PLAS BRONDANW

Ref No PGW (Gd) 30 (GWY)

OS Map 124

Grid Ref SH 616 423

Former County Gwynedd

Unitary Authority Gwynedd

Community Council Llanfrothen

Designations Listed buildings: house Grade II, gatehouse Grade II, cottages at rear of house Grade II, gate piers and overthrow Grade II; Snowdonia National Park.

Site Evaluation Grade I

Primary reasons for grading An exceptional and very well preserved architectural garden, set in the spectacular scenery of Snowdonia, designed mainly in the 1920s and 30s by Clough Williams-Ellis at his own home. It is probably the best and most complete example of his work as a garden designer. The garden is intricately compartmented, with views of surrounding peaks tightly controlled between axial yew hedging. The distinctive hand of Clough Williams-Ellis extends out into the adjacent woodland, village and beyond, stamping the whole vicinity with his character.

Type of Site Formal garden, park, woodland walk with viewpoint.

Main Phases of Construction Early to mid twentieth century.

SITE DESCRIPTION

The house is L-shaped and stands beside the road at the top of the site, looking down over its garden and park. It is a minor example of the unit-plan house, like neighbouring Parc, having been enlarged by the addition of a whole separate block at right-angles to the original part of the house. Authorities are divided as to which part of the house is earlier (probably the north-western block), but both are probably of the seventeenth century, built of local stone, and originally two storeys high. A third storey and attic were added, in the late eighteenth century, to the larger, north-west block. The windows are sashes, and external doorways in both parts of the house have unusual shallow arches with long slate voussoirs. All the roofs are slated.

In 1937 a buttressing tower, the full height of the house, was built on to the north-west side, on an arch over the terrace which runs along this side of the house. This was designed by Clough Williams-Ellis to blend in with the rest of the house, and was intended to support the front wall, which had begun to bulge outwards. There

was also an iron bar above the road holding the other part of the house to the cliff opposite, on the south-east, until the time of the fire.

In 1951 the house was completely gutted by fire, but was rebuilt as soon as possible by Williams-Ellis, who took the opportunity to make small improvements here and there, but kept the original character of the house. It therefore still looks very much as it did after the tower was added in 1937.

Plas Brondanw is the family home of the Williams forebears of the Williams-Ellis family, and came to the Ellises, with the name, by marriage in 1807. The two parties to the marriage, Thomas Ellis of Glasfryn and Jane Bulgin (who changed her name to Williams to inherit the property from her aunt), disparate in age, were second cousins, so the marriage merely tightened the family relationship. The house then became the second seat of the Williams-Ellises of Glasfryn, and was inhabited by Thomas's son John until he succeeded to Glasfryn, after which the house was not needed by the family and was let until it was given to Clough Williams-Ellis, grandson of John, by his father (also John) in 1908.

By this time the house had deteriorated and was divided up; there were seven separate families living in it. Clough Williams-Ellis had to be content with a small part of the house at first, gradually expanding his share as tenants departed or he was able to rehouse them. He began work on the house straight away, but was restricted by the presence of the tenants, and diverted some of his energy into the garden right from the start. Eventually he gained possession of the whole house, and was able to complete his schemes for refurbishing it, later also substantially completing the garden. From 1925 onwards the main thrust of his energies was directed to Portmeirion, but he continued to live at and work on Plas Brondanw, and the 1951 fire meant that the house again became a major project. He continued making minor alterations and additions to the garden as well, to within about a decade of his death in 1978.

There is a square block of outbuildings behind the house, on the north-east, which is separated from it by a small, stepped, slate-paved yard, and has another small yard with access from the Croesor road on the south-east. The north-west wall of this block continues the line of the house along the main terrace walk, and it is more or less contemporary with this part of the house. It consists of cottages, which were formerly staff accommodation.

The T-shaped gardener's building was formerly a garage, and stables before that, but is now used for storage, and accommodation for the gardeners, though the latter may also have been an original use. It is stone-built with an old slate roof and is topped with a cupola; the rather plain building is so well hidden by trees and shrubs that from most angles nothing but the cupola and a decorative attic dormer can be seen. The doorway is ornamented with 'dreagles', dragon/eagle creatures invented by Clough Williams-Ellis.

It is difficult to date Brondanw park, which is certainly much older than the garden and may go back to the seventeenth century, like the house. It is small, long and narrow, and consists of pasture with specimen trees. There is also an area of

woodland to the south which is not strictly part of the park and was probably more or less natural until fairly recently, but which has been incorporated into the designed landscape by Clough Williams-Ellis.

