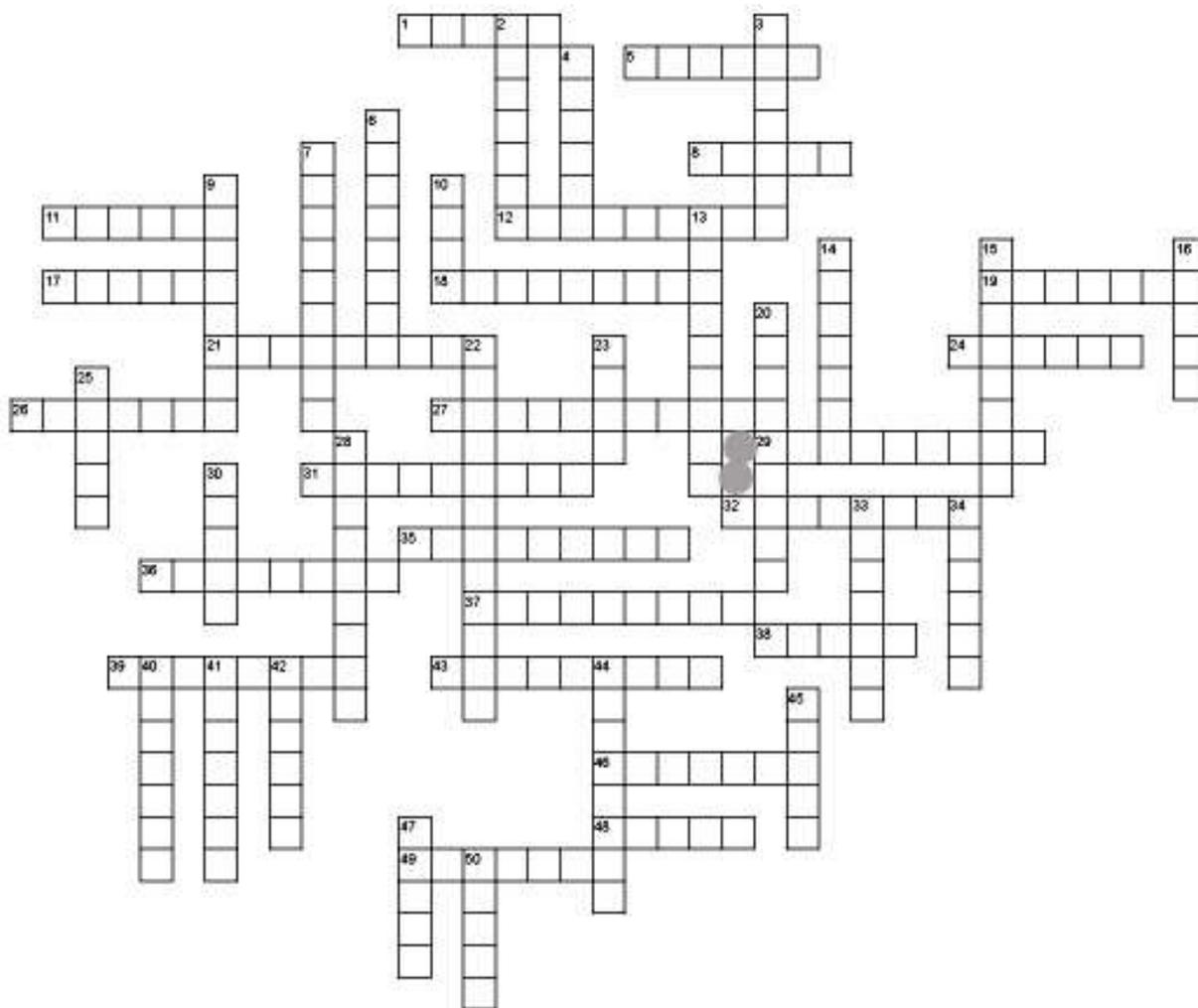


Derwent Village Ladybower Geocross V73 Revision C

4 September 2025

No contact geocaching and crossword

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To solve this crossword puzzle you need to visit the 17 locations of the main feature in the following photographs. **This will be impossible except in a very dry year, because most of the locations are usually underwater.**

You will need the what3words app (W3W) on your GPS device. Using your GPS device held over the main feature you then get the what3words address. You will probably have to move around to find the W3W square containing the 'word' provided.

Save all the words and eventually fit the words to the crossword grid.

