



Design, Access and Heritage Statement

Lacock Botanic Garden

Listed Building Application - March 2026

 **National Trust**

Tisbury Hub, Place Farm Courtyard, Court Street, Tisbury, Salisbury, Wiltshire. SP3 6LW

1.0 Background

This proposal is to dismantle and remove part of the glasshouse in the botanic garden due to the poor condition of the structure.



2.0 Heritage Significance

2.1 Listing

The park and gardens are Grade II listed, which this extract from the listing:

KITCHEN GARDEN The walled early C18 Common or Stable Yard, and the Kitchen Garden, are situated along the west boundary of the site, north and west of the drive (Estate plan, 1714). The Common Yard is a square enclosure accessed from the drive and an opening in its north wall gives access to the Kitchen Garden. The Kitchen Garden is now in use as allotments for the village. Along the south boundary of Common Yard is Lodge Barn (listed grade II) while on the north wall the brick footings of two C19 greenhouses built by Fox Talbot still survive. The latter also planted the specimen trees in the Yard, which include black walnut, swamp cypress, holm oak, and tulip trees (Pearson Assocs 1994). The National Trust are currently (2000) reconstructing the layout of the Common Yard as shown on the OS 1st edition map surveyed in 1885, and are planning to rebuild the greenhouses.

2.2 Historic Evidence

The 1714 estate plan shows areas divided in locations similar to today with the walls behind the modern day glasshouse situated between the 'common yard' and 'kitchen garden'.

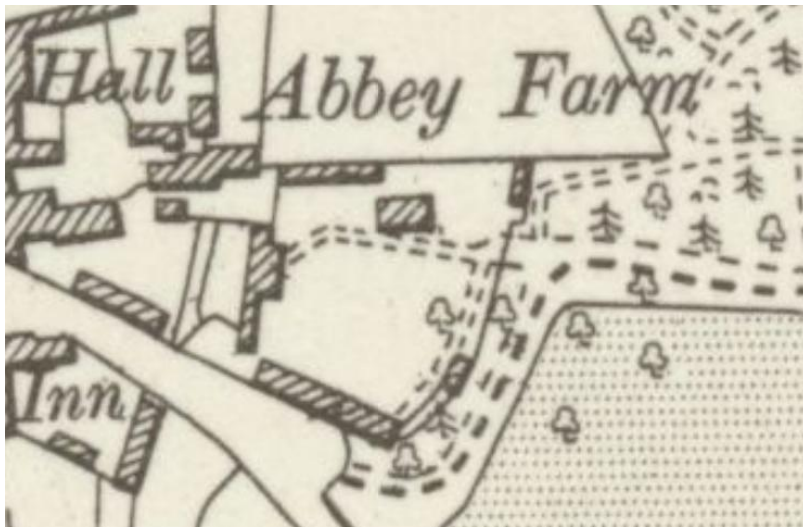


The original glasshouse appears to have been built in the 19th century, and constructed in two sections, with the western end constructed first.

The OS map of 1885 shows both sections in place:



The OS map of 1922 indicates the glasshouse still in place:



The original glasshouse fell into disrepair and was removed in the 20th century.

The current glasshouse was constructed around 2004 on the footprint of the earlier glasshouse.

2.3 Condition

The eastern end of the glasshouse is currently in poor condition due to rot in the timbers. Many of the main rafters have been propped to prevent collapse.



This has been an ongoing issue since they were constructed. A structural report in 2019 attributed this to poor detailing in the glazing strips and because the timber used is not suitable for the damp environment.

Areas of the western end were repaired around 2020 and this end of the structure is considered to be in acceptable state.

2.3 Significance

The listing indicates that the layout of the gardens and the boundary walls are the main historically significant areas of this part of the garden. The timber structure is not specifically mentioned in the listed as it was constructed after the last listing update. The brick walls forming the glasshouse base are mentioned as there were in place at this time.

3.0 Justification

3.1 Design

Removal of the eastern end of the structure is considered necessary due to the condition. Currently repairs or replacement are not financially possible.

Retaining of the brick walls will leave the original area marked to allow visitors to understand the previous layout of this area of the gardens. It will also allow this to remain in place if future replacement is considered possible.

3.2 Access

Currently public access to the glasshouse is not possible. With this section removed, access to the area will be possible.

Conclusion

The proposed changes are necessary due the poor condition. The historic fabric of the boundary wall will remain and be unaffected by the changes. We therefore request that you approve this application.