

**Lost in the Long Books: Revealing the organisation, operations and uses of the  
collegiate gardens in the University of Oxford between 1733 and 1837**

Volume 2 (of 2)

Appendix 1

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## **Appendix 1. Data Sheets on the college gardens in the University of Oxford**

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## **Explanations and abbreviations**

### **Currency based abbreviations**

Pre-decimal British currency used in this study is abbreviated as below:

£= pound/s.

s.= shilling/s.

d.= penny/pence.

### **Explanations**

Dates for plants, roots and seeds that are marked with an asterisk (\*) indicate that specific trees, shrubs, perennial and annual plants, roots, bulbs and seeds are named in the surviving bills.

£1 was equal to 20 s. or 240d.

1s. was equal to 12d.

A guinea was worth one pound and one shilling. In accounts and bills it was usually written as £1 1s. Payments in guineas were usually used for professional charges.

A tod is an English unit of weight equal to 12.7kg.

Daily rates are identified by the contractor and rates recorded for 'self' refer to the contractor.

Tasks are defined as those paid by the job (task) rather than at a day rate.

## **Balliol College**

### **Gardens**

Fellows' Garden, also known as the Common Room Garden and the Back Quadrangle.

The Grove.

### **Description**

David Loggan's bird's eye engraving of the college (1675) from *Oxonia Illustrata* is confirmed by the 1695 plan of the College. William Williams' *Oxonia Depicta* (1732) plan of the College showed that the Fellows' Garden layout was unchanged from the 1695 plan (Figure 1.1).

The Fellows' Garden and Grove were improved while the Wyatt alterations at the College (1791-94) were being completed. James Shipley, Head Gardener at Blenheim Palace, was paid £5 5s. (5 guineas) for his advice for improving the garden and Grove. Improvements to the Grove appear to have taken place in 1793/4 and 1797. John Malchair made a drawing of the Grove in 1783 recording the wall that separated it from the Fellow's Garden (Figure 1.2). This wall was taken down by 1832 and it was likely to have been removed sometime between 1793 and 1797 on the recommendation of John Shipley. The opening up of the garden, Grove and northern part of the college site was similar in intent to the landscaping of Wadham College (1795/6). In 1800 it was resolved by the governing body of the College that the Common Room Garden would take in the garden belonging to the Senior Tutor. This decision allowed the creation of a larger, open landscape at the rear of the College site (Figure 1.4).

In 1804 *The New Oxford Guide* recorded 'The interior court to the north-west, containing several irregular and detached lodgings for the Students, has lately been ornamented with grass plats and plantations of flowering shrubs and other trees.' In the *Bursar's Book 1787-1817* an entry for 1811 indicates there were further developments in the garden. The College gardener Thomas Knibbs submitted a bill for £59 2s. 3d., with bills for trees, shrubs and plants issued by Thomas Tagg and Robert Penson amounting to £15 6d. in that year. J and H.S. Storer's engraving "Baliol College" (1821) illustrated the view from the Grove towards the SW corner of the site, suggesting that by 1821 the garden had more than tripled in its size since 1791 (Figure 1.3).

## Images

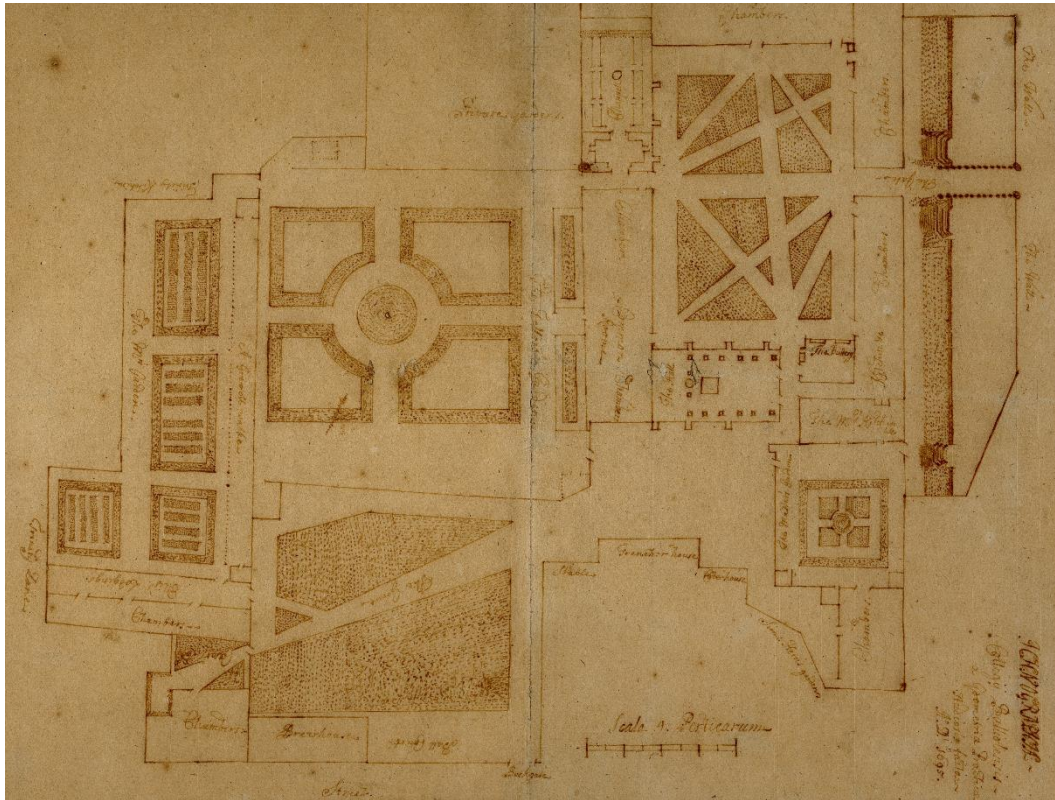


Figure 1.1. *Iconographia*, a plan of Balliol College, 1695, ink. Copyright: Balliol College Archive.



Figure 1.2. John Malchair, "Balliol Chapel and Library from Grove, 2 August 1783", grey wash over pencil. Copyright: the Ashmolean Museum Oxford.



Figure 1.3. J and H.S. Storer, "Balliol College", 1821, engraving. Copyright: the Wellcome Collection.



Figure 1.4. George Hollis, "Balliol College Oxford", 1827, engraving. Copyright: Sanders of Oxford.



Figure 1.5. Carl Rundt, *Balliol College and garden*, c.1846, lithograph. Copyright: the author.

**College Gardeners:** Edward Knibbs (1793-1796), Thomas Knibbs (1797).

**Plants supplied by:** Robert Penson (1793\*, 1794, 1796/1797\*); Edward Knibbs (1793); James Tagg (1793/4\*, 1797); Grimwood, Hudson and Barrett (1794).

**Seeds supplied by:** Borlase (1793); Edward Knibbs (1794); Robert Penson (1797).

### **Daily rates**

Edward Knibbs: Self at 2s. (1793, 1794); Hallom at 1s. 6d. (1793); Robert at 1s. 6d. (1793); Cook at 2s. (1793, 1794); Smith at 1s. 6d. (1793); fetching at 1s. 6d. (1794); Lee at 1s. 6d. (1794); Thomas at 1s. 6d. (1794); unspecified labour at 1s. 6s. (1793, 1794); wheeling gravel 1s. 6d. (1794).

Thomas Knibbs: unspecified labour at 1s. 10d. (1797); self at 2s. (1797); cutting trees at 2s. (1797).

### **Tasks**

Edward Knibbs: extra watering at 6s. 6d. (1794); cutting and clearing wood at 8s. 6d. (1794); cutting trees 3s. 6d. (1794); planting trees (1793); use of a level at 1s. (1793).

Thomas Knibbs: watering the grove at 6d. (1797).

### **Materials purchased by contractor**

Edward Knibbs: mould per load at 3s. 6d. (1794); stakes and rods (1793); brooms (1793); nails and lists (1794); net for cherry tree at 4s. (1794).

### **Tradesmen and suppliers patronised by the gardener**

Edward Knibbs: Joseph Russell for turf (1793); John Hughes (cooper) for stakes at 1½d. each (1794) and hoops at ¾d. (1794); Thomas Bennet for loose gravel at 1s. 4d. (1794); rubble at 6d. (1794); John Tubb: for gravel at 3s. 6d. (1793) and leaf mould (1794 and 1794).

**Advice on garden:** James Shipley at £5 5s.

### **Sources**

Loggan, David. *Oxonia Illustrata*. Oxford: 1675; Williams, William. *Oxonia Depicta*. Oxford: 1733; *The New Oxford Guide*. Oxford: 1804.

Balliol College Archive: *The English Register*, 1794-1875; *Bursar's Book* 1787-1817;  
MBP 28a.7-9.



## **Brasenose College**

### **Gardens**

Chapel Quadrangle, also known as the Chapel Garden, Second Quadrangle and the Deer Park.

Fellows' Garden.

### **Description**

The College possessed a garden in Chapel Quadrangle, and a fellows' garden. In 1739 William Haynes created a garden in either the Cloister or Fellows' Garden with gravelled axial paths. The 1765 edition of *A Pocket Companion for Oxford* described the Chapel Quadrangle as 'disposed in the Form of a Garden planted with flow'ring shrubs.' In 1774 Robert Penson undertook extensive replanting in the Chapel Quadrangle, which he called the Chapel Garden. Penson altered the Chapel Quadrangle garden in 1778/9, creating border clumps and replanting the space. The engraving, executed by the Storers, recorded the Chapel Quadrangle and illustrates what was possibly one of the border clumps laid out by Robert Penson in 1779 (Figure 1.6).

## Images

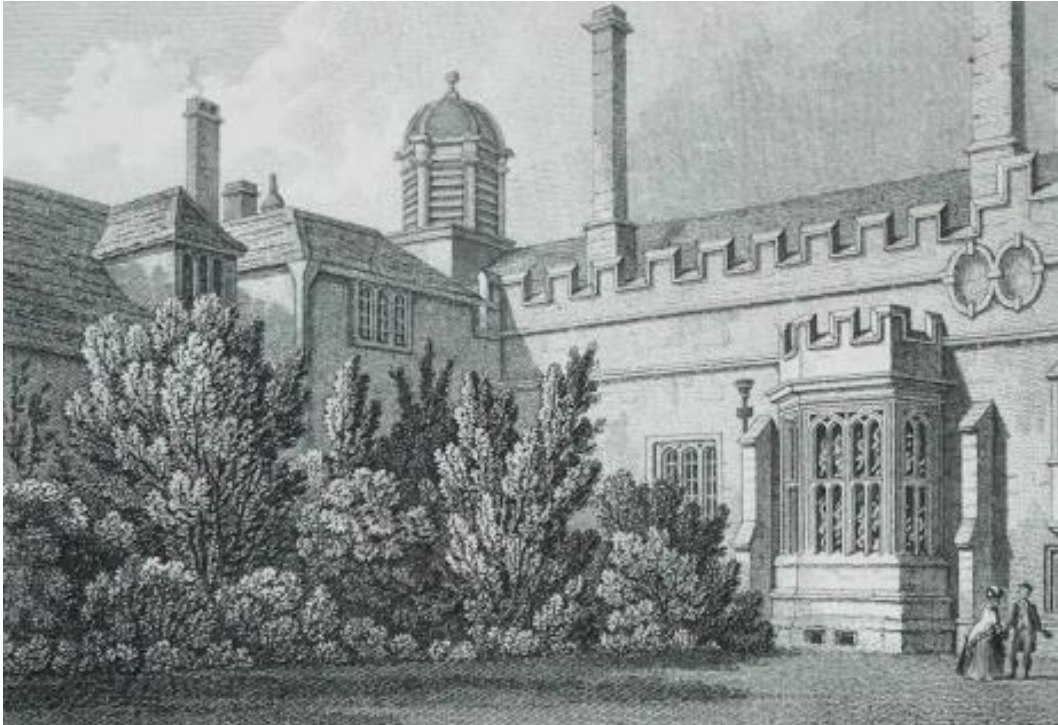


Figure 1.6. J and H.S. Storer, "Brasenose College", 1821, engraving. Copyright: the author.

**Gardeners:** Henry Watts (1726, 1744-1748); John Browne (1744), Francis Yarborough (1750); Thomas Mason (1750-1766); Richard Hayward (1768-1779); Robert Penson (1778-1783).

**Plants supplied by:** William Haynes (1739\*); Henry Watts (1746\*, 1747\*); Thomas Mason (1750\*, 1757/58\*, 1758/59\*, 1759/50\*, 1760/61\*, 1761/62\*, 1762/3\*, 1763/4\*, 1764/5\*, 1765/6\*, 1766/7\*); Sarah Mason (1767\*); Matthew Cooke (1762\*); Richard Hayward (1768\*, 1769/1770\*, 1772\*, 1773\*, 1776\*, 1777\*, 1778\*); Jeremiah Dicks (1768); Robert Penson (1779\*, 1781\*, 1782\*, 1785, 1786, 1787, 1788, 1791, 1792, 1794, 1797, 1802).

**Flower roots supplied by:** Thomas Mason (1758, 1760, 1761, 1762, 1763, 1764); Richard Hayward (1768, 1769, 1772, 1777); Robert Penson (1779).

**Seeds supplied by:** Thomas Mason (1757, 1758, 1759, 1760, 1761, 1762, 1763, 1764, 1765, 1766); Richard Haywood (1768, 1769, 1770, 1773, 1775, 1776, 1778); Robert Penson (1780, 1781, 1783, 1784, 1785, 1786, 1787, 1788, 1791, 1793, 1795, 1797, 1800, 1801).

### **Daily rate**

William Hayes: for making a garden 1s. 8d. (1739).

Henry Watts: for unspecified labour 2s. (1743, 1744, 1746, 1747).

Thomas Mason: 2s. for cutting hedge (1758, 1761, 1762); 2s. for cutting and laying turf (1762).

Richard Hayward: self at 1s. 8d. (1768); self at 2s. (1773, 1775, 1776); 1s. 4d. for unspecified labour (1768); 1s. 9d. for unspecified labour (1769); 2s. for work in Quadrangle; 1s. for his 'boys' (1772, 1773, 1777); 1s. 6d. for unspecified labour (1773, 1774, 1776, 1777, 1778); my son for unspecified labour 10d. (1773); unspecified labour 1s. 8d. (1775).

Robert Penson: unspecified labour 1s. 6d. (1779, 1780, 1781, 1783, 1784, 1785, 1787, 1788, 1791, 1792, 1794, 1795); 1s. 6d. for turning gravel (1779, 1782, 1783, 1786, 1792, 1794, 1795); 1s. 6d. for cleaning, weeding, rolling, edging, digging and nailing (1779, 1781, 1784, 1785, 1786, 1787, 1788, 1791, 1792, 1793, 1794, 1795); 1s. 6d. for

taking up flowers (1779); 1s. 6d. for altering garden (1779); 2s. for self pruning (1782, 1784, 1787); 1s. 6d. for mowing (1784); 1s. 6d. for digging gravel (1793); 1s. 10d. for turning gravel, cleaning, nailing (1797, 1800); 1s. 10d. for unspecified labour (1797, 1800); 2s. for nailing and cleaning (1801, 1802); 2s. for unspecified tasks (1801); 2s. for turning gravel (1802).