There are just three crossword clues. Find these words first, then fit all the other words to the grid. There may be more than one solution.

Clues

3 DOWN getting close

30 ACROSS bushes

40 DOWN common

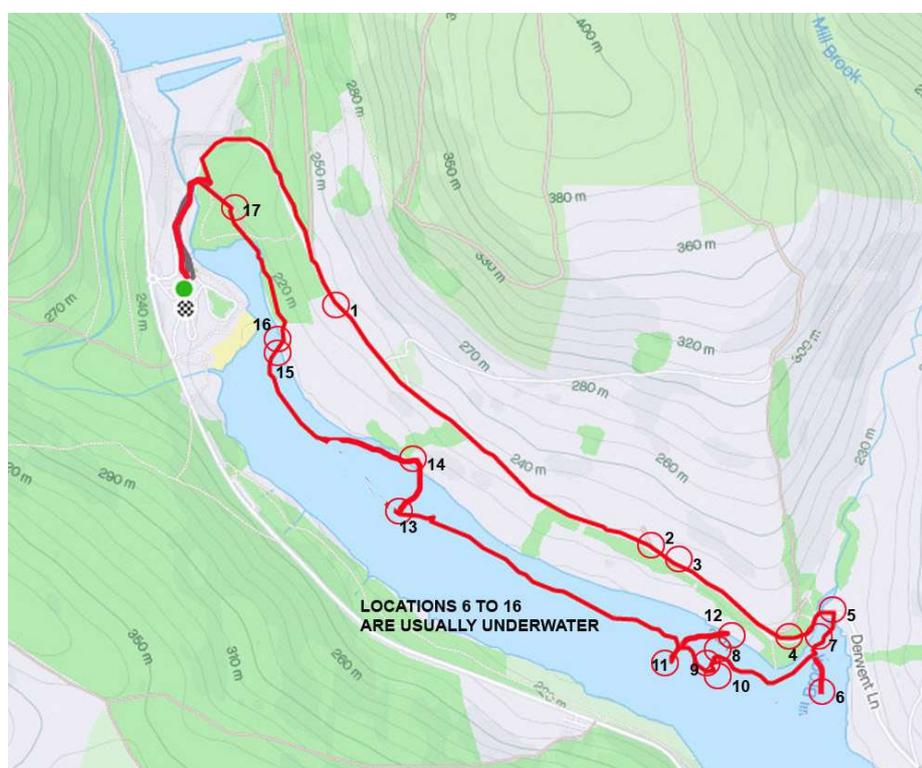
The GPS on mobile phones can be imprecise. This can mean that multiple devices very close to each other might show different 3 word addresses, not because the 3 word addresses of your actual location is different but because the devices each think they are in slightly different places. Each location is a grid square 3x3 metres.

In order to help you ensure that you obtain the correct three word (W3W) address, the first word in the W3W is provided as a clue. You may need to walk around the main feature into different 3 x 3 metre grid squares to find the correct W3W address.

E.g. Let's assume that you are at a location given by the W3W address thick.verge.commented and you are told the first word of the W3W address is the word "thick". You now know you have found the right one.

Location	OS grid reference	W3W		
		First word	Second word	Third word
1	SK 17539 89312	intruding	typical	lawyer
2	SK 18167 88844	tuned	shuttered	octagon
3	SK 18215 88808	amuses	highlighted	surveyed
4	SK 18478 88656	test	decay	showering
5	SK 18538 88704	absorbs	handy	shrubbery
6	SK 18469 88500	prance	stones	stoppage
7	SK 18517 88662	treat	reefs	socket
8	SK 18300 88616	frostbite	ushering	trousers
9	SK 18297 88604	strapping	downsize	roaring
10	SK 18297 88587	brambles	require	spice
11	SK 18201 88604	eradicate	nearing	flop
12	SK 18336 88641	indicated	breached	lushly
13	SK 18716 88392	encourage	trip	taxed
14	SK 17682 89015	faces	canal	redouble
15	SK 17498 89075	processes	headstone	beaks
16	SK 17474 89138	professed	panting	estate
17	SK 17328 89536	arrival	gain	clouding

Each of the locations can be found on the route below. The locations are listed in order and sufficient background is included to help you triangulate your position to identify the location. Location 4 is hidden under trees and locations 6 to 16 can only be visited in a very dry year, so all three words are given above.



