

Account of Purley on Thames Nursery Gardens

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Nursery Gardens is a small estate to the north of the A329 and to the west of Purley Lane. It was built on the major parts of the land of Westfield and leaving two of the other parts untouched. These latter two parts were the coach house and stables at the junction of the A329 and Purley Lane and the Garden house at the west end adjacent to Purvey's Lane.

Initially access was from the A329 which required the demolition of the two cottages (Well Cottage and ?). But later when Westfield itself had been demolished, after General White's widow died, the road was extended to a junction with Purley Lane. Where the original road terminated is marked by lay-bys. In addition five houses were built between Nursery Gardens and the main road with access either from Nursery Gardens or from the link road which eventually led into a roundabout.

The Garden House had been the house of the gardener and included a large garden. For many years it was the village post office. but burned down in 19xx. The garden to the rear had been turned first into a caravan estate but this was not very popular and did not last long. For more details see references to the Garden House, the Post Office and the Gutch family.

Following the death of Winston Churchill three more houses were built at the west end of Nursery Gardens and Purvey's Lane closed off to the north. This little road was named Winston Way and led to the allotments.

The houses that were built on the north side of Nursery Gardens abutted the railway and the ends of the owners' property did not go up to the railway boundary fence so most of them incorporated this small strip into their own gardens; but in 2019 reminded them that the land was not their's and required a token rent.

