

**Results of Archaeological Works at
Benarth Hall Walled Gardens, Conwy**



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Report Number CR05-2012



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on Behalf of Mr M. Herman

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Contents

1.0	Introduction	6
2.0	Project Aims	8
3.0	Methodology	9
3.1	Desk Based Research	9
3.2	Photographic Survey	9
3.2.1	Equipment	10
3.3	Health and Safety	10
3.4	The Report	10
3.4.1	Copyright	11
4.0	Geographical and Geological Context	12
4.1	Topography	12
4.2	Geology	12
5.0	Historical Background	13
5.1	A Brief Introduction to the Walled Gardener	13
5.2	The Walled Garden at Benarth Hall – Historical Background	13
6.0	Photographic Survey	37
6.1	General site shots (Plates 1 – 6)	37
6.2	The Garden Walls (Plates 7 – 35)	37
6.3	The Walled Garden Entrance Building (Plates 36 – 65)	46
6.4	The Vinery (Plates 66 – 73)	55
6.5	The Greenhouses (Plates 74 – 97)	55
6.6	The Stable and Bothy (Plates 98 – 103)	64
6.6.1	The Stable (Plates 104 – 113)	64
6.6.2	The Gardener's Bothy (Plates 114 – 125)	64
7.0	Bibliography	71

Illustrations

- Figure 1.** Site Location Map
- Figure 2.** Benarth Hall
- Figure 3.** Walled Garden Entrance
- Figure 4.** Portrait of Arnold Robinson Burrowes
- Figure 5.** Photographic Portrait of Harriet Burrowes
- Figure 6.** Photographic Portrait of Selina Burrowes
- Figure 7.** 1841 Tithe Map Extract Showing Benarth House and Stables
- Figure 8.** 1841 Tithe Map Register Extract for the Benarth Plot Containing the Gardens
- Figure 9.** 1851 Census Extract
- Figure 10.** 1861 Census Extract
- Figure 11.** Dr. James Edwards
- Figure 12.** 1871 Map from Auction Particulars
- Figure 13.** 1871 Census Extract
- Figure 14.** 1881 Census Extract
- Figure 15.** 1891 Census Showing Benarth Hall was being Used as an Asylum at this Date
- Figure 16.** Extract from the 1890 1st Edition Ordnance Survey Map
- Figure 17.** Extract from the 1900 2nd Edition Ordnance Survey Map
- Figure 18.** Walled Gardens at Benarth Showing Greenhouses When they were First Erected
- Figure 19.** Gardeners at Benarth Hall c.1925
- Figure 20.** 1913 Ordnance Survey Map
- Figure 21.** 1919 Ordnance Survey Map
- Figure 22.** 1931 Map Showing Auction Lots
- Figure 23.** Melon and Cucumber Frame of a Similar Design to that thought to have been built at Benarth Hall
- Figure 24.** 1959 Ordnance Survey Map
- Figure 25.** Sir Joseph Kay Photographed in the Benarth Walled Garden During the 1940's
- Figure 26.** Sir Joseph Kay Photographed in the Benarth Walled Garden During the 1940's
- Figure 27.** Aerial View of Benarth Walled Gardens. Produced as a Christmas Card c.1930's.
- Figure 28.** Extract from the 1961 Auction Particulars for Benarth Hall
- Figure 29.** Walled Garden Entrance Portico Outbuilding - North Facing Elevation and Plan View
- Figure 30.** Elevations and Plans of the Foster & Pearson Three-Compartment Glasshouse Erected c.1920

- Figure 31.** Plan View and Elevations of Stable and Gardener's Bothy.
- Figure 32.** Numerous Victorian Glass Beer Bottles Found Within the Benarth Walled Gardens
- Figure 33.** Victorian Glass Beer Bottle Produced for Local Brewery. Found Within the Benarth Walled Gardens
- Figure 34.** Location Map for Plates 1 - 35
- Figure 35.** Location Map of Plate 36 - 41
- Figure 36.** Location Map for Plates 42 - 65
- Figure 37.** Location Map for Plates 66 - 90
- Figure 38.** Location Map for Plates 98 - 125

Plates 1 – 125 Benarth Walled Gardens Photographic Survey

1.0 Introduction

C.R Archaeology has been instructed by Mr Herman of Benarth Hall to conduct archaeological works at the above property in compliance with planning conditions placed on the development (Planning Application 0/33864, GAPS Reference D1167).

Benarth Hall (NPRN 3045) is a late Georgian Country House and grounds situated on the southern banks of the Conwy Estuary (Figure 1). The main house has been restored by Mr Herman and is currently the family residence. The main house and neighbouring terraced garden are listed at Grade II, as is the Ice House. The woodland element of the estate is designated as a Site of Special Scientific Interest and is subject to a blanket Tree Preservation Order (Cadw 1998: 49).

Planning permission is being sought to restore the walled area and to alter/extend buildings within the walled garden associated with the house. The walled garden is registered at Grade II in the Cadw Register of Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest in Wales and is described as “*an interesting example of an early Twentieth Century layout set in older woods and parkland; extensive late Eighteenth – or early Nineteenth Century walled gardens*” (Cadw 1998:49).

A specification was written following a discussion with Development Control Archaeologist Ashley Batten of GAPS (14th March 2012) as a methodology for a programme of works relating to an email dated 8th March 2012. Works were conducted as an emergency response to a misunderstanding of the level of record required to fulfil an archaeological condition. Works had commenced on site but were immediately halted once the error was recognised. The photographic survey was therefore conducted after the dismantling of the glasshouses and the rear elevation of the entrance portico. Mr Herman had however created a detailed photographic and drawn record of the structures prior to works beginning and this material was utilised in the production of the archaeological report.

A photographic survey was conducted on Thursday 15th March 2012 and archival research at Conway Archives, Llandudno and Caernarfon Record Office was undertaken beginning 19th March 2012.

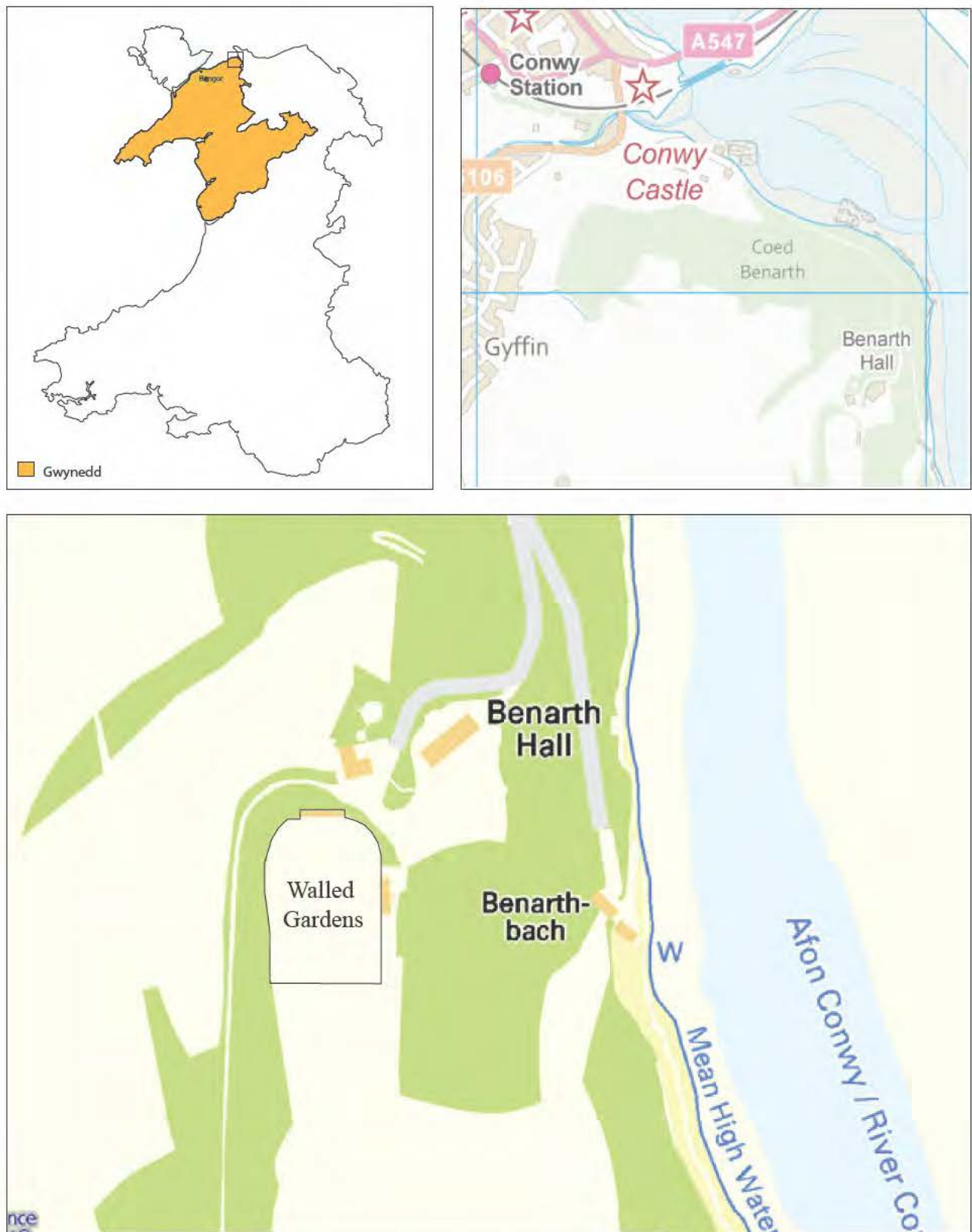


Figure 1. Benarth Hall Location Map (Source OS Open Data Mapping)

2.0 Project Aims

The programme of works proposed for Benarth Hall walled gardens aimed to create a level 2/3 Historic Building Record. The aims were two-fold.

The first aim was to undertake desk based historical research of the walled garden site. The information gathered consisted of cartographic evidence from which to produce a map progression of the garden site, photographic illustrations and written sources. This was utilised to compile a coherent narrative history of the site. The report incorporated illustrations and photographs produced by the current owner, Mr M. Herman.

The second aim of this archaeological investigation was to create a comprehensive level 2/3 photographic and descriptive record of the site. A photographic survey of the site was conducted on the 15th March 2012.

3.0 Scheme of Works - Methodology

The archaeological works at Benarth walled gardens were conducted in two sections and each is detailed separately below.

3.1 Desk Based Research

A complete and coherent history of the site was compiled utilising existing material produced and gathered by Mr Herman. Mr Herman and family have collected a vast amount of historical material from personal archive searches and through contact with the descendants of past residents. This information was incorporated and supplemented with additional archival material sourced from Conwy Archives and Caernarfon Record Office and a full map progression. Cadw Inspector of Parks and Gardens, Dr Elisabeth Whittle, was contacted due to her prior association with the project.

The works were carried in accordance with the IfA Standards and Guidance for historic environment desk-based assessment (IfA 2009).

Material gathered during the desk based research element of the project will form the historical background for a full archaeological report. This report also incorporates the results of the photographic survey.

The recording levels conform to the English Heritage 2006 guidelines for a level 2/3 record as laid down in *Understanding Historic Buildings: A Guide to Good Recording Practice*.

The record consists of:

Drawings	1,2,7,8
Photography	1-9
Written Account	1-11, 18, 22

3.2 Photographic Survey

A photographic survey of the Benarth Hall walled gardens was conducted by professional photographer Adam Stanford of Aerial-Cam. This work consisted of:

- 1) A photographic survey of the walled gardens including all surviving buildings
- 2) Low level aerial photography of the site and surrounding area.

3.2.1 Equipment

A photographic survey of the walled garden and ancillary buildings was undertaken using a 16 mega-pixel Nikon D7000 digital camera with a variety of standard and other lenses. Images were captured in RAW format for later processing into high resolution JPG and TIF files.

To produce as full a record as possible the camera was mounted on three different apparatus: a vehicle mounted telescopic mast, a hand held telescopic mast and a tripod. The masts were erected to a maximum height of 22m.

All exterior elevations of the buildings within the walled gardens complex were photographed from ground level with appropriate scales placed in shot. Additional photographs were taken detailing important architectural features. This record was supplemented using a series of photographs taken using telescopic masts. These photographs illustrate the landscape setting of the walled garden site and the relationships between the the buildings.

The methodology employed conformed to the requirements of photographic recording to the equivalent of a level 2/3 survey, as specified in *Understanding Historic Buildings: A Guide to Good Recording Practice* (English Heritage 2006) and *The Institute for Archaeologists: Standard and Guidance for the Archaeological Investigation and Recording of Standing Buildings or Structures* (Revised 2008).

3.3 Health and Safety

A risk assessment was conducted prior to the commencement of works and site staff were familiarised with its contents. A first aid kit was located in the site vehicle.

3.4 The Report

The report clearly and accurately incorporates information gained from the archaeological programme of works. It presents the documentary evidence gathered in such a way as to create a clear and coherent record. The report contains a site plan showing the location of all photographs taken.

A copy of the report in Adobe PDF format will be sent to the appropriate monitoring archaeologist for approval before formal submission. A bound paper copy and PDF digital copy of the report will be submitted as part of the formal submission. A digital Adobe PDF version and a bound paper copy

of the final report and will be lodged with the Gwynedd Historic Environment Record within six months of report completion. A PDF version of the report will be submitted to Conwy Archives.

3.4.1 Copyright

C.R Archaeology and sub-contractors shall retain full copyright of any commissioned reports, tender documents or other project documents, under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 with all rights reserved; excepting that it hereby provides a licence to the client and the local authority for the use of the report by the client and the local authority in all matters directly relating to the project as described in the Project.

4.0 Geographical and Geological Context

4.1 Topography

Benarth Hall and grounds occupy an elevated, prominent position on the west bank of the Conwy estuary within the old parish of Gyffin. The site is nestled within an area of substantial woodland.

It has been suggested that the name Benarth derives from *pen* (head) and *ardd* (garden) and has been named thus due to its mild climate which is conducive to both farming and gardening (Cadw 1998: 49). A probate of will for John Jones dated 1646 and held at the Caernarfon Record Office stipulates the sum of £20 to be paid to his son-in-law John Pugh and his wife of Benardd (X/POOLE/3236). This record uses the alternative spelling suggested above and is thought to be the earliest mention of the estate.

There are however alternative interpretations of the Welsh name evidence and the name may have been derived from *pen* (head) and *garth* (a promontory or cliff). This interpretation cannot easily be discounted given the elevated position occupied by the site and the numerous other uses of the name Penarth on promontory sites throughout Wales.

4.2 Geology

The British Geological Survey describes the bedrock geology at Benarth as “*Denbigh Grits Formation - Mudstone, Siltstone And Sandstone. Sedimentary Bedrock formed approximately 423 to 428 million years ago in the Silurian Period. Local environment previously dominated by deep seas. These rocks were formed in deep seas from infrequent slurries of shallow water sediments which were then redeposited as graded beds*” (www.mapapps.bgs.ac.uk).

The superficial deposits are detailed as “*Till, Devensian - Diamicton. Superficial Deposits formed up to 2 million years ago in the Quaternary Period. Local environment previously dominated by ice age conditions. These rocks were formed in cold periods with Ice Age glaciers scouring the landscape and depositing moraines of till with outwash sand and gravel deposits from seasonal and post glacial meltwaters*” (www.mapapps.bgs.ac.uk).

5.0 Historical Background

The following section seeks to place Benarth Walled Gardens in its historical context.

5.1 A Brief Introduction to the Walled Garden

The kitchen garden was a staple of the country house landscape and most were separate enclosures contained within high walls. The walled garden was created to grow flowers for the house and to provide fresh fruit and vegetables for the family, servants and to a lesser extent the estate staff. Different areas of the gardens were utilised to produce different crops with hardy varieties being grown in the open areas whilst fruit trees were trained up the garden walls and exotic plants sheltered in heated glasshouses. The garden was a combination of beauty and utility and was used by the owners and their families for walking and entertaining (Campbell 2011: 5-8). It was in this tradition that the walled gardens at Benarth developed.

