

## **CORS-Y-GEDOL**

<b>Ref No</b>	PGW (Gd) 27 (GWY)
<b>OS Map</b>	124
<b>Grid Ref</b>	SH 600 230
<b>Former County</b>	Gwynedd
<b>Unitary Authority</b>	Gwynedd
<b>Community Council</b>	Dyffryn Ardudwy

**Designations** Listed buildings: House Grade II\*; gatehouse Grade II\*; farmhouse, barns, stables and outbuildings, and 4 pairs of gate piers, near house and upper lodge, all Grade II. SSSI: large area (54.8 ha) of woodland to south, west and south-west of house. Snowdonia National Park. Tree Preservation Order (general)

**Site Evaluation** **Grade II**

**Primary reasons for grading** Remains of park and garden of eighteenth century or earlier around sixteenth-century house; kitchen garden area may be contemporary with house. Intact lime avenue of around 1735-40, and some other surviving eighteenth-century planting.

**Type of Site** Woodland, park, formal and informal garden areas, kitchen garden, former gardens and formal plantations with intersecting paths.

**Main Phases of Construction** Eighteenth century or before, nineteenth century.

### **SITE DESCRIPTION**

Cors-y-Gedol is situated to the south of Dyffryn Ardudwy, on the western slope of Snowdonia about 2.5 km from the sea. The house is a large, irregular stone manor house, of two storeys with a slate roof. The main front faces south, towards a gatehouse. Some windows are stone-mullioned; the rest, which are wood-framed, appear to have been replaced. The mullioned windows on the upper floor of the east wing are round-headed, and there is a single attic dormer on this wing. There is a two-storey, projecting central porch, and a two-storey bay to the west of it. The chimney-stacks are stone and there is a cross-shaped finial over the porch.

The house is Elizabethan, the oldest part built by Richard Vaughan in 1576, and remodelled later in the century (the porch is dated 1593, and initialled G V, for Richard's son Griffith Vaughan). The house was extended westwards in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries (there are date-stones of 1660 and 1782), and was finally doubled in size in the nineteenth century when a whole wing, incorporating a ballroom, was added on the west, with more

extensions behind, to the north. Due to this practice of adding on rather than demolishing and rebuilding, the house is remarkably well preserved.

An estate map of 1764 shows an L-shaped building at the back of the house which had become absorbed into the main block by the addition of linking extensions by 1901; the farmhouse was also linked to the main house by a building at this date. These extensions, and the L-shaped building, have now all been demolished, and the farmhouse is free-standing. The demolition took place at some time before 1951.

The fine gatehouse to the south of the house was built in 1630 (it has a date-stone over the arch), and is symmetrical, with a central archway with a room over, and above this a clock face and cupola; there is a two-storey wing either side. It is built of similar stone and in similar style to the house, with mullioned windows, of which the three lights over the passageway have round heads. The roof is slated and there are two stone chimneys on the central block; there are small finials on the tops and corners of the end gables, and on the window gables. It faces the house across a walled forecourt, and is at right angles to the drive. The gatehouse is said to have been designed by Inigo Jones, but this is stylistically unlikely, and there is no supporting evidence for his involvement.

To the south-south-east of the house, beyond the gatehouse and on the far side of the drive, is a cobbled stable-yard with buildings on two sides. The third side is formed by the back of another building, not opening on to the yard, and the fourth is partly walled, with a low stone wall, and had a gate, but this has now gone. The buildings are stone with slate roofs, were present in 1764 and consist of stables and a coach house, which have been recently converted into a holiday cottage and garage.

The laundry lies a short distance away from the house to the south-west, and is shown on the 1764 estate map, being possibly sixteenth-century in date. It is stone-built with a slate roof and stone chimney-stack, of two storeys with a single-storey extension on the south end, and a large stone buttress on the west side. It has been converted to a holiday cottage.

Most of the once extensive spread of outbuildings at the rear of the house has been demolished, but there are a few remains against the south side of the kitchen garden, at the west end. One is a kennel, although it may not have served this purpose originally; another has a chimney and may have been a pigs' kitchen as there seems never to have been any glass at this end of the kitchen garden. The 1901 map shows only one building in this area, an earlier one shown on the 1764 map having been already demolished.

The mainly wooded park was laid out close to the point where cultivated land gives way to open moorland, and there are views from certain spots eastwards to the hills and westwards to the sea. It is a windswept site, a fact noted by Thomas Pennant in the 1780s, who commented that the trees had their tops shorn level by the west winds. The exposed situation is no doubt the reason for so much of the park being wooded.

