



ABSTRACT

In this article I seek to demonstrate that more sustainable solutions exist for Algarvean gardens than those used in the majority of the cases. The starting point for this study was Margaret Jackson's garden in Algarve, not only because it was projected taking into consideration an idea of the Mediterranean garden, but also because a very singular manuscript was revealed to us where she describes all the steps taken in the construction of this vernacular garden. Without any doubt new solutions for water safe, especially based on the choice of the species, as well as a search for Mediterranean identity have been pursuit.

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ARTICLE

The loss of Mediterranean identity in Algarvean gardens dominated by lawns and palm trees, partially influenced by English tourist's taste, partially by hotels which pretend to offer a tropical summer beach environment, deepens the problem of landscape sustainability in this south region of Portugal. There are just a few gardens whose owners are members of the Mediterranean Garden Association who go against the flow and understand the need for water, the advantages of cultivating autochthonous and adapted species throughout history and the respect for the *genius loci*. I have visited some of these gardens in July 2013 and became completely convinced by their sustainable beauty¹. In this article I seek to analyze the creation of one of these vernacular gardens. Who were the persons involved in the creation of the garden; what is its function; how is characterized the design and its elements; what are the species of trees, shrubs and flowers chosen; where did they come from and what are the advantages conveyed by this garden in the actual context.

The methodology followed to approach this case-study was the experience of the garden *in locus*, from where we have brought a significant photograph archive. Besides this, we had access to documents and drawings on the creation of the garden and talked with the person who is mainly responsible for its design. To analyze the output of this garden we studied the concept of the Mediterranean garden and conveyed a concept of an Algarvean garden for the present context. There are two major questions that will cross this article: the sustainability and the identity of a garden. The sustainability is approached especially in terms of water safe through the choice of species. On the subject of identity we just point out the design and the species used with the goal of analyzing how it approaches (or not) the idea that we have for the moment on what should be an Algarvean garden. History and plants acclimatization are taken into consideration as well as the knowledge we have for the moment on typical species of southern Iberian gardens.

¹ I am deeply grateful to Mrs Rosie Peddle and Mrs Margaret Jackson for showing their marvelous gardens. One of the gardens created with these principles was approached by Marilyn Medina Ribeiro, "Creating an Algarvean Native Garden", *Gardens & Landscapes of Portugal*, CHAIA/ CHAM/ Mediterranean Garden Society, nr. 1 (May, 2013), pp. 46-48. ISSN 2182-942X. URL:<http://www.chaia_gardens_landscapesofportugal.uevora.pt/index%20home%20presentation.htm>



Fig. 1 – Margaret Jackson's garden in Algarve. Photo by Ana Duarte Rodrigues.

Whatever the approach, the success of the sustainability movement relies on a real will on the part of developers and behavior of all citizens. The *Mediterranean Garden Society – Portugal branch* is an example of strong communal initiatives that favors control of water consumption and care for the preservation of a cultural heritage which is the Mediterranean flora. The identity of this garden needs although deepen studies to filter what is the essence of the Algarvean garden inside the Mediterranean heritage, what it has in common with all Mediterranean gardens and in what could and should be different to achieve to a certain cultural identity besides the geographical one. The regions with Mediterranean climate, with hot and dry summers and wet winters can be found not only in the Mediterranean Basin, but also in Chile, California, South Africa and Australia. However, the fact that a certain plant grows in a certain region is not enough if we want to protect a specific landscape heritage which is a cultural construction. Michel Baridon has already evoked Jean-Claude Nicolas Forestier (1861-1930) as a follower of Mediterranean climate and light to inspire his gardens, but he underlines also the respect for the cultural past of this world region (BARIDON 1998: 1115). Thus, if Mediterranean garden as a concept can include all gardens that grow under Mediterranean climate, in each of the different regions of this climate the history and the autochthonous species should be taken into consideration. Furthermore, the Algarvean garden in this context derives as a concept not only from the geography but from an ancient heritage of Spaniard-Moorish gardening traditions, conveying one of the best examples of gardens adapted to the “orange climate” as Forestier defined them.

It is already very common to discuss sustainable architecture², but not gardens. Nevertheless, this topic is fundamental for water management, food production and cultural identity which can be major legacies for the future generations. If we are to ensure that future generations can enjoy a satisfactory quality of life, a sustainable approach towards the use of water, even in the smallest scale, is now vital. In a region such as Algarve it is even more important because of the danger of desertification. The protection of water supplies can be made through the correct sown species for a certain region. The ambition of having a landscape garden or a garden in the English style in the Algarvean region demands a huge effort on water supplies and should be avoided. Furthermore, it has nothing to do with the region's landscape heritage and the result does not please. As Olivier Filippi points out: “While English plantsmen pride themselves on their collections of plants for dry conditions, gardeners further south are desperately watering their lawns, but achieve nothing more than a mediocre imitation of an English garden” (FILIPPI 2013: 10).

² For example, see *Pour une meilleure prise en compte de l'environnement dans la construction*, (“Towards a better integration of environmental issues in construction”); *Bonnes pratiques de la filière construction* (“Good practice in the construction industry”) and *Manuel d'application des réalisateurs* (Constructor's guide).

The case study that I bring here is a vernacular Mediterranean garden created by an English retired architect called Margaret Jackson at Quinta das Salinas in Algarve, between Quinta do Lago and Vale do Lobo, an area renowned by its luxury villas with houses and domestic gardens which could be mostly interpreted as “garden-scenarios”: to be seen and not to be lived. The garden we are about to study is the opposite of this kind of gardens because it is a living area, created and taken care by the owner and made with sustainable principles.

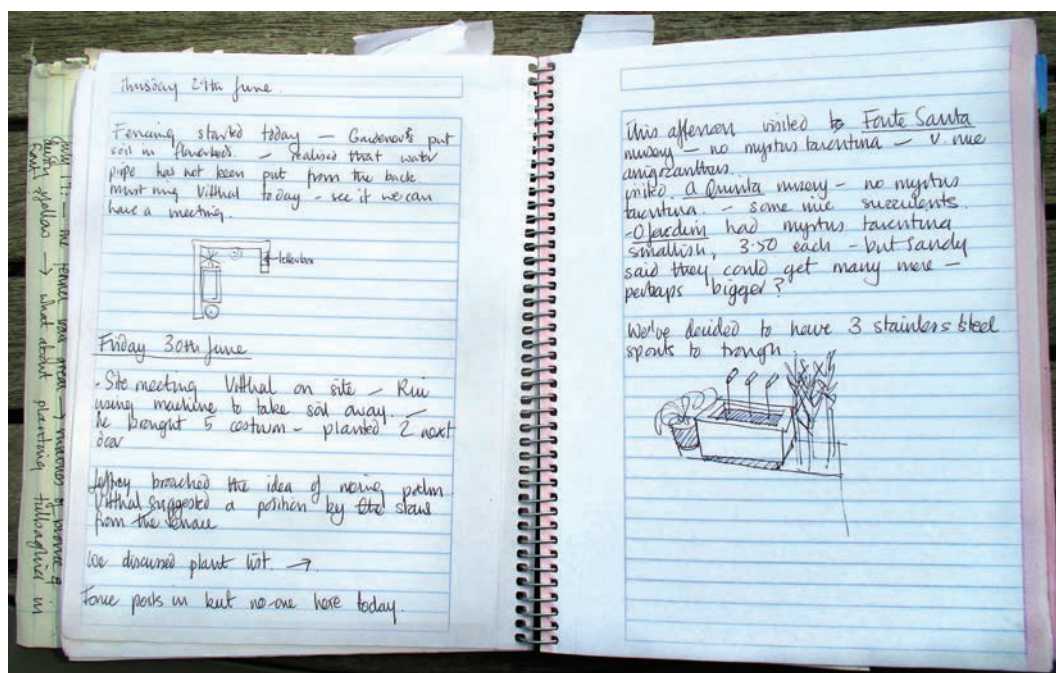


Fig. 2 – Pages 28 and 29 of Margaret Jackson’s manuscript. Photo by Margaret Jackson.

The reason why I became interested in studying this garden was not only its beauty, not only its sustainability, but also because of the precious document discovered there: Margaret’s “garden diary”. John Dixon Hunt and Joachim Wolschke-Bulmahn had already stand out that one of the reasons why History of Gardens is usually on elite gardens (such as king’s, noble’s or great landscape architect’s) is simply because for vernacular gardens “materials for their study seem not to be available” (HUNT and WOLSCHKE-BULMAHN 1993: 1). An exercise book with 170 pages with notes on the creation and maintenance of a vernacular garden, that was never thought or prepared to be published, as you will see by its modest presentation, is a unique document for future studies on 21st century vernacular gardens, Algarvean gardens identity and micro-scale sustainability.

Margaret and Jeffrey Jackson are from Altrincham in the North of England, and 19, Quinta das Salinas is already the third villa that they have bought in Algarve. They have experiment a different kind of garden in an area of 840 m² in rectangular shape, because they had already had a typical garden with lawn and palm trees. It started to be built in 2006 and Margaret and Jeffrey have moved into the new house the 12th August 2006 (DOCUMENT 1: 43) and the garden was nearly finished in September 2006 (DOCUMENT 1: 50). Nevertheless, through Margaret’s “garden diary”³ we are able to observe the garden’s creative process and its maintenance until 2008. The manuscript is a quite normal exercise book where she takes appointments and drawings on its landscape architecture, how all the elements were built and set in the garden, but also on the seeds bought, notes on sown and growth of plants and some cuts from journals with relevant information for garden maintenance all along 170 pages. The diary was not used sequentially (like many artistic documents). The first page dated does not mention the year, but we know that it was in June (DOCUMENT 1: 9), and then there are entries in July, August, September, October, November and December⁴. However, after the last date of 18th December 2006, appears in the following page 31st

³ Margaret’s “garden diary” is an exercise book where she has written through 170 pages on the garden’s creation and the whole manuscript is presented as Document 1 in the Annexes of this article. The page numbers indicated in this file correspond to the manuscript pages.

