

Orchid Glasshouses

The building of glasshouses marked a new period in time, one in which they were a 'must have' toy to denote wealth of the social elite and aristocracy. With the repeal of the glass tax in the mid 19th century they became more common among the middle classes. Coinciding with the repeal, was a phenomena known as 'orchid mania' that was gripping greater Europe and North America. Glasshouses were more often than not associated with growing exotic plants, of which orchids constituted a substantial part. Many of the following glasshouses became world renown for their display of exotic flora. The glasshouses provided a controlled environment from insect pests and diseases, allowed for habitat replication and a comfortable environment for nursery workers. Here the orchid admirers could view species without travelling long distances to often unhealthy and hostile environments.

Scope:

A range of glasshouses principally for growing orchids that come from both tropical and temperate zone climates. Some are well known while others are in private hands or no longer exist.

Glasshouse display of exotic orchids from South America
at Orchid Jungle , Miami Florida



● *Chromolithograph Viking Lithographers Inc Miami Florida Circa 1970
Postcard with a detachable entry ticket Rare with ticket still attached*

Page 1	Title page	9	Magdeburg / Pauwels
2	Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens	10	Eden gardens Calcutta / Peradeniya Sri Lanka
3.	Fitzroy Gardens / Sydney Botanical Gardens	11	Buitenzorg / Bogor Orchid House
4	Kew Gardens Orchid Houses	12	Saigon Botanical Gardens
5	Kew Gardens / Sidcup Orchid House	13	Shaws St Louis / Mead Gardens Florida
6	Glasgow / Cambridge Botanical Gardens	14	White House Washington / Phipps Conservatory
7	Chamberlain's Glasshouses	15	Waldor / Julius Roehrs Companies
8	Palmengarten Frankfurt	16	Hope Gardens Jamaica / Thatchers Canal Zone

The Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens

Entrance to the Conservatory



Post card Ash Bester Kodak real photograph

Reverse - Kodak stamp in top right has 4, 5 pointed stars in corners - first seen in 1945

The conservatory was designed by Superintendent Ira Thornicroft and completed in 1939. The walls are built of sandstone salvaged from a demolished section of the Hobart General Hospital. The Gardens are the second oldest in Australia. Commenced in 1818, two years after those in Sydney.

Inside the Conservatory



Orchids

Post card Ash Bester Kodak real photograph Circa 1950

The Gardens first functioned as the Lieutenant Governor's Gardens with limited public visitation during the period 1828-34 when Superintendent William Davidson established the gardens. The conservatory has always maintained a collection of orchids that are regularly displayed along with other 'exotic' plants.

Fitzroy Gardens and Sydney Botanical Gardens

Fitzroy Gardens, Melbourne



Real photograph postcard July 1930

Fitzroy Gardens were named after Sir Charles Fitzroy (1796-1858), Governor of New South Wales from 1846-51 and Governor General of Australia colony 1851–55. The Fitzroy Gardens Orchid House was built in 1930, Spanish mission style architecture and measuring 30 x 15 metres. Originally costing £4000 to build.

Orchid Houses Botanical Gardens Sydney



The Orchid Houses, Botanical Gardens, Sydney, N.S.W.

Real photograph Swain & Co. Sydney Lithograph Posted 20 April 1905 Strathfield to Madrid.

The Sydney Royal Botanic Gardens are on a 30 hectare site on the fringe of the CBD. Opened in 1816 the Botanical Gardens were added to the New South Wales Heritage Register in April 1999. The orchid house, although modest, is always a frequent and popular attraction.

Kew Garden's Orchid House.

The Temperate House or Winter Garden, Kew



Real photograph Lithograph Undivided back Published by Gale & Polden Circa 1900

The largest Victorian glasshouse in the world and now a Grade 1 listed building. Designed by Decimus Burton, the building was begun in 1860 and opened to the public in 1863. Home to temperate plants from around the world including orchids.

One of the Orchid Houses Kew Gardens



Real photograph Lithograph Published by Gale & Polden Ltd Circa 1910

Kew is London's largest UNESCO World Heritage site. It possesses unique landscape and iconic architecture from every stage of its history. It is also the home of the largest and most diverse collection of orchids in the world. Many of the glasshouses are not open to the public due to the extreme rarity of the orchids.

