

Proposed Restoration of the William Roxburgh House (1794) in the Indian Botanic Garden, Calcutta

To friends and contacts in Scotland & India with a shared interest in the conservation of Calcutta's heritage. Following recent meetings convened by Professor Vinita Damodaran (Centre for Environmental History, University of Sussex), attended by Dr Paramjit Singh, Director of the Botanical Survey of India, who was also welcomed by the Asia Scotland Trust at a reception in the Botanic Cottage in the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh in May 2018 there is a initiative to conserve Roxburgh House.

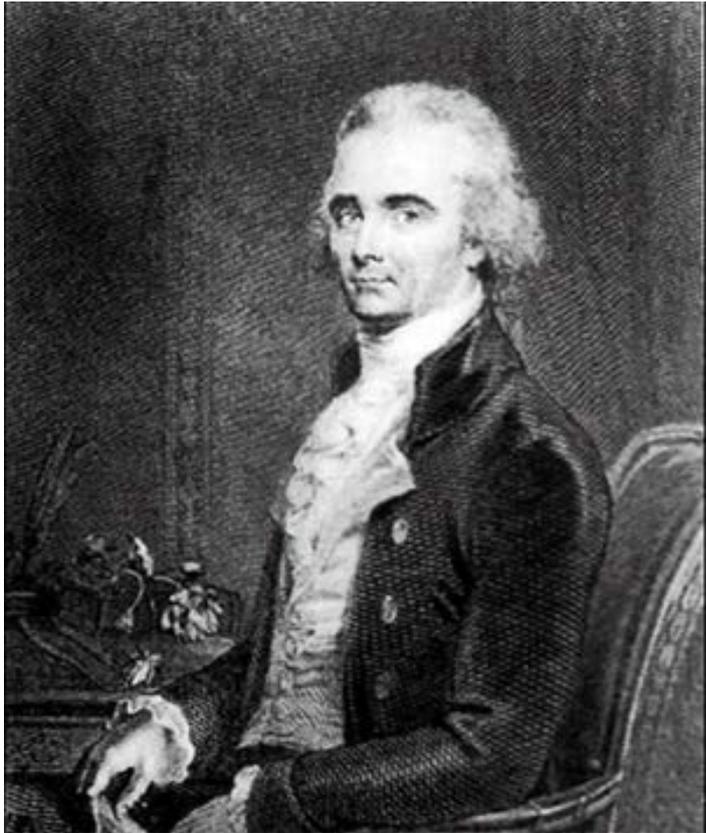
This includes a proposal for the restoration of the William Roxburgh House and the Library & Herbarium building in the Indian Botanic Garden in Calcutta, as an interdisciplinary climate research and interpretation centre. Also attached (above) is a remarkable and recently discovered photograph of the William Roxburgh House, taken in the 1850s and provided by a member of staff in the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh.

Below are images of the recently restored Botanic Cottage in the Edinburgh Botanic Garden and of the William Roxburgh House and the Library & Herbarium in Calcutta.



Prof, John Hope & John Williamson.

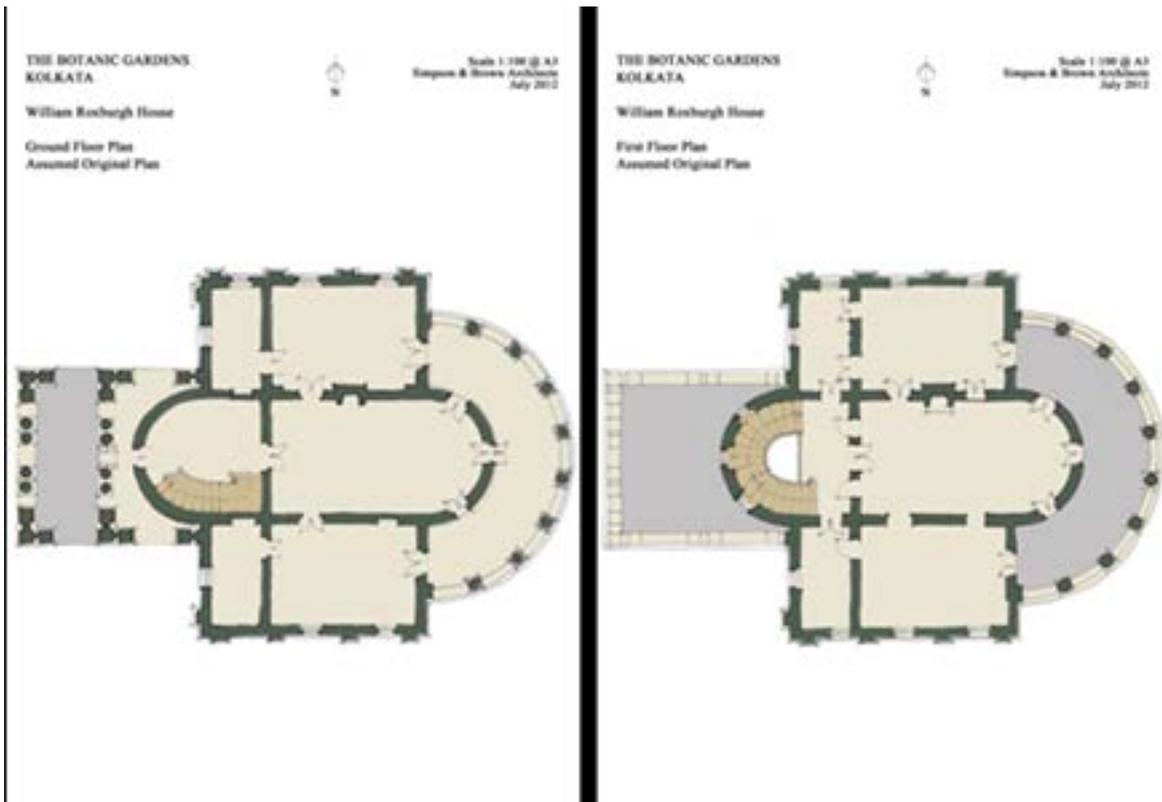
The Botanic Cottage, John Adam (1766) in the Edinburgh Botanic Garden, restored in 2016



