

Cedars Park Cheshunt



**Archaeological Investigation and
Recording of Structural Remains**



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Prepared by: Nick Croxson
Position: Buildings Archaeology Supervisor
Date: 28 April 2008

Checked by: Jon Gill
Position: Senior Project Manager (Historic Buildings)
Date: 28 April 2008

Approved by: Julian Munby
Position: Head of Buildings Archaeology
Date: 28 April 2008

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Oxford Archaeology

Janus House

Osney Mead

Oxford OX2 0ES

t: (0044) 1865 263800

e: info@oxfordarch.co.uk

f: (0044) 1865 793496

w: www.oxfordarch.co.uk

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Cedars Park, Cheshunt, Hertfordshire

ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION AND RECORDING OF STRUCTURAL REMAINS

SUMMARY

Oxford Archaeology (OA) have been commissioned by Broxbourne Borough Council to undertake an archaeological investigation into Cedars Park, Cheshunt, Hertfordshire. The main aim of this report is to increase the overall understanding of the site and its archaeological potential in order to assist in the preparation of a Conservation Management Plan. This is intended to inform Broxbourne Borough Council in the development of key plans and tasks to underpin a Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) Lottery Parks for People Bid for Cedars Park in 2008.

Cedars Park is a 30-acre popular and well-maintained park with two distinct facets: it is an important local resource which is well used and is popular for its facilities, open space, varied habitats, and developing event programme, and it is also the site of a magnificent 16th-century manor house, later to become a royal place known as Theobalds.

Theobalds Palace was originally built by Sir William Cecil between 1564 and 1585, and it was frequently used by Elizabeth I until her death in 1603. In 1607 it became a Royal Palace proper when James I decided to exchange it with Cecil's son Robert for the nearby Royal Manor of Hatfield. James died at Theobalds in 1625 and Charles I owned the palace until his execution in 1649. At this time Theobalds was listed amongst other royal properties for disposal by the Commonwealth and by 1650 was partly or largely demolished. Due to these close links with Royalty, Theobalds Palace is of great historical significance. It is also of archaeological significance in that it was believed by Sir John Summerson (one of the leading architectural historians of the 20th century) to have been one of the most important architectural achievements of the Elizabethan period.

This investigation comprises three main elements: historical desk based research, geophysical survey, and building assessment/recording. These stages have followed on chronologically from each other and the results of each element has informed the other stages of the project.

This work has largely confirmed the current understanding on the former layout of Theobalds Palace. However it has also been possible to outline the various phases of occupation on the site now encompassed by Cedars Park.

There is little in the way of above-ground archaeological remains, particularly from the primary palace structure, however there is great potential for buried remains. A geophysics survey carried out as part of this investigation has provided some insight into sub-surface features, although it has been of limited value in confirming which, if any, of the original palace walls survive below ground. Further geophysics however, using alternative techniques, could be targeted on specific areas which hold some potential for good results. In addition to this it is worth noting that certain areas hold high potential for valuable trial trenching, evaluation, and research digs, should this be approved by English Heritage. It is recommended that due to the potential presence of below ground archaeology in certain areas of the park, that any future intrusive ground works be archaeologically monitored.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

1.1.1 This report has been commissioned by Broxbourne Borough Council with the intention of investigating and recording the archaeological remains at Cedars Park in the Borough of Broxbourne, Hertfordshire. The main aim of this report is to increase the overall understanding of the site and its archaeological potential in order to assist in the preparation of a Conservation Management Plan. This is intended to inform the Council in the development of key plans and tasks to underpin a Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) Parks for People Bid for Cedars Park in 2008.

1.1.2 Cedars Park is located in the Borough of Broxbourne, Hertfordshire (Figure 1). It is the site of a 16th-century Royal Palace known as Theobalds which was largely built between 1564 and 1585 by Sir William Cecil. Theobalds Palace only survived for approximately one hundred years but was an influential building during its short life. Sir John Summerson (1959), one of Britain's leading architectural historians, believed that it was, with the possible exception of Longleat House and Wollaton Hall, the most important architectural adventure of the whole of Elizabeth's reign. Other manors such as Holdenby House and Audley End directly derive from it, and it is also believed that Castle Ashby, Apethorpe Hall, Rushton Hall (and perhaps Hardwick Hall) were all influenced by its design. For a brief period it was the most important and publicly acclaimed of all the great country houses built by the political grandees of the Elizabethan court (Airs, 2002). Reconstructions of Theobalds based on Summerson's research can be seen at Plates 1 & 2.

1.1.3 A brief description of the palace from 1629 from the journals of Abram Booth, describes Theobalds as 'large and magnificently built, with two square courtyards, many notable halls, chambers, and parlours. [It] has a pleasant garden adjacent with fountains and lovely walks and an agreeable summerhouse which is built very neatly and elegantly - and made comfortable - from where there is a fine view of the house, garden, and gamepark. The adjacent gamepark is the largest in the whole of England, enclosed by a brick wall more than ten miles long and stocked with many big game' (Louw 1984, p505-06).

1.1.4 It has close associations with Elizabeth I, James I, and Charles I, and as such is a site of great historical interest and significance. It was demolished in 1650 during the Civil War and little now remains of what was once an outstanding and influential architectural achievement.

1.2 Aims

1.2.1 The principal aim of this investigation is to increase the overall understanding of the site including both its archaeological potential and historical significance. This is intended to inform and underpin a larger bid to the HLF in 2008 for works to

Cedars Park. This investigation will assist in the preparation of a Conservation Management Plan which has been commissioned and produced separately. A further aim is to produce a formal archive record for posterity of the above-ground archaeological features.

1.3 Methodology

1.3.1 This investigation has been divided into three principle elements: 1) historical research, 2) geophysical survey and 3) building assessment/recording. These follow on chronologically from each other and the results of each element have informed the other constituents of the project.

1.3.2 **Historical Research** - The first phase of this investigation was a programme of historical research intended to provide a baseline understanding of the history of the site and the context of the remains, as well as informing and guiding the other two phases of the project. This research was undertaken at the Hertfordshire Archives and Local Studies, the Lowewood Museum in Broxbourne, the National Monuments Record in Swindon, and the Bodleian and Sackler libraries in Oxford. The research consulted all available maps, illustrations, aerial photography, and other historical documentation. Principal secondary sources have included a number of books and publications (see Bibliography at Appendix III for full list of sources).

1.3.3 Considering that Theobalds was such an influential and important house there is relatively little in the way of contemporary historical material. There are no reliable views of the palace and the earliest plan of Theobalds appears to have been made in 1611 by the architect, John Thorpe. There have however been several studies on the palace since this time, notably Sir John Summerson's *The Building of Theobalds 1564-1585* (1959). Summerson's work has been particularly significant and is generally considered to be the defining work on the palace itself.

1.3.4 Other key studies include *The Homes of the Cecils* by Gotch (1904), and '*Pomp or Glory*': *The influence of Theobalds*, by Airs (2002). Studies on the gardens include *Theobalds Palace: The Garden and Park*, by Andrews (1993), and *A Shared Passion: The Cecils and their Gardens* by Henderson (2002).

1.3.5 **Geophysical Survey** - This was undertaken by Bartlett-Clark Consultancy in order to provide an indication of sub-surface remains. The survey was carried out between 3rd and 5th September 2007 under the terms of a Section 42 licence obtained from English Heritage.

1.3.6 It was recommended that a magnetometer survey be undertaken in order to provide an initial outline indication of the buried remains in all available areas of Cedars Park. It must be noted however that the areas believed to have the highest potential were the areas where the geophysics was either impossible or worked least well due to ground cover or type of ground surface. For example the car parking areas, and the woodland area to the north of the site.

- 1.3.7 **Assessment and recording of Structural Remains** - The third phase of this investigation was a programme of assessment and recording of the visible structural remains at the site. These remains largely comprise a number of long brick palace boundary walls, but surviving buildings have also been covered by this element of the project.
- 1.3.8 The aims of this element of the investigation are twofold; to interpret, assess and understand the nature and significance of the structural remains at the site, and to produce an outline formal archive record for posterity.
- 1.3.9 This work includes the production of an overall site plan (based on the existing CAD survey) identifying all the above ground structural remains on the site and allocating identification numbers to each distinct feature (Figure 28). Each feature has been described, assessed and interpreted in terms of its structure, construction, age, use and significance.
- 1.3.10 General photographs (as opposed to rectified) have been taken of each feature using black and white print film and colour slide (for the formal archive record), and with a digital camera. The work includes every building on site but concentrates on the older structures.
- 1.3.11 The formal recording broadly conforms to Levels I-II (as defined by English Heritage in *Understanding Historic Buildings: a Guide to Good Recording Practice* (2006). This does not include any drawn elevations, rectified photography with interpretative overlays, or 'stitched together' photographic mosaics (eg of boundary walls).
- 1.3.12 Due to the large numbers of archaeological features being recorded, part of this report takes the form of a gazetteer with descriptions and photographs. This can be found at Appendix I.
- 1.3.13 This report has been structured to provide a general historical background and a historical description of the house and gardens. It then describes the site as it is seen today and how the existing structural remains relate to the historical context.
- 1.4 **Acknowledgements**
- 1.4.1 OA would particularly like to thank Michael Dewbrey of the Enfield Archaeological Society, Neil Robbins of the Lowewood Museum, and Adrian Hall, Parks Manager at Cedars Park, for their assistance and co-operation in this project.

2 HISTORICAL RESEARCH

2.1 Theobalds Palace and Cedars Park

2.1.1 Although there are comparatively few contemporary historical accounts relating to Theobalds, there are later accounts and research. Much of the information in the following section comes from Colvin and Summerson's *The History of the Kings Works, Volume IV, 1485-1660* (1982), Rooke's *Theobalds Through the Centuries, The changing fortunes of a Hertfordshire house and estate* (1980), and Summerson's 1959 seminal works on *The Building of Theobalds 1564-1585*.

2.1.2 The original structure of Theobalds was a small moated house which now lies within the grounds of Theobalds Park. This is a short distance to the south-west of what is now known as the site of Theobalds Palace and is outside Cedars Park and the scope of the current investigation. In 1385, this first building was known as the Manor of Cullynges and was owned by a William Attemore of Cheshunt. Attemore was indebted to a man by the name of William Tongge and it appears that the manor, along with an estate known as Le Mores, were handed over to Tongge. The manor then became known as Tongs after its new owner, until 1441 when it became the manor of Thebaudes. At this time, being vested in the crown, it was granted to John Carpenter, master of St Anthony's Hospital in London, his son, and John Somerset, the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

2.1.3 After 1441 there are no records as to owners until 1564 when Sir William Cecil, Lord Burghley, bought the manor of Theobalds. Cecil was the Secretary of State and Master of Requests to both Edward VI and Elizabeth I. A plan endorsed by Cecil located at the Hatfield collection shows this as 'The first Grond platt of Thebalds' (Figure 2). In July 1564, Queen Elizabeth I honoured Cecil with her first visit to Theobalds, and Summerson suggests that it must have been at this house where she was entertained. It is believed that she then expressed the intention of a return visit. In the same year Cecil began building a new house for his youngest son Robert on the site now encompassed by modern day Cedars Park stating later in 1585 that 'it was begun by me with a mean measure but encreast by occasion of her Majesty's often coming' (Nichols 1823).

2.1.4 The new site was approximately half a kilometre to the west of the main London to Ware road and only 82 metres south of the branch road to St. Albans, now Theobalds Lane. This new location was considerably more accessible than the old moated house, and the London to Ware road would have been the main route to and from Cecil's principal seat at Stamford, Burghley House. Another reason for his choice of location is almost certainly the proximity of a number of Royal houses such as Enfield, Hertford Castle, and Hatfield, and also the residences of a number of close friends and family members.

2.1.5 A plan from the Hatfield collection shows a design endorsed by Cecil and showing in one place 'platt of Thebalds New', and in another 'A platt for to have reformed

ye old house'. Summerson concludes that this refers to a revised plan of the new Theobalds. This revision can be seen at Figure 3. However it seems that these reforms were not adopted and the increasing number of visits from Elizabeth encouraged him to enlarge and elaborate on this design.

- 2.1.6 Every spring and summer of her forty four year reign, Elizabeth insisted that her court go "on progress". This was a series of Royal visits to towns and aristocratic homes in southern England providing direct contact with her subjects. They were emblematic of her rule and intrinsic to her ability to govern. According to Cole (1957) she visited Theobalds 12 times between 1564 and 1597 during these progresses for a total of approximately 46 days, around 7 weeks.
- 2.1.7 By 1571 when the Queen visited, more works had been undertaken, and from 1572 Royal lodgings were present in the house. It is believed that the building programme at Theobalds was ongoing until about 1585. It is likely that the number of Royal visits was in part down to the proximity of Theobalds, approximately one day's journey from London. It therefore served a very practical function in respect to the Royal progresses around England.
- 2.1.8 Figures 4 to 13 show various plans and elevations which show the development and ideas behind Theobalds, some of which are made by architects. Cecil was closely involved with all stages of development. The plans do not necessarily reflect the form of the palace after its completion and many of the earliest plans are draft designs and proposals, not all of which were adopted. For example the plan shown at Figures 4 & 5 includes a neatly cut flap on which has been drawn an additional second court. Figure 4 shows the flap raised, whilst Figure 5 shows it lowered. Similarly Figures 8 & 10 are both marked as 'voyd'. Whilst these early plans tend to be draft versions, they nonetheless give us a good idea of what Cecil was attempting to achieve at Theobalds.
- 2.1.9 According to Gotch (1904), the Middle Court and Base Court were built between 1564 and 1570, whilst the Fountain or Conduit Court was a later addition built between 1584 and 1588.
- 2.1.10 Figures 14 & 15 show a section and a plan of a house which it is believed are related to Theobalds, while Figures 16 & 17 show the palace layout in its completion at some point before 1607. Figure 18 shows a plan of the house and gardens as suggested by John Thorpe's survey of 1608 and made by Andrews (1993). Figure 19 shows a plan of Theobalds signed by John Thorpe in 1611.
- 2.1.11 In 1598 Lord Burghley died and was succeeded by his son Robert, who was later to become the Earl of Salisbury. Five years later in March 1603, Queen Elizabeth also died. She was succeeded by King James VI of Scotland (James I of England), who then embarked on a slow Royal progress from Edinburgh to London. He was received at a number of stately homes en route and arrived at Theobalds on the 3rd May 1603, his last stopping place before reaching London. Large crowds came to see the arrival of the new King at Theobalds and according to Rooke (1980):

'the multitude of people in highways, fields, meadows, closes, and on trees was such that they covered the beauty of the fields; and so greedy were they to behold the countenance of the King that with much unruliness they injured and hurt one another.

'Thus, then, for his Majesty coming up the walk. There came before him some of the nobility, some barons, knight, esquires, gentlemen and others; among them were the Sherriff of Essex and most of his men, the trumpets sounding next before his Highness, sometimes one, sometimes another; his Majesty not riding continuously betwixt the same two noblemen but sometimes with one and sometimes with another as seemed best to his Highness; the whole nobility of the land around him observing no place of nobility, but all bare headed; all of whom alighted at the first court's door, save only his Majesty who rode along still, with four noblemen laying hands upon his steed. In this manner he came to the court's door where I myself stood, where he alighted from his horse, from which he had not gone ten princely paces when there was delivered to him a petition by a young gentleman, his Majesty returning his gracious answer that 'he should be heard and have justice'. At the entrance to that court stood several noblemen among whom was Robert Cecil, who, there meeting his Majesty, conducted him into his house - all which was practised with so great applause of the people as could be - hearty prayers and throwing up of hats'.

2.1.12 He was entertained for four days by Cecil, and according to Colvin & Summerson (1982) the King returned to Theobalds again in July 1604, and in the same month in 1605 and 1606.

2.1.13 When James returned in 1606 it was again for four days, this time with his brother in law Christian IV, the King of Denmark. According to Rooke (1980), a well known record from Sir John Harrington, a wit of Elizabeth's court, recounts the revels of this visit:

'The sports began each day in such manner as persuaded me of Mahomet's paradise. We had women and indeed wine too of such plenty as would have astonished each sober beholder. Our feasts were magnificent, and the two royal guests did most lovingly embrace each other at the table; I think the Dane hath strangely wrought our good English nobles, for those whom I never could get to taste good liquor now follow the fashion and wallow in beastly delights. The ladies abandon their sobriety and roll about in intoxication. There hath been no lack of good living: shows, sights and banquetings from morn to eve.

'One day a great feast was held, and after dinner the representation of Solomon his temple and the coming of the Queen of Sheba was made before their Majesties. The lady who did play the Queen's part did carry most precious gifts to both their Majesties; but forgetting the steps arising to the canopy overset her caskets into his Danish Majesty's lap and fell at his feet, though I rather think it was in his face. Much was the hurry and confusion; cloths and napkins were at hand to make all

clean. His Majesty got up and would dance with the Queen of Sheba; but he fell down and humbled himself before her and was carried to an inner chamber and laid on a bed of state, which was not a little defiled with the presents of the Queen of Sheba which had been bestowed on his garments, such as jelly, wine, cream, beverage, cakes, spices and other good matters.

'The entertainment went forward and most of the presenters went backward or fell down, wine did so occupy their upper chambers. Now did appear Hope, Faith and Charity. Hope did assay to speak but wine rendered her endeavours so feeble that she withdrew and hoped the king would excuse her brevity. Faith was then all alone for I am certain she was not joined by good works, but left the court in a staggering condition. Charity came to the King's feet and seemed to cover the multitude of sins her sisters had committed. In some sort she made obeisance and brought gifts, but said she would return home again as there was no gift which heaven had not already given his Majesty. She then returned to Hope and Faith who were both sick and spewing in the Lower hall.

'Next came Victory in bright armour and presented a rich sword to the King who did not accept it but put it by with his hand; but Victory did not triumph long, for after much lamentable utterance she was led away like a silly captive and laid to sleep on the outer steps of the antechamber.

'Now did Peace make entry and strive to get foremost to the King; but I grieve to tell how great wrath she did discover unto her attendants and much contrary to her semblance most rudely made war with her olive branch and laid on the pates of those who did oppose her coming. I did never see such lack of good order, discretion and sobriety as I have now done'.

- 2.1.14 James was clearly taken with Theobalds and in the following year of 1607 exchanged the estate with the Royal Manor of Hatfield. This arrangement suited both parties. According to Colvin & Summerson (1982), it provided James with one of the most handsomest of modern palaces in an area where there were no royal houses and which was on the main road to the north. For Salisbury, the advantage was in the conveyance to him by the King of seventeen manors in various counties. This enabled him to at once start building a manor suited to his own needs at Hatfield. Theobalds now became a Royal Palace proper where James spent a large amount of time entertaining and hunting and where he also kept a private zoo.
- 2.1.15 Between 1607 and 1608 James added 320 acres and in 1612 spent £11,000 buying more land. The grounds were expanded again between 1620 and 1622 when James ordered a nine and a half mile brick wall to be built to enclose the estate. This was to be the maximum extent of Theobalds Palace grounds. A contemporary account from 1613 by a Michael Drayton on the changing landscape of Hertfordshire at this time may have been commenting on Theobalds [as well Waltham Forest] (Munby 1977, p154):

“Where daintie Summer Bowers, and Arborets are made,

Cut out of Busshy thicks, for coolnesse of the shade.