⁴ These dates go from page 9 to page 54 of Document 1.

May (DOCUMENT 1: 55). This happens because Margaret has used the front and back of the diary at the same time, thus in the first fifty-four pages she describes the landscape contractor's work, the building of the garden and in the back, for the same period of time, starting in September, she takes notes on the seeds⁵.

Margaret's "garden diary" is not an agenda because it is much more on past actions than on sentences for the future. However, it also has some appointments to remind Margaret of future things to do for Autumn 2008, such as to remove myrtle hedge nearest home; to collect all amaryllis together; and to take out the so called Agapanthus from under the palm tree behind pond-group (DOCUMENT 1: 56).

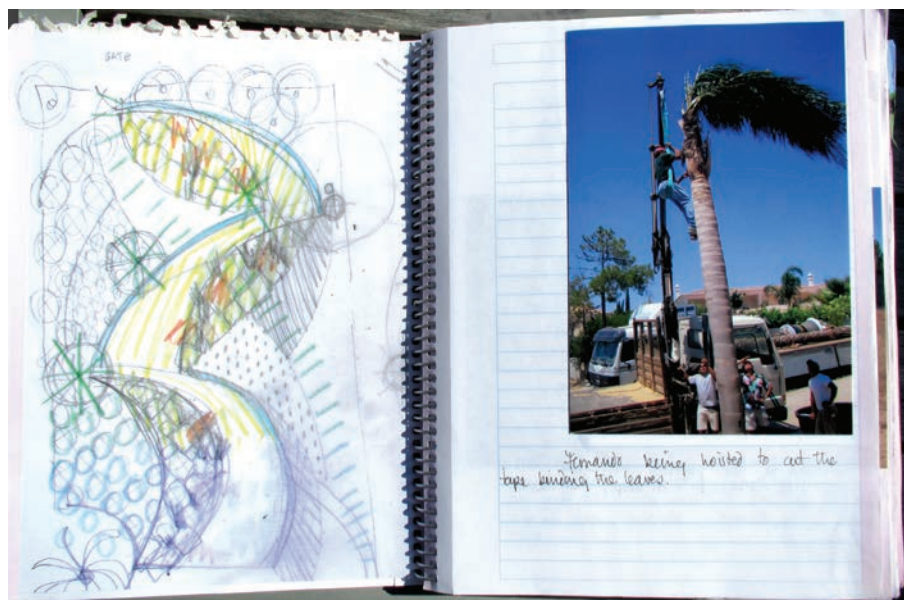


Fig. 3 – Drawing and photo by Margaret Jackson in Margaret Jackson's manuscript.
Photo by Margaret Jackson.

The idea for the garden design comes from Margaret, but she will build it with the help of some other professionals. She sent an enquiry to three landscape contractors before deciding for Vitthal Bernd Fuchte who is a young German landscape contractor, very keen on the environment; on the respect of the spirit of the place and its most natural way. Most of times there was an agreement between Margaret and Vitthal with the exception of the backyard. Vitthal's idea for the steps at the rear of the back garden was to give a wide impression at the bottom and at the top. He also stand out that it should be thin in the middle which did not pleased Margaret and being as polite and discreet as it was given to me to observe she just confessed it to her garden diary: "I am secretly horrified" (Document 1: 11). Her intention was to have a narrow path all the way up.

The other person who is fundamental in the creation of the garden besides Margaret and Vitthal is Marco who was already the gardener from their former house in Algarve and is still working in Margaret's garden today. Margaret had always the intention to keep this gardener who is her "right hand". For example, when she sends the inquiry to the contractors she already prompts that "after the garden is complete no maintenance will be required as we will keep on our present contract gardeners" (DOCUMENT 2: 3). Marco had an important role in the garden shape. After the building of the garden by the landscape architect Vitthal, it was Marco and Margaret who finished the garden design.

The first drawing by Margaret was sent together with the inquiry to the landscape contractors. There we see the S's shape in a rectangular plot made with gravel that goes from the swimming pool to the olives' gate. Along the S shape pathway she proposes a myrtle hedge and grasses to underline the shape. Then, all along the left wall there should be aloes. Four circles give certain equilibrium to this S shape, but only one has signalized that it should be

5 These dates go from page 170 to page 86, covering the chronological period of September 2006 until December 2007 and then there are just a few pages for 2008 (pp. 56-59).

a myrtle hedge. And, finally, some rocks are also designed. The drawings show the character of planting required. The garden's design is very abstract and closer to picturesque plans than to Mediterranean ones if we recall ourselves that the form which unifies the Mediterranean basin is the square: the courtyard, the "patio", the cloister. A closed square organized from the exterior to the center. Margaret's garden in this sense does not convey the basic idea of what is a Mediterranean garden. It is still very picturesque, thus in this sense it is still very English.



Fig. 4 (LEFT) – Photos of vases by Margaret Jackson in Margaret Jackson's manuscript. Photo by Margaret Jackson.

Fig. 5 (RIGHT) – Group of vases in Margaret Jackson's garden. Photo by Ana Duarte Rodrigues.

We can see how each detail was thought out. Drawings by Margaret as well as her photos show us how each composition was made with some groups of plants in pots. Even the steps location, their feature, everything, was designed and created by Margaret as we can see by her drawings, photos and her notes, such as this one: "I got them to put some stones by the tree and also to start put the rocks around the steps" (DOCUMENT 1: 19).

In the "caderno de encargos" which correspond to three pages, Margaret gives as many indications as she can. She indicates that the contractors should place the existing rocks and provide extra as shown. It is also said to "spread the whole site with 200mm layer of approved organic with the existing sand" because the intention was to "improve garden so that planting [could] take place anywhere" (DOCUMENT 2: 3). Then, they should spread a layer of brown and pink gravel on the finished levels. The contractors will also install the watering system and provide the lighting.

We can see that the creation of the garden was not concluded in the project but it was worked out during the building made by landscape contractors. For example, she used a lot the process of taking pictures of the garden during its construction and drawing the missing elements on the photo to try out different solutions and test some thoughts, such as for the hedge's design when she writes on the lateral side of the photo: "One of my thoughts about the hedge – not the final one" (DOCUMENT 1: 23). When Margaret says she cannot sleep at 12.35 pm of the 20th July 2006 because she was not satisfied with the planting scheme in the front of the house she describes working out a scheme in the middle of the night which included three silver young olive trees, *Agapanthus*, *Convolvulus Cneorum*, *White bougainvillea*, *Pittosporum*. This stands as an evidence of her enthusiasm for the garden creation.

The first step was to plant the trees that were bought and some that already existed in the garden and were relocated. Margaret has bought some plants, herb garden and fruit trees at *O Jardim* in November 2005⁶. The fruit trees are all very typical of the Mediterranean climate, but also very proper to Algarve: peach, apricot, fig tree, lemon and avocado, for example. Later in August 2006, Margaret bought some more fruit trees, such as a walnut, two mango trees, two almond trees and another apricot (DOCUMENT 1: 43). Mango trees are not at all typical of Algarvean landscape, but as many other species have been introduced and acclimatized to this region. Some other plants came from her other house and had already seven years, such as a cycad (DOCUMENT 1: 5). In August 2006, Margaret was slowly taking all her plants from her former house (DOCUMENT 1: 43). But most of palm trees were bought at *Flor do Sol* palm nursery in Lagos. Margaret was keen on a *Livistona Dickensis* which was considered too expensive (2500€) and instead has bought a coco palm with trunks, another group of three coco palms, a butia with blue green leaves and *Dracaena Indivisa* (DOCUMENT 1: 13). The mature trees arrived wrapped in plastic and lying down brought by a huge truck on the 27th June 2006.

In June 2006, the strata (rock retaining wall) was already made and the granite sets, the palm tree (*Washingtonia*), two coco palm trees and another large tree were already at the front of the house (DOCUMENT 1: 9). One of the function of the palm tree at the front of the house was to provide shade for Jeffrey's car, but Vitthal said the *Washingtonia* was not the best tree for this purpose although it had the advantage that it does not produce a lot of litter and instead he suggested *Tipuana Tipu*, Persian Lilac (*Melia Azederach*) or Jacaranda. Nevertheless, Margaret's husband preferred the palm tree and agreed on finding a better solution to provide shade for the cars (DOCUMENT 1: 9).

The setting of these big trees is quite complex and was recorded by Margaret with photos (DOCUMENT 1: 15-18). In one of the photos we see how the coco palm was settled and lying on the floor two *Melia* trees that together with two *Albizias* would provide the shade for the cars. Olive trees were also bought and the price is registered by Margaret in her diary because it was quite high (900€) but considered worth because it really looked nice (DOCUMENT 1: 21). With the olive tree arrived a *Phoenix Robellini*.



Fig. 6 – Drawing on photo by Margaret Jackson in Margaret Jackson's manuscript. Photo by Margaret Jackson.

⁶ This list is at Document nr 1, p. 1.

