



Walled Kitchen Garden Trail for Children

(and accompanying adults)

Èxplanatory notes and answers are available

EPPING, ESSEX CM16 5HH

YOUR NAME

Answer the questions 1-11 using the plan below to help you

1 WALLED GARDENS Entrance Why is a high brick wall a good idea for a garden like this? (Tick all the answers that you think are correct.) The wall acts as a windbreak. Bricks warm up in the sun and release the heat slowly. The wall creates a slightly warmer microclimate. Some fruits will only successfully grow in our climate with extra warmth. Exit **2 BUILDING MATERIALS** Copped Hall has been added to over the centuries and many different materials have been used. Circle any matérials when you spot them in the walled garden. 1 11 14. Brick Wrought Iron Stone Tile Wood Glass

3 PATTERNS

As you walk round the garden look for decorative patterns used in the construction and draw some of them here.

4 LAYOUT	5 PEAR TREE WALK
The garden is symmetrically divided by paths with a pond in the middle. Mark on the plan with an "L" where the lifebelt is. What has been used to edge the paths? Circle your answer. Fences Iron railings Box hedging	This has trained pear trees growing over arches. Where else can you see fruit trees trained up or over something? Some shrubs have been clipped into different shapes. What is this called? Tick the box. Topiary Origami Crochet
Trail created by The Arts Society	West Essex 2024 More questions on the back





THE COPPED HALL TRUST EPPING, ESSEX CM16 5HH Trail Answers and Explanatory Notes For Accompanying Adults

COPPED HALL WALLED

GARDEN was built in the late 1740s. Walled gardens were needed to provide fruit, vegetables, and flowers for large houses before mass transport of goods meant we could have a good supply of everything we needed all year round.



As cheap produce became available, and the cost of gardening staff increased, these gardens became a thing of the past. They were at their peak from the mid 18th century until the 1920s. Today this garden is run by enthusiastic volunteers who value these interesting examples of garden history and the stories that they tell.

1 WALLED GARDENS

A high brick wall was a good idea for a garden like this, as **the wall acts as a windbreak**. The **bricks warm up in the sun, then slowly release heat**, which **creates a slightly warmer micro-climate**. **Some fruits will only successfully grow in our climate with extra warmth**. These can be grown against a wall, be protected by roller blinds, or straw mulch or grown in glasshouses.

The larger the garden, the higher the walls. This garden slopes down to the West, making best possible use of sunlight and allowing the frosts to roll away down the hill.

2 BUILDING MATERIALS

The walls and raised beds are made of **brick**, the Georgian Gate is **wrought iron**, as is the Victorian underfloor heating system grillwork. There are **stone** steps and **gravel** is used for the paths. The Victorian glasshouses, Orchard House and Vinery are made of **wood**. The Orchid House is built of teak to withstand the humidity necessary for the exotic plants. There is lots of **glass** in the glasshouses.

3 PATTERNS



Decorative patterns are found in the metal scrollwork of the Georgian Gate, the chequerboard tile layout in the Orchard House floor, the design in the grillwork in the Orchid House floor (Boulton & Paul's Pattern No. 4). The topiary is shaped into peacocks, pyramids, and swirls. There are diamond shaped patterns of darker brick on the lighter brick wall. These are called 'diaper' patterns.

4 LAYOUT



There are different areas for vegetables, orchard fruit, soft fruit, and more exotic produce depending on their growing requirements.

The lifebelt is **at the edge of the central pond,** which is probably a Victorian feature. In the 1740s there would have been a dipping pond in each of the four quarters. The paths have been edged with **box hedging**, which helps mark the route around the garden and to prevent soil falling on the paths.

5 PEAR TREE WALK

Fig, peach, plum and apple trees are trained against the **brick walls**, and low fruit trees are trained **along horizontal wires to form 'espalier' to line the paths by the box hedges**. The fruit is much easier to pick at this height. The craft of clipping shrubs and trees into different shapes is called **topiary**.

6 GLASS AND ORCHARD HOUSES

The Orchard House could have **apples**, **pears and citrus trees**. The heated Orchid House could have **chillies**, **aubergines**, **tomatoes**, **peppers and exotic flowers**.

The glasshouses are also used for sowing and growing on small plants of fruit and vegetables to plant out in the flower and vegetable garden.

The Vinery has a **Black Hamburg grape** growing in it.



The panes of glass are cut with **curved** upper and lower edges, **to encourage water to flow away** from the wooden glazing bars towards the centre of the pane **so that the water drains away from the roof much faster.**

7 EQUIPMENT AND TOOLS

Compost bins **near the bottom wall and in front of the Orchard House.** Window winders **in the glasshouses,** solar panels **on the glasshouse roof,** a lawnmower **in the shed,** a garden roller **by the side gate opposite the pond**.









8 GARDEN WORKERS

The Head Gardener would have done the most skilled work and make up the flower arrangements for the 'big house'. There were supervisors of the various glasshouses, vegetables, and fruit areas. The garden labourers and 'bothy boys' lived communally in a bothy and took turns in cooking and on the night shift, tending boilers to heat the glasshouses and walls. They would prune trees and fruit, dig, weed, make bird-scarers, trim hedges.

Objects needed are plant pots, a trowel, a hose, a lawnmower, a spade and a compost bin.

9 FRUIT AND VEGETABLES

Depending on the month you visit you may see:

In the Glasshouses – grapes, apricots, apples, pears, citrus fruit, chillies, aubergine, peppers, tomatoes.

Orchard – apples, pears, raspberries, gooseberries, blackcurrants. Vegetable beds – pumpkins, courgettes, potatoes, onions, cabbages, leeks.

Against the walls - apricot, figs, nectarines, peaches, plums, cherries.

10 HERBS AND FLOWERS

Herbs that you may know and find in the garden: rosemary, thyme, chives, basil, mint, oregano, tarragon, parsley, coriander.



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