*The Ridge and Furrow shewes, that once the crooked Plow,
Turn'd up the grassy turfe, where Okes are rooted now:
And at this houre we see, the Share and Coulter teare
The full and corne-bearing gleabe, where sometimes forests were.”*

- 2.1.16 James made Theobalds his principal country residence and it was there that he died in 1625 (Gotch, 1904). He was immediately succeeded by his son Charles I who had spent much of his childhood at the palace, though after his accession to the throne he rarely spent time there. He did however ride forth to Nottingham from Theobalds in 1642 at the start of the English Civil War.
- 2.1.17 During the war, Theobalds was kept in good condition, however one year after the execution of Charles in 1649, an Act of Parliament was passed which would in effect signal the last days of Theobalds. All properties and their furnishings belonging to the Crown were to be surveyed, valued and sold for the benefit of the commonwealth. Therefore in 1650 under this act, Theobalds was surveyed by the Parliamentary Commissioners and despite being reported as ‘an excellent building in a good state of repair, and by no means fit to be demolished’, demolition work was soon initiated. The building materials were sold off and the profits divided amongst the army (Colvin & Summerson).
- 2.1.18 Although Theobalds was largely demolished at this time it appears from records that the palace was not fully demolished. It is stated by Rooke (1980) that as late as 1783, a survey of the Theobalds estate mentions “the former Palace of Theobalds, now in a ruinous condition”, suggesting that elements still survived.
- 2.1.19 In 1661 the first Duke of Albemarle obtained a grant of the site. It passed to the second duke, but on his death reverted to the Crown without issue following the Restoration of the Monarchy in 1660 under Charles II. It was then granted to the Earl of Portland whose great grandson, the Duke of Portland, sold it in 1763 to George Prescott Esq. At this point everything was demolished except for fragmentary portions, some of which still survive (Colvin & Summerson *ibid*).
- 2.1.20 When the estate passed to Prescott in 1763 he proceeded to construct a large new Theobalds House approximately 1km to the south-west of the 16th century palace site and approximately 1km to the north-west of the original moated manor house site. This is now known as Theobalds Park and the old palace presumably formed a ruin in an outlying part of the grounds.
- 2.1.21 During the 18th century the former palace site was developed with four substantial houses by the lord of the manor which can be seen on Figures 20 to 24. Figure 20 shows the apparent extent of the grounds of each of these estates in 1883. One of these was known as Old Palace House (Plate 5), and it incorporated in its structure several fragments of the original palace fabric, notably a window in its west front

which can be seen at Plate 6. This fragment can still be seen today despite Old Palace House burning down in the 1960s. One of the other houses was called The Cedars (Plate 7) and a large part of this survives today which gives the park its name.

- 2.1.22 Jackson House (later to become a Victorian School) was the third of these houses and this was located towards the northern boundary of the current Cedars Park but there is some doubt about the name of the fourth house which was located to the east of The Cedars. Although it is not named on any of the maps Draper (1905) refers to Grove House being one of the four and this is presumably the structure to the east of The Cedars. Andrews (1993) refers to Old Grove House (which was demolished in 1912) so this was presumably also the same structure although it is possibly that Grove and Old Grove could be alternative names sometimes used for the other structures. For the purposes of this report Grove House has been used as the name of the fourth house.
- 2.1.23 These buildings are first seen on a 1785 map of Cheshunt (Figure 21). However by the early 20th century according to the 1914 OS map (Figure 25), both Grove House and Jacksons School had been demolished.
- 2.1.24 In 1820 Sir Henry Meux leased the property from the Prescott family and the Meux family remained in residence into the early 20th century. It was here in 1887 that Sir Henry Bruce Meux brought the stones of the Temple Bar to be reconstructed. Temple Bar originally marked the former west gate of the City of London at the junction of Fleet Street and the Strand. It was built in 1679 and demolished in 1878. In 2004 it was reinstated back in London on the north side of St. Pauls Cathedral (OA, 2005).
- 2.1.25 In 1938 Theobalds Park was sold to Middlesex County Council. Figure 26 shows the 1935 OS map of Cedars Park just prior to this transaction, whilst Figure 27 shows the suggested footprint of Theobalds Palace projected onto this map by Summerson. The 19th and 20th-century history of the section of the park which became Cedars Park is not well known but clearly during this period (probably the early 20th century), it was sold separately and its ownership became divided from the remaining Theobalds House which today functions as a training and conference centre.
- 2.1.26 The site of Cedars Park today broadly divides into several distinct areas. Along the northern edge of the site is a band of mixed deciduous woodland (c.40-60m deep), which appears to have established since the demolition of Jacksons School. To the west of this is the site of a former boating lake. Much of the eastern third of the site is a large area with generally informal planting, paths and trees, while to the west of this is a smaller area with a combination of formal and informal planting. In the western half of the site is a large, walled, grassed area with little planting and to the west of this is another large area, again with no formal planting. According to an aerial photograph from 1969 (Plate 9), this western most area was a large gravel extraction site during the 1960s which has since been back filled and planted with trees. The southern third of the site is largely overgrown and it includes an area

which has been recently incorporated into the park. According to the aerial photograph of 1952 (Plate 8), this was glasshouses.

- 2.1.27 It is well known that the estate contained a well developed garden and it may well be that elements of the current garden layout such as the wooded areas may survive from when it was a Royal household (as well as the structural remains). For example it appears that the now dry boating lake to the west of the palace site is indicated on Thorpe's 1611 Survey. It has also been suggested by Andrews (1993) that the linear lake to the south east of the palace site would appear to mark part of the moat layout (Figure 21).
- 2.1.28 The remains of Theobalds Palace form a Scheduled Ancient Monument which covers less than half of Cedars Park. In addition there are a number of Grade II listed structures including the long brick walls, a grotto, an outbuilding and small fragments from the former palace itself.
- 2.1.29 Figure 28 shows the layout of Cedars Park at present along with the visible archaeological features which have been investigated and recorded as part of this project.

2.2 **Historical Description of Theobalds Palace**

- 2.2.1 There are a number of historical accounts of Theobalds Palace through which it is possible to gain a relatively clear picture of its original architectural design. However it is through Sir John Summerson's extensive research that we gain the most accurate impression;

"This was a house built round two great courts, not as big as Hampton Court but more on the scale of St. James' Palace or the Charterhouse; red brick throughout, with stone dressings - in this respect again exactly like Hatfield House. It was formal in layout, again like Hatfield. A long straight causeway led up to an ornamental arch, then across a preliminary court to the main entrance. Here, at this point is the great innovation. The entrance is not the traditional, high, turreted gatehouse but an arched opening in a long, two storeyed building - a kind of screen building lower than the rest of the house so that the gables of the hall block and its spiring lantern can be seen behind and over it. Through this entrance we are in the first of the two main courts. It is quiet and not architecturally remarkable except for the arched loggia in front of the hall block, almost a copy of what Burghley had already built (and what still exists) at Burghley House, his family seat at Stamford. If we cross this loggia and then go through the passage at the end of the hall we are in the second of the two courts - the Fountain court. In the Fountain Court at Theobalds, Burghley and his people did a remarkable thing. They borrowed, perhaps for the first time in England, and Italian plan. It is a square plan, with big square towers at each of the corners. They gave it an Italian architrave, frieze and cornice at first floor level, probably another at second floor level and certainly balustrades all round. They kept the roofs flat. But the windows were mullioned, and

at each corner of each of the four towers was a slate-hung turret with a lead tip and a gilded lion holding a gilded vane - sixteen turrets and vanes in all. You can see the same composition more or less repeated, but in stone, at Audley End, and spectacular it is.

“There must have been two especially memorable views of Theobalds. One would have been the approach mentioned just now; a balanced, recessive vista of square masses, gables, towers, and turrets; the other would be the view across the great garden which lay along the sunny side of the house. This view would include the whole bulk of the Fountain Court buildings, as extravagantly windowed as Hardwick Hall, with a deep seven arched loggia on the ground floor and, in the centre, a tall porch-like bay (a small fragment of which still remains in the garden of Old Palace House). Then, to the right of this would be the much less regular outer flank of the other court with chimney stacks climbing up the walls and a set of tall windows marking the chapel. Finally, on the extreme right, would be a block coming forward into the garden and containing an open loggia and gallery. The silhouette of the whole would be a crowd of turrets, vanes and ornamental chimneys, the lantern over the hall block with its gilded clock and chiming bells reaching higher than any of them. A panorama of lively cherry-red brick and white stone with blue-grey and gold in the turrets; and the rigid, geometrical garden with its painted posts carpeting out in front of it as far as the moat.”

- 2.2.2 Summerson considers that Theobalds Palace was one of the most significant architectural achievements of the Elizabethan period and it heavily influenced a number of subsequent buildings, in particular Audley End just outside Saffron Walden in Essex. Many of the features known to have been present at Theobalds are mirrored here, and also at Hatfield House built by Lord Burghley's son, Robert Cecil.
- 2.2.3 The architecture of Theobalds was typical of the period and is reflected in features such as the arcaded loggia, a stock feature of the courtyard houses of the mid-16th century. These loggias were one of the main vehicles for displays of the classical ornament so fashionable in the 1560s and 1570s (Girouard 1983). According to Gotch (1904), all visitors who have recorded their impressions of Theobalds, and all topographers who speak of it, agree in extolling the magnificence of the house and of the surrounding gardens.
- 2.2.4 According to Sutton (2000), the interior of the palace was as grandiose as its external appearance as would be expected, and this is substantiated by a number of accounts from late Elizabethan travellers. Some rooms were more formal than others replete with fleur-de-lis and roses in relief, stags' heads, wood panelling, and gilded plaster ceilings which paid homage to the reign of Elizabeth and the Tudor family. Others rooms were more fanciful and imaginative in their decorative programs and were designed to impress visitors. The Great Chamber overlooking the Great Garden to the south was one such room. According to Rathgeb visiting in 1592 it is said to have boasted:

“a very high rock, of all colours, made of real stones out of which gushes a splendid fountain that falls into a large circular bowl or basin supported by two savages. This hall has no pillars; it is about sixty feet in length and upwards of thirty wide. The ceiling or upper floor is very artistically constructed: it contains the 12 signs of the zodiac so that at night you can see distinctly the stars proper to each: on the same stage the sun performs its course, which is without doubt contrived by some concealed ingenious mechanism. On each side of the hall are six trees, having the natural bark so artfully joined, with birds nests’ and leaves as well as fruit upon them, all managed in such a manner that you could not distinguish between the natural and artificial trees...for when the steward...opened the windows, which looked upon the beautiful pleasure-garden, birds flew into the hall, perched themselves on the trees and began to sing”.

2.2.5 This extravagance was discarded by Cecil’s son Robert who understood that this iconography was by the 17th century, out of fashion. He was now concerned with making sure that the decorative programme was to the taste of King James. Robert’s various alterations to the house marked the symbolic beginning of an unforeseen end. James would finish the transformation, establishing a Stuart palace in place of an opulent and significant Elizabethan country house.

2.2.6 An engraving of one of the rooms (Plate 3), and a drawing of panelling by John Smythson dated 1618 (Plate 4), give us an impression of the decorative programme at Theobalds. The engraving is unfortunately undated.

2.3 **The Gardens and Grounds**

2.3.1 The best contemporary descriptions of the gardens at Theobalds are found in the travel diaries of foreign visitors, especially the accounts of Jacob Rathgeb, who visited with the Duke of Wurtemberg in 1592, of Paul Hentzner, a German who visited during Burghley’s funeral in 1598, and of Baron Waldstein, a young Moravian nobleman, in 1600. These distinguished visitors were shown the gardens to the south and west of the house, but none apparently saw Lord Burghley’s privy garden. The only known contemporary records of the gardens of Theobalds come in the form of the survey made by John Thorpe in 1611 (Figure 19). This survey shows the approach and courts including Base Court or Dial Court, Middle Court, and the Conduit or Fountain Court as well as the main buildings and structures present at this time. It also appears to show the Great Garden, Maze Garden, Privy Garden, Kitchen Garden, Pheasant and Laundrie Gardens, and the fishpond to the west.

2.3.2 Henderson (2002) states that the gardens of the Cecils were typical of great gardens of their time, consisting of intimate pleasure gardens, gardens for show and display, as well as kitchen gardens, orchards and vineyards. According to Rathgeb, the garden was ‘of immense extent’ and, like the palace, most magnificent’ with ‘no expense spared’. The gardens were divided into compartments by walls and ‘quicksett hedges’ and internally by gravel walks, where ‘one might walk two

mile[s]...before he came to the ends'. Access to the garden, according to Hentzner whose account is the fullest, was through a loggia 'painted [with] the genealogy of the kings of England', but described in the parliamentary survey as having 'old Burley's' family tree' (Henderson 2002).

2.3.3 Andrews (1993) has undertaken extensive research into the palace grounds in *Theobalds Palace: The Gardens and Park*. The text below is largely summarised from his findings (from the surveys of Thorpe in 1611, the Parliamentary Survey of 1650, and from Summerson's research in 1959). Andrews' research can also be seen at Figure 18.

2.3.4 **The Approach** - Theobalds was originally approached by an L-shaped drive from the north, however after additional land was purchased to the east in 1585, a causeway approach from the London to Ware road was built. Opposite this entrance on the eastern side of the London Road, were almshouses built by Lord Burghley. Adjacent to this, following the Crown's acquisition of Theobalds, stabling was erected which replaced that on the north side of the Base Court. The main entrance gateway to Theobalds took the form of a half-round arch with pilasters, cornices and splayed quoins to the sides, with the gateway surmounted by a taffrell constructed in brick, as was the surrounding park wall.

2.3.5 The design of this was repeated in the entry at Base Court, where twin porters lodges were constructed in 1607. The Parliamentary Survey of 1650 describes the approach as consisting of an avenue of young elms and ash of 100 poles, approximately 500 metres. To the north of the approach was a 'close of pasture' known as Stonie Cross and a linear pond on an east-west alignment. To the south was a parcel of land known as the Satyrs Walk. According to the 1650 Parliamentary Survey this was planted with a number of fruit and vegetable species. This area was divided from the main orchard to its west by a moat. At the south-west corner of this orchard was a Gardener's House or Mote House, approximately the southern end of the Cedars Park lake. To its north-west stood a large, brick-built dovehouse on the site of the modern Pets Corner. At the west end of the approach was the gateway into Base or Dial Court.

2.3.6 **Base or Dial Court** - The gateway into this court again took the form of a half-round arch with pilasters, cornices and splayed quoins to the sides. Porters lodges were added here when King James acquired the estate in 1607. The court itself was approximately 48 metres wide with a two storey building both to the north and south. The northern range was originally stables, later reconstructed as lodgings after 1607, with the Buttery Court behind. The southern range housed the brew house, bake house, and laundry (also later reconstructed as lodgings), and to its south was the Dove House Court. To the west was the main gatehouse giving access to the house and Middle Court.

2.3.7 **Middle Court** - The main entrance to the house itself was an archway in the centre of a two storey building placed between two four storey towers. On entering the

archway was a seven-arch loggia above which was the Green Gallery. The north and south ranges were three storeys and to the north was a large two storey stone gallery erected in 1569-70. It appears from Thorpe's plan that this featured two arches either side of a central arch which was flanked by columns. It was through this gallery that the Conduit or Fountain Court was entered.

- 2.3.8 **Conduit or Fountain Court** - This court was paved and approximately 26m square. The eastern range again contained a loggia however this time of seven arches. In the centre of the other three sides were rectangular bay windows. In the middle of this court was a black and white marble fountain standing on four marble pillars with a white marble figure of Venus and Cupid. This court had four square towers at each corner each with four slate hung turrets. The ranges around this court housed the rooms of state.
- 2.3.9 **The Great Garden** - This was located to the south of the southern wing of the palace and was twice the size of the garden at Hampton Court Palace. The 1650 survey describes it as having of nine square knots, one of which used hedging in the shape of the Royal Arms, one with flowers and the rest grass. They all used ornamental hedging. The central knot contained a large marble fountain standing on three stone steps. Apparently, this incorporated water spouts from a number of concealed pipes which sprayed unwary passers by.
- 2.3.10 To the south side of this garden was an elaborate Banqueting House possibly on the site of the present 18th century folly. To the south of this was a mile long 'Parke Walk' lined between two rows of trees and presumably finishing at the park's southern boundary.
- 2.3.11 The south, west and east sides of the Great Garden were completed by three gravelled walks lying one behind the other and divided by well-ordered thorn hedges regularly planted with sycamore, lime, and elm. The Survey also noted that 56 fruit trees were planted in this thorn hedge, consisting of apples, pears and plums, and black cherry trees. On the west side of the Great Garden, the 1650 survey noted that a number of vines and fruit trees were planted against a wall. It is possible that this is Wall 11 which incorporates the niches which it has been suggested contained beehives. One feature here which is clearly indicated in the Thorpe Survey of 1611 seems to be a loggia incorporated into the wall. The location of which is perhaps suggested by areas of modern patching.
- 2.3.12 **Gardens to the West and North of the Mansion House** - The garden layout according to the 1650 Parliamentary Survey is relatively clear to follow until this point. The remainder of the gardens, the Maze, Privy, Laundrie, and Pheasant Gardens, whilst detailed, give a certain cause for confusion as to exact location. The following accounts are based on Andrews research.
- 2.3.13 **The Maze Garden** - It is believed that this garden would have been overlooked by the west facing wing of the palace and would have been the site of the subsequent

garden of the Old Palace House. By the time of the Parliamentary Survey it was long since destroyed', however it had been replaced by a 'Tripesa with an oval in the middle wherein standeth the fairest, largest and completest firre tree'. Radiating out from this were eight alleys in which were planted fruit trees. It is interesting to note how this oval plan would have related to the location better than a rectangular layout.

- 2.3.14 **The Privy Garden** - It seems apparent from documentary evidence that the Privy garden was first located to the north of Middle Court and overlooked by Lord Burghley's lodgings. However after 1610 the Privy Garden begins to appear in descriptions of the gardens to the north-west and west of the palace. The 1650 survey describes this garden being surrounded by a gravel walk with a raised area ascending from the middle of the garden. It is possible that this is the raised area in the woodland to the north of the palace site and adjacent to Wall 1. This may overlie the original Kitchen Garden which is believed to have been located in the same area.
- 2.3.15 **Kitchen Garden** - It appears that this was located directly to the north-west of the palace which is now the wooded area to the south of Wall 1.
- 2.3.16 **The Laundrie Garden** - There are two possible locations, the most likely being the Courtyard immediately to the north of the Middle Court, the site of the old Privy Garden, until the expansion of the service quarters here after 1585. This would have been overlooked on its northern boundary by 'the Laundrie House'. It is also possible however that it lay between the Maze Garden to its south and the Privy Garden to its east in the north-west corner of the site. Wherever it was located the Laundrie Garden consisted of a straight gravelled walk edged with a range of gooseberry and rose trees.
- 2.3.17 **The Pheasant Garden** - This is described in the Parliamentary Survey as lying adjacent to 'ye Butterie Courte', its siting could therefore be to its north, or to the west on the site of the old Privy Garden. The fact that, from 1612 onwards, the area to the north of the Buttery Court would have been increasingly for service use (contemporary records talk of development of a pantry and woodyard here) suggests the former Privy Garden as the most likely site. Today this roughly accords with the wooded area to the south of Wall 2. The Parliamentary Survey once again describes the planting in detail with a number of fruit tree species such as fig, cherry, and vines.
- 2.3.18 **Moats** - In the historical records there is repeated mention of the use of water at Theobalds, and in particular moats. The only surviving Elizabethan water feature however is the outline of the boating lake described as a fishpond to the north-west of Theobalds. This is indicated on John Thorpe's 1611 Survey (Figure 19) and lies adjacent to Theobalds Lane. On the 1785 map of Cheshunt (Figure 21) and the OS maps (Figures 23-26), it is possible to see a long pool to the east of the former palace site and running parallel with Theobalds Lane. It appears that this was the

horse pond described in the area of land known as 'Stonie Cross'. This area has since been developed by 20th century housing. It is also possible that the linear water feature in the south-west of Cedars Park first shown on the 1785 map of Cheshunt (Figure 21) may have been connected to this stretch of water. It is suggested this could be the approximate line of the garden moat and is still visible today. This may have turned west at the circular duck pond in Cedars Park and run towards and past the 18th century folly, then turned back northwards towards the fishpond in the north-west corner of the site. Further geophysics and intrusive archaeological investigation may be able to shed more light on this aspect of the gardens.