The park, just north-east of the village of Garreg, near Porthmadog, is small and sloping, much longer than it is wide, on a north-west-facing slope sandwiched between two roads. These are the old road from Garreg to Croesor and the much more recent but now more important A4085 which diverges at the gatehouse and crosses the reclaimed land to the north, heading towards Beddgelert. This road would not have been there when the park was first laid out, assuming this was done in the seventeenth or early eighteenth century, but the boundary would probably have been along the same line, as it is at the foot of the slope and all to the north-west would have been estuary and marshes.

The house adjoins the Croesor road, and is thus perched above the park, looking down over it to the fine mountain view beyond. The main part of the house faces northwest, partly no doubt to make the best of an awkward site, but also, surely, to take advantage of the view.

The park seems to have been little altered apart from a slight reduction in size caused by the expansion of the garden. An area of woodland on the hill to the south, probably at the time largely natural, was, however, taken into the orbit of Plas Brondanw, if not exactly into the curtilage; many trees were planted, gates erected, pools and waterfalls designed in an old quarry, and a memorial to the fire was built here. A viewpoint tower on the open top of the hill was given to the Williams-Ellises as a wedding present (in 1915) by the officers of the Welsh Guards (Clough's regiment).

The surroundings of the park and the whole area are full of little architectural touches by Williams-Ellis (for instance the small domed building at the end of a wall adjoining a terrace of houses at Garreg, the Garreg war memorial and several field gateways), which take the designed landscape of Brondanw out into the wider estate.

The house does not have a private drive at present as the main entrance is directly off the Croesor road, which was originally private but is now leased to the local authority and maintained by it. A gatehouse still guards this where it diverges from the Beddgelert road. There is an older lodge on the far side of the road and another, still called Gatws, on the Beddgelert road, farther north.

This northern lodge is opposite an entrance to the park, with gates, through which a well-made, wide path, now disused and grassed over, but levelled into the slope, leads up to the north-east end of the garden. Originally this used to come to the end of the terrace along in front of the house, though this has now been changed, and the end of the route lost. It is probable that it was once a vehicular drive, and this seems to have been the main approach at one time, although the Croesor road is older than the road from which it leads. The present arrangements probably represent a reversion to the original scheme, with the north approach perhaps being in use in the nineteenth century. It was already a footpath by the time the 1916 map was surveyed.

The main area of woodland, probably based on original natural sessile oak woodland, lies to the south of the house on the slopes of the hill crowned by the lookout tower. Its extent in 1916 was very similar to that of today, but the triangle on the west of the first section of the path was not enclosed and was at that time a group of specimen trees, mostly deciduous; the small area further up on the east has clearly been more recently planted and was still open land in 1916. The remaining area of dense woodland alongside the road, surrounding the disused quarry (already 'old' in 1916), had added coniferous trees and undergrowth, while the more open woodland towards the top of the hill consisted of deciduous trees only. This remains the same, although few of the conifers still survive.

A well made path leads from an entrance opposite the garden into the woodland. At the entrance is a pair of tall stone piers flanking low iron gates. At the end of the first, straight part of the path, on top of the quarry, is a monument to the rebuilding of Plas Brondanw after the fire in 1951. It consists of a flaming urn on a decorative plinth, supported on a short, stubby, stone-built and rendered column, standing on a slightly raised, circular, cobbled dais with slate edging. Blue iron railings partly encircle this, on the side over the drop, and there are also partly surrounding hedges. Laid in a small cobbled area on the approach side, at the end of the path, is a stone slab with an inscription. There were more open views from the monument originally, including back to the front door of the house.

By the fire monument a straight path leads off to the east, towards a seat and shelter near the eastern boundary of the woodland. Opposite this a third straight path leads off into the woods to the west, crossing small watercourses on slate slab bridges, and eventually joins an old track leading from the road to a field gate. These two paths are the remains of a former vista. The main path continues straight, but less well defined and on a different alignment, up to a pair of iron gates flanked by tall stone piers in what was originally a field wall, beyond which it goes on up the hill to the lookout tower. About half way to the tower is a semi-circular slate- and stone-built bench seat set into the slope, built by Clough Williams-Ellis. From it there was a fine view to Snowdon.