Margaret used the technique of designing on photos of the garden to work out where to put the *Phoenix Dactilifera* which could be right in the area between the pool and the garden or in the middle of the garden (DOCUMENT 1: 26-27 and 30). The process of trial and error involved in the making of any garden can be seen here relating to the *Phoenix Dactilifera* which had already been planted in the front of the house. However, Margaret records that she was unhappy with its position (it clashed with the coco palm) and wondered if it could be moved (DOCUMENT 1: 25). Finally it was Jeffrey who was to broach the idea of moving the palm and Vitthal suggested a position by the stairs from the terrace (DOCUMENT 1: 28). Later in the diary there is a photo showing the *Phoenix Dactilifera* in its original position and how close it is to the coco palm with the following legend: “The palm that was moved!” (DOCUMENT 1: 35). The diary shows also photos with alternative positions for the *Phoenix Dactilifera* drawn on - one is dismissed because it would have blocked the sea-view from their bedroom (DOCUMENT 1: 30-38).

The area of transition between the house and the garden is marked by the pool and some light plants such as the bamboos which create a soft separation and two *Cestrum*s (DOCUMENT 1: 28). Besides the modern swimming-pool, there is a pond with a natural design. Again this goes much more along with the picturesque than with the square ponds of Mediterranean gardens.



Fig. 7 – Nenufars’ pond in Margaret Jackson’s garden. Photo by Ana Duarte Rodrigues.

Jeffrey was a little reluctant to have a pond because of the noise frogs do during night. However, Margaret finds a pond really adds life to a garden. Thus, finally Jeffrey was convinced by Vitthal. In the pond that looks like a natural lake, Margaret and Marco had put there some small fish (to eat the mosquitoes), one frog and water lilies. Later, in August, when Margaret was already living in the house, her gardener Marco gave her six small coy carps and four gold fish and then a pair which swims together half gold/half black and one that is a silvery green/gold. Margaret’s notes on these details on the color and species of ornamental animals are an evidence of her aesthetical sense.

Vitthal finally completed his work in October 2006 (it was programmed for three weeks and took three months) and at this point Margaret and Marco set to work. Margaret had asked particularly not to have raised

beds surrounded with rocks but page 47 shows how several beds were made: gravel paths separated from bare-earth planting beds enclosed with rocks. They couldn't pull the beds apart completely as some of the rocks were too big. However, they took some rocks away to allow the beds to 'melt' into the garden and when they had done that Margaret ordered more gravel and spread it everywhere (DOCUMENT 1: 54).



Fig. 8 – Living area in Margaret Jackson's garden. Photo by Ana Duarte Rodrigues.

Equally, the paved seating area, under the existing pine tree and shaded by a *phoenix canariensis* (a victim, like two others in the garden, of the red palm beetle), needed work. Margaret had bought some very expensive old paving slabs which she had asked Vitthal to lay with an uneven border to allow spaces for plants to spill over but what in the end there were only straight lines. Thus, Marco arranged for Stefan came to take up some slabs and reposition them properly (DOCUMENT 1: 53).

Finally, the design for the back garden was gaining form in October 2006 with climbers for the back fence (DOCUMENT 1: 53). The beds at the back were covered with gravel (DOCUMENT 1: 54). After Vitthal had completed his work in November 2006, Margaret and Marco set to ask for gravel everywhere. Marco and his assistant only finished to put gravel everywhere on the 18th December 2006 (DOCUMENT 1: 54). When the winter rains started, Margaret had to move a few things – the hop bushes (*Dodoneas*) from the back and all the olive trees into the 'Mediterranean' area at the back (DOCUMENT 1: 53). Margaret recognizes the easy grow of many plants already in December because of October's rain and November's sunshine.

The species found in Margaret's garden are mostly typical of Mediterranean climate which do not need a lot of water and hate automatic irrigation systems, as well as dispense a lot of water during the hot season because they are used to high temperatures and dry climate in summer and moderate climate with rain during winter. Nevertheless, the characterization of the plants in Margaret's garden needs further studies by botanists and historians to seek the origin of the plants. Furthermore, a study should be made to evaluate the extent to which they correspond to Algarvean and Iberian identity which can be done by comparison with the list included as an annex of this article (DOCUMENT 3). The approach done so far suggests that although they are proper of the Mediterranean climate they might not be all of Iberian identity and we should determine the percentage of plants that are not endemic and have not been acclimatized throughout history.

Another topic that needs to be pointed out in Margaret's garden is the fact that she has gathered an amount of different species in her garden superior to what is normal in a domestic garden: 193 species (see list of species in DOCUMENT 3). Among these we can find here some of the most typical species of southern Portugal, such as thymus, rosemary, peach, apricot, plum, fig tree, loquat, lemon, olive, walnut, and almond tree.

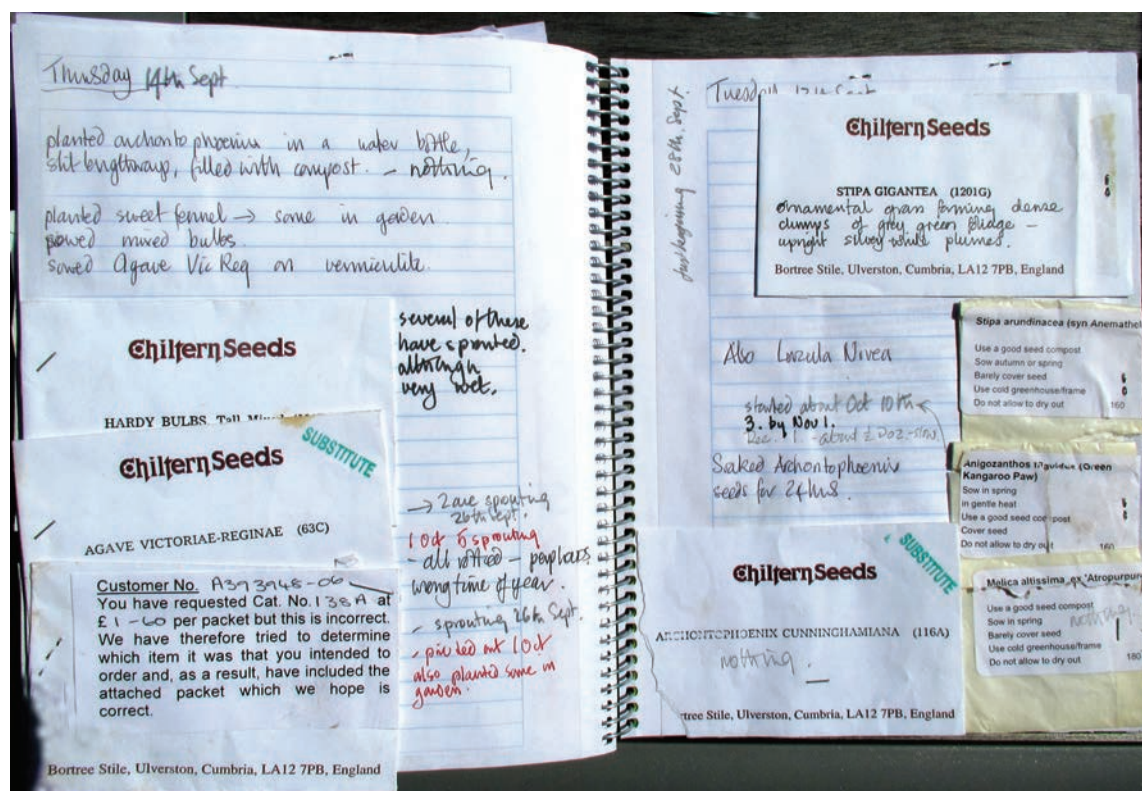


Fig. 9 - Pages 164 and 165 of Margaret Jackson's manuscript. Photo by Margaret Jackson.

Margaret buys many plants in the *Fonte Santa* nursery, the *A Quinta* nursery and *O Jardim*. Nevertheless, Margaret has bought most of the seeds to *Chiltern Seeds*, located in England, and there are the empty seed packets stapled to the exercise book of the following seeds: *Helenium Autummale*, *Mellanthus Major*, *Isoplexis Isabelliana*, *Miscanthus Sinensis*, *Eryngium Agavipolium*, *Achillea Millefolium*, *Anthriscus Sylvestris*, *Iris Forrestii*, *Astrantia Major*, *Erianthus Ravennae*, *Geranium Maderense*, *Aeonium Castello-Paivae*, *Stipa Barbata*, *Scabiosa Rumelica*, *Gaura Lindhetmeri*, *Crambe Maritima*, *Achillea Cartilaginea*, *Echium Pininana*, *Agave Victoriae-Reginae*, *Stipa Gigantea*, *Argeont Phoenix Cunninchamiana*, *Alstroemeria Pulchella* and *Crambe Cordifolia*. On the cards, Margaret has taken notes related with the plant's features and character. Nevertheless, on the exercise book at the lateral side, Margaret has taken notes when they sprouted, if they are surviving, when they were picked out, when and how much she has planted of a certain seed. But also, if it had rain or not and for how long. All these choices are an example of the ability of art of gardens and of the owner's commitment to improving water safe. Household water use in detached houses is around 50% higher than in housing blocks. A considerable portion of this is due to garden watering, for which the use of drinking water is not absolutely necessary (GAUZIN-MULLER 2002: 50-51). Mediterranean choice of plants decreases considerably the water use. For example, in Margaret's former house with a lawn in the height of summer the lawn received water for 15 minutes morning and evening whilst the plant beds of this Mediterranean garden style receives 5 minutes morning and evening: a third of the water consumption.

Margaret's garden is the proof that the knowledge, taste and behavior of all citizens, of all gardeners, have a key role to play in sustainable development.



Fig. 10 – Composition with rocks in Margaret Jackson's garden.
Photo by Ana Duarte Rodrigues.

A wide range of plants is covered in this garden and their relevance to environmental issues, their formal and technical quality and the variety of solutions they provide constitute proof that the environmental alternative is not only desirable, but easier feasible, within reasonable budgets and in the context of contemporary gardening. This will support the creation of a Mediterranean-wide strategy at a new balance between quality of life, protection of the environment and cultural heritage.

