

GLANUSK PARK and PENMYARTH

Ref No	PGW (Po) 3 (POW)
OS Map	161
Grid Ref	SO 194195
Former County	Powys
Unitary Authority	Brecknockshire
District	Crickhowell
Community Council	Llangattock/Llanfihangel Cwmdru with Bwlch and Cathedine
Designations	National Park: Brecon Beacons
Site Evaluation	Grade II*
Primary reasons for grading	An important and picturesque park in the upper Usk valley, that survives in its entirety, although the house has gone. The remains of a High Victorian garden by Markham Nesfield laid out between 1842-74 lie next to the house site.
Type of Site	Demolished house; remnants of extensive parterre garden; water garden; pleasure grounds; walled kitchen garden; grotto; designed parkland.
Main Phases of Construction	1825 on; c. mid nineteenth century

SITE DESCRIPTION

Glanusk Park was built for the ironmaster Sir Joseph Bailey on land he bought in 1825 and became one of the most important houses of south Wales, entertaining royalty and society. The house faced north-east, towards the river Usk and stood on a raised terrace above a highly ornamental parterre garden. It was an extensive, foursquare, three-storeyed mansion in a Tudor/Gothic style with four octagonal ogee turrets, one in each corner, and a ground floor plan identical to that of Maesllwch Castle, Glasbury. Its skyline was characterised by many pinnacles and small towers. A porte-cochere stood on the east of the south front and a billiard room was added in the 1840s. The walls of the house were clothed with climbing plants including Virginia creeper, *Magnolia grandiflora*, *Clematis montana* and, in 1892, a Banksian

rose.

From archive evidence it now appears that this house was the second house built on this site. Glanusk Park was recorded by Henri Gastineau as having been the seat of Sir David Wilkins prior to its purchase by the Baileys. Theophilus Jones also noted that the house was built on 'the site of a residence bearing a similar name'. However, no other details of this earlier house have been found, there is no known record of its appearance or that of the grounds immediately around it.

The Baileys house was designed and built by Robert Lugar between 1825-30, construction being suspended in 1827 following the death of Joseph Baileys' first wife. Lugar also designed most of the buildings in the park, creating a set piece. The house was set at the top of a sloping lawn which was replaced from about 1860 by formal terraced gardens designed by Markham Nesfield. In the late nineteenth century the first Lord Glanusk had a low pierced stone wall built around the house and garden to separate it from the surrounding park.

The house remained in the family. In 1939 the house was requisitioned by the army and was badly damaged. The last Lord Glanusk died in 1948. His widow later married the Viscount De L'Isle and the Viscountess took the decision in 1952 to demolish the house as the cost of repair and upkeep was thought to be prohibitive. Demolition was complete by 1954.

The site of the big house was left vacant following its demolition in 1954 until 1978 when of the Viscountess De L'Isle commissioned the architect Tim Richards to build a detached house west of the old house site on the north-western edge of the house's terrace.

The new two-storeyed, two bayed house is built of stone and faces north-east over the parterre garden. In appearance its style resembles a house of the 1930s. A new, formal garden has been created behind the house, connecting to the walled kitchen garden in the west.

Penmyarth, a substantial, rendered manor house set in its own grounds and small park, stands on the east side of Myarth Hill above Glanusk Park about 1 km to the north-west, facing south-east, looking down across the park. The house has three bays and two storeys, lit by sash windows, and a hipped slate roof with end stacks. A service range attaches to the rear west of the house. An open single storey verandah runs along the east front of the house which opens out onto a circular lawn surrounded by a stone ha-ha on the north and east. On the north front the central front door is sheltered by a simple covered porch and lit by an ornamental light and, on each side, a narrow curved headed window.

The front door opens on to a small area of forecourt which is enclosed on the north by a high rubble stone wall which curves round to the west where it attaches to the house. A pointed arch doorway in the north-west of the wall leads down into the service area beyond by three narrow dressed stone steps. A short length of drive enters the

forecourt off the main drive through a gateway in the stone wall about 15m to the east of the doorway, at the end of the wall. The gateway, which is about 4m wide, is defined by three square dressed stone piers set with ball finials which mark a footpath to the west and a wider car/carriage entrance to the east. A cattle grid lies between the wider car entrance and a pair of white ornamental iron gates stand between the footpath piers. On the east the eastern gate pier connects to the garden ha-ha.

Near the north-east corner of the house, on the south-eastern edge of the forecourt, there is a mature cedar and a short length of high clipped yew hedge which separate the east and north front areas.