5.2 The Walled Garden at Benarth Hall – Historical Background

Mr. Herman, the current owner of Benarth, has sourced land tax records for Benarth dating back as far as 1749. These records however make no mention of the walled garden area and will not be discussed in detail and are mentioned merely to demonstrate that it appears there was a property at Benarth pre-dating the current main residence.

The present Benarth Hall building was built c.1790 for a London lawyer Samuel Price of Lincoln's Inn fields. The land was newly acquired by Price at this date with the estate having been previously owned by a Mr Owen Jones (Cadw 1998: 49). In the Buildings of Wales: Gwynedd, Benarth Hall is described as an elegant stucco mansion with grand aspirations. In the entry the gardens are described as having a “hothouse, greenhouse, pinery, melon pit and peachery” (Haslam, Orbach & Voelcker 2009: 383).

Mr Price was the agent for Lord Newborough, as is evidenced in a number of records held at Caernarfon Record Office including XD2/8741, an audit account book which records a letter sent on behalf of Lord Newborough by Samuel Price of Lincoln's Inn, and XD2/5297 a brief for the replacement of Mr Samuel Price as estate agent following his death in 1798.

The architect for the estate has been tentatively identified by Mr Herman on stylistic grounds as Mr Samuel Wyatt, and there is a great deal of circumstantial evidence to support this hypothesis. Samuel Wyatt was working in North Wales around the time that Benarth Hall was built as he was

employed at Penrhyn Castle in 1785. On the recommendation of Samuel his brother Benjamin was employed as chief agent to the Penrhyn Estate and held the position for thirty years providing a strong link between the Wyatt family and the area (Skempton 2002: 804). There is a direct link between Benjamin Wyatt and Samuel Price, who performed the equivalent role for Lord Newborough, surviving in the Caernarfon Archives. A letter (X/POOLE/2872) between the two men shows that they had, at the very least, a professional relationship. It is also very likely given their similar positions that the two men moved within the same social circles.

There are a number of estate buildings which share certain stylistic similarities with the main house (figure 2) and one such structure is the outbuilding and portico through which one enters the walled gardens (figure 3). As the outbuilding appears to be contemporary with the walled gardens it would seem possible that the gardens were part of the 1790 remodelling of the estate.



Figure 2. Benarth Hall (source: [www..struttandparker.com](http://www.struttandparker.com))



Figure 3. Walled Garden Entrance. Note the Shared Wide Central Triangular Roof and Symmetrical Design (source Mr. Herman)

Samuel Price died in early 1798 and, judging from the extensive collection of solicitors letters held at Caernarfon, appears to have been heavily in debt (X/POOLE2676 - 3050). A complicated legal legacy was left to his heir Miss Jane Maurice (spinster) and the process of selling Benarth Estate was long drawn out. There are occasions in the aforementioned papers where both Jane and her relative Rev. R. Maurice are listed as being of Benarth but it remains unclear as to whether they were ever resident at the house.

The property was rented out during the summer seasons from 1800 – 1803 and Benarth was home to Sir George Beaumont (1753-1827) and his wife Margaret. Beaumont was an amateur artist and art patron who was instrumental in the creation of the National Gallery. During his tenancy Benarth was to host a number of important figures of the early nineteenth century art scene (Owen & Brown 1988: 106). Research conducted by Paul Joyner of The National Library of Wales, Aberystwyth identified J.M.W Turner, Thomas Girtin, John Sell Cotman and J.S Hayward as visitors to Benarth.

The earliest reference to the walled gardens at Benarth is the Christie's Auction House “*particulars and conditions of sale*” dated October 6th 1803. It details a “*valuable walled garden of near 3 acres, planted with select fruit trees, in full bearing, hot houses, green houses &c*”. A further description elsewhere in the documents also mentions a pinery, peachery and melon ground. The names of the tenants of Benarth Hall are not recorded but the mansion is described as “occupied by a family of distinction”. A copy of this document was sourced from Caernarfon Records Office by the current owner.

It is unclear whether the house was sold at the 1803 auction and a second auction of the estate was held on June 26th 1805. The particulars (X/POOLE/2998) record that the tenancy of the “*mansion house, offices, gardens, plantations and lands*” was lately let to Lady Clarges (b.1760 - d.1809). A connection between Lady Clarges and Sir George Beaumont was found in the records of Horace Walpole which records a visit on the 7th June 1793 by Lady Clarges and Sir George Beaumont (www.images.library.yale.edu/walpoleimages). It is therefore quite possible that Lady Clarges was a visitor to Benarth whilst Beaumont was in residence.

A letter (X/POOLE/2814) held at the Caernarfon Record Office implies that the estate was purchased by Sir Thomas Tancred in June of 1805. It is unclear if his ownership of the property was ever completed as it was noted by Edmund Hyde Hall in 1810 that “*delightful as is the seat of Benarth, it hung on the market for many years at a price which was continually depreciating in a very uncommon manner. It has at length, however, become the property of Burroughs Esquire, whose residence here has been justly regarded by every description of his neighbours as a very acceptable circumstance*” (Jones 1952: 73).

The Burroughs family (later spelled Burrowes) held the estate of Benarth for many years and Thomas Burrows was made High Sheriff of Caernarfon in 1816 (www.london-gazette.co.uk). The Last Will and Testament of Thomas Burrows (dated 4th September 1826) was sourced by Mr

Herman and this document lists his son, Arnold Robinson Burrowes (1788 - 1851), as the heir to Benarth with all its lands. Further family research conducted by Mr Herman has shown that Arnold Burrowes (figure 4) married Harriet Beresford (1800 – 1882, figure 5) on the 4th November 1816. Their daughter Selina (1829 – 1906, figure 6) was born at Benarth on the 17th September 1829 and the family emigrated to Canada in 1834.

The aforementioned Hyde Hall was undertaking a journey around the county of Caernarfonshire and he details the locality in his writings. His description of Benarth and its gardens is reproduced below:

*“Here everything is new and everything is beautiful. The house, a handsome villa with wings looking to the southwards, stands upon a finely planted bank rising from the river, which spreads itself at high water into the extent and character of a lake. The view is carried up the vale , having on the right in the distance the Snowdon mountains, and on the left the nearer and smoother acclivities of Denbighshire. **The gardens are extensive and productive, and of the green and hot houses (the first of luxuries in a northern climate) there is a very sufficient establishment.** Above the house, from a spot which forms the crest of the hill, may be seen the town and castle of Conway, the river, the opposite hundred of Creuddyn, and Denbighshire, all blended into a panoramic view of the highest order of richness”* (Jones 1952: 72-73).

Benarth next appears in the Tithe Map of 1841 (figure 7). There is strangely no specific mention of Benarth and the area of the map which shows the house is damaged. There is no detail shown on this map and the land plot was identified through comparing land plot shapes, in particular the oddly shaped plot 6, with later maps. When the area is referenced against the written portion of the survey Arnold Burrows is listed as the owner of the land, which is at this point tenanted by a Margaret Jones (figure 8). The parcel of land is described as *“houses, gardens and plantations”*. An attempt was made to corroborate this evidence with information recorded on the 1841 Census in order to gain more detail but no record for Margaret Jones in this area of Gyffin was found.

The 1851 census evidence (figure 9) was examined and once more there was no mention of Benarth Hall. There is however a record for Benarth Farm and Benarth Lodge and directly beneath these entries it is listed that two houses are uninhabited. As the owners of Benarth Hall were living in Canada at this time it is possible that Benarth Hall is not recorded in this census as there was no tenant in residence.



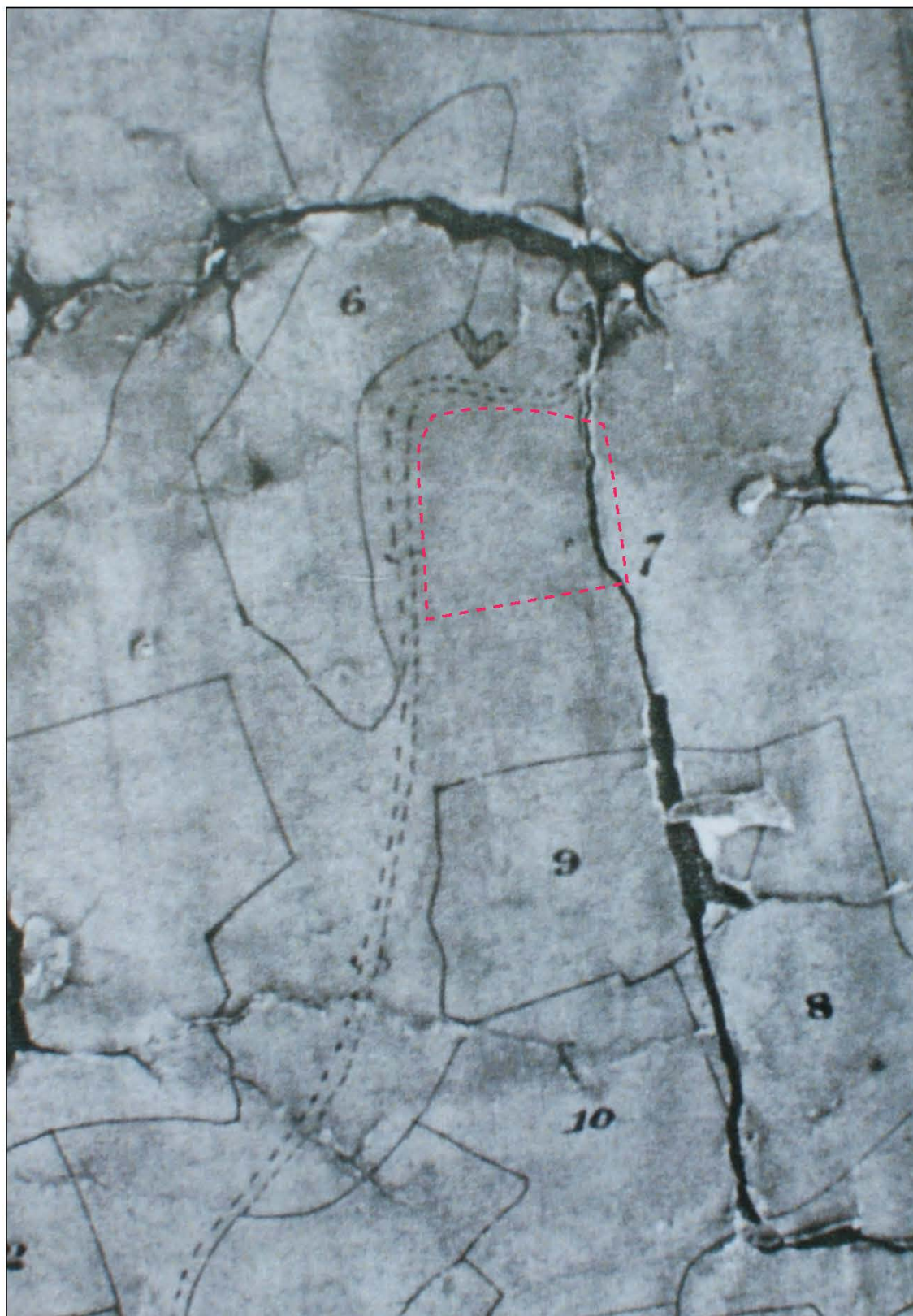
Figure 4. Portrait of Arnold Robinson Burrowes (1788 - 1851). Source: Mr. M Herman



Figure 5. Photographic Portrait of Harriet Burrowes (1800 - 1882) in Later Life. Source: Mr. M Herman



Figure 6. Photographic Portrait of Selina Burrowes (1829 - 1906) in Later Life. Source: Mr. M Herman



1	Thomas Hughes	40	Tree Buckle		2	3	24
	Margaret Jones	41	Tree ysguber digym		3	3	25
		36	Tree uchaf		4	1	20
		7	House gardens & Plantation		46	2	12
		49	Plantation		2	22	

Figure 7 (Above). 1841 Tithe Map Extract Showing Benarth House and Stables - Garden Area was Left Blank and is Highlighted in Red

Figure 8 (Below). 1841 Tithe Map Register Extract for the Benarth Plot Containing the Gardens (Plot 7)

The 1861 census (figure 10) is the first census which records a family in residence at Benarth Hall. The head of the house is Dr James Edwards (50), a physician who completed his medical training at Edinburgh University. Also listed is his wife Harriet (21), his daughter Mary (18), a visitor Margaret Main (49) and five servants. Of further interest in this census entry are the occupants of Benarth Lodge, John (70) and Ann Lloyd (64). John's occupation is listed as gardener and his residence in a building belonging to the Benarth Estate is indicative of his employment in the Benarth Gardens.

The exact date on which the Edwards family took up residence at Benarth is unknown but the 1851 census shows the family are resident in Chester at this time. The family must have moved to Benarth by September 1857 as Mr Herman has obtained a letter dated 28th September 1857 in which Dr. Edwards (figure 11) discusses the methods of local fund raising for the Indian Relief Fund. His address in this letter is listed as Benarth. We can therefore conclude that the Edward family moved to Benarth between 1851 and 1857.

The Edwards family do not however appear to have been in permanent residence as two other families are recorded in alternative sources as living in Benarth. Calvinistic Methodist Minister Reverend Henry Rees is recorded as having died at Benarth, Conway on the 18th February 1869 (Lowe 1915:73). An account of the Wood family of nearby Bodlondeb records that the family came to Conway in 1872 and rented Benarth prior to purchasing the Bodlondeb Estate (Tourism Unit Aberconwy Borough Council 1991:6).

On August 2nd 1871 the Benarth Estate is once more put up for auction and a copy of the catalogue for this sale is held at the Caernarfon Record Office (XD2/14369). The walled gardens are described in the document as “*walled kitchen gardens, well stocked with choice fruit trees of every variety, vineries, melon pits*”. The pinery is not mentioned in this document and it is possible that pineapples are no longer being grown on the estate.

Pineapples originate from the Orinoco Valley in South America and were first introduced to a European audience by Christopher Columbus in 1493. Their discovery resulted in great interest in the new foodstuff and a flurry of attempts to describe the fruit were made long before the first reliable crop was grown in Britain between 1714 – 1716. Following this initial success the 18th century saw the cultivation of pineapples as a fashion requisite for the nobility, and the fruit was utilised as a representation of the owners wealth (www.buildingconservation.com).

16	Bonarh Farmyard	James Williams	Head	Mar	62	Owner of 13 Acres	D ^r Hanglequin
		Jane D ^r	Wife	Mar	62		Denbighshire Laws, Wales
		Elizabeth D ^r	Daughter	Mar	38	Owner's Daughter	Denbighshire, Giffen
		Eliza D ^r	Daughter	M	27		D ^r Giffen
		Jane Rowlands	Grand Daughter	M	17		D ^r Giffen
17	Bonarh Gatehouse	Robert Roberts	Head	Mar	58	Quarry Man	D ^r Hanglequin
		Jane D ^r	Wife	Mar	52		D ^r Giffen
	Two houses uninhabited						

Figure 9. 1851 Census Extract

24	Bonarh Hall	1	James Edwards	Head	Mar	50	M. D. University of Edinburgh	Welford, Cheshire
			Kenneth D ^r	Wife	Mar	21	Physician	Kelso, Cheshire
			Mary J. D ^r	Daughter	M	18		Cheshire
			Margaret Main	Kitchen	M	49		Glasgow
			Elizabeth Hollock	Serv	M	53	Cook	Newbiggin, Cumberland
			Margaret MacDonald	Serv	M	20	House Maid	Greenock, Scotland
			Jane D ^r	Serv	M	18	D ^r	D ^r D ^r
			Mary A. Jones	Serv	M	16	Stitching Maid	Denbighshire, Giffen
25	Bonarh Lodge	1	David Davies	Serv	M	16	Stable boy	Denbighshire, Eghyrfach
			John Lloyd	Head	Mar	70	Farmer	D ^r Hanglequin
			Ann D ^r	Wife	Mar	64	D ^r 's wife	D ^r Hanglequin

Figure 10. 1861 Census Extract



Figure 11. Dr. James Edwards
(Source: Watson 1986: 16)

We know from the first auction particulars that pineapples were being grown at Benarth prior to 1803, demonstrating the great skill of the gardeners employed. Hot water heating systems were not introduced until 1816, and sheet glass was not introduced until 1833. A number of ingenious methods were therefore developed including the use of pineapple pits and hothouses warmed by horse manure and tanners bark. We do not know which structures were in operation at Benarth or why they went out of use. A date of 1871 is rather early for the abandonment of pinery structures as their decline is generally acknowledged to have begun in the early twentieth century when cheaper imported fruit was beginning to arrive in the UK (www.buildingconservation.com). It is possible that pineapple growing ceased due to the period of abandonment/ lack of tenancy of the estate or that other crops were preferred by the resident family. It is also possible that pineapples were grown together with the vines and a separate structure was no longer required.

