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The Gardens and Landscape of Rothamsted Manor - an Historical Report - Volume 2 - Appendices and Figures

Full Table of Content

Accounts

Rothamsted Research

Rothamsted Research (2001) *Accounts ;* The Gardens And Landscape Of Rothamsted Manor - An Historical Report - Volume 2 - Appendices And Figures, pp 25 - 27

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Accounts

The Wittewronge Collection contains several notebooks which record a great variety of estate and household accounts from the time of Sir John Wittewronge. It was not possible to read through all of these, but a cursory trawl revealed little of interest to the present study. The following accounts were the exception, and are taken from one of his notebooks [ref F23] following the heading; 'Primo April 1648 – Charges aboute the building', which covers a period of major building works. The items transcribed here are some of those that on an initial inspection appeared to relate to the gardens.

20.5.1648	pd. him [Robert Babb] for doing the rayles by the new Moate	00 – 02 – 00
2.6.1648	To Thomas Jones for 3 dayes gardining	000 – 04 – 00
5.5.1649	to Thomas Jones for 4 days of gardening	00 – 00 – 00
9.6.1649	to Thomas Jones for 5 days gardening	00 – 06 – 08
30.6.1649	pd to the Bricklayers for 36 pole of walling…& for 7 buttresses	27 – 06 – 00
7.7.1649	payd to Barton for 3 pole of walling	02 – 05 – 00
	pd for 2 buttresses	00 – 05 – 00
	pd to Smyth for 1 pole ½ of walling	01 – 02 – 06
	pd to him for 2 buttresses	00 – 05 – 00
August1649	7 ordinary elmes	00 – 02 – 04
	for 63 young oakes where sett at 4 apeece	001 – 01 – 00
	for 11 at 3 apeece	000 – 02 – 09
24.11.1649	To Miss Crossey[?] for her pension for ½ a year …	000 – 05 – 00
	To her for weeding in ye garden	000 – 02 – 08
January 1649/50	for bringing downe of gilly flowers from London	000 – 00 – 06

The following items appear transcribed in Scattergood, Vol. 2, Bundle 39.

29.10.1658	Paid the mason for stone balls	03 – 00 – 0
	Paid the mason for paving ye Arches	

The following accounts are all taken from the notebook [F42] of Jacob Wittewronge II, and date from the period 1720-28.

1720	Harvey the Gardiner for Trees	008 – 06 – 00
	Kilby for trees & bought a dunghill	004 – 00 – 06
	Axes, Houghs, Spades, rowlers, Locks for Garden	003 – 12 – 07
6.1.1720/1	Making a new Laurel arbour & mending the old yew arbor, & making a bench in Yew	001 – 04 – 00
2.3.1720/1	Pd for makeing an Hedg. & deep ditch round the Warron or ffurr grove	
27.3.1720/1	Pd Kilbey & Harison [?] for trees	02 – 04 – 00