The main approach is at right angles to the house and gatehouse, via a straight drive about 1.5

km long from the west. This drive may not be original, and could have been created by Richard Vaughan, who made 'extensive' improvements to the grounds from 1697 onwards. He is recorded as having begun the avenue; the limes are thought to have been planted around 1734-40. It is likely that much of the rest of the park and garden layout, as recorded in detail on an estate map dated 1764, belongs to the same period of activity. Unfortunately the majority of the features shown on this map have ceased to exist, but the avenue is still in good condition, some other planting remains, and the woodland covers much the same area.

Richard Vaughan, who inherited in 1697, following the death of his elder brother, is the first to be recorded as improving the grounds, and may have expended most of his energies in this direction as, although he is also said to have improved the house, there is little work of the appropriate date now evident. Later generations, by contrast, seem to have concentrated on the house, which was much extended. By 1889 the 25-in Ordnance Survey map shows that the formal layout of the gardens and nearer parts of the park had all but disappeared. Some deliberate redesign is evident, particularly in the kitchen and ornamental gardens, but for the most part change seems to have resulted from lack of maintenance or planting over with trees.

The 2-in. manuscript map, drawn up in 1819 by the Ordnance Survey and used as the basis for the 1-in. First Edition, is at too small a scale to be very useful and is a little unclear, but it does seem to show a transitional stage, with some parts of the layout as shown in 1764 still extant and others not. There seems little doubt that the heyday of the park and gardens was during the eighteenth century.

The estate passed to the Mostyns by marriage at the end of that century, and was later sold (in 1858), and offered for sale again in 1891 and 1908. It became a school and a hostel, and was eventually bought by the present owners in 1951.

The park in 1764 and in the nineteenth century was, as now, chiefly wooded, with open areas differing from surrounding fields only in the larger size and more regular shapes of the enclosures. There is no indication that specimen trees were ever scattered about these enclosures, although surviving trees of both eighteenth- and nineteenth-century date are to be found alongside the paths, roads and tracks and on the field boundaries. In 1764 several areas near the house were laid out formally, with straight walks intersecting or in regular patterns, and there was also a network of curving rides in the further woodland. By 1889 the latter had been increased, though many of the original routes were retained, but the more formal areas had been absorbed into the general run of the plantations and several of the straight paths lost. It is even harder to trace the routes of these today, although a few tracks still used are on the line of routes shown on the 1764 map.

The main drive, which approaches from the west-south-west, is long, perfectly straight and climbs steadily. It begins between two lodges on the A496 from Harlech to Barmouth, opposite St Dwywe's church. The lodges, now modernised and extended, are stone-built, single-storey with attics, with pitched slate roofs, porches and gothic-arched attic windows. The gates just to the west of the lodges are iron, hung on square-sectioned, stone-built piers. A dwarf wall with railings in the same style as the gates curves outwards from each pier,

terminating near the road with a similar pier (missing on the south), and there is another set of piers within the gates, beside the lodges. These all lack the truncated pyramids which those nearer the house have, but are topped with stone balls. There were small plantations backing each lodge, of which the southern survives, but the northern has been built over.

The drive crosses open fields, formerly part of the park, until it reaches the woodland west of the house. It is now a public road, and is tarmac-surfaced and walled both sides, with wide, rough grass verges.

At the eastern edge of the woodland belt the drive is flanked by walls and gate piers similar to those by the gatehouse, built of dressed stone with (slightly squatter) truncated pyramidal tops and large stone balls. Here the magnificent, complete, avenue of limes begins and the public road parts from the drive and swings away to the south. There is another lodge, the Upper Lodge, on the south side of the drive. The lodge is not shown on the eighteenth-century estate map but had been built by 1889. It is stone-built, of two storeys with a steeply-pitched slate roof and a stone chimney-stack. There is a small porch on the west, and gothic-arched windows on this and the upper floor. In 1901 there was an aviary within the woodland opposite the lodge, north of the drive, and a small enclosure still remains.

The avenue runs as far as the laundry, near which are two horse chestnuts on the north of the drive and an oak and a different variety of lime on the south. At the top of the drive are a few more limes, some yews and other conifers, and, near the gatehouse, a bay tree. The avenue is underplanted with snowdrops. The drive ends in a small, oddly-shaped yard in front of the house. Even in 1764 the arrangement of drives within the house forecourt suggests that vehicles went round the gatehouse rather than through it.

