up to Calais for the English tour (in 1600).

He returned through Paris and Geneva to Strasbourg. He married Magdalena, the daughter of the Count of Thurn. He held a post in King Frederick's government in Moravia but the king did not remain long and Walstein became imprisoned in Spilberk Castle in Brno, where he died at the age of 41.

His property was confiscated and many of his books, including the Diary, were sent to the Royal Swedish library. They went with Queen Christina of Sweden when she abdicated. After her death her library was acquired by Pope Alexander VIII, and since May

1690 the Diary has remained in the Vatican Library, catalogued as Reg.lat.666, ie Number 666 of the Queen's Latin manuscripts.

An important collection of documents of the period which casts light on the people and places Walstein saw is in the Hatfield House Papers. I have drawn chiefly on the material covered by Vol X of the Calender of the Most Hon. Marquis of Salisbury (London, 1904); my quotations are by courtesy of the Marquis of Salisbury. I have also to thank Mr R H Harcourt Williams, Archivist to the Marquis.

For the works of art and furnishings mentioned by Walstein, an invaluable source of enlightenment is Sir Oliver Millar's edition of The Inventories and Valuations of the King's Goods, 1649-51 (Walpole Society, London, 1972). The lists made on the order of Oliver Cromwell record the contents of each palace before they were dispersed.

## THE DAIRY

*p32 Friday, 30 June 1600*

London. Its longitude is 51 degrees 34", its latitude 25 degrees. The shape of the city is that of a bent bow or a crescent moon.

*p86 10 July (Theobalds contd)*

In the garden you see lilies and other flowers growing among the shrubs: the garden also contains some alabaster busts of the Caesars. An outstanding feature is a delightful and most beautifully made ornamental pool (at present dry, but previously supplied with water from 2 miles away): it is approached by 24 steps leading up to it. The water was brought up to this height by lead pipes and it flowed into the pool through the mouths of two serpents. In two of the corners of this pool you can see two wooden water-mills built on a rock, just as if they were on the shores of a river. The roof itself is painted in tempera with appropriate episodes from history, and is finely vaulted. A space beside the pool houses white marble statues of the 12 Roman Emperors.

After leaving this mansion we went a further 9 miles through a number of villages until we came to Ware, a town in Essex, and here we stopped for a light meal. Setting out about three o'clock from here we covered 24 miles at our best speed and finally reached the town of Cantabrigia, commonly called Cambridge, just as night was beginning to fall. The town's longitude is 52 degrees, its latitude is 23 degrees.

*Tuesday, 11th July*

In the morning we went to Peterhouse and presented ourselves before the Vice Chancellor Robert Soame who welcomed us very graciously; afterwards we were taken to the place where Doctors' degrees are confirmed. . . . When the ceremony was over we followed the Vice Chancellor back to Peterhouse where a banquet had been prepared: they even had ladies present among the guests. We were given a splendid welcome (this is usual with the English where foreigners are concerned) and were most courteously entertained; then we went back to our lodgings.

*Wednesday, 12th July*

Spent the day in seeing the colleges. First we went to Trinity which is the largest of them all. There is a good deal of ill-feeling between this college and St John's; it is all about some piece of meadow land, but the Queen has given her decision in favour of Trinity (*G W Groos informs the reader – a dispute had broken out in the previous year 1599. The controversial piece of land was a portion of waste ground known as Garret Hostel Green, just to the*

*north of where Garret Hostel Lane now runs. Trinity's plan to enclose this ground for their own use was hotly contested by St John's College.*)

Later we went to St John's College. At one time it had the very famous and exceedingly learned theologian Whitaker as Master. This college has the most delightful and beautifully laid out grounds and open spaces adjoining.

In the afternoon we saw Emmanuel College which is also a very attractive place. Then to Christ's College which has a most delightful orchard; in their college chapel the lectern is a brass eagle.

Last of all (leaving out the other more ordinary colleges) we went to King's, which is more splendid than any of the others.

*p108 Thursday, 13th July*

We left Cambridge in the morning at about nine o'clock, taking in the road through the village of Godmanchester which lies 8 miles from Cambridge, near to – and in the county of – Huntingdon. It is a good large village famous as an agricultural centre, situated upon light soil in an open plain with a southward slope. There is nowhere in England, so they say, and they pride themselves on the fact that Kings of England, when travelling this way, have been greeted with a procession of one hundred and eighty ploughs by way of a rural celebration.

We pushed on from here to Huntingdon, the county town, which is 12 miles from Cambridge. It is nobly – and at the same time attractively – situated; it lies in a piece of country which is surrounded by the Fens, it is alive with game and fish, and is far superior to any other towns in the neighbourhood. We stopped here for something to eat; then, making our way up north, from here we did another 16 miles and came to the castle of Fotheringhay.

The castle is an extremely old one; it is built on a wide stretch of open ground among beautiful meadows and it is exceedingly picturesque with a most lovely river, the Avon, flowing by the castle and the fields around it. It was in this castle that Mary Stuart, Queen of Scotland was kept prisoner, and here, after she had been arraigned for high treason she was – by the verdict of the whole of England – condemned to death and beheaded with an axe.