### **Cost of tasks**

Thomas Mason: 1s. 6d. for cutting hedge (1757); 2s. for rectification of the drain (1760).

Richard Hayward: 2s. for cutting hedge (1770, 1772); 9d. for rolling gravel (1773); 2s. for edging the grass; 1s. 6d. (1774); for rolling the grass (1775); 1s. 6d. for watering the grass (1775).

Robert Penson: self pruning 2s. 6d. (1780); 2s. 6d. for planting the garden (1779); 2s. 6d. for laying out border clumps (1779); 1s. for mowing (1793, 1801); 2s. 6d. for levelling stakes (1802).

### **Materials purchased by contractor**

William Hayes: turf at 10s. 6d. per 100 (1739).

Henry Watts: nails (1743, 1744, 1747); flower sticks (1743); tacks (1743); list (1748).

Thomas Mason: nails and shreds (1750, 1757, 1758, 1760, 1761, 1762, 1763, 1764, 1765, 1766, 1767); flower sticks (1750, 1758, 1759, 1760, 1763, 1765, 1766); packthread (1757, 1758, 1760, 1761, 1762, 1763, 1764, 1765, 1766); 6d. per barrow of mould (1757, 1760, 1765); 6d. per barrow of sand (1757); tuckers (1757, 1758, 1761,

1763, 1764); materials for grafting (1759, 1760); pitching a water pot (1759); stakes (1763, 1766); poles (1764).

Richard Hayward: nails and tacking stuff (1768, 1769, 1770, 1772, 1773, 1774, 1775, 1776, 1777, 1778); thread (1768, 1769, 1770); flower sticks (1770, 1776, 1778); wire and nails (1770); wire (1774, 1778).

Robert Penson: nails and list (1778, 1779, 1780, 1781, 1782, 1783, 1784, 1785, 1786, 1787, 1788, 1792, 1793, 1794, 1795, 1797, 1800, 1801, 1802); hooks for fruit trees (1778); flower sticks (1779, 1795); mould at 3s. 6d. per load (1779); string for flower (1784, 1785, 1786); 2s. per load of rotten dung (1784); twine for flower (1787); 3s. 6d. per load of gravel (1788, 1791); 3s. per load of mould (1794); 3s. 3d. per load of binding gravel (1802).

### **Principal sources**

*A Pocket Companion for Oxford.* Oxford: 1765.

Brasenose College Archive: Tradesmen's Bills 43, 50, 53, 58, 61, 67, 68, 69-78, 80, 81, 84, 89, 90, 93, 94, 95, 96, 98, 100, 101, 102, 107, 109.

## **Christ Church**

### **Garden**

The Broad Walk, also known as the White Walk, the Wide Walk, the Christ Church Walk and the Long Walk.

The Christ Church Meadow walk, Christ Church Meadow.

### **Description**

The Broad Walk was constructed in c.1670 and is approximately a quarter of a mile long. An avenue of elms provided shade and walk and offered the prospect of the meadows, river and nearby villages which was regularly recorded in guidebooks published in the eighteenth and early nineteenth century. The Broad Walk was the venue for Show Sunday, a promenade that took place before the Commemoration week that included the *Encaenia* celebrations. The Broad Walk was described by Thomas Salmon in *The Present State of the Universities* as the finest walk in Oxford. Christ Church's Meadow walks received little attention until the 1760s. The 1761 edition of *A Tour Thro' the Whole Island of Great Britain* observed that the Christ Church walks had become 'the general Rendezvous on *Sunday* Evening'. James Woodforde noted the popularity of the walks during the summer months, describing them on 9 July 1775 as being filled with 'a great deal of polite Company'. In the 1820s and 1830s guides to Oxford noted that boats hired for pleasure were operating in the Isis, providing further opportunities for tourists to take in the walks and their prospects. The Christ Church Meadow walk was described as approximately a mile and a quarter loop. In the Oxford

Almanack for 1768 published an engraving of the Meadow walk looking toward Merton College after a drawing by John Baptist Malchair (Figure 1.9).

Robert Penson was contacted to maintain the public walks for Christ Church from 1766. In 1767 he submitted bills amounting to £39 4s. for gravelling the Meadow walk. Between 1771 and 1773 Penson was paid £452 4s. 2d. for work on the Broad Walk and the Meadow walk. This sum indicates that Christ Church was willing to place a considerable financial investment in their landscapes that were open to the public. In 1799 there was another significant increase in spending on the public walks and Christ Church contracted Penson again. The payments to Penson for the work on the walks amounted to £101 5s. 9d. In 1799 John Bennet, an assistant to the Under Treasurer of Christ Church (his father), produced a survey of the Meadow for the College. The plan shows a number of plantations that do not appear in the William Faden map, printed in 1789. Anthony Wood's *The History of the Antiquities of the College and Hall of the University of Oxford* (1790), updated and edited by John Gutch, noted that plantations of trees had recently been 'judiciously disposed' along the walks (Figure 1.10). *The New Oxford Guide* (1817) described the walks as 'kept always in the best order' and it also observed that there were 'rich and thriving plantations' which ornamented the gravel walks.

## Images



Figure 1.7. The end of the Broad Walk looking towards Merton College and Christ Church: illuminated letter from Exeter College Benefactors' Book, n.d., ink on vellum. Courtesy of Exeter College Library.





Figure 1.8. Michael Angelo Rooker, "Christ Church from the Meadow, with Dr Fell's Building, Tom Tower, and part of the Cathedral", 1776, pen and ink wash. Courtesy of the British Library.



Figure 1.9. John Malchair, "Merton College from the banks of the Cherwell", 1773, engraved by Thomas Bonner, hand coloured engraving. Copyright: the author.



Figure 1.10. Christ Church Meadow walk: illuminated letter from Exeter College Benefactors' Book. n.d., ink on vellum. Courtesy of Exeter College Library.

**Garden contractors:** Robert Penson (1766-1778, 1799-1800).

**Trees, shrubs and plants supplied by:** Clarks (1772); Robertson (1772); James Tagg (1779, 1780, 1781, 1786, 1801); Randolph (1781); Lees (1785); John Bowdrey (1789).

## **Tradesmen employed**

Carpenter: Smith, for labourers shredding the trees in the Long Walk (1737).

Mason: Piddington for carriage of 190 loads of Cowley gravel for White Walk and digging and laying gravel (1737).

## **Sources**

Blackmantle, Basil. *The English Spy*. London: 1825; Salmon, Thomas. *The Present State of the Universities and of the five adjacent Counties of Cambridge, Huntingdon, Bedford, Buckingham, and Oxford*. London: 1744; Defoe, Daniel. *A Tour Through the Whole Island of Great Britain*, vol. 2. London: 1761; Woodforde, James and W.N. Hargreaves-Mawdsley. *Woodforde at Oxford 1759-1776*. Oxford Historical Society New Series, vol. XXI. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1969; Wood, Anthony and John Gutch. *The History of the Antiquities of the College and Hall of the University of Oxford*. Oxford: 1790.

Christ Church College Archive: Ch.Ch MS XII. C205; Ch.Ch. MS XII. C.209; Ch.Ch. MS. XII. C. 218.

## **Corpus Christi College**

### **Gardens**

Fellows' Garden also known as the Public Garden.

Small Garden.

### **Description**

David Loggan's bird's eye perspective engraving of the College published in 1675 showed the Fellows' Garden terminating with a terrace overlooking Merton Fields. William William's 1733 engraving showed that the Fellows' Garden had been enlarged and a smaller garden has been created on the Merton Grove side of the Fellows' Building (1706-12). In 1745 the Fellows' Garden was described as small and 'laid out in very good form and order and kept very neat.' William's recorded that the Fellows' Garden and Small Garden were enclosed and this broke up the effect of Fellows' Building front facing out to Merton Field. In 1759 P. Sherwin writing to Sir John Aubyn observed that on entry into the College from the Merton Fields the garden had recently been opened up by the removal of its high wall and was replaced with a lower one topped with palisades.

A drawing of the walk that Corpus had created in the Merton Fields by John Malchair (1774) show that a row of pleached trees and the boundary wall of Christ Church framing a vista of the Fellows' Building (1.11). This device would have reciprocated with one of Christ Church Meadow when an individual exited from the garden door into Merton Fields. By 1782 the College had removed the row of pleached trees in Merton Fields and lowered the height of its boundary wall for the length of the Fellows' Building.

The result opened up the prospect of Merton Fields and Christ Church meadow from the Fellows' Garden. Rooker's drawing (1782) indicated that the Fellows' Garden and the small garden may also have been combined together by then and at least one tree on the terrace had been removed (Figure 1.13). Turner's watercolour of the garden, executed in 1803-4, confirms that by the beginning of the nineteenth century the two eighteenth century spaces had been unified and the large lawn formed a dominant feature within it (Figure 1.14).

## Images



Figure 1.11. John Malchair, "Corpus Ch: Coll: from Merton field. October the 4. 1774.", drawing and colour wash. Courtesy of Corpus Christi College Archive.



Figure 1.12. John Malchair, "Corpus: Coll: from Merton field.17 of Oct:1774.", drawing and colour wash. Courtesy of Corpus Christi College Archive.



Figure 1.13. Michael Angelo Rooker, "Corpus Christi from the Fields", 1782, pen and watercolour. Copyright: Lowell Libson & Jonny Yarker Ltd.



Figure 1.14. Joseph Mallord William Turner, "A View of Christ Church and part of Corpus Christi College, Oxford", 1803-4, pencil and watercolour. Copyright: the Ashmolean Museum, Oxford.



Figure 1.15. William Westall, "Corpus Christi College and Christ Church Cathedral", 1814, engraver Joseph Constantine Stadler, engraving and aquatint. Copyright: the author.



**Gardeners:** Durand (1761-1781); Robert Penson (1782-1798); Buyar (1799); Henry Moulding (1821-dismissed in 1837); John Batts (1837).

**Plants supplied by:** Mason (1764); Robert Penson (1776, 1777, 1779, 1821, 1831); John Weller (1773, 1779, 1781, 1805); James Tagg (1799, 1800, 1802, 1805, 1806, 1807, 1808, 1809); Thomas Tagg (1811, 1825, 1826, 1829), Thomas Fairbairn (1830, 1836); Leamington Nursery (1830, 1831, 1832); Nathaniel Penson (1837); William Day (1837); John Dunbar at Paradise Gardens (1837).

**Materials purchased by Garden Master:** Robert Penson for dung (1776 and 1779); Round for dung (1826); William Hurst for mould (1824); Joyce for turf (1821, 1823 1824).

#### **Tradesmen employed by Garden Master**

Carpenter: Boswell (1765); Golby (1826); Watts (1834).

Painter: Smith (1761); Rought (1792, 1795).

Ironmonger: Prujean (1770).

Mason: Humphrey (1826).

Smith: Stevens (1825, 1826).

#### **Garden rules and responsibilities**

The College was liable for the costs of cutting trees, gravel, extra mould, carrying away old mould and rubbish, repairs to the summer house and tool house etc., cleaning the

dung hills, maintaining the walk in Merton Field, baskets and brooms etc., nails etc. The gardeners salary, annuals seeds, flowers etc. and 'accidental trifling expenses'.

## **Fees**

In 1761 the entrance fees charged were Nobleman to pay £4 4s., Masters of Arts to pay £2 2s. and Gentleman Commoners to pay £1 1s. In 1824 the entrance fees for the Gentleman Commoners were raised to £1 2s.

## **Sources**

Sherwood, Jennifer. *Oxfordshire*, Buildings of England. Harmondsworth: Penguin Books, 1974; Williams, William. *Oxonia Depicta*. Oxford: 1733; Green, John. *A New General Collection of Voyages and Travels*. London: 1745; "Letter from P Sherwin to Sir John St Aubyn of Clowence Co. Cornwall". *The Pelican Record*, XIX, (6 June 1930):124.

Corpus Christi College Archive: C/23/C1

## **Exeter College**

### **Garden name**

Fellows' Garden.

### **Description**

The garden was described in the *New Oxford Guide* (1760) as 'neat, with an agreeable terrace, from whence a prospect is opened to some of the finest buildings in the University'. When the College's old Library was taken down in 1778 some of the garden was lost to the new Library. The Reverent Dr Edward Tatham in his *Oxonia Explicia* (1777) suggested that the College take down the garden wall and that it should be replaced it with a dwarf wall and iron railings. The effect was to provide a view of the garden from Radcliffe Square but Tatham's recommendations were not taken up. The 1786 *Oxford Almanack* used a view of garden and the terrace looking towards the University's Schools by Michael Angelo Rooker (Figure 1.16). *The Oxford University and City Guide* (1823) drew attention to the terrace's ability to provide a prospect of the major buildings of the University, just as the *New Oxford Guide* had in 1760.

## Images



Figure 1.16. Michael Angelo Rooker, "The Libraries, and Schools, from Exeter College Garden", 1786, engraving. Courtesy of Exeter College Archive.



Figure 1.17. J and H.S. Storer, "Exeter College", 1821, engraving. Copyright: the Wellcome Collection.



Figure 1.18. Carl Rundt, "Exeter College Garden, and Bodleian Library", c.1846, lithograph. Copyright: the author.

**Gardeners:** Simon Stubbs (1705-1736); Oliver (1786-89); Robert Penson (1792-1815); Downes (1816-1818).

**Plants supplied by:** Simon Stubbs (1732); Thomas Tagg (1733); James Tagg (1773); Thomas Tagg (1823).

### **Principal sources**

*New Oxford Guide*. Oxford:1760; Tatham, Edward. *Oxonia explicata and ornata*. *Proposals for disengaging and beautifying the University and City of Oxford*. London: 1773; *The Oxford University and City Guide*. Oxford: 1823.

Exeter College Archive: ECA A.II.

## **Jesus College**

### **Garden names**

Common Room Garden.

### **Description**

Enlargement of the Common Room garden took place in 1735/6 after an exchange of land with the landlord of Alderman Wife's property. The enlargement of the site was intended to allow the extension of an existing the walk behind the Common Room. The College convention book set out the order for the garden's extension and mentioned a pre-existing arbour.

**Gardeners:** Simon Stubs (1722); Keates (1741-1756); Penson (1763-1778); John Penson (1781-1817); John Millin (1818-1825, 1828); Stratton (1825-26); Dover (1826-7); Crips (1827-8); Stephen Jeffery (1829-31).

**Plants supplied by:** Robert and Nathaniel Penson (1821); John Millin (1824).

### **Daily Rates**

John Penson: 2s. 9d. for pruning (1813); 3s. 4d. for turning gravel (1813).

John Millin: 3s. for self (1820); 2s. 6d. for men (1820, 1823, 1824, 1825).

### **Materials**

John Penson: nails and lists (1813)

John Millan: cord (1819, 1820); nails and shreds (1819, 1822, 1824, 1825); loam (1820); mould (1825).

## **Sources**

Jesus College Archive: JCA RE. 6; JCA BU AC GEN 8; JCA BU AC GEN 9; JCA BU AC CUI; JCA B1.1.GA.