Kew Gardens / Sidcup Orchid Houses

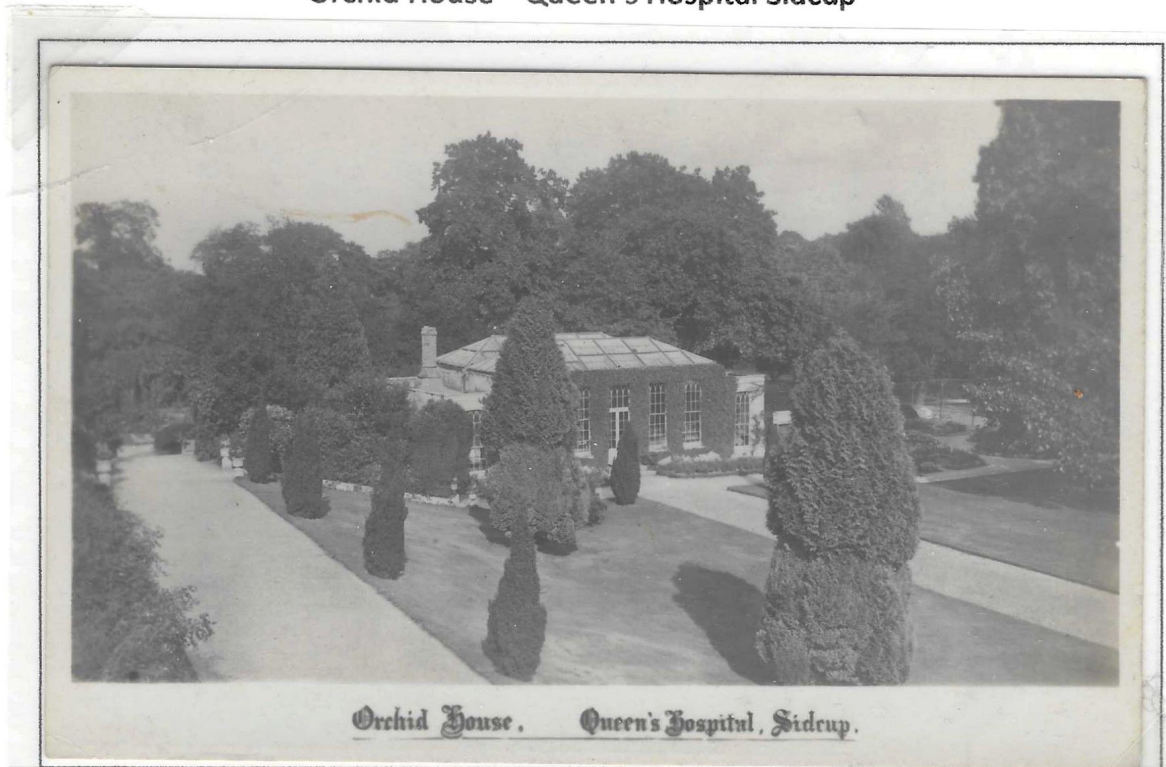
Kew Gardens—Orchid House



Real photograph Lithograph Published by Ruskin Studio & Co. Posted 15 Dec 1908

On the 10th February 1913 considerable damage was done to three orchid houses with 30-40 panes of glass broken and considerable damage to valuable orchid specimens. Flowers and pots were strewn by the perpetrators who were never found. 'Votes for Women' leaflets were found suggesting involvement by suffragettes.

Orchid House—Queen's Hospital Sidcup

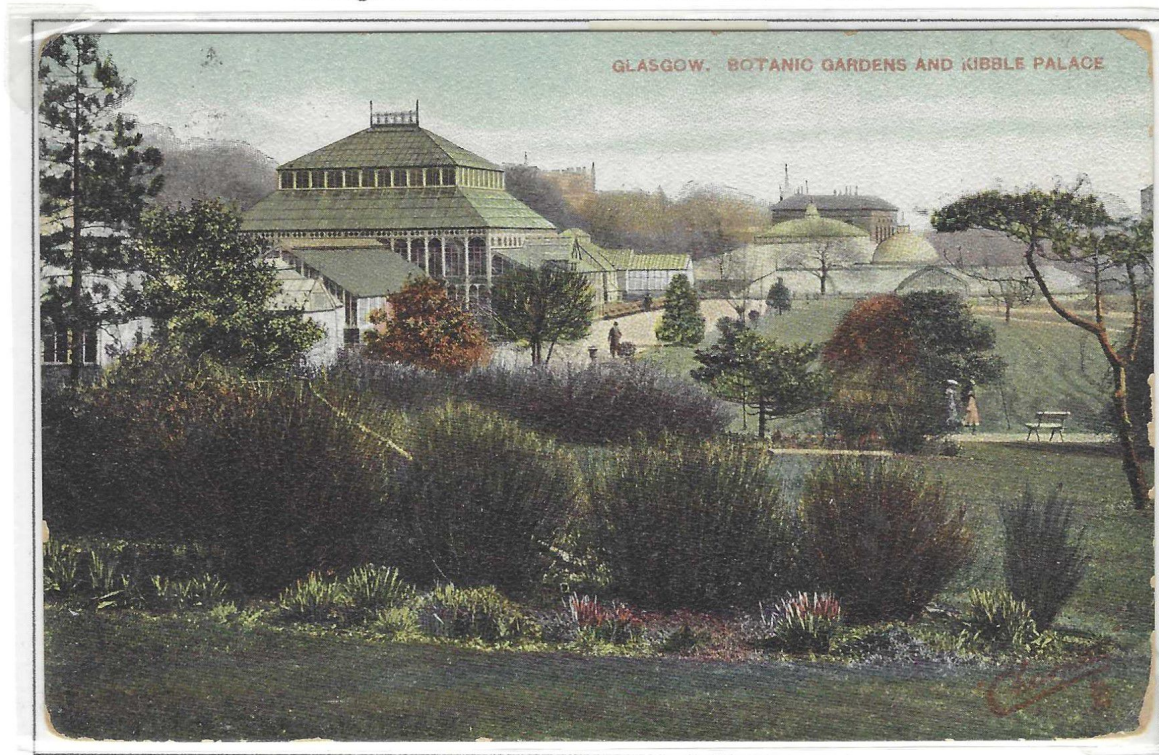


Real photograph Sepia Published by T Illingworth & Co. Circa 1917.

The orchid house was within the grounds of the Marsham-Townshend family property at Sidcup, south-east London. This property was sold to the government to establish the Queen Mary Hospital in 1917.

Glasgow Botanic Gardens and Kibble Palace.

