

Lost Features of Boultham Park



Boultham Park



The Greenhouse

Many people reading this article will remember the greenhouse within Boultham Park and, in most cases, it will bring back many happy memories. I asked the good folks who belong to the social media site 'Just Lincoln Then and Lincoln Now' for their memories, most are from the late 50s and early 60s and I have copied a few below :

"The greenhouse was a delight even as a child I loved going in there the smell was intoxicating"

"I remember my Dad taking me in there, loved the smell of the plants"

"Loved it as a child"

"I loved the cacti"

"Used to love going in there as a child, late 40s/50s, lots of plants which seemed enormous too little me"

History

In the 12th century the original estate of Boultham, which stretched to over 1210 acres, belonged to the Priory of St Catherine's. There are records of it being farmed, but we have to move forward in time to 1874 before we see an actual greenhouse structure appearing on the site. The new structure was erected by the Ellison family as the hall was rebuilt and enlarged. It is shown on maps as a sprawling 3 storey brick house with stone dressings and 7 chimney stacks. There was a large glasshouse on the south side of the house surrounded by a rockery garden from which they hosted garden parties, weddings, galas and fetes.



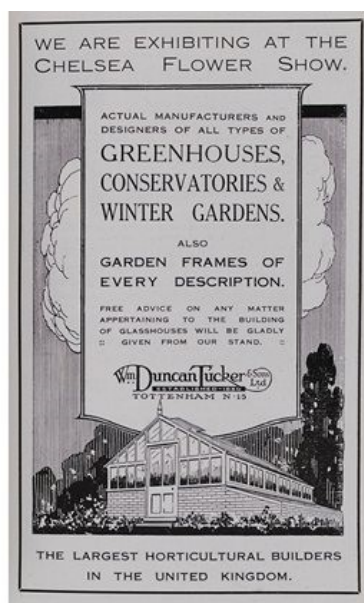
[https://www.flickr.com/
photos/boulthampark/
albums](https://www.flickr.com/photos/boulthampark/albums)

Check out the
Boultham Park
Archive for more
great images of
the greenhouse





Between 1874 and 1909 the greenhouse was used to provide flowers and shrubs for the gardens and propagate the Ellison rose and a strain of apple. In 1909 Col Ellison died and the hall became vacant. Between 1909 and 1929 the Ellison family were forced to sell off large swathes of their land to cover family debt. In 1929 Lincoln Corporation bought the land with a view to turning it into a public park. This change of use prompted the erection of a substantial heated greenhouse in 1936.



The firm of Duncan Tucker Ltd were commissioned to do the work and part of the original glass house was incorporated into the structure.

The greenhouse was used by the council to produce flora and fauna for all of the parks and open spaces in the City along with the roundabouts and council estates, Pennells nursery helped with this as it included outside.

If you have any old photographs of the greenhouse or any other part of Boultham Park please email us at :



boultham.park@lincoln.gov.uk



Sadly the Hall continued to deteriorate and in the spring of 1959 the roof had to be repaired to keep it water-tight, six months later and after a thorough survey it was decided, due to serious safety issues, to demolish the building



However the majority of the original glasshouse and the greenhouse remained intact.



The Council continued to use this Site right up to 1996 at which time the greenhouse was dismantled and moved to a site off Monks Road where it was eventually broken up.

Keep a look out
for Robert's next
instalment on the
lost features of
Boultham park



I must finish by thanking all of the people who contributed to this short article and for those who thought the dismantled greenhouse was given a new lease of life at The Lawn. I am sorry to say this did not happen as the Sir Joseph Banks Conservatory tropical house was constructed in 1989, 7 years before the Boultham Park greenhouse was dismantled.