## **Lincoln College**

### **Garden names**

Garden and Grove. The Garden was at times called the Fellows' Garden in the second half of the eighteenth century.

Fellows' Garden (new position).

### **Historic development**

The Grove and Garden were positioned behind the Front and Chapel Quadrangles abutting the site of Brasenose College. In Loggan's engraving of the College (1675) the Grove was recorded as sparsely planted with trees at irregular intervals around the perimeter wall. After the completion of the New Building (accommodation for Gentleman Commoners) in 1739 the Garden and Grove appears to have been newly laid out. The accounts for 1739 show large loads of mould, rubble and gravel entering the garden as well as work from the gardener amounting to £12 15s. 7d. Lincolns' New Building and garden were included in a bird's eye engraving for the *Oxford Almanack* in 1743. Over the following decade the expenditure in the garden increased and during 1750/51 a further £17 13s. 5d. was spent on *trelliage* work, the garden walls, trees, fruit trees and flower roots. In the 1743 engraving the grove was portrayed as empty, while the garden was depicted as enclosed with palings (Figure 1.19). The iron palisade was repaired in 1750 at the cost of £10 2s. 9d. A summer house was built in 1792 and painted in the following year.

Sometime before 1823, possibly c.1802-4, the garden was moved to the site of some houses that had been demolished adjoining the Rector's Garden. *The Oxford University*



and *City Guide* (1823) described it as 'very neat' and engravings produced in the 1820s and 1830s show part of the new garden over the Turl Street wall (Figures 1.20 and 1.21).

## Images

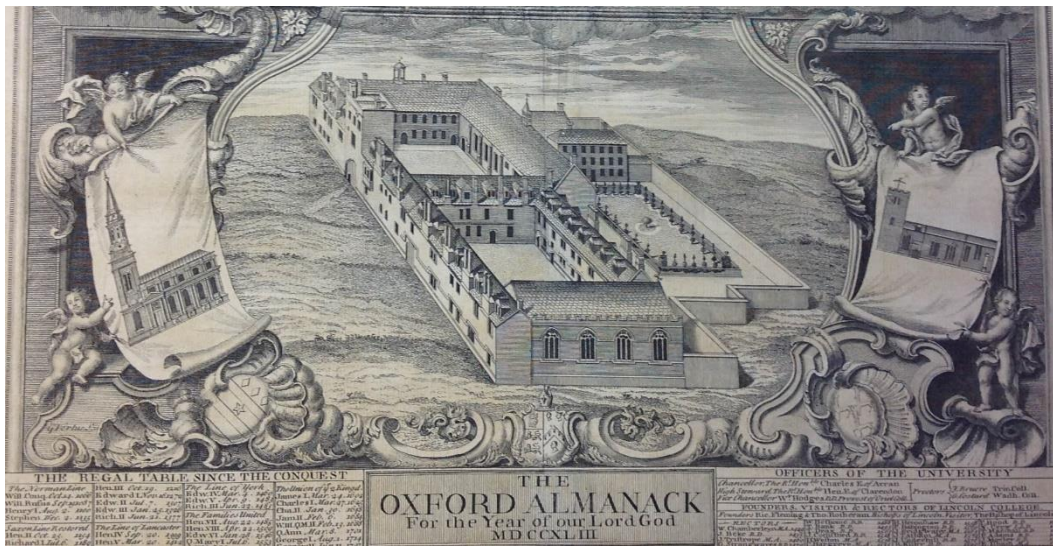


Figure 1.19. W. Green, *Lincoln College*, engraved by George Vertue, 1743, engraving. Courtesy of Lincoln College Archive.



Figure 1.20. J and H.S. Storer, *Lincoln College Garden*, 1821, engraving. Copyright: the author.

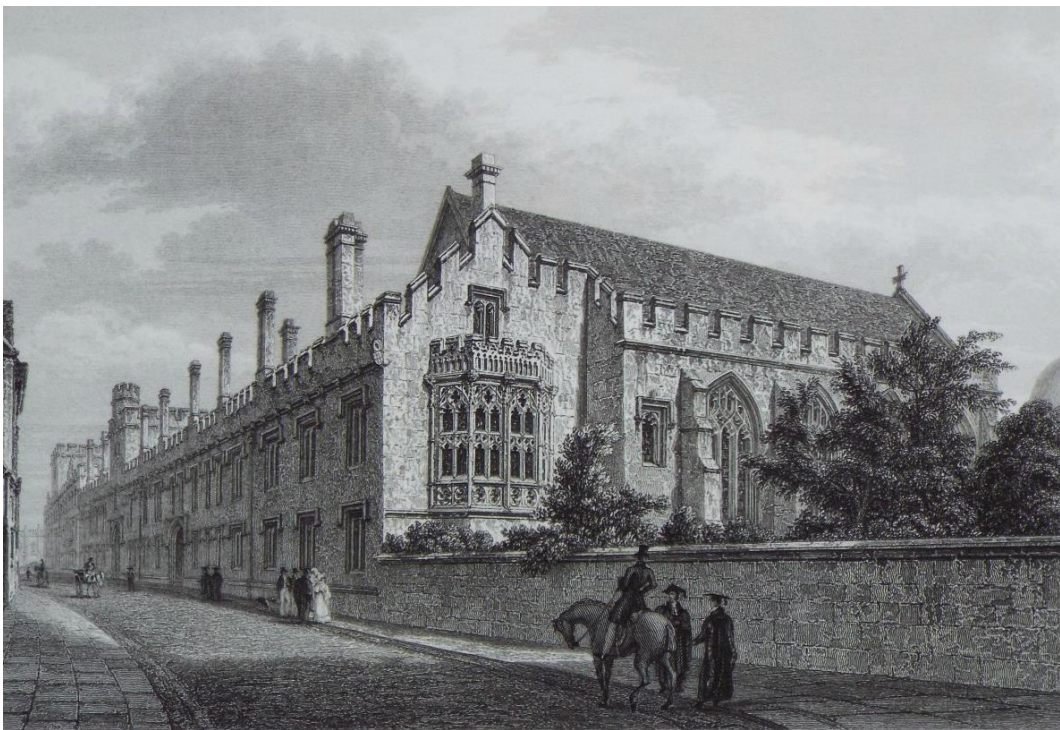


Figure 1.21. F Mackenzie, *Lincoln College*, engraved by John Le Keux, engraving, 1834.  
Copyright: the author.

**Gardeners:** Gosthead (1732); Gresty (1734); Johnson (1734, 1735, 1737, 1741, 1742); Jackson (1742); Nethercliffe (1745); Cooke (1751, 1757); John Hall (1753, 1758); Mason (1767); Duran (1777); Edward Knibbs (1788, 1792-1796); Thomas Knibbs (1795-1816); James West (1816); William Foy (1822-1836).

**Plants supplied by:** Elizabeth Tagg (1745, 1751); Cooke (1750, 1751, 1754, 1760, 1764, 1765); Mason (1755, 1764, 1765, 1771); Rouse (1776); James Tagg (1776, 1778, 1783-4, 1803, 1804, 1805); Robert Penson (1776, 1778, 1794\*, 1795\*, 1804); Edward Knibbs (1793\*, 1794); Thomas Knibbs (1795, 1800, 1802); Thomas Tagg (1818, 1820, 1823, 1825); Joseph Bates (1835).

**Flower Roots supplied by:** William Foy (1836\*).

**Flower Seeds supplied by:** Edward Knibbs (1794); Thomas Knibbs (1795).

**Stipend:** William Foy at £20 per annum (1827).

### **Daily rates**

Edward Knibbs: unspecified labour at 1s. 6d. (1792, 1793, 1794); own at 2s. (1792, 1793, 1794); son at 1s. 6d. (1792, 1793, 1794); wheeling in mould at 1s. 6d. (1794); own rate at 2s. 6d. (1794); unspecified labour at 1s. 8d. (1794); son at 2s. (1794).

Thomas Knibbs: unspecified labour at 1s 10d (1795); own at 2s. 6d. (1795); son at 2s. (1795).

William Foy: own 3s. (1827); unspecified labour at 2s. 6d. (1827, 1836); woman weeding at 1s. (1836).

### **Tasks**

Cook: pruning trees and shrubs at 8s. 6d. (1757).

### **Materials purchased by contractor**

Edward Knibbs: nails and list (1792, 1793, 1794); paper bags for grapes (1794); nails and list for trees (1794); stakes and rods for trees (1794); stakes and rods for a mound (1794).

Thomas Knibbs: nails and list (1795).

William Foy: gravel at 1s. 3d. a load (1827); cord to brace the mulberry tree (1836); stakes (1836); pots at 6d. each (1836); birch brooms (1836).

### **Tradesmen employed in the garden**

Carpenter: Francis Boswell (1795-5); Wall (1836).

Painter: John Williams (1793, 1795).

Ironmonger: William Robinson: (1794-5).

### **Consultation**

Mr Bearcroft: opinion concerning the garden at £1 1s. (1773).

### **Sources**

*The Oxford University and City Guide*. Oxford: 1823.

Lincoln College Archive: LC/B/AA/CAL/34 1729; LC/B/AA/CAL/34 1738, 1739; LC/B/AA/CAL/35 1745, 1746, 1750, 1751, 1755, 1756, 1757; LC/B/AA/CAL/36 1764; LC/B/AA/CAL/40 1773, 1776; LC/B/AA/CAL/41, 1783, 1794; LC/G/M/1; LC/B/B/12; LC/B/B/13; LC/B/B/14; LC/B/B/15; LC/B/B/21-24; LC/B/B/25.

## Magdalen College

### Garden

The Grove which contained a large bowling green.

The Water Walks, also known as the Water Walk.

### Description

The gardens of the College were destroyed when the New Buildings were built in 1733 but the Grove, bowling green and Water Walks were retained. In 1713 the *British Curiosities in Nature and Art* provided a description of one of the hedges in the Magdalen garden. The hedge was described as being formed out of topiaried yews in the shape of 12 full sized Caesars and each separated from the others by columns. The garden was described as possessing other topiaried figures, in the form of beasts. In 1728 Pierre-Jaques Foucheroux described the Magdalen garden as possessing 'the most intriguing garden in the whole of Oxford'. He observed the hedge containing the Caesars, describing them as standing in pedimented niches between paired columns, with urns above them.

In 1744 Thomas Salmon wrote:

*There are several Particulars, wherein this College is observed to have the Advantage of any other in the University, as its being situated on the River Cherwell, in a manner out of Town, with a fine Prospect of the adjacent Country: Some of them are of the opinion that the Walk upon the River, and their Grove, are Beauties not to be parallel'd.*

Salmon went on to observe that trees in the Grove had been cut down to form a paddock for the deer but David Loggan's map of Oxford (1675) showed the Grove had been cleared of many of its trees before the beginning of the eighteenth century. The

surviving trees were described as elms standing along the walks but Salmon claimed that the walks were too narrow. In *The New Oxford Guide* (1768) the Grove was also described as a paddock which was formed into 'many delightful walks and lawns'. Alicia D'Anvers's *Academia*, published in 1691, observed that the Water Walks was visited by tourists and Thomas Salmon recorded that it encircled Magdalen Meadow. In 1749 Pointer noted that trees were planted on each side of the walks and this description is confirmed by Donowell's engraving of the Water Walks (1755). *A Tour thr' the Whole Island of Great Britian* (1761) recorded that the paths were gravelled and 'fenced with hedges'. *The New Oxford Guide* (1765) described the walks as 'shaded with hedges and lofty trees, one part grow wild, and in the others are cut and disposed regularly'. Tatham's *Oxonia explicata et ornata* (1777) singled out the plantations around the Water Walks for praise describing them as 'a specimen of good taste and deserve to be intimated'. It also noted that part of the crenelated Long Wall that surrounded the property was demolished to provide a vista from the Water Walks into the Grove. There were further vistas created along the Water Walks of the Magdalen Mill and the College buildings (Figure 1.22). Malchair's drawing of the mill recorded a vista of the President's Lodgings through the Grove (Figure 1.24). The most popular vista from the Water Walks was one which took in the Meadow, the New Building, North Cloister and terminated in the Grove.

In *A New Pocket Companion for Oxford* (1784) the writer emphasised the contemplative and natural elements of the landscape:

*One unpanelled Beauty belonging to this College is the extensive Out-let. The Grove seems perfectly adapted to indulge Contemplation; being a pleasant Kind of Solitude, laid out in Walks, and well planted with Trees. It has in it about forty Head of Deer.*

*Beside the Walks which are in the Grove there is a very delightful, and much frequented One, round a Meadow containing thirteen Acres, surrounded by the several Branches of the Cherwell, from whence it is called the Water Walks; which yields in the Variety that could be wished: Some Parts of it running in straight Lines, with the Trees formerly regularly cut than at present; others winding, and the Trees growing little otherwise than as Nature directs: There is plenty of Water as well as Verdure, as an agreeable View of the Country adjacent.*

The drawings of S.H Grimm and paintings that Repton produced for the Magdalen Red Book bear out this observation that the management of the trees since the publication of the view in *A New Display of the Beauties of England* (1776) had changed (Figures 1.25, 1.28 and 1.23).

## Images



Figure 1.22. Magdalen College Water Walks: Exeter College Benefactors' Book, n.d., ink on vellum. Courtesy of Exeter College Library.





Figure 1.23. J.Green, "Magdalen Coll. New Building", c.1776, engraving. Copyright: the Wellcome Institute.



Figure 1.24. John Malchair "Magdalen C Mill. July 4 1780", pencil and colour wash. Courtesy of Corpus Christi College Archive.



Figure 1.25. Samuel Hieronymus Grimm, "Roothouse in the Grove at Oxford", 1783, ink wash. Copyright: the British Library, London.



Figure 1.26. Samuel Hieronymus Grimm, "In the Garden [of Magdalen College] near Oxford, Oxfordshire, 1782 ink wash. Copyright: the British Library, London.



Figure 1.27. Samuel Hieronymus Grimm, "Oxford. Magdalen College Tower From The Grove", 1783, ink wash. Copyright: the British Library, London.



Figure 1.28. Humphry Repton, *View of the Magdalen Meadow*, from the Magdalen College Red Book, 1801, watercolour. Courtesy of Magdalen College Archive.



Figure 1.29. Humphry Repton, *View of the Magdalen Meadow*, from the Magdalen College Red Book, 1801, watercolour. Courtesy of Magdalen College Archive.

**College Gardeners:** William Walton (1740-1760); Thomas Walton (1775).

**Other named gardeners:** William Haynes (1740, 1741); Taylor (1749), Cooke (1755, 1756); Newman (1756).

**Plants supplied by:** Thomas Tisdale (1740); John Favin (1740); Elizabeth Tagg (1750, 1752, 1758, 1760); Cooke (1753, 1754, 1757, 1759); Greening (1753).

### **Tradesmen employed**

Painter: George Palmer (1740); Smith (1741).

Ironmonger: Prigeon (1740); Perkins (1741, 1742, 1743, 1744); Rawlins (1744, 1745, 1746, 1748, 1749, 1750); King (1753, 1755, 1756, 1757, 1758, 1759, 1760).

