

MID-GEORGIAN NURSERIES OF THE LONDON REGION

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SUMMARY

In an earlier paper¹ an attempt was made to identify the nurseries marked by Thomas Milne on his land-use map of London, surveyed in 1795-99, and to complete the list of London nurseries in 1800. The present article supplements this with corrections and additions, carrying the coverage to a wider area and for the period 1750-1800.

Plant nurseries within the area of Greater London can be identified as far back as the sixteenth century but they were few in number until towards 1700. By the middle of the nineteenth century there were so many as to defy any but encyclopaedic treatment. The days of the significant nursery were, however, numbered in spite of the late survival of a few distinguished firms.

The real heyday of the nursery as a major factor in social life lasted for some two generations, from about 1760 at the accession of George III to that of Victoria in 1837, or the death of John Claudius Loudon in 1843. Within that period the introduction and culture of exotic plants remained the preserve of men and women of wealth and title. Fortunes were to be made — and lost — by those gardeners in trade who had the knowledge and capital to take part in a game patronized by royalty and by Sir Joseph Banks.

The first truly scientific age had set in, when real knowledge was taking the place of wild guesses and science began to assume a systematic form. In horticulture 1768 marks a turning-point: Philip Miller adopted the Linnean system in the eighth edition of his *Gardener's Dictionary*, first published in 1731 but preceded by his *Gardener's and Florist's Dictionary* of 1724. The adoption of binomial nomenclature was also marked by the publication, in 1770-72, of the first three volumes of Richard Weston's *The Universal Botanist and Nurseryman* and by several trade catalogues. The earliest of these seems to have been issued by William Malcolm of Kennington in 1771 and, in an improved and enlarged edition, in 1778. Meanwhile other 'scientific' trade lists had been brought out by Lewis Kennedy and James Lee of Hammersmith in 1774, by John Brunton of Birmingham in 1777, and by Conrad Loddiges of Hackney (with German as well as Latin and English) in the same year.²

Not much later two other developments cast a fresh light on the horticultural scene. The first was the publication of adequate directories of London and the country generally, listing nurserymen as a distinct trade. This was accomplished by Bailey's Directories issued in 1781-84, and in greater detail by the *Universal British Directory* of 1791-98. The other great advance was the appearance of the first regular periodical devoted to garden plants, William Curtis's *Botanical Magazine*, issued in parts from the beginning of 1787. At this very time there had just been published John Abercrombie's *The Gardener's Daily Assistant*, with a preface dated 18 September 1786. This contains lists of Nursery Gardens, and of Seedsmen, in and near London. The nurserymen amount to 58 firms, mostly within the area covered by Milne's map, but including also some businesses further afield at Barnet, Herts., and Bromley, Kent. Few known nurseries of importance were omitted by Abercrombie and it is evident that he had a precise knowledge of the trade.

There were, however, some nurseries of standing outside the scope of Abercrombie's list, yet of metropolitan rather than provincial character. Such were those founded by James Colvill in Chelsea in 1783 and by John Cree at Addlestone about 1765. Two others, perhaps omitted by Abercrombie because they were florists rather than general nurserymen, were the gardens of Thomas Davey at Camberwell and of James Maddock, founded c. 1770 at Walworth. A few major nurseries had already gone out of business: those of Richard Woods at Chertsey, of Henry Woodman at Strand-on-the-Green, of Henry Scott at Weybridge. Several, destined to early fame, were soon to begin: James Buchanan at Camberwell, John Fraser at Chelsea, Thomas Barr at Kingsland, and Andrew Henderson at the Pine Apple in Edgware Road. The others here added to the list of 1786 were mostly of minor standing.

In the *Gazeteer* which follows the nurseries are numbered serially, 1.-113., and those which appear also in the study of Milne's map have that numbering added in brackets thus: 35. (16) represents the establishment of Loddiges at Hackney.

GAZETEER

Addlestone – see **CHERTSEY**

BARNET (Hertfordshire and Middlesex)

It is impossible to distinguish between Chipping Barnet and East Barnet, Herts., and Friern Barnet, Hadley, and South Mimms, all formerly in Middlesex.

1. Henry Clark (died 1782/83) – sale after his death on 20 and 21 February 1783.³

2. Freehold in South Mimms: the main nursery was S.W. of Hadley Green. $6\frac{1}{2}$ acres. Isaac Emmerton senior, from c. 1760 and until his death on 13 March 1789 aged 53 (buried at Monken Hadley); the nursery was listed as 'Emmerson' in 1786. The property was left to his widow Rebecca (d. 1813) and passed to their son Isaac Emmerton junior (c. 1769-1823), in business as a nurseryman at Barnet by 1793 and until 1815 or later. He published in 1815 *A Plain and Practical Treatise on the Culture and Management of the Auricula* which went into a second edition in 1819. Before Emmerton's death in 1823 the land was let to James Jackson and by 1842 it was occupied by William Cutbush, who had succeeded to the Highgate Nursery (92.). William Cutbush & Sons held both nurseries until 1918, when they moved altogether to Barnet.⁴

BETHNAL GREEN (Middlesex)

3. (1) The nursery of John Allport in Shoreditch (below, 93.) may have included this area; it was certainly not Duthies' nursery (4.).