- 2.3.19 **The Game Park** - The gardens of Theobalds were only part of its attractions, and the parkland was also a significant element of the estate. Although Cecil enclosed part of the estate shortly after he acquired it, it was not until 1607 after Theobalds belonged to King James, that a major expansion of the park was to be set in motion. This was prompted by his passion for hunting and falconry. In 1611 he acquired Cheshunt Park and some 687 acres of common and manorial land, and again in 1620. At this time James ordered a brick wall to be constructed for some nine-and-a-half miles around the estate, by now some 2,500 acres in extent. This was completed by 1623 save for the fixing of three miles of stone coping for which there was no available funds. By 1637 no fewer than 87 buttresses were required to prop up this wall.
- 2.3.20 While much of the wall has been demolished for construction of local farms and boundaries, portions still survive, for example in the centre of Waltham Cross and along the northern boundary of Wood Green and Bury Green where the line of the wall can easily be discerned from the existing field pattern.

3 **GEOPHYSICS**

3.1 **Magnetometer Survey**

- 3.1.1 This is usually the most cost effective and informative technique for obtaining an overall baseline indication of the nature and extent of detectable archaeological remains over a large area. Due to the budget and scope of the project it was deemed that this method had the most potential for providing general information on the extent of any sub-surface remains across the whole park. Sub-surface features which may be present at Cedars Park include garden landscape features, ditches, and wall footings. The full results of the magnetometer survey can be found at Appendix II.
- 3.1.2 There is a reasonable likelihood that a magnetometer survey will detect in-filled ditches, and it will usually identify areas of disturbed response corresponding to former buildings. It will not often respond directly to stone wall footings but will detect brick and tile. It is known that Theobalds Palace and associated structures were of brick construction and brick wall footings are often clearly seen using this method of survey. However detailed interpretation may be problematic if the wall

footings are surrounded by rubble. The response from intact structures may be obscured by nearby debris, however a resistivity survey may help clarify findings in this instance.

- 3.1.3 The aerial photographs of the site from 1952 and 1969 (Plates 8 & 9) show a number of later features such as paths and flowerbeds. Paths, flowerbeds and formal planting schemes are not usually clearly detectable by any geophysics method unless there is a significant depth of silted fill. However they can respond to a magnetometer survey. Former streams or ponds, depending on their fill, may also be detectable using magnetometry.

3.2 Procedure

- 3.2.1 The areas of the park adjacent to the site of Theobalds Palace constitute a Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM no. 77), and the geophysical survey was therefore carried out under the terms of a Section 42 license obtained by OA from English Heritage (Debbie Priddy at East of England Region). The survey was carried out between 3rd and 5th September 2007 in four relatively open areas of ground, as previously identified by Oxford Archaeology. These included any areas of the park in which magnetometer survey was possible and are labeled Areas A-D on the plans at Appendix II (as indicated by broken red outlines in Figure 3 Geophysics). They total some 5.5ha. The extent of data collection within these areas was adapted to take account of boundaries and obstructions. Reasonably complete coverage was obtained, except for wooded areas towards the north of areas C and D. Remaining areas of the park (near the northern and southern boundaries) were too densely wooded to permit detailed magnetometer surveying.

3.3 Results

- 3.3.1 The geophysics report by the Bartlett-Clark Consultancy can be found in full at Appendix II, however the main points are summarised below. The figures referred to in this section refer to those found in the geophysics report.

3.3.2 Area A

- 3.3.3 This is the western most area of the site. A strongly disturbed magnetic response clearly shows the extent of a former gravel extraction and landfill site, which previously occupied much of this area and can be seen at Plate 9. The area is now open level grassland with recent tree planting. Clearly only the eastern border of the area retains an original ground surface.

- 3.3.4 Some less conspicuous disturbances are marked by orange cross hatching and red outlines on Figure 3 towards the east of Area A, but in this disturbed context they need not be of any archaeological significance. Two alignments of disturbed readings suggest the possible presence of pipes (as marked in blue on Figure 2 & 3) near the edges of the landfill area, but these again cannot be identified with great confidence against the disturbed background.

3.3.5 Area B

3.3.6 This corresponds with the western half of the Great Garden. There are areas at the northern and southern ends of this walled lawn which show magnetically disturbed responses. Comparison with the OS 1st edition 25" map of 1883 suggests that these disturbances could relate to the presence of greenhouses and outbuildings within the grounds of The Cedars or old Palace House.

3.3.7 Two strong linear but irregular features are marked as pipes but they also align closely with a path shown on the 1893 map. Brick paving or metal edging from the path could perhaps therefore contribute to the magnetic effect. Other paths shown on the same map in Area B do not respond in this way, although strong magnetic disturbances were detected from some of the paths in Area D.

3.3.8 Various individual magnetic anomalies of a size and strength which (in a suitable context) could indicate silted pits, or other features of archaeological interest, are noted. These are widely scattered, and do not suggest any significant concentrations of features. A further cluster of such features to the north of Area C includes strong magnetic anomalies of a kind which could indicate a spread of brickwork or rubble. There are also high susceptibility readings in this area. It is unclear whether these disturbances could predate the 19th C house and landscaping.

3.3.9 Area C

3.3.10 The main finding here is an area of disturbed magnetic response which corresponds to the in-filling of the former ornamental pond as shown first on the 1842 Tithe map.

3.3.11 There are also small clusters of magnetic anomalies to the west of this area which are difficult to categorise. These features could suggest the remains of structures, but they could also represent a minor scatter of debris.

3.3.12 Area D

3.3.13 The survey again shows the in-filling of part of a pond, which is shown first on the 1785 map of Cheshunt and extends further to the north than is now the case. The plots also show strong disturbances in the western half of the area.

3.3.14 It is possible that the easternmost of the three palace courtyards, Base or Dial Court, extended into this area, but buildings associated with Grove House were also present here in the 19th C. There may also be more recent disturbances associated with a modern concrete structure.

3.3.15 Other findings include some possible linear magnetic anomalies in the small open area surveyed to the north of the site. The plan of the paths in this part of the park appears to have survived from at least 1883, but the significance of the magnetic anomalies detected here is difficult to assess in isolation.

3.3.16 Elsewhere, there are various magnetic anomalies, not all of which necessarily relate to 19th C features. There is a group of features which could almost be claimed to form part of a circular ditched enclosure in the NE corner of the site, but interpretation here is hindered by the disturbed surroundings and a pipe.

3.3.17 There are also alignments of magnetic anomalies which appear to represent linear features. Some of these could be paths visible on the 1883 OS map, but some could also relate to previously unrecorded features.

3.4 **Conclusions and Recommendations**

3.4.1 The survey shows the cumulative effects of various periods of construction and landscaping, and may well be dominated by the effects of 19th C and more recent disturbances.

3.4.2 The more clearly explicable findings include the former landfill in Area A, and in-filled ponds in Areas C and D. There are magnetic disturbances probably associated with 19th C structures around in Area B, Area D. Other findings which could be of interest, but cannot be fully assessed on the survey evidence alone, include clusters of magnetic disturbances Area B, in Area C, and several of those seen in Area D. The survey plots of Area D also appear to show large and small apparent circular features, and ditch-like linear disturbances. Further investigation would be needed to determine whether these relate to, or predate, the recorded history of the site.

3.4.3 Alister Bartlett has also provided some additional suggestions for further geophysical investigation. This is included at Appendix IV.

4 **ASSESSMENT OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL FEATURES**

4.1.1 Although there are few standing remains of Theobalds Palace itself, Cedars Park contains a number of features and structures dating to various phases of occupation on the site. These include The Cedars and associated buildings, an eighteenth century Grotto Arch, a small section of Old Palace House, and a number of wall foundations and footings in the wooded area which was once the site of Jacksons School. Several upstanding walls are present which have been numbered in order to provide descriptions. Some of these walls, or at least their foundations, may have been associated with the primary palace structure. These features have been principally described in a Gazetteer (at Appendix I), however there also follows a more general description of Cedars Park today relating the surviving elements to the historical context.

4.1.2 The site of the park today broadly divides into several distinct areas. Along the northern edge of the site is a band of mixed deciduous woodland which appears to have developed since the demolition of Jacksons School. This area is believed to have originally been gardens and a stable yard associated with the first phase of occupation.

- 4.1.3 To the west of this is the site of a former boating lake. It appears from Thorpe's 1611 plan (Figure 19), that this was present during the first phase of occupation at the palace site.
- 4.1.4 Much of the eastern part of the site is currently a large area with informal planting, paths and trees. The former site of Grove House is located here and pre-dating this, the main palace approach on an east-west alignment. This area is also the probable site of the eastern side of the Base or Dial Court and associated buildings. The parcel of land known as the Satyrs Walk was also located here. According to the 1650 Parliamentary Survey this was planted with a number of fruit and vegetable species. This area also contains a linear water feature first shown in 1785 at Figure 21 which may relate to part of the palace moat complex.
- 4.1.5 To the west of this is a smaller area with a combination of formal and informal planting. It lies just to the north of the 18th century Grotto Arch. This was the location of the eastern part of the Great Garden.
- 4.1.6 The western half of the site contains a large, walled, grass area with little planting, and this appears to accord with the location of the western part of the Great Garden. The walls seem to relate to the original palace complex as shown at Figure 19.
- 4.1.7 Furthest west is an area which was a large gravel extraction site during the 1960s. It has since been back filled and planted with trees. It is unlikely that any archaeological remains are present in this area, except for perhaps along the western edge of Wall 11.
- 4.1.8 The projected footprint of Theobalds Palace itself can be seen on Figure 27. Using the corner of Wall 18 as a reference point, and the measurements set out in the 1650 survey, Summerson concluded that the western wing of the palace includes Wall 25; the northern wing roughly underlies the overflow car park; and the southern wing roughly underlies The Cedars and Tea Room. Wall 18 is also associated with the primary phase of building and is believed to have been an open loggia facing west into the Great Garden. A reconstruction of this can be seen at Plate 2.
- 4.1.9 The four later buildings that were constructed on the site of Theobalds were built during the 18th century. According to Page (1912), Old Palace House was built in 1768. It is assumed from this that The Cedars, Thorpe House and Jacksons School were all built at or around this time. They are all present on a map of Cheshunt dating to 1785 and also appear on the Tithe map of 1842. However Jacksons School and Thorpe House do not appear on the 1914 OS map. Today there are no visible remains of these two buildings. Figure 20 shows the extent of the grounds of each of these houses.
- 4.1.10 Broadly speaking there are three distinct phases of occupation on site. The palace itself had several stages of construction throughout its short life and a number of additions and alterations were undertaken by its various owners. Without detailed specialist investigation it would not be possible to detail exactly which ceramic

building materials related to which stage of development. This is further hindered by the likelihood that the builders of each stage of works would have used similar materials to largely maintain architectural and visual consistency.

- 4.1.11 There are most certainly examples of small works which have been carried out at specific times during these phases as and when needed, however as much of the original building material has been re-used, often with lime mortar, it is not possible to assign accurate dates without more detailed investigation. The phases do not take into account each and every small works, rather they outline the most significant changes, alterations and repair works undertaken on site.
- 4.1.12 **Phase I** relates to the original palace complex and associated structures dating from between 1564 and 1650. This includes part or all of Walls 1, 2, 7, 10, 11, 12, 13, 18, 25, and Area 16.
- 4.1.13 **Phase II** relates to the 18th century building works such as The Cedars and Old Palace House. It also includes all or part of Walls 1, 2, 8, 9, 14, 15, Area 16, 17, 19, 20, 21, 22, and 23.
- 4.1.14 **Phase III** relates to all 19th and 20th century works such as the park refurbishment in the 1960's. This includes all or part of Walls 2, 6, 7, 9, and 24.
- 4.1.15 A Gazetteer at Appendix I provides photographs and descriptions of all the archaeological features within the modern day boundary of Cedars Park.

5 **RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FURTHER INVESTIGATION**

- 5.1.1 Whilst it has been possible to gain a good indication of the former layout and location of the Theobalds Palace, there remains a great deal to be learnt about the site from intrusive and non-intrusive investigations. A number of recommendations are therefore made in order to provide further details regarding particular aspects.
- 5.1.2 More detailed geophysical survey using alternative techniques (specifically Ground penetrating radar and Resistivity) could be carried out in the areas which appear to contain archaeological features. This could also be undertaken in the areas in which the magnetometer survey was not possible, particularly the car park and overflow car park. This could then go on to inform a programme of intrusive archaeological investigation.
- 5.1.3 Targeted trial trenching would be of great value and would probably provide the clearest evidence of the former layout. However as the site of Theobalds Palace is a Scheduled Ancient Monument it would need Scheduled Ancient Monument Consent. The site would be ideal for a 'Time Team' type dig which could involve the local community.
- 5.1.4 It must also be recommended that any proposed service trenching or other intrusive ground-works required (such as water mains, electricity) carried out in any of the

areas which show magnetic anomalies in Areas B, C, and D, according with the geophysics results, be subject to archaeological monitoring.

- 5.1.5 Ideally the car parking area would be re-located away from the site of the former palace and there must also be scope for changes to the landscaping in order to interpret and reflect the layout of Theobalds Palace.

6 CONCLUSION

- 6.1.1 Cedars Park in the Borough of Broxbourne, Hertfordshire is a site of great historical significance and parts of it are designated a scheduled Ancient Monument. It has a number of surviving archaeological features of which both the visible and potential buried remains of the magnificent 16th century Theobalds Palace are the most historically significant. Theobalds Palace is of importance due to its close links with Royalty, and in that it is believed to have been one of the most important architectural monuments of the Elizabethan period, directly influencing a number of other great historical houses.

- 6.1.2 There are three main phases of occupation on this site:

- the 16th-century palace;
- the 18th and 19th centuries when four houses (Old Palace House, The Cedars, Jacksons School, and Thorpe House) were erected in the grounds of the former palace;
- the 20th century when much of the site became the current park

- 6.1.3 It appears that the majority of the upstanding archaeological features at Cedars Park relate to the 18th and 19th centuries, but there are however several features of interest which appear to date back to the primary 16th-century phase of occupation. The majority of these features relate to upstanding garden boundary walls and architectural fragments of the palace itself. Cedars Park also has great potential for archaeological remains to survive beneath the present ground level.

- 6.1.4 Whilst this investigation has largely confirmed previous research on Theobalds Palace in relation to its location within the grounds of Cedars Park, it has also confirmed the potential for some sub-surface archaeological features through geophysical survey. Magnetometry was deemed the most appropriate method of survey as it is usually the most cost effective and informative technique for obtaining an overall baseline indication of the nature and extent of detectable archaeology over a large area. Unfortunately the majority of the palace complex appears to underlie the car parking areas and woodland where magnetometry has not been possible. It has however given a good overall indication of which areas of the site are likely to contain buried features.

- 6.1.5 The geophysical survey shows the cumulative effects of various periods of construction and landscaping, and concludes that the results may well be dominated

by the effects of 19th century and more recent disturbances. However further targeted geophysical investigation using alternative techniques such as ground penetrating radar could provide more conclusive results. These results could then possibly go on to inform a programme of intrusive archaeological investigation in the form of targeted trial trenching. This would probably provide the clearest evidence of the former layout but would be subject to Scheduled Ancient Monument Consent from English Heritage.

- 6.1.6 This investigation has increased the overall understanding of Cedars Park in terms of existing and potential archaeology and it is intended that this work will assist in the preparation of a Conservation Management Plan. It also forms a formal archive record for posterity of the above-ground archaeological feature

Nick Croxson
Oxford Archaeology
25 April 2008

APPENDIX I GAZETTEER OF STRUCTURAL REMAINS

APPENDIX I

GAZETEER OF STRUCTURAL REMAINS

9.04



The Cedars and Associated Buildings -This was named after two large Cedar trees which it is assumed were part of the original planting scheme for the palace gardens. It is believed to have been built around 1768 when Old Palace House was built (Page, 1912). Today only parts of this building remain as the middle section appears to have burnt down/ removed therefore separating the now Cedars Park Tea Room to the west and the main house to the east. According to OS Map evidence this appears to have happened between 1898 and 1935. The Cedars roughly overlies the south wing of Theobalds Palace along the same east-west alignment. It appears from early OS Map evidence that the grounds of The Cedars ran southwards from the old palace site overlying the Great Garden.

9.05



The Cedars as it stands today is a three storey brick built building with a grey slate tiled pitched roof. It has a single storey brick built projection on the southern elevation facing out towards the park. This projection is of the same design and construction as the Tea Room to the west. It has three arched windows, the central window also includes a single stone step suggesting that it was once a doorway out into the garden. At present these windows/doorway are boarded up. As seen in the Tea Room to the west, 8 courses from the top along the length of the southern elevation is a slightly protruding decorative three course band of red/orange bricks which are seemingly softer in texture. It is likely that these are re-used bricks from the palace complex. These bricks are also seen in the relieving arches of the windows. To the east on the southern elevation is the remains of an orangery or greenhouse. This appears to be a later construction as it uses yellow London brick. This is also largely boarded up at present.

9.0.6

The western elevation of The Cedars is rendered cream but it is worth noting that soft red/orange bricks were apparently discovered behind this render during recent repair works (pers. comm., 2007, Adrian Hall, Parks Manager). There are two black circular tie plates in the central part of this elevation, one above the other. These can also be seen on the eastern elevation.



9.0.7

The northern elevation has a single sash window on the second floor at the western end of the building. There are two doors at ground level both of which appear to have had yellowish rubbed brick lintels inserted.

9.0.8

The eastern elevation has two doorways on the ground floor also with rubbed brick lintels. There are two sash windows on the first floor, and three on the second floor. At the southern end of this elevation is a small two storey structure which drops down to a single storey lean-to type structure with a slate tiled roof. Further east this then drops down to a smaller but similar structure. These are currently used as store rooms but also contain original ovens and may have been associated with the kitchens of The Cedars. The southern wall of these structures forms the northern wall of the greenhouse/orangery.