### **Materials Purchased by College**

John Green: hay for deer at 12d. per tod (1740).

## Sources

*British Curiosities in Nature and Art*. London: 1713; Jacques, David and Tim Rock. "Pierre-Jacques Fougereux: a Frenchman's commentary on English gardens in the 1720s". In *Experiencing the Garden in the Eighteenth Century*, edited by Martin Calder, 213-235. Bern: Peter Lang AG, 2006; Salmon, Thomas. *The Present State of the Universities and of the five adjacent Counties of Cambridge, Huntingdon, Bedford, Buckingham, and Oxford*. London: 1744; D'Anvers, Alicia. *Academia, or, The Humours of the University of Oxford, in Burlesque Verse*. London: 1730; Pointer, John. *Oxoniensis Academia*. London: 1749; Defoe, Daniel. *A Tour Through the Whole Island of Great Britain*, vol. 2. London: 1761; *The New Oxford Guide*. Oxford: 1765; *The New Oxford Guide*. Oxford: 1768; Tatham, Edward. *Oxonia explicata and ornata. Proposals for disengaging and beautifying the University and City of Oxford*. London: 1773; *A New Display of the Beauties of England*. London, 1776; *A New Pocket Companion for Oxford*. London: 1784.

Magdalen College Archive: MC/DBJ/23; MC/FA16/4/1AD/1; MC/LC/E-38-40; MC/LCE/43; MC/LCE/47; MC/LCE/48; MC/LCE/49; MC/LCE/50; MC/LCE/51; MC/LCE/52; MC/LCE/53; MC/LCE/54.

## Merton College

### Garden names

College Garden also known as the Public/ Common Garden, Fellows' Garden and Merton Grove.

### Description

The College Garden became infamous after the publication of John Dry's Merton Walks in 1717. The behaviour of the students and members of the public caused the College authorities to close the garden's entrance from the Merton Field. Thomas Hearne noted in 1723:

*Some years ago came out at Oxford a Poem call'd Merton Walks, the walks in the garden of that Place were every Sunday night in the Pleasant time of the Year. Thronged with young Gentleman and young gentlewomen which following scandalous, the Garden Gate was at last quite shut up and there upon the young Gentleman and others [took] themselves to Magdalen College Walk.*

Problems with the behaviour of the students in the garden appear to have continued into the middle of the Eighteenth century. Sometime during 1744/45 the Bachelors (undergraduates) were forbidden to use the garden because of their poor behaviour. Thomas Salmon's *The Present State of the Universities*, published in 1744, described the gardens as 'the most desirable of any in Oxford' and possessed a wilderness, alcoves, arbours and terraces. Writing in 1749 John Pointer noted in *Oxon Academia*:

*The Garden is extremely pleasant, being admir'd for it's variety of Walks (open, and close, upper and lower) as also for it's pleasant Situation next to Fields; the Terrass overlooking the Meadows. This garden is visited by all Strangers having made famous by a Poem*

*call'd Merton Walks publish'd in 1717. And in 1730, it was enlarged by the Addition of another Garden brought for 400 Guineas.*

In the second half of the 1750s a number of developments took place in the garden. The parapet wall along the terrace had a palisade and coping added in 1755, a detail recorded in the portrait *A Graduate of Merton College, Oxford*, attributed to George Knapton. By lowering the boundary wall and replacing the stone with an iron palisade the College opened up the prospect of Merton Fields and Christ Church Meadow. On 27 February 1759 the fellows agreed to alter the garden after a plan had been laid before them by the Garden Master, The Reverend and Honourable Shute Barrington. A sum, not exceeding £20, was allocated for the work and P. Sherwin, writing to Sir John St Aubyn in July 1759, observed that the garden was 'quite new modelled'.

In 1762 the terrace walk was gravelled and a new seat was ordered for the Bastion. The cost of graveling the walks lead to the College overspending on this task and the expense was recouped by levelling a charge of 6d. on every member of the College for two quarters. *The New Oxford Guide* (1765) observed that 'This garden has very recently been much improved in its appearance, particularly by throwing open the view of the Warden's Garden and the east end of the inner quadrangle. At the south end of it is the entrance into the Garden, in which is a fine terrace formed on part of the City wall, where there is a view of Merton Fields, and the wide walk of Christ Church.' The entrance to the garden, mentioned in the description, may be the one that was agreed to be commissioned by the fellows in November 1755. *The New and Compleat History and Survey of the Cities of London and Westminster* (1770) described the garden as possessing a 'terrace, formed on the city-wall in the garden, is no less finely situated for

a delightful view; and the gardens in general have a pleasing variety'. *The New Oxford Guide* (1785) recorded that the gardens at Merton 'are generally much resorted to in Summer' indicating their continued popularity with visitors.

From the 1760s onwards the garden was associated with the prospects it offered its users from the remaining elements of the City walls. In 1809 in *The British Tourists*, William Mavor observed 'The garden terrace, formed on part of the ancient city walls, is truly charming, and the gardens themselves are very agreeably laid out.' The *Young Travellers*, a travelogue published in 1818, commented on the popularity of the terrace walk with people taking exercise in the morning while enjoying the prospect it offered.



## Images



Figure 1.30. John Malchair, "in Merton Garden May 4.1771. Oxford.", graphite and colour wash. Courtesy of Corpus Christi College Archive.

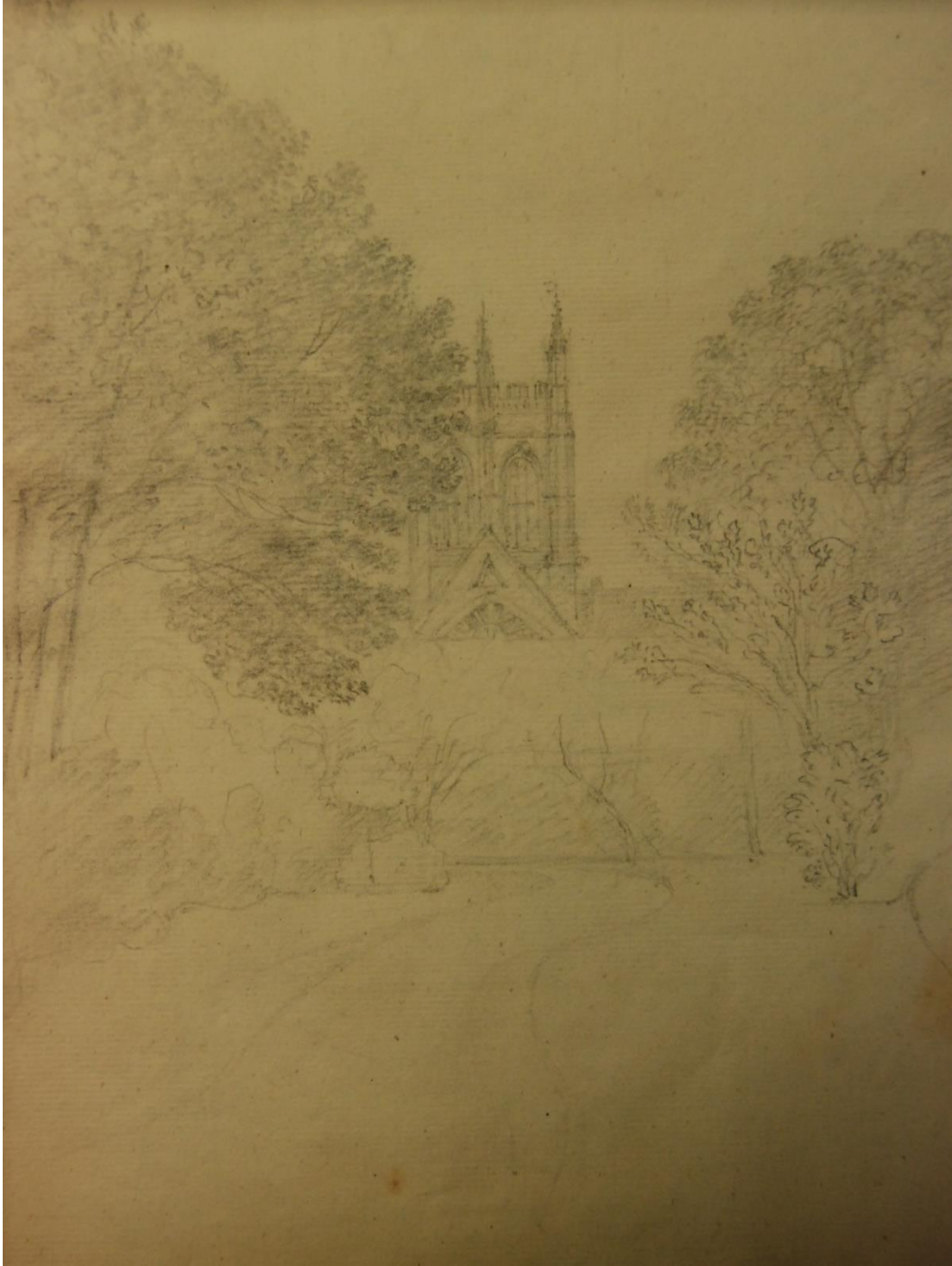


Figure 1.31. John Malchair, "in Merton Garden May 1771. Oxford.", graphite. Courtesy of Corpus Christi College Archive.



Figure 1.32. John Malchair, *Merton College garden*, 1772, watercolour over graphite.  
Copyright: the Ashmolean Museum, Oxford.

**Gardeners:** Peter Mason (1745-63, 1769-1775); Stockford (1756); Robert Penson (1774-1800).

**Plants supplied by:** Peter Mason (1762); Robert Penson (1778).

## Sources

Dry, John. *Merton Walks, or The Oxford Beauties: A Poem*. Oxford, 1717; Hearne, Thomas. *Remarks and Collections of Thomas Hearne*, vol. VIII. Oxford Historical Society: Oxford, 1907; Williams, William. *Oxonia Depicta*. Oxford, 1733; Salmon, Thomas. *The Present State of the Universities and of the five adjacent Counties of Cambridge, Huntingdon, Bedford, Buckingham, and Oxford*. London: 1744; Pointer, John. *Oxoniensis Academia*. London: 1749, *The New Oxford Guide*. Oxford: 1765; Chamberlain, Henry. *The New and Compleat History and Survey of the Cities of London and Westminster*. London: 1770; "Letter from P Sherwin to Sir John St Aubyn of Clowence Co. Cornwall". *The Pelican Record*, XIX, (6 June 1930):124; *The New Oxford Guide*. Oxford, 1785; Mavor, William. *British Tourists*, vol. 6. London: 1809; *The Young Travellers; Or, A Visit To Oxford*. London: 1818.

Merton College Archive: MCR 1.4; MCA. 3.8; MCA. LC E-45.

## **New College**

### **Garden names**

The Fellows' Garden, sometimes called The Garden.

The Bowling Green.

### **Descriptions**

David Loggan's engraving (1675) recorded the garden and Mound (Figure 1.33). In 1682 the Garden Court Building was built and thereafter the gate and palisades were erected in 1711 by Thomas Robinson. Thomas Baskerville wrote in 1684 that on top of the Mount was a dial 'resembling a bundle of Books'. In 1691 Alicia D'Anver's poem *Academia: or the Humours of the University of Oxford* describes the top of the mount as a site visited by tourists. Using the voice of the servant, John Blunder, D'Anver wrote 'Why, I've seen the New-College mount, and stood ye a while upon't'. Celia Fiennes (1694) described the top of the mount as having a summer house but it is not mentioned by any other source. In 1705 Robert Plott described a wind dial that had formerly been on the top of the mount made up of a pile of books, with a figure of Time on its top.

In Loggan's 1675 engraving the first parterre was a knot work pattern, the second was a version of the arms of William of Wykham, Bishop of Winchester and founder of the College, encircled with the Garter and motto, 'Man[ners maketh man]'. The third parterre in the engraving shows a detail of the Royal Arms including a unicorn as a supporter, indicating that the arms were of the Stuart dynasty and the date [16]28. The fourth and final parterre was a horizontal sundial with gnomon. William Williams'

engraving for the *Oxonia depicta* (1733) shows the third parterre was altered from the design depicted in the Loggan engraving (1675). Instead of the Stuart dynasty's armorial bearings, including the supporters, the parterre inaccurately displayed the arms of the Hanoverian monarchs (before 1800) surrounded by the Garter and topped with the cypher of 'GR'. Elizabeth Sheppard, the daughter of William Sheppard of Hart Hall, writing as 'Shepilinda' made the following description of the New College Garden in 1738:

*the Garden is elegant the Mound is very high & is a Considerable ornament; at the Bottom of which grow two Yew Trees the finest I ever saw cut in Square Pillars of a vast height; behind the Mount is a Sweet Walk in which the most piercing Beams of the Sun could never yet penetrate – between the Mount & the Iron Gates & Pallisadoes that Separate the College from the Garden are four parterres; in one is a Dial laid out in Box which once in a day goes right – in another Parterre which answers that, is something I dont know what though – in the third is the Kings arms blazond properly with particolour'd Gravells & smiths Cinders enclos'd with Box with the Garter motto round it in the fourth & last parterre is the founder Wm of Wichams arms which are 3 red Roses blazon'd properly with the Same Materials as that I last mention'd & round it the Motto Manners Maketh Man'.*

Elizabeth Sheppard's description of the New College Garden bears out some of the details found in the Williams' engraving.<sup>1</sup> Thomas Salmon (1747) noted the existence of a summerhouse that 'commands good parts of the city'. In *A Pocket Companion to Oxford* (1753) it was noted that the Mound walk was an 'Easy Ascent to the Top of it, and the Walks around about it, as well as the Summit of it, guarded with Yew hedges'

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<sup>1</sup> Neate, *Memoirs of the City and University of Oxford in 1738*, 38.

The author was the first to note that ‘the whole [garden] is surrounded by a Terras’ and they went on to record that:

On each side are Lime-Trees planted; and on the North Side in particular there is a *Serpentine Walk* planted with *flowering Shrubs*. Behind the Mount likewise is a fine Collection of Shrubs so contrived as to rise gradually one above the other, and over them, a Row of Horse Chesnut Trees, which spread in such a Manner as to cover the Garden Wall, and carry the Eye on to a most beautiful Mantle of tall Elms, which terminates the View, and seems to be the only Boundry to that End of the Garden.’

This description of the garden was used again in *The Universal Magazine* (1755). *The New Oxford Guide* (1768) provided observations about the College’s Bowling Green:

*At the South East Corner of the Garden we enter the Bowling Green; which is in all Respects neat and commodious. Opposite to the Entrance is a Pavilion or Temple; on the Right a Terras with flowering Shrubs, and a Row of Elms to shade the Green in the Evening, that Side being almost due West; and on the Left a Row of Sycomores which are mentioned by Dr Plot, In his Natural History of Oxfordshire as a great Curiosity; being incorporated from one End of the Row to the other.*

*The New Oxford Guide* described the effect of the effect from the top of the Mount stating:

*But before he leaves the Garden, we would recommend to him a View of the Building from the Mount; whence the Garden-Court, in particular, has a very grand effect: For from thence the Wings appear properly display’d, and the whole sits easy upon the Eye...From the Top of the Mount likewise there is an extensive and agreeable Prospect of the Country, and some other Buildings in the University.*

In the 1768 edition of *The New Oxford Guide* the parterres were described but when *The Ladies Magazine* was published in September 1771 they were already removed.