According to Theophilus Jones the present Penmyarth house is built on, or near, the site of 'an ancient mansion' which belonged to the Vaughan family of Tretower. The present house is believed to date from about 1800. In 1806 it was owned by a Mr Evan Guillim and, having been sold on by about 1830 to a Captain Fredrick, it was bought by Joseph Bailey in 1831.

The stable court of Glanusk Park lies approximately 10m west of the site of the west front of the house. It dates to c. 1825 and is believed to be contemporary with the house and built by Lugar. It is built of stone with slate roofs. A drive, which ran along the south front of the house, proceeds into the stable court through a central, pedimented clock tower arch. The clock is inscribed 'Benson, Ludgate Hill'. The court faces west, with stables, ten carriage houses/garages and auxiliary buildings creating the north and south ranges. There is no western range, the stable/park boundary is created by a mixture of nineteenth-century iron park fencing and deer fencing. A central iron gate opens on to the continuation of the drive on the line of the central arch. The stable court is tarmacked, but cobbles survive underneath the arch.

On the western end of the northern range there is a detached, square, stone building contemporary with the rest of the court. Its historic function is unknown; possibly it was a brew house. It now appears to be used as storage. The other buildings within the court are a mixture of workrooms, storage and upstairs accommodation.

In the late nineteenth century the stables housed at least twenty of the first Lord Glanusk's favourite horses, together with carriages and traps. By 1910 only four horses remained here, the other stables having been converted into garages for the three private motorcars and associated new vehicles. Part of the stables had been converted into an indoor racquet court by this time and, in another part, there was a fruit store.

Immediately to the north of Penmyarth house there is a small L-shaped stable/service court which attaches to the house on the south-west, as an extension of the service range, and on the south by the forecourt stone wall which creates the area's southern boundary. A small open fronted shelter stands against this wall on the north, within the stable area. The court probably dates to c. 1800, but may be earlier.

The drive continues along the north of the forecourt wall, past the formal entrance to

the forecourt and house, to enter the stable/service area over a cattle grid set between simple nineteenth century cast iron posts and a high iron fencing. On the west side of the court there is a single storey white rendered, slate roofed stable and carriage block. A central pedimented bay is set with a clock, above a large casement window. On the east side of this building the court is still surfaced in cobbles and small paving stones, the rest being tarmac. On the north-east side of the court there is a single-storey stone building with a hipped slate roof. It is unclear what the original purpose of this building was but it has been converted into, and is used, as staff accommodation. The north side of the court is open, a timber fence separating it from the park below. A service drive leaves the court on the north side of the stable building to join the Gliffaas lane.

The park at Glanusk surrounds the site of the old house on all sides. It covers approximately 200 acres, the main area of Glanusk Park being separated from the north road boundary and Penmyarth Park in the north-west by the wide, meandering river Usk which runs through the park from west to east. Almost the entire park area is enclosed by a nineteenth century stone wall. The park slopes down to the south side of the river from the south park wall, the open pasture dotted with many mature oak, holm oak, beech and chestnut. Two main drives run across the park to the site of the old house. The northern drive enters the site to the east of North Lodge and proceeds to the south-east, crossing the Usk over a three arched bridge ornamented with the Tower Lodge.

To the north of the bridge a branch drive leads up around the north bank of the river to the north-west to Penmyarth. Originally this was a separate estate, taken into Glanusk Park in the 1830s. Below Penmyarth, near the north bank of the river, stands the Victorian estate chapel. The church, or chapel, is an important feature in the park, serving as an eyecatcher from the east and south-east. It is an austere Victorian stone building with a short slate spire built on a projecting, buttressed porch at its western end. The chapel stands in its own grounds, enclosed by high, blue nineteenth century iron rails and gates set in low dressed stone parapets. Five gravestones stand within the grounds, at the east end of the church; one is a stone, moved from nearby in the park, to mark the grave of the second Lord Glanusk.

Particularly fine views over the park and surrounding landscape can be taken from Penmyarth to the east. The Tower Lodge can be seen and the north drive which continues, climbing slightly to the south where it branches to the east and west. The western branch leads to the estate office, yard and beyond to the Home Farm, on the south boundary of the park.

The eastern branch of the drive continues south-east running beneath a lime avenue to reach the stable court. An archway in the south of the court leads the drive on where it continues again, as the south drive, on a south-east diagonal across the park to leave the site through the gates on the south side of South Lodge. Immediately to the south of the stables a new branch drive connects the south drive with the new Glanusk Park and the old garden area. To the east of this the south drive runs along the south side of the site of the old house marked by the remains of a ornamental stone wall and the

floor tiles of the porte-cochere. Opposite the branch drive to the new house there is the line of an abandoned drive which runs south to leave the site on the east of West Lodge.

