



THE STONE TERRACE AND PERGOLA

Of Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Boulter's Surrey home, Garston Park, near Godstone, it is recorded in Brayley's "History of Surrey" that, in the reign of King John, William, son of Eustace de Garston, granted the land to Hugh, son of Asketum del Chivinton, reserving a rent of 5d. In 1360, during the reign of Edward III, Roger atte Garston, son of John atte Garstone, granted the land to William de Barton, citizen and goldsmith of London. He, or one of his successors, presented the Manor of Garston to the Priory of Tandridge near by, and the Priors used to hold Courts there; one is specially mentioned as being held at Garston in 1505, in Henry VII's reign, by John Forester, then Prior. After the Reformation Henry VIII gave the Manor of Garston to William Rede. In 1753 Henrietta, wife of Sir Kenrick Clayton, purchased the estate, and from her it descended to Sir W. Clayton, from whom it was bought by Mr. Stanley Boulter. The house, in exterior design and interior decoration, exhibits some of the best features of ancient and modern architecture; but it is the gardens of Garston with which we are principally concerned, and of which some characteristic and lovely features are reproduced in the accompanying photographs.

Raised about 400 feet above sea-level and facing the Surrey hills (which rise to a height of 800 feet) and the Pilgrims' Way, along which those visiting the shrine of St. Thomas a Becket used to walk from Winchester to Canterbury, is one of the most charming features of Garston, namely, a broad and spacious verandah, 15 feet wide, where during the summer all the meals of the family are served. Adjoining the verandah is a stone pergola, on the piers and cross-pieces of which, and also along the verandah, climb wisteria, clematis and honeysuckle, with Crimson Rambler, Climbing Captain Christy, Claire Jacquier and Dorothy Perkins roses, and many another exquisite climbing plant. In the crevices of the stone paving of the terrace may be seen stonecrops and poppies which raise themselves from seed blown from adjacent borders. In the vases at the edge of the terrace are grown King Edward geraniums, the blooms of which are of a very rich scarlet, and show up well on the grey stone surroundings. In front of the terrace are twelve rose beds surrounded by stone walks and edging. Each bed contains one hundred roses of one or other of the Bengal varieties. From the delicate salmon pink of Irene Watts to the bright red of La Vesuve, the various shades of these Bengal roses present an exquisite effect somewhat resembling the delicate colors of a fine Aubusson carpet. Between the stone edging and the roses are borders of violas of varying shades. The terrace is indeed a blaze of harmonizing color and floral beauty.

The fine, undulating lawn, over an acre in extent, is bordered on three sides by well-chosen shrubs and herbaceous plants. Nothing could be more effective than these flowering shrubs and the deciduous and other plants which give a succession of lovely blossoms from May until September. Here are laburnums, lilacs of great variety (of which Souvenir de Louis Späth may be noted for its beauty), azaleas, magnolias, syringas, spiraeas, brooms, Spanish gorse, Pyrus japonicas, delphiniums, paeonies, Veronica traversii (flowering generally at the end of July in lovely terminal spikes of pale mauve), irises, lilies and a manifold selection of the brightest and best specimens for the purpose. The background of the borders is filled in with choice coniferae, Prunus pissardii (its copper leaves contrasting admirably with the silver effect of the tall Acer Negundo variegata near by, double scarlet thorns, and Pyrus Malus floribunda, one of the most attractive of low flowering trees, and of which Mr. William Robinson truly says "no garden is well planted if this tree is wanting"). But it is not possible to enumerate the contents of these well-thought-out and delightful borders, which contain such an abundance of beautiful plants. There is no lovelier feature in up-to-date gardening than the herbaceous border, and those at Garston Park may well serve as models of their kind, this brief description of them being worthy of note by all who aspire to gain a like effect.

To come to another special feature of the Garston garden. Supporting the tennis lawn, which has been made out of sloping ground, is a dry wall about 7 feet high, constructed of a very suitable iron stone which is found in considerable quantities in neighboring sand-pits.



THE ROCK WALL SUPPORTING THE TENNIS LAWN



THE OLD SPANISH WROUGHT-IRON GATE

Growing out of the wall are rock plants of every variety, and in the spring large trusses of aubrietia, phlox, arabis and Saxifrage Wall-acc give it a wealth of color. The blossoms of the early rock plants give way to those flowering later, such as helianthemum, campanula, saponaria, Timus rubra and alba, Veronica incana (with its lance-shaped silvery leaves and racemes of rich dark blue flowers) and a host of others.