*Friday, 14 July*

From Stamford we went 1 mile to see Burghley House, seat of William Cecil the Lord Treasurer. People say of him that 'after climbing the ladder of success he pull it well out of everyone else's reach': this is because he was raised to his own high rank after completing his studies, and ever afterwards he refused to allow any well-educated person to enter his department. Anyhow, the mansion which is built of square-cut stone is very splendid; the drive which leads up to the main entrance is an unusually long one and great care has been taken to choose the best sites for planting the trees either side of it. There is an extremely rich garden, completely surrounded by a wall; beyond it, at the entrance to the mansion, there is a really fine fish pond.

*p146 Wednesday 26 July (Hampton Court)*

On entering the palace gate you come to a courtyard with buildings on all sides. On the gateway are busts of Trajan and Hadrian; also the Queen's arms with the usual motto 'Dieu et mon Droit'. We went through another gateway into a fine quadrangle which has some really splendid buildings on the far side of it; on one side of the gate are the busts of Tiberius, Julius Caesar and the Emperor Vitellius. This quadrangle is paved with

squared stone and in the centre there is a fountain with a golden crown around the top of it: above this stands a gilt figure of Justice. This fountain spurts its water out of marble columns.

Next we went into the garden. This is especially interesting because of its many avenues and for the large number of growing plants shaped into animals, in fact they even had sirens, centaurs, sphinxes and other fabulous poetic creatures portrayed in topiary work.

Jill Cremer

## FROM OUR READING

The Cambridgeshire Gardens Trust is most interested in finding out more information about 19th century gardeners, florists and nurserymen. These are proving very difficult to research, possibly because no one bothered to keep nursery lists or hand them to Record Offices for safe-keeping. If any members know of the site of the nurseries mentioned in the following obituaries we would be very pleased to hear from you. We need to piece together more information about these gentlemen. To encourage you I have included basic background information gleaned from obituaries. This may be an on-going series of articles. We start with the following five gentlemen:

**JABEZ JAY CHATER (1835-1873)** from *The Gardeners' Chronicle* 1873.

J J Chater was the fifth son of Mr William Chater, the celebrated raiser of prize hollyhocks, and it is not too much to say that to the deceased may be attributed a good deal of his father's success with that grand flower. For the last 10 years Mr J J Chater has been at the Gonville Nurseries, Cambridge, where he has been the most successful exhibitor of various exhibitions in that and the adjoining counties and as a citizen has gained the universal esteem of all those who knew him. The deceased was a most diligent and ardent lover of floriculture, and has on many occasions exhibited successfully at all the great shows of the Horticultural Society in London and the provinces. He was a successful hybridiser of Pelargoniums – his Forget-me-Knot being one of the best of its class.

He retired to bed on Tuesday night about half-past 9 and at about 3 o'clock in the morning passed away from a heart disease without a struggle. He leaves a widow and five children.

*(From the first Edition of the OS Maps we know that The Gonville Nurseries were situated along the south side of West Road at the junction of Grange Road.)*

**ALDERMAN JOHN BESTER (1847-1913)** from *The Gardeners' Chronicle* 1913.

Alderman John Bester is a prominent figure in horticultural circles in the Cambridge district and indeed, is one of the best known and most highly respected of public men in Cambridge itself. Although born in 1847, Alderman Bester was as active in mind and body as many men a score of years his junior. He was apprenticed to Mr J J Chater, of the Gonville Nurseries, Cambridge, who was a florist as well as a nurseryman and seedsman. In 1868 Bester commenced business at Grantchester, where Mr Widnall was for so many years a noted dahlia grower.

He moved to Chesterton, a suburb of Cambridge, in 1875, and took up rose growing as a leading feature of his business. Here he put up a large number of greenhouses for the cultivation of flowering plants, as there was a large demand for those for window-box and other kinds of decorations in the various colleges of the University.

He pioneered the culture of growing cucumbers under glass in the Cambridge district and was invariably successful as an extensive cultivator of pelargoniums in 48 sized pots.

Alderman Bester has always taken a keen interest in horticultural matters; he was president of the Chesterton Horticultural Society and was a member of the committee of the Cambridge Horticultural Society for forty years. He became a member of the Chesterton Urban District Council, until in 1912 that suburb was added to Cambridge.

**MR JAMES WOOD c1792-1830** from *The Gardeners' Magazine* 1831.

Mr James Wood aged 38 died on the 18th November 1830 at his residence in Huntingdon. He was a nurseryman and florist who had been for some months afflicted with dyspepsia, accompanied by great depression of spirits. He was highly respected in his own neighbourhood, and well known to a large circle of horticulturalists and florists; having for nearly twenty years had the superintendence of the business established by his father at Huntingdon, which was carried on under the names of 'Messrs, J. Wood and Son'.