Start from Fairholmes car park.

Location 1 OS ref SK 17539 89312

Derwent village public telephone kiosk

W3W intruding.typical.lawyer



A much loved historic telephone box, Many walkers have been glad to use it to tell their family that they have safely returned from the moors. Just two rings, no need to answer.

The iconic red telephone box was designed by Sir Giles Gilbert Scott. This is the sixth variant, the K6, manufactured from 1936. 35,000 were located throughout Great Britain.

The gate posts behind have the same ball topped posts as Derwent Hall. From the gate behind, a track leads down past the site of the Kitchen Garden, and on to the rear (trademans') entrance to Derwent Hall. This was the principal route for deliveries to Derwent Hall.

Location 2 OS ref SK 18167 88844

Shooting Lodge

W3W tuned.shuttered.octagon



The Shooting Lodge would have had kennels. The threatened fine of forty shillings, £2 in current terms, was a serious deterrant to anyone leaving the gates open. The consequences of the probable escape of many hungry dogs in a sheep farming community was unthinkable.

Location 3 OS ref SK 18215 88808

St Henry's RC Schoolrooms – roadside wall by belltower

W3W amuses.highlighted.surveyed



This was the Derwent Village Hall built by the Duke of Norfolk in 1877, which was also used as the Roman Catholic schoolrooms and had rooms for the schoolteacher. There were two school in Derwent, one RC for the Duke of Norfolk and his family and staff, and the other Church of England for the villagers. The ringing of the bell in the belltower used to call the village children to attend school.

Sadly, in World War 1, ten men of the Derwent Woodlands signed up and joined the army. All 10 were killed and are named on the War Memorial on the west bank, opposite Derwent Village.

After the disastrous loss of most of Derwent's young men there were few children in school.

St Henry's was the Duke of Norfolk's private Roman Catholic chapel, part of Derwent Hall.

The gate to St Henry's Cottage now has a friendly warning to visiting relatives.