The writer in *The Ladies Magazine* also noted that the circular walk and evergreens on

the Mount no longer existed. On reaching the summit the writer observed that the seats at the top were no longer there and there was only grass and a chained eagle at the summit.

The 1774 edition of *The New Oxford Guide* noted that behind the Mount and 'on the North Side are some curious and uncommon Shrubs and Trees'. In the 1804 *The New Oxford Guide* recorded the Mount was now 'covered with a thick shrubbery' and it was no longer acknowledged as a viewing point. *The Oxford University and City Guide* (1823) noted 'The garden has lately has been much improved; it is now a most delightful retirement, interspersed with majestic trees and beautiful flowers and shrubs' and that the Bowling Green was 'decorated with beds of flowers' and possessed an Ionic temple. Nathaniel Witlock's lithograph *New College, from the Garden* showed the Mount densely planted with shrubs and the survival, but softening of the effect of the terrace walk (Figure 1.34).



## Images



Figure 1.33. David Loggan, New College, from *Oxonia Illustrata*, 1675, engraving, un-numbered plate. Courtesy of New College Archive.



Figure 1.34. Nathaniel Whittock, "New College from the Garden", c.1820, lithograph. Courtesy: New College Archive.



Figure 1.35. Carl Rundt, "New College, from the garden", c.1846, lithograph. Copyright: the author.

**Gardeners:** Thomas Nethercliffe (before 1747); H. Blackstone, junior, (1747); Henry Sansom (1757-9); William Hinksman (1760); Richard Guest (1805).

**Stipend**

Garden: £20 (1747).

Weeding money: Thomas Nethercliffe at £2 per annum (1747).

**Weeding women:** Bridget Silversides (1758); Frances Handes (1758); Elizabeth Harris (1758); Mary Harris (1758).

**Plants supplied by:** Elizabeth Tagg (1740, 1746, 1759, 1763, 1769); William Hinksman (1760); Wells (1762); Mason (1762); Cook (1763); Robert Penson (1805); Thomas Tagg (1825).

Seeds supplied by: Robert Penson (1802).

**Garden contractor for alterations to garden:** Thomas Nethercliffe (1741, 1744); Robert Penson (1789, 1802).

### **Daily rates**

Thomas Nethercliffe: Richard Woodford at 1s. 2s. (1741); Thomas Allan at 1s. 2d. (1741); Thomas Thomas 1s. 2d. (1741); Henry Mogy at 1s. 2d. (1741); William Benham at 1s. (1741); John Grubb at 1s. 2d. (1741); Richard Brown 1s. 2d. (1741); Arthur Kight 1s. 6d. (1741); James English 1s. 2d. (1741); James Hall at 1s. 2d. (1741); Richard Nethercliffe at 1s. 8d. (1741); John Law at 1s. 8d. (1741); Michael Cook at 1s. 2d. (1741); Thomas Hunt 1s. 2d. (1741); John Oliver 1s. 2d. (1741); James French 1s. 2d. (1741); James English trenching the borders and planting flowering shrubs at 1s. 6d. (1741); George Evans trenching the borders and planting flowering shrubs at 1s. 4d. (1741); cutting turf at 1s. 8d. (1744); wheeling turf, taking up old turf, preparing turf, settling ground for jasmines and woodbines at 1s. 8d. (1744).

Henry Sansom: unspecified labour at 1s. 8d. (1759); Samuel Quentin at 1s. 1d. (1758); William Boxley at 1s. 1d. (1758); Joseph Sowerby 1s. 1d. (1758); Bridget Silverside and Frances Handes for weeding at 6d. (1758); James Dix at 1s. (1758); Elizabeth Harris at 8d. (1748); Mary Harris at 8d. (1758).

William Hinksman: woman at 8d (1760); unspecified work at 1s. 8d. (1760)

Robert Penson: unspecified labour at 1s. 4d. (1789); unspecified labour at 1s. 6d. (1789); cleaning and beating turf at 1s. 6d. (1789); levelling ground and taking up old gravel at 1s. 6d. (1789); mowing at 1s. 8d. per day; rolling and sweeping at 1s. 4d. (1789); levelling ground at 2s. (1802); beating turf at 2s. (1802); unspecified labour at 2s. (1802).

Richard Guest: Holloway at 2s. (1805); Thomas at 2s. (1805); Hands 2s. (1805); Beckley at 2s. (1805); Warton at 2s. (1805).

### **Tasks**

Thomas Nethercliffe: lopping trees at 3s. (1741); moving turf (1741); removing 2 yew trees, making good, fetching and planting 2 elms at 2s. (1741); carriage of turf at 10s. (1744); sweeping the green at 3d. (1758).

Henry Sansom: rolling at 3d. (1758).

William Hinksman: rolling and mowing the green 2s. 6d. (1760); weekly work 10s. (1760); mowing the green at 1s. (1760); shreds (1760); rolling gravel for two men (1760).

Robert Penson: self levelling stakes at 5s. (1789); self levelling at 2s. 6d. (1802).

### **Materials purchased by contractor**

Thomas Nethercliffe: a line 1s. (1741); brooms (1741); baskets (1741).

Henry Blackstone: garden mould at 2s. 6d. per load (1746); bill at 1s. 4d. (1746); spade 3s. 6d. (1746); scythe, sneath, knibs, knowle ring and wedges (1746); hammer at 1s. (1746); wet stone at 2d. (1746).

Henry Sansom: rubber at 3d. (1758); brooms at 1½d. each (1759).

William Hinksman: brooms (1760); 8 dozen flower sticks (1760); mould (1760).

Robert Penson: loam at 2s. 6d. per load (1789); turf at £4 per thousand (1789); gravel at 3s. 6d. (1789).

### **Tradesmen employed in the garden**

Carpenter: Jonas Bull (1751); James Chadwell (1754); Wyatt (1762); John Lichfield (1805).

Plasterer: William Teeghe (1741).

Painter: Mary Withington (1741-2, 1746, 1752-3); Smith (1747); Thomas Williams (1758, 1760); Elizabeth Dyer (1784-5); Mary Williams (1805).

Ironmonger: Stephen Pittaway (1741, 1746); Francis King (1746, 1759, 1780); Thomas Burch (1805), Thomas Earle (1805).

Smith: Thomas Reynolds (1759, 1766, 1786-7).

Brazier: Leveritt (1746).

Mason: Richard Piddington (1741-2, 1750-1, 1759).

### **Sources**

D'Anvers, Alicia. *Academia, or, The Humours of the University of Oxford, in Burlesque Verse*. London: 1730; Plott, Robert. *The Natural History of Oxfordshire*. Oxford: 1677. Fiennes, Celia and Christopher Morris. *The Journeys of Celia Fiennes*. London: Cresset Press, 1947; Geoffrey Neate, *Memoirs of the City and University of Oxford in 1738: Together with Poems, Odd Lines, Fragments and Small Scraps, by Shepilinda*. Oxford Historical Society. New Series, vol. 47. Oxford: The Boydell Press for the Oxford

Historical Society, 2018; Salmon, Thomas. *The Foreigner's Companion through the Universities of Cambridge and Oxford, and the Adjacent Counties*. London: 1748; *A pocket companion for Oxford*. Oxford: 1753; "An Account of Oxfordshire". *The Universal Magazine of Knowledge and Pleasure*, vol. 17 (1755): 193-201; *The New Oxford Guide*. Oxford: 1768; "A Sentimental Journey". *The Lady's Magazine*, vol. 2 (September, 1771): 49-56; *The New Oxford Guide*. Oxford: 1804; *The Oxford University and City Guide*, Oxford, 1823.

New College Archive: NCA 4288; NCA, 4289; NCA 4326; NCA 4345; NCA 11380; NCA 11381; NCA 11382; NCA 11385; NCA 11386; NCA 11387; NCA 11388; NCA 11389; NCA 11390; NCA 11397; NCA 11398; NCA 11399; NCA 11401.

## **Pembroke College**

### **Garden names**

Fellows' Garden.

### **Historic development**

Loggan's 1675 bird's eye engraving of the College showed three walled gardens. The garden closest the College buildings was the Commoners' Garden, the middle plot was the Master's Garden and the third space was the Fellows' Garden. Michael Burgher's 1700 print of Pembroke College recorded changes to both the Commoners' and Fellows' Gardens. By 1728 the Commoners' Garden had been destroyed and on the site was built a new chapel.

George Vertue, in 1744, produced an engraving for the Oxford Almanac depicting the benefactors of College and a bird's eye view of the buildings and gardens. The layout of the Fellows' Garden had changed since the publication of the Burger's engraving but the terrace along the City wall remained. In *A collection of voyages and travels* (1745) it was noted that Pembroke College possessed 'a pleasant garden' but no description of the space was given. *The New Oxford Guide* (1765) recorded the existence of the terrace walk.

A summer house in the Fellows' Garden was erected in 1698 and it was painted and 'adorned' in 1701. In the 1760s a new summer house, or common room, was built in the Fellows' Garden (Figure 1.36). At the same time as the construction of the summerhouse twelve chairs were purchased from a joiner for the room. The summer

house in *The New Oxford Guide* (1765) and *A New Display of the Beauties* (1772) was described as ‘a pleasant common room’.

## Images

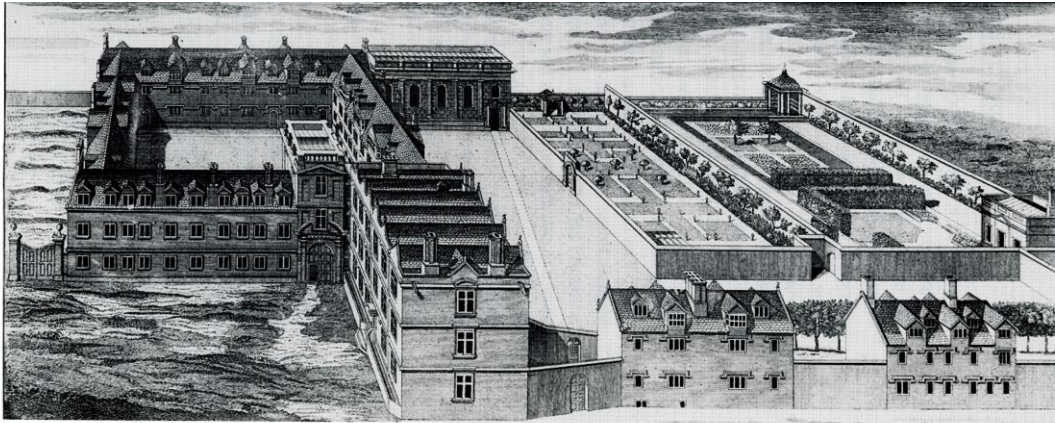


Figure 1.36. John Vertue, *Pembroke College*, Oxford Almanack 1744, engraving. Courtesy of Pembroke College Archive.

**Gardeners:** Simon Stubbs (1728-29); Thomas Keats (1739); White (1785, 1787).

**Plants supplied by:** Jacob Wrench (1702).

## Sources

Loggan, David. *Oxonia Illustrata*. Oxford: 1675; Green, John. *A New General Collection of Voyages and Travels*. London: 1745; *The New Oxford Guide*. Oxford: 1765; *A New Display of the Beauties*. London: 1772.

Pembroke College Archive: PMB/B/1/1; PMB/D/1/2/1; PMB/D/1/3/6; PMB/D/1/3/3.



## **St John's College**

### **Garden names**

Outer Grove, also known as the Bachelors' Garden, the Grove and the Walks.

The Inner Grove was called, at various times, the Garden, the Fellows' Garden and the Masters' Garden.

Collectively the two gardens were known as the Groves, after their unification in 1779 the two groves were known as the Garden.

### **Historic development**

St John's College was founded in 1555 and the garden was acquired in 1567 as a four acre site. In December 1600 a decree was made to enclose the Grove as two separate walled gardens using £200 left by Edward Sprot, a fellow of the College.

David Loggan's engraving (1675) shows the existence of two walled groves (Figure 1.37). The long mound, running along a north/south axis at the end of the Inner Grove, abutting the Parks wall and boundary of the College site is the only pre-1778 feature to survive. At each end of the mound were bastions with seating. In 1710 Zacharias Conrad von Uffenbach described the Outer Grove as "a very large square with grass and garden-walls" and Inner Grove as "fairly spacious but wild garden with trees and paths".<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> W.H Quarell and W.J.C. Quarell, eds., *Oxford in 1710: From the Travels of Zacharias Conrad von Uffenbach* (Oxford: Blackwell, 1928), 58.

In William Williams' engraving in *Oxonia depicta* (1732) the direction of the bird's eye view was changed. The viewer saw the College from the Parks side, instead of from the St Giles' entrance. The Outer Grove was recorded as consisting of four large rectangular plats, with pleached trees around the edges of the grass. The axial gravel walks were aligned with the entrance to Canterbury Quadrangle and the elegant set of gates that opened on to the Parks; the iron gate may have been erected c.1690. The layout of the Inner Grove, documented by Williams, appears to have changed very little from Loggan's 1675 view. The line of trees, planted next to the dividing wall between the groves in the Inner Grove, remained in part into the second half of the eighteenth century. Michael Angelo Rooker's 1783 engraving of the recently combined garden recorded this survival (Figure 1.39).

In *A collection of voyages and travels* (1745) the Inner Grove was described as 'a very delightful shady grove' and the Outer Grove was described as a 'large piece of ground laid out into regular walks and grass-plats'. The author noted that from the iron gate, that formed the entrance from the Parks, 'you have an agreeable visto, through the two passages of the inner quadrangle [the Canterbury Quadrangle] to the west side of the outer [Front Quad]'. Thomas Salmon, writing in 1748, described the Outer Grove as possessing 'walks are planted with Dutch elms, and the walls are covered with evergreens'. Salmon noted that:

*the outer garden is become the general rendezvous of gentlemen and ladies every Sunday evening in the summer: here we have the opportunity of seeing the whole university together almost, as well as the better sort of townsmen and ladies, who seldom fail of making their appearance here at the same time unless the weather prevents them.*

The Inner Grove was described in the same publication as possessing ‘everything almost that can render such a place as agreeable; as a terrace, a mount, a wilderness and well-contrived arbours.’