9.0.9

The Tea Room is a single storey building with a flat roof built using London brick and appears to have been the western annexe of The Cedars. Early 20th century photographs of The Cedars before demolition shows roof lights, suggesting that this wing housed a billiard room. It has a small protruding extension using a slightly yellowish London brick on its southern elevation. This extension has three rectangular openings, two of which are windows, the middle one being a door. Also on this elevation are five tall arched openings. The one to the west is a doorway into a WC, three others to the east are windows and the one furthest east is blocked using brick. The eastern and northern elevations are both rendered cream but the western elevation is exposed brickwork. 8 courses from the top along the length of the southern elevation including the extension is a slightly protruding decorative three course band of red/orange brick seemingly softer in texture. It is likely that these are re-used bricks from the palace complex. These bricks are also seen in the relieving arches of the windows and across the top of the square windows in the extension.



9.0.10

To the east of The Cedars is 'Pets Corner' This largely consists of modern lean-to's however there are a number of older structures. The west and south walls appear to be sections of the old palace, however the eastern wall (Wall 19), appears to be a later addition. The northern boundary of this area is marked by a cream rendered wall with a



modern steel gate and railings. The western and southern boundary of this area is wall 18 and associated buildings.

9.0.11

Old Palace House - Constructed in 1768 (Page, 1912), it was on a roughly north-south alignment and incorporated in its structure several fragments of the original palace fabric, notably a window in its west front. This building burnt down in the 1960's but a fragment of surviving wall can still be seen (Wall 25). From early OS Map evidence it appears that the estate grounds of Old Palace House run westwards from the site of the Theobalds palace and incorporated the now dry boating lake. This lake may be shown on the Thorpes map of 1611 but it is certainly present by 1785. The grounds appear to include the western half of the Great Garden contemporary with the original palace.



9.0.12

Grove House - The name Grove House is used in Draper (1905). No information has been located regarding this building. It was demolished in the late 19th century/early 20th century and is shown on the 1898 OS Map but not the 1935 edition. Using early OS Map evidence it appears that its grounds overlay the Dove House Court (now roughly the site of Pets Corner), the Base or Dial Court, the Buttery Court, and the Gateway and main palace approach from the east.

9.0.13

Jacksons School - This was named after a Reverend J Oswald Jackson. According to OS Map evidence it was demolished sometime between 1898 and 1935. The entrance gate and blocked openings/doorways however can still be seen in Wall 1. It is also evident that walls 1, 2, 12, 13, 14, and 23 marked the outer boundary of the school grounds. Wall 22 was also associated with Jacksons School. The area associated with Jacksons School appears to overlie the old palace Kitchen Garden, the Old Privy Garden, and the Stable Yard. It is currently overgrown with dense vegetation, ivy, and mixed woodland.



9.0.14

The Grotto/Arch. At the southern end of the park opposite The Cedars is a large late mid to 18th century grotto. It is constructed with a red/orange brick built core and faced with flint and rubble. The tall middle section has 3 pointed-arch openings surmounted by



five small round-headed brick niches in an arch profile. There is a flint arched niche on east side and two domed free-standing pavilions set forward to the east and west. These have triangular-arched openings. The east pavilion has a rail about 1m above the floor. There is rough paint below it while above it the walls are rendered and painted. The interior of the west pavilion is not rendered but the walls are painted. The remains of wall footings to the east of the grotto and a gateway at the southern end of wall 8 also have large flint and rubble inclusions intended to give the whole area a consistent feel.

9.0.15



Wall 1 is between 2.4m and 2.6m high on an east/west alignment. It is approximately 130m long. The bricks are soft reddish orange and appear to be hand made measuring 240mm x 55mm. The mortar is soft, creamy and lime based with coarse sand and grit inclusions. The 7 lowest courses of this wall step out 1 brick width on its southern elevation. To the west end of the wall where it joins wall 12 there are the remains of a small bastion. 8m from west end visible in the south elevation is a blocked opening 0.8m wide and 1.1m high. Along whole stretch of this wall the top 8-18 courses have been replaced with a harder brick. The mortar is still lime based but much harder. These repairs probably took place around the time of Jacksons School using this part of the site. The wall appears to be present on John Thorpe plan of 1611 and therefore seems likely to be contemporary with the first phase of building.

9.0.16



Wall 2 is of same construction as Wall 1 and almost certainly contemporary. It averages 2.65m high and is approximately 120m long on an east-west alignment. Jacksons School gates are incorporated into wall 1 and 2 separating the two. It may have been inserted when the school was built, however it may have also been present during the primary phase of building providing access to the stable area. 1.55m to the east of the school gates is a blocked doorway which is 1.15m wide. There are four buttresses on the south elevation towards the eastern end which appear to be modern. The bricks vary, some soft, some hard, all with a hard, cream coloured lime mortar. They measure 220mm x 55mm x 95mm. The north elevation shows three distinct sections; the eastern end uses soft deep orange/red bricks (225mm x 60 x 100mm), with a soft lime mortar and four blind windows measuring 1.4m x 0.9m, the middle section uses a number of brick types, mainly headers which are hard red/purple



measuring 120-180mm x 100mm x 55mm, the western section again uses mainly headers with soft orange red bricks measuring 220mm x 55mm x 100mm. The east end of this wall has been cut by the road entrance to the park. There is a modern buttress on the south elevation at the east end. The top 5 courses at this end are built with a yellowish purple brick (measuring 230mm x 60mm x 100mm) with cement mortar and post-date the buttress. The wall has been extensively re-pointed to the east end. What appears to be the original mortar is a yellow, soft, sandy, lime mortar with large grit inclusions. It joins wall 3 at its east end and is present on the Thorpe plan of 1611.

9.0.17



Wall 3 butts wall 2 and averages 2.10m high on a north-south alignment. It is 56m long. Only the west facing elevation is visible as there are gardens and residences to the east. What appears to be the original build uses soft red bricks measuring 220mm x 55mm x 100mm. The top 5-6 courses have been rebuilt using some original bricks and some hard purple bricks measuring 210mm x 55mm x 100mm. The new build uses hard cement mortar with large grit inclusions. The primary mortar is soft, creamy, and lime based. There is a blocked doorway 1.03m wide approximately half way along the this wall. It butts wall 2 at its northern end and wall 4 at its southern end. The wall seems to be relatively early in date but does not seem to be present on the Thorpe plan of 1611. It is however present on the 1785 map of Cheshunt.



9.0.18

Wall 4 averages 2.2m high and is approximately 39m long on a roughly east-west alignment. It is similar in construction to wall 3. The bricks are the same throughout, hard reddish/purple, measuring 240mm x 65mm x 110mm with soft, gritty, lime mortar. The bond is irregular. This wall joins wall 5 to the east. It does not seem to be present on the 1611 map and first appears on the 1785 map.



9.0.19

Wall 5 averages 2.2m high and is approximately 30m long on a NW-SE alignment. It is similar in construction to wall 4 and leans slightly to the NE. The bond is mainly headers but there are more stretchers in the top 8 courses. The whole wall has been re-pointed with cement mortar. It steps down to the south east end where it joins Wall 6. This wall first appears on the 1842 Tithe map.



9.0.20

Wall 6 is between 1.3m and 1.8m high and is approximately 138m long on a north-south alignment. Large parts of this wall appear to be modern as it backs onto gardens to the east. Only the west elevation is therefore visible from Cedars Park. At its northern end the wall is approximately 1.5m high and reaches 2.2m in height toward its southern end. At approximately 28m south from the junction with Wall 5 there is a slight kink in the wall. At this point bricks are 240mm x 65mm x 110mm. The mortar is sandy and gritty and lime based but hard. There is cement re-pointing. It is worth noting that running eastward towards the site of the original palace structure from this point there is a low linear rise. These features may possibly be associated with the original line of the eastern palace approach. To south of this feature is a blocked opening using modern bricks 1.2m wide and 1.8m high. A large amount of modern replacement and repair work is present throughout this wall however there are still some patches which appear to be original using soft red bricks with soft lime mortar. The bond is irregular and the wall has been heavily re-pointed. It stops to the south with a short modern return to east and then a wooden fence. Part of this wall may be marked on the on the 1611 plan though it is difficult to be certain. The southern half does however appear to be present on the 1785 map and by 1842 its extent is marked as it appears today.

9.0.21

Wall 7 is 2.2m high and 58m long on an east-west alignment. The bricks have a sandy texture and are hard and red measuring 210mm x 110mm x 45mm. The mortar is soft, gritty, and lime based. Halfway along on the north elevation it steps in one course up to the top. The bricks on the bottom half seem harder than the top bricks. At 20m from its western end there is a blocked opening in the bottom half which is 1.45m across and 1.2m high. The eastern 11m stretch of this wall, through which there is a gate, is modern, presumably associated with the park refurbishment in the 1960's. The western most 12m has been heavily patched and repaired. It may be marked on the 1611 plan but it is not possible to be certain. It is clearly marked however on the 1785 map.

9.0.22

Wall 8 is 2.5m high and 131m long on a north-south alignment. The top 14 courses have been rebuilt using hard yellow London brick with cement mortar. The lower



courses have a soft, gritty, creamy lime mortar. These bricks are orange red, some hard and some soft but all measuring 220mm x 60mm x 100mm. The wall has been re-pointed using cement mortar on both elevations but is more heavily re-pointed on the west elevation. This wall does not appear to be present on the 1611 plan but does seem to be marked on the 1785 map.

9.0.23

Wall 9 is approximately 2.1m high and 122m long on a north-south alignment. It contains various different brick types, some of which appear to be re-used. The mortar is lime based and is gritty and hard. The top course is new with red clay tiles. The overall bond is irregular but predominantly uses stretchers. On the west elevation at the north end there are 3 modern buttresses and a large amount of repair work and replacement has been undertaken. The top 9 courses use purple brick, the top 3 of which are clearly modern. The lower courses have an irregular bond and use soft orange bricks and lime mortar. These bricks measure 250mm x 55mm x 110mm. There are 4 pilaster's at the southern end on the west elevation and 3 modern buttresses on the west elevation also at this end. This section has been heavily repaired with some very new patches of rebuild including an opening approximately 5m wide providing access into the area south of The Cedars. This wall does not seem to be present on the 1611 plan but does appear on the 1785 map. It seems to mark the boundary between the grounds of The Cedars to the east and Old Palace House to the west.

9.0.24



Wall 10 is approximately 2.8m high and 56m long. The top 7 courses at the east end are modern. The lower bricks are orange red and quite hard measuring 240mm x 55mm x 110mm. The primary soft lime mortar has been re-pointed with gritty lime mortar which is harder. On the north facing elevation the bottom 11 courses step out 1 course. The general bond of this wall is irregular. There are 2 niches in the north facing elevation which are 0.30m wide and 0.55m high. The bricks around these niches measure 230mm x 55mm x 110mm and the mortar is yellow, hard, sandy, and lime based. These niches were bee boles, common features where bees would be housed in the skeps. That they housed beehives associated with an orchard (Andrews, 1993). This wall is bonded into wall 11 at its western most extent. It seems to be present on the 1611 plan however this depends of the accuracy



of the map. It is definitely present on the 1785 map.

9.0.25

Wall 11 is approximately 2.4m high and 132m long on a north-south alignment. It has a short section of curved wall where it meets Wall 10. This may indicate the position of an earlier bastion as seen in Wall 1. The curved part soon turns into modern brick repair for approximately 20m. The original part of this wall is similar to wall 10. The bricks measure 230mm x 50mm x 110mm. The top 2-3 courses are modern. There are 6 niches as seen in wall 10 on the east facing elevation. A blocked opening measuring 1.8m x 0.9m can be seen to north of the southern most niche. The bond is irregular, but some parts are English bond. In parts this wall has been heavily repaired. The mortar is soft lime based and parts have been re-pointed with a harder gritty cream coloured lime mortar. This wall is present on the 1611 plan.



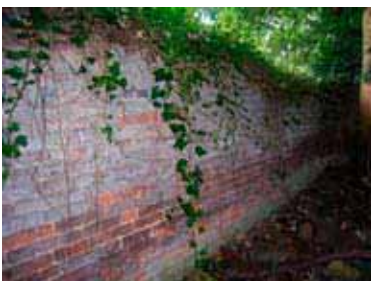
9.0.26

Wall 12 is on the same alignment as wall 11 but is obscured by dense vegetation. It is 29m long. At its northern most end however it can be seen to join Wall 1 at the bastion. It is butted by Wall 13 and therefore sequentially earlier. It appears to be present on the 1611 plan.



9.0.27

Wall 13 butts wall 12 and is approximately 86m long on an east-west alignment running towards the site of Old Palace House. The bricks are orange/red in colour and soft in texture. They measure 235mm x 110mm x 50mm. The mortar is lime based, cream in colour, and very soft. At its highest point this wall is 3.3m high but averages 3m. 14m from its western end is an opening which appears to be a later door inserted through an existing doorway. The frame is softwood but the door itself no longer exists. This feature measures 2.1m high and 1.3m wide. To the east of this there is a section of the wall missing which would have formed another opening. Only a small fragment from the segmental arch and one jamb survives before another opening with a segmental arch lintel at 19m from the wall's most westerly point. This also has a segmental arch and is similar in construction to the doorway mentioned earlier but appears to be a window inserted through an earlier opening. It measures 1.3m high and 1.60m wide each of these features appears to have been within a deeper section of wall and each has



carefully formed sloped bricks at the jambs. If these were always garden walls they could have had shell enclosures or a hood around the feature. The wall graduates down to ground level at its eastern end. This wall appears to be visible on the 1611 plan and is definitely present on the 1785 map. It seems to mark the southern boundary wall of Jacksons School along with wall 14.



9.0.28

Wall 14 is a section of wall at ground level approximately 57m long on the same alignment as wall 13. It is heavily overgrown with ivy, and a number of mature horse chestnut trees directly overlie it at points. The bricks vary in colour from orange/red to are dark brown/purple and measure 235mm x 110 x 65mm. At its tallest point this wall is between 6 and 7 courses high. There are a number of small buttresses on its northern elevation. The bricks are hard red/orange and measure 225mm x 110mm x 65mm. It is not possible to discern whether or not this wall is marked on the 1611 plan, however it can be seen on the 1785 map. It appears to mark the southern boundary wall of Jacksons School along with wall 13.

9.0.29

Wall 15 is located approximately 20m to the north of The Cedars. It is approximately 2.5m high and 62m long on a roughly east-west alignment and features two semi-circular recesses. The eastern recess largely uses London brick with angle piers and stone coping, whilst the western recess uses the softer orange/red brick as seen elsewhere on site. Both features appear on the 1785 map and it seems that the recess to the east may have been the entrance gates to The Cedars whilst the recess to the west is likely to have been a turning bay for carriages and carts, and possibly access to Old Palace House. A small section of wall to the east of this section also has what appear to be older soft orange/red brick with later London brick additions. This wall first appears on the 1785 map and it is almost certainly directly associated with, and contemporary with The Cedars, Old Palace House, Thorpe House, and Jacksons School.

9.0.30

Area 16 comprises of a number of walls including what appear to be some of the earliest and latest sections of wall on site. Abutting the centre of the western bay in wall 15 is a short section of wall approximately 10m long and 2.5m high. This wall turns at right angles eastwards for approximately 8m before abutting a red brick wall.

This forms the south eastern corner of a building which is visible on the 1785 map. This section uses London brick and is likely to have been contemporary with the building of The Cedars and associated buildings.



9.0.31

The red brick wall aforementioned is on a north-south alignment. It is 4m long and approximately 3m tall at its southern end but graduates down to ground level to the north. This wall seems to butt what appears to be a small section of the original 16th Century palace to the south, however it is possible these two walls are contemporary. The bricks within both these walls are soft red/orange and measure 240mm x 110mm x 55mm. The mortar is lime based, cream coloured and very soft.

9.0.32



The small section of palace wall mentioned above is approximately 4m long on an east-west alignment. It is 3.5m high. Within this section is a blocked arch window with two stone mullions. The arch measures 1.89m high and 2.20m wide. The window itself measures 1.06m high and 2.01m wide. It appears that this is an original palace feature however is uncertain whether it is in situ or if it has been re-used. This wall joins another red brick wall to the west but the relationship is obscured. This wall is on a north-south alignment and has a short section of red brick wall abutting it to its southern end. A large decorative Victorian arch in London brick has been placed up against the eastern elevation of these two walls. On the south-western elevation there are several architectural stone fragments, almost certainly from the primary palace structure. These appear to have been re-used rather than in situ.



9.0.33

A lower wall of 11 courses approximately 0.75m high and 4m long on an east-west alignment butts the wall mentioned above. The bricks are reddish purple and measure 240mm x 110mm x 55mm. The mortar is cementous, gritty, and cream coloured. It appears to be associated with Wall 17 discussed below.

9.0.34

It is not possible to discern this area on the 1611 plan however it is likely that parts of it relate to the primary phase of the palace. On the 1785 map it is



possible to see a building in this direct location.

9.0.35



Wall 17 is a short section of wall 16m long and seems to be a continuation of the wall mentioned above. It follows the same alignment and uses the same bricks. The whole structure is at ground level, however as the ground drops down to the south, seven brick courses are visible. There is a slight return to the south at its western end. It doesn't appear to relate to the primary palace structure however there is a structure in this location on the 1785 map. A photograph in the Lowewood Museum shows a two storey outbuilding - probably the old palace house coach house.

9.0.36



Wall 18 (& Associated Buildings) this wall is 31m long on a roughly north-south alignment and forms the western wall of 'Pets Corner'. This wall appears to be contemporary with the palace. The bricks are red/orange in colour measuring 230mm x 110mm x 55mm. The mortar is lime based, soft, and cream in colour. It has however been heavily re-pointed in places with a similar mortar which is much more gritty. Four small windows have been inserted and the top 11 courses have been replaced, or the wall has been extended in height. There is a string course (sandstone and possibly clunch in places) seven brick courses up from the ground at the south western corner. After this string course the brickwork steps in slightly. At 1.6m up from the ground there is another string course, this time in brick. This appears to be an original feature.



9.0.37

The most interesting feature of this wall is a **chimney stack** at its southern end. It is believed that this was originally an original bay window from the southern wing of the palace. If Sir John Summerson is correct in his reconstruction of the palace then this is a reasonable assumption.



9.0.38

A red/orange brick building with red ceramic roof tiles extends eastwards from this bay window/chimney stack. It currently contains three rooms divided by two internal partition walls. On the 1883 OS Map however it shows just two rooms. The eastern room is currently used as a general storage area. It has a small window on the southern elevation and large wooden double doors on the north facing elevation. The middle room is used to gain access into 'pets corner' from the park. It has one door on the southern elevation and a door and small window on the northern elevation. The internal walls are exposed brick. The furthest west room is used as a park office. There is an inserted window on the southern elevation.



9.0.39

The whole building is single storey with an attic space above. The attic partition wall dividing the western room and middle room has an inserted window suggesting that the middle room was also added at a later date. It has a timber trussed roof with tie beams, staggered purlins, collars, and raking struts. The roof has had some recent work but appears to be 17th century in date. The roof was constructed using elm and now suffers from woodworm.



9.0.40

This wall appears to relate to the primary palace structure and seems to be marked on the 1611 plan as a wing protruding to the south. According to Summerson (1959), this was an open gallery built c.1572-73.