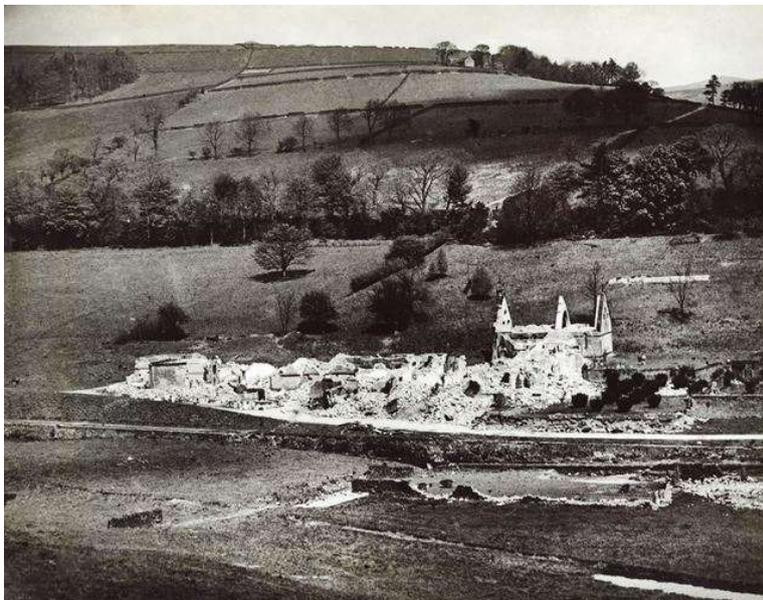
Location 4 OS ref SK 18478 88656

Vicarage gate pillars

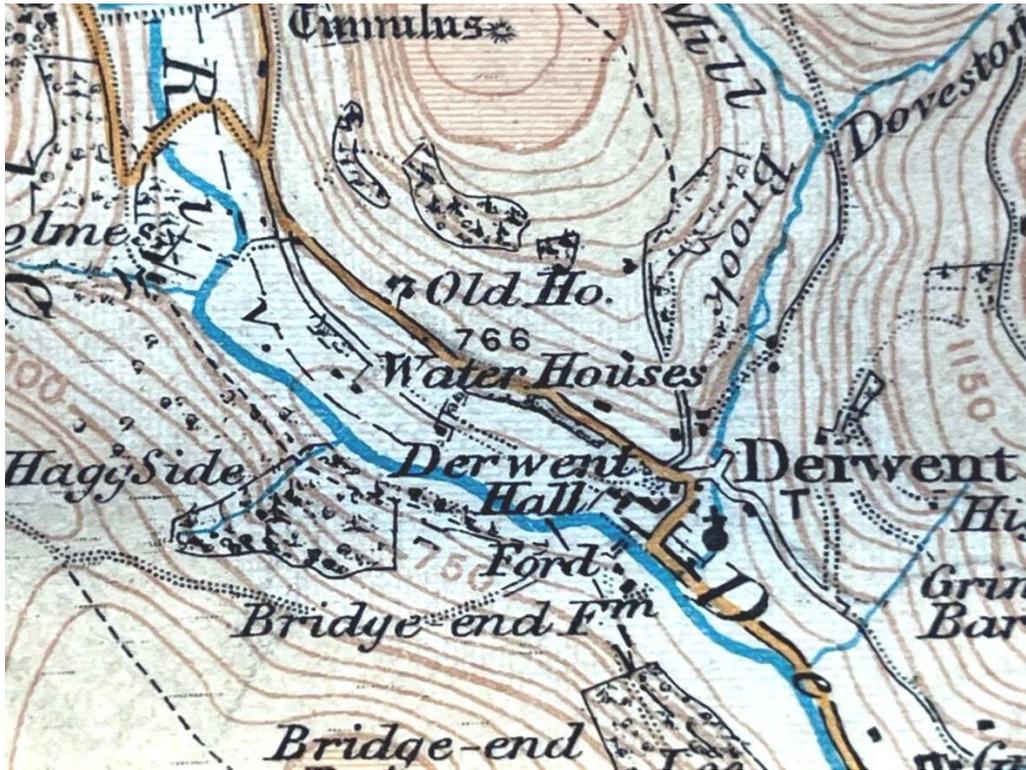
W3W test.decay.showering



The Vicarage was for the Derwent village church of St John and St James, and was demolished in the early 1940s as filling of the Ladybower Reservoir began. The rest of the Derwent Village houses that were to be submerged by the reservoir were also demolished before 1943.

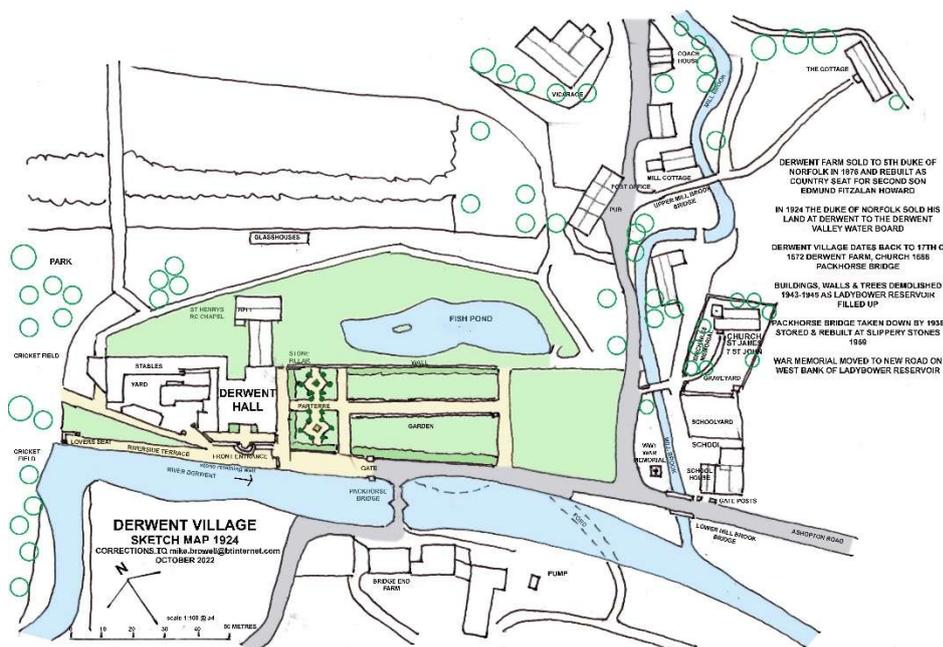


Demolition of Derwent Hall by Henry Boot and Sons. The site of the glasshouses can be seen higher up the bank.