The lane which forks off the drive at the lower gateway leads past the house to the farm. It did not exist in 1764, when the farm was reached by continuing straight past the house. This arrangement was still in use in 1819. By 1899, however, the lane had been constructed, using parts of some tracks following a similar route, including one of the straight walks alongside one of the small formal plantations near the house.

Paths in the woodland are said to have been stone-paved, but most of them no longer seem to be, although the main track leading west from the garden does have a stone surface, as does the track northwards into the woods near the lower gate. Some other tracks have had tarmac or other surfaces added, and many can no longer be traced.

To the north and west of the house and garden are areas of woodland which are to some extent transitional between the garden and the main area of woodland. Some of these, but not all, were part of the original formal design. On the north and west sides of the kitchen garden is an area, enclosed by dry-stone walls, in the shape of an inverted L which contains, near the north-east corner, a moated tower stub. This small structure is shown on the map of 1901 (as an enclosure) but not that of 1764. It is low, quite well constructed of dry stone, with a ramp leading up from the south-west. Between this and a causeway on the north-east, where the former footpath crossed a wet area, runs a shallow moat, with some walling in the sides. This may have

continued east of the path but if so has been more or less filled in - only a slight depression remains. Near the south-west corner of the area is an almost rectangular pond with an island, which also appears on the 1901 map but not that of 1764. South of this pond the ground is uneven as material dredged from the larger pond in the garden was spread here.

In 1901 this area was part of a much larger piece of woodland, which had no internal boundaries; in 1764, however, there was a boundary dividing the northern part of the area, which ran not far from the line of the modern boundary, but was not as straight; north of this there were no trees. There was also a stream running straight across the woodland (now not following the same course, although there are several small watercourses around the pond) and a feature in the un-wooded area shown as a diamond within a square, which is not now visible on the ground, although there does seem to be a lighter square in approximately the right place on an air photograph. If this was a building, it was quite large.

No paths were shown in the area in 1764 except for a walk along the outside of the west wall of the kitchen garden, which stopped at a focal point or tiny building just north-west of the kitchen garden. This path still existed in 1901 but was part of a more extensive path system, and the building had gone. All are now disused and most lost, but the site of the walk mentioned is marked by a row of laurels, and there is a suggestion of an edging of stones. The northwards extension of this path to a gate in the more recent north boundary wall can be seen as a raised strip.

South of this L-shaped area is a further area, now, as in 1764, walled, with tracks along the north and west sides and the drive on the south. This is much the same as the rest of the area now, except for some planted evergreens in the understorey, but had a different character in the eighteenth century. The tracks were then part of a formal layout of walks, which surrounded the area and crossed it east-west, springing from a semi-circular focal point backing on to the west wall of the garden (then on a slightly different line from the one it now follows). The trees planted in the area may have been different from those in the rest of the wooded enclosure as they are depicted on the 1764 estate map as smaller and planted in straight lines. In 1901 the paths survived but the garden wall had been changed, and the area of the semi-circle was occupied by an informal pond; the planting was apparently the same as elsewhere. At the present time only the outer tracks on the west and north survive, but the pond still exists.

On the south side of the drive the 1764 map shows several further areas with formal layouts, of which little now remains. Directly opposite the main lawn east of the pond was a rectangular area surrounded by paths and divided in two by an east-west central path. The planting appears to have been of small trees or shrubs, and there was a tiny building or some other feature, perhaps a summer house, on the east side, slightly offset from the central path. West of this was a larger rectangular area divided into several unequal sections by paths; this appears to have been walled, and looks like a garden. Some trees, in straight lines, are shown, with smaller trees or shrubs in other areas, but it is impossible to say whether these were intended to be fruit trees and bushes, shrubs, or perhaps topiary. This area still appeared to be a garden on the 2-in manuscript map of 1819. The nineteenth-century lane ran along the southern edges of these two areas.

To the south of the possible garden was another rectangular enclosure, planted with trees which appear to be larger and taller than those in the former garden. This had straight walks around the edges and crossing it diagonally from the four corners, but there is no suggestion of a focal point in the centre. West of this, and of the former garden, was a larger plantation, almost square, with a clearing near the centre which contained one very large tree. Although there were tracks on the east and west sides of this area, and two crossing it from east to west, there were no formal paths leading to the central tree, only curving dotted lines which perhaps represent informal footpaths.