It becomes apparent, having passed through Tower Lodge, that the ground above the Usk on the south and the land between the western and eastern splits in the northern drive has been landscaped, creating a picturesque approach to the house. This landscaping, terraces and earth banks, hide Park Farm and its adjunct buildings from the drive. A raised terrace to the east of the drive, with a conifer plantation, hides the walled kitchen garden. As the drive proceeds to the east more earth banking continues to hide the estate buildings to the south-west from the drive on its approach to the stables through a lime avenue.

The history of the site prior to its purchase in 1825 by the Yorkshire industrialist Joseph Bailey is unclear but it seems that he bought an existing estate. The extent and appearance of this estate is unknown and the Ordnance Survey 25 in. map of 1809-1836 recorded only a small park in the vicinity of the Lugar house, which was reached by a single drive from the south, and the later site of West Lodge. No access across the river to the north was recorded. A standing stone, known as the Turpil Stone, stood in the centre of the present park until about 1960 when it was removed to Brecon Museum. In 1830 Henri Gastineau noted in his Wales Illustrated that the park had formerly been the seat of Sir David Wilkins and that 'it must have been a charming place finely wooded, fine inequalities everywhere'. The picturesque parkland, containing a running river and overlooked by high mountains, contained many mature trees, particularly oaks and sweet chestnut, some of which Bailey would carefully integrate into his later formal garden.

In 1831, having completed his new house, described by Samuel Lewis as 'a handsome mansion', that looked out to the north-east over pasture which sloped down to the river, Joseph Bailey bought the small neighbouring estate of Penmyarth and incorporated its lands into the estate as a deer park. Penmyarth, an established house was known as 'the Lodge' and according to Theophilus Jones it was built on, or near, the site of 'an ancient mansion', beneath 'the verdant Myarth' (hill) which belonged to the Vaughan family of Tretower. In 1806 it was owned by a Mr Evan Guillim, in 1824 by W. A. Gott and by about 1830 by a Captain Fredrick, who owned a bank in Crickhowell. Following its purchase by the Glanusk estate it became the agent's house. It is possible, but unclear, that Penmyarth may have also been temporarily used by the family as a residence during the building of the house as on a tithe map of 1840 it is clearly recorded as 'the old house'.

By 1888 the Ordnance Survey map records the completed Glanusk Park which contained two sets of kennels, only one of which partly survives, a game larder/slaughter house, since lost, and a few plantations. The park, which incorporated the area of Penmyarth park, was also known as the deer park and stocked with fallow deer. It extended from the north wall boundary, on the south side of the present A 40, around the south side of the lane to Gliffaes in the north-west and to the Llangynidr road, the present N 4558, in the south. On the east the river Usk created

the park boundary and a field boundary to the west of the Home Farm within the actual park, the west.

The actual Glanusk estate was much larger and following the Enclosure Acts of the 1840s the Baileys came into possession of most of the surrounding mountains. In the late nineteenth century one of the Bailey daughters married Sir Shirley Salt of Saltaire, Bradford, who had bought the other small neighbouring estate of Gliffaes which lay further along the lane to the west of Penmyarth on the south side of Myarth hill. Glanusk and Gliffaes shared a drive, Green Drive, which opened onto the Llangynidr/Bwlch road. In effect, this resulted in Gliffaes being virtually incorporated into Glanusk during the late nineteenth century.

By 1910 a golf course had been laid out in the park to the south of Penmyarth, following the removal of deer into the south, main park. It was officially private, the second Lord Glanusk being a keen sportsman, but he was also a generous landowner and allowed the Crickhowell golf club access for a peppercorn rent each year until the course was abandoned in the 1960s.

The park remained intact until the Second World War although the east kennels and slaughterhouse were abandoned in the early twentieth century. A major addition, the stone park wall, was built by Bailey miners and ironworkers during the Depression of the 1930s as a source of employment.

During the Second World War the house was requisitioned by the army who irreparably damaged it and degraded the park through heavy machinery, tree felling and the erection of Nissan huts. The last deer were also lost at this time, shot by stationed troops. The family moved out to Penmyarth, taken back from the agent, where they remained. Some items from the old house including a Victorian garden house and stone steps were relocated to the Penmyarth gardens during the 1950s following the gradual decline, and subsequent demolition of the old house. In the 1970s, following the death of her second husband, the Dowager Viscountess De L'Isle commissioned a new house to be built at the western end of the old formal garden terraces, near the site of the old house.

The formal gardens at Glanusk lie to the north and north-west of the house site; a rectangular level terrace of about 1/4 acre on a north-west/south-east alignment which is about 100m in length.

