

Lilleshall House.

LOT 2—*continued.*

Another range contains Tool House, open Cart Shed, with Onion Loft over, Carpenter's Shop, three-stall Stable, Harness Room, Hay Store, Trap House, Mess Room for journeymen gardeners and W.C.

The whole heated by range of two "Robin Hood" boilers and one saddle boiler, situate in Stoke Hole directly adjacent.

THE RUINS OF LILLESBALL ABBEY,

situate a little over half-a-mile away from Lilleshall House, and approached from the Mansion by grass-bordered private walk, leading through the Abbey Wood, flanked on either side throughout by rhododendrons and azaleas. These ruins are said to form one of the most perfect examples of Norman architecture at present existing in the Midlands.

The principal features of the ruins are the remains of the Chapel—207ft. in length—the Refectory, the Choir, the Cloisters, the Chapter House, the Infirmary and Dormitories.

One of the principal features of the Chapel is the remains of a magnificent East Window—belonging to the Early English period. The beautiful pointed arch, with parts of the foliated stone tracery still existing.

A fine round-headed Norman Arch, with richly recessed ribs and running foliage, adorns the Western entrance.

The South doorway—still in almost perfect condition—communicating with the Cloisters is described in the "Beauties of England" "as certainly one of the most highly adorned Norman arches in the Kingdom."

The Abbey is described in many works of historic, antiquarian and local interest. In some of these it is treated in great detail, especially in "Calvert's Picturesque Views in Staffordshire and Shropshire." Also in "Humbert's History of the County of Salop." Also in a "Brief History of Lilleshall." "Shropshire" Mates County Series, 1906. Also in "History of Lilleshall," by Rev. Henry de Bunsen.

THE PARK is one of marked beauty, consisting of boldly undulating lands, and the whole abundantly timbered principally with matured oak.

Situate in the Park is

THE POLO GROUND, the playing portion of which measures 800ft. × 360ft. The Polo Court is pronounced by experts to be one of the finest private grounds in the Kingdom. The whole is enclosed by a substantial timber fence, and containing an area of fifteen acres.

Situate near the Park Lodge is a

PRACTICE POLO COURT—24ft. × 15ft.—timber built, with corrugated iron roof.

AVENUES AND DRIVES.

The principal carriage drive is that leading to Mansion from the Newport entrance, which is about three-quarters of a mile from Newport Railway Station.

This entrance is guarded by a set of magnificent wrought iron gates, the central pair having the Sutherland Monogram in gilded floral iron work *applique*, the two supporting columns being about 18ft. high, on each of which are two lantern lights. Flanking these columns on each side is a grille *en suite*, connected with which on either side is a hand gate with 1895 in monogram, and each surrounded by a ducal coronet; these hand gates being supported further by two smaller grilles connected with large stone pillars with ball capitals.

The Drive—which is nearly a mile and a half in length, passes between wide grass margins bounded by plantations to the Pitchcroft Lodge, where, after crossing Pitchcroft Lane, it continues through similar surroundings for a distance of between 300 and 400 yards, and then passes through a picturesque glen, the banks of which are clad with a profusion of rhododendrons, and are crossed by an old ivy-clad bridge; it emerges therefrom alongside a sheet of water known as Cotes Pool, and afterwards proceeds through a long avenue of young broad-leaved elm trees—about twenty years' planted—extending up to the Park Lodge: the Avenue throughout its whole length has a backing of well-grown plantations; all laid out with a view to landscape effect.

Continuing almost due South from the Park Lodge, and leaving the Mansion House immediately on the right, the main drive traverses the Park and continues through an avenue of limes to Peartree Lodge; passing this, it enters the Nutty Hills Plantation, through which it continues to the Double Gates, where, crossing the Lillehurst Road, it enters the Sheriffhales Drive, and proceeds through a lime Avenue to the Shifnal entrance near the Southern boundary of the Estate, passing in its course the Sheriffhales Lodge Gates.