The aims of application of sustainable principles to land development are usually thought in a macro-scale and their efficiency depends on each citizen's behavior at a very micro-scale. Thus, as we all already know the principles of sustainability we should deepen their efficiency in the most variegated small scales: sustainable gardens can be a contribution for a promising future.

PRIMARY SOURCES

DOCUMENT 1 - Manuscript by Margaret made between 2006 and 2008 on her garden in Algarve

DOCUMENT 2 – Inquiry sent by Margaret to some landscape contractors

DOCUMENT 3 - List of the plants in Margaret's garden

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URL:<http://www.chaia_gardens_landscapesofportugal.uevora.pt/index%20home%20presentation.htm

ANNEXES

DOCUMENT 1 - Manuscript by Margaret made between 2006 and 2008 on her garden in Algarve

[p. 1] Here are some of the plants I bought from O Jardim last November – the cycad has new leaves, is doing well as is the [Phoenix] robbelini but I'm not sure about the cordyline.

Plant list for 19. Salinas

Around the house and pool

Alocasia
Agapanthus
Alstromeria
Anigozanthus,
Melianthus,
Clivia,
Hemerocallis,
Callas,
Hedychium, (ginger),
Musa,
Cycas revolute,
Canna indica,
Ligularia,
Ferns with variegated vincas,
Cuphea,
Pittosporum undulate,
Monstera deliciosa
Glechona,
Leonotis,
Snall bamboo,
Philodendron,
Strelitzia,
Scaveola
Phormium tenax

Herb Garden

Vines,
Bay tree,
Bela Luisa,
Salvias,
Origanum
Thymus
Rosemary

Fruit trees

Morus alba
Peach
Apricot
Plum
Fig tree
Loquat
Lemon
Avocado

[p. 3]

What on earth is this called – something attenuata? [Agave attenuate]

Michella gave me this Sparmannia [Africana] and in the vases are the 4 red german roses.

[p. 5]

These are some of the plants that I am taking to the new garden – I have had this cycad in a pot for at least 7 years. – Probably can't get it out without breaking the pot, which is a shame – perhaps if I soaked it in the pond for a day or two? The aloe is one with branching flowers.

[p. 9] Thus 15th June

The garden so far: - met Vitthal on site this afternoon – his men have been on site since Monday (although yesterday was a public holiday) forming the strata – rock retaining wall – His foreman (Rui?) had pointed out that if the granite setts are to go down on Monday then the palm tree will have to go in first – Vitthal is obviously under pressure elsewhere – however he agreed he could put in the 2 coco palms, the Washingtonia and another large tree at the front before the end of the week after next (Fri 29th June). We next talked about shade – I said Jeffrey wanted shade for his car – Vitthal said Washingtonia wasn't the best tree for shade although it has the advantage that it doesn't produce a lot of litter. He suggested a Tipuana Tipu, Persian Lilac (or Melia Azederach) or Jacaranda. Jeffrey and I have talked about this over dinner and he thinks the palm would look better and that we will deal with the cars some other way. Then we discussed the back of the garden – I said we needed fill

[p. 11] for the dip in the middle and an even slope. We discussed which the stones on site to make a flight of steps. V's idea is wide at bottom, thin in middle, wide at top. I am secretly horrified. – I want narrow all the way up and that is what I shall get – when Vitthal is not there.

-just the thing for the top – my pot.

[p. 13] Tues 27th June

Yesterday was palm day. Last week I went on Wednesday with Vitthal to Flor do Sol palm nursery at Lagos – it was a blisteringly hot day and we met there at 12.30! I was mostly interested in the palm by the front door. We liked the Livistona Dickensis but was 2,500€+ and thus we saw some beautiful coco palms with lovely trunks – chose one of these – also coco palm group of 3 for the side, a butia with blue green leaves & interesting pattern of dead stalks on its trunk. I chose a Dracaena Indivisa – and asked for a white mulberry thinking of the shade we get from our present one. Anyway, they all arrived yesterday – at about 2.00 pm. They first put in the front coco palm – needed a huge truck to bring the palms – wrapped in plastic and lying down. – of course today was the day Carlos & 3 russians were rendering the front wall, Carlos the tiler was doing the steps in the front garden and the workers from Sto had painted the side wall by kitchen & didn't want anyone going past there. However, slowly, everything was put in place.

[p. 14] [drawing]

[p. 15] The coco palm going in. Lying on the floor are two Melia trees – we decided to use them on the left hand side of the cars – will provide some shade we hope – also have 2 Albizias to put in.

[p. 16] [drawing]

[p. 17] Rui being hoisted to cut the tape binding the leaves.

[p. 18] putting in the phoenix dactylifera - the hole had to be 1,5 m deep! By hand!

[p. 19] In the morning I had arrived as they were moving the palm in the back garden. I got them to put some stones by the tree and also to start put the rocks around the steps.

[photo]

The men had come back to site Thursday 22nd June – taken pine out, spread soil – formed steps.

[p. 20] The strata rock retaining wall garden sheds. I think they will look good with succulents etc.

[p. 21] Tues 27th

Soil is to be arriving today – must ask Rui to loosen up soil at bottom of floreiras.

The bamboos are lovely against the building.

We discussed a trough with water running at the front.

Musn't forget my mill wheels, other stones.

Ask Carlos to clear all garden & discuss completing steps.

Tues 27th – evening.

When I arrived today soil was there – problems about putting it in flowerbeds – Carlos says not waterproof yet. Olive arrived & put in place – also trough – 900€but really very nice. Also Phoenix Robellini.

[p. 22] [photo]

[p. 23] [photo] One of my thoughts about the hedge – not the final one

[p. 24] [drawing]

[p. 25] Wednesday 25th

No gardeners today – but coming tomorrow to move some soil into flowerbeds.

Decided I really don't like the Phoenix Dactilifera in front – I shall have to break it to Vitthal

Could I move it to back – What about over the road?

[p. 26] Working out what to do with tall palm. [The Phoenix] [photo]

[p. 27] [photo]

[p. 28] Thursday 29th June

Fencing started today – gardeners put soil in flowerbeds – realised that water pipe has not been put from the back must ring Vitthal today – see it we can have a meeting.

[drawing]

Friday 30th June

Site meeting with Vitthal on site – Rui using machine to take soil away – he bought 5 Cestrums – planted 2 next door.

Jeffrey broached the idea of moving palm. Vitthal suggested a position by the stairs from the terrace.

We discussed plant list –

Fence posts in but no one here today

[p. 29] This afternoon visited *Fonte Santa* nursery – no Myrtus Tarentina – v. nice Anigozanthus.

Visited *A Quinta* nursery – no Myrtus Tarentina - some nice succulents.

O Jardim had Myrtus Tarentina smallish, €3.50each – but Sandy said they could get many more – perhaps bigger?

We've decided to have 3 stainlers steel spouts to trough.

[drawing]

[p. 30] [photo]

[p. 31] [photo] phoenix dactilyfora by steps

[p. 32] [photo]

[p. 33] [photo]

[p. 34] [photo] Yucca Elephantipes that Vitthal suggested for back garden.

[p. 35] [photo] The palm that was moved!

[p. 36] [photo] View with Yucca Elephantipes

-check about obscuring view of road etc.

[p. 37] [photo]

[p. 38] Wednesday 5th July

The large palm was moved today – to the left of the steps as otherwise it would have blocked the sea-view from our bedroom – in fact it looks very good.

They also brought the Yucca – it is bedded in at the moment.

They have also put the “pia” in place.

And they have put the pipes for irrigation under the area to take granite setts. [photo]

[p. 39] Thursday 20th July.

Garden resumed again after much delays – planting today – unfortunately while I was not there – a bit disappointing.

I thought it needs to be a bit more powerful along the front – Agapanthus/ Pittosporum/ etc.

12.35 –can't sleep – worked out a scheme.

3 silver young olive trees.

Agapanthus

Convulvulus Cneorum

White bugainvillea.

Pittosporum

I'm also a bit concerned about palm in planting box – too low for one thing also looks lonely – needs a cycad perhaps ferns –

Also planting along swimming pool too low for final level of gravel.

[p. 40] planting around the house [photos]

[p. 41] Monday

Started doing the path. Marco brought all our pots yesterday (he brought all the large plants on Thursday). [photo]

[p. 42] Wednesday 2nd August

Yesterday Vitthal suggested a pond – and Jeffrey agreed. We had set out hedge and planted first bit.[photo]

Beginnings of pond.

[p. 43] Thursday 3rd August

They started laying the gravel yesterday planted Dodonaeas at the back & Vitthal brought... what? It is now Sunday evening – the pool is looking fine! Today Marco & I netted one frog & some small fish & took them to the pond – also some water lilies. It looks

really good.

I am slowly taking all my plants. I went to QM on Friday – bought a walnut, 2 mango trees, 2 almonds, a loquat, & an apricot – also 2 dracaena....?, a different coprosma, Euphorbia Wulfeni & some succulents.

We are moving on Wednesday – unfortunately we won't be able to close the fence – altho' Vitthal is leaving Aug. 15th.

[p. 44] [photos] Pond on Saturday.
Pool side planting

[p. 45] Monday 12th Aug.

I was there 9.30 – nice to be there first.

Who came? Cinesom first. Carlos & 2 men – then Jeffrey – then alarm people– then furniture was delivered.

Vitthal arrived with Cabrita + young goman – worked on pool which is looking really fine – O yes Val was there to sort out sockets – he talked to Vitthal to arrange power for pump. [photo]

[p. 46] [photo] Pond from the terrace.

