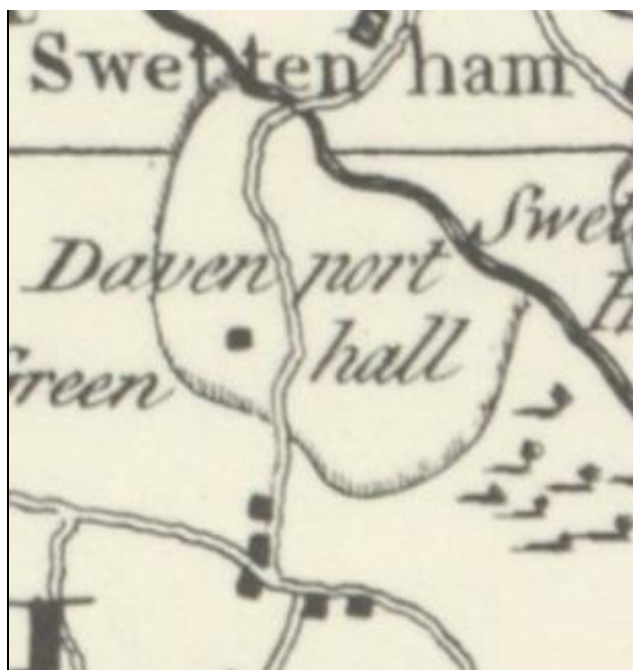


SITE NAME:	Davenport Hall				
Address	Davenport Park Lane, Brereton Heath, Congleton CW12 4ST				
Unitary Authority:	Cheshire East (former Congleton B.C.)				
Parish:	Brereton CP				
Location:	c. 4 km ESE of Holmes Chapel				
Grid Ref:	662 794				
Owner:	Mr. and Mrs. Mackintosh				
Recorder:	IBW	Date of Site Visit	16/11/2014 PRO only	Date of Report:	03/06/2015

Maps:

Parkland associated with Davenport Hall:



A) 1777 Burdett's **park enclosure** extends to the river Dane and includes much **land E** of the hall and the road leading North.

(www.cheshirehistory.org.uk)

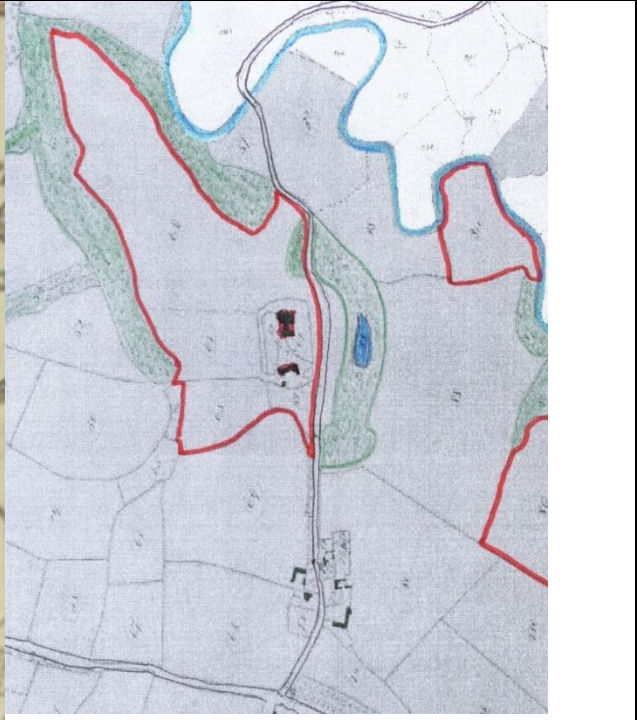
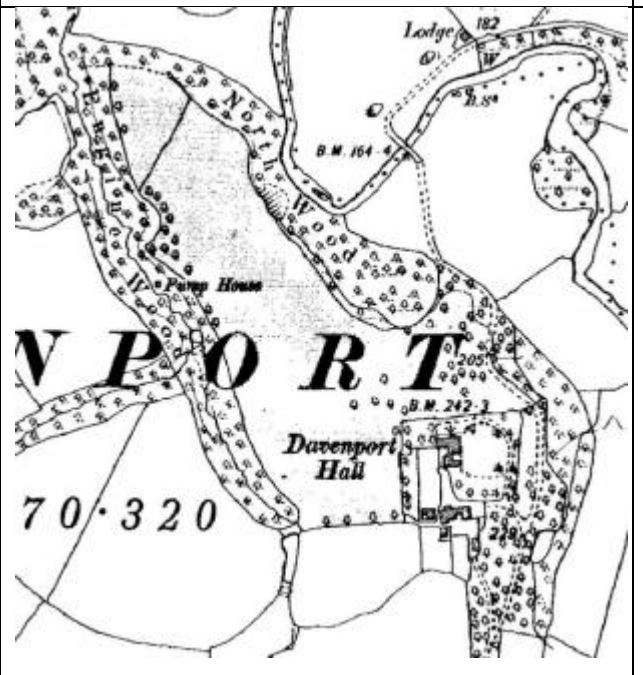


B) 1819 Greenwood also indicates **land E** of the road as parkland which extends southwards to the A54 road.