This extract is from The Peak District OS map. It is the 1936 revision of the 1924 first edition. There is a 'Ford' named in Derwent Village, where the packhorse bridge used to stand, close to the gates of Derwent Hall. The bridge was first built in medieval times and was rebuilt in the 17th Century. It became a Scheduled Ancient Monument when reservoir construction was planned. It was carefully taken down prior to 1935, when construction of the Ladybower Reservoir began. Each stone was numbered, and put in store for later rebuilding. It was finally rebuilt at Slippery Stones and opened in 1959.

On this 1936 map Bridge End Farm no longer has a bridge, and the road to the bridge is shown dotted.



Location 6 OS ref SK 18469 88500

Church of St John & St James – date stone

W3W prance.stones.stoppage



Derwent was shown on OS maps as 'Derwent Chapel'. It did have an earlier Roman Catholic Chapel at the time when monks from Welbeck Abbey held services here. After Henry VIII Dissolution of the Monasteries in 1536 the chapel became Church of England, until the Church of St John and St James was built in 1688.

The first Derwent village church stood from 1688 to 1943. It was rebuilt in 1757 and again in 1867. The font was dated 1670 so predates the church, and it spent some time in the gardens of Derwent Hall before reappearing in the church by 1895.

The date stone in the rubble, after demolition of the church and spire in 1947, has a well carved date of 1867. This was the year of the last rebuild.

Most of the villagers of Derwent lived in a cluster near the Mill Brook bridge. The 1936 map show several small cottages close to the church and vicarage. Little of their remains can be seen today.

The church was partly demolished in 1943, but the spire was retained as a lasting memorial to Derwent Village. It proved too attractive a challenge to young people who could swim out to it, so it was totally blown up in 1947.

Location 7 OS ref SK 18517 88662

Upper Mill Brook bridge in Derwent Village

W3W treat.reefs.socket



The height of the Upper Mill Brook village bridge is about three metres below the new road. It is usually submerged.

In very dry years the first piles of ruined stone masonry become visible from this point. These are remains of village houses. As the water level recedes, the rubble of the church emerges, and the remains of Derwent Hall.

The church tower of St James and St Johns was originally left intact after flooding of the valley was completed in 1945. However, this most prominent landmark attracted adventure seeking swimmers and was blown up in 1947 to protect the safety of visitors.

Location 8 OS ref SK 18300 88616

Derwent Hall ruins - lintel

W3W frostbite.ushering.trousers



Derwent Hall started as a modest farmhouse built in medieval times and bought in 1672 by Henry Balguy who farmed at The Hagg, just over the hill to the west. His son (Henry) rebuilt it in 1692 as a small H plan Manor House. The property passed to a third Henry Balguy, who acquired coal mines through marriage, and moved to become a coal miner in Alfreton in 1767. He sold it in 1767 to the Bennet family who were a large farming family in the Dark Peak.

In the early 1800s the purchaser's son John Bennet made further improvements to the farmhouse, including ornamental gardens and terraces.

In 1831 he sold the farm to John Read who used it as a summer retreat and reorganised the gardens.

In 1846 Read sold Derwent Hall to the Newdigates of West Hallam Hall, who let it out to farming tenants.

They then sold it in 1876 to Henry 5th Duke of Norfolk. The Duke built a new country seat for his second son, Edmund Fitzalan Howard, known as Howard of Derwent.

This was to be the last great leap forward for what began as a simple rural village farm.

The Dukes of Norfolk owned a lot of land around Sheffield and were very wealthy. Henry appointed a visionary architect, Joseph Aloysius Hansom, who transformed it into a grand hall, an 'Elysium amongst the dark hills above Derwent'. His grand country seat, although smaller, was a match to the nearby country seats of the Duke of Devonshire and Duke of Rutland. It was completed in 1882.

The Duke of Norfolk sold the land to the Derwent Valley Water Board in 1924. His family continued to use Derwent Hall until 1932. It was used as a Youth Hostel from 1931, and then sold under a Compulsory Purchase Order to become a school in 1940 – 1941.

Demolition took place in 1943 by Sheffield builder Henry Boot & Sons. Substantial parts of the best interior décor went to Charles Boots' country estate of Thornbridge Hall. A pair of 17th Century gate piers with wrought iron gates are now at Woodthorpe Hall, Holmesfield. Some wood panelling went to Nottingham and Derby Council HQs.

Derwent Hall was lost when the building was demolished in 1944 to allow the filling of Ladybower Reservoir. The few remaining pieces of finely detailed stonework hint at the huge statement of wealth that Derwent Hall represented. Most of the best pieces were salvaged and went to other grand buildings.