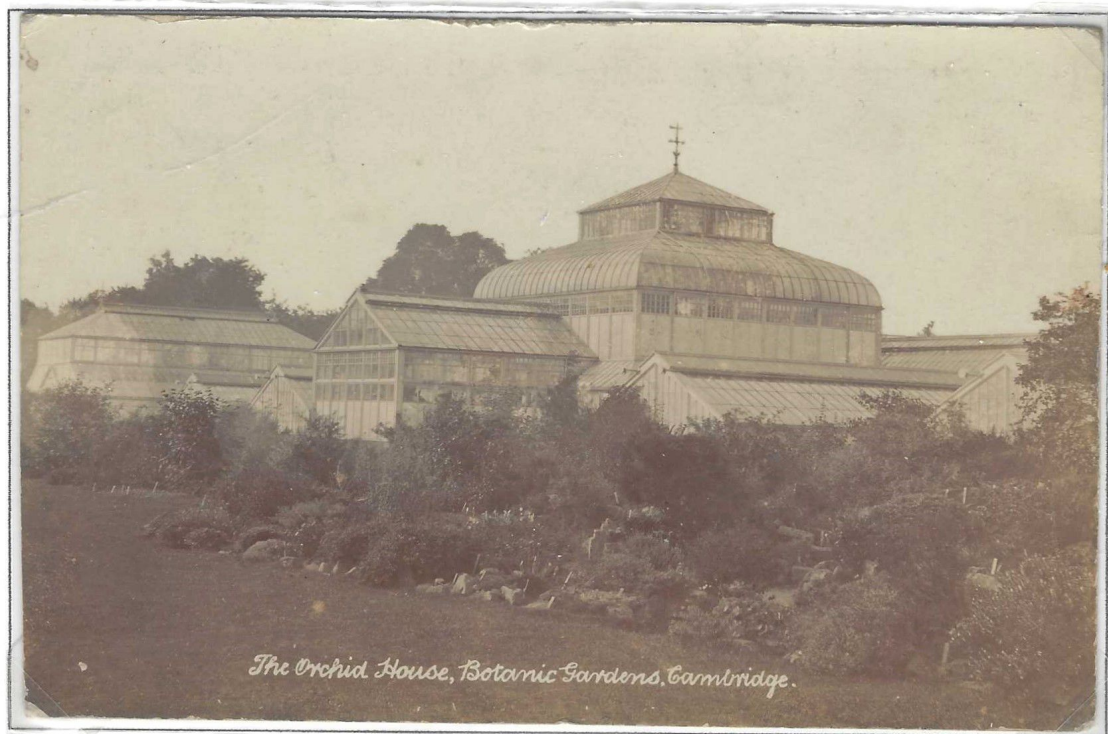
Glasgow Botanic Gardens and Kibble Palace



● Real photograph. Chromolithograph. Pub. Raphael Tuck "Charmette" series Posted 1900

In 1817, 4 hectares of land was laid out and run by the Royal Botanic Institute of Glasgow. William Hooker was regius Professor of Botany at Glasgow University and substantially contributed to its development before being appointed to the Directorship of Kew Gardens. Kibble Palace is one of several glasshouses containing orchids.

The Orchid House, Botanic Gardens, Cambridge.

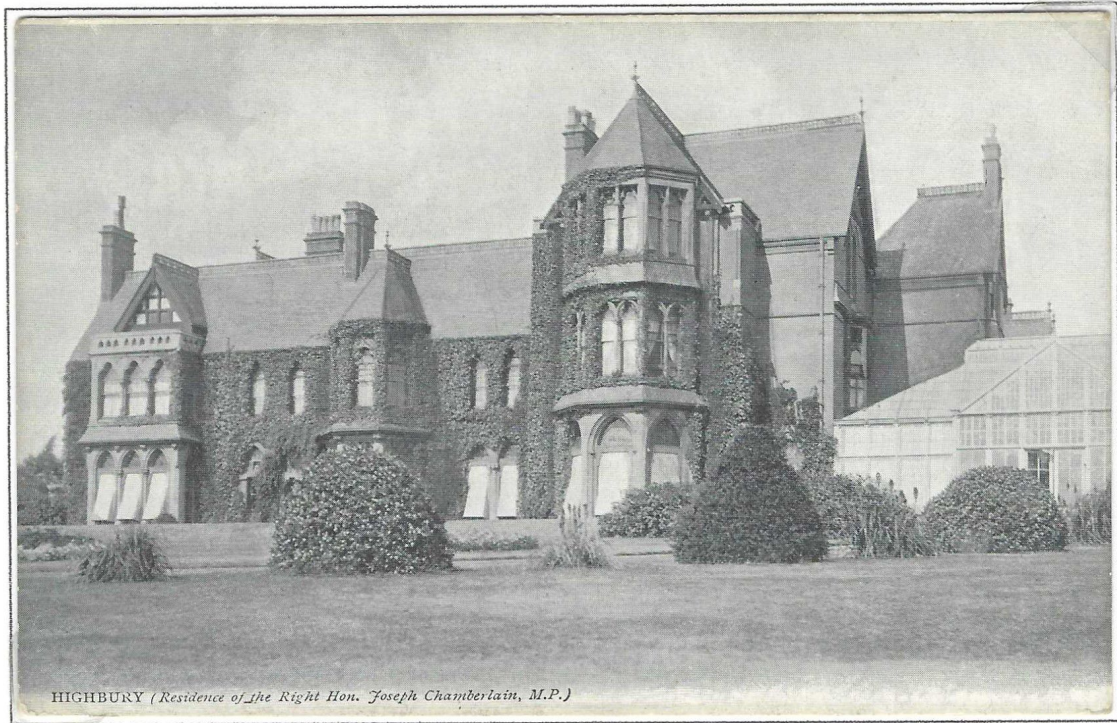


● Real photograph. Sepia. Publisher unknown. Circa 1910.

Mr R.I. Lynch, curator of the gardens from 1879 until 1919 built the first glasshouses. Grown within were a large variety of tropical orchids. John Henslow, Professor of Botany, 1825 to 1861, planted ideas regarding variations and nature of species in the mind of his protégé Charles Darwin. The gardens are heritage listed.

The Rt. Hon. Joseph Chamberlain's Glass Houses.

Highbury Residence of the Rt Hon Joseph Chamberlain MP Glass houses to the right hand side.



Real photograph Lithograph Publisher Mc Caw, Stevenson & Orr Ltd, Birmingham, London and Belfast.

In 1878 Joseph Chamberlain bought 14 hectares at Moor Green on the outskirts of Birmingham. By 1880 Chamberlain had moved into the newly built Highbury House to which was attached a glasshouse. Over time as the collection grew more glasshouses were added. Later on they were lit by electricity.



Interior of Highbury Orchid House

A staff of three gardeners tended the collection which was reputed to be the largest private collection of orchids in the United Kingdom. Orchids were transported on a daily basis to London when Chamberlain was sitting in Parliament. He was noted for wearing fresh orchids in his lapel.