He received the usual education of a tradesman's son at the grammar schools of Kimbolton and Biggleswade, and having early manifested great love of plants, with a singular precocity in acquiring a knowledge of their names, peculiarities, and habits, he became, when very young, a valuable acquisition to the rapidly increasing business of his father. By unremitting assiduity, punctuality in his engagements, and obliging manners, and animated with an ardent desire for self-improvement, soon became not only advantageously connected with the trade, but conspicuous in the floral world, and mainly contributed to the foundation and prosperity of that now flourishing establishment, the 'Huntingdon Horticultural Society'.

In that and in similar institutions at Baldock, Biggleswade, Bedford, Cambridge and Whittlesea, he was one of the most successful competitors, particularly in the auricula and carnation tribes; though producing of late years at those Societies principally his own seedlings.

We are indebted to him for those magnificent flowers, the *Delphinium grandiflorum majus*, *Dodecatheon meadia giganteum* and *Dodecatheon meadia elegans*; the latter two raised from seeds. His sudden death is deeply lamented by his family and friends, and may justly be regretted by the profession, of which he was an ornament.



*John Bester*



From the CAMBRIDGE FLORISTS' SOCIETY Carnation and Picotee Show, July 1843 we read that "The prize stand of these flowers exhibited respectively an agreeable variety of the choicest sorts, and appeared to give much satisfaction to the connoisseurs in such matters. . . . We must not omit to notice a very beautiful Seedling Picotee exhibited by Mr Wood of Huntingdon (the above gentleman's son?) and named Wood's Princess Alice; this flower obtained the first Seedling prize, and also took the first prize in its class beating all the older varieties."

Mr Wood's entries won prizes in the following classes: Crimson Bizarres, Scarlet Flakes, Purple Flakes, Rose Flakes, Seeding Carnations, ie all the Carnation Classes and in the Picotee Classes he was awarded further prizes in the following classes: Red (heavy edged), Red (light edged), Purple (heavy edged), Yellow Picotees, and Seedling Picotees. This report mentions the continuing position held by northern florists for the Carnation Don Juan and the praise lavished on Mr Cunningham's Pelargonium (Smith's Emperor) as well as Messrs Hudson well bloomed Dhalias in pots, and their Cockscombs.

EDWARD HOBDAY (1833 – 1916) from The Gardeners' Chronicle 1916.

We regret to record the death of Mr Edward Hobday, nurseryman, Cambridge, on the 9th of March after a short illness, aged 83 years. He was a native of Hewell, near Bromsgrove, Worcestershire.

At an early age he was apprenticed in the gardens at Hewell Grange, the Worcestershire seat of Earl Plymouth, where he spent some years devoting himself to close study and work. From thence he went to the gardens of the Marquis of Sligo, Ireland, returning later to England to take up the position of head gardener at Haverland Hall, Norfolk. Subsequently he was appointed gardener to the late Lord Ramsey at Ramsey Abbey, Huntingdon, where he remained until he removed to Cambridge. The business will be carried on by two of his five sons under the name of Hobday and Son, Cavendish Nurseries. (*Do any members know where the site of the Cavendish Nurseries was? Ed.*)

FREDERICK GEORGE PRESTON M.A., V.M.H. Gardeners' Chronicle 1964.

Mr Frederick George Preston was born at Warborough, Oxfordshire, and entered the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, as a student gardener in 1904. In 1909 he went as outdoor foreman to the University Botanic Garden, Cambridge, and on the retirement of the late R. Irwin Lynch in 1919, he was appointed superintendent, a post he held with distinction until he retired in September 1947. The University authorities showed their appreciation of his valuable services by conferring upon him the Honorary Degree of Master of Arts. In 1936 the Royal Horticultural Society conferred on him an Association of Honour and two years later he received the society's highest award, the Victoria Medal of Honour in Horticulture.

After his retirement from the University Botanic Garden, he lived at Shelford, on the outskirts of Cambridge. He continued to carry on his horticultural activities with the Royal Horticultural Society's committees, and other advisory work, and at the same time grew in his garden many plants which he loved, until about two years ago when for health reasons he had to give up.

He was a very keen plantsman with an outstanding knowledge of hardy and tropical plants. He did a tremendous amount of

horticultural writing and for many years was a regular contributor to the Gardeners' Chronicle. Mr Preston's comprehensive book The Greenhouse remains one of the standard works on that particular subject, while he also made considerable contributions to the R.H.S. Dictionary of Gardening and other publications. One of his hobbies was plant photography, in which he took a great interest.

With reference to the Walled Garden Project we have also been researching lists of fruit trees which were available after 1850 in Cambridgeshire and have found the two following entries in the publications of the Royal Horticultural Society:

1887 Display by Miss Frances Cheere, Papworth Hall, near St Ives who exhibited 13 varieties of pears including Doyenne du Comice, Beurre Hardy, Beurre Bachelier, from pyramids on the Quince, and Glou Morceau, Marie Louise and Conseiller de la Cour from walls.