The auction particulars for this sale contain a map, and this map is the earliest surviving map which shows the walled gardens at Benarth (figure 12). The map shows a number of outbuildings associated with the walled gardens. The outbuilding incorporating the entrance portico is shown, and possibly the lean-to greenhouse against it. The stable is also shown in the outer south-western corner of the garden. A further outbuilding is shown in a central position on the outside of the eastern wall of the garden and this structure has been identified as an apple store (Cadw 1998:53). It is thought that the lack of internal divisions shown on this map are schematic.

The Edwards family purchased Benarth Estate at the aforementioned auction and the family is listed as resident at Benarth Hall in both the 1871 and 1881 census (figures 13 & 14). Lionel Dalhousie Robertson Edwards (1878 - 1966), the youngest of five sons born to James and Harriet, was to become a famous equestrian and hunt artist and amongst his works was the illustration of the first edition of *Black Beauty* by Anna Sewell. His biography provides us with a little more detail about the family and their time at Benarth. This information is provided to supplement the overall site narrative but unfortunately contains no additional information about the walled gardens other than who owned them. Lionel recalls that his father bought the hall in a “semi-ruinous condition”. This would seem to support the lack of evidence for tenants at Benarth in the census of 1851 and it may have proven difficult for the Burrows family to administer the estate effectively from Canada. Dr James Edwards died in 1885, when Lionel was seven years old, and it appears that following his death the family was to run very short of money (Watson 1986: 15-17). Harriet retained ownership of the estate until 1909 but was not in permanent residence (*ibid*: 51).

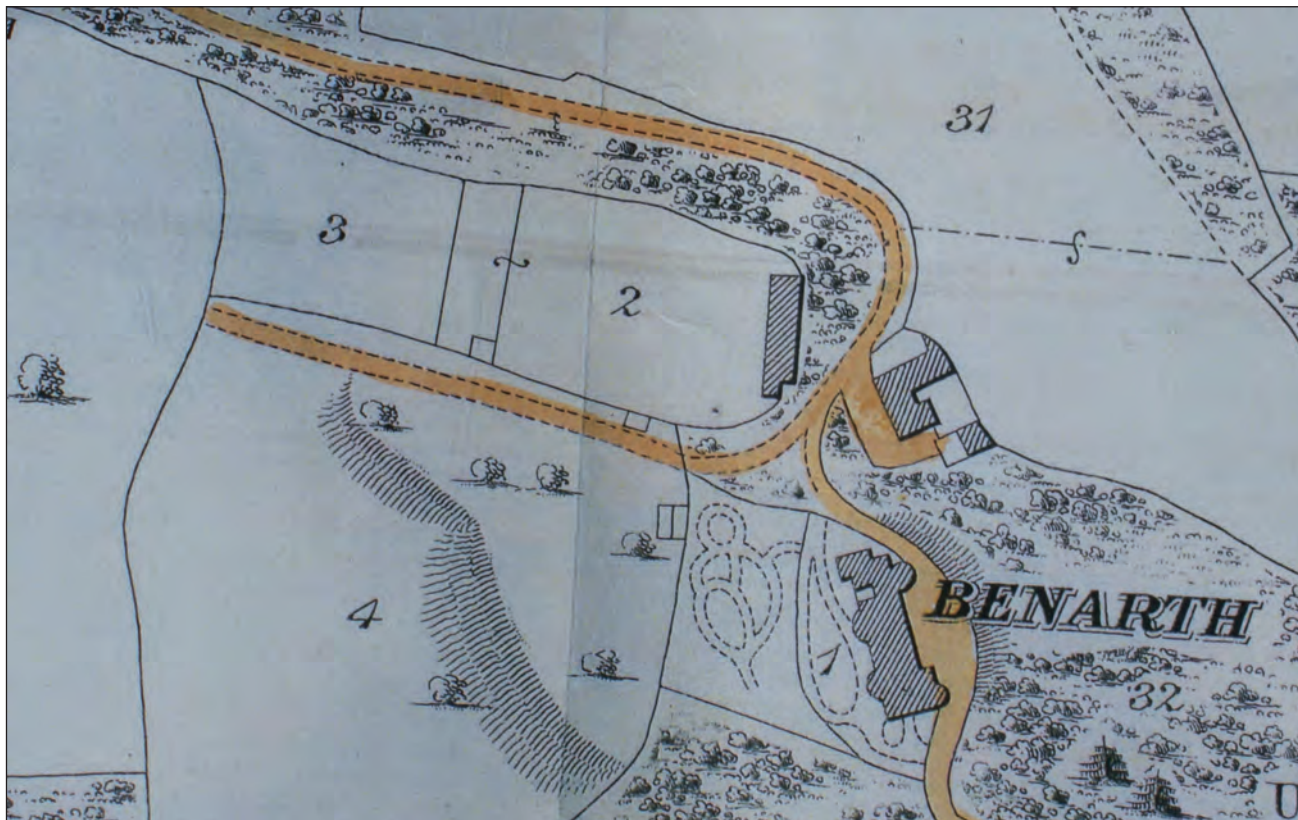


Figure 12. 1871 Map from Auction Particulars (Source Caernarfon Archives)

65	Benarth Lodge	1	William Evans	Head	Man	55	Gardener/Domestic	Benarth Lodge
			Isabel Evans	Wife	Woman	46	Housekeeper	Benarth Lodge
			David Evans	Son	Man	12	School	Benarth Lodge
66	Benarth Lodge	1	Ellen Slater	Wife	Woman	54	Domestic	Benarth Lodge
			Ellen Thomas Slater	Daughter	Woman	11	School	Benarth Lodge
67	Benarth Lodge	1	William Roberts	Head	Man	50	Respectable	Benarth Lodge
			James Roberts	Wife	Woman	48	Respectable	Benarth Lodge
			William Roberts	Son	Man	12	School	Benarth Lodge
68	Benarth House	1	James Edwards	Head	Man	60	Domestic	Benarth House
			Isabel Edwards	Wife	Woman	51	Domestic	Benarth House
			William Edwards	Son	Man	9	School	Benarth House
			William Edwards	Son	Man	8	School	Benarth House
			Thomas Edwards	Son	Man	5	School	Benarth House
			Henry S. Edwards	Son	Man	10	School	Benarth House
			Eliza Sophia Evans	Daughter	Woman	13	School	Benarth House
			James Roberts	Son	Man	30	Domestic	Benarth House
			Elizabeth Evans	Son	Man	32	Domestic	Benarth House
			Margaret Morris	Son	Man	21	Domestic	Benarth House
			Jane Miller	Son	Man	19	Domestic	Benarth House
			Grace Roberts	Son	Man	16	Domestic	Benarth House
			Robert Elliot	Son	Man	23	Domestic	Benarth House

Figure 13. 1871 Census Extract

No. of Schedule	ROAD, STREET, etc. and No. or NAME of HOUSE	HOUSES Inhabited (1) or (2)	NAME and Surname of each Person	RELATION to Head of Family	CON- DITION as to Marriage	AGE last Birthday of Male Female	Rank, Profession, or OCCUPATION	WHERE BORN	(1) Deaf and Dumb (2) Blind (3) Imbecile or Idiot (4) Lunatic
22	Benarth Hall	1	James Edwards	Head	Mar	71	M. Q. Edinburgh University	Benarth	
			Isabel Edwards	Wife	Mar	39	Domestic	Benarth	
			Henry James Evans	Son	—	10	—	Benarth	
			Isabel Evans	Son	—	2	—	Benarth	
			James Roberts	Son	—	10	Domestic	Benarth	
			Margaret Roberts	Son	—	10	Domestic	Benarth	
			Eliza Evans	Son	—	10	Domestic	Benarth	
			James Roberts	Son	—	10	Domestic	Benarth	
			Robert Elliot	Son	—	10	Domestic	Benarth	

Figure 14. 1881 Census Extract

The sporadic residence of the Edwards family following the death of James is attested by the 1891 (figure 15) and 1901 census'. In 1891 Benarth Hall is being used as an asylum and is home to six "lunatics", three attendants and five servants. There is no entry for Benarth Hall in the 1901 census indicating that there is no-one in residence at this time.

The first two editions of the Ordnance Survey Map – 1890 and 1900 (figures 16 & 17) were produced during this period and both show the walled garden in detail. The 1890 map shows three main changes between the 1890 and 1871 maps. The main outbuilding/portico has been remodelled and the shape of the glasshouse to the rear has been repositioned to the west. A small glass structure has been added to the south-east of the outbuilding.

The subdivisions of the walled gardens are shown on this map, with the enclosed area being split into three sections. The first edition Ordnance Survey Map is the only map showing the pathways within the garden. These paths split the garden into six parcels of land, with each area presumably used for a different plant/ crop. The layout of the paths clearly demonstrate that there were doorways at the centres of the two east-west dividing garden walls. There is little difference between the first and second edition maps, other than possibly a further remodelling of the main outbuilding.

The Benarth Estate was sold to the Tattersall family of Cheshire, who were resident at the hall from c.1910 – 1930 and the head of the family, Thomas Fredrick Tattersall, was to hold the position of High Sheriff of Caernarfonshire in 1917 (www.london-gazette.co.uk) and again c.1923 when he met HRH the Prince of Wales at Conwy Castle. Mr Herman has been in contact with the descendants of the Tattersall's of Benarth and a number of photographs have been supplied which show the house and gardens during this period. Of particular interest in this instance are two photographs, one which shows the walled gardens and the other the gardeners. These pictures are included as figures 18 & 19.

Further editions of the Ordnance Survey Map were produced in 1913 and 1919 (figures 20 & 21). These documents show only a minor change to the glasshouse associated with the entrance outbuilding. Trees are shown in the central portion of the walled gardens which are not visible on earlier editions



Figure 18. Walled Gardens at Benarth Showing Greenhouses When they were First Erected c.1920. Source: Given to Mr. Herman by the Descendents of the Tattersall Family



Figure 19. Gardeners at Benarth Hall c.1925. Source: Given to Mr. Herman by the Descendents of the Second Gardener James Kingman

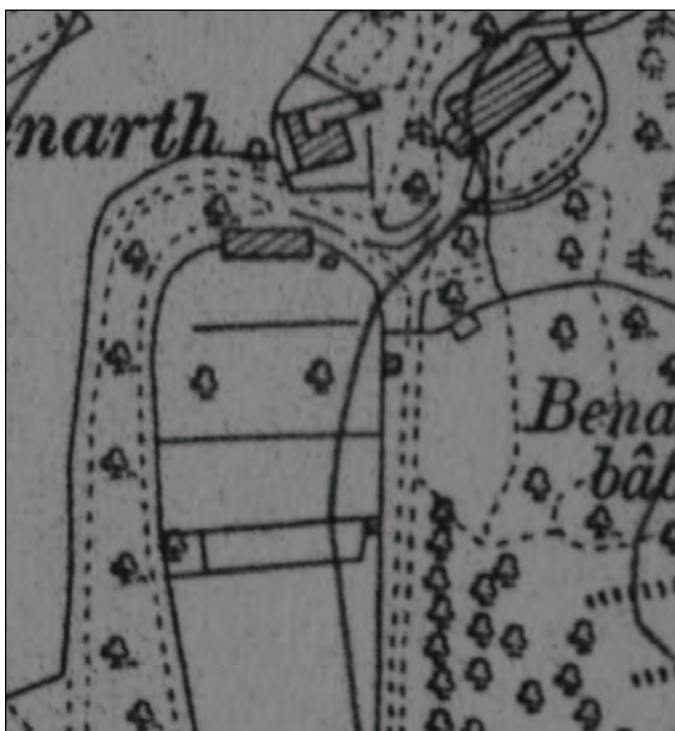
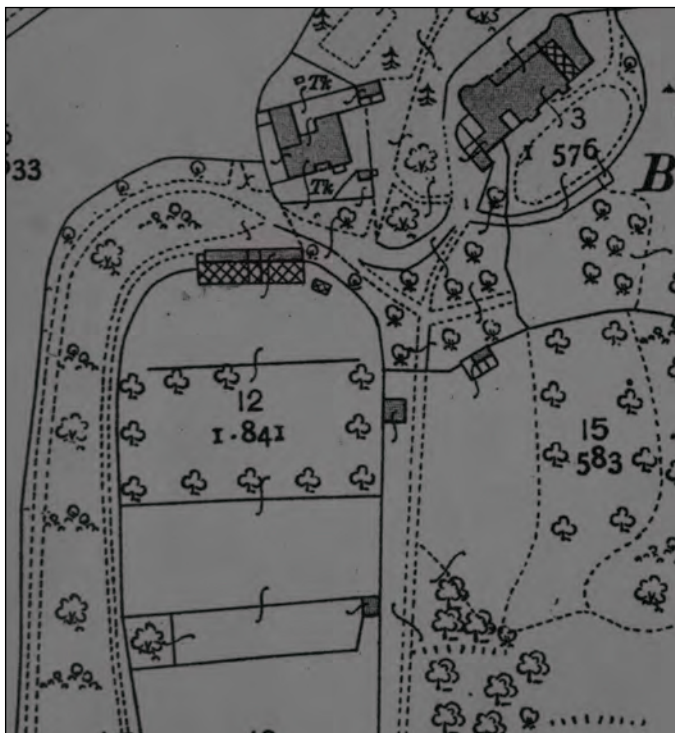


Figure 20. (Above Left) 1913 Ordnance Survey Map. Source Caernarfon Archives

Figure 21. (Below Left) 1919 Ordnance Survey Map. Source Caernarfon Archives

Figure 22. (Above Right) 1931 Map Showing Auction Lots. Map Based on 1913 Ordnance Survey Map. Source Caernarfon Archives

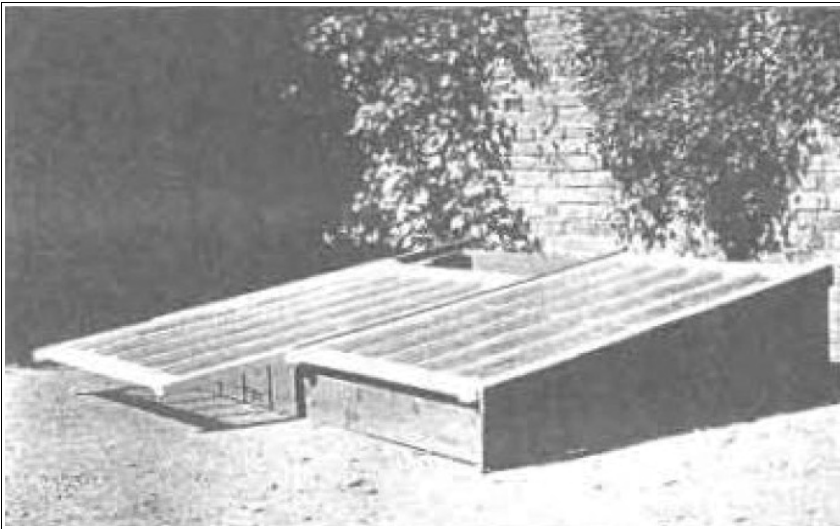


Figure 23. Melon and Cucumber Frame of a Similar Design to that thought to have been built at Benarth Hall.