*Real photograph. Chromolithograph.
Publisher William Haddon Tipton Gt. Britain.*

1:3 ,2:3 divided back. Circa 1905

Palmengarten Frankfurt



Orchids

● Photograuvre. Publisher unknown. Posted 31st August 1906

Palmengarten was designed by Heinrich Siesmayer and opened in 1871. Founders were Siesmayers and Actiengesellschaft. In 1931 the gardens were taken over by the City of Frankfurt. Palmengarten comprises 54 acres (22 hectares),

After WW2 the American Occupation Authorities returned the gardens into City hands. In 1992 a major reconstruction upgrade was completed.

The gardens continue to be a major tourist attraction of Frankfurt with the 'Palmenhaus' and its orchids and palms housed in the oldest and largest of the garden's buildings.



Frankfurt a. Main,
Palmengarten-Orchideen in Blüte.

● Real photograph . Publisher Trinks & Co. Leipzig Germany
Posted 4th November 1935

Glasshouse of Magdeburg



● Half tone photo-lithography Publisher W. Klautzsch Magdeburg

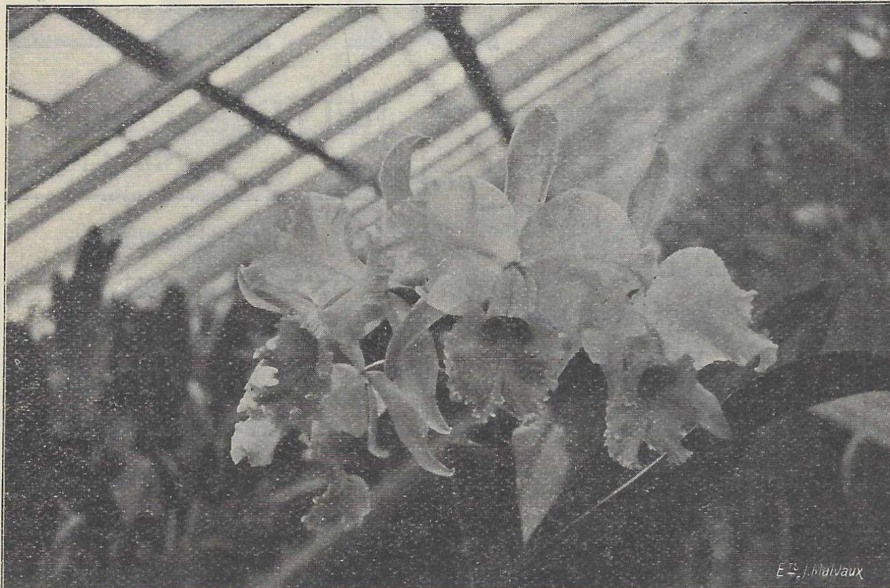
Built by Herman Gruson, an industrialist and plant collector, to house his exotic collection. He had nine glasshouses in all. The collection was bequeathed, in 1895 to the City of Magdeburg. Although damaged during WW2 the glasshouses have be restored.

Theodore Pauwels Glasshouse

THÉODORE PAUWELS

MEIRELBEKE-STATION-LEZ-GAND

Les plus hautes distinctions
à toutes les Expositions Internationales :
PRIX DU ROI — VAINQUEUR DES COUPES FIRMIN
LAMBEAU ET PRIX JULES HYE DE CROM AUX
MEETINGS HORTICOLES DE BRUXELLES " " "



ORCHIDÉES

.....
Importation

.....
Plantes établies

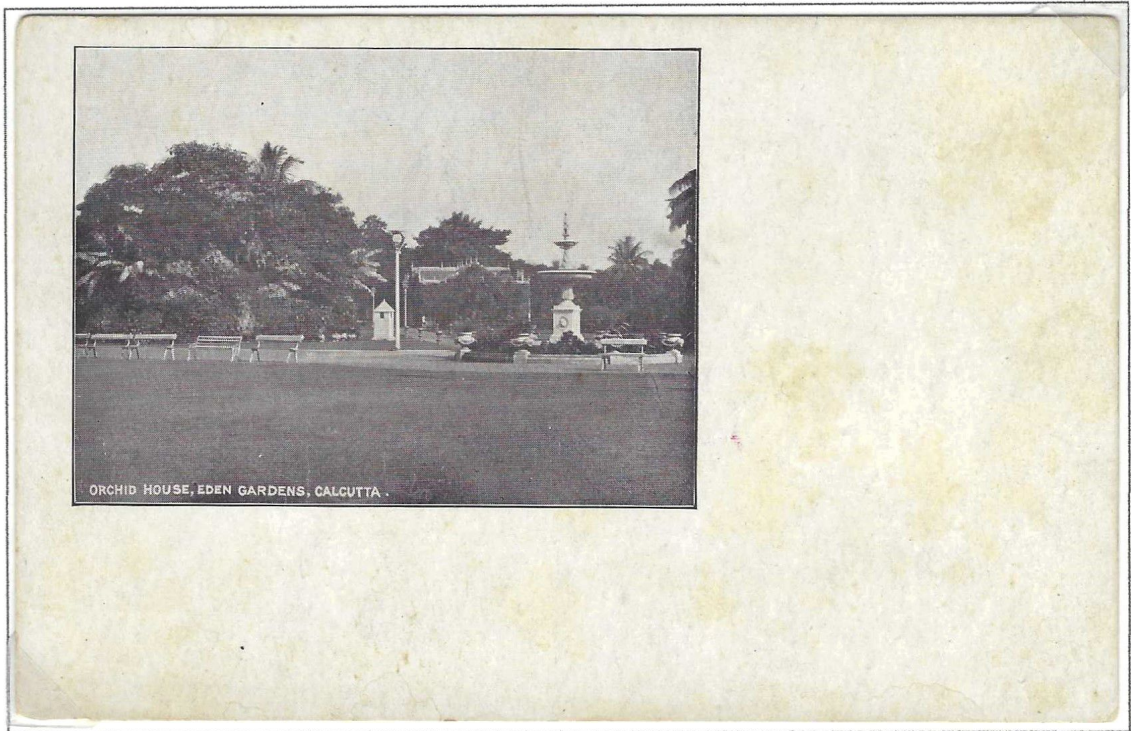
.....
Hybrides

.....
Fleurs coupées

● Original advertisement for 'Orchidees' circa 1910

This once famous glasshouse was destroyed just a few hours before the First World War armistice was signed.