In 1753 edition of the *Pocket Companion for Oxford* the Outer Grove was described as:

*dispos'd in regular Walks and Grass-Plats, the Walls there- of cover'd with Ever-Greens, and neatly cuts, and is finely shaded by Trees of various kinds, viz. the middle Walk thereof by a Row of Lime- Trees on each Side cut arch-wise, a Row of cut Elms by the Side Walks, and at each End and/ across the middle two Groups of beautiful Horse- Chestnut Trees.*

The 1765 edition of the *New Oxford Guide* described the Inner Grove as:

*being so contriv'd as not To satiate the Eye at once, but its various parts present themselves gradually to view. No Spot Whatever is calculated to yield a more pleasing Variety; for, except Water, it has all that could be wish'd. The gardens are both extensive: and on the whole are a most agreeable retreat. The inner grove, as it is commonly known, has all those graces which arise from a regulated variety and from a succession of beauties judiciously diversified and disposed as to strike us gradually and unexpectedly.*

In *The Lady's Magazine* (August, 1771) a description of the Outer and Inner Grove proves a detailed record of the space before Robert Penson's amalgamation of the two groves. The Outer Grove was described as ‘divided into three walks; the center one is finely shaded with lofty trees, and is of a width that fills the mind with idea of grandeur.’ It was observed by the writer that the Inner Grove ‘seems to have been appropriated by the fellows of St Johns’. The writer also observed that the space was ‘more elegant now than when it was common’ suggesting that access to the Inner Grove had become more tightly controlled. The mound was described as possessing ‘a beautiful terrace which commands a delightful view of the Parks’. It was also noted that ‘there was formerly a

fine grove of laurels, which have been displaced for the sake of flowery roots and shrubbery' on the mound. Walking in the grove, the author noted that she was 'enraptured with the flowery creation which adorned the parterres but what gave us the most pleasure was the prospect from the terrace'. The writer noted that they left through the back gates of the Walks (The Outer Grove) to go on to Wadham College.

In 1774 Robert Penson produced a proposal to merge the two groves which involved knocking down the dividing wall (Figure 1.38). The idea of the merging of the gardens was not taken up and it was not until 1777 that the Fellows agreed to unite the two. The groundwork on the garden was finished c.1778 by the College Gardener, Robert Penson (Figure 1.39). John Malchair's 1786 drawing of the garden shows that Penson had created subtle curving paths in the space and experimented with light and shade through his planting of the trees and shrubs (Figure 1.40). The mount survived the landscaping in the 1770s but the prospect of the Parks was partially altered in 1795 when Merton College granted a lease of c.4 acres of agricultural land (Hairness garden) to Warden Willes of Wadham to extend the Warden's Garden.

## Images

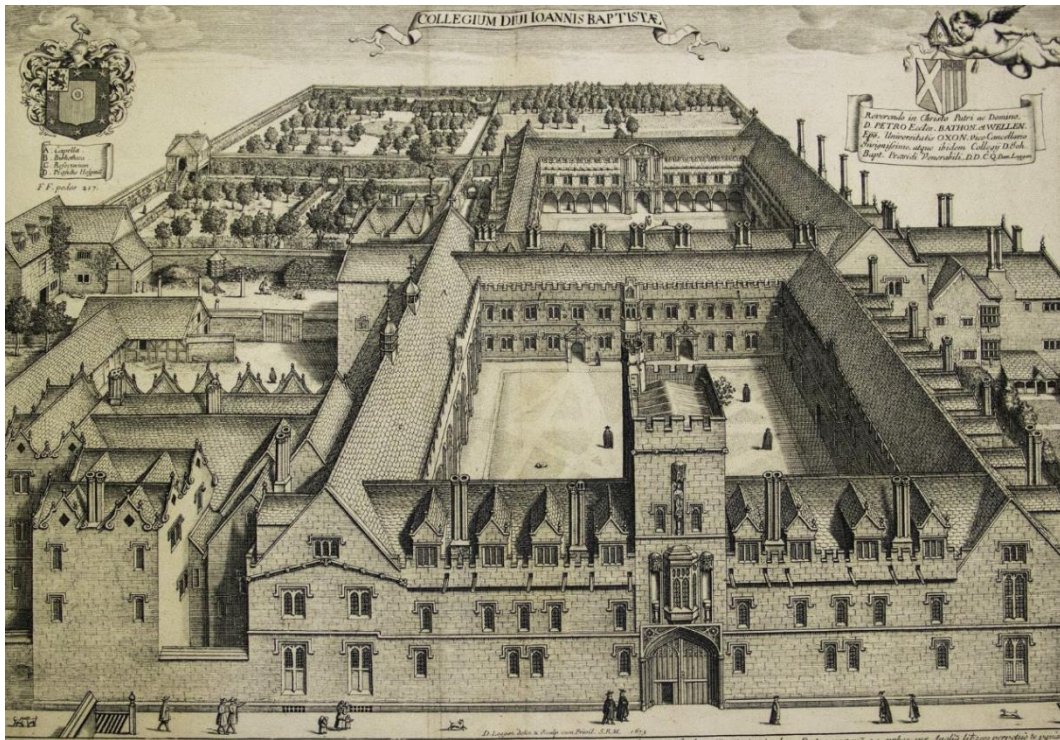


Figure 1.37. David Loggan, St John's College, from *Oxonia Illustrata*, 1675, engraving. Copyright: the author.



Figure 1.38. Plan for the unification of St John's College garden, Robert Penson, 1774, pen and coloured washes. Courtesy of St John's College Archive.



Figure 1.39. Michael Angelo Rooker, "St John's College from the Garden", 1783, hand coloured engraving. Copyright: the author.



Figure 1.40. John Malchair, "St John's College garden, 20 June 1786", grey wash over pencil. Copyright: the Ashmolean Museum, Oxford.





Figure.1.41. Attributed to William Turner of Oxford, *St John's College garden*, c.1812, pencil. Copyright: Saunders.



Figure 1.42. F. Mackenzie, "St John's College, from the Garden", 1813, engraved by J. Hill, aquatint. Copyright: the author



Figure 1.43. J and H.S. Storer, "St John's College", 1821, engraving. Copyright: the Wellcome Collection.



Figure 1.44. William Turner of Oxford, "St John's College Garden, Oxford", n.d., pencil. Courtesy of St John's College Archive.



Figure 1.45. Nathaniel Whittock, "View of St John's College, From the garden", c.1830, hand coloured lithograph. Copyright: Sanders of Oxford.



Figure 1.46. F. Mackenzie, "St John's College, from the Garden", 1835, engraved by John Le Keux, engraving. Copyright: the author.



Figure 1.47. Anon., “St John’s College-Library from the Gardens”, n.d., hand coloured etching and aquatint. Copyright: Sanders of Oxford.

**Gardeners:** James Jackson (1741); Henry Moore (1746-1763); Robert Penson (1772); Thomas Fairburn (1836).

**Sub-contractor for weeding woman:** Mary Smith (1747, 1749).

**Plants supplied by:** Henry Moore (1747, 1749, 1751\*, 1759\*, 1763\*); James Smith (1747\*); Elizabeth Tagg (1744/5\*, 1746/48\*, 1749/50\*, 1751/54\*, 1755, 1756, 1759, 1760\* and 1761\*); Mathew Cooke (1760\*); Robert Penson (1778/9\*, 1795\*, 1799\*).

**Roots supplied by:** Henry Moore (1747, 1749, 1751).

**Seeds supplied by:** James Jackson (1741); Henry Moore (1747, 1749, 1750, 1759, 1763).

### **Daily rate**

James Jackson: gardener at 1s. 8d. (1741); labourer at 1s. 2d. (1741); woman weeding 8d. (1741).

Henry Moore: gardener at 1s. 8d. (1746, 1747, 1749, 1750, 1751, 1759, 1760, 1763); labourer at 1s. 2d. (1746, 1747, 1749, 1750, 1751, 1759, 1760, 1763); woman weeding at 8d. (1746, 1747, 1749, 1750, 1751, 1759, 1760, 1763).

Robert Penson: cleaning at 1s. 4d. (1772, 1773, 1774); woman at 10d. (1772, 1773, 1774); mowing at 1s. 8d. (1772, 1773, 1774); unspecified work 1s. 4d. (1772, 1774, 1779); self at 2s. (1774, 1779); levelling walks at 1s. 4d. (1779); digging gravel at 1s. 6d. (1779); beating turf 1s. 4d. (1779); cutting turf at 1s. 6d. (1779); laying turf at 1s. 4d. (1779); preparing ground at 1s. 4d. (1779); finishing garden 1s. 4d. (1779); cutting the elms at 1s. 6d. (1773, 1774); cutting limes at 1s. 6d. (1773, 1774); nailing jasmines and vines at 1s. 4d. (1773); turning the gravel at 1s. 4d. (1773); clipping at 1s. 6d. (1773); digging borders at 1s. 4d. (1773); nailing trees at 1s. 4d. (1774); digging at 1s. 4d. (1774).

### **Costs of tasks**

Rober Penson: for catching a rabbit at 2s. (1773).

### **Materials purchased by contractor**

James Jackson: mould (1741); gravel (1741); dung (1741); poles at 1s per bundle (1741).

Henry Moore: tacking stuff (1746, 1747, 1751, 1759, 1763); dung (1746, 1747, 1749, 1750, 1751, 1759, 1763); sieve at 3s. (1746); 2 barrows at 16s. (1746); baskets (1746, 1747); arbour rods (1747, 1751, 1759); garden pots (1747); water pans (1749, 1759); lapwings (1749); a basket at 6d. (1749, 1751, 1759); garden poles (1749, 1750, 1751); basket 1s. (1750); ashes per bushel 2d. (1759); mulberry basket (1759); flower sticks (1759, 1763).

Robert Penson: list (1772, 1774); hot dung at 2s. 6d. per load including carriage (1773); 6d. for scuttle basket (1773); bundle of flower sticks at 2s. (1773); little basket to gather fruit in at 4d. (1773); new crib at 1s. 4d. (1774); flower sticks (1774)

### **Tradesmen employed by the college in the garden**

Carpenter: Catherine Franklyn (1748); Godfrey (1749); James Thomson (1761, 1763, 1765, 1768, 1770-75, 1778-82); Thomas Clerk (1782); James Pears (1778-1799).

Painter: Mary Withington (1741-4, 1745, 1747, 1748-9, 1752-3); William Rought (1759, 1761, 1771, 1772-3, 1783, 1789).

Ironmonger: Francis King (1758, 1764, 1780, 1787); Charles Prujean (1771); William Robinson (1797-9, 1805).

Mason: John Townesend (1745, 1752, 1757, 1758, 1759, 1768).

Brazier: Millachip (1749, 1752).

## Sources

Quarell, W.H and W.J.C. Quarell, eds. *Oxford in 1710 : From the Travels of Zacharias Conrad von Uffenbach*. Oxford: Blackwell, 1928. Williams, William. *Oxonia Depicta*. Oxford, 1733; Green, John. *A New General Collection of Voyages and Travels*. London: 1745; Salmon, Thomas. *The Present State of the Universities and of the five adjacent Counties of Cambridge, Huntingdon, Bedford, Buckingham, and Oxford*. London: 1744; Salmon, Thomas. *The Foreigner's Companion through the Universities of Cambridge and Oxford, and the Adjacent Counties*. London: 1748; *A pocket companion for Oxford*. Oxford: 1753; *The New Oxford Guide*. Oxford: 1765; "A Sentimental Journey". *The Lady's Magazine*, vol. 2 (August, 1771): 1-7; *Oxford Chronicle and Reading Gazette*, 4.3.1837.

St John's College Archive: SJA ADM 1.A 7; SJA ACC V. B1; SJA LXXXI 61.

## **The Queen's College**

### **Garden names**

Garden with bowling green mentioned in 1739.

### **Description**

John Townesend III may have been involved in producing carvings for a gate in the bowling green.

**Gardeners:** William Collis (1719, 1721); John Pope (1735).

### **Sources**

Roscoe, Ingrid. *The Biographical Dictionary of Sculptors in Britain 1660-1851*. New Haven and London: Yale University Press, 2009.

Queen's College Archive, QCA LRF; QCA 2W 127.



## Trinity College

### Garden names

The Garden, also known as the Public Garden.

### Description

David Loggan's bird's eye perspective engraving for Trinity College (1675) recorded a single grove for the use of the fellows. A high stone wall surrounded the site and separated it from the President's garden. The space was planted with mature trees and walks cross-crossed the site. In 1710 Zacharias Conrad von Uffenbach wrote, in response to his visit to Trinity, that 'At the side of the second court is a great garden, in which, are neither trees nor shrubs, nothing but grass plots and several small yews, which is not unpleasant'.

In the William Williams' engraving (1732) three divisions of the garden were recorded. The largest division consisted of eight grass plots and central wide walk terminating at the clairvoie. The walls surrounding the first division of the garden were hidden by cut evergreen panels.

The second division in William's plate showed a double avenue of lime and elm trees and around the division were cut evergreen *palissades*, with three gravel walks and two grass walks. The second division was created in 1713 with money raised by subscription. The first division was described in the subscription document as 'ye new garden'. The third division contained a wilderness consisting of four cabinets. One of the cabinets was depicted as containing a fountain and basin. Excavations taking place between September 2019 and January 2020 revealed a clay lined, stone walled garden

feature with a soakway below it. This discovery supports the description of a fountain in one of the wilderness' cabinets in William's engraving. Pointer, in 1749, described the fountain and basin as containing artificial flowers which appeared to sit on the surface of the water.

In Thomas Salmon's *The Present State of the Universities* (1744) he observed that the walks in the first division were finely gravelled and that the grass plats were adorned with evergreens. Salmon also recorded another garden of 'shady walks of Dutch elms' and a wilderness with 'Fountains, close arbours, round Stone Tables and other Embellishments'. *The Gentleman and Lady's Polite Companion for Oxford* (1747) observed that 'the walks adjoining the south were much lately laid open to the Garden, and thereby much improved'. In 1749 Pointer also recorded 'Here was a wilderness extremely delightful with a variety of mazes, in which 'tis easy for a man to lose himself...but this wilderness is now altered to an open grove.' The Reverend Thomas Warton wrote his poem 'On a new Plantation of flowering Shrubs in Trinity College Garden', circa 1750, which recoded that the old wilderness at Trinity College had been destroyed by the hard winter of 1740/41.

*The Universal Magazine* (1755) recorded that:

*The gardens of this college are large and well-laid out, containing about 4 acres of ground. The larger division, which we enter from the grand court, consists of fine gravel walks and grass-plots, adorned with ever-greens, which the walls likewise are entirely covered. At the lower end of the centre walk is a beautiful iron gate, supported by two very elegant piers. This gate affords those, who pass to and from the parks, an agreeable prospect of the garden and college. The lesser division on the south has been lately laid open to the rest, planted with flowering shrubs, and the whole much improved.*

In a description of Trinity College garden in *The New Oxford Guide* (1765) observed that:

*The Gardens are extensive, and laid out into two divisions. The first or larger division is chiefly thrown into open grass plots. The north-wall is covered with a beautiful yew-hedge. The centre of the walk is terminated by a well-wrought iron gate, with the Founder's arms at the top, supported by two superb piers. The southern division is a pleasing solitude, consisting of shady walks, with a wilderness of flowering shrubs, disposed into serpentine paths and is much frequented.*

The drawing of the Garden Quadrangle and part of the garden by Dawson Warren (1801) recorded the survival of the yew panelling. The 1818 edition of *The Oxford University and City Guide* observed 'The ancient yew hedges in the formal Dutch style, planted about the same time as the gardens of Hampton Court were laid down, are now fast falling into decay (Figure 1.47). The southern division is more picturesque, planted with trees and shrubs and embellished in the modern style.' In Mackenzie's drawing of Trinity, engraved by Le Keux, and published in 1835, the yew *palissades* were no longer discernible (Figure 1.48).