Another pretty feature of this garden is a succession of tripods on the edge of the lawn constructed of stout oak branches to feet high. They are covered alternately with Lady Gay and Blush Ramblers, and give a very bright and pleasing effect. Growing up and along a stone wall, enclosing one side of the entrance courtyard, and covering little flying buttresses which support it, are William Allen Richardson and Felicite Perpetue roses and other climbers, and round an old Spanish wrought-iron gate clamber a Vitis Coignetiae (with its large leaves to inches wide and its autumnal crimson tint), a honeysuckle, a Rene Andre rose and a clematis.

A very attractive feature is a circular bed on the lawn containing nine large golden yews and one of pyramid shape in the centre; plenty of space is given between the yews so that air and sun may reach each part of them. The ground of the bed is entirely covered with Lithospermum prostratum, the lovely blue flowers of which form a very becoming contrast to the golden tint of the yews.

The rose garden at Garston is a great feature, and visitors to the garden are always struck with the lovely beds of the various roses, which seem to be so healthy and abundant, in bloom. Each bed is devoted to a separate and distinct rose, and generally contains about 200 plants. One of those that seem to do best at Garston is the very fine Madame Pernet Ducher, which is most vigorous and free from such pests as green-fly and blight. Another bed of equal beauty is planted with Gustave Regis, the delicate color of which

ways commands the greatest admiration. Other successful rose beds are those containing Liberty, Marquise Litta, Lady Ashtown and Caroline Testout; while a bed of Captain Hayward was certainly one of the best of the present year, blooming in great beauty. The bright crimson color of this rose gives a remarkable effect when a mass of the flowers is seen, but great care must be taken to pick the roses as soon as they begin to fade, so as not to allow their purple color to clash with the fresh flowers, and so to take away from the brilliant effect of the whole of the bed. Mrs. John Laing can scarcely ever have appeared to greater advantage than in one of the beds at Garston. There must have been at least 1,000 flowers in bloom, and each of them was erect, and appeared to be full of the greatest vigor and beauty. Close by was a lovely bed of Viscountess Folkestone, some of the blooms of which were equal in size to those of a paeony.

An excellent effect is obtained by a round bed containing about thirty Japanese maples, in the outer ring of which are those of a deeper shade of atropurpurea, the colors of the maples approaching a lighter shade towards the centre.

Garden lovers and enthusiasts will realize from even this too brief description what pains, knowledge and taste are given to the planning of the Garston gardens, and our photographs may give them an idea of the success with which these efforts have been crowned.

PLANTING A FRUIT GARDEN

Whatever may be the dimensions of the area which the home-maker is able to use for a fruit garden—and I hope it may be liberal—there are some practical points that he should consider carefully before planting.

Have a Plan

Before planting a tree, make a plan of the garden drawn to a scale. Figure out on paper how you can dispose of the various fruits so as to secure the greatest economy of space.

ONE VIEW OF THE GARDEN AND THE EDGE OF THE LAWN SHOWING TRIPODS

Many fruit gardens are planted in a careless, haphazard sort of a way, and therefore have no definite and logical arrangement. If you have only a quarter of an acre to plant, or even less, it pays to make a plan. You can see things on paper that you cannot see in the field. Having made a good plan, preserve it and follow it consistently in all your planting.

Grow the Best Local Varieties

No matter where you are located, there is probably a great variety of fruits which you can grow. But the point is, which will grow best? The average home orchardist cannot afford to fool away his time on oddities and exotics. He should not be content with trees that will simply bear fruit; they must bear an abundance of good fruit. For example, if you are decidedly out of the peach belt, do not waste valuable space in your garden trying to grow peaches. I would not discourage the amateur who wishes to try fruits that are difficult to grow in his neighborhood. There is more fun in growing a peck of fruit of a variety that is not usually successful in the vicinity, than a barrel of fruit of a kind that everybody can grow. But the average home fruit orchard, in my opinion, contains too large a proportion of eccentricities. Cling to the standards. Examine the successful home orchards of your neighborhood, and seek the advice of the owners. Make the main body of your planting of standard fruits, and then if you have room tuck in a few others for trial. Remember, also, that if your space is limited it may be better for you not to try to grow staple fruits, such as winter apples and pears, but to give all your space to the early and tender sorts, such as small fruits, peaches, pears, and early apples; just as you would not try to grow the winter supply of potatoes in a small garden which can be used to better advantage in growing beets, radishes, and tomatoes.