They set out & planted more hedge – I went to QM Friday and bought some more fruit trees – delivered Monday (today). Together with 2x Dracaena Fragans, whose name I couldn't remember.

[p. 47] [photo] planting around existing palm tree.

[p. 48] [photo]
View of front courtyard.

[p. 49] Tues 29th August

We have been in now for nearly 2 weeks. Vitthal has been in Germany since 13th Aug. He is going to start back next Monday. Before he left the garden was done up until the path – leaving the last triangle. Marco came last Saturday – we thinned out the hedge & planted the Myrtus Communis bushes along the fruit hedge. Marco brought in 6 fish – small coy carps – we feed them every day – they are just getting used to it – a gang of 4 gold fish – then a pair who swim together – half gold/half black and one that is a silvery green/gold.

I think the last [triangle] should be dry – but looking at the mound of earth etc left I'm not sure I'll get my way!

I'm going to plant the nespera opposite my workshop for shade & ask Vitthal to bring another tipuana for the garden work area!

[p. 50] Saturday 2nd Sept.

No photos yet – haven't found the camera!

Marco here a.m. for 2 hours– tidied up the shed and the garden yard area – I've started sowing seeds – perhaps it's still a bit hot. We'll see.

Sunday 10th Sept.

Vitthal back this week – nearly finished.

Planted some bulbs today – urginia and pancratium etc.

Vitthal brought 2 cactii

Also another old olive and boxes of lavenders etc.

Wednesday 13th Sept.

Garden practically finished – waiting for fence man.

I've started planting more seeds – mostly grasses.

[p. 51] [photo]

[p. 52] Oct 12.

Agreed final price with Vitthal this afternoon.

Oct 19. – since then Vitthal has brought 1 variegated fig and 2 mandevilla boliviensis: also João came and explained the Venturi – open valves to Venturi & close middle one & open slightly – causes change in pressure which sucks up liquid – I have to work out flow rate from contador but it's so wet I don't like to add even more water – but I should do it as the rain will wash the salt away.

I've been thinking about design today. Marco moved Strelitzia Nicolai from pool.

[p. 53] Climbers for the back fence.

Ex. Mandevilla

Plumbago

-orange trumpets.

Ipponema.

Oct 26 – it's been raining for 2 weeks very heavy & windy. I've started moving a few things – the hop bushes [Dodoneas] from the back and all the olive trees into the 'Mediterranean' bit at the back. Also Marco moved the palm tree – triangular – to the top – I've bought various things to climb on the back fence.

Dec. 18th – lovely weather. Marco (+ assistant) have finished putting all the gravel everywhere. It took three loads but it's finished now and looks much better. Stefan (M's Rumanian friend or neighbor) came on Thursday (+ assistant) and hacked up some of the paving & put it back a bit more naturally – looks much better. – all we have to do now is sort out the rocks The garden is looking good – some things are starting to grow.

[p. 54] Nov 9th

The first sunny day for a long time. Marco came today at 8 o'clock – bringing fishfood and estrume. He spent the morning bringing gravel through the back – we are starting to cover the beds with gravel.

Nov 10th

Another beautiful day – went for a walk- picked some more lupins & cistuses for the garden.

(cont.) really well after the rains then the recent sunshine – it will soon be spring!

[p. 55] May 31st – Judy's birthday – she stayed for 2 nights. Marco here this morning planted out Cerinthe, nasturtiums and a couple of euphorbias. (All grown from seed.)

I've just got soaking wet checking and adjusting watering – I must remember to do this every week – there's always something.

Achillea Colorado is looking wonderful – the white ones are slow – perhaps in the front they would look ok.

I've marked some Hemerocallis and dahlias with their colours for when they are moved.

I need to pot up the Catanache & Coreopsis and carry on with planting out.

The garden looks good – if a bit overloaded – needs sorting out in the autumn.

[p. 56] July 2, 08

Things to do for Autumn

1. Remove myrthe hedge nearest home.
2. Collect all amaryllis together
3. Ditto (large blue flowers) [Agapanthus] – take out from under palm tree behind pond-group with some others – a nice darker blue.

[p. 57] [nothing]

[p. 58] 18th Oct. 2008

planted out some seeds Mary gave me at our last Garden Club meeting at Michelle's – Cleome Isomeris & coreopsis gigantean – both tough Californian yellow plants – we'll see.

Also sewed some helianthus & rudbeckia.

[p. 59] [a page taken from the internet on *Isomeris arborea*]

[pp. 60-67] [some cuts from journals on how to transplant flowers and watering and also on a killer pest in the Algarve; hedges]

[p. 68] 30th Mar 2008

Back from UK – brought some pellets for sowing seed – sowed Echinacea (again!) also Camassia, Hymenosporum Flavus & cytissus albus – also passiflora, malva & tagetes minata (ha!)

[p. 69] [cut from a journal on "Attack of the Red Beetle"]

[p. 70] [cut from a journal entitles "Metallic, twisting and sculptural, yet soft and woolly to the touch"]

[p. 71] [another cut from a journal]

[pp. 72-73] [cut from a journal on a kitchen garden, entitle "Beautifully productive"]

[pp. 74-75] [cut from a journal]

[pp. 76-77] [cut from a journal on *Miscanthus sinensis*]

[pp. 78-79] [cut from a journal on American switch grass]

[pp. 80-81] [cut from a journal on *Stipa barbata*]

[pp. 82 – 85] other cuts

[p. 86] 16 Dec. 07

Walk round garden late afternoon (4.30) still sunny, to decide on a few things.

Marco has rearranged the bed under the rear palm – moving a lot of rocks – I think a zamia furcurea (cardboard palm) would be a good plant there – I think Natura has them – I've got one in a pot but it looks good there.

By the rosa mutabilis – take out the um plant & move pot – they are now hidden by the rose – put in either: red hot pokers or Miscanthus sinensis

I need a sculptural tree for the middle – a brachychiton?

buy the cactus & pachypodium from Q. d. r. garden center

take out sparmannia & buddleia

[p. 87] [nothing]

[p. 88] [photo] [Coreopsis 'Unwins gold'] sowed these in Nov. just as the weather has turned cold – put these in my room – we'll see!

[p. 89] Monday 17th Sept 07

Spent the morning potting seedlings of scarlet amaryllis, trident aloes & cyclamen.

Also emptying a lot of pots with seeds which never grew – particularly hemerodactylus, white broom, etc.

Have sowed some erythrina crus-galli seeds that Marco gave me.

[pp. 90-91] [cuts from journal]

[p. 92] [yellow tickets]

[Sollya heterophylla]

planted this at the back fence – May 07

[Passiflora pinnatis]

at the side, behind the tithonia

[p. 93] Sunday 13th May

sowed Lilium Regale, Cleome, Camassia & Iris Unguicularis in large pots/plastic bags – Glaucum Flavum put in garden.

Also sowed some 'fill a bed'[packets of miscellaneous seeds]

[photo] [Nasturtium 'Black Velvet'] - planted out

About 10

May 31

[p. 94] Sat 5th May

Sunny day but cold wind – been very windy this last week – rain on Wednesday – generally unsettled.

I've sown coreopsis & cerinthe & gloriosa superba in large pots this week – germinated straight away (with plastic bags).

Today I've sown some plantago, tagetes minuta, Echinacea & cardoons in large pots with plastic bags – planted nasturtiums in half of a plastic water bottle.

I've also planted out some alliums from miscellaneous bulb seeds and a couple of euphorbia.

Wednesday 9th May – hot weather has arrived - potted on all the cerinthe and the black velvet nasturtiums – very good quick germination for both – only problem is finding afternoon shade for so much.

Sowed some catanache in the compost pellets. This morning that fresh seed taken from the aloe by the large yucca last week has germinated.

[p. 95] [image] sowed morning glory in these

Already sprouting

Tues May!

[pp. 96-97] [cuts from journal on the best mahonias]

[p. 98] [more cuts from different sources] planted out May 31

[p. 99] Fri 27th April

Sowed some Gloriosa Superba I bought in UK this last weekend when we stayed for 4 days in UK.

Some losses while I was away – only one Yucca Elata survived – perhaps too wet – and I think I'm going to end up with only 2 succulent euphorbias although the others have thrived.

A few hermodactylus & hymensporum have germinated.

Also some seeds in half bottle – should have labelled them!

Sowed morning glory [Ipomoea] in large pots & in peat pellets.

Also cerinthe and coreopsis 'sea shells.'

The setaria grass has germinated well but looks a bit grim.

[pp. 100-101] [cuts from a journal on Newcomers to the grass menagerie]

[p. 102] [photo]

[p. 103] Sunday 15th April

Beautiful day – Marco & F came this morning to spread sand on the gravel much better to walk on. Nahid came to look at house & garden.

Planted out some white thrift with 2 *eryngiums agavifolium* & some *pancratiums*.
Also bought some marigolds which I planted where the red hot poker were.

I've bought 2 *spireas* – I'm going to get some *viburnums opulus* tomorrow

[p. 104] Easter Monday 2007

Lovely morning for gardening – mild, not too hot. It has been relatively cold with a wind recently – today more spring-like. The *freesias*, which have been wonderful, are just going over – next year I must order some more red & white – white for the front to tone down the yellow & red in the back – I must make a note of where the red is now.

There is an amazing *amaryllis* - green flowers with magenta base + white stripes – must move it and get some more.

I planted out some *cardoons* today – must sow some more for under the palm in the old path.

[p. 105] What has been most successful with seeds?