Eden Gardens Orchid House Calcutta



Real photograph Lithograph Undivided back.

Developed at the height of 'gentility' of the British East India Company, on the grounds surrounding Fort William and commonly referred to as 'Green before the Court', Eden Gardens. It was the brainchild of George Eden, better known as Lord Auckland, Governor General of India from 1836 to 1842.

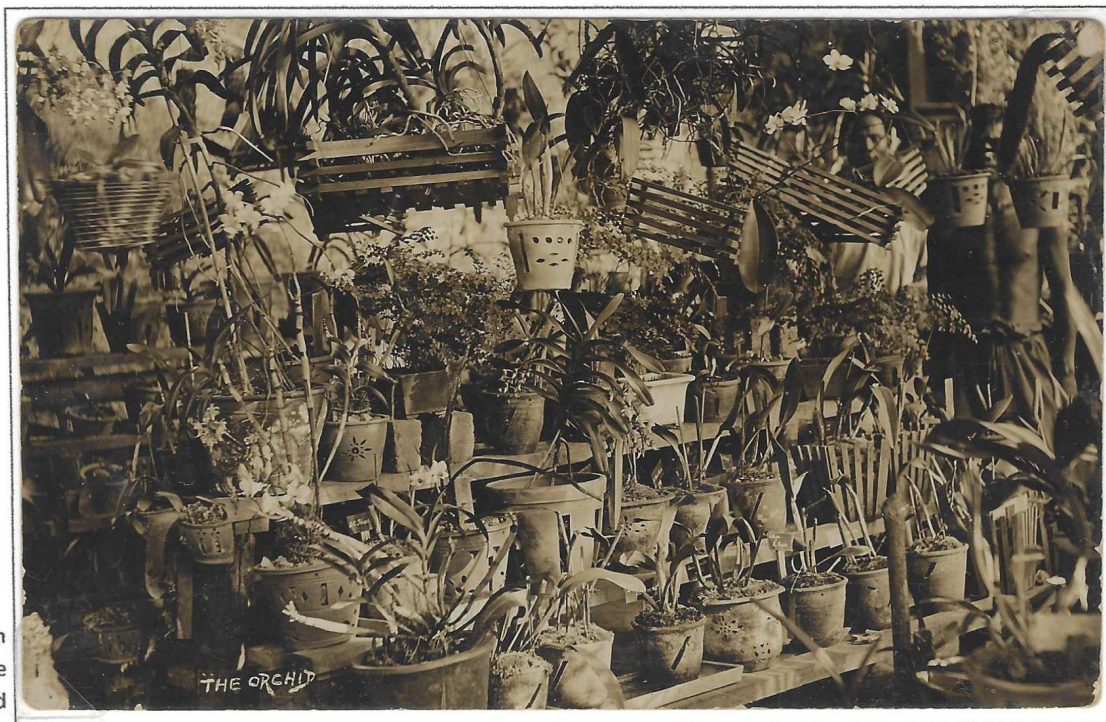
Botanical Gardens Orchid House Peradeniya Sri Lanka



Real photo chromolithograph. Published by Saimal Paper Craft Sri Lanka

The gardens and orchid house are a short distance from the centre of Kandy. Back in 1371, King Wickramabashu III established gardens at this location. In the 19th century the gardens were established with plants from Kew, Slave Island Colombo and Kalutara gardens where the orchid house is one of the most popular attractions within the precincts.