Source Fosters & Pearson Sales Catalogue 1909: 56

The next map detailing the walled garden was produced in 1931 as a supporting document to the auction particulars (figure 22). This map is however simply an annotated reproduction of the 1913 Ordnance Survey Map and does not show the peachery or three compartment greenhouse recorded by Mr. Herman. The accompanying description of the gardens is reproduced below:

*“The Walled Kitchen Garden: within convenient distance of the residence of about 2.896 acres, slopes towards the south, and is most productive. The fruit trees present all well known varieties of apples, pears, dessert plums &c. **There is an excellent vinery and peach house and a modern three-compartment greenhouse.** The forest trees and larger specimens generally embrace some of the finest of hornbeams, beeches, hollies and oaks”.*

From the above description and the photographs kindly supplied by the Tattersall family it is evident that the vinery/peachery and greenhouse were added at some point during the early 1920's. The earlier larger glasshouse built along the length of the entrance outbuilding has been removed and replaced by the much smaller peachery. The smaller glass structure to the south-east remains and although it is not mentioned in the auction description it is drawn on the 1959 Ordnance Survey Map. This structure was possibly a melon/cucumber frame similar to that shown above (figure 23).

The work undertaken in the walled gardens was part of a much larger scheme of works at Benarth as the house itself was in a very poor state of repair by this time. The Tattersalls remodelled the main house as an Italianate Villa and the layout of the front gardens also date from this period (www.countrylife.co.uk).

In addition to showing the remodelled vinery and greenhouse the Ordnance Survey Map produced in 1959 (figure 24) is the first map to show gardeners bothy. This is likely to have been built at the same time that the new greenhouse and vinery were erected. It is possible that the gaps between the dividing walls were widened but there was clearly a route through the walls shown on the 1890 map.

Benarth Estate was sold to Sir Joseph Kay who was resident at the hall until his death in 1958. Kay was a keen gardener and the current owner of Benarth Hall is in possession of two photographs of Sir Joseph working within the walled gardens (figures 25 & 26). An aerial photograph from this period was produced as a Christmas card and a number of copies of this item have also been collected by Mr. Herman (figure 27).

Following the death of Sir Joseph Kay Benarth Estate was once more put up for auction on the 12th June 1961 and a copy of the document was in the possession of Mr. Herman. The particulars of this sale name the gardener as “*Mr. Lloyd, who lives in Bryn Seiri Cottages adjoining the rear drive entrance*” (page 2). The walled gardens are detailed in the aforementioned auction particulars but the area is split into a number of different lots (see figure 28). Relevant passages are transcribed below:

The first lot incorporating the walled gardens is lot 1 which includes the main hall. The description of the garden is as follows “*Included with this lot is also the first section of walled garden with heated glasshouse containing fine wines, heated three-division greenhouse and a range of potting sheds, garden tool sheds and boiler house. There are water taps from the main at a number of points in the gardens*” (page 7).

The remainder of the walled garden (an area of c.1 acre) is sold as lot 7 – A Walled Garden. The area is described as “*beautifully situated on the back drive behind a woodland belt and forming a magnificent site for the erection of one or two detached residences subject to planning permission for which application has been made. The garden which slopes gently towards the river, is enclosed by a 10ft stone wall. There is also an interior dividing wall and contains several fruit trees and flowering plants*” (page 15).

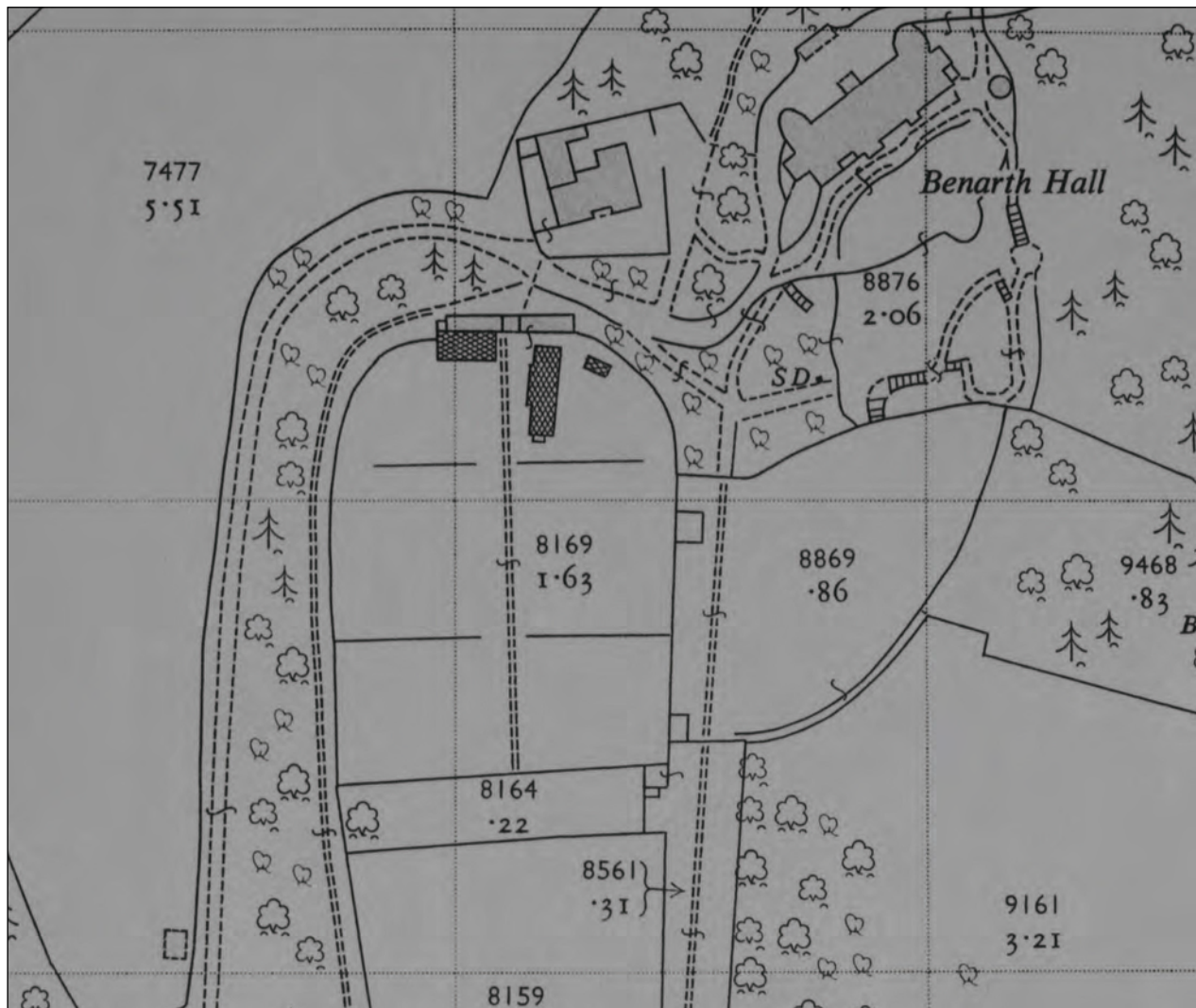


Figure 24. 1959 Ordnance Survey Map Showing Three Compartment Greenhouse, Vinery/Peach House and Gardeners Bothy Which were all Added During the 1920's
Source: Conwy Record Office



Figures 25 & 26. Sir Joseph Kay Photographed in the Benarth Walled Garden During the 1940's. Source Mr. M Herman



Figures 27. Aerial View of Benarth Walled Gardens. Produced as A Christmas Card c.1930's. Source Mr. M Herman

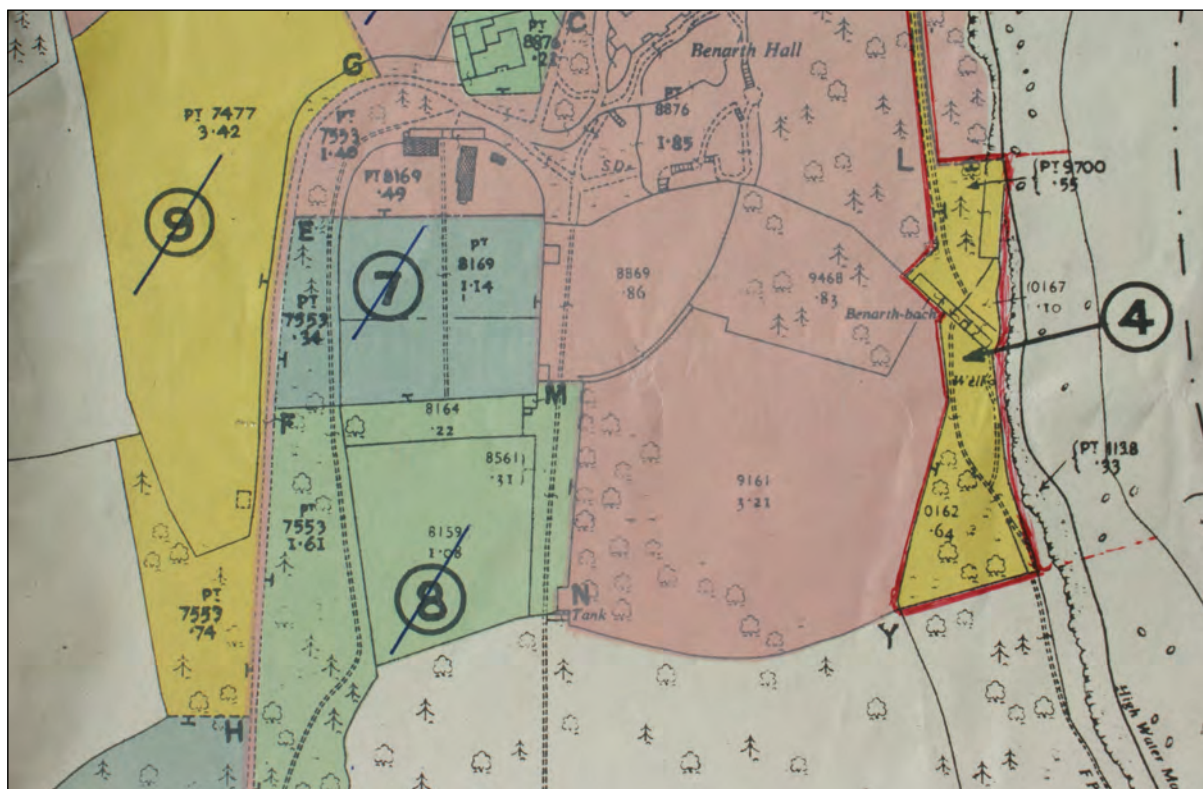


Figure 28. Extract from the 1961 Auction Particulars for Benarth Hall. The Walled Gardens have been Divided into Two Lots and the Stable falls Within Another Lot

Benarth Estate briefly passed to a number of consortiums named Benarth Hall Developments Ltd, Benarth Hall Ltd and Broadland Properties Ltd who sought planning permission to turn the estate into a holiday resort. This development included the erection of 46 Swiss style chalets and the siting of 320 static caravans within the estate grounds (including within the walled gardens) and the use of the house as a secretarial school. A record of the planning application, along with council responses and newspaper cuttings is held at Conwy Record Office (COB10/6/87).

Planning permission was refused and the estate was sold on to Dr Clive Arkle (1923 - 1991) and his family in 1961 who remained in residence until 1996 when the house was sold to the present occupants Mr Mel Herman and his wife Elizabeth. The family had been involved with the Benarth Estate for a number of years by this period as the family had been living at Benarth Bach (which they renovated), the gardeners house near the waterfront since 1989 and were close friends of the Morna Arkle, wife of the late Dr. Clive Arkle (www.countrylife.co.uk).

Since 1996 the Herman family have undertaken an extensive scheme of works at Benarth, first renovating the coach house which was later sold to fund the restoration of the main hall. The main hall was completed in 2000 and the ornate front gardens two years later. Cadw and the RCAHMW were consulted throughout the restoration process.

The family are now downsizing and the main hall has been sold to fund the development of the walled garden where the garden outbuilding is to be converted into a residence. The walled garden had been neglected for some time and had become overgrown whilst the associated buildings were in a poor state of repair.

Since becoming resident at Benarth the Herman family has undertaken considerable historical research into the Benarth Estate and a fascinating archive has been compiled. Mr. Herman is a retired architect and has produced a series of detailed drawings recording the elevation and ground plan of the entrance outbuilding, three-compartment greenhouse prior to its dismantling, the stable and the gardener's bothy. These are included as figures 29 – 31.

During initial groundworks within the walled gardens a number of Victorian glass beer bottles were found, all of which were made for local brewers (figures 32 - 33). They were stamped with either Conwy or Llandudno and the Herman family have kindly offered the bottles to Llandudno Museum, Conwy Record Office and St Fagans.

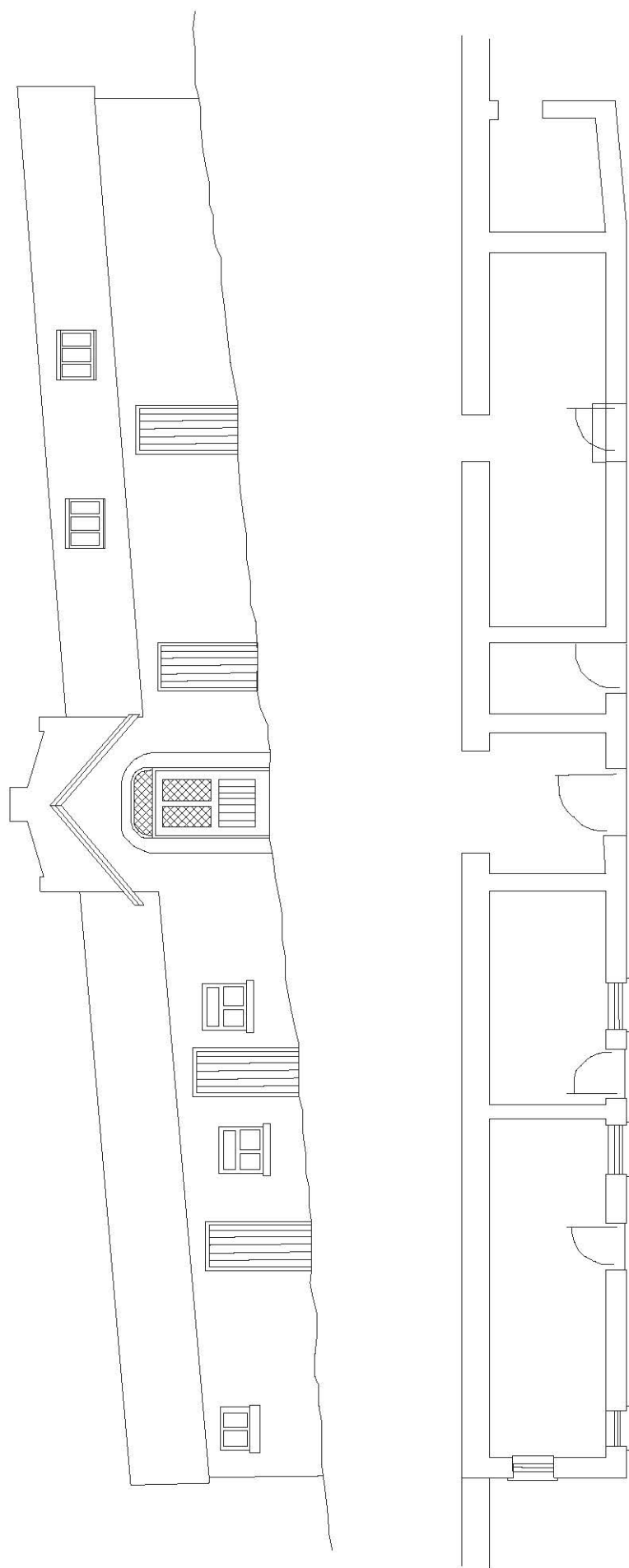


Figure 29. Walled Garden Entrance Portico Outbuilding - North Facing Elevation and Plan View.
Reproduced from Original Drawings Produced by Mr. M Herman (No Scale Included)