By the late nineteenth century the first two areas had become a paddock and the others were planted in exactly the same way as the rest of the woodland, with a few of the walks surviving and others taken up in the creation of the lane. The situation is the same today, although there has been further loss of paths. The main walled track across the west edge of the area with the tree in the centre survives, however, and there are two other paths off the lane, one of which probably follows part of an original route.

The paddock still bears some signs of its original layout, in the form of banks running across from north to south, which indicate that some terracing was involved. A very noticeable bank runs on the line of the east side of the western perimeter walk of the area opposite the main lawn, with a slighter one a little to the west of it; the walk would have run along the level strip between these two. The laundry cottage occupies the northern end of this terrace, and the walk is shown kinking round it in 1764. There is also a terrace across the upper, eastern, edge of this area, now on the west of the track which passes the stables.

The main area of woodland lies to the west and south-west of the house, with an arm to the north-west and extensions west-south-west and east-north-east along the Afon Ysgethin. Most of this, especially the southern area near the river, was probably originally natural woodland, with extra species being added from at least the eighteenth century, and rides being laid out as well as functional tracks. Only a few trees survive from this period: east of the track leading past the stable-yard there are two large and ancient beeches, and other similar trees, a few now dead or fallen, and several stumps, occur singly and in groups at intervals alongside the lane or near the edges of fields. By the late nineteenth century almost the whole area was planted as mixed woodland, with a few stands of pure conifers and fewer pockets of deciduous woodland. By the time the present owners bought the estate in 1951 most of the timber of any value had been felled, and the woodland was naturally regenerating with mixed deciduous native species. This situation continues, and almost the whole area is now a Site of Special Scientific Interest. The woodland is lightly grazed by sheep.

Groups of enclosures larger and more regular than the surrounding fields either side of the drive and to the east and south of the house suggest the original extent of the park. Some of them still contain mature trees near the edges or on the boundaries, and there are still some small plantations; but all are now managed in the same way as the surrounding farmland. From a house name it seems that the area flanking the drive was known as 'Parc Isaf' (Lower Park), and according to the particulars of sale of 1908 it was further divided into North and South. It is

reasonable to assume that the area east and south of the house was 'Parc Uchaf', or Upper Park.

One enclosure in this latter area is shown on the 1764 estate map to contain a large circular feature. This would have been well placed for a viewing mount, certainly offering good views over house and gardens, and probably over sea and mountain scenery as well; but by the late nineteenth century it had gone, and no trace is visible today, even on the air photograph.

Terraces which are visible in the park enclosures are more likely to relate to prehistoric or Romano-British farming settlements than to any later phase of design, as the whole park is superimposed on a landscape full of early features, including burial chambers, huts, fields and trackways.

The Keeper's Cottage was built at some time between 1764 and 1889, probably at the same time as the upper lodge. It is extremely similar to that building in design, with the same steeply-pitched roof and gothic-arched windows. The site of the pheasantry has become part of the garden.

Like the park, the gardens were laid out in the eighteenth century if not earlier. It is possible that the kitchen garden represents the original, late sixteenth- or early seventeenth-century enclosed garden, and the forecourt must have come into existence at the latest when the gatehouse was built in 1630.

Apart from the kitchen garden, the surviving areas of garden are small and lie close to the house, mostly on the south and west. The further area of garden south of the drive, extant in the eighteenth century, would have nearly trebled the garden area, but this is now a paddock.

As shown on the 1764 estate map, which possibly depicts the gardens as laid out by Richard Vaughan earlier in the century, the whole area had a formal character, with many straight walks, an elaborately-shaped pool, and little apparent planting. By the late nineteenth century this had clearly been redesigned to give a more natural effect, with formality restricted to the kitchen garden. Several of the paths had been abandoned, trees and shrubs had been planted on the lawns and areas of shrubbery created, and the pool had been re-shaped into a rough oval. The forecourt, with its walling and gate piers, however, remained formal, as it still does. Particulars of sale of 1858 and 1908 describe the gardens respectively as 'laid out in the Old English style' and 'tastefully laid out and planted with ornamental shrubs and trees'.

Later some more formal elements crept back, steps down to the water's edge being added by the pond and a row of clipped box balls on the lawn; there was also a circular pool at the rear of the house, on the north-east. This, however, was set in a rockery, and accompanied by informal planting.