Buitenzorg Palace

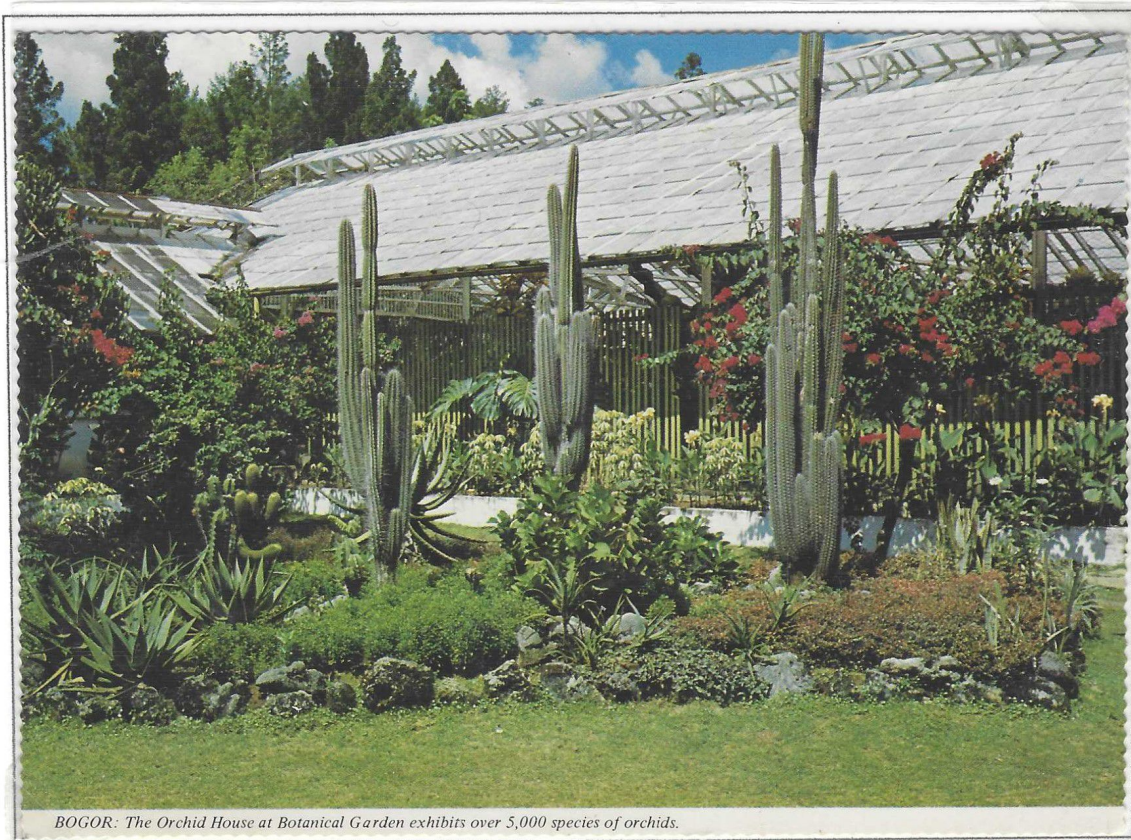


Damage is from
the print plate
and not post card

● Collotype postcard Publisher unknown Posted Weltevreden, Batavia, Java. 17th March 1924.

In 1811 after Britain's invasion of Java, Sir Stamford Raffles was appointed Governor General and took up residence at Buitenzorg Palace where he redeveloped English style gardens. Early collecting resulted in 500 species and 100 different orchid genera within the orchid houses. First established in 1796 with 14,000 plants in the 87 hectares. .

Bogor Orchid House



BOGOR: The Orchid House at Botanical Garden exhibits over 5,000 species of orchids.

Real photograph. Publisher Colour Master Card Centre

Professor C.G.C Reinwardt, a German botanist, was commissioned to write an 'Orchid House Guide'. In 1994 the orchid house was renovated and in 2009 an Orchidarium opened near the original Orchid House. The orchid house contains over 5000 orchid species.

Saigon Botanical Gardens



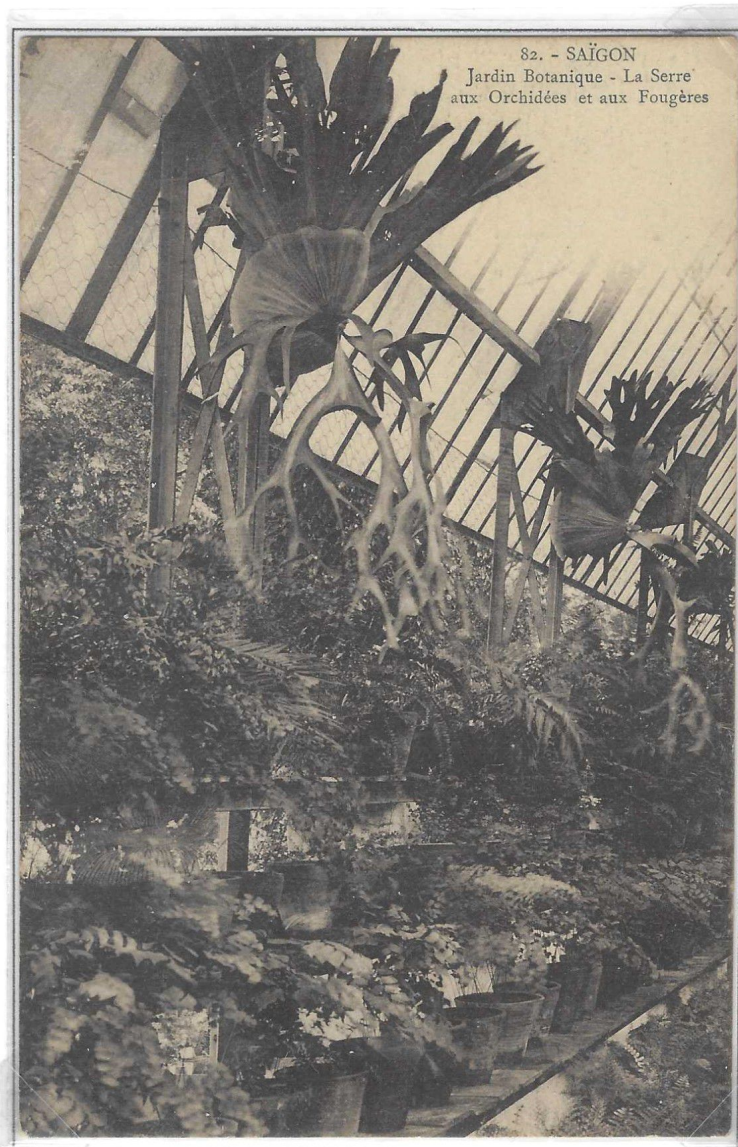
● *Real photograph Lithograph Publisher Albert Portail Saigon Divided back Posted 1937*

On March 23, 1864 Admiral Pierre-Paul de la Grandiere, Commander of the French forces in Cochinchina was commissioned to develop gardens in present day Ho Chi Minh City.