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14.4.1721	Workmanship & Timber for the [Triset?] wth 2 Garden Gates & other	06 – 17 – 6
19.4.1721	To Sparks for 4 Locks for ye Garden Gates	01 – 06 – 0
27.4.1721	To Harvey the Gardiner for Trees	08 – 00 – 0
23.5.1721	Digging gravel & other Labourers in ye Garden	01 – 10 – 0
4.9.1721	To Tarbox for painting 29 yds Palisades	000 – 14 – 06
	More for 4 flower potts lead colour	000 – 02 - 00
16.9.1721	To Cock & Smyth Bricklayers, for doing the two gable ends & repairing the Garden Walls & building a chimney in the drying room	10 – 06 – 00
2.12.1721	To Mr Rapper for 123 foot of Timber	006 – 03 – 00
	Labourers in ye Wood walks	000 – 15 – 00
	1400 hornbeam setts	000 – 08 – 00
16.12.1721	Labourers in Wood walks	001 – 00 – 00
22.12.1721	To William Clark for hurdles &c	01 – 18 – 00
	To labourers in the Wood walks	01 – 10 – 00
	To Davison the Gardiner for 6 peaches, 6 Soringows [syringas?], 64 Wallnutt Trees, 40 Elms & 105 fillberds of 3 yds growth	05 – 02 – 00
10.3.1721/2	To labourers for new turfing the Court, & new laying the Grass walk in ye Garden	
26.3.1721/2	To Harvey for 100 Standard Yews & 4 Pyramids	003 – 14 – 00
	To Dick to pay Labourers & Garden	002 – 02 – 00
5.6.1722	To Ffitch for Cucumber frames	001 – 03 – 00
21.7.1722	To Bates for Phileras, Hollys & Yews	002 – 18 – 00
4.10.1722	To Labourers in laying out ye Orchard	001 – 16 – 00
23.10.1722	To Morgan, Stirly, & Grigary in ye Orchard	001 – 15 – 00
	Ashwells Survey of Rothamsted att 4d p acre	013 – 09 – 06
19.11.1722	To Wm Clark for railing ye Elms &c	001 – 00 – 00
	To Davis for Green & Ffruit trees	010 – 15 – 00
4.12.1722	To Labourers in the Garden	002 – 16 – 00
1.4.1723	To day labourers in ye Orchard	001 – 00 – 00
2.3.1723/4	To Harvey the Gardiner for trees	006 – 09 – 00
13.2.1724/5	To Rich.d Hawkins for the Walks in ye Orchard	001 – 06 – 00
7.6.1725	Charges for Gravel Walks in ye Orchard	008 – 00 – 00
1726	To Labourers in ye Garden clearing Woods &c	021 – 09 – 00
Mem	Debts oweing by me in Oct. 1727	
	To my Gardiner John Peters on Note	60 – 00 – 0
[undated]	To Harvey, Davis, Kilbey & Bales [?] for Fruit Trees & Greens, all sorts of Garden Tools, Labourers in digging Gravel, cuting & laying Turf &c. abt. The Garden	101 – 08 – 06

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The following accounts are from the period of James Wittewronge II (lived 1720–1748). They are taken from his personal accounts [F56]. It should be noted that he was relaxed about dating the entries. It may be interesting to note that early entries for 1737 record expenditure centred almost exclusively on Tennis, Cards, Horse, Tavern, Newmarket, Billiards and Chocolate. The later entries below give some clues about the gardens in his time, particularly concerning maintenance and the use of glass, and they indicate the proportion of total expenditure devoted to them. They do not suggest that he was engaged in any changes to the design, and no further information was uncovered from this period. This report will therefore resist the temptation to speculate further.

28.12.1742[?]	Gardners ½ years wages	006 – 00 – 00
	Pd Labourers in Garden	001 – 16 – 00
	Things in ye Garden	002 – 7 – 10
	Millars Gardner's Dictionary	1 – 1 – 0
1743[?]	Labourers in Garden	15 – 14 – 0
	½ yrs wages to Gardner	6 – 0 – 0
	Things for Garden	1 – 13 – 6
	for Garden Barrows	1 – 5 – 6
	Iron for Frames in Garden	1 – 3 – 0
From Lady Day 1744 to Midsummer		
	A Load of Dong for Garden	0 – 10 – 0
	Labourers in ye Garden	20 – 3 – 2
	Gardenners Bill	4 – 5 – 8
	½ year Wages	6 – 0 – 0
	Carriage of Turf Gravel & Chalk for ye Garden	3 – 10 – 0
	Garden Matts	1 – 5 – 6
	[these items add up to £35-14-4 out of a total expenditure of £169-13-9½ for the period, of which £27-6-3 was spent on housekeeping]	
1746[?]	Seedsmans Bill	3 – 19 – 0
	Gardenner Journey to Town	0 – 11 – 0
Lady Day 1747 – Lady Day 1748		
	Housekeeping	297 – 18 – 3
	Stable	111 – 5 – 7
	Garden	47 – 0 – 0
	Cellar	60 – 6 – 3

The following items appear transcribed in Scattergood, Vol. 2, Bundle 44jj.

Bills – John Snoxells to James Wittewronge 1746 [sundry plumber & glaziers' bills]

23.3.1746	for 6 ft. ½ of new Glass in ye Garden	0 – 4 – 4
	for a light new leded to ditto	0 – 1 – 8
5.3.1747	for 2 squares stopt in ye Garden	0 – 0 – 2
28.12.1747	2 Garden light repard	0 – 2 – 6
	13 squares Garden	0 – 4 – 4