

Great Nash

SM976102 OS 25" 2nd editions XXXIV.1 & 5 Llangwm

16th century mansion became a ruin and in the 17th century a new house was built close to it.

15th and early 16th century Nash family

Heiress Jane married Alban Philipps third son of Morgan Philipps of Picton Castle

mid 17th century Alban Philipps II married Dorothy Laugharne

A Dorothy (Laugharne? – the same?) married a Corbett from North Wales.

1670 Assessed for six hearths

1681 Erasmus Corbett married Anne Mathias of Llangwarren and their daughter Dorothy succeeded to Great Nash. She married Charles Owen, son of Sir Hugh Owen of Orielton.

Around this time a new house was built close to the earlier one which had vaulted undercrofts and steps up to the first floor. A surprising amount survives to the north west of the new house.

Their son Wyrriott married his cousin Anne Barlow of Lawrenny and they adopted the surname Barlow. Wyrriott died in 1773. Their son Hugh owned Great Nash in 1786 and died without issue in 1809.

At this point the estate was nearly 2500 acres.

In 1811 Fenton found the house in ruins with the land leased to a Thomas George. (FJ)

The house was shortly rebuilt. It is a long north to south rectangle with very thick walls (survivals of the 17C house?) facing east. Two staircases. It is (2004) occupied by a member of the Scale family which owns the farm.

Visit 12th October 2004 (GH, KBH and RJ)

A stone wall runs about 100m along the road and behind it is a mixed wood, bounded by stone walls, of more than an acre. The present owners have made an entrance to the north of the house with a drive curving through the wood to the yard east of the house.

Opposite the egress into the yard there is a 16C dovecote squeezed tightly between more modern farm buildings. It is a large stone cylinder with no openings to the E, N. or W. and with a stone conical roof. The roof has two layers of projecting stone slabs and here the entrances must have been although little can be seen from the ground especially as there are grass and weeds in profusion. To the south walls have been built to the former entrance for farming needs; this low entrance has been blocked up with bricks to mid height so that access is virtually impossible. It is very dark within. The owner states that it is similar to the dovecote at Rosemarket.

To the south of the house is the kitchen garden with orchard. There is a foot entrance near the SW corner of the house past a ruined stone building (potting shed, Bothy?) with fireplace in the corner. It evidently had quite a high roof. The stone walls of the garden are variously intact from the entrance to the NW corner and much of the way down the west side though no coping survives or convincing signs of glasshouse. The south and east walls are much reduced and the eastern half of the north wall is formed by a farm building. Some apple trees are fruiting.

Sensitive information:

On the house terrace is a much-overpainted fern motif cast iron bench, with modern wooden slats forming the seat, probably Coalbrookdale. It requires paint stripping before repainting.

Western Telegraph 8th September 2004 *Working in harmony with nature* re conservation by the owner
Colour photograph of the house
Two colour photographs of the dovecote