From the site of the north front of the house three wide grass terraces, which run the length of the house terrace before curving around to the west, descend to a second large rectangular terrace. This terrace, which covers about 1 acre, was the site of an ornamental parterre designed by Markham Nesfield between 1842-1874. Nothing remains of the parterre besides a large circular fountain basin which stands in its centre. This basin is on line, an axis, with three consecutive flights of wide stone steps which descend the south terraces, linking the sites of the house and parterre. The fountain base is dry, no fountain remains within it. The area of the parterre is now grassed over apart from a group of monotone rose beds which are cut into it on

the west and east of the basin.

Along its northern edge, the parterre is enclosed by a raised terrace walk, about 8m wide, to which it is connected by two separate sets of three stone steps, one at either end. Along the north side of the terrace walk ground evidence suggests that there were once wide flower borders, which are now grassed over. Roses run along the northern side of these areas and a line of golden yew runs the length of the terrace about 1 m inside the north wall. Half way along the terrace there is a seat recess.

This raised terrace is bordered along the north by a stone wall, ornamented with regularly placed pinnacles and a cut stonework balustrade. This wall separates the garden from the park, descending from 1.5m high on the garden side, to an additional metre to the park below. At the north-western end of the terrace the wall concludes but continues as a low ha-ha around the garden boundary to the north and north-west. At the eastern end of the terrace walk there is a simple gateway which leads down into the park beyond. A concrete ramp, apparently for wheelchair access, has been constructed here. The ornamental stone wall continues along the straight eastern boundary of the gardens, rising in a series of five grass terraces, at the east end of the three main terraces, to the site of the east front of the house. At this point the style of the cut stone balustrading changes to an even more ornamental, medieval design.

The east end of the house terrace concludes in a raised bastion, enclosed by an ornamental stone wall, on what was the eastern end of a terrace walk which ran along the north front of the house. On the eastern side of this bastion, on the five stepped grass terraces, there is an ancient oak tree, partly incorporated into the bastion's retaining wall. From the west end of the house terrace the terrace continues around to the north-west. The new house stands at the end of the terrace approximately 60m north-west of the site of the old house.

A new drive, which concludes in a wide turning circle on the south-west of the new house, connects it to the southern drive, adjacent to the stable court gate arch. In the centre of the new turning circle there is a highly ornamented, carved stone container used as a planter. This was part of the fountain from the basin on the parterre below.

To the west of the new house, enclosed to the south by the north range of the stables, there is a new, large formal garden laid out on a level area of lawn. A central path creates an axis from the new house to the gates in the eastern wall of the frame yard. A pair of rose borders containing pergolas run along both sides of this path. To the south of the path the lawn is planted with ornamental trees such as magnolias. To the north the lawn continues to curve to the north-west, gradually sloping down to an open area of garden in the north-west which is planted with more ornamental trees.

Traces of a walk, or an old drive, appear to run up this hill back towards the new house. To the south of this path, about 10m north-west of the house, there is a square, stone statue base, but no statue.

The door in the northern wall of the frame yard (see below) leads into what was a

fernerly which abutted the north face of the wall. Evidence of two different roof lines appear along it. In the west corner an ornate, tufa rock formation with a water spout and two small pools, is built against the walls in the corner. Water is still running through the area, entering through a pipe set part way up the corner wall. Around this rockwork there are small tufa 'shelves' providing planting pockets or mini waterfalls. Some of the tufa has fallen off and lies on the floor around the pools. A broken Titan or mermaid statue/waterspout, possibly of Coade stone, also lies nearby. This area is enclosed on the north-east by deteriorating, rough, octagonal, cast concrete block walls which were erected by the army during the war.

From the small ponds a flowing, concrete-lined water rill runs east, underneath a step beneath the frame yard doorway, through an area of bamboo and down across an open area of lawn in a serpentine manner. About 12m north-east of the site of the garden building there is a water garden - a series of concrete pools and small cascades which descend the ground slope to the north-east for about 5m.

From the north-east corner of the pools the rill continues again, winding across the garden, which gradually levels out, to issue into a large, circular pond approximately 15m wide. The western side of this pond is overhung by a group of mature trees, including a fine copper beech, underneath which there is a small, flowing waterfall. This area of the garden is planted with damp and water plants. Another concrete rill issues from the northern side of the pond and curves across of short distance of lawn for about 6m before it finally descends through the ha-ha into the park, where it drains away.

In the area of the water garden there are examples of ornamental trees of varying age. Tree planting appears to continue with sorbus and prunus being favoured.