1887 Display by Albert Harding, Gardener to The Dowager Marchioness of Huntley, Orton Hall, Peterborough. He exhibited 39 varieties. Mr Harding selected the following varieties of pear suited to Huntingdonshire:

July and August: Beurre Giffard, Doyenne d'Ete, Jargonelle, Lammas

September: Beurre Giffard, Orange Bergamot, William's Bon Chretien

October: Beurre Bose, Beurre Robin, Louise Bonne of Jersey, Marie Louise, Orange Bergamot

November: Brown Beurre, Crassane, Duchesse d'Angouleme, Forelle

December: Beurre Diel

January to March: Beurre Rance, Josephine de Malines

For Orchard Culture: Beurre Dial, Brown Beurre, Doyenne d'Ete, Jargonelle, Lammas, Louise Bonne de Jersey, Orange Bergamot, William's Bon Chretien

For Stewing Pears: Catillac, Uvedale's St Germain

Audrey Osborne

## NATHANIEL RICHMOND (1724-1784) A SCHOLAR OF LANCELOT BROWN, LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT

On the 6th of March 2002 David Brown, a member of the Trust, who has recently been awarded a PhD for his research work into the life of Nathaniel Richmond, spoke to members of the Trust. This was a splendid start to our spring lecture series. We were introduced to the era of Gentlemen-Improvers, the name given to those much sought after landscape gardeners who flourished in the 18th century.

Social change in England saw a greater distribution of wealth than hitherto due mainly to increasing trade with North America as well as with the East and West Indies. The trading merchants required banks and it was by scrutinising the private account

ledgers of Drummonds Bank (now in the Bank of Scotland Archives) that David had pieced together the working relationships between Lancelot Brown and other contemporary landscape gardeners. In 1753 Brown opened an account with Drummonds Bank (Robert Drummond commissioned him to landscape his estate at Cadland, near Southampton) and the ledgers show payments by Brown to Nathaniel Richmond, amounting to £505. During this time large-scale improvements were being carried out at Moor Park, Rickmansworth, for Admiral George Anson. Apparently, Nathaniel Richmond and his family were living on the estate as evidenced by entries of baptisms in the parish church register. It seems likely that it was Richmond who was actually carrying out the extensive re-landscaping while 'Capability' Brown was the 'Norman Foster' of his day selecting very capable men to work for him.

By 1759 Nathaniel Richmond had his own Nurseries in Marylebone. These extended northwards and abutted what was later to become Lords Cricket Ground. It was a shrewd move because the nursery was on a main thoroughfare out of London and well placed for catching the eye of landed gentry as they travelled between their town-houses and country estates. Richmond was a Londoner by birth – he was baptised at Christchurch, Spitalfields. Perhaps it is not surprising that his first important client was a Mayor of London, Sir Kenrick Clayton, whose country property was Marden Park in Surrey: a drawing shows a confident new plantation by Richmond. An innovative feature is a strong sine-wave curve of land rising up to the house and a series of walks and pleasure grounds. With the wider distribution of wealth, so the social behaviour pattern was changing and it became highly acceptable to mingle. Creative walks, not too far from the house but with interest, were now fashionable and desirable.

Another important commission carried out by Richmond was at Shardeloes, Buckinghamshire, for William Drake. We have a good idea of the result from a painting by Humphry Repton. This shows a huge lake and a series of three hills with skilfully shaped woods on top achieved by clever felling.

A new creation, rather than an improvement, was carried out for John Boyd at Danson Park, Bexley, Kent. Boyd was another City of London man, his wealth coming from his association with the East India Company. The land he had acquired in Bexley had an old house, low lying, with canals. He wanted a house situated higher, with a view. Richmond created a typical Brownian landscape for him. David pointed out that we should not think of these landscape gardeners as competitors, but rather as individual talents who often made contributions to the same estate, particularly the larger ones. At Audley End it is known that Lancelot Brown, William Emes, Richard Woods and Nathaniel Richmond were each asked to carry out particular projects. Such a patron would collect examples of work by these landscape gardeners in the same way as he might collect works of art by fashionable painters.

On the Cambridgeshire/Bedfordshire borders, Richmond worked on two nearby properties, Woodbury and Hasells. A drawing of Woodbury showed an extensive serpentine ride leading to a circular walled garden with outer pleasure grounds. It was typical in the later 18th century for these to be some way from the house. There is a charming temple/summerhouse at Hasells designed by Richmond and the views he created looking from the terrace over the Bedfordshire plain to the west were very fine.

From 1778 to the early 1780s Richmond was working at Badminton, riding out with the Duke of Beaufort deciding what to do. There was a huge influx of plants from North America around this time. Many of the new shrubs did not survive when pruned. Careful planting was needed to allow sufficient space for individual plants to flourish. A delightful Aloe House (similar to an Orangery) was built looking out over the Park.