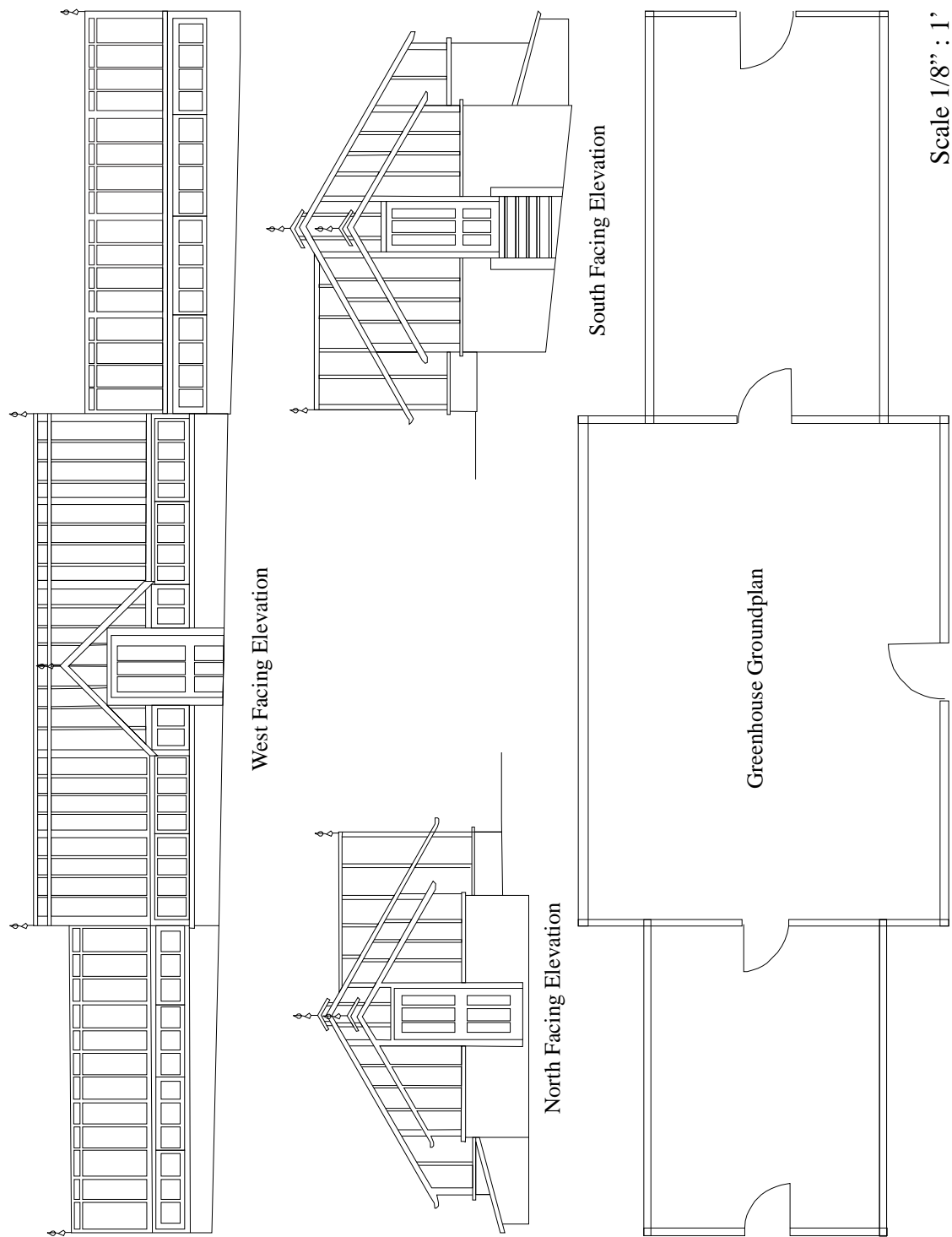


Figure 30. Elevations and Plans of the Foster & Pearson Three-Compartment Glasshouse Erected c.1920.
Reproduced from Scaled Drawings Produced by Mr. M Herman

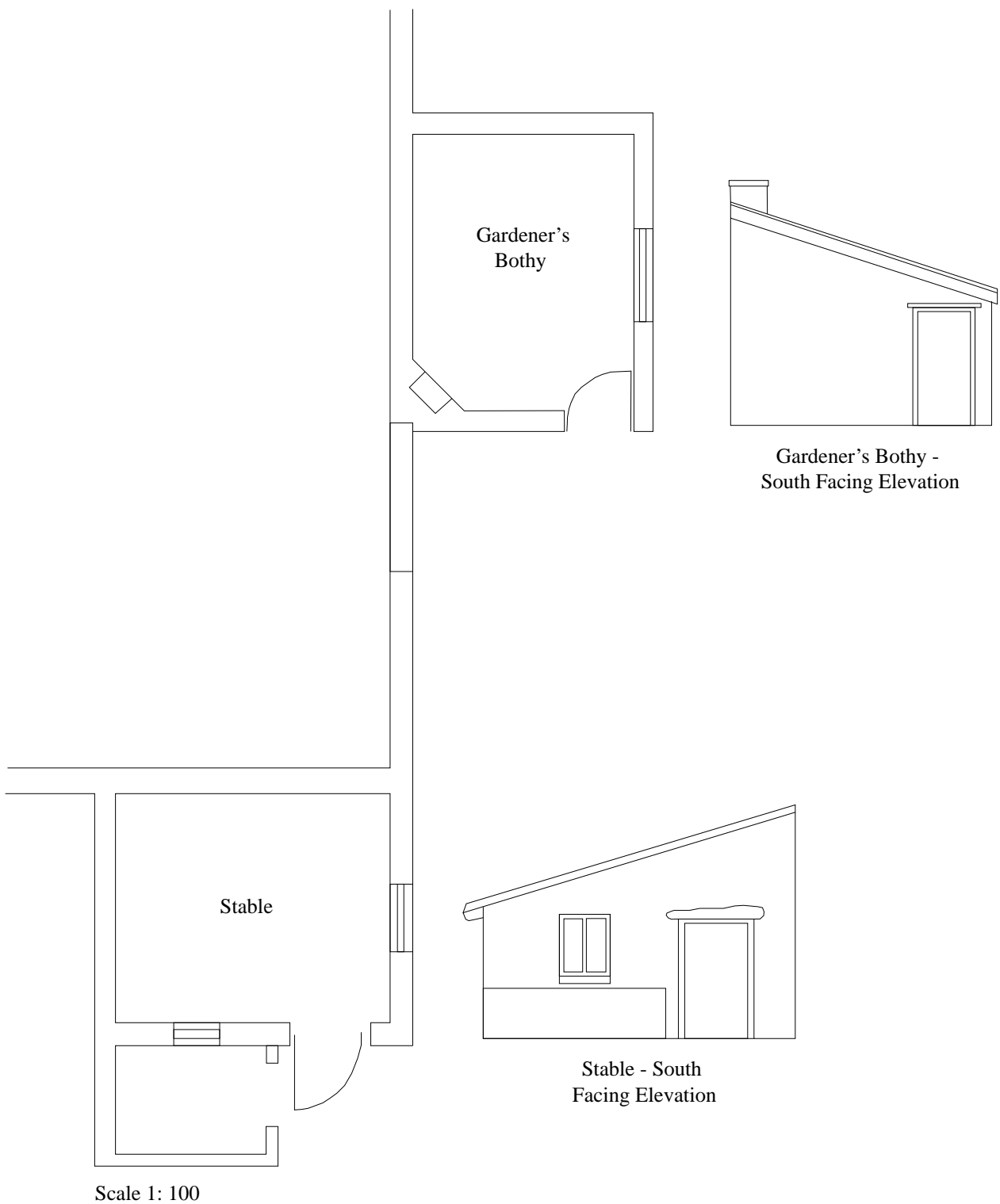


Figure 31. Plan View and Elevations of Stable and Gardener's Bothy.
Reproduced from Original Drawings Produced by Mr. M Herman



Figure 32. Numerous Victorian Glass Beer Bottles Found Within The Benarth Walled Gardens



Figure 33. Victorian Glass Beer Bottle Produced for Local Brewery. Found Within the Benarth Walled Gardens

6.0 Photographic Survey

A photographic survey of the Benarth Walled Garden was undertaken by Adam Stanford of Aerial-Cam on the 15th March 2012. Unless otherwise stated all photographs were taken by Adam. The positions of all photographs have been recorded in Figures 34 - 38. The base map for these documents is the 1959 Ordnance Survey Map which has been amended as necessary.

6.1 General site shots (Plates 1 – 6. See also Figure 34)

A vehicle mounted photographic mast was utilised to obtain a number of general aerial photographs of the walled garden, including the position of buildings within and adjoining the wall circuit.

The structures within the garden predominately represent only two of the many phases of development within the walls as the remodelling by the Tattersall family in the early 1920's removed many of the earlier buildings. The walls themselves and the stable are believed to have been built during the earliest 1790's phase of the garden, whilst the bothy and glasshouses date to the early 1920's.

6.2 The Garden Walls (Plates 7 – 35. See also Figure 34)

High walls protect the kitchen garden from thieves and create a micro-climate within which to grow a wide variety of exotic plants in the colder Northern climes of the British Isles. The warmth and height of these walls made them ideal for growing fruit trees and vines (Campbell 2011: 21). The walls at Benarth enclose an area of just under 3 acres and are constructed from two main materials – brick and stone and originally stood to a height of up to 5m Cadw 1998:53).

As a building material brick has a number of advantages – it is strong, dry and heat-retaining and nails could easily be knocked into the lime mortar between the bricks to support fruit trees. In contrast stone tends to be chilly and damp and must be closely jointed and smoothly dressed to avoid insects hiding in the gaps. Bricks were however very expensive (particularly following the introduction of “Brick Tax” in 1784) and often, aside from the cost of the hothouses, the main expense in laying out the kitchen garden was usually the cost of the walls. To mitigate this cost it was common, as at Benarth, for garden walls to be built with only the inner or growing wall faces made of brick. Local stone could then be used as a cost effective alternative for the external areas of the wall which could not be seen (Campbell 2011: 22 - 24). The builders at Benarth do not seem to have been overly familiar with brick construction methods as if one examines the brick coursing the arrangement of bricks is somewhat erratic and does not utilise the English Garden Wall Bond.

At Benarth the wall running from the portico outbuilding, around to the west and ending in the south-western corner of the garden is constructed with a brick inner face and a local stone outer face. There are two small openings in this wall which are mirrored in the eastern wall. The aforementioned eastern wall which runs from the south-eastern side of the outbuilding around the eastern circuit is constructed in a slightly different manner.

It is made with a brick inner face and stone outer face but as can clearly be seen from plate 7 the eastern wall has horizontal heating flues to transfer the heat from a boiler located in the outbuilding around the walls to aid the growing and ripening of fruit and vines. This wall section may have been rebuilt at a later date than the rest of the wall but as there is no clear change in construction method on either wall face it would seem that this wall section is contemporary. Fruit walls heated by internal smoke flues are a feature of eighteenth and nineteenth century gardens, and the wall at Benarth would have once had at least one chimney associated with the heating system (Campbell 2011: 26). The location of this was not visible during the site visit but presumably it must have been located before the first of the eastern doorways.

The southern wall was built with the inner north facing elevation made of stone, and the outer southern elevation made of brick. This may have been simply that the south facing wall was visible from the outside and was made of brick as a status symbol. It is also possible that as this was a south facing wall it may have been used as a growing area. This is less likely however as the land to the south of this wall is used for grazing but this may not originally have been the case.

A typical kitchen garden was laid out in a “four-square” plan, with a central cross-shaped division creating four distinct sections. This pattern can be traced back to the ancient gardens of classical Greece and Rome (Campbell 2011: 12). Benarth has six distinct sections which all appear to be contemporary although the absence of early surviving maps makes this difficult to confirm. We know from the 1803 auction particulars that the walled gardens enclosed an area of c.3 acres so it is clear that the southern end was not a later addition and if there were only four sections originally then it is the internal divisions rather than the external wall circuit which has been altered.

Presumably to take advantage of the favourable interior micro-climate, the two sets of internal walls were built entirely of brick. These walls would have provided additional growing surfaces for plants requiring a south facing elevation.

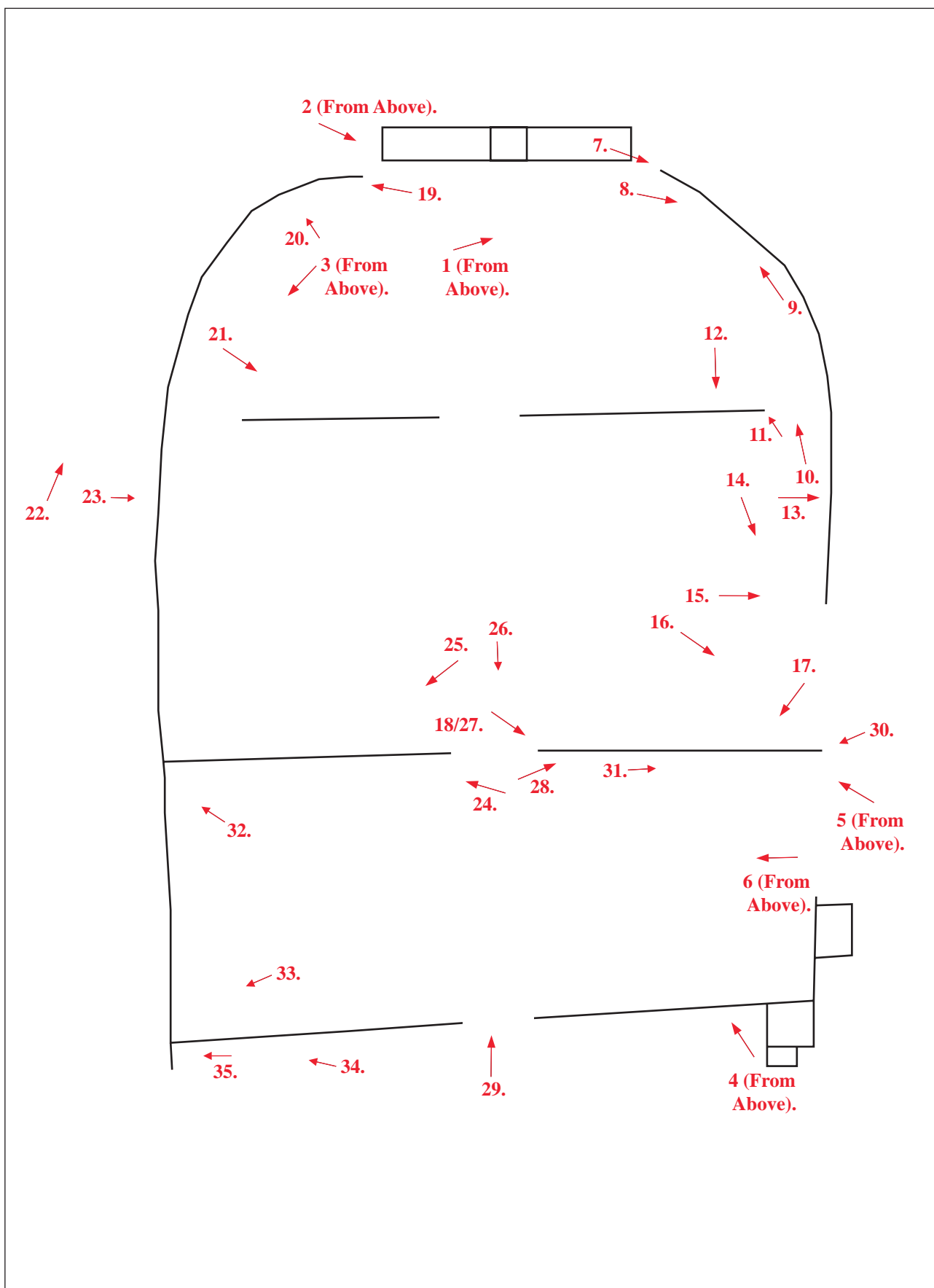


Figure 34. Location Map for Plates 1 - 35



Plate 1. Aerial View of the North-Eastern Section
Of the Benarth Walled Garden



Plate 2. Aerial View of the Northern Section
Of the Benarth Walled Garden. Taken from the
North-Western Corner of the Site.