Location 9 OS ref SK 18297 88604

Derwent Hall - fireplace

W3W strapping.downsize.roaring



This fireplace base is close to St Henry's Roman Catholic private chapel at the south east corner of Derwent Hall. The upper part, the chimney breast is lying close by. The pillar behind was in the south garden. It is surprising that these items of high quality stonework were not salvaged prior to demolition.

Lying nearby are stones of a distinctive orange coloured gritstone, used for the chapel.

Location 10 OS ref SK 18297 88587

Garden pillar

W3W brambles.require.spice



This was a garden pillar within the south facing gardens of Derwent Hall. The high quality geometric carving was typical of Joseph Aloysius Hansom's vision of an 'Elysium'. It seems likely that the mason was not a local man. This was at a time when Derbyshire masons had lost their market for millstones, and the skilled local stone workers had few opportunities to refine their skills.

Location 11 OS ref SK 18201 88604

Garden seat overlooking the former River Derwent

W3W eradicate.nearing.flop



Similarly elaborate masonry to create a simple riverside seat on the banks of the River Derwent. These were flanking walls below which was an L shaped bench seat. Also called 'The Lovers Seat', a couple could sit here privately, well screened from views from the hall.

Location 12 OS ref SK 18336 88641

Greenhouses

W3W indicated.breached.lushly



Facing south-west for maximum sunlight, these gasshouses may have been heated. The walls are much simpler in construction than the rest of the architecture of Derwent Hall, suggesting that these were added to the gardens as an afterthought. They would have produced flowers and exotic fruit for the Hall.

Location 13 OS ref SK 17663 88905

Kitchen Garden and Water House – end of diagonal path

W3W encourage.trip.taxed



The Water House is one of two built close to the river. This one was living accommodation for the Derwent Hall gardeners. The ground floor timber floors have rotted and the exposed cellars are visible. Overnight security of the gardens would have been important.