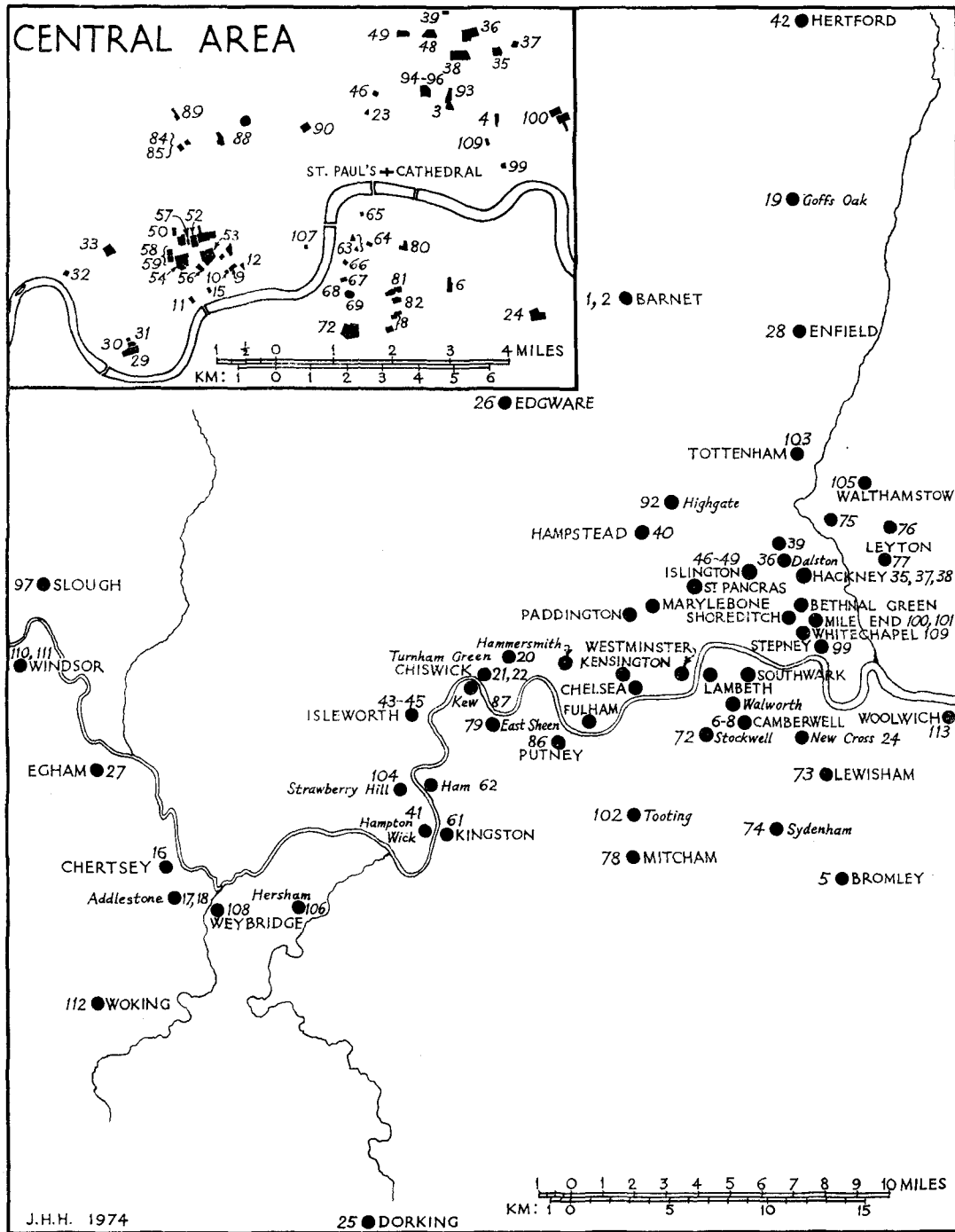
4. Dog Row, Cambridge Road (E. side): S. end of Bethnal Green Gardens, and part railway. 5 acres.

Abercrombie in 1786 listed Duthie, Bethnal Green, but by 1783 'Duthea' had been assessed for an area of Poor's Land owned by Thomas Ruby in Dog Row East, where William and Alexander Duthie were paying Land Tax in 1786-91. The garden ground continued as Duthie's Nursery until 1824, though it is shown as market garden by Milne.⁵

Brentford – see **ISLEWORTH**

BROMLEY (Kent)

5. Behind (E. of) Bromley College, to College Road and College Slip. 2 acres. In 1768 Godfrey Stidolph (1734-1818) took a lease at £5. 10s. yearly for 38 years of a house and land which had by a previous tenant (?: Robert End; in 1767 Mary Ansdell) been converted into a nursery of forest and fruit trees. It was listed in 1786 and carried on after 1818 by



Mid-Georgian Nurseries of the London Region

Stidolph's sons Godfrey Stidolph (1760–1848), John Stidolph, and William Stidolph (1772–1855) successively, and by other members of the family. The horse chestnut trees planted in Bromley churchyard in 1793 were supplied by the firm. Bromley College trustees in 1830 bought the freehold to protect the area from building, with the result that the nursery has survived to the present day, having been taken over from the last William Stidolph in 1892 by James R. Pocock, and later by Stevens. The Stidolph family also occupied 6 acres of nursery ground near Bromley Workhouse rented from the trustees of St. Mary Aldermary, London.⁶

Brompton – see KENSINGTON

CAMBERWELL (Surrey)

6. (2) Neale's nursery was listed in 1786 as 'near the Green Man turnpike, Kent-road'.

