RAY DESMOND
A BIBLIOGRAPHY OF GARDEN HISTORY
SPRING
From Garden History 18:1, 1990 (at end!)
FOREWORD BY MAVIS BATEY
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We are happy that, for the 25th anniversary of the Garden History Society, Ray Desmond has agreed to produce this up-to-date bibliography of garden history. Since the first committee meeting, when he was appointed Librarian, he has collected information about garden history and historic gardens and made it available to members through bibliographies in the Society's Newsletter and Journal and to a wider public in his Bibliography of British Gardens. We are indebted to his scholarship and generosity.

Perhaps it is a measure of the success of the Society's campaigning for the relevance and importance of garden history that of the 150 or so books listed only 55 were available in 1965, when the Society was founded by Peter Hunt, who had just completed his Shell Gardens Book. For the entries in it he had called on a variety of expertise and was inspired with the idea of bringing the participants together to exchange ideas. The contributors' width of expertise, covering horticulture, landscape architecture, history, literature, art, architecture, botany and dendrology made Peter Hunt realize the need to make a cohesive subject of garden history by forming a society to bring these wide-ranging interests together.

 Shortly after the publication of the Shell guide, Peter Hunt and Miles Hadfield, who in 1960 had published his influential Gardening in Britain, met by arrangement in the buffet of a London railway station (less appropriate than an historic garden perhaps), and discussed the formation of the Garden History Society.

Frank Clark, the Society's first President, had published a pioneering book on The English Landscape Garden in 1948. It had been researched in the British Museum during the war when off duty from Civil Defence. Sadly, he died about two years before he was due to retire, when he had intended to spend his leisure on a larger work. Fusor Hortensis, edited by Peter Willis and published in 1974, was a collection of essays on the history of the English landscape garden in memory of H. F. Clark. The proceedings of the symposium held in 1984 on the Conservation of Historic Gardens in conjunction with the Ancient Monuments Society were also published in his honour. Edward Malins, a dedicated committee member, will also be well remembered for his contribution on English Landscaping and Literature, published in 1966. The idea for an Oxford Companion to Gardens was initiated by Peter Hunt but he did not live to see its fulfilment. When it was finally published in 1986 a reviewer observed that the list of contributors read like a roll-call of GHS members past and present.

We are fortunate that for the last twenty years Tony Baggs, a keen garden historian and member of the Society, has been the architectural editor of the Victoria History of the Counties of England and we can rely on the section on the house being supported by an account of the laying out of the garden with plans.
Thanks to Christopher Taylor the recent volumes of the Royal Commission on Historical Monuments include archaeological gardens. The Dictionary of National Biography, which had previously been rather lightweight on gardeners and designers, is repairing the omissions in their new supplement ‘from the beginnings to 1985’. Our own journal, Garden History, soon established itself internationally as the vehicle for original articles on the subject, and we owe a great deal to the scholarship and dedication of its founder-editor, Christopher Thacker. In 1988, as part of the celebration of the 1688 Tercentenary, the Garden History Society and the Dutch Garden Society jointly sponsored a book on The Gardens of William and Mary, edited by David Jacques and Arend van der Horst.

There is now an increasing number of courses and conferences on garden history run by university extra-mural departments, museum and local history societies and the new gardens trusts; there is a diploma in the conservation of gardens at the Architectural Association and provision for post-graduate work at the Centre for the Conservation of Historic Parks and Gardens at York. We are very grateful to Ray Desmond for producing this bibliography as a research tool to a field of literature which is rapidly expanding. It does not claim to be more than a selection of books that may be of value in the initial stages of research, but will be welcomed by many students as an essential reference list.

ANTHOLOGIES

Hunt, Peter The garden lover’s companion. Eyre Methuen, 1974.
Sieveking, Albert Forbes The praise of gardens: an epitome of the literature of the garden-art. Dent, 1899.

GENERAL GARDEN HISTORY

Berrall, Julia S. The garden: an illustrated history from ancient Egypt to the present day. Thames and Hudson, 1966.
Jellicoe, Geoffrey and Susan The landscape of man: shaping the environment from prehistory to the present day. Thames and Hudson, 1975.

GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND

GENERAL


Henrey, Blanche *British botanical and horticultural literature before 1800; comprising a history and bibliography of botanical and horticultural books printed in England, Scotland and Ireland from the earliest times until 1800*. Oxford UP, 1975, 3 vols. Indispensable for anyone interested in the related fields of botany and horticulture.