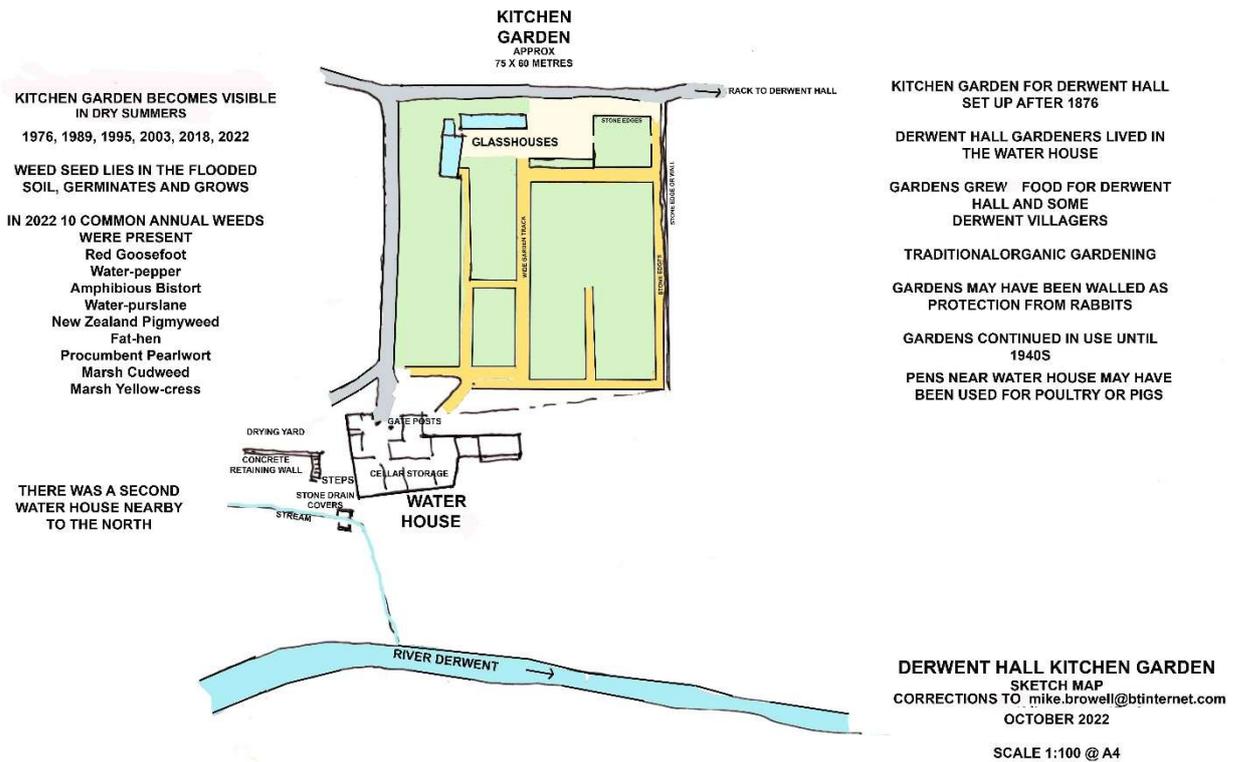
Garden layout



Greenhouse remains

Derwent Hall would have needed fresh produce year round. Only the most wealthy landowners could afford the labour needed to maintain a well tended kitchen garden.

The beds are arranged in a simple geometric square, and are laid out between stone edged paths, possibly gravel surfaced.



The vegetation visible in September 2022 after a long dry summer defines the topsoil cultivated areas and the gravel paths. It is interesting because all the emergent annual species are from seed which has lain submerged for 20 years. Most reservoirs have a draw-down margin where the waterline recedes over summer and new vegetation establishes in tidal bands. It then has a short season for flowering and seeding before gradually becoming inundated by rising water levels.

This Kitchen Garden is different. It spends many years deeply submerged beneath 6 metres of water, then, being flat, suddenly emerges when the water level drops. It begins as waterlogged soil but rapidly dries out and seeds germinate, flower and seed. Then as water levels rise, these gardens suddenly disappear below water for another few years.

Derwent Village emerged in 1976, 1989, 1995, 2003, 2015, 2018 and 2022.

The common weeds present in 2022 were all annuals, and in order of quantity:-

- | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Red Goosefoot | Oxybalis rubra |
| Water-pepper | Persicaria hydropiper |
| Amphibious Bistort | Persicaria amphibia |
| Water-purslane | Lythrum portula |
| Silverweed | Potentilla anserina |
| New Zealand Pigmyweed | Crassula helmsii |
| Fat-hen | Chenopodium Album |

Procumbent Pearlwort

Sagina procumbens

Marsh Cudweed

Gnaphalium uliginosum

Marsh Yellow-cress

Rorippa palustris

These were identified by horticultural expert John Middleton, a specialist in Derbyshire reservoir drawdown flora. It is worth noting that there were very few grass species present. Grass seed ripens over summer and is dispersed locally.

The Derwent Hall Head Gardener would have been mortified to find so many annual weeds infesting his finely cultivated gardens. In his day there would be no use of modern chemicals, just manuring, weeding, fallowing and a lot of hand digging. He would however have been pleased to see that his gardens have been preserved by flooding, and did not revert to sheep pasture.

South of the 'Water House' was a walled paddock possibly for ponies or donkeys to pull carts of produce for delivery to Derwent Hall. Or it may have been a pig sty, or poultry pens.

There was a coal fired heated glasshouse in the north-east corner. Various cut off stumps suggest there might have been ornamental small trees, possibly yew as topiary.

Location 14 OS ref SK 17682 89015

Derwent Hall rear access road

W3W faces.canal.redouble



The access drive was gated and locked, and gate posts are wide enough for deliveries by cart and later lorries. This lane continued into the north side of Derwent Hall, the 'tradesmans' entrance'.

Location 15 OS ref SK 17498 89075

Gate post

W3W processes.headstone.beaks



The land not used for Derwent Hall and its gardens continued under farmland management until the reservoir was filled in 1944.

In a dry year remnants of gates and drystone field walls can be seen.

Location 16 OS ref SK 17474 89138

Twin pipe aqueduct east end

W3W professed.panting.estate



The water from the higher Howden and Derwent Reservoirs is carried in twin pipes by gravity flow to the Bamford Water Treatment Works. On the way it has to cross the River Derwent from east to west, and later the newly filled Ladybower Reservoirs on an eight metre high pipe bridge.

Location 17 OS ref SK 17328 89536

Nature trail mole

W3W arrival.gain.clouding



The open woodland east of Fairhomes car park has become a Nature Trail. Not as well used as it should be, and it might be used more if car-parking overflowed from Fairholmes onto this well-screened area.