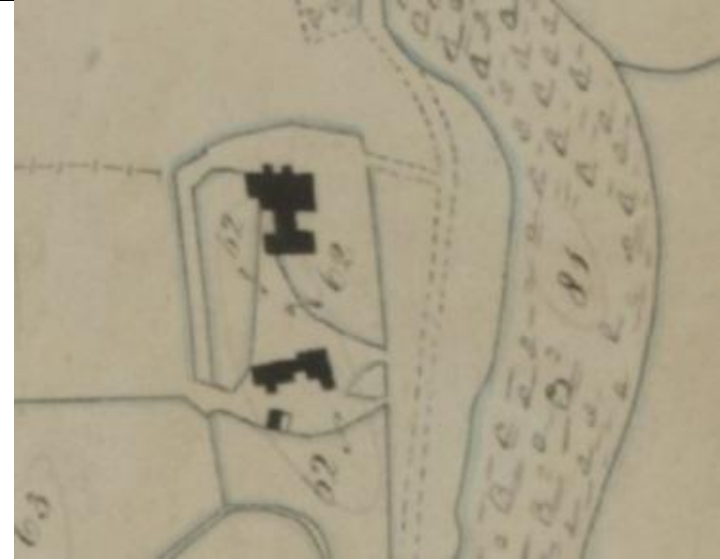
A **lodge** is shown at the crossroads.

(www.cheshirehistory.org.uk)

Parkland apparently decreases in size during the 19th century:

	
C) 1831 Bryant The parkland is limited to the W plateau, but includes the woodland escarpments and part of the valley E of the road. (www.cheshirehistory.org.uk)	D) 1839 Tithe Map ----: the lease-holder's park is limited to 22 acres of pasture and 7 of arable land on the W plateau. Additional fields of pasture/meadow lie further E. All woodland is controlled by the owner. (www.maps.cheshire.gov.uk/tithemaps; colour IBW)
	
E) 1910 Ordnance Survey As in 1839, the W plateau remains the hall's park, including one of the former arable fields. N Lodge built c.1846 (N of river Dane). Trees have been established: • along the W edge of 'Engine Wood', • NW and N of the hall, • on the escarpment SE of the hall. (www.maps.cheshire.gov.uk/tithemaps)	F) 2014 Aerial photograph Google Maps The W plateau retains its parkland aspect: woodlands on escarpments surround a large meadow with sheep grazing. Single trees appear to be of recent planting. Ownership of the W plateau is to be confirmed. Part of the park area N of the hall is now incorporated into the re-designed N garden. (©Bluesky, Map data © 2014 Google)

Gardens were modified during the 19th century (tenure of the Tipping family)

	G) 1839 Tithe map, detail of plot 62: “Davenport Hall, outbuildings, yards, gardens, pleasure grounds“, 3 acres. Hall and stables lie within a rectangular enclosure of straight and curved lines walls(?). The enclosure may suggest an origin as a medieval fortified site. Within the enclosure lies what is likely to be a walled kitchen garden. ‘Pleasure grounds’ probably refers to a garden E of the hall, and the plot S of the stables. (www.maps.cheshire.gov.uk/tithemaps)
	H) 1875 Ordnance Survey, detail The layout has been modified: • W, N and E: the gardens have been enlarged and enclosed with straight walls or fencing. • The walled kitchen garden contains a bothy or glasshouse. • The garden by the hall’s E elevation contains a border, lawn and shrubs. • S: 2 short drives branch off the road: to the hall’s N elevation (as in 1839), and to the S stable yard and a new block of servants’ accommodation. A plantation screens this area from the road. (www.maps.cheshire.gov.uk/tithemaps)
	J) 1909 Ordnance Survey, detail Changes since 1875: • Access - The N entry has been closed. - A new S drive has been established from the road; it leads straight to the stable yard. • The walled kitchen garden contains 3 glasshouses. - The western-most garden is planted with a line of trees, including conifers. (CD:OS Maps of Cheshire, published by the Family History Society of Cheshire)