The historical development of the gardens at Glanusk prior to the involvement of Joseph Bailey and Markham Nesfield is unclear. It is known that Bailey bought an existing estate but unknown if any ornamental grounds were laid out around the earlier house. By 1830 Lugar's house was complete and stood on a level terrace above a sloping lawn which extended to the river. A tithe map of 1840 offers a clearer record of this early arrangement noting a walled garden on the present garden site, 'pasture' instead of park to the west of the stables, but no southern drive and no lime avenue. No pleasure grounds, lawns or shrubberies were recorded. In 1876 an article stated that the later gardens had been laid out on parkland. Views of the house which date from the first half of the nineteenth century also tend to record the house from the south-east, concentrating on the deer park, thereby ignoring any possible northern garden.

In about 1842 Joseph Bailey commissioned the landscape designer Markham Nesfield to lay out a formal flower garden and pleasure grounds at Glanusk Park but insisted that mature oak and chestnut trees from the earlier parkland were incorporated which 'necessitated the breaking out of the terraces to save the trees' (Gardener's Chronicle 1876).

Work appears to have continued slowly over the next few decades, the garden

eventually being finished after Markham's death under the supervision of Bailey's grandson Sir Joseph Russell Bailey, first Lord Glanusk. A plan of the garden was published in 1876 and shows an area of about six acres laid out to the north and north-west of the house. Immediately below the house the previous ground slope was shaped into three impressive grass terraces on a north-west alignment which stretched for about 100m from the west end of the house. The terraces were defined with angled bastions and curving ends and joined to a fourth rectangular level of about 1 acre by sets of dressed stone steps made of stone from the Forest of Dean and supported by Bath stone parapets. A formal parterre, originally known as the 'Dutch garden', of scroll, box edged flower beds, gravel paths and clipped holly and yew trees was laid out around a large circular fountain basin.

In the north-west the grounds became increasingly informal with winding paths leading through tree and shrub planted lawns. Irregularly shaped flower beds were also created here.

All of the stonework in the garden was carried out by Forsyth of Baker Street who had also been responsible for, among other commissions, the fountain at Witley Court, Worcestershire. In the centre of the Glanusk fountain there were originally between eight and ten small stone frogs who faced outwards, with jets of water issuing from their mouths. By 1892 the frogs had been replaced by three main jets which created the Prince of Wales feathers, and fell into four small raised circular basins before overflowing back into the main basin below. After 1954 the small basins were removed and used as planters in the garden. On a lower level terrace immediately to the east of the house Nesfield designed a second small formal garden, but this was never realised.

By 1892 the garden was established and it was recorded in at least two articles in The Gardeners' Chronicle and in The Journal of Horticulture and Cottage Gardener. These articles, together with other photographs taken in this period provide an excellent record of the late Victorian planting. The form of the garden remained unchanged from Nesfield's design and was bedded out in patterns in bright annuals with clipped standard hollies and yews and exotics such as yuccas adding interest. The beds of the parterre were recorded containing pelargoniums, grasses, calceolarias, lobelias and standard roses. The Journal also noted another semi-circular bed nearby that was backed by a formal yew hedge. This bed contained planted strips of blue lobelia and white marguerite. Unfortunately the article does not provide a clear indication of the whereabouts of this bed. A photograph of about 1890 records a straight wide gravel path extending from the bottom of the house terrace steps, running between two rectangular parterre beds planted up in a lozenge design, to connect with a peripheral path that surrounded the parterre.

To the north-west of the formal garden tree planted lawns were laid out and the area became known as 'The Ladies' Garden'. On the south of this area the garden abutted the north-east wall of an extension of the walled kitchen garden. The glasshouses within this area, which included a curved peach and camellia house, seem to have had an ornamental as well as practical purpose through their position close to the northern

garden from which they were separated, at this time, only by a formal hedge (see Utilitarian Garden). On the north side of the wall from the peach house there was a fernery, which partly survives.

The fernery was laid out with a stage at the 'front and at one end to show specimens' with a north and east facing wall arranged with cork and with, presumably the surviving stonework, as pockets for Maidenhair, 'Woodwardians' and Goniophlebiums, tree ferns and palms which were watered by 'a neighbourhood of waterfalls'. It is assumed that the north front of the fernery was glassed in, but no illustrations or photographs have been found.

Hidden among the specimen trees in the Ladies' Garden, which in 1892 included a Swamp cypress with a girth of over 9 ft, there was a garden house, described as a 'Swiss cottage' and 'a lovely cot' which was covered with scented climbers and clematis. This was later moved to the garden of Penmyarth. Flower beds of carnations and roses were laid out around it and a trellised archway and pillars planted up with *Tropaeolum speciosum* stood nearby.