**MEDIEVAL**


**RENAISSANCE**


**WILLIAM AND MARY**


**EIGHTEENTH CENTURY**


SCOTLAND


IRELAND

George, Michael and Bowe, Patrick *The gardens of Ireland*. Hutchinson, 1986.


NINETEENTH AND TWENTIETH CENTURIES


BIOGRAPHY


Desmond, Ray *Dictionary of British and Irish botanists and horticulturists including plant collectors and botanical artists*. Taylor and Francis, 1977. Concise biographical data and references on 371 gardeners and over 1,400 nurserymen, seedsmen and market gardeners from 15th century to 1960s.


A SELECTION OF INDIVIDUAL BIOGRAPHIES


Carter, George and others *Humphry Repton, landscape gardener*, 1752–1818.
Victoria and Albert Museum, 1982. Includes gazetteer of estates known to have been landscaped by Repton.

Green, David *Gardener to Queen Anne: Henry Wise (1653–1738) and the formal garden*. Oxford UP, 1956.

Harris, John *Sir William Chambers, Knight of the Polar Star*. Zwemmer, 1970.


Webber, Ronald *Percy Cane ... garden designer*. Bartholomew, 1975.


**FACETS OF GARDEN HISTORY**

**CONSERVATORIES**


**GARDEN BUILDINGS, SCULPTURE AND MAZES**


Mott, George and Aall, Sally S. *Follies and pleasure pavilions*. Pavilion, 1989.

Plumptre, George *Garden ornament*. Thames and Hudson, 1989.

**NURSERIES**


Harvey, John H. *Early nurserymen, with reprints of documents and lists*. Phillimore, 1974.

known, dates of introduction of exotics are given.

Veitch, James Herbert *Hortus Veitchii: a history of the rise and progress of the nurseries of Messrs James Veitch and Sons etc.* 1906.


Willson, E. J. *Nurserymen to the world: the nursery gardens of Woking and North-West Surrey and plants introduced by them.* The author, 1989.


**KITCHEN GARDENS**


**COTTAGE GARDENS**


Scott-James, Anne *The cottage garden.* Allen Lane, 1981.

**BOTANICAL GARDENS**


See also: *The Oxford companion to gardens.*

**HISTORY OF PLANTS**

Coats, Alice M. *Flowers and their histories.* Hulton Press, 1956.


Genders, Roy *Collecting antique plants: the history and culture of the old florists' flowers.* Pelham, 1971.


Sitwell, Sacheverell *Old fashioned flowers.* Country Life, 1939.


**PLANT COLLECTING**


*See also: Ray Desmond Dictionary of British and Irish botanists…*

### INDIVIDUAL GARDENS


Thomas, Graham Stuart *Gardens of the National Trust*. National Trust, 1979.


*Victoria history of the counties of England*. Started in 1899; 200 volumes so far published but only 11 counties completed.


### CONSERVATION


*The conservation of historic gardens: Proceedings of a symposium held by the Garden History Society and the Ancient Monuments Society, 9 May 1984.*


*Garden History* Vol. 3 no. 4, Autumn 1975. Special issue devoted to conservation.


ICOMOS *A preliminary and interim list of gardens and parks of outstanding historic interest*. ICOMOS, 1979.
ILLUSTRATIONS OF GARDENS


Harris, John The artist and the country house: a history of country house and garden view painting in Britain, 1540–1870. Sotheby’s Publications, 1979, revised 1985.


BOTANICAL ART AND FLOWER ILLUSTRATION


Desmond, Ray A celebration of flowers: two hundred years of Curtis’s Botanical Magazine. Collingridge, 1987. Includes appendix of all artists, engravers and lithographers who contributed to this well-illustrated periodical.


See also: Oxford companion to gardens; Ray Desmond Dictionary of British and Irish botanists...

TOPOGRAPHICAL WORKS


Cox, Edward Godfrey A reference guide to the literature of travel, including tours,


Moir, Esther The discovery of Britain: the English tourists, 1540 to 1840. Routledge and Kegan Paul, 1964. Includes bibliography of manuscript and published journals and diaries.

Among the many tours of Britain that have been published the best known include:

Defoe, Daniel A tour through the whole island of Great Britain. 1724. Frequent reprints.


Toynbee, Paget ‘Horace Walpole’s journals of visits to country seats, etc’. The Walpole Society, vol. 16, 1928.

GUIDE BOOKS TO HOUSES, ETC.

Harris, John A country house index… country houses illustrated in … books of country views published between 1715 and 1872, together with a list of British country house guides and country house art collections, catalogues for the period, 1726–1870. Pinhorns, 1971.