Plate 3. Aerial View of the Western Section
Of the Benarth Walled Garden. Taken from the
Northern Entrance to the Site.



Plate 4. Aerial View of the Benarth Walled
Garden. Shot Taken from the
North-Eastern Corner of the Site.



Plate 5. Aerial View of the Benarth Walled
Garden. Shot Taken from the
North-Eastern Corner of the Site.



Plate 6. Aerial View of the Southern Portion
Of the Benarth Walled Garden.



Plate 7. Garden Walls North-Eastern Section.
Shows Cross-Section of Wall Interior With
Heating Ducts



Plate 8. Garden Walls North-Eastern Section



Plate 9. Garden Walls North-Eastern Section.
Showing Brick Terracing Associated
With the Late Glasshouses



Plate 10. Garden Walls North-Eastern Section.
Shows Doorway Leading out of the Walled
Garden and the North-Eastern Dividing Wall



Plate 11. North-Eastern Dividing Wall



Plate 12. North-Eastern Dividing Wall



Plate 13. Eastern Garden Wall Showing
Doorway into and out of the Walled Garden



Plate 14. Eastern Garden Wall Showing
Doorway into and out of the Walled Garden



Plate 15. Eastern Garden Wall Showing
Doorway into and out of the Walled Garden



Plate 16. Eastern Garden Wall and the Lower
Second East-West Dividing Wall



Plate 17. Lower Second East-West Dividing Wall



Plate 18. Eastern Garden Wall and the Lower
Second East-West Dividing Wall



Plate 19. North-Western Garden Wall. Note The Differences Between This Wall and the Wall to the East of the Outbuilding. This Wall Has No Heating Ducts



Plate 20. North - Western Garden Wall



Plate 21. Upper Second East-West Dividing Wall



Plate 22. North - Western Garden Wall Rear Elevation Showing Doorway



Plate 23. North - Western Garden Wall Rear Elevation Showing Doorway



Plate 24. Second Upper East - West Dividing Wall



Plate 26. Gap Between the Upper & Lower
Second East - West Dividing Walls



Plate 28. Second Lower East - West Dividing Wall



Plate 25. Second Upper East - West Dividing Wall



Plate 27. Second Lower East - West Dividing Wall



Plate 29. Walled Garden Central Divisions.
View From South



Plate 30. Second Lower East - West
Dividing Wall



Plate 32. Second Upper East - West
Dividing Wall



Plate 34. Scar of Outbuilding Against Outer
North - South Garden Wall



Plate 31. Second Lower East - West
Dividing Wall



Plate 33. South-West Corner of Enclosure Wall



Plate 35. Remains of Outbuilding Against Outer
South-Western Corner of the Walled Garden

6.3 The Walled Garden Entrance Building (Plates 36 – 65. See also Figure 35 & 36)

Due to recent works at Benarth walled gardens it was not possible to ascertain whether the walls and the entrance outbuilding were contemporary as the physical relationship has been lost. It is however thought that this is likely to have been the case, particularly when one examines the stylistic similarities between the main house and stables (known to have been built in the late eighteenth century) and the garden outbuilding. The building is detailed on the earliest map showing the gardens (dated 1871) giving a period of around 80 years within which the structure could have been erected.

As with the garden walls the outbuilding was constructed from both brick and stone, with the brick being utilised on the south facing walls situated within the gardens themselves and brick being used for the front and side elevations. A lime plaster render was applied to the northern elevation, whilst at least in the later period a yellow wash was applied to the southern wall area.

The central section of the walled garden outbuilding is utilised as an impressive portico through which to enter the enclosed garden. Walled gardens would have been used by their owners for taking walks and entertaining visitors (Campbell 2011: 12) and this building would have provided an entrance which reflected the status of the Benarth Hall owners/tenants. A number of other less elaborate entrances are positioned around the wall circuit to allow access for estate workers.

The exact usage of each of the rooms flanking the central entrance is not known but other examples from this period were utilised as stores for produce and tools, boiler/furnace rooms, work rooms, mushroom houses, seed rooms, offices and mess rooms (Campbell 2011: 40). Later as technology progressed it is assumed that this area held the apparatus to heat the glasshouses built against the rear of the building.

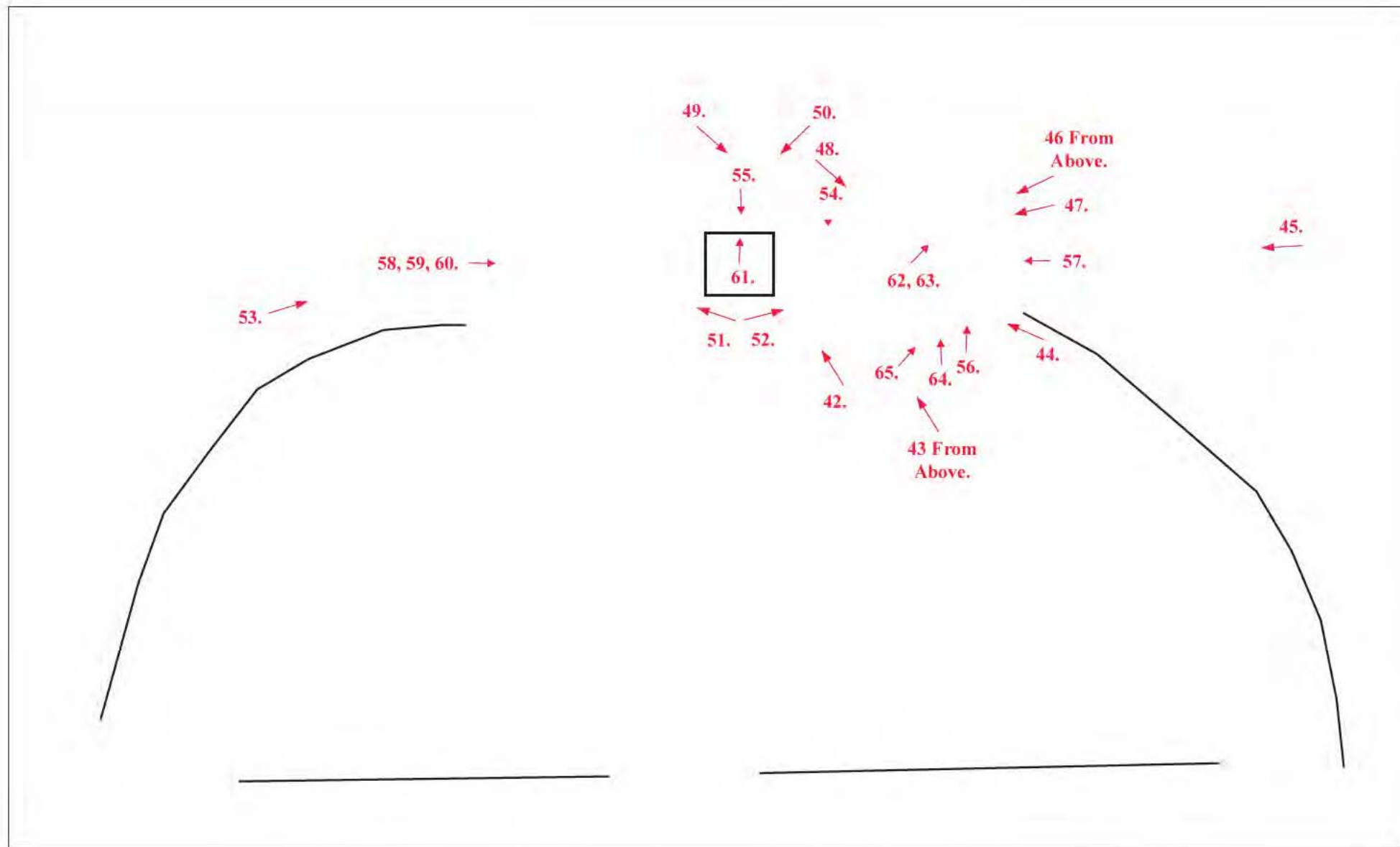


Figure 35. Location Map for Plates 42 - 65. Photographs Taken Following Commencement of the Works on the Entrance Portico

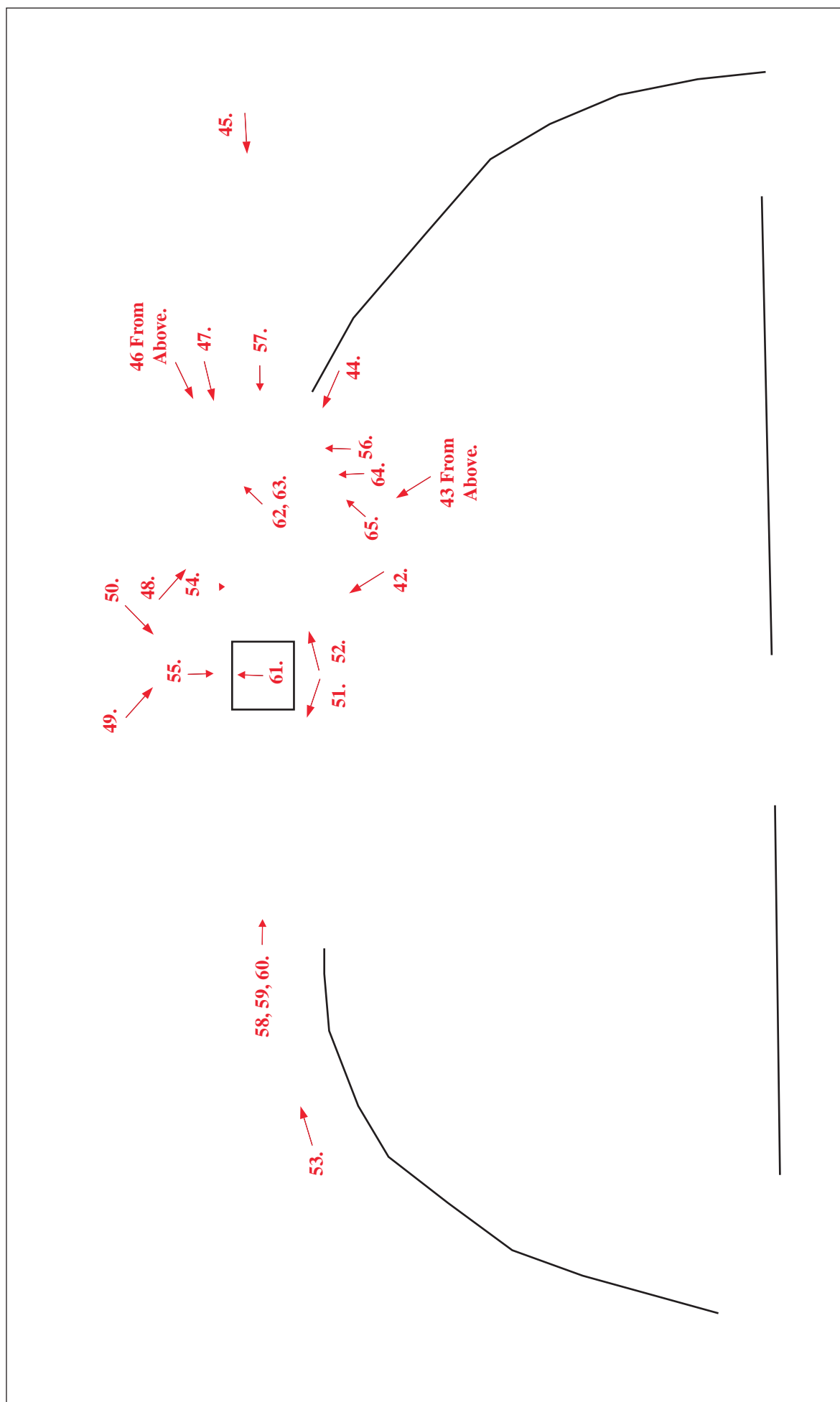


Figure 36. Location Map for Plates 42 - 65. Photographs Taken Following Commencement of the Works on the Entrance Portico



Plates 36 - 38. Rear Elevation of Walled Garden Entrance Outbuilding Prior to the Commencement of Works.
Photograph Source Mr. M Herman

Plates 39 - 41. Front Elevation of Walled Garden Entrance Outbuilding Prior to the Commencement of Works.
Photograph Source Mr. M Herman



Plate 42. Entrance Outbuilding Rear View
Following Demolition of Rear of the Building



Plate 43. Entrance Outbuilding From Above
Following Demolition of Rear of the Building



Plate 44. Entrance Outbuilding Rear View
Following Demolition of Rear of the Building



Plate 45. Entrance Outbuilding Taken From NE
Following Demolition of Rear of the Building



Plate 46. Entrance Outbuilding Taken From NE
Following Demolition of Rear of the Building



Plate 47. Entrance Outbuilding Taken From NE
Following Demolition of Rear of the Building



Plate 48. Entrance Outbuilding Taken From NW
Following Demolition of Rear of the Building



Plate 49. Entrance Outbuilding Taken From NW
Following Demolition of Rear of the Building

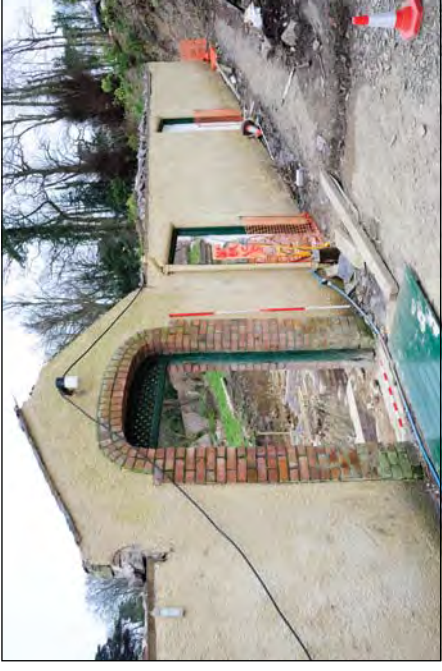


Plate 50. Entrance Outbuilding Taken From NE
Following Demolition of Rear of the Building



Plate 51. Entrance Outbuilding Taken From NW
Following Demolition of Rear of the Building



Plate 52. Entrance Outbuilding Taken From NW
Following Demolition of Rear of the Building



Plate 53. Entrance Outbuilding Taken From NW
Following Demolition of Rear of the Building



Plate 54. Outbuilding Side Entrance -
Would Originally Have Led to
The Store/Boiler room



Plate 55. Outbuilding Main Entrance -
Would Originally Have Led Directly
Into the Walled Garden



Plate 56. Outbuilding Rear Elevation
Showing Stone Wall Construction



Plate 57. Outbuilding Side Elevation
Showing Stone Wall Construction



Plate 58. Outbuilding Front Wall
Showing Wall Construction



Plate 59. Outbuilding Side Wall
Showing Area Which Once
Housed the Boiler

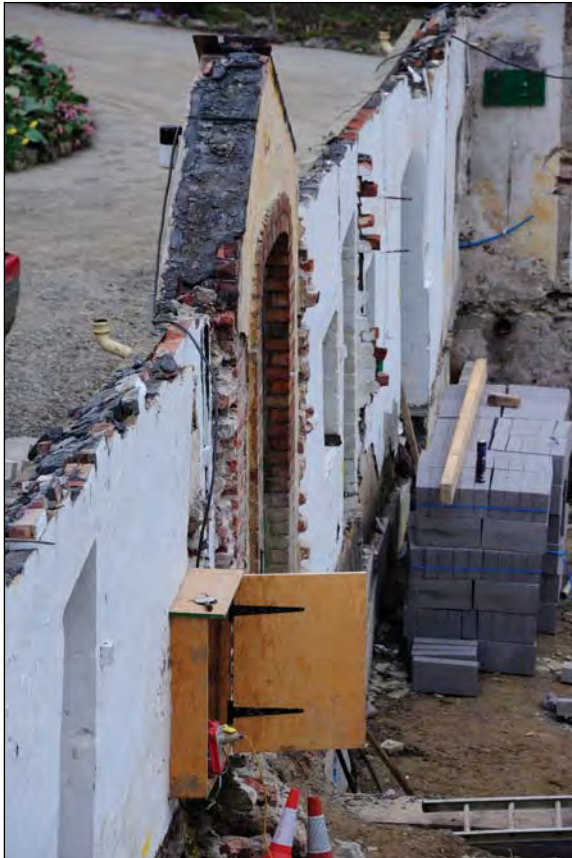


Plate 60. Outbuilding Front Wall
Showing the Brick Construction of the
Building Facade



Plate 61. Outbuilding Entrance to Walled
Garden - Rear Elevation



Plate 62. Boiler Area Below Outbuilding
Source: Mr. M Herman



Plate 63. Boiler Area Below Outbuilding
Source: Mr. M Herman



Plate 64. Remains of Glasshouse
Foundations/ Heating System



Plate 65. Remains of Glasshouse
Foundations/ Heating System

6.4 The Vinery (Plates 66 – 71. See also Figure 37)

The vinery/peachery shown in plates 66 – 71 was a lean-to structure built in the early Twentieth Century and was contemporary with the three-compartment greenhouse and the gardener's bothy. The manufacturer is not known but it is possible that it was made by Foster & Pearson of Beeston, the company who supplied the greenhouse. The frame of the vinery was constructed from a mixture of cast iron and wood.