The tower is stone-built and castellated, square at the back (north) and rounded off at the front (south); it is linked by a wall with an arch through it to the base of a smaller circular tower on the west, built as a ruin in the first place. This has an oval projection to the west containing a stone and slate bench seat, and there is another archway on the south-west. Over the tower door is a plaque with the following inscription:

'This Outlook Tower was subscribed for as a wedding present to Clough Williams-Ellis and his Bride Amabel Strachey in 1915 by his brother Officers of the Welsh Guards. In the second world war it was prepared as a local military strongpoint to repel the expected German invasion.'

The view from the tower would be a complete panorama if it were not partially obscured by trees on the west.

There is an entrance to the woodland from the Croesor road, just above the quarry,

through an arch in the wall, but there appears never to have been a proper path from this arch, which was mainly ornamental.

An old quarry was ornamented in picturesque style by Williams-Ellis. There is a point on the road where a good view of it is obtained, and this is marked by a length of balustrading which has been copied for the oval terrace in the garden. The quarry was always referred to by Williams-Ellis as the 'chasm'. It has a waterfall down the cliff at the back, a small circular pool at the bottom, with a fountain, and a larger, irregularly-shaped pool just beyond, with a stream leading out towards the road. Both pools are stone-edged, as is the stream, and a short stone rill links the two pools. There are a holding pond and several channels at the top. The fountain, in which water used to bubble up, no longer works.

There is also a theatrical shelter with seat in the most recently planted area. From here there was a vista over the quarry to an eye-catcher, a silhouette of an urn on a pedestal, in a field to the south, but this is now closed by trees, although the eye-catcher survives. The surrounding walls and gateways all have typical architectural touches which make it immediately clear that this is part of the designed landscape; in particular the turquoise blue paint used on ironwork throughout the garden is everywhere to be seen.

Immediately south-east of the house there are two ornate iron gates leading into areas on the south-east side of the road. The lower, flanked by Irish yews, has Clough and Amabel Williams-Ellis's initials and gives on to a long flight of steps leading up to a cottage on the hillside above the house. The upper is dated 1908, making it a very early feature, and is set in an elaborate stone-built arch, but the area behind it is now overgrown and there is no obvious path leading away from it.

The garden is in a highly architectural style, with tall hedges and narrow trees providing vertical lines, and emphasis on steps and paving. The influence of Italian renaissance gardens is clear. The effect is to exclude the contrasting rugged scenery from much of the garden, allowing it to appear in well-controlled glimpses, though there are also viewpoints from which the whole landscape can be appreciated. The garden was developed between 1908 and the 1960s, mainly in the 1920s and 30s, on a neglected site where nothing remained of any previous landscaping but a few large trees. It survives more or less as Clough Williams-Ellis left it.

The shape of the garden echoes that of the park, being long and narrow and laid out, immediately below the house, from south-west to north-east along the slope of the hill. It is divided into two main areas. To the south-west, where the slope is less, lies an intricate area divided up by tall, dark, evergreen hedges into small compartments, all interlinked by paths and steps, characterised by vistas up and down the garden and by controlled glimpses of the view beyond. To the north-east there is a basically open, sloping, lawned area, where the scenery forms a backdrop rather than a contrast, and there are no hedges to cut off the view from the house. There are, however, features and ornaments in this area too, and the whole design is extraordinarily complex for so small a site, and bears the distinctive stamp of its creator.

Clough Williams-Ellis records that when he first came to Brondanw there was nothing left of any previous landscaping but the mature trees. These were mostly in the park, so he was able to begin work in the garden on a blank canvas. The result is a unified whole which is perhaps the best and most complete example of his work as a landscaper and gardener. Although not on the same scale as his grand project at Portmeirion, it is a garden for a house and not a village in a garden, and thus a purer and more easily appreciable piece of garden design. It is clear that Williams-Ellis was influenced to some extent by formal Italian gardens, but Plas Brondanw is, above all, an expression of his own response, as an architect, to the site at his disposal.

Apart from the orangery, a small garden building erected in about 1913 or 1914, architectural expression in the garden is through hedges, topiary and statuary, with the complex structure and layout. There are many interesting and beautiful features crammed into so small a space, such as a curved flight of steps dividing round a small circular pool; an oval terrace surrounding an established tree on the sloping lawn; many delicate wrought-iron gates; areas of decorative paving, made with stone, slate and pebbles. The *piece de resistance*, however, is without doubt the small pool at the north-eastern end of the garden. This is located in the circular viewpoint at the far end of the garden, under an alcove with a white-painted roof; the reflection of the ripples in the pool on this roof can be seen as a tantalising glimpse of light and movement for the full length of the walk along the terrace in front of the house, through the arch under the buttress tower, gradually revealing itself for what it is as one approaches.