Holmes, Michael The country house described: an index to the country houses of Great Britain and Ireland. St Paul’s Bibliographies, 1956. Lists references to 4,000 houses based on resources of Victoria and Albert Museum library. Includes guides and sale catalogues.


MAPS

Rodger, Elizabeth M. Large-scale county maps of the British Isles, 1596–1850: a union list. Edition 2. Bodleian Library, 1972. Includes all printed county maps on scale between 1/2 in. and 3 ins to the mile; locations in 26 libraries are given. Those on the largest scale often give some indication of a garden layout.

SELECTED PERIODICALS

*Curtis’s Botanical Magazine*, 1787–1984, continued as *Kew Magazine*. Illustrating garden and greenhouse plants introduced into cultivation from the tropical and temperate regions of the world, it is a record of horticultural fashion over two centuries. Cumulative index to vols 1–164. 1956.

*Botanical register*, 1815–47. Similar in presentation to *Curtis’s Botanical Magazine.*

*Gardener’s Magazine*, 1826–44. Founded and edited by J. C. Loudon. An excellent record of the contemporary scene; frequent descriptions of gardens and nurseries; current literature reviewed. Good annual indexes.


*Journal of the Royal Horticultural Society*, 1846–1975, continued as *The Garden.* Cumulative index 1838–1935; good annual indexes which are combined in ten-yearly cumulations.

*Gardeners’ Chronicle*, 1841–1985, continued as *Horticulture Week*. Founded by Joseph Paxton. An excellent contemporary record, especially of Victorian and Edwardian periods; strong on gardens and gardeners; even the advertisements are a mine of information; poor annual indexes.


*Garden History*, 1972 to date.

*Journal of Garden History*, 1981 to date.

*Country Life*, 1897 to date. A primary source for illustrated accounts of gardens. Cumulative indexes issued from time to time.

A list of Victorian gardening magazines compiled by Ray Desmond is given in *Garden History* vol. 5 no. 3, 1977.

BIBLIOGRAPHIES AND CURRENT AWARENESS


See also: Gallagher, Janette and Goodchild, Peter *A select reading list on the conservation of historic parks and gardens*...

CURRENT AWARENESS

*Newsletter Garden History Society*. Regularly lists a selection of current books and periodical articles. The Society also issues a Register of research by its members.


*Architectural Periodicals Index*. RIBA, 1972 to date. Quarterly. Includes gardens.
Art Index. Wilson, New York, 1929 to date. Quarterly. Indexes art journals and museum bulletins, especially those published in North America. Includes gardens.


LIBRARIES AND RECORD OFFICES

Copyright libraries: British Library, Bodleian Library Oxford, Cambridge University Library, National Library of Scotland, National Library of Wales, Trinity College Dublin. The Bodleian Library has the Gough collection of topographical prints which include garden views.

Local history collections in public libraries.

Record offices. A list of all public record offices, including county offices is given in Record Depositories in Great Britain. HMSO, 1964.

National Register of Archives, Quality Court, Chancery Lane, London. Administered by Royal Commission on Historical Manuscripts. A central collecting point for information on manuscript resources for British history outside the public records. It has about 30,000 unpublished reports on individual collections of papers relating to people, estates, businesses, organizations and societies. Publishes annually Accessions to repositories and reports added to the National Register of Archives. Architectural history and the fine and applied arts: sources in the National Register of Archives. 1969–74, 5 vols, includes many references of interest to the garden historian.


Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, Richmond, Surrey. Good coverage of older horticultural works and nineteenth-century periodicals. Its equivalent in Scotland is the Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh and in Ireland the National Botanic Gardens, Glasnevin, Dublin.


Guildhall Library, London. Has the most complete collection of topographical works and prints relating to London. Excellent collection of county and local histories.

Society of Antiquaries, Burlington House, London. Notable for its collection of British local history and sets of journals published by historical and
archaeological societies.

Fine Arts Library, Westminster Central Reference Library, Leicester Square, London. Has *Art Index* and other bibliographical works. Sets of periodicals such as *Apollo* and *Connoisseur* which occasionally publish articles on garden history. A very good collection of current guides to country houses.

Victoria and Albert Museum, South Kensington, London. National Art Library. Has a card index of all the topographical prints, drawings and watercolours in the department.

Landscape Institute, Carlton House Terrace, London. A small collection of books and periodicals.

National Monuments Record, Savile Row, London. Administered by Royal Commission on Historical Monuments. Has over 2,000,000 photographs, maps, plans and other documents of buildings and sites in England.