Most fruits will thrive on a great many kinds of soil, but every one is more or less partial to soils of a certain character. It is usually out of the question to do much in adapting the different fruits to the different soils in the home fruit garden, but this point should be kept in mind and advantage taken of any little variation of soil. In general, the pome fruits (apples and pears) prefer a heavier soil than the stone fruits (plums, peaches, cherries and apricots). Apples seem to do especially well on a clay loam; pears on a heavy clay loam; plums and cherries on a medium loam; peaches and apricots on a light, sandy loam; quinces on a heavy, deep and moist loam; the bush fruits, such as currants, raspberries, etc., on a medium heavy and moist loam; strawberries and grapes on a rather light soil. Of all the fruits, the apple succeeds on a greater variety of soils than any other. In laying out the fruit garden, respect these varying tastes and satisfy them whenever possible, but do not be deterred from growing any of the common fruits because you do not have the most favorable soil conditions for them. Good fruit can be grown on almost any kind of soil if it is not extremely sandy, rocky, or shallow. Then again, soils are very readily modified in texture and fertility by careful management. Usually, success depends more upon the man who cares for the trees than upon the soil on which they are grown.

The Best Exposure for the Fruit Garden

This is a subject of dispute among amateur fruit-growers. Shall I plant my orchard on a northern or a southern slope? That depends. Plant on the northern slope when lateness is desired; plant on the southern slope when earliness is desired. For example, if there is danger in your locality of the fruit being cut off by frosts, particularly peaches and Japanese plums, which blossom early, a southern slope should not be chosen, since the trees will blossom several days earlier than on the northern slope and so be more liable to injury. Again, you would not usually plant late-keeping winter apples on a southern slope, but you might plant early varieties, as Early Harvest and Astrachan, on a southern slope because you wish them to ripen as early as possible. The northern slope is apt to be cooler and more moist than the southern slope, hence it is better adapted for small fruits which love these conditions. If the home fruit-grower is fortunate enough to be able to choose between slopes, he will do well to consider whether he wishes earliness or lateness, and select accordingly. In a majority of cases a northern exposure is preferable.

If you have any choice in sites, choose a

gentle slope in preference to level land. A slope generally gives good water drainage; fruit trees cannot thrive with wet feet. Notice how they die out in the low places, which are also the wet places. Again, a slope gives the fruit garden good air drainage. Cold air is heavier than warm air and settles to the low places, which are therefore the frosty places. On the other hand, avoid very steep slopes which can be tilled only with difficulty and are likely to be wind-swept. A slope of four or five feet in a hundred is sufficient. Many home orchards are planted on a hillside so steep that they cannot be tilled or sprayed. Better have the trees there than to have none at all, but these are rarely satisfactory. The general point to be kept in mind is not to put the fruit garden on flat land or in a pocket, but to select a gentle slope.

Double Planting Not Usually Desirable

Double planting is the growing of more than one kind of fruit on the same land at the same time; as apples, with peaches between the rows, or currants with strawberries, etc. One objection to double planting is that different fruits require different treatment as regards tillage, pruning, etc., and it is an inconvenience in caring for them to have them mixed. Another and more serious objection to double planting, as usually practiced, is that the several fruits are crowded so that none have room to do their best. Usually the home fruit-grower does not realize that, when he plants several kinds of fruit thickly upon his land, he is placing a heavy tax upon the land, and ought to fertilize very much heavier than he would for one crop only. Double planting should be practiced only when it is absolutely necessary, as in the small city or suburban fruit garden. It is my observation that when several fruits are crowded on the same area, nine times out of ten the amount of fruit produced and the degree of satisfaction derived would be far greater if the owner had been content with fewer trees and given each room to grow. We often see apple trees with pears between them, currants between the pears, and strawberries tucked in between the currants. This is a very unsatisfactory combination except in the few cases where the grower keeps the soil very rich and gives each fruit special attention.

In the home fruit garden it is desirable sometimes to plant the trees more thickly than they should stand after coming into full bearing, with the idea of taking out some of the trees when they have borne a few crops. Thus peaches are often planted between apple trees, and early bearing varieties of apples, like Yellow Transparent and Wagner, between the standard varieties. This plan is all right if the peaches or early apples are removed when the other trees need the space, but the majority of home fruit-growers will not do this. In most cases these fillers are not cut out at all, and the orchard becomes a brush-pile. Others cut them out eventually, but not until the permanent trees have been seriously weakened by the crowding. In general, then, give each fruit a separate piece of ground; but if your space is so limited that you absolutely must mix them, be careful to keep up the fertility of the soil and to keep the several fruits from crowding.