## Images



Figure 1.48. J. Greig, "Trinity College from the Garden", 1810, hand coloured engraving. Copyright: Gillmark Gallery.



Figure 1.49. F. Mackenzie, "Trinity College, from the Garden", 1835, engraved by J Le Keux, engraving. Copyright: the author.

**Gardeners:** Oxenbridge (1731); Keates (1732-1734); Gould (1736); Haines/Haynes (1737-1774); Benjamin Haynes (1777); William Haynes (1783-1797); Richard Knibbs (1809-1810).

**Plants supplied by:** Wrench (1714\*); Hammond (1757); Cook (1752, 1758, 1760, 1764, 1768, 1769); Eliazabeth Tagg (1743, 1744, 1747, 1773, 1774, 1775, 1776\*); Kennedy and Lee (1770\*, 1776); William Haynes (1783\*, 1797\*); Thomas Tagg (1811\*); Richard Knibbs (1809\*, 1813\*).

**Seeds supplied by:** Richard Knibbs (1809)

### **Daily Rate**

Richard Knibbs: unspecified labour at 2s. 6d. (1810, 1811); own at 2s. 6d. (1810).

### **Tasks**

Elizabeth Tagg: for planting 2s. (1776).

Richard Knibbs: wheeling out and drawing away rubbish at 10s. (1809); drawing and loading rubbish at 5s. (1811).

### **Materials purchased by contractor**

Richard Knibbs: turf (1810); gravel at 2s. per load (1811).

### **Tradesmen employed**

Carpenter: James Thomson (1775); James Pears (1789).

Painter: William Rought (1783).

## Sources

Quarell, W.H and W.J.C. Quarell, eds. *Oxford in 1710 : From the Travels of Zacharias Conrad von Uffenbach*. Oxford: Blackwell, 1928. Williams, William. *Oxonia Depicta*. Oxford: 1733; Salmon, Thomas. *The Present State of the Universities and of the five adjacent Counties of Cambridge, Huntingdon, Bedford, Buckingham, and Oxford*. London: 1744; *The Gentleman and Lady's Pocket Companion for Oxford*. Oxford: 1747; Pointer, John. *Oxoniensis Academia*. London: 1749; "An Account of Oxfordshire". *The Universal Magazine of Knowledge and Pleasure*, vol. 17 (1755): 193-201; The New Oxford Guide. Oxford: 1765; *The Oxford University and City Guide*. Oxford: 1818; Radford, David, Archaeology in Oxford. PDF file. July 23, 2020. file:///C:/Users/User/Downloads/Archaeology\_Oxford\_City\_Report\_\_\_September\_2019\_to\_February\_2020%20(3).pdf.

Trinity College Archive: TCA 1 A/5; TCA 1 A/4.

## University College

### Garden name

Fellows' Garden, also known as the College Garden.

### Historical descriptions and observations

Loggan's engraving of University College (1675) showed an empty yard next to the Library, part of the area that was to become the Fellows' Garden. William Williams' plan of the College for *Oxonia depicta* (1732) recorded the existence of the Fellows' Garden behind the Main Quadrangle. In 1798 Robert Penson appears to have been paid for re-laying out of the garden, providing £10 worth of shrubs to the College. The College accounts records payments for new turf and trees in 1799, 1800, and 1804/5. In 1807 Deep Hall, a College property, was pulled down and a new Fellows' Garden was created c.1810 (Figure 1.49).

## Images



Figure 1.50. J and H.S. Storer, *University College Garden*, 1821, engraving. Copyright: the author.

**Gardeners:** Stubbs (1725-1739); William Stockford (1759, 1761); Robert Penson (1787-1813); James Elkerton (1814-30); John Birch (1832-45).

**Plants supplied by:** Jacob Wrench (1709, 1716, 1717); Robert Penson (1790, 1798, 1799, 1800, 1804, 1805, 1808); James Elkerton (1816, 1817, 1818, 1823, 1824, 1825, 1826, 1829, 1830); Thomas Tagg (1821, 1822, 1825); Robert and Nathaniel Penson (1826, 1831, 1832); Thomas Fairburn (1832); Joseph Humphrey (1832); Joseph Bates (1832); supplier in the Oxford Market (1832); John Birch (1832, 1833, 1834, 1835, 1836, 1837).

**Seeds supplied by:** James Elkerton (1815, 1818); John Birch (1833, 1835).



## **Daily Rates**

Robert Penson: 2s. for self (1787, 1790); 1s. 6d. for cleaning, nailing, turning gravel, digging borders and non-specific tasks (1787, 1789, 1790); 1s. 8d. for cutting trees (1790).

John Elkerton: 2s. for men (1817, 1823, 1825, 1826, 1829, 1830, 1831); 2s. 6d. for men (1818).

## **Tasks**

Robert Penson: 1s. 8d. for mowing (1782); 1s. for mowing (1787).

John Elkerton: 7s. for weeding the grass plats (1816); 8s. for weeding the grass plats (1818); 6s. 6d. for weeding the grass plats (1821); 6s. for weeding grass plats (1823, 1825).

## **Materials purchased by College**

William Cantwell: mould at 5s. per load (1835).

## **Materials purchased by contractor**

Robert Penson: nails and lists (1782, 1787).

James Elkerton: manure (1816, 1817, 1818, 1825); dung (1823, 1829, 1831); gravel (1819, 1825, 1829, 1830); mould (1817, 1829, 1830); loam (1823, 1825); turf (1819, 1823, 1824, 1826); tobacco (1818); grass seed (1819); clover seed (1819).

John Birch: bundle of brooms at 2s. 6d. (1832, 1833, 1834, 1835, 1836, 1837); 3 lbs. of tar twine at 2s. (1832); turf at 14s. per 100 (1832); twine at 1s. per lb (1832, 1833); mould at 1s. 6d. per load (1832); lime at 1s. per bushel (1833); muslin for grape bags (1833); turf at 13s. per 100 (1833); 2 lbs. tar twine at 1s. 4d. (1833); 2 iron rollers at £4 4s. each (1833); rake at 1s. 8s. (1833); nails and shreds (1834, 1835); stakes (1834,

1835); dung at 7s. per load (1834, 1836, 1837); wheel barrow at £1. 6s. (1834); scythe at 5s. (1835); rubbers at 4d. each (1835); sharpening saw at 6d. (1835); grape bags (1835); wooden rakes at 6d. each (1836); power and shot (1836); baskets at 1s. 10½d. each (1836); grape scissors at 3s. 6d. (1836); handle for axe at 1s. (1836); grinding scythe at 6d. (1836, 1837); turf at 12s. per 100 (1836); wheel barrow at £1 8d. (1837); scythe at 3s. 6d. (1837); spade at 3s. 6d. (1837).

### **Sources**

Williams, William. *Oxonia Depicta*. Oxford: 1733.

University College Archive: UC BU3/F2/1; UC BU3/F3/3; UC BU2/F1/4; UC BU2/F1/5; UC 1F/2L2; UC/BUR2/F1/3; UC 1F/ 2L2; UC BU 5/F2/3; UC BU5/F3/6.

## **Wadham College**

### **Garden names**

Fellows' Garden.

Private Fellows' Garden (created in 1777).

### **Description**

The engravings of the College by David Loggan (1675) and William Williams (1732) recorded the mount and the Atlas sundial in the Fellows' garden (Figures 1.50 and 1.51). In 1745 the garden was described as large, attractively laid out, and 'very pleasant'. Repairs to the Fellows' Garden were made in 1745 requiring an increase in the quarterly contributions made by the fellows. The College Gardener, Henry Moore, was paid £18 7d. for laying out the Fellows' Garden, taking down the mount and planting etc. in 1753 after the Atlas dial was blown down and broke into pieces. In the same year a new wall, enclosing the gardens, was built at the cost of £77 12s. 2½d. using mason's employed by Mrs Burgess. In 1769 John Moore submitted additional bills amounting to £45 3s., on top of his stipendiary payments, suggesting further developments in the Fellows' Garden.

John Forman submitted additional bills for 1777 until Lady Day 1778 for £38 14s. 2d. which was probably expended in the creation of the Private Fellow's Garden. The Convention Book recorded on 10 December 1777 that Foreman has already begun to plant in the space. In 1778 £6 15s. 6d. was spent on the purchase of garden chairs from Wyatt the Carpenter and a further £4 17s. 1d. on stakes and rods for the garden.

In April 1795 the Warden and fellows has agreed to unify the two gardens and set out how the work would be funded. Sometime before April 1796 James Shipley, the Head Gardener at Blenheim Palace, was commissioned by the Warden and fellows to make recommendations about the layout of the newly unified garden. On 7 April 1796 it was agreed at the Convention that Shipley's recommendations would be adopted and carried out.

## Images

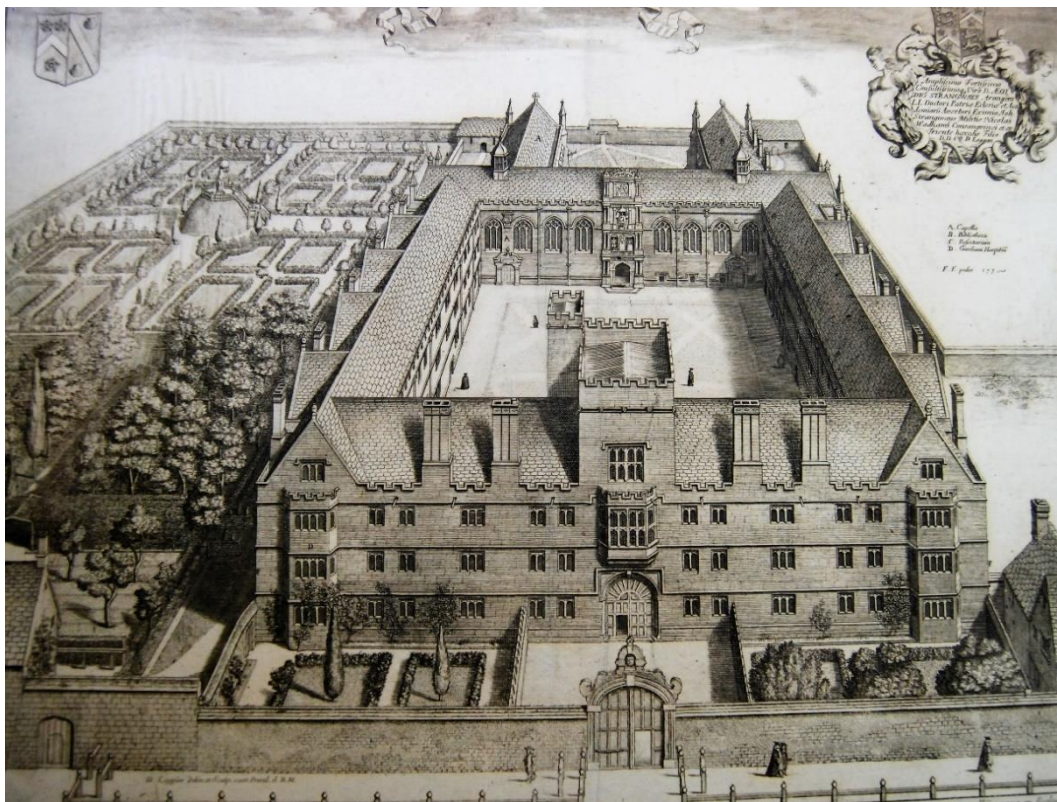


Figure 1.51. David Loggan, Wadham College, from *Oxonia Illustrata*, 1675, engraving, un-numbered plate. Courtesy of Wadham College Library.

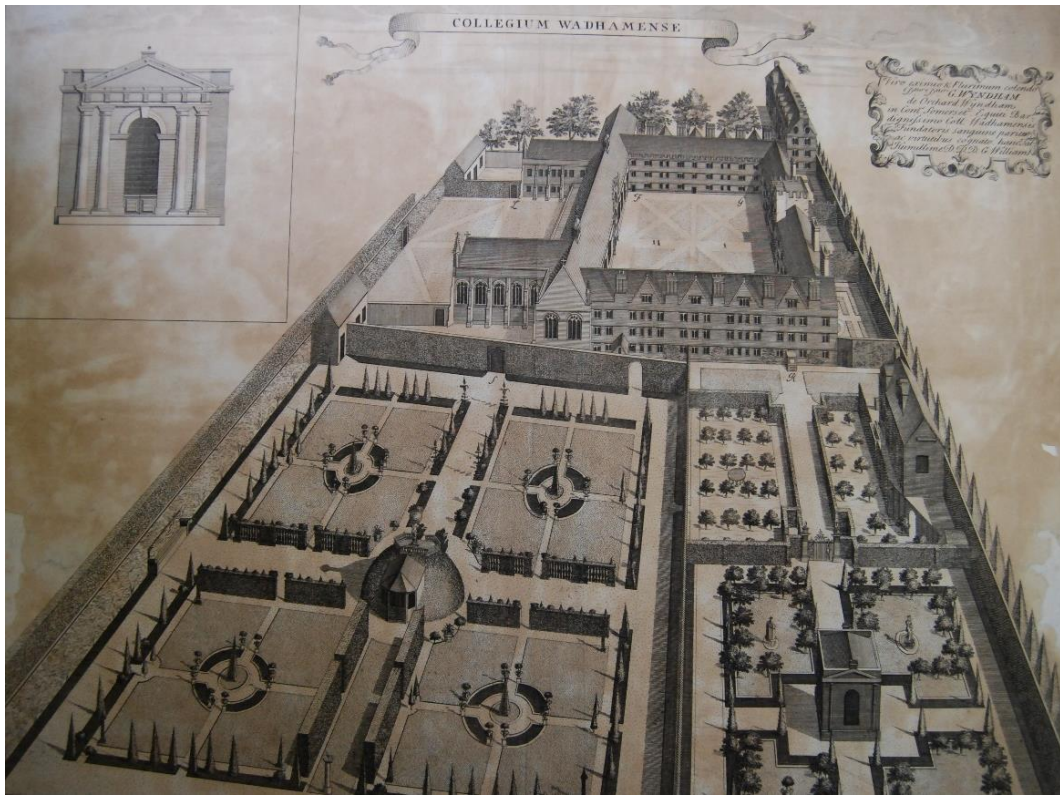


Figure 1.52. William Williams, Wadham College, from *Oxonia Depicta*, 1733, engraving, plate 55. Courtesy of Wadham College Library.



Figure 1.53. Anon., *Wadham College garden*, c.1800, pen and ink wash. Courtesy of Wadham College Library.



Figure 1.54. Anon., *Wadham College garden*, c.1820, watercolour. Courtesy of Wadham College Library.

**Gardeners:** Henry Moore (1753-1765); John Moore (1765-1770); John Foreman (1771-1779); Edward Knibbs (1779-1796); Thomas Knibbs (1796-1812); William Haynes; John Robinson (1830).