The Duke of Beaufort's niece, Elizabeth, had inherited Compton Place in Sussex. Both her parents died when she was very young. Aged 21 she married George Cavendish, 1st Earl of Burlington. The property passed to this family and the archives are at Chatsworth. Nathaniel Richmond created Compton as a gardener's pleasure ground. It even had three standing beds for flowers, most unusual for either Richmond or Brown to design. Richmond had bought a house at Bryanston Street, a fashionable part of London near Portman Square. He mostly met Lady Betty at her town-house but she entertained at Compton Place where, from the vantage of the Sussex Downs, she and her guests watched a naval battle in the channel, against the French.

Lancelot Brown was Nathaniel Richmond's senior by only 9 years and they died within a year of each other. They worked in a similar style but independently. Their remarkable talents were widely appreciated. As David pointed out, the quintessential English landscape of the 18th century was not created by 'Capability' Brown alone but by a group of like-minded gentlemen landscape gardeners. Nathaniel Richmond's contributions are becoming firmly established and we were fortunate to hear such a vivid account of his work, life and times.

Jill Cremer

Our next lecture by John DeJardin covered the research and proposed improvements to the Cathedral Precincts around Peterborough Cathedral. John originally gave this talk some years ago to members at Peterborough and the history of the precincts was written up by Jane Brown who carried out much of the research for John's proposals.

I would like to thank him very much for giving up his valuable time to drive from Rutland and give this talk in Cambridge. Earlier this year Jane Brown and myself went to see English Heritage in their Cambridge office and it was agreed that they would consider listing the site if more research was carried out. It is proposed that some members under Jane's guidance would be interested in carrying out this work because of the Trinity College connection with the Cathedral at Peterborough. This would be undertaken in tandem with the Northamptonshire Gardens Trust because the papers related to the cathedral are in the Northamptonshire Record Office. I hope that those who are interested will come forward as it may be the only tool the Gardens Trust have to enable this cultural landscape to be listed.

Our third spring lecture was about the history of Easton Lodge near Dunmow and its fine garden which was created by Harold Peto for the Countess of Warwick. Following Brian Creasing's excellent talk about Easton Lodge here is some historical information about the work of Harold Peto, who also created the water garden at Buscot Park, now owned by the National Trust.



## HAROLD PETO'S NEW GARDENS AT EASTON LODGE

In 1865 the extensive estate at Easton Lodge was inherited by the young Frances 'Daisy' Maynard. At only 3 years of age, she was in a position of immense personal wealth. At the reading of her grandfather's will at breakfast other members of the family showed their disgust by throwing pats of butter at the portrait of her grandfather that hung above the breakfast table!

In 1880 she married Lord Brooke having declined the offer of marriage to Prince Leopold, Duke of Albany and youngest son of Queen Victoria. Brooke was in much need of financial support although he eventually became the Earl of Warwick, and on the death of his father inherited Warwick Castle. Both favoured living at Easton Lodge



*Portrait of Daisy Maynard*

rather than the Castle at Warwick where they entertained lavishly at The Countess of Warwick's weekend house parties. These became famous for their hunting and shooting expeditions and fine dining, as well as illicit liaisons between guests within the vast mansion and its grounds. Edward, Prince of Wales (Queen Victoria's eldest son), his wife Princess Alexandra and their entourage, the "Marlborough House Set" were frequent visitors.

In 1902 the Countess of Warwick commissioned the architect and landscape designer, Harold Peto (1854-1933) to create further gardens for her at Easton Lodge. His father created the splendours of Somerleyton Hall on the Suffolk coast. Harold trained as an architect and in partnership with Ernest George, their practice employed assistants including Herbert Baker and Edwin Lutyens. Peto's designs for the gardens included Italian and French formal and romantic Japanese styles.

The commission included the sunken Italian garden; a one hundred foot long oval shaped pool filled with over twenty species of water-lilies and surrounded by balustrading, curved seats and flights of steps, all carved from Ham stone from Somerset. South of the Italian garden were croquet lawns bordered by French-style arched pergolas, made by the Pightle Works in Bedford, covered with jute netting and laden with blossoming climbers, similar to the recently restored structures Peto designed for the gardens at West Dean, Sussex.

His Oriental garden was very much in vogue at the turn of the century because of the recent opening up of trade links with Japan and the mass import of original Japanese ornaments such as lanterns, teahouses and bridges. For his Japanese gardens at Easton Lodge 1000 tons of earth were moved to create a 20 acre glade for the placement of ornaments and an elaborate thatched tea-house at the edge of the lake. There were also a large number of trees planted which have now matured and raise the question of their 'oriental' nature. This large project was carried out in 5 months by 67 homeless rehabilitated inebriates attached to the Salvation Army hostel at Hadleigh, near Southend and their work is well documented in the newspaper, 'The Social Gazette'.

The gardens are recorded in photographs for an edition of 'Country Life' in 1907, and in 1911 'Gardens Old and New', again published by Country Life.