Up till now:

Achilleas – germinated & survived winter

Gaura

Aeonium c. p. “

Scabious

Crambe cordifolia

Crambe Maritima

Geranium maderense

Melanthus major

Bronze fennel

Echium pininana

Eryngiums agavifolium

We'll see whether the *isoplexis* and the *libertia formosa* survive.

Also *cardoons*

And ordinary *euphorbias*

Also *ipomoeas* sown in April.

[p. 106] [three tickets from Chiltern Seeds]

[*ipomoea tricolor*]

All growing well by April 15th

April 7th – Easter Saturday – Sunny and cold ... morning but thunder & grey skies this afternoon – no rain yet (4 o'clock).

Sowed: ½ *plantago* seeds over *pyrethrum* that nothing has happened with.

Erysimum.

Some *setaria* – (the *setaria* that I put in pots in the shed all germinated 15/4/07)

Lobelia tupa.

[p. 107] April 3rd

Sowed: *scabious* 'chat noir'

(3 pots): rest of *ipomoea* – the first lot germinated strongly but faded in the cold.

: *tagetes minuta* – 2/3 packet

Planted out: the last *geranium maderense* – I think I've ended up with 5.

Potted up: varied *euphorbias*.

-3 *angelica*.

[one ticket Chiltern Seeds] (*Erysimum Asperum*)] just showing, 15 April.

[p. 108] [nothing]

[p. 109- 113] [cut from journals]

[p. 114] Before I go away I think I should plant all the *fennel*, all the *achilleas*, all the *gaura*, and *knautia* in fact everything I can – I also planted a *miscanthus* this afternoon – I shall put one in the front garden as well – I should have 6 in total.

Cardoons – I planted some with *Euphorbias* sprouting strongly. I shall plant some more this week with the grasses.

Tues 20th Mar – back (without luggage) from skiing – weather has turned very cold with North wind. But still sunny.

-All seeds ok *Isabellianas* faded away – I'll be lucky to get 4.

-Sowed some *marjoram* & *echinacea* today. & planted out large *melianthus* & some more of the *coronilla glauca*.

[p. 115] Planted out the *cyclamen* in a tray as recommended – 28th Feb – nothing yet 20/3/07

[one ticket of Chiltern Seeds] [Cyclamen Hederifolium] They gradually germinated potted up about 10
4/09/07

Sunday 4th Mar 07

Not such a good weather day. Marco came this morning with lots of bulbs which he planted – iris, ixias, gladioli (?), dahlias, liatris, anemones, lilies – we'll see.

We also got some asphodels from the waste ground and in the afternoon planted out some eryngium agavifoliums and a couple of geranium maderiense.

[p. 116] [two tickets of Chiltern Seeds]

[Yucca, Mixed species] - These germinated very well - ready for transplanting 20/3/07
none germinated 14/09/07

Monday 26th Feb.

Lovely weather –sunny & warm.

Sowed varied yuccas today – in pots.

-I've been planting out various things that have lingered too long - box cuttings and various bulbs – must carry on!

[Yucca Elata]

Mary gave me a half packet of those planted out 28th Feb.

20th Mar – 2 seeds just sprouted.

14 Sept 07 – one seeding is surviving quite well.

[p. 117] [one ticket of Chiltern Seeds]

[Euphorbia, mixed Hardy species]

4Mar – sprouting

Already- say

About 50%

23rd Feb 07 planted these today

-tried to put some seeds together

-going to put some cardoon with succulent Euphorbia.

-Lovely day today after hard rain yesterday a.m.

[p. 118] [one ticket of Chiltern Seeds]

Wednesday 21st Feb. 07

-Lovely day

Garden club today. Visited Diana's & Christine's garden. Mary gave me a Euphorbia Wulfeni & a frangipani branch. (where is my tree peony?) At the plant table I bought two red hollyhock seedlings and 2 cobaea seedlings.

This afternoon I planted out some aeonium c-p in cracks in the paving.

I also sowed a packet of succulent Euphorbia's. What next?

4 March 07

[Euphorbias] sprouting already

20 Mar – potted up 2.

[p. 119] [one ticket of Chiltern Seeds]

4 Nov 07 – nothing showing from these [Hermodactylus Tuberosa] although 2 grasses Briza Media & Setaria all doing well.

Cytisus Albus, Pittosponum Undulatum and Hymenosporum Flavum all into 3 pots – I've put them in the propagators in my room so well see – also a whole packet of Hemodactylus.

About a month ago, maybe 5 weeks I collected some seed from a neighbour's Datura – soaked half for 3 days – sowed both lots. In 3-4 wks the soaked seeds germinated & grew strongly – I have potted up 4 or 5 today.

[p. 120] Sat. – potted up II Echinacea purpureum – trying to get as much potted up before I go away.

Just before I go away I'll sow the grass seeds I've got into bottles.

Left these [Echinacea purpureum] outside while I was away – they were either too damp or it was too sunny – only 3 survived and they look a bit peaky! Why is it always the plants that you really want that do so badly! – All died! (Mar 4).

20 Feb – Tuesday Carnival – everywhere very quiet - spent a day at home. Planted out a dozen or so of the Achillea Colorado, and three lots of the Bowles millium effusum.

Sowed three lots of grass – all of Festuca Amethystina (Festuca glauca did nothing) & ½ Briza Media & Setaria macrostachya.

[one ticket of Chiltern Seeds] Yesterday sowed ½ packets of PTO

[p. 121] 17th Jan

Planted some seeds from (3) Sesbania soaked for 3 days (still as hard as a rock) – also some variegated campsis given me by Mary.

The Weather continues fine – Garden Club yesterday – brought home some seed pods of *Spathodea* – promised Hilary a bronze fennel and something else.

Went to Albufeira today with Mary McCarvill for a little talk with Alan Mason and the other garden group – interesting to hear other people talk about their gardens.

27th Jan – met with Mary at Garden Club.
She gave me the tree Paeony she'd bought
I'm keeping it inside at the moment – it is so cold outside.

I potted up all the *eryngium agavifolius* today (18). Also some *aeoniums* c.p.
I also collected some seed heads from *verbena bonariensis* and sowed them in a bottle.

[pp. 122-129] [cuts from different journals]

[p. 130] [some tickets]
[*Echinacea Purpurea*]
II of these sprouted within 3-4 days.

Jan 6 – planted out the *Echinacea* seeds collected from garden in tray (not sure which bit was seed!)
Planted out *Heleniums* – very small seed.

29 Jan – *heleniums* just starting to sprout.

I have collected some *Urginea* from garden -I'll plant them a bit later.
Mid-February - quite a few have sprouted but very delicate-looking.

[p. 131] 20th December

Sowed some *Miscanthus Sinensis*.
Isoplexis isabelliana – sprouted very easily 2-3 days.
Libertia Formosa – only 1 or 2 after 3 days.

29th Dec 2006

Sowed whole pocket of *organic? Echinacea* & most of *pyrethrum rosea*.

[one ticket of Chiltern Seeds] [*Melianthus Major*] - 2 of these growing on strongly. Jan. 07.
3 potted up & doing well 29 Jan 07
3 more sprouted mid-Feb. – planted the rest of these Dec. 28th 06

4 Jan – still beautiful weather – dry sunny – hot during the day – cold at night.

[pp. 132-141] [cuts from journals]

[p. 142] [one ticket from Chiltern Seeds] [*Isoplexis Isabelliana*] – sprouted quickly.
Mid-Feb. I finally picked out about half a tray.

I have also collected from my garden seeds of several grasses which have sprouted, also *alliums* which have not & some *verbena bonariensis* – must plant some *echinaceas*.

Jan 11 – planted out yesterday some (5) *echiums peninana* and *gaura* (about 6).

Mid Feb – *libertia* ready for pricking out.

[p. 143] [two tickets' from Chiltern Seeds] Saturday 16th

Sowed non-anonymous mixtures (m20) & *Miscanthus Sinensis*.

The *miscanthus* has sprouted well 1cm high. Jan 6/07.

Sunday 17th Dec.

Sowed ½ pocket of *libertia formosa* & 1 packet *Isoplexis isabelliana* in seed trays wrapped in plastic.
29 Jan 07 - *Libertia* is sprouting well – ½inch high.
The *Isoplexis* sprouted quicker but looks a bit fragile.

[p. 144] *Agave VR* – only 2 surviving – look weak
Aristotochia – only 6 surviving.

Geranium maderense – 3 in pots, 1 seedling.

Knautia Macedonia – about 10 plants but struggling a bit – perhaps the wrong time of year.

Grasses
Bowes millium effusum – ready for potting easy.

Stipa gigantea about 10 plants – easy enough.

Stipa arundinacea – sprouted but didn't prosper – wrong time of year?

Pampas grass – 5 potsful – easy

Iris forrestii – sprouted ok but failed after – no roots – rot – wrong time of year.

Aeonium cp – picked out half – surviving

Gaura – potted out – very easy – 20 plants.

Echium pininana – potted up – 10 plants.

[p. 145] [cut from journal]

[p. 146] Saturday 2 Dec/06

Pouring with rain today – yesterday was beautiful – a public holiday – I went to Fonte Santa & bought 6 pistache, 2 Nandina, 4 small myrtles, + 2 blue bushes, etc.

Monday we had torrential rain – Marco came round to check all ok – his house in Quinta do Mar – basement - water chest high!

The rest of the week – weather not bad. Thursday with Marco we planted more stuff & changed around the top area near back gate.

Sunday Dec 17th

Fennel – all potted up, doing well, some ready for planting out! - About 20 plants.

Crambe Cord – ditto but only 4 plants.

Crambe Marit – 2 strong seedlings in jiffy pots + 2 more sprouting.

Achillea 'silver spray' – all potted up – doing well.-about 20

Achillea 'Colorado' – not quite as strong but all potted up & ok – 20 plants.