**Gardeners stipend:** £19 per annum paid at £4 15s. per quarter (1753).

**Plants supplied by:** Cook (1760); John Moore (1766\*, 1770\*); John Foreman (1771\*, 1772\*); Robert Penson (1779\*, 1804\*); James Tagg (1778, 1779\*, 1780, 1782\*, 1783, 1807\*); Edward Knibbs (1785\*, 1789\*); James and Thomas Tagg (1796); James Shipley (1796); Haynes (1796); Whitley and Brames (1804\*); Thomas Tagg (1800\*, 1810\*, 1812); Thomas Knibbs (1807\*, 1811\*, 1812\*).

**Seeds supplied by:** John Foreman (1772); Edward Knibbs (1782, 1783, 1785, 1788, 1791); Thomas Knibbs (1797, 1800, 1805, 1807, 1808\*, 1810, 1812).

### **Daily Rates**

John Foreman: unspecified labour at 2s. (1771); filling in holes at 1s. 8d. (1771); unspecified labour 1s. 8d. (1772).

Thomas Knibbs: laying gravel at 1s. 10d. (1798); Baylis, Hart, Greenwood, Beesley, Cook at 2s. (1806); unspecified labour 2s. (1806, 1808, 1810, 1811); wheeling in mould at 2s. 6d. (1807); boy wheeling mould 9d. (1807); self at 2s. 6d. (1806, 1807); 2s. 2d. for planting (1807); laying down gravel at 2s. (1807); moving gravel at 2s. 6d. (1807); woman weeding grass 9d. (1807, 1808); working in the Back Quad 2s. 2d. (1808); boy unspecified labour 10d. (1808); woman weeding (1808); watering at 2s. (1808); planting 2s. (1808); turning gravel at 2s. 3d. (1808); unspecified labour 2s. 3d. (1810); unspecified labour at 1s. 8d. (1811); unspecified labour at 2s. 6d. (1811, 1812).

### **Tasks**

Edward Knibbs: boy carrying in the 'proonings' at 1s. (1782); for making a new frame for the *espaliered* apple trees for self and man for 11 days (1785); carrying the cuttings at 1s. (1791, 1792); for removing box hedging 3s. (1791); wheeling our rubbish 5s. (1792).

Thomas Knibbs: removing rubbish from Back Quad at 5s (1806); drawing rubbish at 1s. per load (1808, 1811, 1812); watering shrubs 8d. a time (1810); wheeling out and drawing rubbish from the Back Quad at £1 16s. (1810); drawing dung at 2s. (1811).

## **Materials purchased by contractor**

John Moore: nails and tacking stuff (1765, 1766, 1770); brooms (1765, 1765, 1770); packthread (1765, 1766, 1770); poles (1765); poles at 1s. per bundle (1766); turf at 9d. per load (1767); a line (1770).

John Foreman: rakes at 5d each (1771, 1772); nails (1771); stakes at 1s. 4d. per bundle (1771); arbour rods (1771); brooms (1771, 1772); rubbers at 4d. each (1771); nails and tackage (1771, 1772); rand thread (1771, 1772); a pair of pliers (1771); a pair of pinchers (1771); a hatchet hardened (1771); scuttle basket at 6d. (1771); a scuttle basket at 9d. (1772); new spade at 3s. 6d. (1771); scythe ground at 3d. each (1772); hooks for yew trees (1772); a rake at 6d. (1772); bundles of flower sticks at 1s. each (1772).

Edward Knibbs: a scuttle basket at 6d. (1782, 1785); a water tub at 8d. (1782); nails and tackage (1782, 1785, 1788, 1789, 1791); rubbers (1782); wet stone (1782); rubbers at 3d. each (1783, 1785); brooms (1783, 1785, 1788, 1789, 1791, 1792, 1796, 1810); a hammer at 10d. (1788, 1791); a garden line at 8d. (1788); a rake at 4d. (1788, 1791); scuttle basket at 9d. (1788); straw for apples at 6d. (1788); a pair of scythes 5s. (1788); wet stones at 3d. each (1788, 1791, 1792); a grinding stone at 8s 6d. (1788); rake (1789); wooden rake (1791, 1792); a bundle of flower sticks at 1s. 4d. (1791); scuttle basket at 1s. (1791); nails and list (1792, 1796, 1800); basket (1792); sieve (1792); grinding a pair of shears 8d. (1792); wet stones (1796); bundle of garden sticks 1s. 6d. (1796); garden line at 1s. (1796); flower sticks (1800).



Thomas Knibbs: baskets at 3s. 6d. each (1796); wet stones at 6d. each (1797); nails (1797); list and shreds (1797); a bundle of flower sticks at 1s. (1797); wooden rakes at 5d. each (1797); brooms (1797, 1798, 1799, 1805, 1806, 1807, 1808, 1812); nails and shreds (1797, 1798, 1806, 1807, 1808, 1810, 1811); gravel at 1s. 8d. (1798); grinding a pair of shears at 1s. 4d. (1798); nails and list (1798, 1799); wooden rake at 6d. (1799, 1805, 1806, 1808); grinding shears at 8d. each (1799); wet stones (1799, 1800, 1805, 1806, 1807, 1808, 1810); flower sticks (1800); turf (1800); ashes (1805); ashes at 4d. per basket (1807); large mats at 2s. each (1808); oil at 2s. 4d. per quart (1810); tar twine (1810); mould at 4s. 6d. per load; loam at 3s. per load (1811); dung at 6s. (1811); gravel at 2s. 6d. a load (1811); wooden rakes at 8d. each (1812).

### **Tradesmen patronised by the gardener**

H. Sampson: mowing the garden at 4s. (1770).

Thomas Davis: strong netting at 1s. per yard (1788).

John Hughes (cooper) for stakes at 1½d. each; arbour rods at 1s. 4d. a bundle (1792).

Benjamin Tubb for mould mixed with dung at 3s. per load; dung at 2s. 8d. per load (1773).

John Higgins for gravel at 1s. 8d. per load; dug and drained gravel at 2s. 4d. per load (1796).

William Thomas for gravel at 6d. per load (1797).

Robberd Woodards for mould at 1s. per load (1805); mould at 1s. 4d. per load (1805).

James Tagg for mould (1805).

William Harper for turf at £12 8s. per hundred (1806).

T.Washe: gravel for 8s. per load and carriage (1806).

### **Tradesmen employed**

Carpenter: John Grammar (1771-1789); Wyatt (1778); John Lichfield (1805); John Wilson (1805).

Painter: Thomas Green (1759-60).

Ironmonger: William Eaton (1770); William Robinson (1785-6, 1789, 1791-3, 1797-99, 1805).

Brazier: John Bromley (1788).

Mason: George Godfrey (1770).

### **Sources**

Wadham College Archive: WCA 2/3; WCA 23/2; WCA 23/3; WCA 23/4; WCA 23/5; WCA, 23/6; WCA 18/39; WCA 18/68; WCA 18/70; WCA 18/73; WCA 18/85.

## **Worcester College**

### **Gardens names**

Fellows' Garden, also known as Common Room Garden.

Bowling Green.

South Garden.

Little Garden/s.

### **Description**

The College site was, in the eighteenth century, bounded by properties with growing grounds owned and leased by the Wrench and Tagg families. Thomas Wrench and his son Jacob owned the Golden Anchor, on the south side of the site. This property was sold to the College in 1741 by Thomas Wrench's grandson, Thomas, for the sum of £850. Elizabeth and James Tagg held the lease the Cock and Bottle, a property consisting of a house, garden ground (3 acres) and meadow on the North and West sides of the College. This property, owned by St John's College, was purchased by Worcester on 6 November 1744. The acquisition of the Golden Anchor and the Cock and Bottle gave the College authorities a greatly enlarged site to develop as and when they needed it.

The Fellows' Garden was situated next to the Common Room but the *New Oxford Guide* (1760) recorded that 'On the west it is proposed to form a Garden. Sloping to the water; so that a most agreeable prospect will be opened to the college.' *The Complete English Traveller* (1772) indicated that the gardens at Worcester had lately been laid out

and that once improved they would be 'extremely pleasant'. In the 1790's Robert Penson's bills noted the existence of the 'little garden' or 'little gardens', a bowling green and the Common Room Garden.

In 1814 James Tagg gave up the lease for the Golden Anchor, including the ground known as the South Garden, enabling the College to take the land in hand. Robert Penson was contracted to care for the South Garden in addition to the other gardens on the site. During 1814 Penson was paid to lay out 'plantings' by the back building and the 'back quadrangle'.

In 1817 the College decided to landscape the south-west of the site, taking in the South Garden. This plan included the creation a lake and enlarging the Provost's garden (Figure 1.55). The Principal and fellows employed William Savours of Headington, a locally based surveyor, to oversee the landscaping project. Savours engaged James Davis to act as the foreman for the project and work started in March 1817. Davis and his teams of labourers completed the creation of the lake by the winter of 1817. Most of the improvements in the landscaping of the site were completed by 1821 but they continued until 1823.

## Images



Figure 1.55. William Turner of Oxford, *Garden Front, Worcester College*, 1820, soft ground etching. Copyright: Worcester College.



Figure 1.56. J.M. Ince, *Worcester College*, engraver George Hollis, 1836, engraving. Copyright: the author.



Figure 1.57. F. Mackenzie, "Worcester College, quadrangle looking west", engraved by J Le Keux, 1836, engraving. Copyright: the author.

### **Stipend**

Robert Penson: £18 for mowing and cleaning the quadrangles and gardens (1798, 1799, 1801, 1803, 1804); £25 for pruning, nailing, cleaning the quadrangle and little gardens (1812/1813, 1815/1816).

**Gardeners:** Thomas Barton (1778-9); Roberson (1782); John Oliver (1782-3); Cooke (1784, 1785); James Tagg (1785-6); Thomas Millin (1788, 1789); Robert Penson (1790-1816).

**Plants supplied by:** James Tagg (1785\*, 1789); Robert Penson (1791\*, 1792\*, 1794\*, 1795\*, 1787\*, 1801\*, 1803\*, 1804\*, 1814\*, 1816\*, 1817\*, 1818\*); Thomas Cox (1815\*, 1818\*); Nathaniel Penson (1818); Thomas Tagg (1817\*, 1818\*, 1819\*, 1820\*, 1822\*);

Joseph Cooper (1818\*); Robert and Nathaniel Penson (1819\*, 1820\*, 1821\*); Adam Couldrey (1818\*).

**Flower roots supplied by:** Thomas Barton (1778\*); John Oliver (1782); Robert and Nathaniel Penson (1821).

**Seeds supplied by:** Thomas Barton (1778); John Oliver (1782\*, 1783\*); Robert Penson (1793, 1795, 1814, 1815); Edmund Thomas (1816, 1819\*); Robert and Nathaniel Penson (1821\*).

### **Daily rate**

Thomas Barton: self at 2s. (1778, 1779); extra work charged by hour at 2d. (1779); undisclosed labour 1s. 6d. (1778, 1779); son's labour 1s. 6d. (1778).

John Oliver: self at 2s. (1782, 1783); undisclosed labour 1s. 6d. (1783); mowing 2s. (1783); charged extra hour in late spring and summer at 2d. (1782, 1783); watering at 1s. (1782).

James Tagg: undisclosed labour at 1s. 8d. (1786); pruning 1s. 8d. (1786); nailing 1s. 8d. (1786).

Thomas Millin: undisclosed labour at 2s. (1789).

Robert Penson: mowing at 1s. 8d. (1782, 1791, 1793, 1795); nailing wall trees at 1s. 6d. (1791, 1792, 1793); self pruning 2s. 6d. (1791, 1792, 1792, 1816); clipping hedges at 1s. 8d. (1791, 1792,); wheeling gravel at 1s. 4d. (1791); laying the gravel 1s. 8d. (1791); unspecified labour 1s. 6d. (1791, 1792, 1793, 1995); watering at 1s. 6d. (1791); nailing at 1s. 6d. (1792, 1795); rolling at 1s. 6d. (1792, 1795); laying the gravel at 1s. 6d.

(1792); turning the gravel at 1s. 6d. (1792); cleaning 1s. 6d. (1793, 1795); self pruning 2s. (1794); self removing trees 2s. 6d. (1795); dressing plantations 1s. 6d. (1794); nailing at 1s. 10d. (1795); filling the mould cart at 1s. 10d. (1795); clipping at 2s. (1795); unspecified labour 1s. 10d. (1795, 1796); cleaning at 1s. 10d. (1795, 1796); laying and wheeling gravel at 1s. 10d. (1799); taking up turf and planting trees at 2s. (1801, 1803); unspecified labour at 2s. (1803); pruning and nailing at 2s. 6d. (1813, 1814, 1815, 1816); bring in mould and laying turf at 2s. 6d. (1814); unspecified labour 2s. 6d. (1815); woman weeding 1s. 3d. (1815, 1816); hedge clipping 2s. 6d. (1815); watering gravel to lay the dust before the painter start 2s. 6d. (1815); turning gravel at 2s. 6d. (1814, 1816); rolling at 2s. 6d. (1816); watering and rolling gravel at 2s. 6d. (1814); cutting nettles at 2s. 6d. (1814).

### **Cost of tasks**

Thomas Barton: rolling at 9d. (1778); mowing and sweeping at 10d. (1778).

John Oliver: watering at 3d. (1782).

James Tagg: planting at 5s. (1786); planting and tying at 2s. 6d. (1786).

Thomas Millen: Mowing at 6d. (1789).

Robert Penson: grafting pear stocks at 1s. 6d. (1816); mowing at 1s. 6d. (1816).

### **Materials purchased by contractor**

Thomas Barton: brooms at 3d. each (1778, 1779); nails and tacking (1778, 1779).

John Oliver: matts at 9d. each (1782); nails and shreds (1783).



James Tagg: nails (1776); shreds by the hundred at 6d. (1776); tar twine and hay bonds (1786); stakes at 1d. each (1786); withes at 4d. per 100 (1786).

Thomas Millin: nails and list (1789).

Robert Penson: stakes for raspberries (1791); nails and list (1791, 1792, 1795, 1814, 1815, 1816); shreds (1791, 1792, 1795); stakes and twine for trees (1794, 1814); twine for trees (1795); stakes and poles (1795); rotten dung for strawberries at 2s. 6d. per load (1795); carriage for dung per load at 1s. 6d. (1795); stakes a 1d. each (1801); best Cowley gravel by load at 6s. (1814); stakes by score at 2s. 6d. (1814); turf by 100 at 16s. 8d. (1814); stakes per dozen at 1s. (1814, 1815); rods and twine (1814); twine (1815, 1816); bags and string for grapes (1815); netting for grapes (1815); gathering fruit at 2s. 6d. (1815); stakes and poles for *espaliers* (1816).

### **New work contract for landscaping from 1817**

William Savours employed as surveyor (1817).

James Davis employed as foreman (1817).

### **Tradesmen employed by the college**

Painter: Richard Buckingham (1793).

Smith: Thomas Bash (1787).

Mason: George Godfrey (1787).

## Sources

*New Oxford Guide*. Oxford: 1760; *The Complete English Traveller*. London: 1772.

Worcester College Archive. WOR/BUR 1/3/14; WOR/BUR 1/3/37; WOR/BUR 1/3/44; WOR/BUR 1/15/1; WOR/BUR1/20/1; WOR/BUR1/20/2; WOR/BUR 1/20/3; WOR/BUR 1/22/1.