9.0.41

Wall 19 marks the eastern boundary of 'Pets Corner'. It is constructed with red/orange bricks measuring 230mm x 110mm x 55mm with a soft textured, cream coloured lime mortar. The top course uses yellow/purple London brick. It is 2.1m high and 43m long and had been extensively re-pointed with concrete in the same style as Wall 21. There are four London brick buttresses on its eastern elevation. The southern half of this wall appears to be more modern, perhaps being heavily repaired during the park refurbishment in the 1960's. It is feasible that at least part of this wall is marked on the 1611 plan although it is not possible to be certain. It is however marked on the 1785 and 1842 maps and is seen to be separating the grounds of The Cedars to the west, with the grounds of Thorpe House to the east.





9.0.42

Wall 20 butts Wall 10 and runs southwards on a north-south alignment. It is 48m long. The bricks are red/orange in colour and measure 210mm x 60mm x 100mm. The mortar is a hard, gritty lime mortar, re-pointed in parts with cement mortar. There are several patches of modern repair. At the southern most end there is a blocked arch. The blocking bricks are yellow/purple London bricks and the arch is 1.2m wide and 1.8m high. At this end the wall has been cut and straightened off. It does not appear to be present on the 1611 plan, however it does seem to be marked on the 1785 map. It appears to be associated with the grounds of The Cedars.



9.0.43

Wall 21 is 41m long on a north-south alignment. It has been cut by the new park entrance to the north. A variety of different bricks have been used and the whole wall has been heavily re-pointed with cement mortar. It seems to first appear on the 1842 Tithe map however it is possible that it relates to an earlier phase.



9.0.44

Wall 22 is a short section of wall on a roughly east-west alignment which is visible for approximately 10m. It returns to the north at its eastern most extent as wall 23 and both walls use the same bricks which measure 235mm x 110 x 65mm. It is associated with Jacksons School is at present largely obscured by dense vegetation and first seems to appear on the 1842 map although it may also be present on the 1785 map. It may also relate to an earlier phase.



9.0.45

Wall 23 is a 33m section of wall at ground level and just below. It is roughly on a north-south alignment and at its southern end it returns to the west as wall 22. Due to it being largely obscured by vegetation and the majority being below ground level it is not possible measure its width however the bricks are the same as those seen in wall 14 and are dark brown/purple measuring 240mm x 110 x 55mm. This wall appears to be marked on the 1842

map, but may also be present on the 1785 map. It may also indicate the wall line of an earlier phase. It appears to mark the eastern boundary wall of Jacksons School.



9.0.46

Wall 24 is a small section of wall alongside a modern path in the eastern part of the park. It is 21m long on a north-south alignment and uses London brick with a hard cement mortar. It appears to be relatively modern, perhaps contemporary with the park refurbishment in the 1960's, however it may also relate to Thorpe House.



9.0.47

Wall 25 represents the remains of Old Palace House and is believed to be part of west wing ground floor of the original palace. It is 8m long on a north south alignment approximately 80m NW of The Cedars. It uses soft red bricks (measuring 230mm x 110mm x 55mm), and stone dressings. The jambs use a soft stone (possible Reigate stone) which are a green/grey colour. These are very corroded and worn. Fragments survive of the sill which is formed with a harder sandstone and there appears to be a surviving block from a lintel (yellow sandstone). Some iron fragments are also in-situ from the former window and there are two mortices from former horizontal bars as well as grooves for glazing. The primary mortar is soft, cream coloured, and lime based. There is 19th century stucco on the west facing elevation. The remains of one window is present which has ovolo and fillet moulded side mullions. The wall is deep splayed either side of the window on the eastern facing elevation.

APPENDIX II REPORT ON ARCHAEOGEOPHYSICAL SURVEY 2007

APPENDIX III BIBLIOGRAPHY

**APPENDIX IV SUGGESTIONS FOR FURTHER GEOPHYSICAL INVESTIGATIONS (A
 BARTLETT)**

APPENDIX V SUMMARY OF SITE DETAILS

**CEDARS PARK, BROXBOURNE
HERTFORDSHIRE**

Report on Archaeogeophysical Survey 2007

A. Bartlett

Surveyed by:

Bartlett-Clark Consultancy

**25 Estate Yard, Cuckoo Lane,
North Leigh,
Oxfordshire OX29 6PW
01865 200864**

for:

**Oxford Archaeology,
Janus House,
Osney Mead,
Oxford OX2 0ES**

Cedars Park, Broxbourne, Hertfordshire Report on Archaeogeophysical Survey 2007

Introduction

This report describes the findings from a magnetometer survey carried out as part of a programme of archaeological investigations at the site of the 16th C Theobalds Palace in Cedars Park, Broxbourne.

The survey forms part of a study being undertaken by Oxford Archaeology on behalf of Broxbourne Council, and with support from the Heritage Lottery Fund. Findings from the work will contribute to a separate Conservation Management Plan for the park, and may provide a basis for other future investigations of the site.

The areas of the park adjacent to the site of Theobalds Palace constitute a Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM no. 77), and the geophysical survey was therefore carried out under the terms of a Section 42 licence from English Heritage. Fieldwork for the survey was done between 3rd and 5th September 2007.

The Site

Cedars Park is located between Cheshunt and Waltham Cross at NGR TL 355011. The historical background and present condition of the site are reviewed in both the briefing document for the project issued by the Borough of Broxbourne [1], and in a proposal for the investigation by Oxford Archaeology [2].

Only fragmentary remains survive of structures associated with the original Theobalds Palace, which was built for Lord Burleigh between 1563 and 1585. The house later passed to James I, who died there in 1625. It was sold after the Civil War in 1649, and subsequently demolished. Reconstructions of the building based on original descriptions and surviving evidence suggest it was located largely beneath the present car park (to the north of survey area C), and that the site of the palace itself is therefore unsuitable for geophysical investigation (except perhaps by ground penetrating radar).

Part of the palace site was later occupied by a house called The Cedars, as indicated on 19th C maps, and the site was then sold to Middlesex County Council in 1938.

The objectives of the geophysical survey, as stated in [1], were to test in particular for any remaining garden landscape features, possibly including ditches and walls. A magnetometer survey of the kind carried out here should usually detect such features as infilled ditches, and areas of disturbed response corresponding to former buildings. Stone wall footings are unlikely to be detectable, but brickwork should produce a

magnetic response. The detailed plan of a brick structure may not be apparent if a surviving wall footings are surrounded and obscured by a spread of rubble or debris (as appears to be the case at several locations in this survey). Selective and more detailed coverage (by resistivity or ground penetrating radar) may be appropriate if specific questions concerning structural remains need to be answered at a later stage in the project. Magnetometer surveying, for this initial investigation, offers the most effective means of investigating the possible presence of archaeological features, as well as the extent and intensity of other subsurface disturbances across the site.

The park appears to be situated on River Terrace gravels, although it is close to areas of alluvial deposition in the Lea valley. This geology should provide reasonably favourable conditions for the magnetic detection of archaeological features.

Survey Procedure

The survey was carried out in four relatively open areas of ground, as previously identified by Oxford Archaeology. These are labeled Areas A-D on the enclosed plans (as indicated by broken red outlines in figures 1 and 3), and amount in total to some 5.5ha. The extent of data collection within these areas was adapted to take account of boundaries and obstructions. Reasonably complete coverage was obtained, except for the northern part of Area C, which was obstructed by trees and picnic tables. There were also gaps in the coverage because of shrubbery and other obstructions towards the north of Area D. Remaining areas of the park (outside the proposed areas, and near the northern and southern park boundaries) are too densely wooded to permit detailed magnetometer surveying.

The survey was carried out using Bartington magnetometers to collect readings along transects 1m apart, to give the results presented as grey scale and graphical plots in figures 1 and 2. The plots show the magnetometer readings after standard treatments which include adjustment for irregularities in line spacing caused by variations in the instrument zero setting, and truncation of extreme values. Slight digital smoothing has been applied to the grey scale plot to reduce background noise levels.

Outlines and shading have been added to indicate findings on the graphical plot (figure 2), and are reproduced separately to provide a summary of the survey results in figures 3 and 4.

The survey was located by reference to a temporary site grid tied to OS coordinates by differential GPS measurements. Figures 1-3 are based on a site plan supplied to us by the client. This was overlaid on OS digital mapping, and scaled to match OS coordinates, as indicated on the figures. OS coordinates of locations within the survey can be read from the Autocad file from which figures 1-4 are derived. In figure 4 the modern map has been replaced by a scanned extract from a 25" OS map of 1898. This has been scaled and located by comparing surviving buildings and boundaries on the two maps. A good match was obtained with buildings around The Cedars, although only some of the outlying boundaries could be closely reconciled. The survey interpretation as shown on figure 4 can be compared with some of the earlier features at the site, particularly fish ponds and boundaries. A similar slightly

earlier map of 1893 was also supplied, but is not reproduced here.

The magnetometer survey was supplemented by background susceptibility testing, with readings taken using a Bartington MS2 meter to give the results as inset in figure 3. A susceptibility survey will often show raised values in areas where debris associated with former occupation or industrial activity has become dispersed in the soil. The plots show the initial readings, and the values after treatment with a median filter, which emphasises broad trends in the data.

Results

Findings are described from Areas A-D in turn.

Area A

The strongly disturbed magnetic response clearly shows the extent of the former landfill site, which previously occupied much of this area. The extent of the infilling is shown by cross hatching on the interpretative plan (figure 3), but this is omitted for clarity from the graphical plot (figure 2). The area is now open level grassland, but clearly only the eastern border of the area retains an original ground surface. The susceptibility survey also shows strongly raised readings across much of the landfill area.

Some less conspicuous disturbances are marked by orange cross hatching and red outlines towards the east of area A, but in this disturbed context they need not be of any archaeological significance. Two alignments of disturbed readings suggest the possible presence of pipes (as marked in blue) near the edges of the landfill area, but these again cannot be identified with great confidence against the disturbed background. One of the possible pipes (to east of Area A) follows the line of a path or boundary as shown on the 1898 map (figure 4).

Area B

The areas marked by cross hatching at a and b show a magnetically disturbed response at the northern and southern ends of this walled lawn. (The disturbances are not as strong as from the landfill in area A). Figure 4 confirms that disturbances at a correspond to greenhouses and outbuildings as shown on the 1898 map. The disturbances at b lie immediately to the north of a line of greenhouses.

Two strong linear but irregular features are marked as pipes at c but they also align closely with a path shown on the 1893 map (but not on the 1898 map as shown in figure 4). Brick paving or metal edging from the path could perhaps therefore contribute to the magnetic effect. Other paths shown on the same map in area B do not respond in this way, but strong magnetic disturbances (as marked by green cross hatching) were detected from some of the surviving paths in area D.

Various individual magnetic anomalies of a size and strength which (in a suitable context) could indicate silted pits, or other features of archaeological interest, are

outlined in red. These are widely scattered, and do not suggest any significant concentrations of features. A further cluster of such features (at d) to the north of area C includes strong magnetic anomalies of a kind which could indicate a spread of brickwork or rubble. Buildings are shown on the 1898 map to the east of (but some distance from) the disturbances at d. There are also high susceptibility readings in this area. It is unclear whether disturbances such as those at d could predate the 19th C house and landscaping.

Area C

The main finding here is an area of disturbed magnetic response, as cross hatched in blue. This reflects the shape, but appears to be offset slightly to the east, of the fishpond as shown on the 1898 map (figure 4).

The clusters of magnetic anomalies as outlined at e and f are difficult to categorise. The features at f appear to show some regularity of plan which could perhaps suggest remains of a structure, but they could also represent a minor scatter of debris.

Area D

The survey again shows the infilling of part of the pond, which is shown on the 1898 map to extend further to the north than is now the case. The plots also show strong disturbances in the western half of the area, particularly around g.

It is possible that the first (easternmost) of the three palace courtyards extended into the disturbed area around g, but buildings (and a greenhouse) were also present here in 1898 (figure 4). There may also be more recent disturbances associated with a concrete structure (immediately to the NE of g).

Other findings include some possible linear magnetic anomalies in the small open area surveyed to the north of the site around h. The plan of the paths in this part of the park is shown also on the 1893 map, but the significance of the magnetic anomalies detected here is difficult to assess in isolation.

Elsewhere, there are various magnetic anomalies, not all of which necessarily relate to 19th C features. There is a group of features which could almost be claimed to form part of a circular ditched enclosure in the NE corner of the site at j, but interpretation here is hindered by the disturbed surroundings, and a pipe.

There are alignments of magnetic anomalies which appear to represent linear features at k, l, m, n. Of these, m and n could perhaps be paths visible in 1893, but k and l do not appear to relate to previously recorded features. This could also be the case for the small and perhaps circular feature at p.

Conclusions

The survey shows the cumulative effects of various periods of construction and landscaping, and may well be dominated by the effects of 19th C and more recent

disturbances.

The more clearly explicable findings include the former landfill in area A, and infilled ponds in areas C and D. There are magnetic disturbances probably associated with 19th C structures around a and b in area B, and g in area D. Other findings which could be of interest, but cannot be fully assessed on the survey evidence alone, include clusters of magnetic disturbances at d in area B, e and f in area C, and several of those seen in area D. The survey plots here appear to show large and small apparent circular features (j and p), and ditch-like linear disturbances (particularly k and l). Further investigation would be needed to determine whether these relate to, or predate, the recorded history of the site.

Report by:

A. Bartlett BSc MPhil

Bartlett-Clark Consultancy
Specialists in Archaeogeophysics

25 Estate Yard,
Cuckoo Lane,
North Leigh,
Oxfordshire,
OX29 6PW

01865 200864

12 November 2007
(Revised 3 December 2007)

bcc123@ntlworld.com

P. Cottrell and F. Prince carried out the fieldwork for this project.

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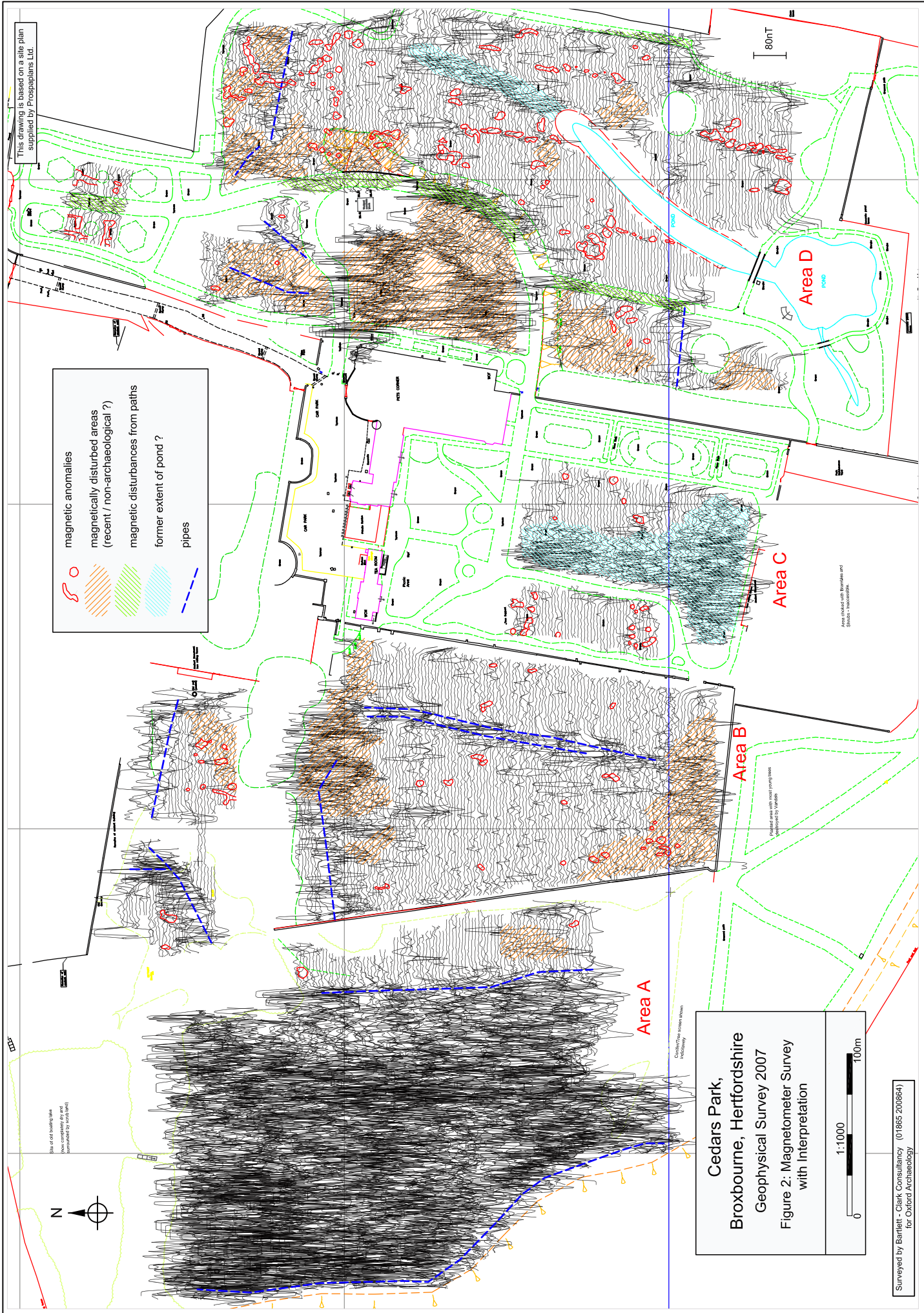
[2] Proposal for archaeological investigation at Cedars Park, Broxbourne, Hertfordshire, by J. Gill, Oxford Archaeology; 9 July 2007.

This drawing is based on a site plan supplied by Prospians Ltd.