[p. 147] Nov 21st.

Sowed ½ Ipomoea Tricolor seeds. & ½ Melianttus Major. Also 1 'fillabel' (Packet of mixed seeds of shrubs & trees).

Potted up gaura /achillea silver spray & knautia macedonica.

It has been nice for last 4 days but rain is forecast.

Sunday 26th Nov. – Yesterday we put gravel down – working all day in garden – paid 150€ for small lorry load of gravel. Looks so much better.

Marco moved a lot of rocks too.

Today I potted up 4 geraniums. & ten or so Ipomoeas which were 4" high in 6 days.

-The shrubs were just beginning inside

-The ones I left out were doing nothing. Beautiful day today – not bad yesterday but very windy & wet the 2 days before.

[p. 148] [one cut from journal] Autumn sowing.

[p. 149] Oct 18th Monday

Started to rain today. Vitthal came with variegated fig. & two climbers.

I started re-positioning hedge yesterday seeds are doing quite well although I'm not sure how I'll keep them over the winter.

-Gaura is up, achilleas doing well, echium penina & knautia.

-aeonium is up but tiny also anigozanthus flavidus – I wonder why the grasses have done so poorly. I might leave them until the spring.

[pp. 150-156] [cuts from different journals]

[p. 157] Friday – cont.

Sowed Achillea Millefolium Colorado & Eryngium Agavifolium

[two tickets of Chiltern Seeds] – sprouted straight away. But not very many.

1 Dec – tiny seedlings.

Jan 28 – potted up.

18 seedlings – some are firstly sprouting in 2nd bottle.

Sprouted straight away.

All doing very well in pots.

Potted up Agave VR seedlings – look a bit fragile– checked archontophoenix etc – nothing – put new seeds in my room.

[p. 158] [three tickets of Chiltern Seeds]

Friday 6 Oct

Sowed: Anthriscus, Astrantia & Iris Forrestii. It is quite cold in the evening now – I'm going to put them in my room for 2 weeks and then outside – see what happens!

Have sprouted in my room.

[p. 159] [many tickets one over the other] sprouting beg. Nov.
sowed *Allium Karataras*.

[p. 160] Sunday Oct 1

pricked out 3 *crambe cordifolia*

pricked out *bronze sweet fennel* and planted some in garden.

Pricked out *echium pininana*

Also *Knautia Macedonia*

Saved some grass seeds from garden

[two tickets of Chiltern Seeds] Sowed these today together with ½ pocket of *Angelica Atropurpurea* – sprouted 10 Oct. Picked out Nov 30.

Sowed these in flower pot. One has spouted 25/10/06.

[p. 161] [three tickets from Chiltern Seeds]

[*Scabiosa Rumelica*]

Sprouting 26th Sept. Picked out into fully pots 10 Oct.

28th Sept – Thurs.

Planted *Crambe Maritima* & *Gaura Lindheimeri*.

[*Gaura Lindheimeri*]

Started to sprout 05/10/06 all Nov 1. Potted up

-some planted out in garden Jan- 07

[*Crambe Maritima*]

-one sprouting Nov 1.

3 sprouting Nov 20.

-only 2 now – potted up.

Dec!

[p. 162] Sunday 17th.

Sowed: *Echium pininana*

: also *Knautia Macedonia*

-struggle to find shade for the seeds.

Monday

Planted *Achillea Cartilaginea* ‘Silver spray’ – sprouting 26th Sept.

[two tickets of Chiltern Seeds]

Also some *Scabiosa Atropurpurea*

Sprouting 26th Sept....

Picked out into fully pots 1 Oct.

5 planted out in garden 3 to Mary 1 to Michelle

[p. 163] [paper with a list of Chiltern Seeds, Ulverston Catalogue No. M20 – 2006.

[p. 164] Thursday 14th Sept.

planted *archiontophoenix* in a water bottle, slit lengthways, filled with compost – nothing.

Planted sweet fennel – some in garden.

Sowed mixed bulbs seeds.

Sowed *Agave Vic. Reg.* on vermiculite.

[three tickets of Chiltern Seeds] –Seven of these have sprouted although very wet.

[*Agave Victoriae-Reginae*]

2 are spouting 26th Sept.

1 Oct 5 sprouting

- All rotted – perhaps wrong time of year.

- [*Sweet Fennel*]

- Sprouting 26th Sept.

- Picked out 10 Oct. al so planted some in garden.

[p. 165] Tuesday 12th Sept.

[five different tickets] Also *Luzula Nivea*

[*Anigozanthus Flavids*]

Started about Oct 10th

3 by Nov 1.

Dec. 1 about ½ Dozen – slow

Soaked Archontophoenix seeds for 24 hours.
Nothing!

[p. 166-167] [cuts from journals]

[p. 168] [three different tickets] Sunday 10th Sept.

Only one flowered. But the other two put forth leaves.[Urginea Maritima bulbs]

[p. 169] [three tickets] Saturday 9th Sept.

planted 3 more lots.
[Aristolochia ringens]

Nothing 26th Sept.
-maybe – Oct 19th
Started Nov 1 – 7 seedlings

These sprouted but did not thrive – should be sown Feb- Mar.
[Allium Neapolitanum]
Nothing 26th
[Festuca Glauca]
Nothing 26th s

[p. 170] Seeds.

02/09/06

Started with alstroemeria pulchella

[two tickets of Chiltern Seeds] nothing Sunday
Nothing 26th

Crambe cordifolia (which Mary says will not do here).

Sprouted Sunday. 17th
Doing well 26th Sept.
Planted out 1 Oct.
4 surviving.
Nov. 20.

Margaret Jackson

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Dear

Re: 19 Quinta das Salinas

Here are the drawings and a brief spec for the garden at Salinas.

The basic idea for the garden is that round the house and pool it should be quite densely planted - palms, strelitzias, yuccas, phormiums etc. but that the rest of the garden should be completely covered in pea gravel divided by drifts of grasses, gaura, achilleas, sedums etc. backed by myrtle hedges with outcrops of rocks with one or two small palms, or beaucarneas etc. as shown on the drawings.

The back garden will be fenced by the contractor with a pedestrian gate at the rear. Screening to the side will be an informal hedge of various kinds of fruit trees. To the right a lower screen of parkinsonias, white broom, dodonaeas, tamarisk, echiums etc. and this can be carried around the back with olive trees and some replanted palms as shown on the drawing.

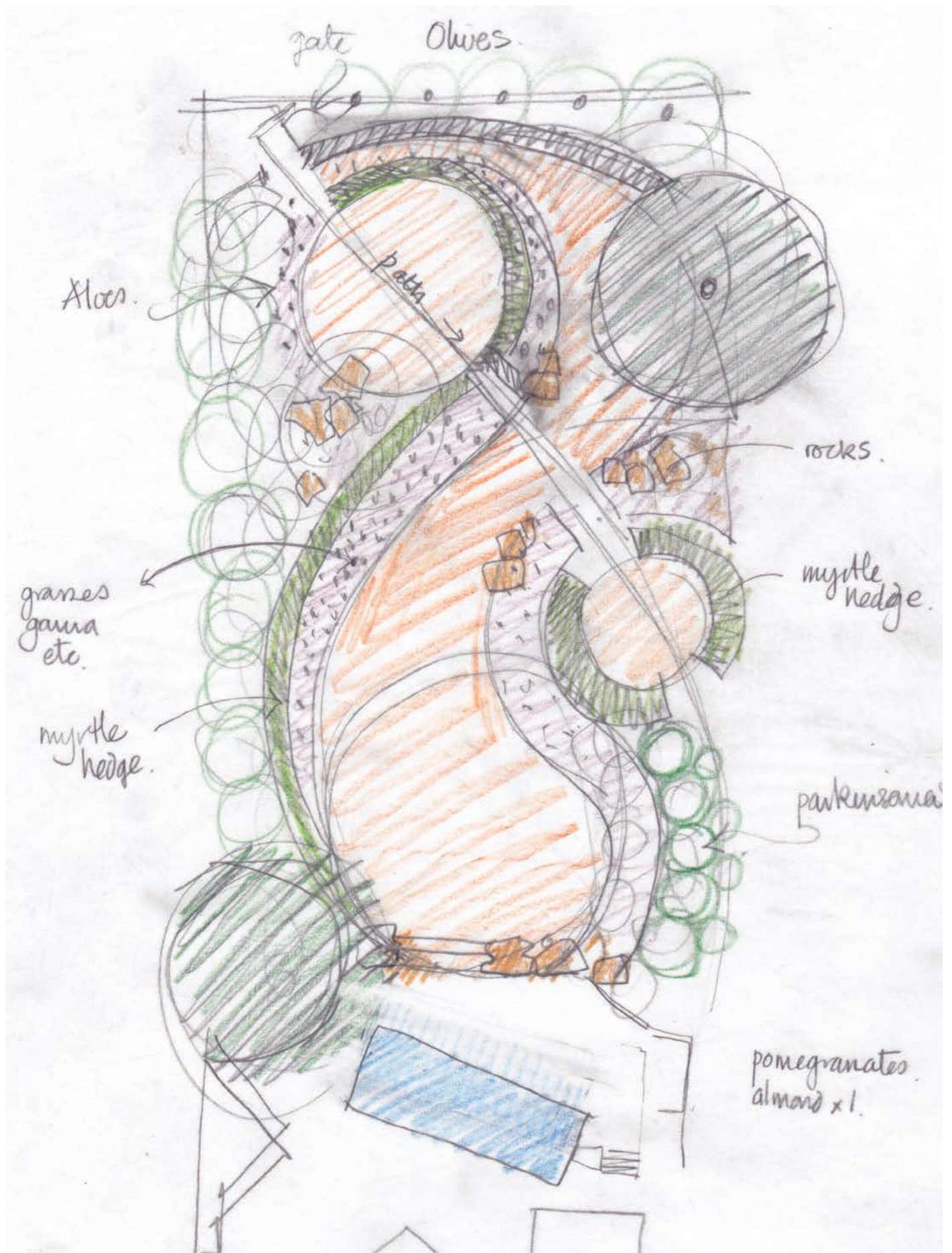
My idea for the back garden is that it should not be too full at the beginning - that the trees, hedges and larger plants supported by a watering system that will allow me to fill out the planting later.