7. The original Camberwell nursery of Thomas Davey (c. 1758–1833) is not mentioned by Abercrombie, perhaps because it specialized in Florists' Flowers only. Davey's father was said to have been an eminent florist before him, 'and lived to be upwards of ninety years of age'; he stated that 'the florists' feasts and meetings were at their greatest height about London between 1740 and 1770'.⁷

8. (4.A) *The Camberwell Nursery*. James Buchanan, etc., 1795–1849.

CHELSEA (Middlesex)

9. (7) James Colvill's nursery, 1783–1840.

10. (8) Davey's nursery (see above, 7.), 1798–1833. After Thomas Davey's death the property was occupied by Mrs. Tervin, perhaps of the Terwin family, nurserymen at the Neat Houses, and in 1805 of 11 Upper Belgrave Place, Pimlico.⁸

11. (9) Anthony and James Shailer (see 60.) may have occupied some land in Chelsea parish from c. 1780, and James Shailer alone from 1784 to 1810.⁹

12. (9.A) Fraser's nursery was continued after the death of John Fraser (1750–1811) by his sons John Fraser junior (fl. 1799–1860) and James Thomas Fraser until 1817, then by the latter alone until 1827 or later, while his brother was running the Hermitage Nursery, Ramsgate, Kent, 1817–35.¹⁰

13. *Ranelagh Nursery*. Hairs, Hairs & Smith, (1789).

14. John 'Robertson', Chelsea, 1793; perhaps identical with the John Robinson rated in 1795–1805 for a garden near Old Church Street.¹¹

15. Kings Road (S. side), Glebe Place (W. side) William Pamplin (1768–1844), son of William Pamplin (d. 1805) of Walthamstow (105.) had a nursery here for many years before his house was pulled down in 1809, when more than 30 new houses were built on the site. He was still a nurseryman in Kings Road in 1822 but then moved to Lavender Hill Nursery, Battersea, where his son William Pamplin (1806–1899) was in partnership with him for some years until 1839.¹²

Chelsea, Little – see KENSINGTON

CHERTSEY (Surrey)

16. Gogmore Lane: copyhold orchard and garden. 35 rods (with other land probably held on lease).

Occupied by Thomas Cussings, gardener, from 1730 until 1751, when he sold his interest to Richard Woods (d. 1793), gardener and nurseryman, later surveyor and landscape designer. Woods had an important nursery here and was able to supply a very wide range of plants by 1758. By 1770 Woods had moved to Essex and he sold this property the following year; it had probably then ceased to be used as a nursery.¹³

Addlestone

17. Crouch Oak Lane. 2½ acres.

John Cree senior (c. 1738–1816), who had worked in the Royal Gardens at Kew, founded a nursery about 1765 and was able to supply uncommon plants for Kew three years later. His first lands may have been leasehold, as it was only in 1779–82 that he was admitted to the copyholds which formed the main part of his later nursery. He was also a county freeholder by 1793 and his own home was a freehold in 1812. During the Napoleonic Wars Cree served as a private in the Chertsey and Thorpe Volunteers from 1803 to 1813, when he was 75! John Cree junior (1800–1858) was only 16 when his father died, but the nursery continued under Ann Cree (d. 1828), the founder's third wife, and later under the younger John until 1838. Important catalogues of plants in the nursery were issued in 1829 and 1837.¹⁴

18. *Pond Close Nursery*. William Cree (d. 1815), probably a brother of the elder John Cree, was joint tenant with the latter of 4 acres of land rented from Edward Dundas in 1804. In 1788 he had been admitted to a copyhold called Pond Close, and in 1792 was described as a nurseryman, also paying Land Tax as a freeholder.

CHESHUNT (Hertfordshire)

Goffs Oak

19. James Cuthbert in 1797 founded the well known firm which has continued down to our own time.¹⁵ It is not known whether there was any connection with the earlier nursery of Robert Lucas (d. 1734), already in existence before 1725.¹⁶

CHISWICK (Middlesex)

20. (10) *Turnham Green Nursery*. The nursery was carried on after the death of Richard Williams by Robert Glendenning, who introduced exotics and was a raiser of the hybrid *Gloxinia* in 1843 by crossing *Sinningia speciosa* var. *rubra* with *S. guttata*. He later turned his attention to trees and was still flourishing in 1858.¹⁷

21. *Strand-on-the-Green Nursery*. 3½ acres.

The nursery had been founded by about 1700 if not earlier, and was then occupied by Nicholas Parker junior (d. 1726). In 1714 John Lawrence referred to Parker's honesty and long standing in the trade, stating 'that of above Five Hundred Fruit-Trees... I do not remember that I ever heard that one of them miscarried through his Fault or proved otherwise than the kind and sort that was sent for'. The main nursery consisted of 3 acres 2 roods 21 perches; it was left by Parker to his relative William Compton senior, and became part of the ground occupied by Compton's son-in-law Henry Woodman.¹⁸

22. George Masters occupied a small house as a tenant of Compton, but his nursery was a copyhold of a few acres near Kew Bridge.

CLERKENWELL ST. JAMES (Middlesex)

23. Rosebery Avenue (S.E. side), St. John Street (W. side), Lloyd's Row (N. side). 3 acres. James Lane first paid rates here 'for house and gardens' in 1759–60, and continuously until 1796–7. Lane's Nursery is marked on the map by Baker and Wilkinson in 1805. Lane, near Sadlers Wells, is mentioned by Abercrombie in 1786, and the proprietor was described as 'an eccentric'.¹⁹

Dalston – see HACKNEY

DEPTFORD ST. PAUL (Kent)

24. (II.A) In 1786 Adamson was a nurseryman at New Cross, Deptford Road, and may have held the grounds that Crombie & Cormack occupied by 1793.