This structure took advantage of the south-facing elevation of the rear of the entrance outbuilding to maximise the amount of sun that could be trapped for growing exotic plants. It replaced a number of earlier structures which were originally built against the southern garden wall and the footprint of the proposed dwelling which replaces the vinery is being erected on the ground plan of these earlier glasshouses.

6.5 The Greenhouses (Plates 72 – 97. See also Figure 37)

It is clearly evidenced from contemporary sources that Benarth Hall utilised hot-houses from the late eighteenth century onwards but the three-compartment greenhouse at Benarth is a relatively recent addition and was erected by the Tattersall family c.1920. The structure was purchased from Foster & Pearson of Beeston. The company was founded in 1845 as a collaboration between the Pearsons, a horticulturist family from Chilwell, and Robert Foster – a Beeston joiner. The company was a great success during the Victorian and Edwardian period and a great many country houses were included on their client list.

Although the company is no longer located at Beeston, glasshouses are being made to the original specification in Sussex (www.fosterandpearson.co.uk). The company was contacted and although unfortunately the original sales records have not survived, a copy of a trade catalogue from 1909 was provided. This document provided illustrations of structures of the same design as the Benarth greenhouse and these pages are included as plates 91 – 97. Included in these illustrations are diagrams detailing the greenhouse heating systems.

This structure is known to have replaced earlier glass structures but little other than the shape in plan of the later phases of these structures is known.

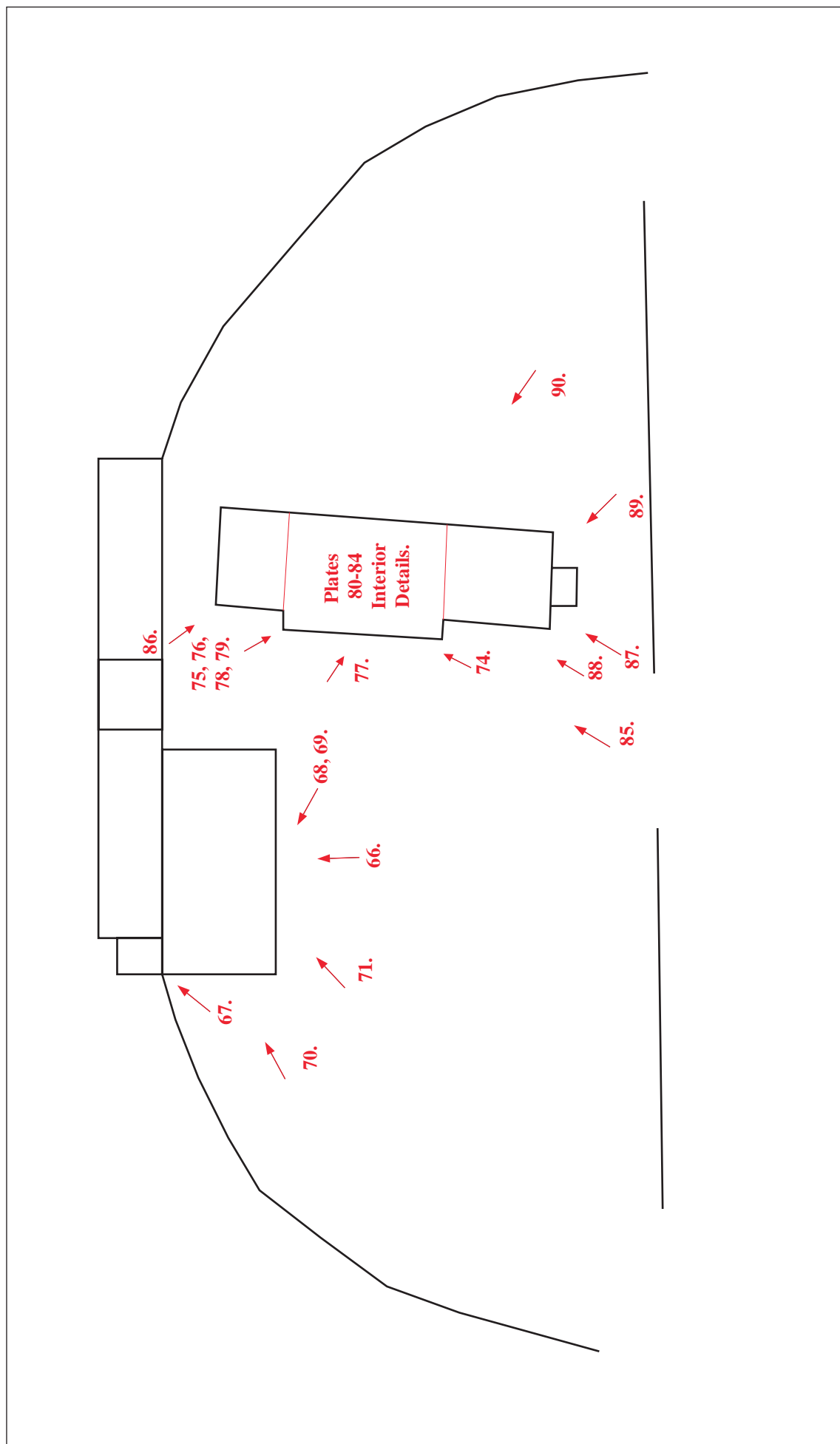


Figure 37. Location Map for Plates 66 - 90 (Photographs Taken Prior to the Dismantling of Glasshouse Structures)



Plate 66. Lean-to Vinery/Peach House Following The Clearance of Foliage. Photograph Source Mr. M Herman



Plate 67. Lean-to Vinery/Peach House Showing Structure Butting Garden Outbuilding. Photograph Source Mr. M Herman



Plate 68. Lean-to Vinery/Peach House Following The Clearance of Foliage. Photograph Source Mr. M Herman



Plate 69. Lean-to Vinery/Peach House Following The Clearance of Foliage. Photograph Source Mr. M Herman



Plate 70. Lean-to Vinery/Peach House Following The Clearance of Foliage. Photograph Source Mr. M Herman



Plate 71. Lean-to Vinery/Peach House Following The Clearance of Foliage. Photograph Source Mr. M Herman

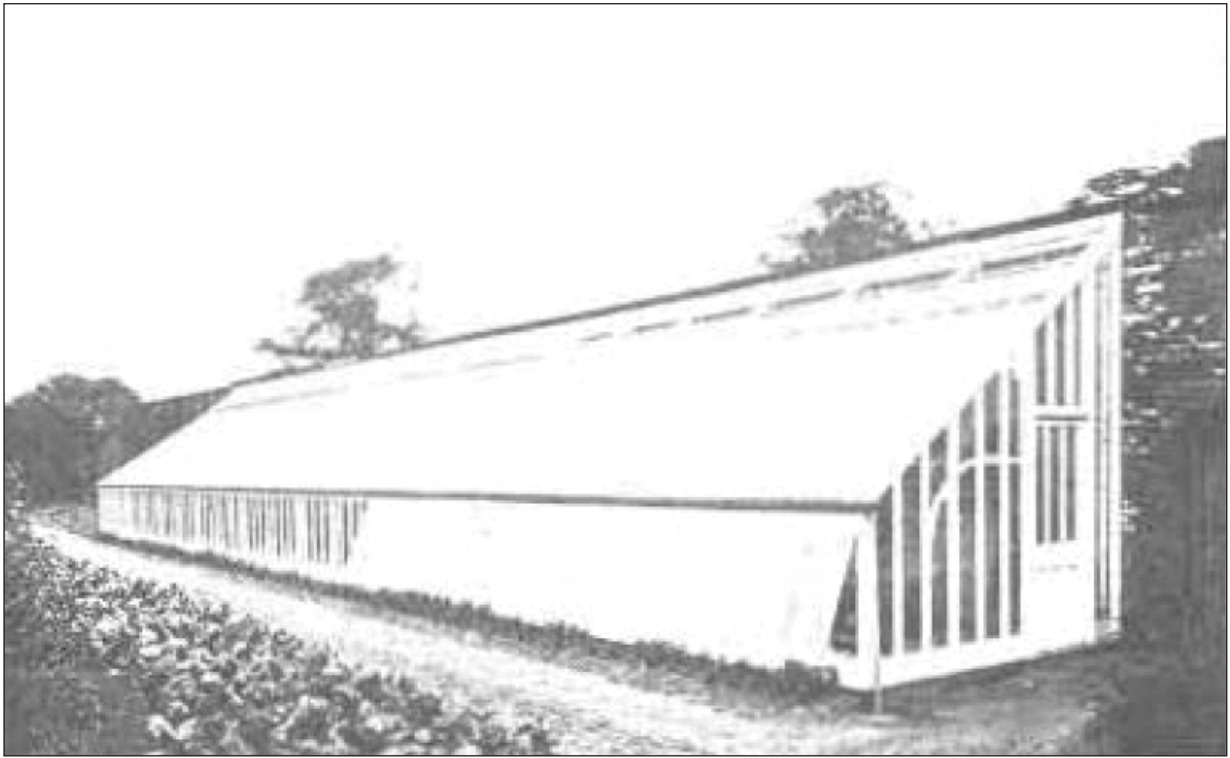


Plate 72. Lean-To Peach House Similar to that at Benarth Hall.
Source Fosters & Pearson 1909 Sales Catalogue (Page 50)



Plate 73. Cross-section Through Lean-To Peach House Similar to that at Benarth Hall.
Source Fosters & Pearson 1909 Sales Catalogue (Page 50)



Plate 74. Three-Compartment Foster & Pearson Greenhouse. Photograph Source Mr. M Herman



Plate 75. Three-Compartment Foster & Pearson Greenhouse Roof Detail. Source Mr. M Herman



Plate 76. Central Greenhouse Compartment During Dismantling. Photograph Source Mr. M Herman



Plate 77. Central Greenhouse Compartment Greenhouse Roof Detail. Source Mr. M Herman



Plate 78. Northern & Central Greenhouse Compartment Junction. Source Mr. M Herman



Plate 79. Central Greenhouse Compartment During Dismantling. Photograph Source Mr. M Herman



Plate 80. Central Greenhouse Interior.
Photograph Source Mr. M Herman



Plate 81. Central Greenhouse Interior Detailing
Mechanism for Opening Ventilation Flaps.
Photograph Source Mr. M Herman



Plate 82. Southern Greenhouse Interior.
Photograph Source Mr. M Herman



Plate 83. Southern Greenhouse
Roof Ironwork Details
Plate 84. Roof Mechanism
Central Greenhouse Section
Source Mr. M Herman



Plate 85. Three Compartment
Greenhouse Prior to the Dismantling
Of the Structure
Photograph Source Mr. M Herman



Plate 86. Three Compartment Greenhouse Prior
to the Dismantling of the Structure
Photograph Source Mr. M Herman



Plate 87. Three Compartment Greenhouse Prior
to the Dismantling of the Structure
Photograph Source Mr. M Herman



Plate 88. Three Compartment
Greenhouse Prior to the Dismantling
Of the Structure
Photograph Source Mr. M Herman



Plate 89. Three Compartment Greenhouse Prior
to the Dismantling of the Structure. Front Elevation.
Photograph Source Mr. M Herman



Plate 90. Three Compartment Greenhouse Prior
to the Dismantling of the Structure Showing Terracing
Photograph Source Mr. M Herman

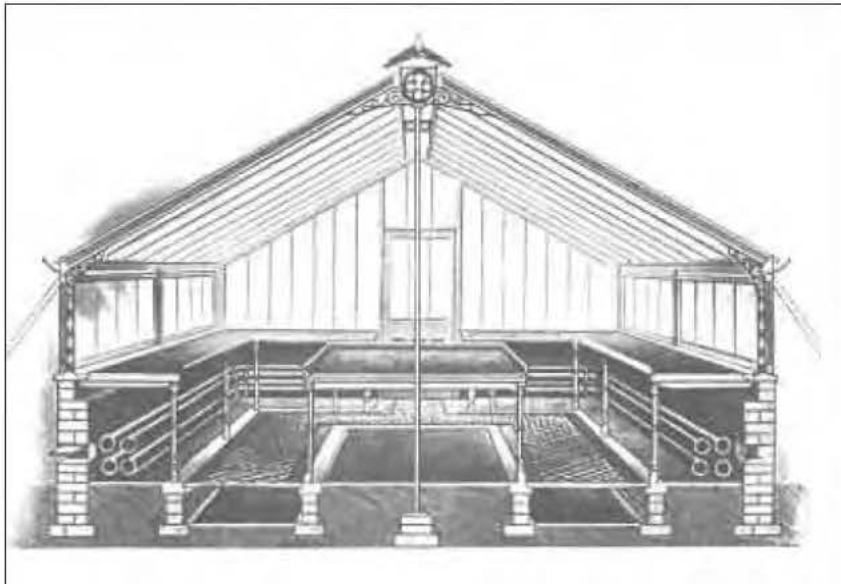


Plate 91. Section Through Carnation House. Design for Central Glasshouse At Benarth Hall. Source Fosters & Pearson 1909 Sales Catalogue (Page 38)

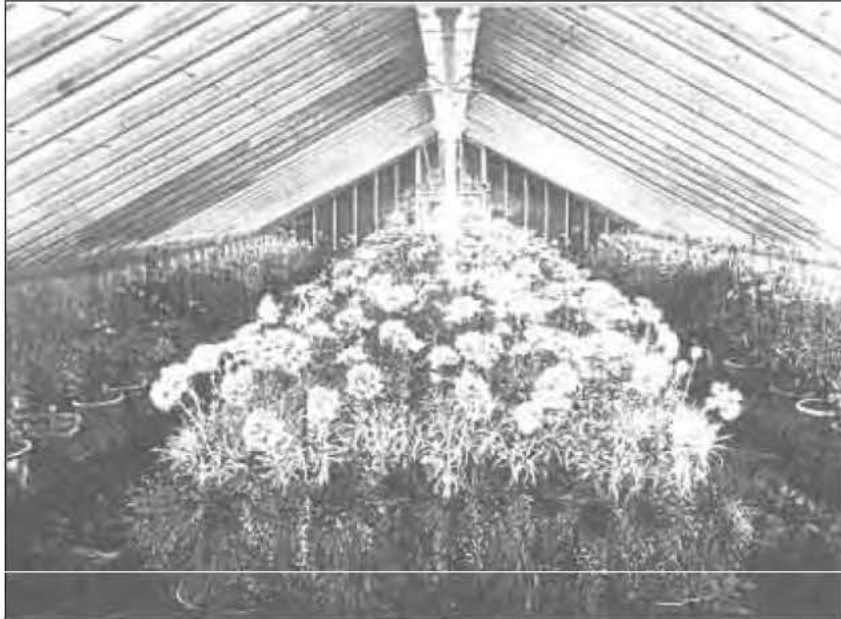


Plate 93. Interior of Carnation House of Same Design as Benarth Hall. Source Fosters & Pearson 1909 Sales Catalogue (Page 38)