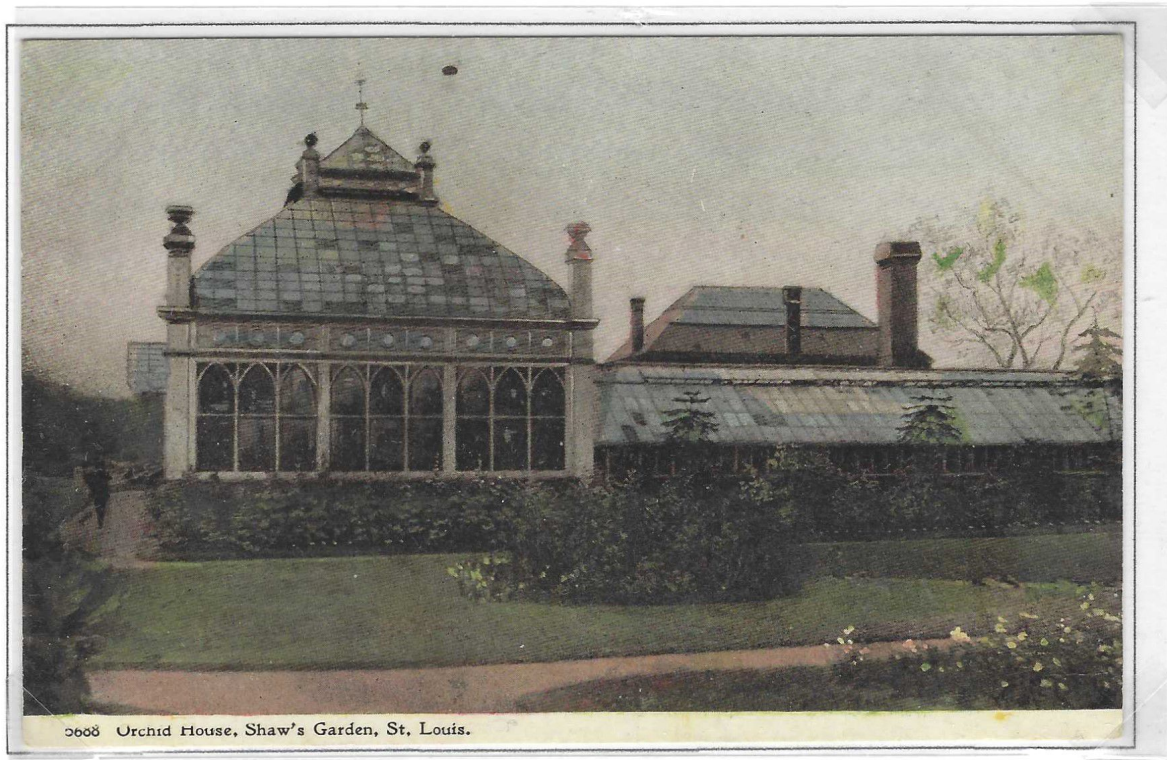
The Zoo and Botanical Gardens are divided into an animal conservation area, plant conservation area and an orchid garden.

There are many orchids endemic to Vietnam, a large portion having been placed on the world CITES list. The gardens have enjoyed a reputation for their fine collection of orchids

● *Real photograph Collotype
Pub Albert Portail Saigon
Divided back*



Shaw's Garden St Louis



Chromolithograph Adolph Selige Pub St Louise Hand coloured Circa 1905

Henry Shaw (1800-1889) planned, funded and built what would become Missouri Botanical Gardens, 1859, on land around his house. In 1868 he built the main conservatory and smaller greenhouse in 1880. The gardens became a leader in collecting and studying orchids. Due to pollution 1926 the collection was moved out of the city to the 2500 acres Shaw Nature Reserve.

Mead Botanical Gardens Florida



● *Real photograph Asheville Postcard Co North Carolina Circa 1921*

Theodore Mead (1886-1936) focused on hybridization of orchids and experimenting with germinating orchid seeds in flasks. John Connery, Mead's protégé, inherited the vast collection. Thanks to generous land donations, Connery established Theodore Mead Botanical Gardens Inc. in 1937, to house the collection.

The White House Conservatories Washington DC



Real photograph Offset photochemical print 'phostint' Detroit Publishing Co Circa 1905 Divided back

During Theodore Roosevelt's time in the White House (1901-09), Mrs Roosevelt maintained an extensive collection of orchids. The first glasshouse was erected in 1860 and over the decades subsequent additions resulted in considerable expansion. Unfortunately the entire greenhouse complex was demolished in 1902 to make way for the construction of 'The West Wing'.

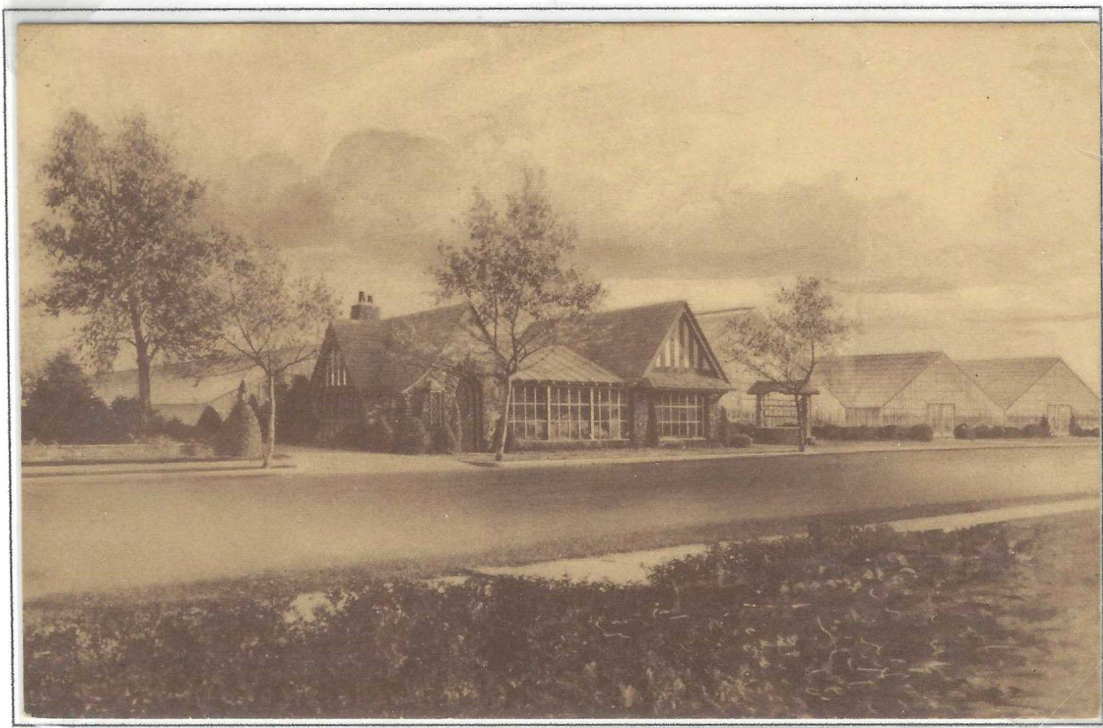
Phipps Conservatory Schenley Park



● *Real photograph post card Published by D A Feigley Pittsburgh Circa 1910 Divided back*