Cedars Park,
 Broxbourne, Hertfordshire
 Geophysical Survey 2007
 Figure 1: Magnetometer Survey
 (greyscale plot)





This drawing is based on a site plan supplied by Prospians Ltd.

magnetic anomalies
 magnetically disturbed areas (recent / non-archaeological ?)
 magnetic disturbances from paths
 former extent of pond ?
 pipes

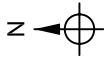
Cedars Park,
Broxbourne, Hertfordshire
 Geophysical Survey 2007
 Figure 2: Magnetometer Survey with Interpretation

1:1000

0 100m

Surveyed by Barkitt - Clark Consultancy (01865 200864)
for Oxford Archaeology

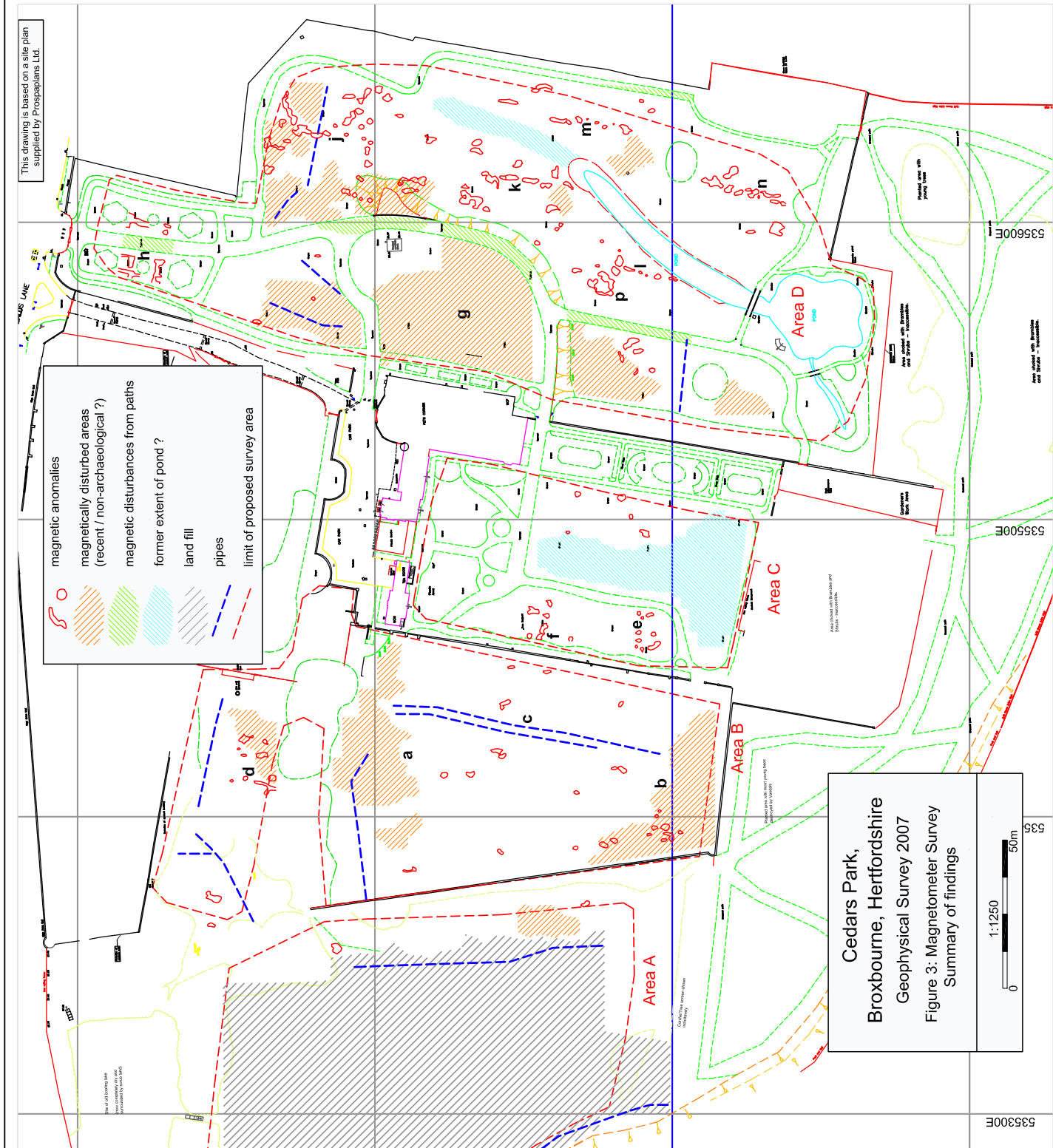
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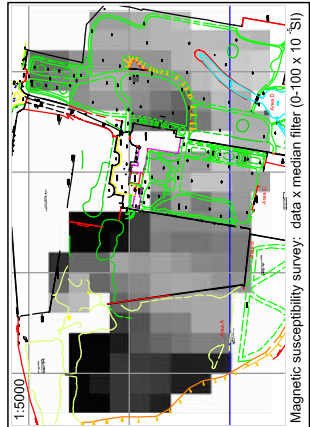
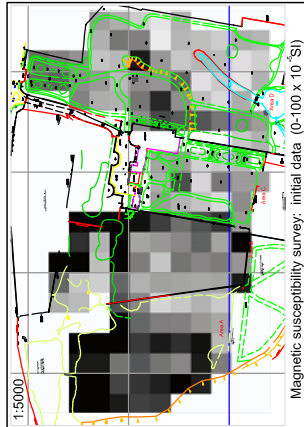
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This drawing is based on a site plan
supplied by Prospians Ltd.

	magnetic anomalies
	magnetically disturbed areas (recent / non-archaeological ?)
	magnetic disturbances from paths
	former extent of pond ?
	land fill
	pipes
	limit of proposed survey area



**Cedars Park,
Broxbourne, Hertfordshire**
Geophysical Survey 2007
Figure 3: Magnetometer Survey
Summary of findings



535300E

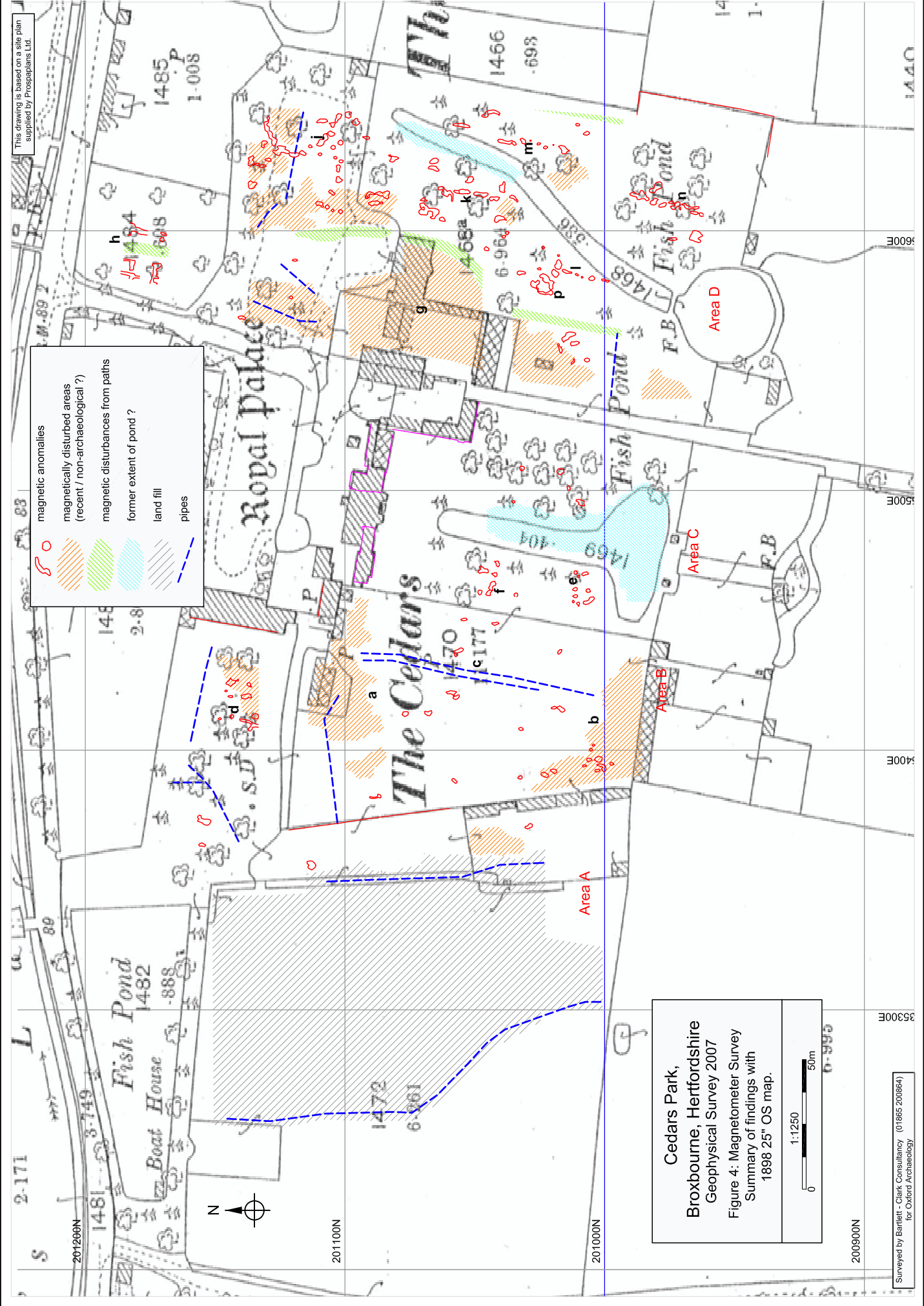
535

535600E

535600E

This drawing is based on a site plan supplied by Prospians Ltd.

	magnetic anomalies
	magnetically disturbed areas (recent / non-archaeological ?)
	magnetic disturbances from paths
	former extent of pond ?
	land fill
	pipes



Cedars Park,
Broxbourne, Hertfordshire
 Geophysical Survey 2007
 Figure 4: Magnetometer Survey
 Summary of findings with
 1898 25" OS map.

1:1250
 0 50m

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Maps

Plan before 1607 - after John Thorpe

Thorpe Map 1611

Map of Cheshunt 1785

Tithe Map 1842

Ordnance Survey Map 1883

Ordnance Survey Map 1898

Ordnance Survey Map 1914

Ordnance Survey 1935 Revision

Theobalds Palace, Broxbourne, Hertfordshire: some suggestions for further geophysical investigations

It appears on the basis of the magnetometer survey (as described in our report of 3 December 2007) that radar and earth resistance surveys here would probably only be useful if there is a need to investigate the site of the palace itself, perhaps with its immediate surroundings.

The magnetometer results showed that much of the surveyed area is disturbed in ways which would obstruct or exclude further geophysical investigations. The disturbances (in addition to the landfill site) include strong magnetic interference from (probably recent) structural debris around g in Area D, and the filled-in ponds in Areas C and D.

The most interesting magnetic findings were perhaps the ditches and possible enclosures in parts of Area D, but other survey methods would not add anything to the magnetometer results for features of this kind. Areas for resistance and radar surveys could perhaps be selected as follows:

Ground penetrating radar

The most relevant area for a radar survey must be the car park, which probably represents as much as is accessible of the Tudor palace site itself. The survey could also be extended into the northern parts of Areas B and C. This would test for the overall extent of the buildings, and also allow a comparison of the survey response from paved and grassed areas of the site. (It may also be possible to survey some of the walled garden to the SE of the car park if it is not too obstructed. The areas as indicated on the plan may include strips of woodland at boundaries, which could not be surveyed.)

A radar survey covering as much as possible of the approximate area as indicated on the attached plan would include the car park, the magnetic anomalies at d in Area B (which are less strong, and perhaps therefore more significant than most of the recent disturbances), and the northern part of Area C. (This area was left out of the magnetometer survey because of picnic tables and other obstructions, but could probably be surveyed in part by radar.) The surveyable area may amount to some 0.6 ha, which it should be possible to cover in 2-3 days (depending on the number of obstructions, and the complexity of setting out small areas). This time scale would be for a survey with transects recorded at 1m spacings (perhaps reducing to 0.75m in the car park, where detailed structural information may be obtainable). Results would be presented as time-sliced plans, representing horizontal cross sections of features at various depths, together with selected vertical profiles. Our inclusive charge (for a radar survey to cover as much of the marked area as feasible) would be £ 2400 for the survey, and £ 600 for equipment hire (excluding VAT).

Earth resistance survey

An electrical earth resistance survey would have to exclude the paved or surfaced parking areas (and therefore most of the main palace site), but could perhaps be extended to take in the west side of Area C. There are groups of relatively minor magnetic anomalies here. These may be insignificant, but could perhaps indicate remains of (rather minor ?) structures. A resistance survey could at least help answer such questions, which are left unresolved by the magnetometer survey.

The total suggested area for resistance coverage (as indicated in green on the plan) could again be about 0.6ha. Our charge for this (for a standard survey with readings on a 1m grid, and taking account of the irregular and obstructed nature of the site) could be £ 1200 + VAT. Options for more detailed coverage could be discussed if required.

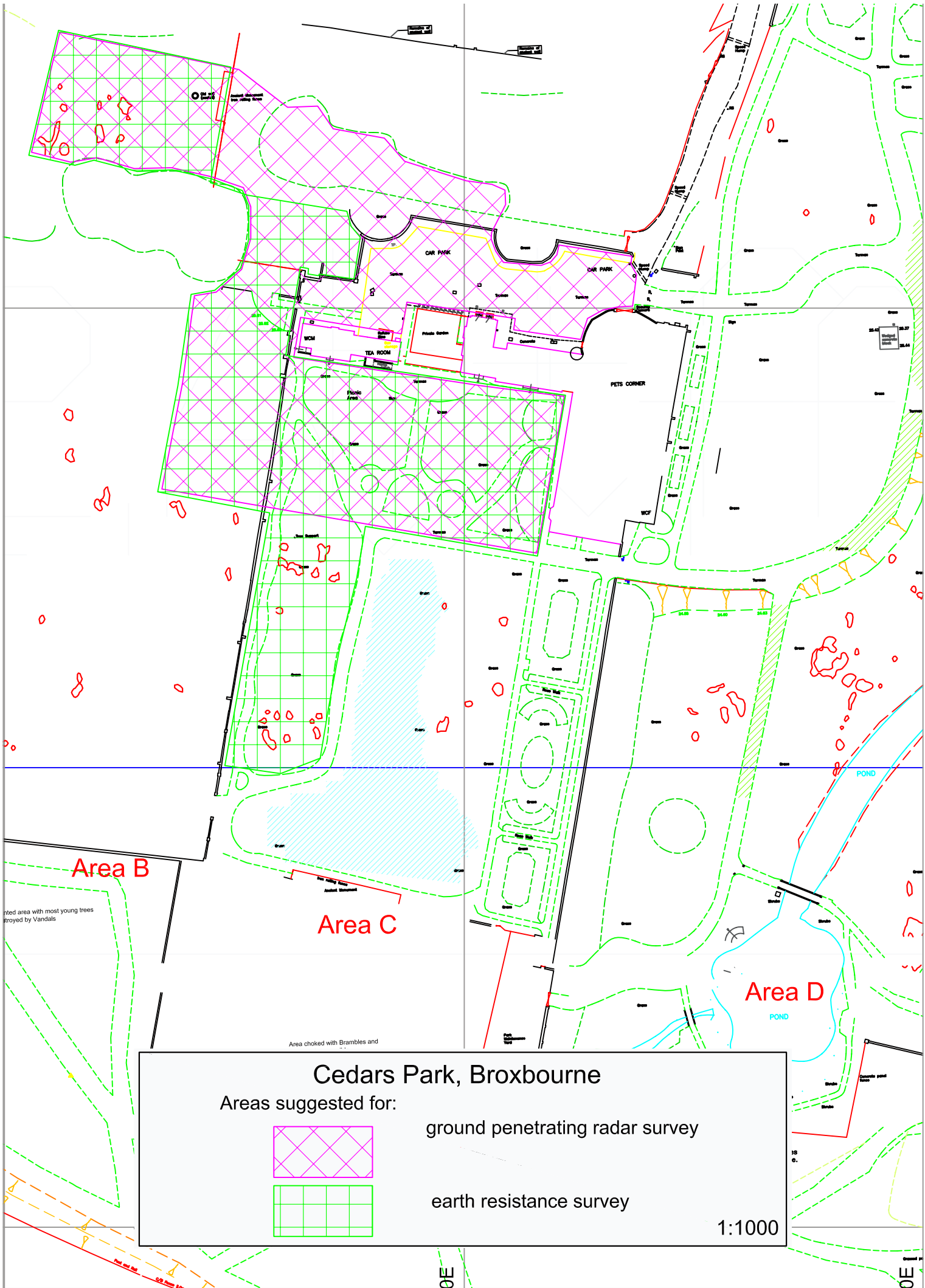
A. Bartlett

Bartlett-Clark Consultancy
Specialists in Archaeogeophysics
25 Estate Yard
Cuckoo Lane
Northleigh
Oxfordshire
OX29 6PW

01865 200864

email: bcc123@ntlworld.com

14 January 2008



APPENDIX V SUMMARY OF SITE DETAILS

Site name: Cedars Park

Site code: BROXCP 07

Grid reference: TL 355 011

Type of evaluation: Historic Building Survey and Recording

Date and duration of project: Site work undertaken in August/September 2007

Location of archive: The archive is currently held at OA, Janus House, Osney Mead, Oxford, OX2 0ES. It will be deposited at the Lowewood Museum, Hoddesdon.