DORKING (Surrey)

25. Pipp Brook (S. side), near the parish church. 2 acres.

By the spring of 1767 James Clarke, nurseryman of Dorking, was bankrupt and his stock was sold by auction on 22 and 23 April. The printed sale catalogue enables most of his 20,000 plants to be identified. The nursery was probably that later held by Ivery, seen in a painting of c. 1770–85.²⁰ In 1793, John Wood, nurseryman of Dorking, was a county freeholder.

EDGWARE (Middlesex)

26. In 1795 David Greig was listed as a nursery and seedsman, but cannot otherwise be identified unless he was the 'Gregg' of Stepney in 1786 (99).

EGHAM (Surrey)

27. Spong was a nurseryman at Egham in 1795, and in 1806 'Spon' was growing *Veratrum nigrum* in his nursery there.²¹

ENFIELD (Middlesex)

28. The compilers of the 1795 directory found three nurserymen in Enfield: Patrick Drummond, John Mawdesley, and John Scott, who was also described as the Beadle.

FULHAM (Middlesex)

29. (I2) *The Fulham Nursery*. Abercrombie included 'Burchel and co'. in his list of 1786.

30. (I3) Rensch's Nursery, c. 1660–1865.

31. (I4) Dancer's Nursery, c. 1650–1880.

Hammersmith

32. (I5) Hammersmith Nursery.

33. (I5.A) *The Vineyard Nursery* was occupied by 'Lee and co.' in 1786.

34. The market garden kept in Fulham parish by the Bagley family included a seedsman's shop by 1782, when Bagley & Whitlock were supplying seeds to Sir Gilbert Heathcote, Bart., the bill being receipted by John Whitlock. Four years later 'Whitlock, Fulham' was included in Abercrombie's list. By 1795 William Burchell (29.) was rated for 'late Bagley & Whitlock's land'.²²

Goffs Oak – see CHESHUNT

HACKNEY (Middlesex)

35. (I6) Abercrombie in 1786 listed Loddiges as already of Marc-street.

Dalston

36. (18) The nursery was already Smith's and co. when listed in 1786. The associated shop appeared among the seedsmen as Lucar and co., City Road, near Moorfields.

Homerton

37. In 1747 there first appeared as paying Land Tax John Shoebert, who continued for some 40 years holding land of Mr. Tyssen and assessed to church rates. In 1786 Abercrombie listed 'Shuport' of Homerton as a nurseryman. In 1790 and 1791 Joanna Shoebert was rated for the same properties.²³

Kingsland

38. In 1784 Thomas Richards was first assessed to the church rate, paying also 'for land late Scott', as he continued to do until 1802. He also paid Land Tax as an occupier of land owned by Tyssen. In 1786 Richards, Kingsland, near Hackney, was listed as a nurseryman. Mary Richards, presumably widow of Thomas, paid rates in 1805 on the same property and the land late of Scott. This was possibly the large nursery and market garden (Holly Street E. side, Richmond Road S. side, Lansdowne Drive W. side, and approximately Middleton Road N. side) occupied in 1811-24 by James Grange, nursery and seedsman, and marked as Grange's Garden on a map of 1825.²⁴

39. *Caledonian Nursery*. In 1786 Ross was a nurseryman in Newington Road, between Kingsland and Stoke Newington, probably at the small nursery on the E. or Hackney side of the road immediately S. of Farleigh Road. Ross, nurseryman of Stoke Newington, was in 1803-4 raising *Mesembryanthemum inculdens* from seed and successfully flowering it and other species. From 1811 onwards John Ross is mentioned in Hackney documents until 1837.²⁵ He was stated by Loudon in 1822 to have one of the more important nurseries and by 1825 was described as a designer and landscape gardener, of Caledonian Nursery, Stoke Newington Road.

Ham – see KINGSTON

Hammersmith – see FULHAM

HAMPSTEAD (Middlesex)

40. John Campbell (d. 1804) was rated for a house and garden at Haverstock Hill in 1774, and from 1775 until his death for property in High (now Heath) Street, Hampstead. By 1779 he was also assessed for a 'garden in Church Row and garden late Mr. Saywele'. The nursery was listed in 1786 as Campbell, Hampstead. All the properties were kept on by Campbell's widow, from 1805 to 1820, and thereafter by George Campbell, presumably their son, until 1854. The ground was still called 'Mr. Campbell's Nursery Garden' until 1860, when a Baptist Church was built on the site.²⁶

HAMPTON (Middlesex)

41. George Lowe, who in 1738 was Royal Gardener at Hampton Court Palace, on 3 April 1746 consented to the marriage of his daughter Clara, aged 20, to the architect William Robinson, of St. Martin's in the Fields, aged 25.²⁷ He may have founded the private nursery at 'Kingston' (i.e. Hampton) Wick, near Hampton Court, occupied by one Lowe in 1786.

Hersham – see WALTON

HERTFORD (Hertfordshire)

42. *Hertford Nursery*. In 1795 Charles Bridgeman, nurseryman of Hertford, was a county freeholder. His may have been the Hertford Nursery occupied before 1807 by Robert Murray, still carrying on the business in 1823.²⁸

Highgate – see ST. PANCRAS

Homerton – see HACKNEY

Hoxton – see SHOREDITCH

ISLEWORTH (Middlesex)

43. (19) Ronalds of Brentford was listed by Abercrombie in 1786, both as a nurseryman and as a seedsman.