Country Life articles of 1931 and 1957 provide interesting insights into different stages in the garden's development. The 1957 photographs are not very revealing, but as far as one can tell from them the garden by this date looked much as it does today; in 1931, however, there was still much to be done. The buttress tower was not built until 1937, and the circular viewpoint at the north-east end of the garden (called by Williams-Ellis 'the full stop', and intended to be the last new area to be taken in) was not there in 1931; nor was the oval terrace. The rectangular pool with a fountain of a diminutive fireman holding a hose, from which the water spurts, was, however, in place. The 25-in Ordnance Survey map of 1916 shows the garden in its very early days, and a pool and fountain was already in the same position then, making this one of the first main features.

The map also shows the walk along the terrace in front of the house, the steps down to this walk from the enclosed lawn in front of the older part of the house, and a belt of shrubbery defining the north-west edge of the garden; but there is no sign of the later compartmentalisation, and neither of the viewpoints had been constructed. The orangery also is not shown, although it was built before 1916; the map must have been surveyed a few years before the date of publication.

The garden today is carefully maintained much as Clough Williams-Ellis left it, and is open to the public.

The south-western part of the garden is extremely varied and contains several structural elements. The area is sub-rectangular, with an outbuilding in each of the

south and east corners, and the orangery near the north corner. The main grass paths divide the area into four, rather unequally, and the south-west to north-east path does not reach the boundary of this area of the garden but terminates with steps up to a small, square lawn. The main cross path, and several of the others, are edged with tall yew hedging topped with topiary, which emphasises the compartmentalisation of the area.

The south division is the smallest and is mostly occupied by the outbuilding, an openfronted store. This is hidden by bamboo and the row of pleached limes which backs the border south-east of the main path, returning to the south-east alongside the main cross path. The border contains some large shrubs, with herbaceous plants.

The west division contains a rectangular area with a shallow, square pool, surrounded by grass and borders. This is reached by a grass path from the main walk to the east, and by a couple of steps up from the stone path to the west. In the pool is a small bronze of a classical warrior on a tall stone plinth.

The north division contains the orangery, and until recently a glasshouse - this is shown on a plan drawn by Clough Williams-Ellis, and can be seen on an air photograph used in the gardens leaflet. It is no longer there, however, and the site has been planted over with shrubs and herbaceous plants.

Opposite this, on the south-west of the secondary cross path, there is a small, square lawn, which was formerly planted. To the north-west of this there are borders either side of the path (the secondary south-west to north-east path), with a view south-westwards back to a statue at the end of the garden. There is a small slate-paved area leading up to the orangery. This is a small stone building with a slate roof, with three large double glass doors at ground floor level on the front (north-east); above these are three oval windows, and a dormer in the roof.

The east division contains some hidden service areas near the outbuilding, including a small gravelled yard with compost bins. Near these is a recent rectangular pool, long and narrow, with a path all round it; the planting, which includes *Gunnera manicata*, has grown very luxuriantly and largely obscures the pool.

Running across the north-east end of this part of the garden, not falling within any of the quadrants, are three linked areas - the small square lawn on which the main walk terminates, at the far side of which is the rectangular pool with the fireman fountain; a small area to the north-west largely filled with a curving flight of steps which divides around a small circular pool; and, further to the north-west, a small L-shaped lawn in front of the orangery. From the latter steps lead down to the main lawn to the north-east, and at the other side of the orangery, reached by a narrow path, is the small slate-paved area from which the secondary south-west to north-east path leads off.

The two lawns are level, and the steps between take care of the height difference between them, which has been increased by the levelling. Beside the steps are two small grassy areas with beds for shrubs, and retaining walls at the back. The lower lawn and orangery are surrounded by borders with mainly herbaceous plantings, but

also small shrubs, and there are tubs containing rosemary bushes at the top of the steps. The upper lawn has little planting but is surrounded by tall hedges, with the rectangular pool along the north-east side. There is a small unpainted iron gate through the hedge behind the fireman fountain, and although there is a path leading round to it it is obviously rarely used. It appears to be in position more to prevent a break in the vista from the south-west viewpoint than for use, and this is probably why it is not painted blue, as most of the ironwork in the garden is.