Usually it will be best to have the tree fruits by themselves in one orchard and to plant the small fruits in connection with the vegetable garden. The ideal home garden has along one side a row or two of raspberries, then blackberries, currants, and gooseberries and strawberries; then the perennial vegetables, as asparagus and rhubarb, and finally the annual vegetables. It is much better to associate the small fruits with the vegetables—one that has been made rich and full of humus by liberal dressings of manure. If the locality is troubled with severe winds that are likely to injure the fruit it is well to plant a row of apples on the side that receives the prevailing wind. If the locality suffers from winter injuries, put the hardier fruits, as apples and pears, on the outside of the fruit garden, and the more tender, as peaches and plums, in the centre. Give early varieties a sunny spot. Why not use fruit trees for shade and ornament around the house? They are beautiful in blossom, in foliage and in fruit. The Transcendent Crab is especially desirable for this purpose. Oftentimes the grapes can be used to advantage on arbors or trained over fences.

How Much of Each Fruit to Plant

That depends upon the space available, the success you have in growing fruit, the number

in the family, and their personal tastes. I want a big bed of strawberries but am not so particular about your tastes may be different. To give definite plans for the garden, because of these varying fruit garden of one acre I would follow fruit plants or the other fruits that require the space: Eight apples, twelve cherries, sixteen plums, sixteen grapes, seventy-five currants, gooseberries, and two hundred. These fruits can be planted at reasonable distance apart and planting.

How Far Apart to

Both tree fruits and small fruit plants should be planted close together. This comes from a desire to get as much fruit from the land, and ahead and see what the trees several years after planting. Early true in the home orchard we see fruit trees planted too far apart, when they ought to be feet apart. One tree that is for a healthy growth of top is profitable than three half-sized trees occupying the same space. The should be given very great varieties and on different soils locality may be more crowded feet apart than the same variety twenty-six feet apart in another varieties are small growers, pruned closely, they may be home fruit-grower who has should consider all these wishes to get just as many plants will do well. As a general rule distances are suggested: sweet cherries, thirty to forty feet; plums, peaches and apricots, twenty-four feet; currants and gooseberries, by eight feet; raspberries, by eight feet; blackberries, by six by nine feet; strawberry and a half by four feet.

In case dwarf apples or other used, the distances for these those recommended for the dwarf trees are not usually so home orchard. They require be profitable.

There are many good methods. One of the best for is to stretch across the field on which the proper distance measured and marked with string or cloth. As soon as row is set this line is moved, this case it will be necessary trees carefully when planting used, it will be better to mark it by wrapping around it the ends of which are twisted it cannot slip. In case the not more than twenty rods convenient and effective plan is between two stout stakes on a line with the row to be on each end. The wire should two feet from the ground, then be dug and the trees planted, after which the wire is next row. No stakes are necessary, and the only method, and the only measure necessary to do is the distance.

If several rows of one kind to be planted, or of several requiring the same distances, trees in squares, but in hexagons can be grown on the land, a tributed more evenly. To plant get a hatchet and as many eighteen inches long, and of there are trees to plant. Take and make a loop in each end enough to slip over the top. The length of each wire from of the rings should be exactly it is desired to have the trees rods. By measuring and sign row of stakes along one side site, marking the exact position row of trees. To lay out the ceeding rows, slip a loop over the first stake and a loop wire over the second stake wires taut until the other together, the whole forming the a stake at the point of the position of the first tree in Place the wires over the stakes in the first row, and tree likewise, and so on for ber of rows. The trees in the rows will be opposite each other in the second are midway Fifteen per cent more trees acre by this arrangement than in squares, and every tree is every other tree; in squares Supplement all methods by each way when planting. straight. Crooked rows look Fletcher.

ON THE SAFE

"Doctor," said the caller, insomnia. Can you cure me?" "I can," replied the physician. I take the case, I want to see you. Are you in business for you work for others?" "I'm employed as clerk in a bank," answered the patient. "Then you'll have to pay the doctor. I'm not doubtful but after I get through with you you will sleep so soundly job. Then you can't pay me."