44. (19.A) 'Swindon' of Brentford also appeared in 1786.

45. (19.B) Bell's Nursery, (1793–1818)

ISLINGTON (Middlesex)

46. (19.C) The Colebrooke Row nursery was listed in 1786 as Watson and Watsons, Lower Street. William Watson made his will in November 1792 and was dead by January 1793. He was to be buried at Bunhill Fields and left bequests to the Revd. Nathaniel Jennings and to the trustees of 'the Meeting which Mr. Jennings preaches at'. The will shows that Thomas and James Watson were his brothers.²⁹

47. (19.D) Henry John & Co., nurserymen and seedsmen, of The Seed and Root Warehouse, Lower Street, opposite The Thatched House, may have succeeded to the nursery of Andrew Hogarth c. 1800.

Kingsland

48. (20) *The Kingsland Nursery* was run by Lewis and co. in 1786. Thomas Bassington had been succeeded before 1822 by George Henry Bassington who took George Hockley Bunney into partnership by the end of 1824. Bassington was succeeded by Bunney in the rate assessment on house and nursery at Midsummer 1826. Bunney was also at Bedford Conservatories, Covent Garden, by 1833, when he was raising new varieties of *Kennedya* and, rather later, of *Fuchsia*. He also entered the new trade in orchids, introducing *Oncidium leucochilum* from Guatemala in 1835.³⁰

Newington Green

49. (21) *Northampton Nursery*, Thomas Barr etc., 1791–1832.

Kennington – see LAMBETH

KENSINGTON (Middlesex)

50. (22) *The Kensington Nursery* was in 1786 listed both as Grimwood, Hudson and co. and as Hudson, Grimwood and co., at Brompton and Kensington; and among seedsmen as Grimwood and Hudson, Piccadilly. Daniel Grimwood the elder died on 6 August 1796 aged 71, leaving the business to his son Daniel Grimwood (II) in partnership with Samuel Hudson. Soon afterwards the firm was Grimwood junior, Rhodes and Wykes.³¹

Brompton

51. (23) In 1786 Brompton-park nursery, near Kensington, was listed as the address of Jefferies.
52. (24) Kirk, Brompton, was listed in 1786.
53. (25) The nursery founded by Henry Hewitt was in 1786 Hewit and co., Brompton, near Chelsea and Kensington.
54. (26) Abercrombie in 1786 listed Thobourn, Brompton.
55. Swinton, Foreign Nursery, Knightsbridge, was listed in 1786 but has not so far been identified: his nursery may have been in Chelsea parish or in the detached part of Westminster S. of Hyde Park.
56. (27) Curtis's Botanic Garden, 1789–(1809) – from Lambeth (65.).
57. (28) (Ellingham's Nursery, 1825).
58. (28.A) Shaw's Nursery, (1797).
59. (28.B) Mitchell's Nursery, (1797).

Little Chelsea

60. Shailer's Nursery, (1788–1815).

Kew – see RICHMOND

Kingsland – see HACKNEY, ISLINGTON

KINGSTON upon Thames (Surrey)

61. (29) Abercrombie's entry for Mitchelson and Mitchelson of Kennington (69.) shows that they also had a nursery at Kingston, probably this. 'Michellson' was a seedsman at Kingston in 1794.

Ham

62. Ham Common Nursery, Hairs, Hairs & Smith, (1789–91).

LAMBETH (Surrey)

63. (30) (William) North, Lambeth, near Westminster-bridge, was listed among the nurserymen; and North, Lambeth, among seedsmen.
64. (Walter) Hay, of Lambeth and St. George's Fields, appeared in 1786 as a nurseryman; and Hay, Parliament-street, Westminster, among seedsmen.

65. Higler's Lane, Lower Marsh.

William Curtis (1746–1799) in 1777 took a piece of land which he converted 'to the purpose of cultivating every British plant. To these he afterwards added such as were used in medicine, or considered as useful or noxious in agriculture'. In 1788 Curtis's grounds in Marsh and Wall Liberty were assessed at £17. Though this was a botanic garden rather than a trade nursery, it seems that Curtis did sell plants.³² Finding that atmospheric pollution was killing his stock, Curtis removed to Queen's Elm, Kensington (56.) in 1789.

66. (31) *Cotmansfield Nursery*, (1795)–1827.

67. (32) Tyers, etc., (1785–1800).

68. (33) Malcolm, Kennington, near Lambeth and Newington Butts, was listed by Abercrombie in 1786. Although rated by 1757, it was on 11 January 1758 that Malcolm had taken a lease for 19 years from William Clayton of a brick house and building adjacent lately built, with 8 acres of garden ground and another $3\frac{1}{2}$ acres, for a yearly rent of £60 'and 100 good and large asparagus' in January every year.³³ He moved in 1789 to Stockwell (72.)

69. In 1786 Abercrombie's entry was: Mitchelson and Mitchelson, Kennington, near Lambeth, Newington Butts, and Kingston, Surrey (61.)

70. Abercrombie included Chambers, Newington Butts, among the nurserymen of 1786. One Richard Chambers, who in 1762 sold 1,200 beech trees at 1s. per hundred to Mr. Donston of Worksop, Notts., may have been connected with this firm.³⁴

71. Watts, Lambeth Butts, among the nurserymen of 1786, was the firm which in 1789 appeared as William and David Watts, seedsmen, of Coney Walk, Lambeth. David Watts also had a seedsman's shop at 83 St. James's Street and was sending large orders of forest trees to country estates in 1786–88.³⁵ William Watts, nurseryman and florist, was of Walcot Place, Lambeth, in 1805; and William Watts, nursery and seedsman, of Camden Place, Peckham, in 1835–36. Presumably one of this family was the Watts, friend of Abercrombie and assistant to Philip Miller in the Chelsea Physic Garden, later head gardener to Mr. Sharp at South Lodge, Enfield, who was still living in 1822 as a nurseryman at Acton, where he was an expert in the propagation of mistletoe on most sorts of trees, including conifers.³⁶

72. (34) Malcolm's Nursery, 1789–1815 (above, 68.).