There is a half-circle iron seat on the lawn, and a short border in the west corner. The south-east side of this area is partly open to the entrance yard and partly closed off by the gardeners' building. Along the south-west side there is a wall, partly retaining, and interrupted by the steps down to the main path, which, continuing to the north-west, would have formed the rear wall of the former glasshouse. On the ends of the wall either side of the steps are tall stone pillars topped with urns, and there is another further along the wall where there is a change in level.

There is also a retaining wall along the north-east edge of these three areas which effectively marks the division of the garden. It is through this wall that the steps north-east of the orangery descend to the lawn.

The north-east lawn slopes fairly steeply, and unevenly, to the north-west, and is overlooked by the house. There is a distinct break of slope towards the top, and above this is a wide strip which is relatively flat and has probably been levelled, possibly representing the extent of an earlier garden. In 1916 there was, according to the 25-in. map, an irregular row of coniferous trees at about the break of slope, though the garden boundary then was as it is now. Two flights of semi-circular steps down from the house terrace give on to this level part of the lawn; the south-western flight has several modern terracotta planters on it.

Along the south-west end of the lawn is a sloping grass walk down to gates at the bottom, which lead out to a small viewpoint. Like many of the other gates, these are intended as part of the architecture of the garden rather than an entrance or exit of importance; they give access only to the narrow strip along the north-west edge of the garden which now does duty as a kitchen garden. The walk is delineated by a row of well-spaced fruit trees each side, those on the north-east older than the others. The outlook from the viewpoint is now largely obscured by trees in the park, but from higher up the view out through the gates is good.

The lawn is bounded on the north-west by a hedge, and next to this is an informal grass walk (not levelled into the slope) which runs the full width of the lawn, edged on the other side by a long rose border, with only one break in it for a path. A row of fruit trees runs down the middle of the border. These seem to be contemporary with the older row along the side of the south-west walk, and probably pre-date the border, as it does not seem to be shown on Clough Williams-Ellis's plan of the garden, although the trees are. Looking along this walk to the south-west, the orangery is at the end; in the other direction there is a pair of gates leading out into the park, with a fine view to the mountains beyond.

The grass path for which there is a gap in the rose border leads from the oval terrace,

which is the main feature of the lawn, through the wall and hedge on the north-west edge of the garden, without gates, to a small stone-revetted grassy platform looking out over the park; separating this from the park is a wrought-iron screen in a highly theatrical style. This is very delicately made and was obviously intended to obscure the view as little as possible, but the only view now is of trees.

The rest of the lawn area is more or less featureless, though in the north corner there are the gates out to the park (at the end of the walk between the hedge and the rose border), and near these a short length of wrought-iron railing on the north-west boundary, with a bust on a tall plinth and two seats. The view from here is obscured by a large horse chestnut in the park. The north-eastern boundary of the garden is a hedge. At the south-west side of the lawn, at the top, there is a small area enclosed by hedges which contains one tree and nothing else; this may be used as a sheltered nursery area in the spring and summer. Just north-west of it is a small raised bed edged with very large slate slabs, which may also once have had a particular function, but is now full of shasta daisies.

The house terrace is only as wide as the borders and path along it. The latter runs the full length of the north-eastern part of the garden, beginning in the entrance courtyard south-west of the house and ending in the lookout to the north-east. The terrace supports the buttressing tower added to the house in 1937, and the path continues under this, through arches.

The walk along the terrace is slate-paved, and semi-circular steps lead down from it to the lawn and up to the yard between the house and outbuildings. More curving steps lead up near the corner of the outbuilding to a small garden area behind it.

North-west of the house and outbuildings, although the ground is nearer level and the terrace peters out, the borders continue either side of the path as before, and there is a retaining wall at the back of the south-eastern one, with a small drop on the north-west side of the path.

The oval terrace was constructed after 1931, around a pre-existing tree. This is clear both from the way the terrace has been laid out, and from a photograph of 1931 which shows the tree but not the terrace. The tree is in fact shown on the 1916 map.