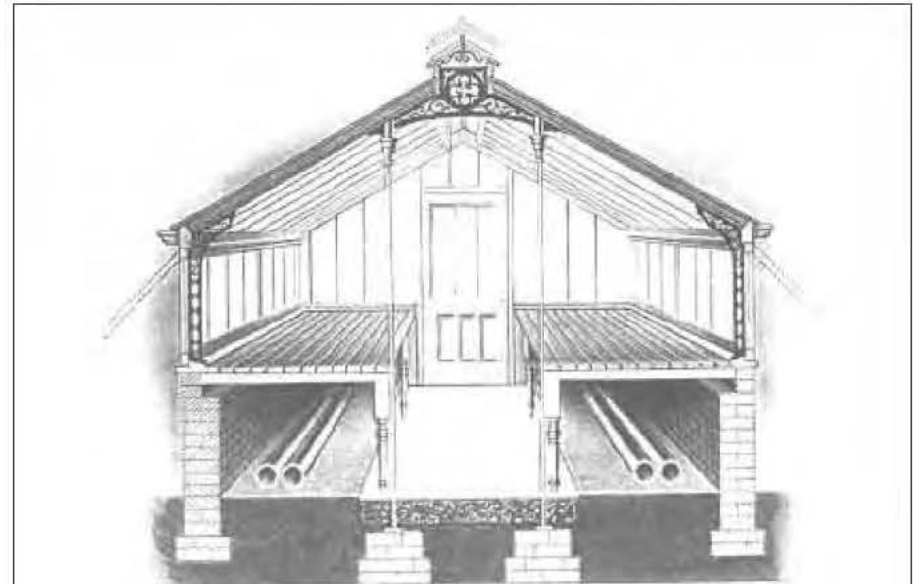


Plate 92. Section Through Span Greenhouse. Design for End Glasshouses At Benarth Hall. Source Fosters & Pearson 1909 Sales Catalogue (Page 39)

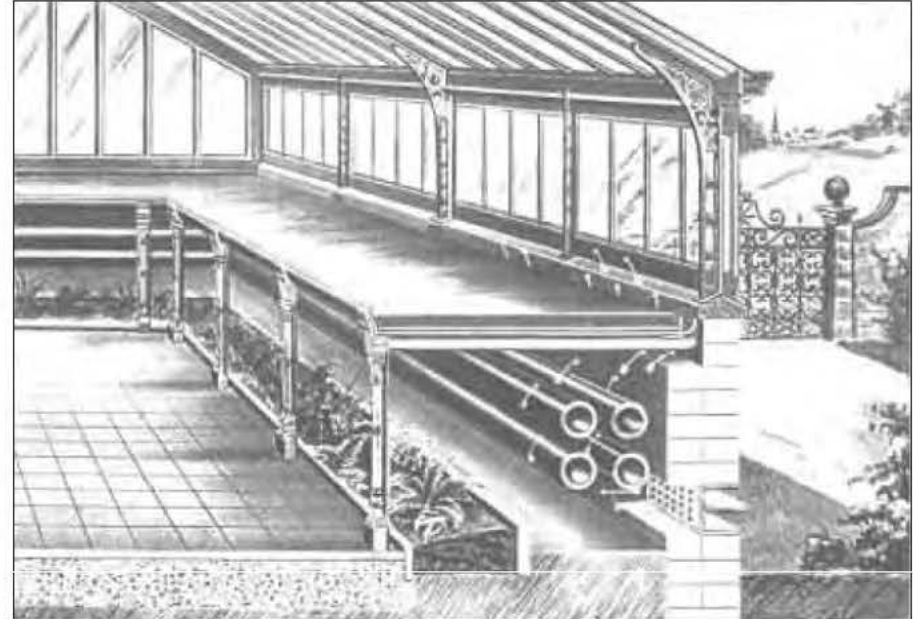


Plate 94. Section Through Span Greenhouse. Design for End Glasshouses At Benarth Hall. Source Fosters & Pearson 1909 Sales Catalogue (Page 41)

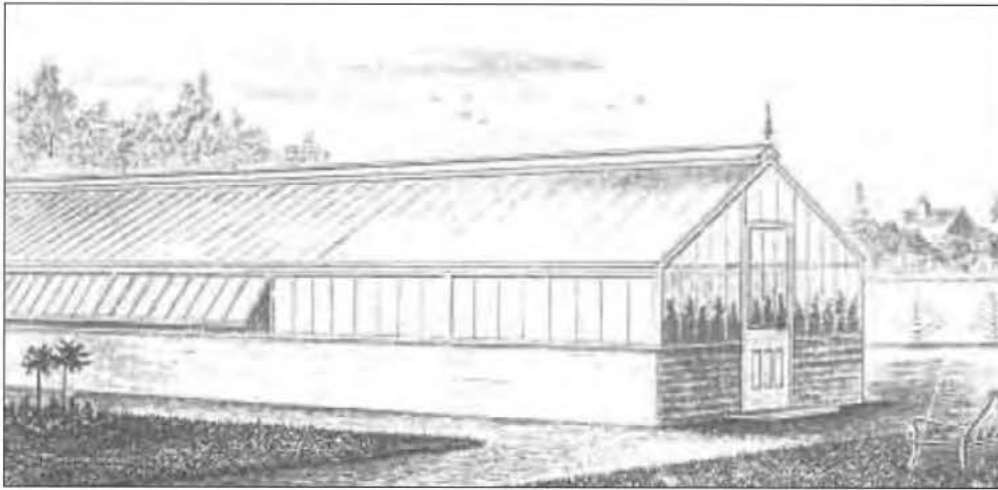


Plate 95. Span Greenhouse Elevation of Same Design as that found At Benarth Hall. Source Fosters & Pearson 1909 Sales Catalogue (Page 39)



Plate 96. Span Greenhouse with Side Frames for Bedding Plants. Of Same Design As that found at Benarth Hall. Source Fosters & Pearson 1909 Sales Catalogue (Page 41)

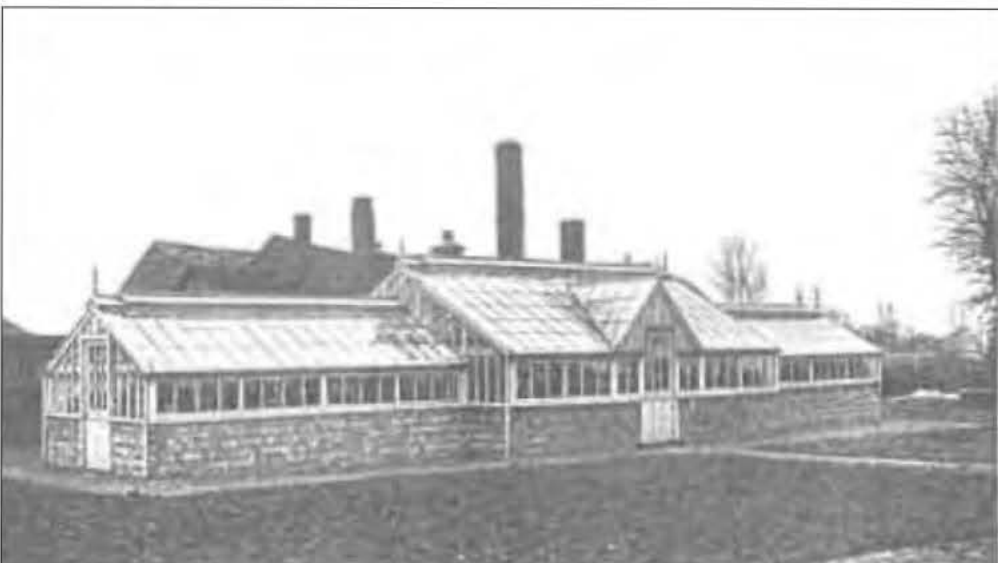


Plate 97. Range of Span Greenhouse of Similar Design as that found At Benarth Hall. Source Fosters & Pearson 1909 Sales Catalogue (Page 42)

6.6 The Stable and Bothy (Plates 98 – 125. See also Figure 38)

Both the stable and bothy are located outside the walls of the garden and are built around the exterior south-eastern corner.

6.6.1 The Stable (Plates 98 – 113. See also Figure 38)

The small loose-box stable positioned on the outer south-eastern corner of the walled garden is currently in a derelict state. The date of this stable is thought to belong to a much earlier phase of garden construction than the gardener's bothy. It is feasible that the stable is contemporary with the erection of the walls themselves as the 1805 auction particulars detail a lot near the walled garden entitled “Caer Stable & Woods” which may be the stable under discussion. The stable building appears on the 1871 map of the estate and we can be certain that the structure at least pre-dates the arrival of the Edwards family at Benarth.

The structure is roughly square in plan and is a lean-to structure utilising the southern garden wall as its rear wall. The eastern garden wall continues into the adjoining paddock and forms the eastern stable elevation. The stable is constructed of brick and local stone and a small number of the local slates used in the roofing of the structure survive. There is a single wide doorway in the southern elevation and two small unglazed window openings – one in the southern wall and one in the eastern. The interior of the stable has been whitewashed.

This small stable is in contrast to the large stable block located to the north of the walled garden and would likely have housed a working animal/animals rather than horses kept for recreational purposes. The locating of stable near the kitchen garden would have been a practical decision as the gardens would have required a constant supply of manure for use as a fertilizer and as a source of heat for vulnerable plants.

6.6.2 The Bothy (Plates 114 – 125. See also Figure 38)

Through studying the cartographic evidence for Benarth gardens it appears that the gardener's bothy was erected during the Tattersall remodelling phase of the gardens dated c.1920. The bothy does not therefore appear on any of the maps pre-dating the 1959 Ordnance Survey Map. It is a small brick structure with a fireplace in the south-western corner and a large eastern facing window (which is now bricked up) which would once have commanded a fine view over the Conwy Estuary. The bothy partially covers an older opening in the garden wall and it is unclear if this doorway was blocked up during the building of the bothy or whether the action pre-dates the bothy construction.

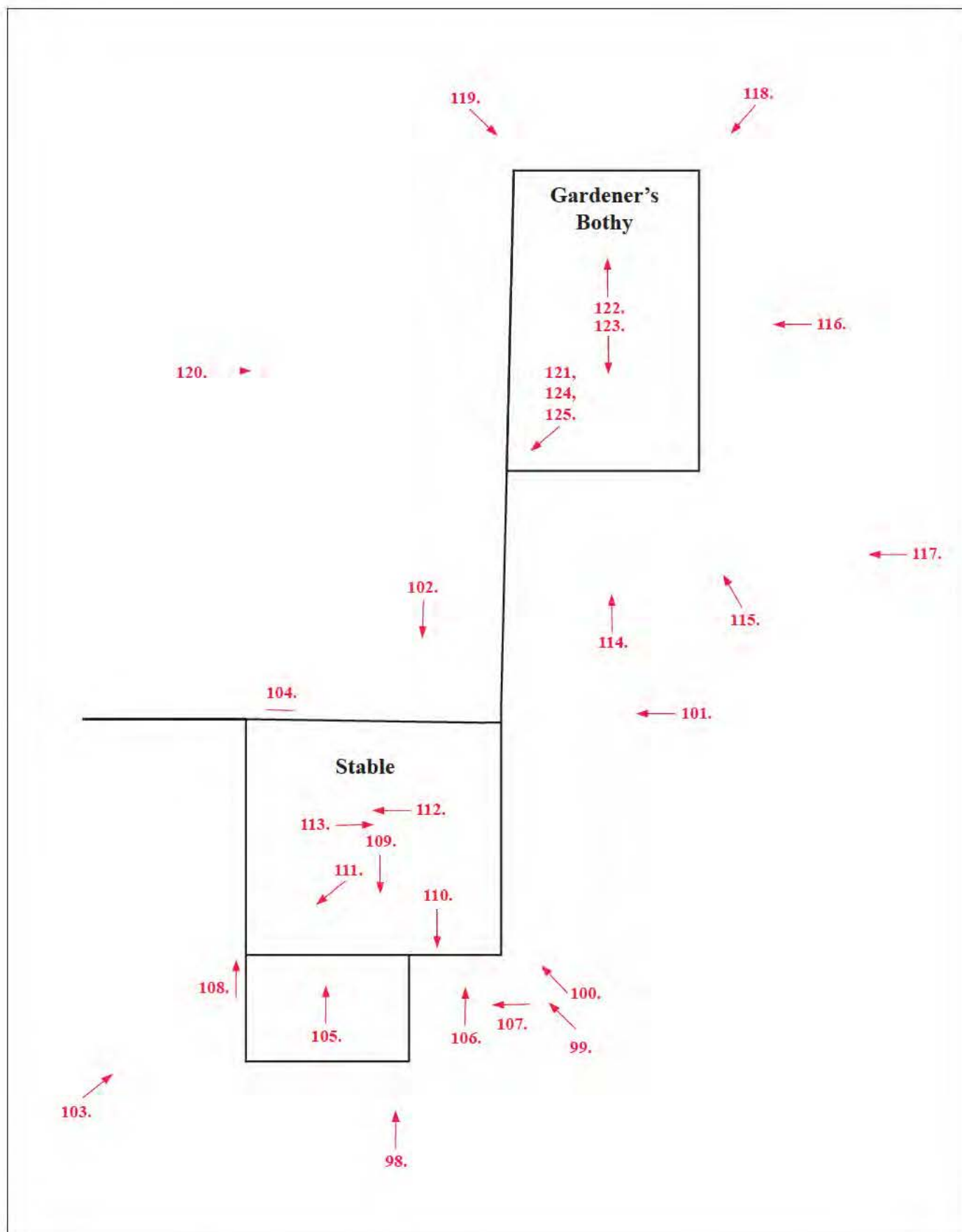


Figure 38. Location Map for Plates 98 - 125 Stable & Gardeners Bothy



Plate 98. Stable Building Front Elevation



Plate 99. Stable Building Front
And Side Elevation



Plate 100. Stable Building Front
And Side Elevation



Plate 101. Stable Building Side Elevation.
Gardener's Bothy can be seen in the Far
Right of the Photograph and Note Blocked-up
Entrance in Wall



Plate 102. Stable Building Rear Elevation and
Roof Line. Note that in this Instance as it is the
Outer Face of the Walled Garden Which Would be
Visible the Inner Face is Made of Stone



Plate 103. Stable Building Front Elevation and
Roof Line. Note that in this Instance as it is the
Outer Face of the Walled Garden Which Would be
Visible and is made of Brick



Plate 104. Stable Building Rear Wall and Roof Line with Surviving Slates.



Plate 105. Iron Work on Stable Door-frame



Plate 106. Stable Window Detail (Front Elevation)



Plate 107. Small Brick Enclosure At Front of Stable



Plate 108. Stable Interior (Facing East)



Plate 109. Stable Interior (Facing South)



Plate 110. Door Lintel Detailed Shot



Plate 111. Stable Interior (Facing South-West)



Plate 112. Stable Interior (Facing West)



Plate 113. Stable Interior (Facing East)



Plate 114. Gardeners Bothy Front Elevation



Plate 115. Bothy Front & Side Elevations.
Note Blocked Walled Garden Entrance



Plate 116. Bothy Side Elevation.
Note Bricked-up Window



Plate 117. Bothy Side Elevation Showing
Relationship with Neighbouring Stable Building



Plate 118. Bothy Rear & Side Elevations.
Note Blocked Walled Garden Entrance



Plate 119. Bothy Rear & Side Elevations.
Note Blocked Walled Garden Entrance



Plate 120. Garden Wall Behind the Garden Bothy. Blocked Entrance can be Seen in The Centre of the Picture



Plate 121. Bothy Interior Showing Fireplace



Plate 122. Bothy Interior (Facing North)



Plate 123. Bothy Interior (Facing South)



Plate 124. Bothy Fireplace



Plate 125. Bothy Fireplace

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