Phipps Conservatory was presented as a gift to the City of Pittsburgh by philanthropist Henry W Phipps (1839-1930). Designed by Lord and Burnham, a New York based greenhouse manufacturer, for \$200,000. Construction was completed in August 1893 in just one year and contained display rooms. It was restored in 1975-1980 by E.A. Vasilak. In 1976 Phipps Conservatory was placed on the register of historic places.

Waldor Orchids



● *Mono colour chromolithograph Publisher unknown Circa 1930.Divided back.*

In 1925 George Waldor built a glasshouse to supply flowers for his Father's Hotel. From this humble beginning, 'Brighton Florists' was established and when local florists couldn't source cattleyas for Easter and Mother's Day, George saw a business opportunity. The business has expanded to have up to 55,000 square feet under glass and the 4th generation of the family are still selling cattleya orchids.

Julius Roehrs Company



Cattleya
orchid
display

● *Real photograph Garaway Photo-Art Company Broadway New York Circa 1910*

In 1864 Julius Roehrs, as a 20 year old, left Hamburg to become an orchid grower in the United States-Starting his own business in 1869 on 17 acres he produced one of US's first orchid catalogues. Every day a horse and wagon carried flowers to the Hudson Ferry and on to the newly appearing florist shops of Manhattan. He died in 1913 leaving 100 greenhouses, 100 acres of open fields and 200 workers. The business still continues to this day,

Hope Gardens Jamaica



*C. J. Ferguson. 9-5-06. No p. last no card which
Orchid House, Hope Gardens - Kingston, Jamaica. the many plants
Pub by Sollas & Cocking I thought you might please don't stamp p.p. on the page
of Cecil but in all*

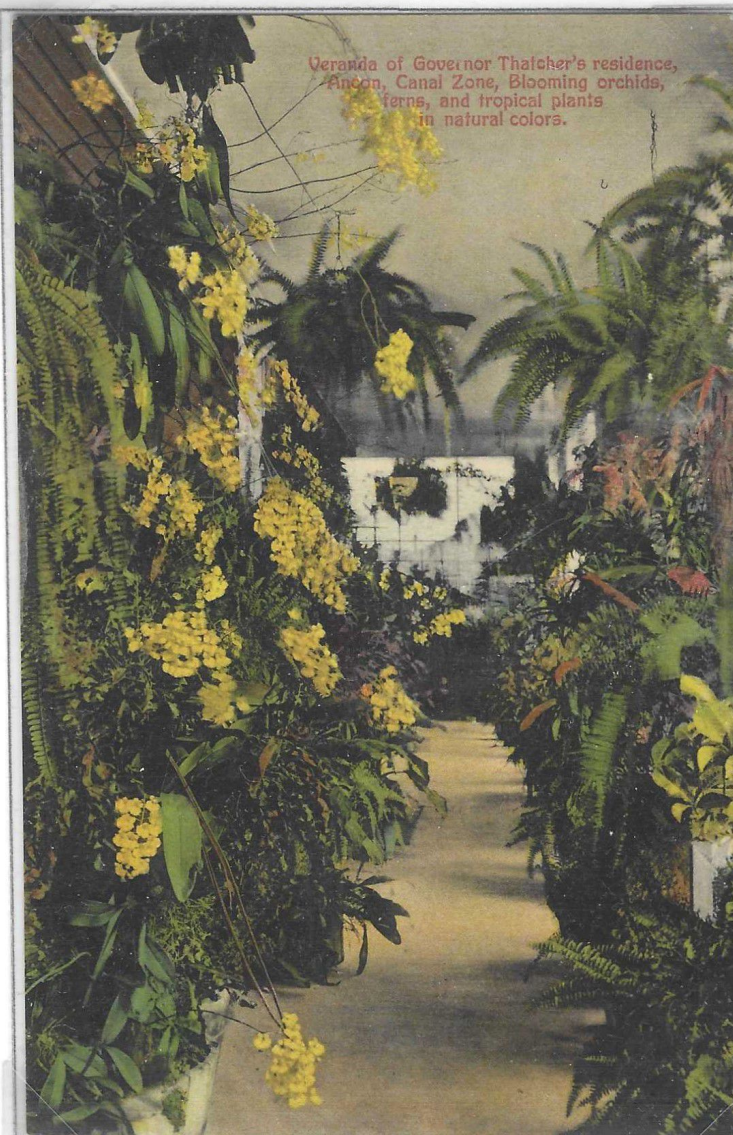
● Real photograph Lithograph Pub Sollas & Cocking Undivided back Posted 10th May 1906

Situated on 200 acres at St Andrews, Jamaica. Established on the former estate of Major Richard Hope. In 1953, on the occasion of her visit, Queen Elizabeth II gave permission for the gardens to affix the title 'Royal'. The gardens were established as an experimental garden for growing foreign species.

Governor Thatcher's orchid House Canal Zone Panama

Maurice Hudson Thatcher (1870-1973). Served as Civil Governor of Canal Zone between 1910 and 1913. He supervised the construction of the Panama Canal during this period.

Anne Bell Thatcher accompanied him as a bride where she established her famous orchid collection.



Veranda of Governor Thatcher's residence, Ancon, Canal Zone, Blooming orchids, ferns, and tropical plants in natural colors.

● Real photograph
Hand coloured Colotype
Publisher I L Maduro
Cathedral Plaza Panama