

Land of the Fanns: The Know It, Love It Project

This text was produced by Jill Plater of Essex Gardens Trust (essexgardenstrust.org.uk) as a tool for their researchers. It assumes you will be conducting more detailed research than may be the case for the Know It, Love It Project, but is nevertheless extremely helpful

SOURCE MATERIALS AND CONTACTS FOR RESEARCHING ESSEX GARDEN HISTORY

MAPS:

Start researching your site by finding its location on maps that show details of the site. Maps are located in the ERO Search Room in the map chests. The first printed large-scale map of the Essex is Chapman and André 1777. The first edition Ordnance Survey maps c1870 give a clear picture of sites, particularly the 25" to the mile. The ERO will photocopy the areas you request. Search SEAX for the name of your site; this will usually give you several references to follow up. It will show if there is an estate map of your site and these can be found in boxes on shelves near the map chests; they are filed in date order. Once you have looked at this series of maps you can see the broad development of your site.

Source Material
Early County maps
Chapman and André 1777
Draft OS map (surveyors' drawings) 1799 2" to mile
OS 1 st and 2nd edition 25" – ask staff for these. Key to grids in map chest – 1 st editions not always available
OS 1 st edition 6" 1862-1876
OS 2 nd edition 6" 1893-1896
OS Pathfinder maps 1970's/1980's
Estate maps – in boxes in date order 1566-1822
Tithe maps alphabetically by parish
Enclosure maps
Streetmap.co.uk (to check OS)
Sales particulars sometimes include maps



thegardenstrust.org



REFERENCE BOOKS HELD MOSTLY AT THE ESSEX RECORD OFFICE

It is essential to build up an outline history of the house and family, without which it will be difficult to follow the progress of the garden. If the Victoria County History has been published for your area, this will give full and accurate information on the history of the area from Domesday onwards and detailed information on the prominent sites in the area. The RCHM volumes also give historical facts on prominent buildings. There are many other Essex history books held by the Essex Record Office; some, e.g., Morant, are concerned mainly with genealogy but give vital information on dates of acquisition, etc. Many of these books are kept in a locked cupboard and you will need to ask a member of the staff for them.

Source material	
Victoria County History of Essex	
VCH Bibliography & Supplement	
RCHM – vols. 1-1V	
Morant 1763 & 1768 Histories and Antiquities of Essex (2 vol)	
Department of the Environment listed buildings registers – by parish	
Mullman 1769-72 Complete New History of Essex (6 vols)	
Excursions through Essex 1818-19 (2 vols)	
Wright: 1836 History of Essex	
Coller: 1861 Peoples History of Essex	
Salmon, N: 1740 History and Antiq. Essex	
Rush: 1897 Seats of Essex	
Burke's and Saville's Country Houses	
Britton and Brayley: 1774/7 and 1805 Beauties of Britain vol.5	
Pevsner: Buildings of England – new edition	
Pike's New Series: 1909 Essex in the 20C	
Hunter, J The Essex Landscape	
Hanson, M.W. Essex Parks 2004	
Cantor, L. Medieval Parks of England 1983	

ESTATE SOURCES:

The following sources of research may provide you with information on the estate and the site. SEAX will give you a list of references relating to your site and if any are relevant, they can be ordered on the computer and viewed at the ERO. The PARISH BOXES are kept on shelves. **SALES PARTICULARS** are very useful in researching sites and can be ordered to view on SEAX.

Family records	D/D ...On SEAX and in file carousel
Estate accounts and records	D/D ...
Land Tax records from c1780-1832 on microfiche	Index kept on shelves behind map chests
Road and footpath diversions: 1689 onwards	Pink file kept behind desk- by Parish

Essex wills and probates	Bookshelves
Parish history books	Bookshelves
Parish Boxes	On shelves at end of search room – blue key card
Sales particulars	On SEAX and filed by parish in index card drawers

PHOTOGRAPHS, ENGRAVINGS AND POSTCARDS

Illustrations include paintings, engravings, etchings, photographs, postcards and prints. Other sources below are suggestions if you wish to extend your research beyond the ERO. There 2 volumes of Country Life articles on Essex houses kept in the locked cupboard at the ERO.

Source material	Location
Virtue Prints – engravings	ERO in a file
Country Life – these often contain estate photos	ERO – Essex articles kept in bound volumes in locked cupboard. Also countrylife.co.uk
Francis Frith Collections Francisfrith.com.uk	Online and ERO – on microfiche. Index on shelves behind map chests
Collections held at National Monument Record (Swindon)	English-heritage.org.uk
Spalding postcards –	ERO – Index on top of filing drawers
Aerial photographs	County Council
Country Life Library of Photographs	Countrylife.co.uk
British Museum Print Room	www.bl.uk

MAGAZINES AND NEWSPAPERS

County, and in some cases national, magazines or journals may contain information on individual sites.