The terrace is at the break of slope, opposite the main, south-western, flight of steps down from the house terrace. It is surrounded by mock stone balustrading in a fairly simple, waisted style, copied from that on the road edge of the 'chasm' in the woodland to the south. This was added by Clough Williams-Ellis's daughter, Susan, fairly recently. The terrace is paved with slate and has a supporting wall on the lower side. There are entrances at top and bottom (aligned with the steps down from the house terrace and the path down to the gates out of the garden on the north-west), the upper flanked with square bucket urns and the lower with tall, elegant flaming urns. Access to the path below is via a few steps to a little platform with a safety railing, from which steps lead down on either side. Under the platform is a niche with a large, mock stone, handled container of fruit. Plants have been allowed to seed themselves in the joints in the paving, softening a little the formality of the design.

At either end of the garden is a circular lookout or viewpoint. That at the south-west end is small, raised above the level of both park and garden, and is reached by a flight of steps up from the main walk running south-west at the top of the garden. There is a low parapet wall, two stone benches and a decorative iron seat; the floor is gravelled, with a curving, slate-paved threshold. This is known as the 'belvedere', and was formerly called the 'Apollo belvedere' because of the presence of a bust of Apollo, which has since been stolen.

There is a limited view over parkland to the south-west, a wider one with mountains beyond to north and north-west, and looking back north-eastwards is a long vista the full length of the garden, terminating with Cnicht, a distant mountain peak. This is perhaps the best example in the garden of the strictly controlled use of the natural scenery to terminate vistas in a way that is visually satisfying, and to provide a strong contrast of the wild and natural with the architectural and formal.

Larger than its counterpart on the south-west, the north-east viewpoint has the better view of mountains and open countryside. It was called by Williams-Ellis 'the full stop', because it was to be the last new area taken into the garden. It is surrounded by a wall, partly retaining. The interior is lawned, and the entrance is guarded by stone pillars with urns. Opposite the entrance is a small, shallow pool under an arch, into which water drips from an animal mask on the arch, making a pattern of ripples which, in sunlight, reflects on the whitewashed rear wall of the alcove. This effect can be seen from over a hundred metres away, at the far end of the house terrace.

There are steps up over the pool alcove either side, to a small platform above it with a view over the park and distant mountains. This has a low parapet with a long plant trough on top. A small equestrian statue and some lead plant containers which used to be here were stolen. Around the outside of the circular lawn, within the wall, is a narrow border.

Tucked into an odd-shaped corner just to the south-west of the north-east viewpoint, up a few steps, is a small area apparently dedicated to Inigo Jones. It is grassy, surrounded by hedges, and contains one or two young trees and the stumps of three very large ones, no doubt former parkland trees, as this area was once part of the park. A bust of Inigo Jones, with his name and dates, stands on a column on the grass. Opposite this is a small viewpoint over the park, with a wrought-iron railing.

There is a small rectangular area in front of the older, south-west-facing, part of the house, which consists mainly of a lawn with the path to the main entrance running along its length. There are raised borders with shrubs and climbers against the high road wall on the south-east and a border within the low parapet on the north-west; next to the house is a paved area. There is some topiary and a few ornamental trees.

There is a small garden area south-east of the main path along the terrace, beyond the outbuildings to the north-east of the house. A retaining wall supports it at a higher level than the path. It is mostly lawned, but has borders and a half-moon bed,

with some trees pruned in the manner of continental street trees.

The kitchen garden has largely disappeared, and was never walled. It was probably made out of part of the park by Clough Williams-Ellis for his family's use, any earlier version having been within what is now the ornamental garden.

A plan of the garden drawn by Clough Williams-Ellis shows a roughly square area, divided into quarters by paths, on the slope north-west of the garden. This was obviously a kitchen garden, not shown on the 25-in. map of 1916. It reached to the belt of trees within the park alongside the Beddgelert road, and the boundary fence is still in place. However, the garden has now fallen out of use and only a fruit cage remains in the area; the rest has reverted to grass.

There are fruit trees in the garden, and the strip along the north-west side, outside the wall (it has a post-and-wire fence on its outer side), which is shown on the 1916 map as shrubbery, also contains one or two fruit trees. The shrubs have all gone and there is a small greenhouse, as well as some embanked, levelled and flattened areas which may have been vegetable beds or, in one case at least, the bases of buildings.

Sources

Primary

Information from R. Haslam Information from R. Williams-Ellis Information from P. Welford

Secondary

Plas Brondanw Gardens, visitor leaflet Country Life, 31 January 1931, pp 130-36 Country Life, 5 September 1957, pp 434-37 Sunday Telegraph Magazine, 4 May 1997, pp 44-45 Country Life, 21 July 1983, pp 130-32 Williams-Ellis, C., Architect Errant (1976)