The formality of the forecourt and the garden walls still tends to dominate the garden, and as most of the trees and shrubs have now gone from the main lawn there is little to detract from it. An overgrown shrubbery along the east side of the forecourt contains most of the surviving planting, although there are a few shrubs and climbers on the house and garden walls.

In front of the house, on the south, is a forecourt, in which the gatehouse stands, bounded by a low stone wall. This forecourt is now lawned, and crossed by three parallel drives. Apparently at one time there was a parterre or beds for flowers in this area. At the moment there are narrow borders along the east and west walls, and a few shrubs against the inside of the south wall, and against the house. A path runs from the steps into the shrubbery on the east, straight across the front of the house (disappearing into the curve of the drive) and to the top of the steps down on to the lawn on the west. The former continuation of the path and its branches are visible as raised bumps in the grass for most of their routes.

West of the forecourt, and at a lower level, is a lawn bounded by stone walls similar to the forecourt walls except the west one which is a dry-stone, partly revetting wall. In the lawn is a large, oval, dry-stone-walled pond. In 1764 this area consisted of more or less a square surrounded by gravel paths, and with a north-south path crossing it, with a large, elaborately-shaped feature to the west. In scale and position this was similar to the present pond, and surely must have been a water feature, but it was much more formal than the existing pond. By 1901 the pond had been redesigned and given an informal shape, and the path layout on the lawn had changed. The northern path was retained and the western one became part of a longer path across the east side of the pond; the rest were abandoned. The steps leading down to the pond from the path on the east had not yet been built, but the west wall of the garden had been realigned, and a loop of path laid out all round the pond, linking up with the straight path on the east. The lawn was dotted with specimen trees and a few shrubs. At a later date a croquet lawn was made to the north of the pond, levelled with stone revetting on the west side and a grass bank on the east. This did away with the path round this end of the pond, and probably contributed to the loss of the path on the west of it. The slate steps which now lead down to the water on the east side may have been built at the same time; they were in place when the present owners moved in in 1951.

The strip enclosed by the wall running west and south of the west wing of the house is also lawned, except for a small rectangle of decorative paving in front of the door on the south side and an 'area' to the east of this, to light a basement room, which has a slate-paved floor.

The large trees have now all gone (some stumps remain) except for a few near the north-west corner of the house, and there are no beds or borders except for one small, rectangular, stone-edged island bed near the foot of the steps down from the forecourt, which has been recently made around the stump of a tree.

The wall along the east side of the forecourt, north of the gatehouse, acts as a retaining wall for a strip of gently sloping higher ground behind. This is planted as a shrubbery and contains the remains of a glasshouse, present in 1901 and recently demolished (after 1974). It seems to have had a boiler house at its northern end, and had remained in use (but unheated) until shortly before it was demolished. The eastern boundary of this area is a high stone wall, also used as the rear wall of farm buildings to the east.

To the south of this area, beyond its south wall, is a further area of trees and shrubs planted



across the top of the yard and the drive which used to lead to the farm before the lane to the south was made.

The rockery area at the rear of the house is quite modern, occupying a site which in 1901 was still covered with rambling extensions and outbuildings; these were demolished before 1951. The rather sharp changes in level are explained by the former presence of buildings. The lower, western, side is occupied by a lawn. East of this is a linear rockery acting as retaining wall to a further strip of lawn at a higher level. To the east of this is another rockery, steep and incorporating some massive rocks, up to the wall of the farmhouse. The northern boundary of the area is the outgrown box hedge of the kitchen garden.

On the western edge of the upper lawn, also supported by the smaller rockery, is a circular pool, about 3 m in diameter, straight-sided with a concrete surround, which still holds water. On the other side of the lawn, set into the upper rockery, is a roughly-built arbour of large stones which is the right size to have held a seat, although none remains.

The large rectangular kitchen garden directly behind the house may well represent the original enclosed garden, laid out when the house was built. It was certainly in place in 1764, at that time divided up on a regular grid into eight portions. Since then it has been redesigned and put to different uses.

The garden is rectangular, and covers an area of about two and a half acres. It has stone walls on north, east and west, and is bounded by a box hedge, now with post and wire fence, on the south. The east wall is dry-stone, now collapsing, and appears never to have had an entrance through it; the north wall is of dry-stone construction but pointed on the inside and has been raised, probably when the glasshouses were erected against it. There is a central entrance and some rubble, possibly from the demolished glasshouses, is heaped up nearby. The west wall is similar to the north wall, but without pointing, and it remains at its original height. Against it, on the inside, is a raised walk, known as the 'Ladies' Walk', running the whole length of the garden. An entrance to the garden on the west crosses this walk, with steps up and down.