Could you give me an estimate with the various items priced separately.

The site will be ready from about June onwards. The contractor expects to complete at the beginning of July. Could you let me know your proposed start date along with your estimate.

Let me know if you need any further information,

Regards,



19. Quinta das Salinas

1.00 Preparation

- 1.01 Clean and level site (approx 850 sq. metres)
- 1.02 Remove all builders' waste and debris from site including from the beds around the house
- 1.03 Take out all existing hedges and remove from site
- 1.04 Take off and keep for later use 300mm of sand all over site.
Provide clean broken stone (approx 150 cubic metres) fill to bring the site to 300mm below finished levels and spread the retained sand over the site.

2.00 Rocks, Stone paths and Gravel

- 2.01 Place the existing rocks and provide extra as shown.
- 2.02 Spread the whole site with 200 mm layer of approved organic matter and mix with the existing sand. The intention is to improve the whole of the garden so that planting can take place anywhere.
- 2.06 Provide and lay the reclaimed natural stone paths as shown on the drawings
- 2.07 Spread a layer 75mm thick of brown/pink pea gravel to finished levels.

3.00 Watering system

- *3.01 A 6-way Hunter Pro-C controller (or similar approved) with a rain sensor should be installed in the store as shown and connected to the pump provided by others. The layout of the irrigation will have to be approved before work starts.

4.00 Lighting:

- *4.01 Provide and fix 6 no outdoor spotlights wired to pump room.

5.00 Planting

- 5.01 Three no. existing Phoenix Canariensis palms to be relocated as shown on the drawing.
- 5.02 Hedges: Provide and plant Myrtus Communis Tarentina, min 300wx400h @3 plants per metre.
- 5.03 generally the drawings show the character of planting required. This should be listed and priced separately and will be discussed and approved before the work begins.

6.00 Maintenance

- *6.01 After the garden is complete no maintenance will be required as we will keep on our present contract gardeners. However any substantial shrubs or trees that fail during the first year will have to be replaced free of charge unless of course it is due to lack of water or other neglect on our part. You will be able to inspect the garden at any time during this period to ensure that your planting is properly cared for.

DOCUMENT 3 - List of the plants in Margaret's garden

The Latin names come from Margaret's exercise book; the observations were given by Margaret herself.

Plants in Margaret's garden

Latin name	Observations
<i>Achillea Cartilaginea</i>	These grew the first year but gradually dwindled
<i>Achillea Colorado</i>	ditto
<i>Achillea Millefolium Colorado</i>	ditto
<i>Achillea clypeolata</i>	ditto
<i>Aeonium Castello-Paivae</i>	These grew well and have lasted
<i>Agapanthus</i>	
<i>Agave attenuata</i>	
<i>Agave Victoria Regina</i>	
<i>Angelica Atropurpurea</i>	
<i>Anigozanthus</i>	
<i>Albizias</i>	
<i>Allium Karataras</i>	
<i>Allium Neapolitanum</i>	
<i>Alocasia</i>	
<i>Alstroemeria</i>	
<i>Alstroemeria pulchella Cactii</i>	seeds did not do well
<i>Anigozanthus</i>	
<i>Anigozanthus Flavidus</i>	seeds did not do well
<i>Anthriscus, Astrantia &</i>	seeds did not do well
<i>Arechontophoenix</i>	seeds did not do well
<i>Aristolochia</i>	
<i>Aristolochia ringens</i>	
<i>Bowes millium effusum</i>	
<i>Brachychiton</i>	
<i>Briza Media</i>	
<i>Bronze fennel</i>	grew well from seed and seeds itself happily throughout the garden
<i>Buddleia</i>	
<i>Cactii</i>	
<i>Callas</i>	
<i>Camassia</i>	
<i>Campsis</i>	
<i>Canna indica</i>	
<i>Cortaderia Argentea Var. Rosea</i>	this grew well from seed but was too big for my garden - given away
<i>Catanache</i>	grew well from seed and seeds itself happily
<i>Cerithe</i>	ditto
<i>Cestrums</i>	
<i>Cleome</i>	
<i>Clivia</i>	
<i>Convulvulus Cneorum</i>	
<i>Cordyline</i>	
<i>Coprosma</i>	
<i>Coreopsis</i>	grew well from seed and seeds itself happily throughout the garden
<i>Coronilla glauca</i>	grew well from seed
<i>Crambe cardifolia</i>	grew from seed but did not thrive - too hot
<i>Crambe Maritima</i>	diito
<i>Cycad</i>	

<i>Cycas revolute</i>	
<i>Cyclamen</i>	
<i>Cyclamen Hederifolium</i>	grew from seed but did not thrive - too hot
<i>Cytisus albus</i>	
<i>Cuphea</i>	
<i>Dodonaeas</i>	
<i>Dracaena Fragans</i>	
<i>Dracaena Indivisa</i>	
<i>Echinacea</i>	
<i>Echinacea purpureum</i>	I tried several times to grow from seed but did not thrive
<i>Echium pininana</i>	grew from seed but too big for my garden
<i>Echium</i>	
<i>Erysimum</i>	grew from seed but did not thrive - too hot
<i>Erysimum Asperum</i>	ditto
<i>Eryngium Agavifolium</i>	ditto
<i>erythina crus-galli</i>	
<i>euphorbias</i>	grew well from seed and seeds itself happily throughout the garden
<i>Euphorbia Wulfeni</i>	ditto
<i>Fennel</i>	see 'Bronze fennel'
<i>Festuca Amethystina</i>	seed didn't germinate well
<i>Festuca Glauca</i>	ditto
<i>freesias</i>	
<i>Gaura</i>	
<i>Gaura Lindheimeri</i>	grew well from seed and seeds itself happily throughout the garden
<i>Geranium Maderense</i>	grew well from seed and seeds itself.
<i>Glaucum Flavum</i>	
<i>Glechona</i>	
<i>Gloriosa superba</i>	
<i>Hedychium</i>	
<i>Heleniums</i>	
<i>Helenium Autumnale</i>	
<i>Helianthus</i>	
<i>Hemerocallis</i>	
<i>Hermodyctylus Tuberosa</i>	seed did not germinate
<i>Hymenosporum Flavus</i>	
<i>Ipponema Pittosporum undulate</i>	
<i>Ipomoeas</i>	
<i>Ipomoea Tricolor seeds</i>	didn't thrive
<i>Iris Forrestii</i>	ditto
<i>Iris Unguicularis</i>	ditto
<i>Isomeris</i>	
<i>Isoplexis isabelliana</i>	
<i>Knautia Macedonia</i>	
<i>libertia formosa</i>	grew well from seed and over the years made large clumps.
<i>Leonotis</i>	
<i>Ligularia</i>	
<i>Lilium Regale</i>	
<i>Lobelia tupa</i>	grown from seed and seeds itself in the gravel
<i>Luzula Nivea</i>	didn't do well
<i>Malva</i>	

<i>Mandevilla</i>	
<i>Mandevilla boliviensis</i>	
<i>Melia Azederach</i>	
<i>Melianthus Major</i>	grown from seed and seeds itself
<i>Milium Effusum Aureum</i>	
<i>Miscanthus Sinensis</i>	
<i>Monstera deliciosa</i>	
<i>Morus alba</i>	
<i>Musa</i>	
<i>Myrtus Communis</i>	
<i>Myrtus Tarentina</i>	
<i>Nandina</i>	
<i>Nasturtium</i>	
<i>Nasturtium 'Black Velvet'</i>	grew well from seed but didn't thrive
<i>Pachypodium</i>	
<i>Pampas grass</i>	see 'Cortaderia Argentea'
<i>Pancratium</i>	
<i>Passiflora</i>	
<i>Passiflora pinnatis</i>	
<i>Philodendron</i>	
<i>Pistache</i>	
<i>Pittosporum undulate</i>	
<i>Pittosporum</i>	
<i>Phoenix Dactilifera</i>	
<i>Phoenix Robbelini</i>	
<i>Phormium tenax</i>	
<i>Plumbago</i>	
<i>Pittosponum Undulatum</i>	
<i>Pyrethrum rosea</i>	
<i>Rosa mutabilis</i>	This does very well and I take cuttings every year
<i>Rudbeckia</i>	
<i>Small bamboo</i>	
<i>Scabious</i>	
<i>Scabiosa Atropurpurea</i>	grew from seed
<i>Scabiosa Rumelica</i>	
<i>Scarlet amaryllis</i>	
<i>Scaveola</i>	
<i>Sesbania</i>	
<i>Setaria</i>	
<i>Sollya heterophylla</i>	
<i>Sparmannia Africana</i>	
<i>Spathodea</i>	
<i>Stipa arundinacea</i>	grew from seed but too big for my garden
<i>Stipa Barbata</i>	didn't germinate
<i>Stipa gigantean</i>	ditto
<i>Strelitzia</i>	
<i>Strelitzia Nicolai</i>	
<i>Sweet Fennel</i>	
<i>Tagetes minata</i>	
<i>Tipuana</i>	