Gardens



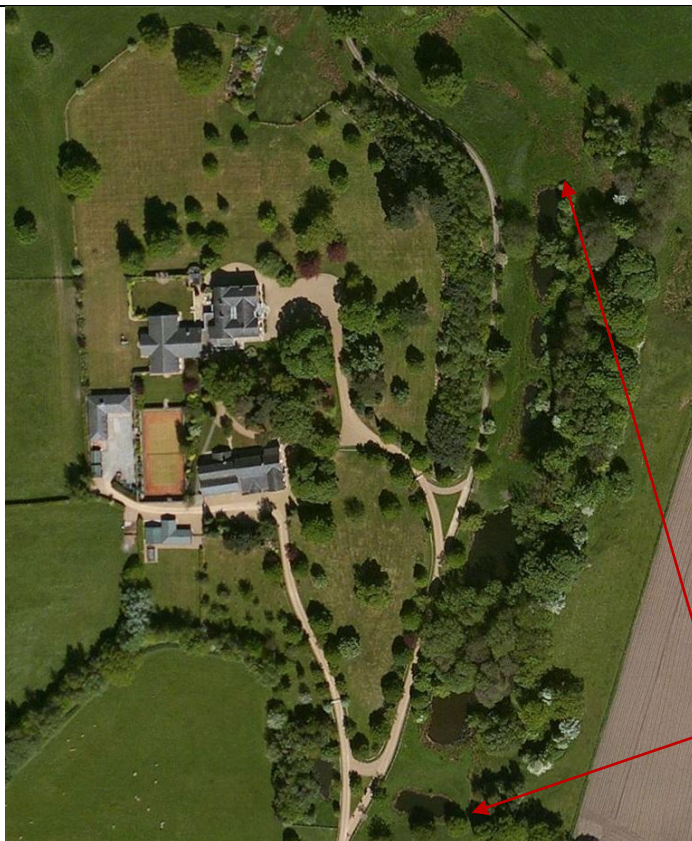
K) early 1990s: Davenport Hall Farm

The N wing of the hall appears to have been **demolished** – as have the N and E garden boundaries.

The **walls** of the kitchen garden and the W strip garden remain. Both gardens are put to grass.

Although some trees remain in the former E garden and N of the hall, many **trees** have **disappeared** – not only between stables and road, but also on the W (hall-side) of the escarpment and the valley bottom.

(Aerial photograph 1992-3 County Survey, © CCC, courtesy of Cheshire Historic Environment Record)



L) 2014 aerial photograph

Hall: The old hall seems to remain as the E wing, with modern **extensions** added on its N, W and S.

Gardens:

W: The **walled kitchen garden** contains a tennis court and a cruciform building linked to the hall.

Part of the **W strip garden** contains an L-shaped building, which appears to be part of the converted **stables** complex.

- The former **E** and **S gardens** are now linked to the considerably enlarged and enclosed **N garden**, and **unified** by a coherent planting style.

A new **approach** to the hall's E elevation bisects the former E garden.

- Much **shrub/tree planting** has taken place on the escarpment W of the road and the E valley.

- Creation of a large landscape feature, the **cascade of 7 ponds** in the E valley.

(www.bing.co.uk)

Pictures:



1) Davenport Hall ?

Neither provenance nor date are given, but the topography, situation of the hall and its enclosure walls may represent the site in the early C19.

(miller-aanderson.blogspot.co.uk)

2) Coat of arms of the **Davenports**, **crest** of a bandit's head in a noose.

(<http://www.thornber.net/cheshire/htmlfiles/capesthorne.html>;
seen on a building in Marton).

3) The owners of Davenport Hall from 1806, and their residence



Lady Anne Beatrix Wilmot Horton
(<https://www.awesomestories.com>)



Catton Hall, S Derbyshire, today
(www.catton-hall.com)



Sir Robert John Wilmot Horton
(wikipedia)



4) St. Peter's Church Swettenham with the grey stone S aisle erected by Mrs. Tipping of Davenport Hall in 1846. (Photo IBW)



5) N lodge on the (N) Swettenham side of the bridleway and entrance to Davenport Hall property.



6) River Dane from Davenport Bridge, looking S: the 'North Wood' escarpment on the Davenport side.



7) The lower slopes on the Davenport side. The arrow marks the site of the lowest cascade pond.



8) The public byway winds uphill, with a glimpse of Davenport Hall's N elevation.



9) Part of the cascade of 7 ponds, looking North across the valley of the Dane to Swettenham.



10) The lowest pond of the cascade, an example of the varied planting by the pond's far (E) side.

Please note that this report contains the research and recording information available to Cheshire Gardens Trust at the time. It does not purport to be the finite sum of knowledge about the site as new information is always being discovered and sites change.

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