(Periodicals are kept on the book shelves in the ERO where they are labelled 'Essex periodicals')

Source Material	Location
Country Life Essex set plus index held in locked cupboard at ERO	British Library, ERO Or Countrylife.co.uk
Garden Life	BL or CUL
Essex Countryside/Life	ERO – on bookshelves
Essex Review	ERO – ask staff for the index. Bound copies kept on bookshelves
Essex Journal	ERO – bookshelves
Essex Archaeology and History (not indexed)	ERO – bookshelves
East Anglian magazine ERO have copies from 1864	ERO – bookshelves
Chelmsford Chronicle	Public library and ERO –

	microfiche and can order some on SEAX – catalogue kept behind desk
Essex Gazette	As above

BL – British Library CUL – Cambridge University Library

MANOR/PARISH RECORDS: Tithe maps c1840 are very variable in scale and amount of details shown. Some are specially commissioned maps, but others may use a recent parish map as a basis. These are kept in a map chest drawer. Footpath and road diversions are filed by parish – ask at ERO desk. Land Tax Returns from c1780 are sometimes the only way of establishing when a certain person acquired a certain property. These are kept on microfiche, of variable readability. Parish history books are kept on open shelves, alphabetically by parish. Some local history societies newsletters are kept in boxes at the ERO on shelves labelled Essex Periodicals, and some at local libraries.

Source material	Location
Glebe terriers (describe church held land)	Guildhall Diocesan records
Enclosure Act and Map	ERO – on shelves behind the map chests
Tithe Award and Map	ERO Map chest
Footpath and Road Diversions	ERO - pink file kept behind desk – by parish
Land Tax Returns from c1780-1832	ERO – on microfiche
Parish History	ERO – Grey parish boxes – blue key card
'Gardening' box	ERO – boxes next to parish boxes
Sales Particulars	ERO – SEAX and by parish on index cards in drawers
Local history societies	ERO – on shelves 'Essex periodicals' and sometimes in parish boxes. Also, public libraries
Manorial Extents (only if getting desperate)	
Manor court rolls (ditto)	

BOOKS ON SPECIFIC DESIGNERS AND GARDEN DESIGN

Much information can be gained on individual gardens, garden designers, and a particular period in time from published material. A few examples are below:

Title	Author
Repton in Essex	EGT 2000
Lancelot Brown and his Essex Clients	EGT 2015
Percy Cane, garden designer	Ronald Webber 1975
Capability Brown	Dorothy Stroud 1950
Humphry Repton	Dorothy Stroud 1962
Bibliography of British Gardens	Ray Desmond 1984

A Biographical Dictionary of British Architects	Colvin, H (1995)
Oxford Companion to Gardens	Jellicoe, G, et al. 1986
Seeds of Fortune (Veitch family and nursery)	Shepherd, Sue, 2003
Lost Gardens of Essex	Stubbings, W, 2002
Seedtime	Roper, E 1989
Rooted in Essex	EGT 2006
Richard Woods	Fiona Cowell
Humphry Repton, Landscape Gardener	Carter/Goode/Laurie
Paper Landscapes	Essex Gardens Trust 2005

People connected to the site during its main period of activity should also be researched.

People
Owners
Visitors of note
Designers
Estate workers
Gardeners
Plant collectors
Nurserymen
Poets, artists, writers
Also look in the following:
Census returns 1841 – 1911 (Ancestry.co.uk available on search room computers)
Kelly's Directories (in ERO)
Essex Wills (in ERO)
Essex Historical Biographical and Pictorial (ed John Grant 1913) (in ERO)
Oxford Dictionary National Biography (in ERO or on line)
Who's Who in Essex 1935 (in ERO)
Debrett's Peerage (in ERO)
Brown, A. 1972 – Essex People 1750-1900 (in ERO)
Biographies – on shelves in ERO

Useful Contact numbers and websites

Contact	Website	Telephone number
British Library	www.bl.uk Customer.Services@bl.uk	0330 333 1144
Cambridge Committee for Aerial Photography: CUCAP	www.cambridgeairphotos.cam cucap@geog.cam.ac.uk	01223 334575
Cambridge University Library	www.lib.cam.ac.uk library@lib.cam.ac.uk	01223 333033
Country Life	www.countrylife.co.uk clpicturelibrary@ti.medici.com	01252 555 090
Essex Record Office	www.essexcc.gov.uk/ero email: ero.enquiry@essex.gov.uk	033301 32122
Lindley Library (horticultural books)	www.rhs.org.uk email:library.london@rhs.org.uk	020 78213050
National Monuments Records: Swindon	www.historicengland.org.uk	0870 333 1181
Public Record Office (Kew)	www.nationalarchives.gov.uk	0208 8763444

GARDEN HISTORY AND GENERAL REFERENCE BOOKS

AUTHOR	TITLE
Airs, Malcolm, edited	The Victorian Great House
Airs, Malcolm, edited	The Edwardian Great House
Anthony, J	The Renaissance Garden in Britain (1997)
Batey, M	Regency Gardens (Shire 1995)
Brown, J	The Art and Architecture of English Gardens (1989)
Brown, J	The English Garden through the 20 th century
Beech, G. & Mitchell R	Maps for Family and Local History
Bristow, Joy	The Local Historian's Glossary of Words and Terms
Campbell, S	Walled Kitchen Gardens (Shire 1998)
Conway, H	Public Parks (Shire 1996)
Desmond, Ray	Bibliography of British & Irish Gardens
Fleming, L & Alan Gore	The English Garden
Hadfield, M	The English Landscape Garden (Shire 1997)
Hobhouse, P	Plants in Garden History (1992)
Hunt, John Dixon & Peter Willis, edited	The Genius of the Place: The English Landscape Garden 1620-1820
Lambert, D, Goodchild P, & Roberts, J	Parks and Gardens: A researcher's guide to sources for designed landscapes (2006)
Quest-Ritson, C	The English Garden: A Social History (2001)
Scott-James, A	The Pleasure Garden (1977)