In 1918, a second fire occurred at Easton Lodge caused by one of Daisy's pet monkeys which had fallen ill. The monkey was taken into the night nursery and wrapped in a blanket which caught fire when the monkey sat on the adjacent stove. In a panic the monkey ran around the room with the blanket in its wake and ignited the curtains and upholstery of the room. A fire quickly spread round the Mansion and the Dunmow Fire Brigade were called but were unable to save the building. The west wing was rebuilt to a design by Philip Tilden. He had just completed Selfridge's Store in Oxford Street, London.

The Countess died in 1938 and the estate passed to her younger son Maynard Grenville who had plans to pull Tilden's wing down in 1939, but the property was requisitioned by the War Office for use by the Home Guard. The surrounding 17th century goose foot layout of the park was razed to the ground to make space for runways for a new airfield with the loss of over 10,000 trees and in 1943 the house and grounds was occupied by the 386th Bomber group, the 'Crusades' of the USA Air Force in preparation for the D Day landings in 1944.

In 1950 the mansion was demolished by Maynard Grenville and the formal Italian pool was abandoned. The thatched Japanese Tea House by the lakes rotted away but the thatched tree house in the ancient oak tree overlooking the pleached limes continued to survive until it has almost rotted away. The lakes became overgrown and the surrounding woodland reverted back to the wild.

Within the space of some fifty years a magnificent garden was created and went into decline. The last fifty years has seen the undergrowth take over which gives the site a Sleeping Beauty atmosphere. From 1971 Mr and Mrs Brian Creasey have valiantly undertaken the restoration of part of this garden and promoted the history of this important site which was mentioned in the Doomsday Book. The future of the site has been helped by its recent listing by English Heritage as Grade II on its Register. The Trust hopes that its future is now better assured.

Members should note that the Trust has arranged a visit to the gardens at Easton Lodge on Thursday afternoon 20th June, when Brian Creasing will give a guided tour of the remains of this amazing garden and explain the difficulties he has encountered. Please contact Daphne Pearce for details. Imogen Magnus and Rae Spencer-Jones have written an excellent illustrated guide book which members can buy when at Easton Lodge.

John Drake

## THE LIMES AT WALCOT HALL

Towards the end of last year David Brown visited Walcott Hall and was shown the lime avenue by Mr and Mrs Darby Dennis. He made the following comments which will be of interest to members and help to fit together more parts of the jigsaw.

The two main periods of avenue creation are centered around the late seventeenth century and the mid nineteenth century. The map evidence confirms the evidence of the trees themselves that the original avenue is certainly from the earlier period. It is most likely that the avenue planting accompanied the building of the present house in 1678.

The T-shaped double avenue is shown very clearly on the first edition 6" OS plan of 1889. At the time the upper length of the main avenue on the southern side is shown without trees. This confirms what was observable on site, that this section of the avenue is more recent and is Large-leaved Lime (*Tilia platyphyllos*) rather than Common Lime (*Tilia x europaea*, syn *T. vulgaris*). Donald Pigott has carried out extensive research on Lime trees in parklands and has noted two different forms of Common Lime used in pre-1750 avenues. These forms are probably clinal in origin, produced by layering and often of Dutch nursery origin.

The predominant form present in the older sections of the avenue is the cultivated variety known as 'Pallida'. These older trees are likely to be original, part of the first planting. The 'Pallida' Limes have all been pollarded during their lives, although not for many years – probably not since the naturalistic landscape aesthetic of the mid-eighteenth century took hold. There are also old Limes of greater vigour than 'Pallida' that have not been pollarded and these occur occasionally within the old sections of the avenue. These may represent mid-eighteenth century replacements, but only further research could cast light on this matter. Certainly, the Large-leaved Limes present are much younger and represent, without doubt twentieth-century replacement planting.

David Brown

## ICKWORTH OLD GARDEN

Although Audrey and I only arrived shortly before the tour with other members of the Suffolk Gardens Trust began, we managed to look around the site before we followed the guided tour. First we were shown the lake and then (omitting all the interesting areas) the as yet 'only breaking even' area of viticulture.

I had somehow imagined rows of poppies or something more exotic which would not have been more profitable, but I suppose the National Trust has had enough of *that* sort of thing at Ickworth. When I later declined to join in the wine-tasting, it had nothing to do with I know what I like; Audrey's observations on the vintage or the absence of buckets but (to the incredulity of our Suffolk brethren and sisters) 85-90mph on a sodden Cambridgeshire A14 being a twenty first century art form with football inebriates about.



*The summerhouse.*

*Photo: Audrey Osborne*

The old garden at Ickworth was enclosed with a high brick wall on three sides and laid out (reorganising Medieval gardens) early in the eighteenth century under Queen Anne, in part no doubt to reflect John Hervey's ennoblement to a Barony in 1703. (He was created Earl of Bristol in 1714 by King George; the Marquise came in 1826). The garden formed part of a scheme to enlarge the park and (not executed because his many children cost him too



*Walled garden with canal.*

*Photo: Audrey Osborne*

much) to rebuild the Medieval house which stood near the church above the new garden. In enlarging the park the remains of the old village around the church were swept away and the villagers rehoused in Horringer. The basis of the Hervey's wealth was in land, in several counties, acquired by judicious marriages since the thirteenth century; the twentieth century saw to its dissipation through 'high living'.