There is very little trace of the path layout within the garden now, but some outgrown box edging of the outer paths remains. The main part of the garden is grazed by sheep, and there is a large wooden barn, probably used for lambing. In the south-east corner an area has been fenced off and now has a cypress hedge; this has become a garden for the farmhouse. In the south-west corner an area has been fenced off as a tree nursery.

The 'Ladies' Walk' is at a level of about 0.8 m above the interior of the garden, and has a parapet wall about 1.4 m high on this side. On the other side the parapet is lower, and the drop to external ground level is greater. The walls are in better condition at the north end of the walk than the south. The area between the walls is about 4.5 m wide, and has a stone-edged path down the middle which feels firm underfoot; a few outgrown box bushes remain of the former low hedges either side. A photograph of this walk in the sale catalogue of 1908 shows it as having herbaceous borders either side edged with dwarf box, but apart from a few shrubs and bulbs, and the box, nothing of these now remains. There are many self-sown sycamore trees,

however. Interestingly, on the 1908 photograph the relatively high parapet on the inner side is not visible.

The steps down either side which create an entrance to the garden from the west are about half way along the walk, and are of slate, with stone-built square-sectioned piers with cemented conical caps, and low flanking walls. The remains of the wooden gates are in place on the west side. At the foot of the steps on the east, within the garden, is a pair of Irish yews, and on the west there are laurels.

The estate map of 1764 and the 1901 25-in. Ordnance Survey map both give details of the layout of the garden, showing that it changed considerably between these two dates. In 1764 it was divided into eight equal sections (the south-west section had the corner missing because of a building outside the garden, on the corner) by a north-south path and three cross-paths; there were also perimeter paths. There is, unfortunately, no indication of what was grown, but it probably did not include trees as these are shown when they occur elsewhere. The paths seem to have had a different surface from those in front of the house as the latter are stippled and those in the kitchen garden, and elsewhere, are not. There seem to be small buildings, perhaps summer houses or glasshouses, at either end of the central north-south path, and there is a circular feature at the point where the paths cross in the middle of the garden. At this time it was the north side, not the west, which appears to have had an extra path, or long, narrow space, within it, in the middle of which the northern summer house/glasshouse was situated.

There was, however, a broad walk along the outside of the west wall, with another tiny building or focal point at the north end. Outside the east wall was a very long, narrow enclosure, with a small building at the southern end, which may possibly have been a bowling green.

By 1901 the layout had been changed; there remained crossing main north-south and east-west paths, but the four quadrants were now each divided into four by minor paths. Although the building on the south-west corner had gone, this quadrant still had an irregular layout, due in part to there being a small building and two small greenhouses or frames in the eastern part of it. More glasshouses, the footings of which can still be seen, had been built against the east end of the north wall (and in the north-west corner of the south-east quadrant), and the raised walk (the 'Ladies' Walk') on the west had been constructed. The 'summer-houses' and central feature had gone, as had the 'bowling green' on the outside. This had been replaced by a path edged with a row of trees, and some of the latter survive. The walk outside on the west had been extended northwards beyond the 'focal point', which had gone.

The particulars of sale of 1908 describe the kitchen garden as having 'fine ancient yew hedges and grass walks', and it was well stocked with fruit trees and had fine views (still the best in the garden, and this may be the reason for the construction of the 'Ladies' Walk'). There were a garden tool house, potting shed, oil shed, boiler house, saw shed, greenhouse and hothouse, vine house, glass peach house and glass frames, rose house and bee house. Alas, nothing more than footings of any of these remains. Photographs show that the central crossing point was surrounded by yew, with lower hedges of box or yew along the paths leading to it.

It is probable that the east wall is the only survivor of the original walls. The north and west walls have a distinctive style different from the east wall and similar to each other, and were probably both rebuilt when the raised walk was constructed, the north wall being made higher later. This suggests that the changes were effected in at least two phases, the glass being added after the raised walk, but unfortunately the early nineteenth-century Ordnance Survey manuscript map is at too small a scale to be able to tell whether or not the raised walk was in existence at that time.

The steps over the raised walk which give an entrance to the garden on the west must have been added later still, as they are not shown on the 1901 map. It is also possible that more glasshouses were added against the north wall, as the western part of it was raised and pointed as well as the east, but if so no traces of these remain.

## Sources

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