Sir Joseph Russell Bailey also made an important structural contribution to this father's garden by building an ornamental stone wall around the gardens north, east and south-east perimeters to separate it from the park. A stone ha-ha already stood on the north-west of the garden, around the Victorian pleasure grounds, and the new wall linked up to this. In 1892 the gardens were in the care of at least fourteen garden staff who worked under the direction of a Mr Ballard, the head gardener.

In 1910 most of the Victorian garden was still intact, although the carpet bedding of the 1890s had given way to roses and more informal planting characteristic of the Edwardian era. Wide herbaceous borders, for example, had been established along the south side of the north garden wall and around the perimeter of the parterre. One significant development by this date was the creation of a water garden within the Ladies' Garden. A set of concrete lined pools were laid out, recorded in a contemporary photograph surrounded by young planting on the east and water lilies on the pond. It is unknown if any noted designer was involved in this project or if it was just laid out by the garden staff.

The history of the gardens in the years leading up to the Second World War is unclear but it seems that at least one grass tennis court was laid out to the west of the parterre by about 1940. The flower beds, the fernery and general standard of the garden are presumed to have declined during the war years.

Following the departure of the army and the demolition of the house the garden house and some of the garden steps were moved to the garden at Penmyarth where they remain. Later, in the 1950s, part of the pleasure gardens were planted up with trees and the area became known as Mansion Wood. The paths around the parterre were grassed over and the present beds, of roses, were laid out following the building of the new house in the 1970s. A flight of steps originally connected the new house to the garden below, but these were removed at a later date, leaving a steep, grass bank.

The garden at Penmyarth lies to the east and south of the house and comprise mainly of open, sweeping areas of lawn planted with trees and shrubs. The house looks east out on to a wide circular lawn which is surrounded on the north and east by a stone ha-ha. A wide paved terrace, ornamented by white, timber Versailles planters and a columned verandah, separate the east front of the house from the lawn. On the north-east a short length of yew hedge and a mature cedar also separate the east lawn from the northern forecourt.

On the south lawn the ground rises in a steep bank to a second large rectangular area of garden, which is about 1 acre in extent. This ground lies slopes down to the north-east and lies about of about 1m above the east lawn at its eastern end, rising to about 3m on the west. On the southern end of the east terrace a gravel path, which also continues around the south side of the house at the foot of the bank, leads to a flight of stone steps which lead up on to this southern area. A pair of stone dogs stand at the top of these steps, one on either side.

This area of the garden is enclosed on the south and west by a high, partly capped stone wall. The wall includes areas of dry-stone work, brick and mortar and it appears to have been remodelled, or extensively repaired, on several occasions. At the northern end of the west wall the wall attaches to a stone building; the garden store/potting shed which has a dovecote above in its northern end. This building is also ornamental and, from a ventilation slit in its north-east side, appears to have been converted from an earlier barn. A Gothic leaded window, set in a brick frame also occurs on the east, the garden, front and looks out on a wide strip of grass, the width of the building, which is enclosed on the north and south by two symmetrical lines of twelve posts, planted with pillar roses, wisteria and clematis, linked by iron chains.

To the south of the garden store/potting shed a wide raised terrace runs along the east face of the west wall to the south. It stands about 1.5m above the level of the garden beyond and it is supported by a dry-stone retaining wall. The terrace is about 5m wide and frames a long, narrow swimming pool and seating area. On the north-east and south-east of the pool two pairs of dressed stone steps connect the terrace with the garden below. These steps are separated along the east front of the terrace by a wide herbaceous border which is on level with a wide grass terrace that slopes down to the garden beyond. To the east of this terrace the lawn is ornamented by five circular beds of dwarf roses arranged in a square, with one central bed.

To the south a second high stone wall runs across this area to the east, for about 25m enclosing it. At its eastern end the south wall curves down from about 3m to 1.5m. Part way along its length a wide curved arched gateway, without a gate, also occurs in this wall. It appears lopsided, higher on the west side, due to the eastern ground slope.

This area of the garden is concluded on the east by a low dry-stone retaining wall which runs along the west side of a narrow flower bed. In the centre of the wall, on line with the central circular rose bed, there is a rose arch positioned over an ornamental iron gate set at the top of a set of three semi-circular stone paved steps.