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Figure 1: Site location

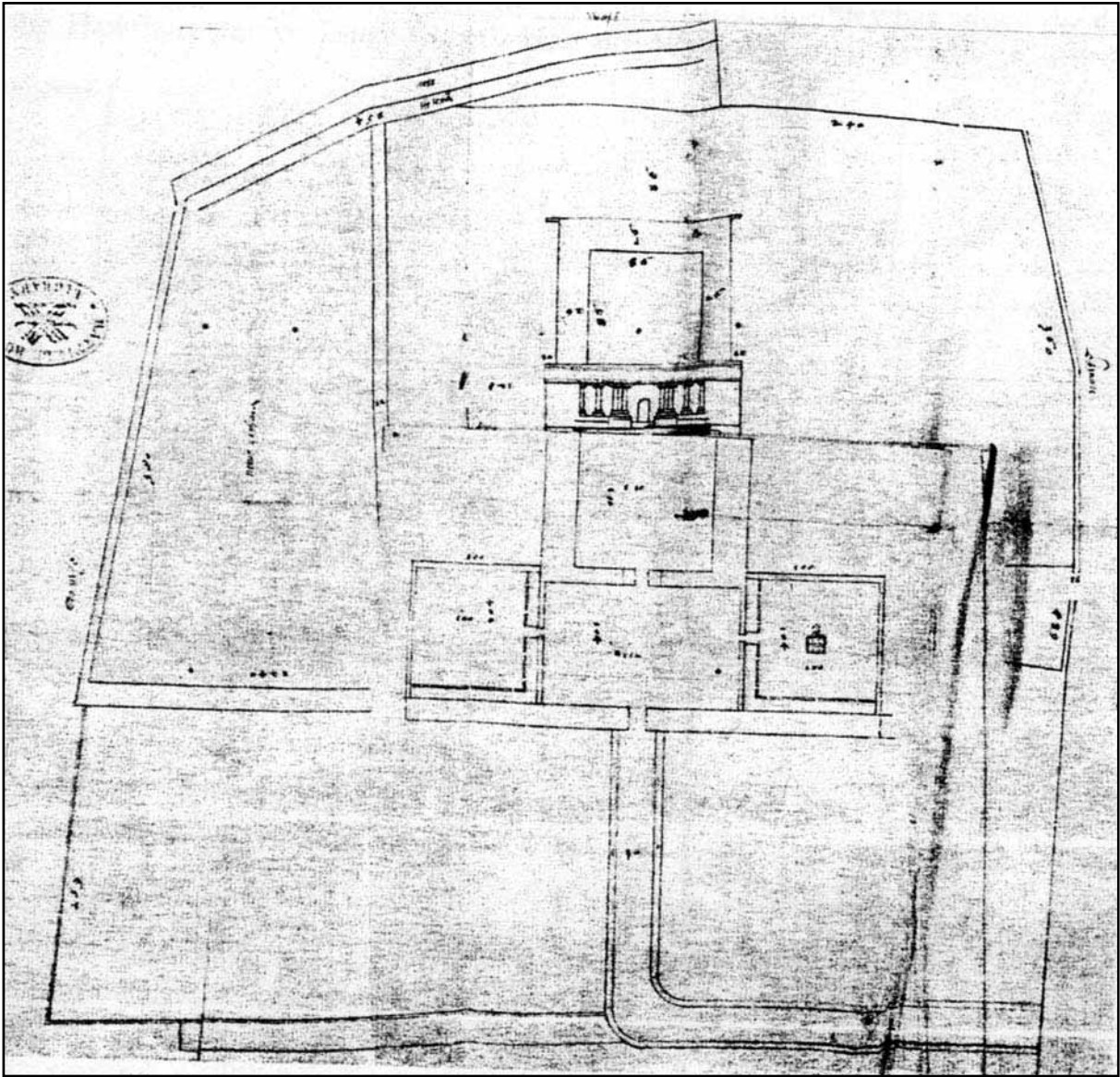


Figure 4: 'The platt of ye whole house and ground att Thebalds'. Flap raised

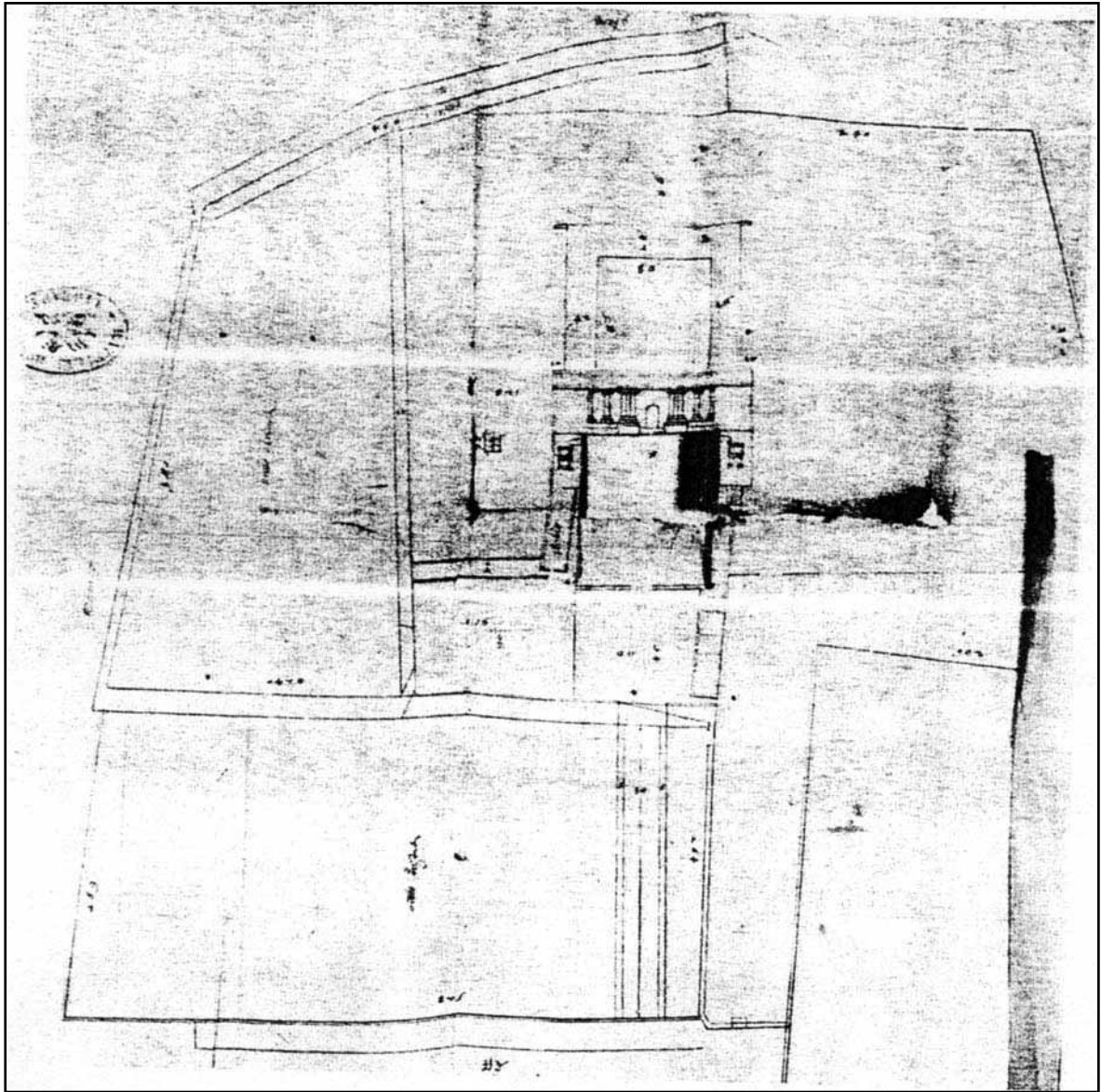


Figure 5: 'The platt of ye whole house and ground att Thebalds'. Flap lowered

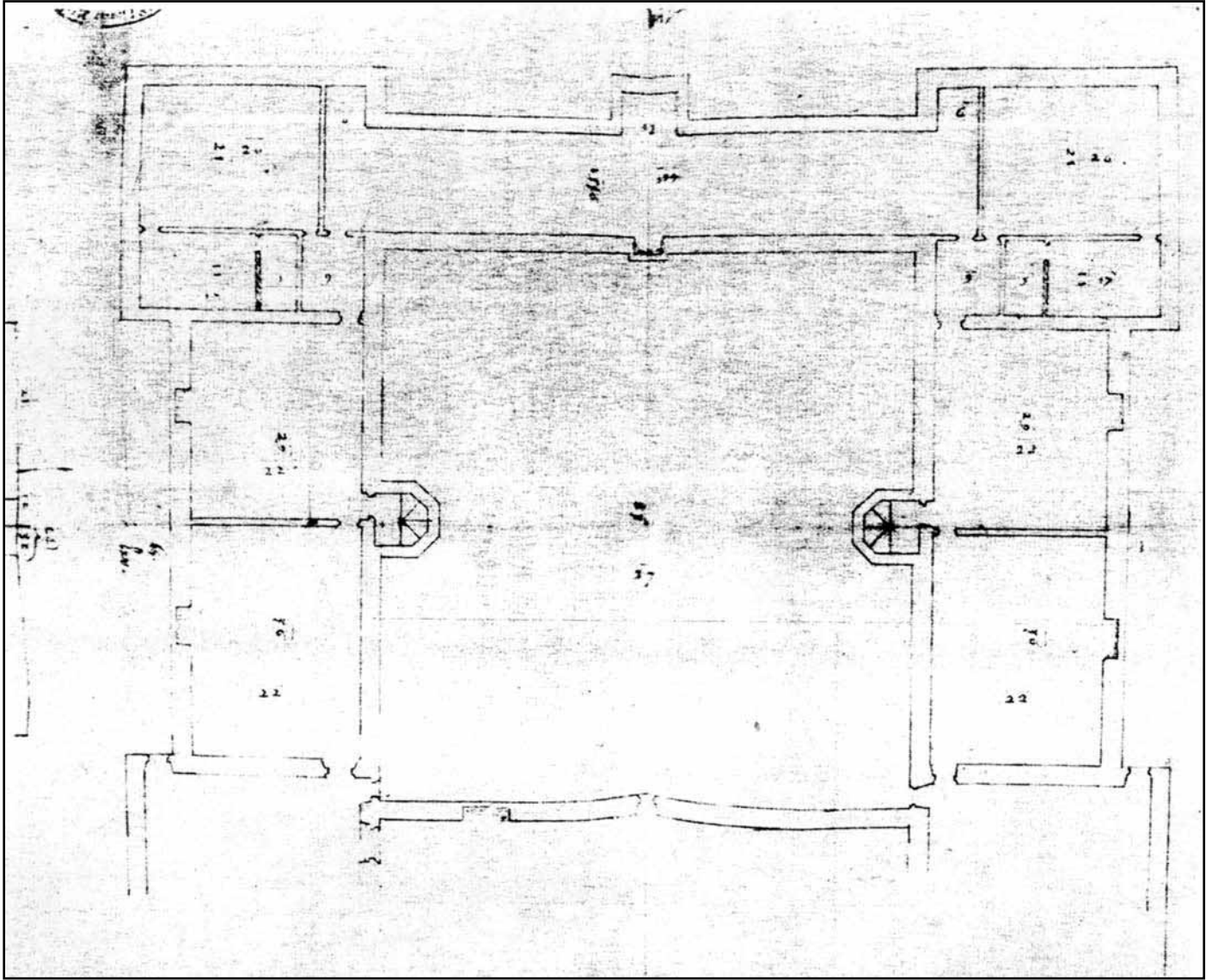


Figure 6: 'The platt of Thebalds by Hawthorn for ye Inner Court' 1572

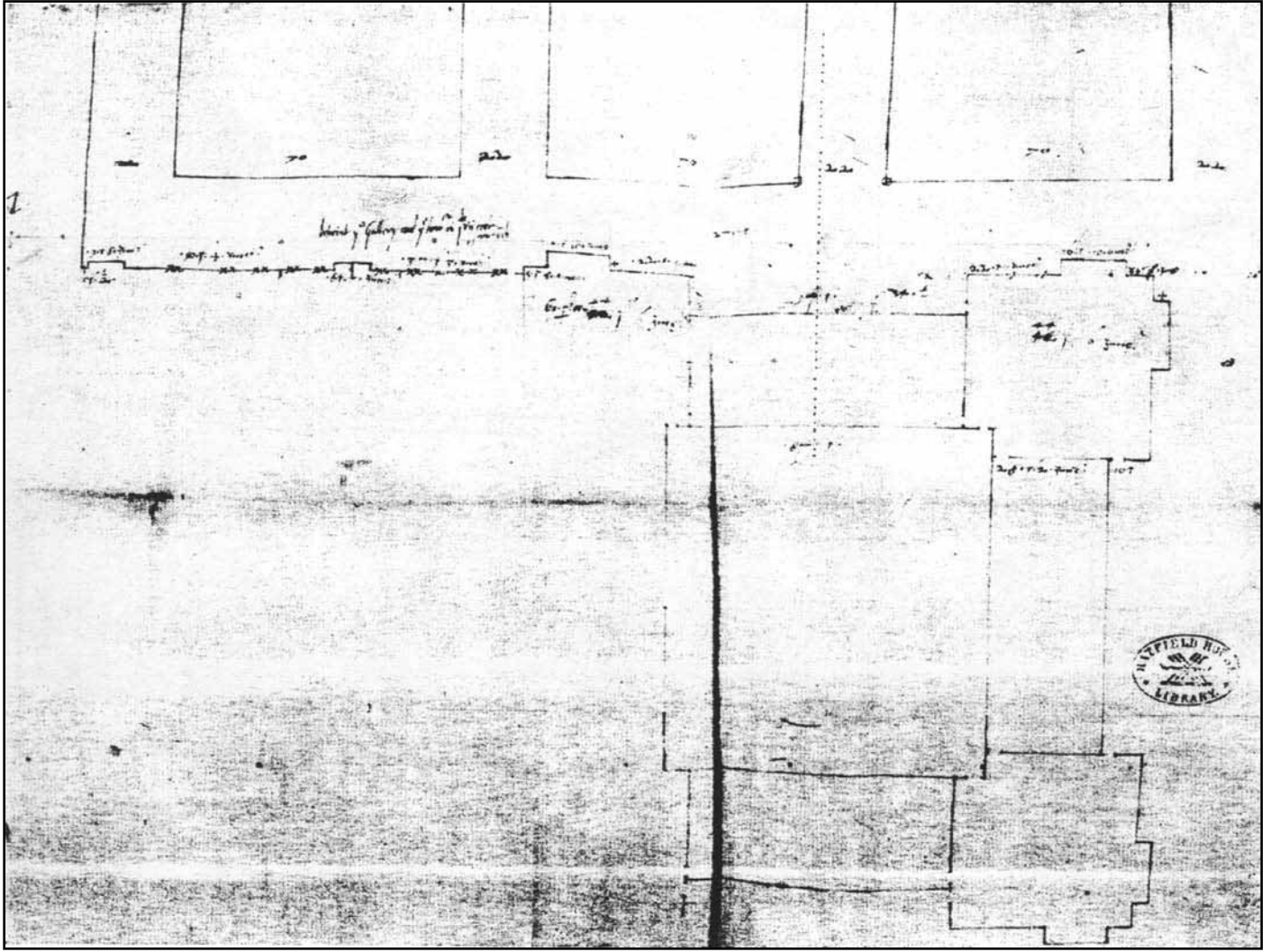


Figure 7: 'The platt of ye garden towards ye old house and ye long alley'

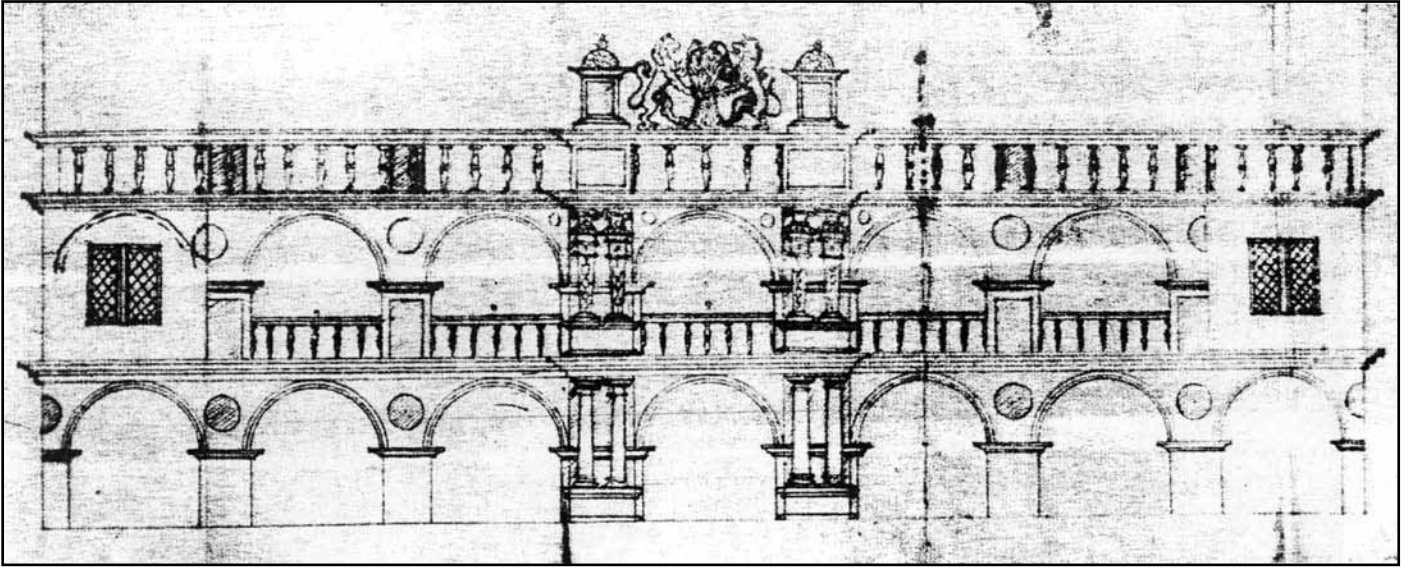


Figure 8: 'The inwd. side of the gatehouse. voyd.'

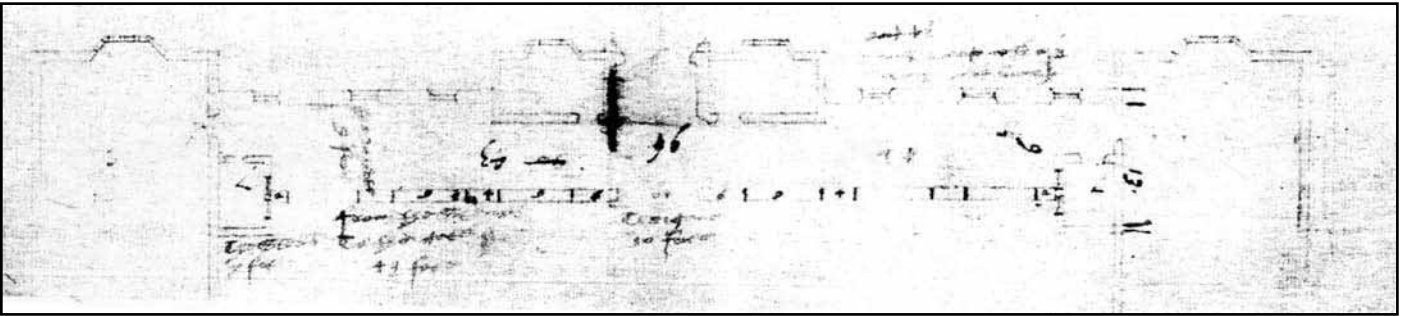


Figure 9: 'The platt for my gatehowse at Theobalds'

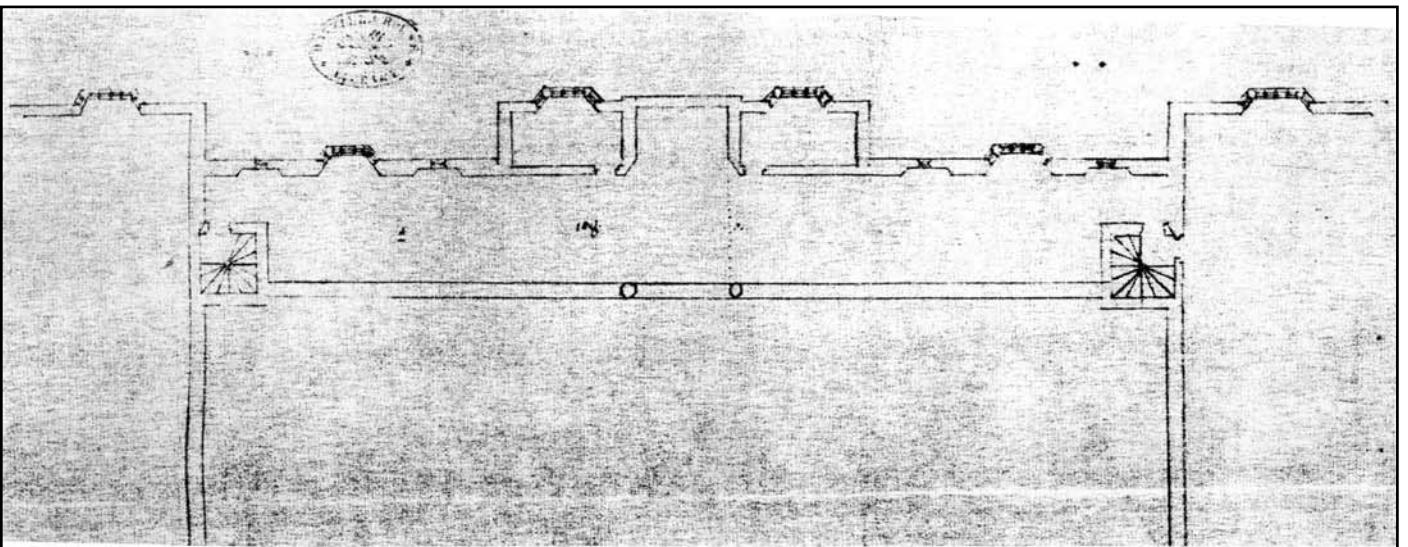


Figure 10: 'The second platt of my gatehowse and gallery. voyd.'