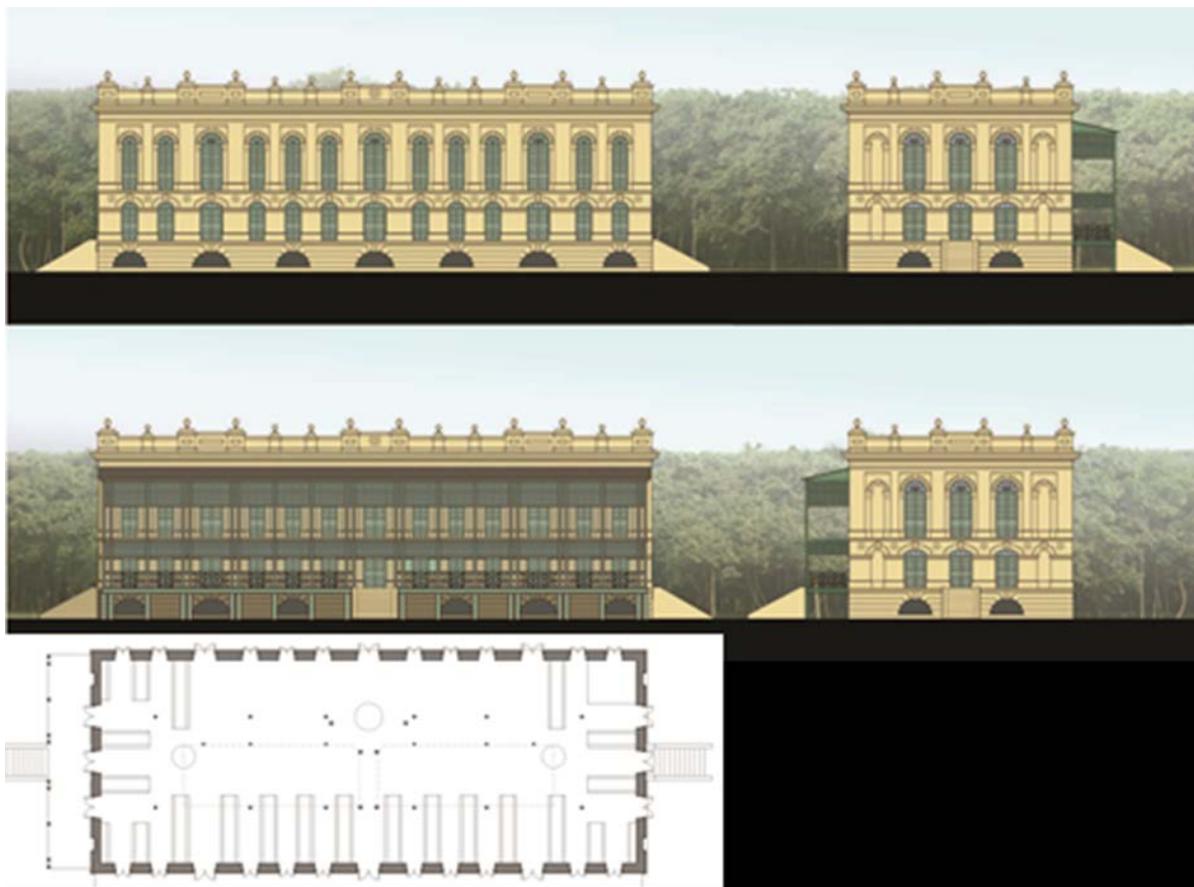
William Roxburgh, pupil of Hope in Edinburgh,
1st Superintendent in Calcutta & “Father of Indian Botany”



The Roxburgh Monument, Indian Botanic Garden, Calcutta



William Roxburgh House (1794) Plans (by Simpson & Brown) Indian Botanic Garden, Calcutta



Plan & Elevations (by Simpson & Brown) of the Herbarium & Library building in the Indian Botanic Garden, Calcutta, 1882.

The Edinburgh-based Asia Scotland Trust was established to promote the conservation of historic buildings in Asia, particularly those with Scottish connections. Its current focus is in Calcutta. The AST hopes to support the William Roxburgh House restoration, with the intention that it should be carried out as an 'exemplar' conservation project, offering training for professionals and the traditional trades in the management and delivery of building conservation projects to international standards.