LEWISHAM (Kent)

73. (35) *The Lewisham Nursery* was in 1786 decribed as Russel & Co., Lewisham, near Greenwich.

Sydenham

74. Abercrombie in 1786 listed Pringle, Sydenham, among nurserymen. This was possibly William Pringle (c. 1742–1813) of Sydenham, buried at St. Mary's, Lewisham.³⁷

LEYTON (Essex)

75. (37) The nursery in Lea Bridge Road belonged to Syborne in 1786. This must have been Richard Siborne the younger (c. 1751–1821), whose principal ground seems to have been in Walthamstow.³⁸ From 1775 to 1812 he paid rates on other land in Leyton which became the nursery of Barber & Fairweath in 1812–26 and later belonged to James Pamplin (105.).

Leytonstone

76. (38) *Leytonstone Nursery* was assigned to (John) Hay by Abercrombie in 1786.

77. (39) *Holloway Down Nursery* was occupied in 1786 by (William) Perkins.

Leytonstone – see LEYTON

Mile End – see STRATFORD-BOW

MITCHAM (Surrey)

78. Pig's (Figg's) Marsh.

There was probably some nursery trade in plants of various herbs at the extensive Physic or 'Botanical' Gardens. Already founded in the time of Ephraim Potter (1703-1775), the gardens descended to his son James Potter (1734-1799) and to the latter's nephew James Moore (1770-1851). They afterwards passed to James Bridger (1806-1885), Moore's illegitimate son.³⁹

MORTLAKE (Surrey)

East Sheen

79. In 1786 Abercrombie listed Eddie as a nurseryman at East Sheen near Richmond. This was George Eddie, rated in that year for 'Colsill's Land' and another property, on a total valuation of £75.⁴⁰

New Cross – see DEPTFORD

NEWINGTON (Surrey)

80. (40) Driver, Kent-road, near the Borough of Southwark, was listed in 1786.

Walworth

81. (41) *The Walworth Nursery*, James Maddock, etc., c. 1770-1842.⁴¹

82. Camberwell Road (W. side), John Ruskin Street (S. side). 5 acres.

Montpelier Gardens, primarily a tea garden, also included a plant-centre. John Bendell was assessed at £34 in 1782-85, and in 1786 Abercrombie listed 'Bendel', Montpelier Gardens, Walworth, among nurserymen. His Bendel, Westminster-bridge Road, Lambeth, in the list of seedsmen, may indicate a separate shop belonging to the same proprietor. The Gardens were described in 1788, when it was stated that 'Gentlemen are served here with shrubs, flowers, or seeds'.⁴²

83. Abercrombie in 1786 listed, among both nurserymen and seedsmen, 'Townly, Walworth.' E. W. Townley signed the Newington poor rate assessments of 1789-90 as an Overseer, and in 1805 was a nurseryman, seedsman and land surveyor of 27 Crosby Row, Walworth.⁴³

Newington Green – see ISLINGTON

PADDINGTON (Middlesex)

84. In 1786 Latin, 'Edgward'-road, Paddington, was listed as a nurseryman.

85. Prior, Paddington, was named as a nurseryman in 1786.

PUTNEY (Surrey)

86. (42) *The Putney Nursery* in 1786 was listed as occupied by 'Howie' (William Howey).⁴⁴

RICHMOND (Surrey)

Kew

87. (43) *Kew Green Nursery*, c. 1680-(1800).

ST. MARYLEBONE (Middlesex)

88. Lisson Grove (E. side), Broadley Terrace (S. side), Marylebone Station, Melcombe Place. 9 acres.

Alexander Cunningham was first rated as occupier of a garden at Lisson Grove in 1773 on an assessment of £30, as well as £10 on his house, No. 4 Lisson Grove, by 1786, when he was

listed as Cunningham, Lisson Green, 'Paddington'. In 1792 he took over another house and land 'in the Fields' valued at £90, and moved from his old house to a newly built one at the N. end of Gloucester Place. No. 4, Lisson Grove, was then taken by John Cunningham, probably his son. In 1800 the Cunninghams gave up the nursery, which was taken over by Thomas Jenkins (d. 1832). At first in partnership with (? James) Cochrane, and from 1812 with Gwyther, Jenkins in 1814 opened a second nursery in the Inner Circle of Regent's Park, later the gardens of the Royal Botanic Society and since 1932 Queen Mary's Garden. In 1819 Jenkins issued an important catalogue in two editions and specialized largely in stove and greenhouse plants. The original nursery became a subscription botanic garden, but the land was let for building in 1829. Much of the nursery stock was sold off at the end of 1834, after Jenkins' death, but the firm existed until 1836.⁴⁵

89. Maida Vale (E. side), Abercorn Place (S. side), Hamilton Terrace (W. side), Hall Road (N. side). 5½ acres.

The Pine Apple Nursery. From 1793 the garden E. of the Edgware Road, next to the terrace of houses beside the turnpike, called Pine Apple Place, was rated to Andrew Henderson. This became the important nursery later celebrated for Geraniums, Roses, Heaths, Chrysanthemums, aquatic plants, and rare bulbs. The firm was Andrew Henderson & Son by 1817, and John Andrew Henderson & Co. from 1844 to 1852.⁴⁶

ST. PANCRAS (Middlesex)

90. (44) *The Bedford Nursery.* It was this nursery which was occupied by Thomas Brown in 1825, and probably earlier.⁴⁷

91. (44.A) West's Nursery, (1775).