These steps lead down on to a grass slope which leads directly east to an early twentieth-century water garden which continues to the south. The rock and concrete water garden has an oriental character and contains three pools which are linked by narrow serpentine rills set in grass. The garden opens out from to the south from the small enclosed northern most pool, which is fed by a small cascade, to the southern open pools, overlooked by mature plantings such as a Scots pine and wisteria. Rockwork, containing rough steps and seating areas, occurs on the western side of these lower pools, below the garden to the west of the south wall. On the east the ground gently slopes, as tree-planted grass, down to the park boundary which is marked by a nineteenth century iron fence.

On the south of the south wall there is a third large area of garden. This garden also slopes to the east and it comprises of a tree and shrub-planted lawn, laid-out as an informal wild garden, and contains several modern sculptures. Wide paths are mown through the area, the surrounding grass, which contains numerous flowering bulbs, being allowed to grow up during the spring. The planting includes mature prunus, maple, dogwood and magnolia. On the west the area, and the garden, is bordered by heavier shrub plantings; rhododendron and camellias which grow inside a nineteenth-century iron fence. In the south-west a gateway occurs in this wall which leads on to a wide path that proceeds south-west towards Penmyarth Cottages (estate cottages) through an area of recently replanted woodland.

A mown path leads from the gateway in the south wall into the south area. About 10m to the south-west of the gateway there is an ornamental garden building facing east. The building is a brick and stone ornee cottage with a hipped and half-hipped tile roof, a central stack and leaded windows. On the east front there is a small verandah, the roof supported by timber posts and the floor paved in herringbone brick. This building is used as a children's cottage.

Between the cottage and the south face of the wall, on which mature trained fruit trees grow, a grass path leads north uphill towards a freestanding, modern, nineteenth-century style brick based greenhouse. On the north of the greenhouse a set of four brick steps lead up into the area behind it through a modern iron gateway, designed as a spiders web.

To the west of the greenhouse there is a wide level grass terrace planted with a small orchard of mature standard fruit trees. To the south-west of the orchard the ground rises again, into a second terrace; a netted, hard tennis court. South of the tennis court there is a vegetable garden with a netted fruit cage, outside of the garden boundary, beyond.

To the north of the orchard a second, smaller modern freestanding greenhouse stands near the west face of the west garden wall. A narrow brick edged bed, used partly for flowers and vegetables, also runs along this face. From the north side of the orchard, and west of the small greenhouse, the open ground slopes down towards the house. New planting, including yew and prunus, grow in this area which is bordered on the west by the west park wall, here on the east side of the Gliffaes lane. A few mature

oak and beech grow near the wall, inside the garden, and a small group of mature conifer grow near the south-west corner of the house, on raised ground. A service gateway in the west park wall leads on to a wide strip of grass that runs across the area to a doorway on the west side of the garden store/potting shed.

To the south-east of the ha-ha a wicket gate leads out into the park area. Along the east boundary of the garden the park is being developed as a garden extension of shrub and wild planting. Rhododendron, azalea, exotic acers and other trees have all recently been established in this area which continues to the south to the park boundary on the west of the church.

The history of Penmyarth garden prior to about 1830 is unclear. It is possible that the garden wall and east lawn were established by that time, the garden wall, and building, presumably being part of a yard or fold. By 1840 a tithe map recorded the present stable buildings to the north of the house but did not record anything significant to the south, in the garden area. During the nineteenth century Penmyarth served as the agents house and it is possible that some sort of garden was laid out during that time. The cedar on the north-east of the house, which seems to date from at least 1850, could have been part of a wider ornamental planting in the vicinity of the house.

In 1888 the Ordnance Survey map provides some information on the development of the area. It recorded the circular east lawn, and ha-ha, and two walled enclosures to the east, a second narrower enclosure to the south-west of the present south wall. Importantly it recorded two formal entrances to the house, the drive continuing into a turning circle on the east front as well as on the north. This suggests that the east front was the entrance front at this time, and the north a service entrance. A small unidentified building was also recorded on the south-west of the house.

The present garden is known to date from about 1930 when, during the lead up to and as a result of the Second World War, Penmyarth became the family home in lieu of Glanusk Park. The present owner's father is credited with much of the work, planting many of the trees and mature Asiatic shrubs and constructing the water garden, which was based on the one in the Park garden below. It is also understood that he was responsible for repairing, or re-instating the ha-ha, converting an old barn into a garden room, which subsequently became the store/potting shed, and establishing the formal elements in the lines of roses and cut rose beds. However, it is unclear if he was also responsible for removing the south wall of the main garden area and dismantling the south-western enclosure.

Following the war the Dowager Viscountess De L'Isle moved the cottage from the Ladies Garden of the Park for her daughter to use as a garden house, setting it up in its present position. Two sets of dressed stone steps were also moved from the Park area at this time and placed near a new terrace built against the east face of the west garden wall. The tennis court and swimming pool are slightly later, dating from the 1960s. The western greenhouse is new, dating from about 1990, as are the garden sculptures and spider web gates.