The garden is spread down towards the foot of a little valley on the sunnier wintry-wind-free slope towards a small lake formed by damming a stream. The present lake has a curved outline in part suggesting the hand of 'Capability' Brown who worked at Ickworth in the 1770s, but the lake is described as a canal earlier on and was thus presumably a rectangular work typical of the Queen Anne age; the lake's northern edge is still straight.

On the northern shore are five brick walled bays of the original pleasure garden now grassed and part planted with orchard each of which open on to the canal (very similar to the layout of the wall gardens at Babraham Hall which open on to a canalised stretch of the river Granta). In the central bay there rises a lively but quite simple Queen Anne summerhouse, perhaps designed by William Talman, who was famed for his garden structures. It is easy to people this part of the garden in our imagination with the Baron, his family and his guests.

Underneath the summerhouse is a brick vault, enlarged at the rear in Victorian times to house a substantial boiler to heat both the house and a group of part sunken glasshouses which will soon collapse if something is not done. The rest of the gardener's cottages were around the walls. The remainder of the garden further up the slope supplied everything for the Hervey's kitchens. All this is chock-a-block with vines, which ought to give the National Trust food for thought. I personally think one would prefer to see Queen Anne-early Georgian horticulture to be restored here; and the National Trust could do it very well and it would look very beautiful. Could not another site be found for the vines?

Mansel Spratling



## WOOD & INGRAM

History of Huntingdon, Carruthers, 1824

An Horticultural Society was established here in 1821 by a few practical and amateur gardeners, and such was the progress made in the furtherance of this highly useful and interesting art, that the following year the Society was enabled to award prizes for fruits and flowers. Since then it has rapidly increased and bids fair to rival any provincial institution of the kind. The present number of members is upwards of 150; the yearly subscription from five shillings to a guinea. The President is John Maule esq., and the Secretary, Mr James Wood. Annual and other shew days are held and numerous attended.

### 1841 Census Huntingdon Borough

|                  |    |             |
|------------------|----|-------------|
| John Wood        | 70 | Nurseryman  |
| Susan Wood       | 55 | Wife        |
| Elizabeth Ingram | 50 | Independent |
| John Ingram      | 15 | Nurseryman  |

Living in Germain Street, Huntingdon (folio 15a)

### 1885 Kellys Directory

Wood & Ingram, Nurserymen, Brampton  
Wood & Ingram, Nurserymen, St Germain Street, Huntingdon  
Wood & Ingram, St Germain Street, Huntingdon, Brampton, Huntingdon & St Neots

Huntingdon had John Wood, gardener & nursery and seedsman by 1795 when he held a freehold. The firm became John Wood & Son and was continued by his son James Wood (1792–1830), who was educated at the Grammar Schools of Kimbolton and Biggleswade before taking over the business of his father. James experimented in raising varieties of *Dodecatheon meadia*. The nursery survived his early death and was one of the principal provincial nurseries when listed by Mangles 1839\*.

\*James Mangles (1786–1867) Floral Calendar, 1839 (mostly London firms, but a few from the provinces).

John Harvey. Early Nurserymen 1974 (all pre-1800).

Then James Wood dies in 1830 aged 38.

Father carries on and exhibits at Cambridge Florists' Society in 1843.

Nephew, Ingram, joins firm and firm expands to Brampton and St Neots.

Firm finally sells up 19th April 1950.

### Sale particulars

Wood & Ingram

Nurseries

Shops & Offices

for sale by auction

on Wednesday 19th April 1950

The firm: The business of Messrs Wood & Ingram Ltd can be traced back over 200 years and throughout such lengthy period of time the production of quality has prevailed and today the stock remains of the highest standard.

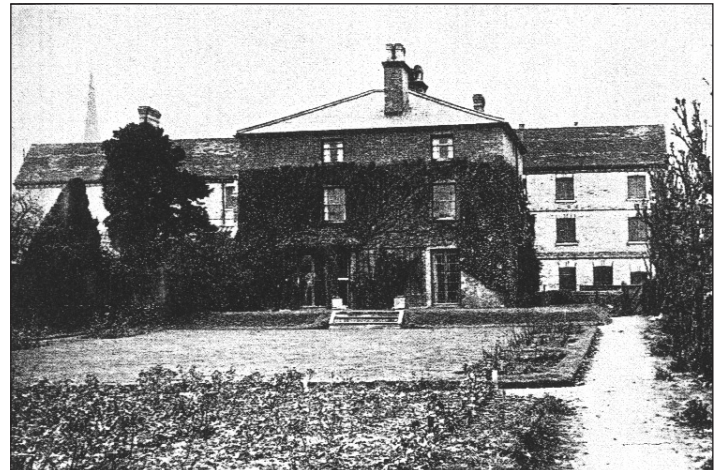
Brampton 45 acres

The Old Nurseries, St Germain Street, Huntingdon, with superior residence, commodious storage accommodation and nurseries with an extensive area under glass. Frontage to St Germain Street and Nursery Road, 3 acres.