Highgate

92. (44.B) Abercrombie in 1786 listed 'Bowstead' (William Bowstead) as a nurseryman at Highgate.

Sheen, East – see MORTLAKE

SHOREDITCH (Middlesex)

93. (45) *The Pine Apple Nursery* was listed in 1786 as Allport, Hackney Road near Shoreditch.

94. (45.A) *Hoxton Field Nursery.* Abercrombie's entry of 1786 was for (John) Renton, Hoxton, near the Ivy-house. Renton had been rated since 1783 as occupier of land assessed at £10, adjacent to the garden of Alexander Gammock (95.). The land was taken over by John Bassington in 1792 and let for building two years later. Renton's *Treatise on Gardening*, issued in parts, has been shown by Dr. Hugh Bilbrough to be an impudent piracy of Thomas Whateley's *Observations on Modern Gardening* (1770).⁴⁸

95. Adjacent to the Hoxton Field Nursery (94.) was a nursery occupied since 1764 by Alexander Gammock and consisting of a property assessed at £16 with, after 1766, another piece of land valued at £3, later at £6. Gammock, Hoxton, was listed among London nurserymen in 1786. In 1793 the whole property was taken over by John Bassington and let for building in the following year. The land was next to Westby's Almshouses and, after 1771, to Brett's Buildings.⁴⁹

96. Another Hoxton nursery, adjacent to the above was occupied from 1762 by John Bassington, one of the executors of the famous nurseryman James Gordon (d. 1780). This nursery had, from 1724 until shortly before 1762, been worked by Richard Spire, friend and executor of the great Thomas Fairchild (1667–1729).⁵⁰ Bassington was listed as a nurseryman of Hoxton near Shoreditch in 1786 and in 1788 was a member of a jury summoned by the Paving Commissioners to value property at Stepney. He was then described as gardener of Hoxton Town.⁵¹ After taking over the grounds of Renton and Gammock in 1792–93, Bassington let the whole for building in 1794.

SLOUGH (Buckinghamshire)

97. In 1798 Thomas Brown was described as a seedsman of Slough, near Windsor. He probably founded the nursery later carried on by Charles Brown (d. 1836), noted for providing the blue heartsease used in the original hybridization which produced the modern pansy about 1813. Later the firm was T. & E. Brown, celebrated by 1839 for florists' flowers and for American bog plants. They also had London premises at the Egyptian Hall, Piccadilly.⁵²

SOUTHWARK (Surrey)

98. The list of nurserymen in 1786 includes Shepherd of Kent Street, Borough, and Southwark. He has not yet been identified, but some connection is possible with A. Sheppard, nursery and seedsman, Blue Anchor Road, Bermondsey, in 1836.⁵³

STEPNEY (Middlesex)

99. Gregg, of Crombie's Gardens, Halfway House, Stepney, was listed as a nurseryman in 1786. Twenty years earlier there had been a sale of rare plants at 'the Garden in Whitechapel Fields, next the Half-way House', and this probably indicates that the nursery was of old standing.⁵⁴ Gregg may perhaps be identical with David Greig of Edgware (26).

Stockwell – see LAMBETH

Strand-on-the-Green – see CHISWICK

STRATFORD-BOW (Middlesex)

100. (46) *The Mile End Nursery* appeared in 1786 both as Gordon (James) and co., and as Thomson and Gordon. Abercrombie also listed Dermer and Gordon, and Gordon and Dermer, Fenchurch Street, among seedsmen.

101. There was also in 1786 a separate Mile End nursery of William Gordon, one of the sons of James Gordon (d. 1780).

STREATHAM (Surrey)

Upper Tooting

102. (47) Hay, Tooting, was a nurseryman listed in 1786.

Sydenham – see LEWISHAM

Tooting, Upper – see STREATHAM

TOTTENHAM (Middlesex)

103. (48) Abercrombie in 1786 listed (William) Coleman, Tottenham, among nursery gardeners.

Turnham Green – see CHISWICK

TWICKENHAM (Middlesex)

104. (49) Ashe's Nursery, (1748–1800), Strawberry Hill.

WALTHAMSTOW (Essex)

105. *Wood Street Nursery*. William Pamplin (d. 1805), son of John Pamplin of Halstead, Essex, founded or took over the nursery at Walthamstow well before 1800. At his death it passed to his son James Pamplin (1785–1865), younger brother of William Pamplin of Chelsea (15.). James Pamplin carried on the business, along with a branch nursery in Lea Bridge Road, Leyton, from 1838 (see 75.). This in 1860 was handed over to his son William. James died at the Walthamstow Nursery in 1865, and William continued that at Leyton until 1869.⁵⁵

WALTON ON THAMES (Surrey)

Hersham

106. In 1790 Hugh Wilson, nurseryman at Hersham, subscribed to William Speechly, *A Treatise on the Culture of the Vine*.