The walled kitchen garden at Glanusk Park lies about 150m north-west of the site of the old house, the southern wall about 20m north of the northern drive at the stables. It covers approximately 1 1/2 acres and slopes downhill towards the river in the north-east. A plantation beyond the north wall provides shelter. The capped, stone walls all stand about 3m high. Only the south wall shows signs of repair/rebuild. Bricked up gateways are to be found in the centre of the north, west and east walls. Only the southern gateway survives. A pair of simple, stone gate piers support a pair of 2m high, wooden gates which are painted blue. Older iron gate pins survive in the gate piers above the wooden gates.

The interior of the kitchen garden is grassed. No glasshouses, frames or related garden features survive. Evidence of fruit training, nails and wires, was only found on the south wall. The south-west and west wall were partially hidden under Virginia Creeper and Russian vine. In the south-east corner there is a small, stone bothy, now used as an animal shed. Traces of internal circulatory paths were noted as parch marks.

Immediately to the east of the walled garden there is a smaller, rectangular enclosure which was a frame yard. A pair of blue wooden gates sited between two stone gate piers, topped with lanterns, leads into this area through the continuation of the south wall. A gravelled path crosses the enclosure, exiting through a gateway in the north wall. The area is enclosed on the east by a 3m high brick and stone wall which is abutted by a line of single-storey bothies, the southern end of which has been converted into a house for the gardener. The other bothy is used as a machine store. Further to the north, along the wall, there are signs of other buildings now removed. At the centre point a gateway with an ornamental iron gate connects the frame yard with the new formal garden to the east.

To the west of the path there is an area of lawn and rough garden. This area is the private garden of the gardener but is also the site of abandoned frames, the brick footings of which partly survive in the grass.

Along the eastern face of the east wall of the kitchen garden, within the frameyard area, traces of whitewash and red brick, partly hidden beneath creepers and roses, illustrate the position of glasshouses which have since been lost. Heating pipes still survive underneath a stone path that runs along beneath this wall. Two detached modern greenhouses stand within the frame yard. At the north end of the yard on the south face of the wall there is the site of another glass house. Iron gears and roof supports survive and it appears that this glass house had a curved roof. East of the northern gateway there is a mature fig tree growing against the wall.

The walled kitchen garden and frame yard date from the time of the main house being built in the mid nineteenth century. The clearest record of the garden occur in two articles from 1892 taken from The Gardeners' Chronicle and The Journal of Horticulture and Cottage Gardener. The interior walls of the main garden area were covered with trained fruit trees; peaches, apricots, pears, cherries, plums (Victorian

and Greengage) and figs. A main heated glass range ran along the east face of the west wall. This contained two vines, one of which, a 'Black Hamburg' believed to be approaching 100 years of age, had been grown from a cutting from a vine at Hampton Court. Bougainvilleas, passion flowers, ferns, more peaches and other vines also grew in the main range.

The Gardeners' Chronicle records nine other glasshouses in the kitchen garden as well as 'numerous pits and frames'. However it would seem that the author had included in his description the frameyard to the east of the main garden which was bordered by a hedge, replaced later by the present wall.

This area of the garden also had an ornamental role as it was easily accessible from the Ladies' Garden to the north. It contained a pair of small span-greenhouses, which contained flowers for the house; calarithe Veitchi, Poinsettias and Gardenias among them. On the south face of the north wall there was a curved roof glasshouse where 'Noblesse' peaches grew backed by a wall up which camellias were trained. The area to the south of the glasshouses, on the west boundary of the garden, was laid out as an ornamental fruit garden with pyramidal apple and pear trees, quince and damson and soft fruit, netted against the birds. Frames of violets and carnations were also to be found in this area. According to the articles a garden staff of fourteen were employed purely to look after this area of the gardens.

A subsequent article in 1910 found the kitchen garden 'abundantly productive' and 'remarkably neat and clean'. It probably continued in this manner at least until after the First World War before declining from the Second. The main east facing glasshouses in the frame yard were demolished in 1954. It is unknown when those in the main garden area were lost. The curved peach house survived, albeit in a deteriorated condition, until about 1980.

It is unclear if any formal productive garden; a walled kitchen garden, was ever laid out at Penmyarth. Walled enclosures lay to the west of the house but it appears, from map evidence that it was more likely that these areas were folds, or yards. The present kitchen garden is a recent addition to the site. Trained fruit trees and a small area of orchard on the west of the south wall do, however, date from about 1930.

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