(Now under the new Sainsburys at Huntingdon.)



George Street, Huntingdon



St Germain Street, Huntingdon

re Wood & Ingram Ltd.

COUNTY OF HUNTINGDON

*Illustrated Particulars with Plans and Conditions of Sale*

OF THE

OLD ESTABLISHED AND WELL KNOWN

**WOOD & INGRAM NURSERIES**

(mainly with Vacant Possession)

*Comprising*

**THE NURSERIES, BRAMPTON**

with Attractive Residence, Four Cottages, Offices and Nursery premises in all about

**45 Acres 1 Rood 9 Poles**

together with the GOODWILL AND VALUABLE GROWING STOCK

**THE OLD NURSERIES, ST. GERMAIN STREET HUNTINGDON.**

with superior Residence, Commodious Three-storey Warehouse and Nursery Garden with an extensive area under glass

**Nos. 16 and 18 CAMBRIDGE STREET, ST. NEOTS**

Nursery Garden with Residence, Glass Houses and Florist's Sale Shop

**Nos. 2 and 3 GEORGE STREET, HUNTINGDON**

Double-fronted Sale Shop, Suite of Offices and Storage Accommodation

For sale by Auction in 4 Lots by

**DILLEY, THEAKSTON & BEARDMORE**

By direction of F. C. D. Swann, Esq., The Receiver for the First Debenture Holders

at The George Hotel, Huntingdon

on WEDNESDAY, 19th APRIL, 1950

at 2.30 o'clock in the afternoon punctually.

Illustrated particulars with plans and conditions of sale may be obtained from the Auctioneers: Market Hill, Huntingdon (Phone 7), or from Messrs, Hunnybun & Sykes, Solicitors, Ferrar House, Huntingdon.

W. GOODE & SON, LTD., PRINTERS, 116 HIGH STREET, HUNTINGDON

Sale particulars, 1950



## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

**Saturday 11th May 2002** 2.30pm Visit to the Park and gardens at Buckden Towers, Buckden £3 for members

**Thursday 23rd May 2002** Constructions and Columbines. 7.00–8.30pm. Private view of Sculpture Exhibition at Hardwicke House, Fen Ditton, Cambridge. In aid of the Cambridgeshire Gardens Trust.

**Saturday 8th June 2002** 5.00–7.00pm Social Evening at Island Hall, Godmanchester. £10. By kind permission of Mr Christopher and Lady Linda Vane Percy. In aid of the restoration of the walled Kitchen Garden at Ramsey Abbey School.

**Thursday 20th June 2002** 2.30pm Visit to the garden at Easton Lodge, nr Dunmow, Essex. Guided tour £3 for members. Teas extra

**Thursday 11th July 2002** 2.30pm Visit to the Swiss Garden, Shuttleworth Estate, Old Warden Bedfordshire. Guided tour. £3.50 for members. Cream teas extra.

**Thursday 15th August 2002** 11.00am Visit to The Park, Peterborough, and then at 2.30pm visit to the garden at Northborough Manor. By kind permission of Mr and Mrs John Trevor. Tea £3 for members Please bring picnic lunch.

**Saturday 21st September 2002** 2.30pm. Visit to Pampisford Hall to see Robert Marnock's layout and the exceptional collection of conifers described in the Gardeners' Chronicle of 1884 as "the magnificent collection of conifers and the planting carried out in a grand conception and with good taste". The garden is under going restoration with great enthusiasm. By kind permission of Mr and Mrs Killander. NB members only can apply. No charge. Tea.

**Sunday 22nd September 2002** all day. Plough Day & Craft Fayre 2002 Ramsey Rural Museum. The Gardens Trust has a stand at this event.

**Thursday 17th October 2002** 3.00pm. Visit to Swaffham Prior Park to see the expansion of an early park during Victorian times and the layout of an elaborate water garden c1880 including a cascade, woodland pool and small lake linked to an underground reservoir and pumping system. By kind permission of Mr and Mrs M Marshall. Tea. £3 for members.

AGM Saturday 23rd November 2002 at Buckden Village Hall 2.30pm

Please note that non-members are asked to pay an extra £2 at each lecture and visit.

Please send applications for tickets for the above events to Mrs Daphne Pearce, 6 Church Lane, Gamlingay, Sandy, Beds SG19 3EU Tel no 01767 650527 together with a stamped addressed envelope and a cheque made payable to Cambridgeshire Gardens Trust.

Thank you.

The following events may also be of interest to members:-

Cambridgeshire NCCPG Group:

Growing Bulbs Study Day Saturday 14th September 2002. 10.30am £7

Talk on Bearded Iris Saturday 16th November 2002 2.30pm £2

Both at the Gilmour Building CUBotanic Garden, Cambridge

Plant Sale Saturday 5th October 2002 Anglesey Abbey NationalTrust 11.00am –2.00pm Admission £1