Walworth – see NEWINGTON

WESTMINSTER (Middlesex)

107. Samuel Fullmer, gardener, Horse-ferry Road, in 1781 issued, with others, *The Young Gardener's Best Companion*, republished in 1786 by Alexander Hamilton. From 1782 William Harpur was rated in Horseferry Road, his house and ground being described from 1789 as part of "Fulmer's Row". In 1786 Harpur, Horse-ferry-road, was listed as a nurseryman. He disappeared from the rates after 1793.⁵⁶

WEYBRIDGE (Surrey)

108. Henry Scott, who had been head gardener to Lord Burlington at Chiswick Park from 1738, opened a nursery at Weybridge in 1754, the year after the earl's death. Scott's engraved trade card shows that he stocked pineapples, seeds, fruit trees, flowering shrubs and greenhouse plants.⁵⁷ Late in the same year his daughter Martha was born; in 1760 Anne, the wife of Mr. Henry Scott ('Gardiner'), was buried. It is uncertain for how long this nursery continued.⁵⁸

WHITECHAPEL (Middlesex)

109. *Ducking Pond Lane Nursery*. In 1786 one Brinkworth had a nursery at Ducking Pond Lane in Mile End Old Town, opposite to Mile End Green.

WINDSOR (Berkshire)

110. James Burn, a gardener and nurseryman in 1784, was described as a nursery-man by 1798.

111. Richard Streeter was a nurseryman at Windsor in 1798.

WOKING (Surrey)

112. *Goldsworth Old Nursery*. Said to have been established in 1760, by 1812 this was occupied by Robert Donald, then an executor of John Cree the elder (17.), along with Hugh Ronalds (II) of Brentford (43.). Donald in 1822 issued *A new system of national and practical agriculture, to relieve distress, reduce the poor rates, and to improve estates* in hexameter verse! John Donaldson stated that its 'practical ideas are perfectly sound and correct'. Donald was later famous for Azaleas and for his well arranged Arboretum; he was still living in 1850 but had died by 1854.⁵⁹

WOOLWICH (Kent)

113. Samuel Hardin was described as a gardener and nurseryman, Woolwich, in 1784.

NOTES

Abbreviations used:

<i>Agric. Hist. Rev.</i>	<i>Agricultural History Review.</i>
A.O.	Archives Office.
B.M. (P. and D.)	British Museum, Dept. of Prints and Drawings.
Bodl. J. J.	Bodleian Library, John Johnson Collection.
<i>Bot. Mag.</i>	Curtis's <i>Botanical Magazine</i> .
<i>Bot. Rep.</i>	H. Andrews, <i>Botanist's Repository</i> .
Edwards 1801	J. Edwards, <i>A Companion from London to Brighthelmston</i> .
<i>Flor. Cab.</i>	<i>Floricultural Cabinet</i> .
<i>Gard. Chron.</i>	<i>The Gardener's Chronicle</i> .
<i>Gard. Mag.</i>	<i>The Gardener's Magazine</i> .
G.L.R.O.	Greater London Record Office.
Hadfield 1969	M. Hadfield, <i>A History of British Gardening</i> .

Holden Lib.	Holden's <i>Triennial Directory</i> , 1805.
Loudon 1822	J. C. Loudon, <i>An Encyclopaedia of Gardening</i> .
Loudon 1829	J. C. Loudon, <i>An Encyclopaedia of Plants</i> .
Mangles 1839	J. Mangles, <i>The Floral Calendar</i> .
Min. Lib.	Minet Library, Lambeth.
<i>Paxton Mag. Bot.</i>	<i>Paxton's Magazine of Botany</i> .
P.R.O.	Public Record Office.
<i>Proc. Linn. Soc.</i>	<i>Proceedings of the Linnean Society</i> .
R.O.	Record Office.
Robson 1836	Robson's <i>Classification of Trades</i> .

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- Marylebone Lib., Local History Room; Mangles 1839, 96-8.

- ⁴⁷ The entry in the Post Office Directory for 1826 is; Brown, Thomas, nurseryman, Bedford Nursery, New Road, Pancras. See above, note 30.
- ⁴⁸ H. Bilbrough, unpublished thesis, and personal communication.
- ⁴⁹ Hackney Lib., Shoreditch archives, by kind information of Mr. S. C. Tongue.
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- ⁵² *Flor. Cab.*, II, 45; III, 187, 258, 292; VI, 238-9; VII, 259; IX, 157, 223; *Gard. Chron.*, 1883, vol. ii, 134; Mangles 1839, 97, 98, 100.
- ⁵³ Robson 1836.
- ⁵⁴ W. Roberts in *Gard. Chron.*, 1918, vol. ii, 245-6.
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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This paper, like its predecessor, rests upon the very great generosity of many correspondents, institutional and individual. I wish particularly to thank the staffs at the British Museum (Map Room and Department of Prints and Drawings), the Bodleian Library, the Guildhall Library, the London Library, the Library of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, and the Lindley Library of the Royal Horticultural Society, as well as those of the record offices and libraries mentioned in the Notes. My personal gratitude goes especially to Dr. Hugh Bilbrough, Mr. H. B. Blandford-Baker, Miss A. M. Coats, Mr. R. G. C. Desmond, Miss R. J. Ensing, Mr. Richard Gorer, Mr. Robert Holden, Dr. A. E. J. Hollaender, Mrs. R. K. Judges, Mr. J. G. W. Lewarne, Mr. Bernard F. J. Pardoe, Mr. Hugh S. Pocock, Mr. Maurice Smith, Mr. Ken Spelman and Miss E. J. Willson.

This article has been printed with the assistance of a generous grant from the MARC FITCH FUND.