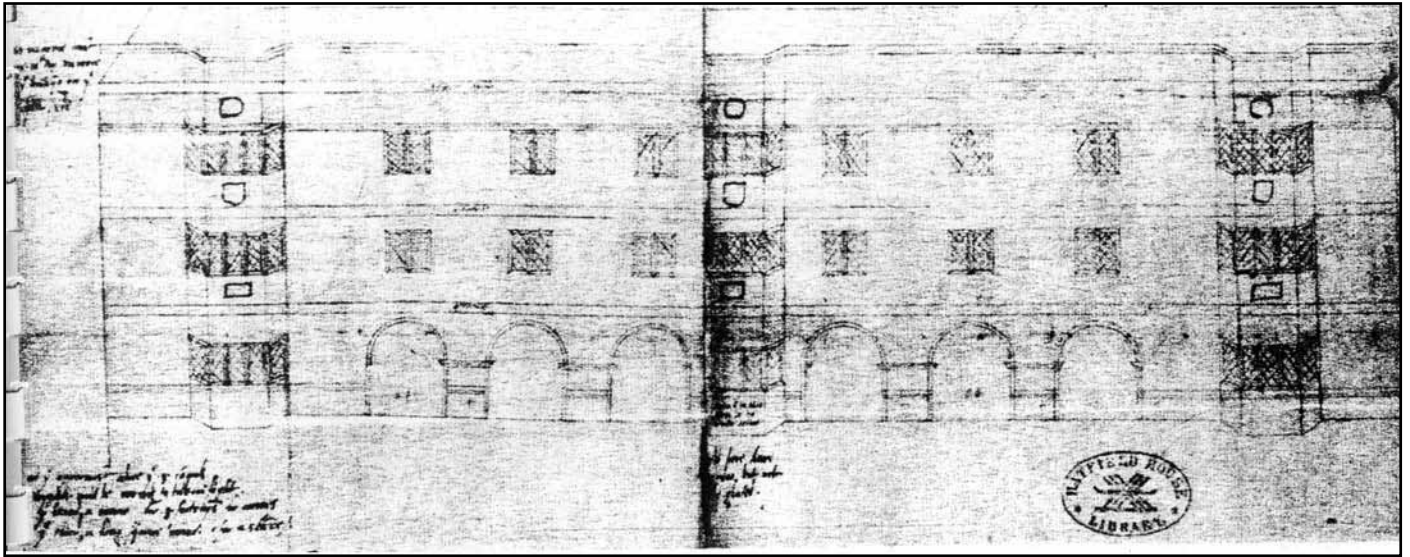


Figure 11: 'upright of the gallery garden'

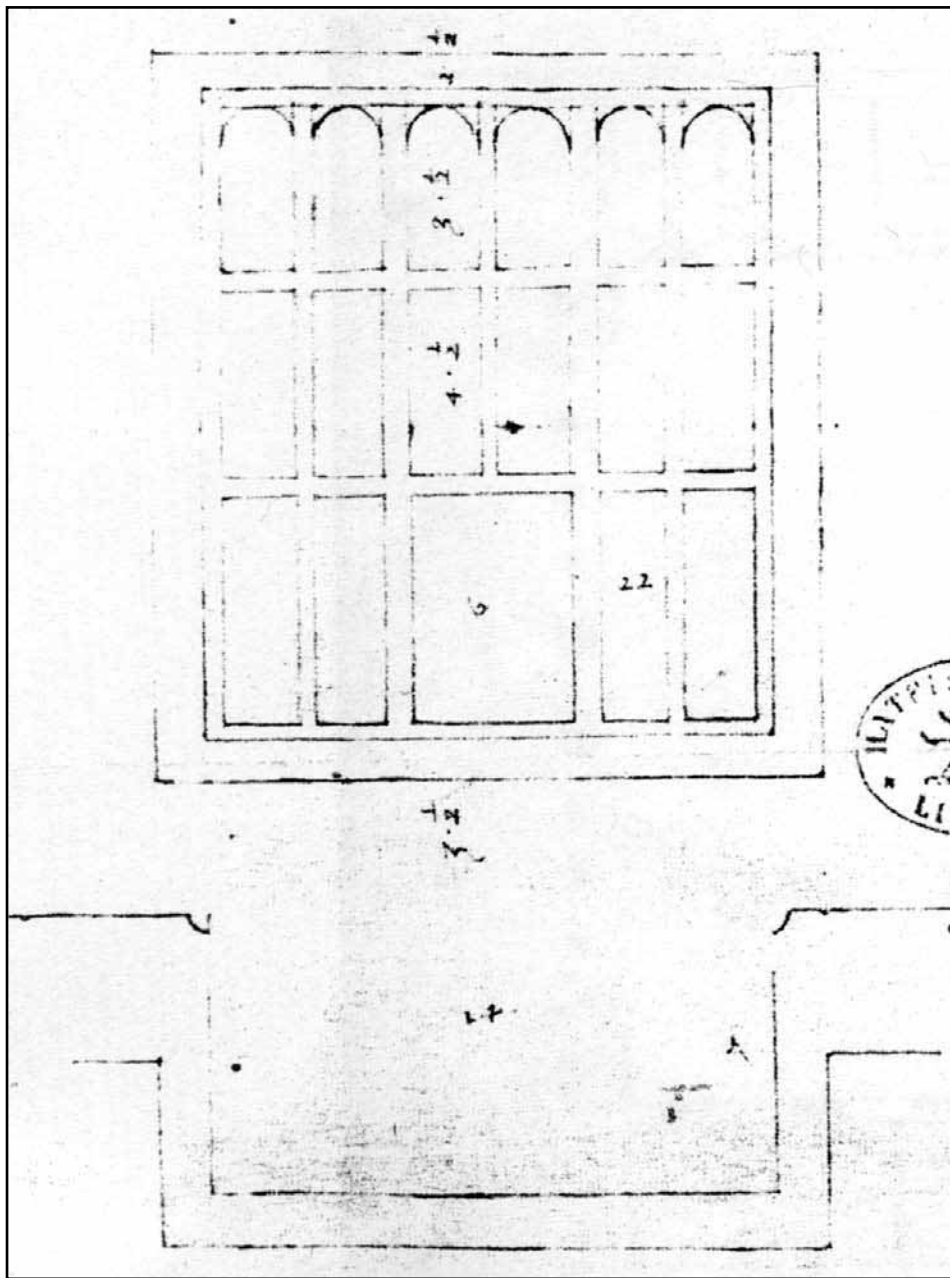


Figure 12: 'a pattern for the wydd of the great chamber'

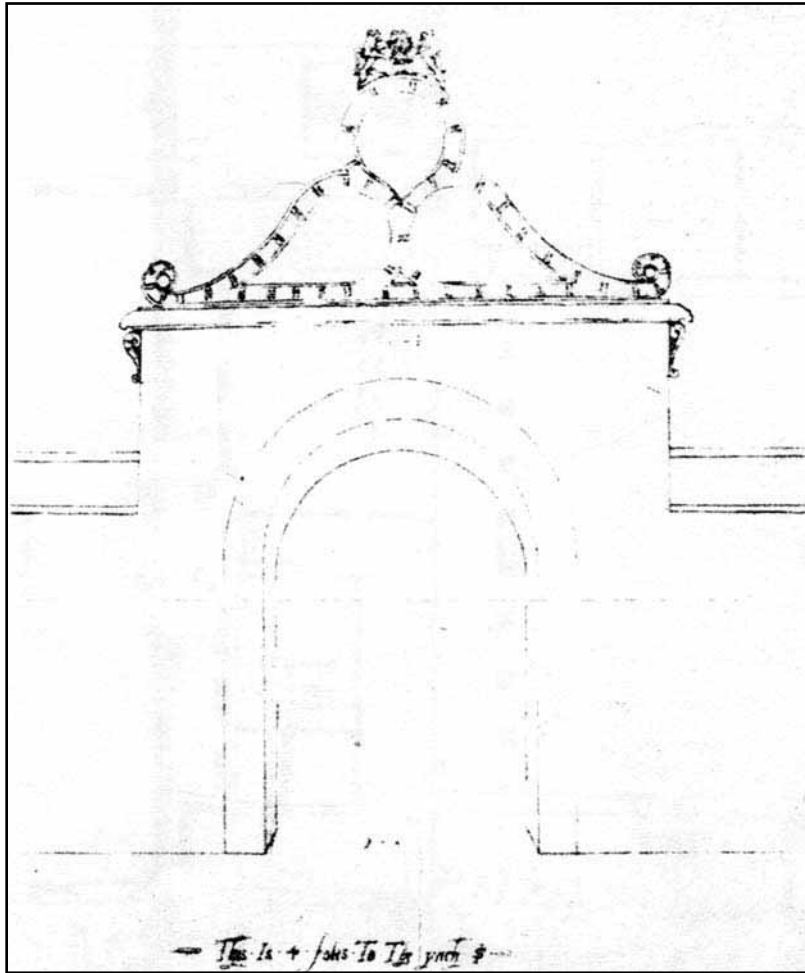


Figure 13: 'My othermost gate at Thebalds' 1577

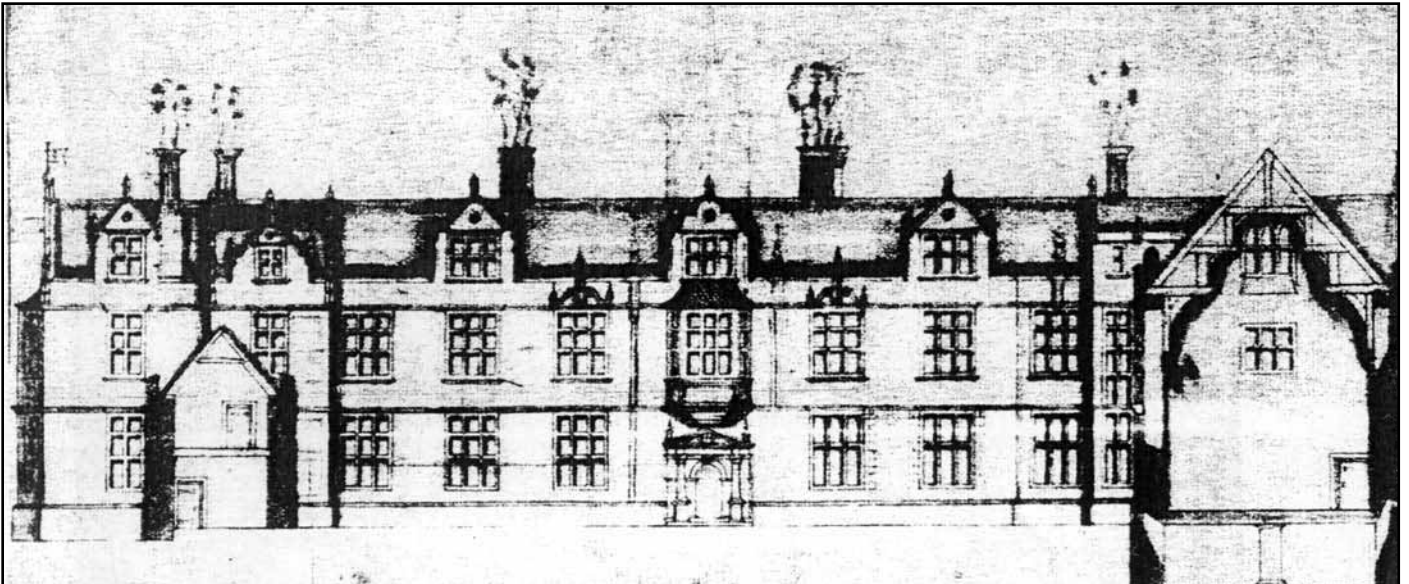


Figure 14: Section through the courtyard of a house; probably related to Theobalds

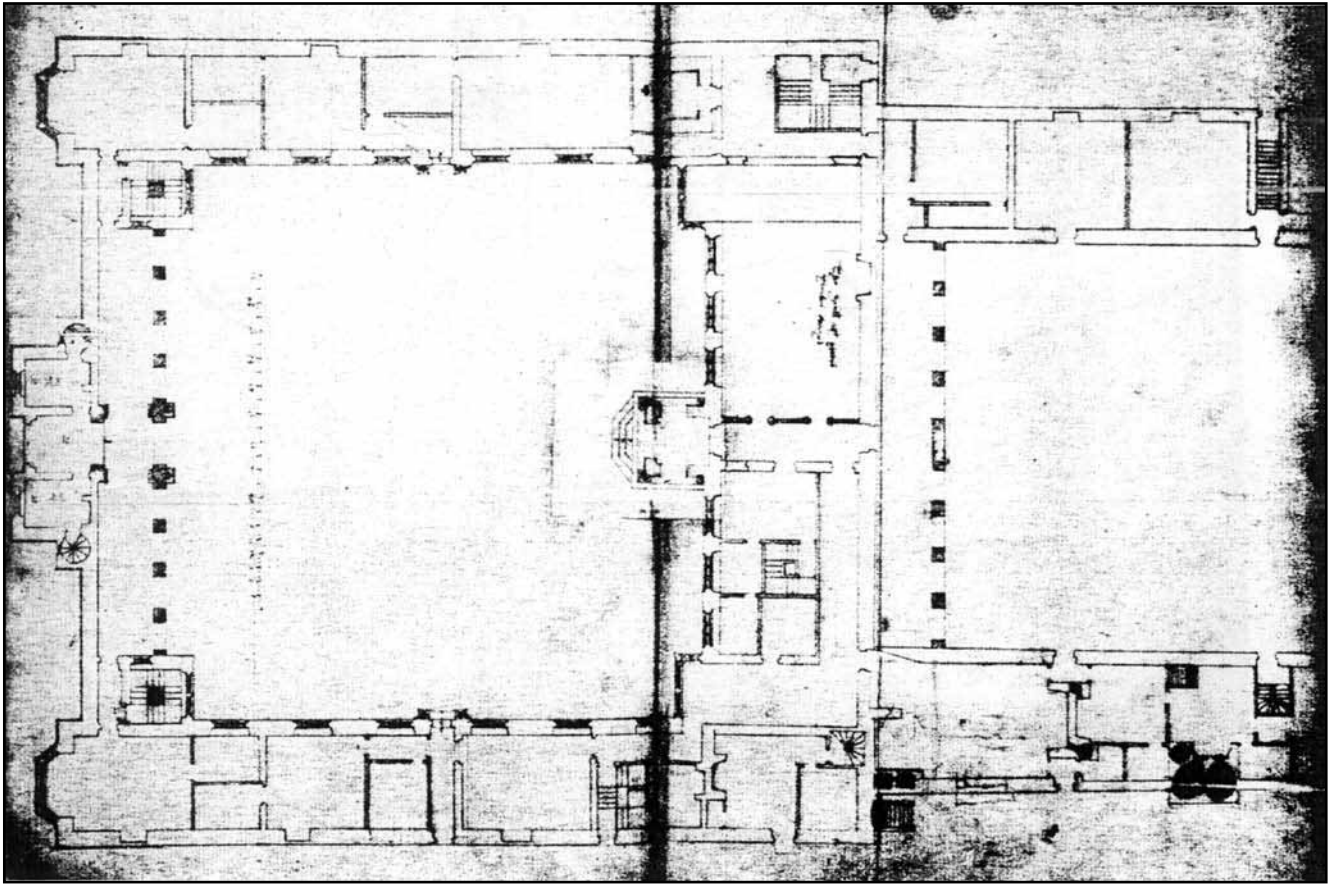


Figure 15: Plan of a house with to courtyards; probably related to Theobalds

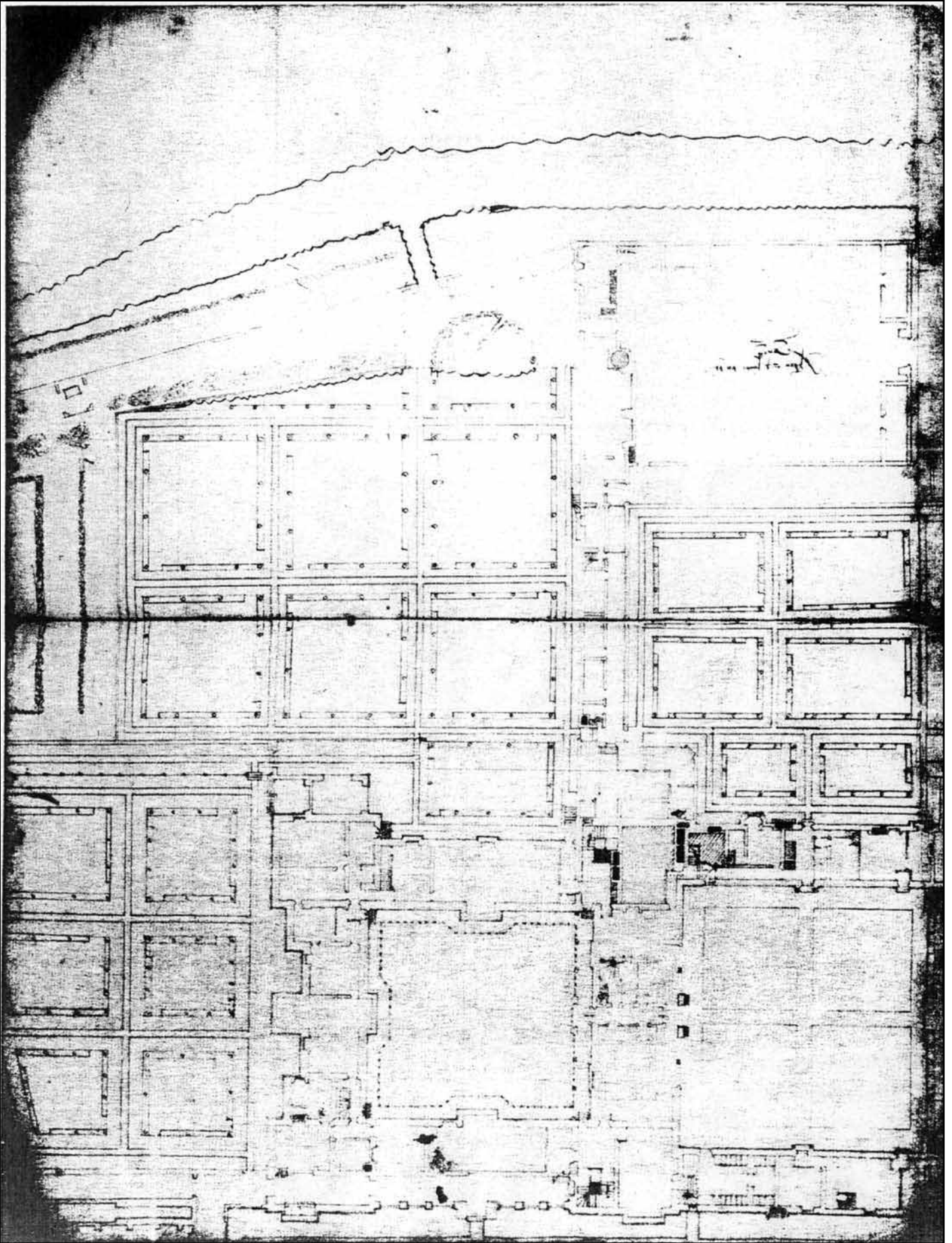


Figure 16: Plan of the house and gardens at Theobalds

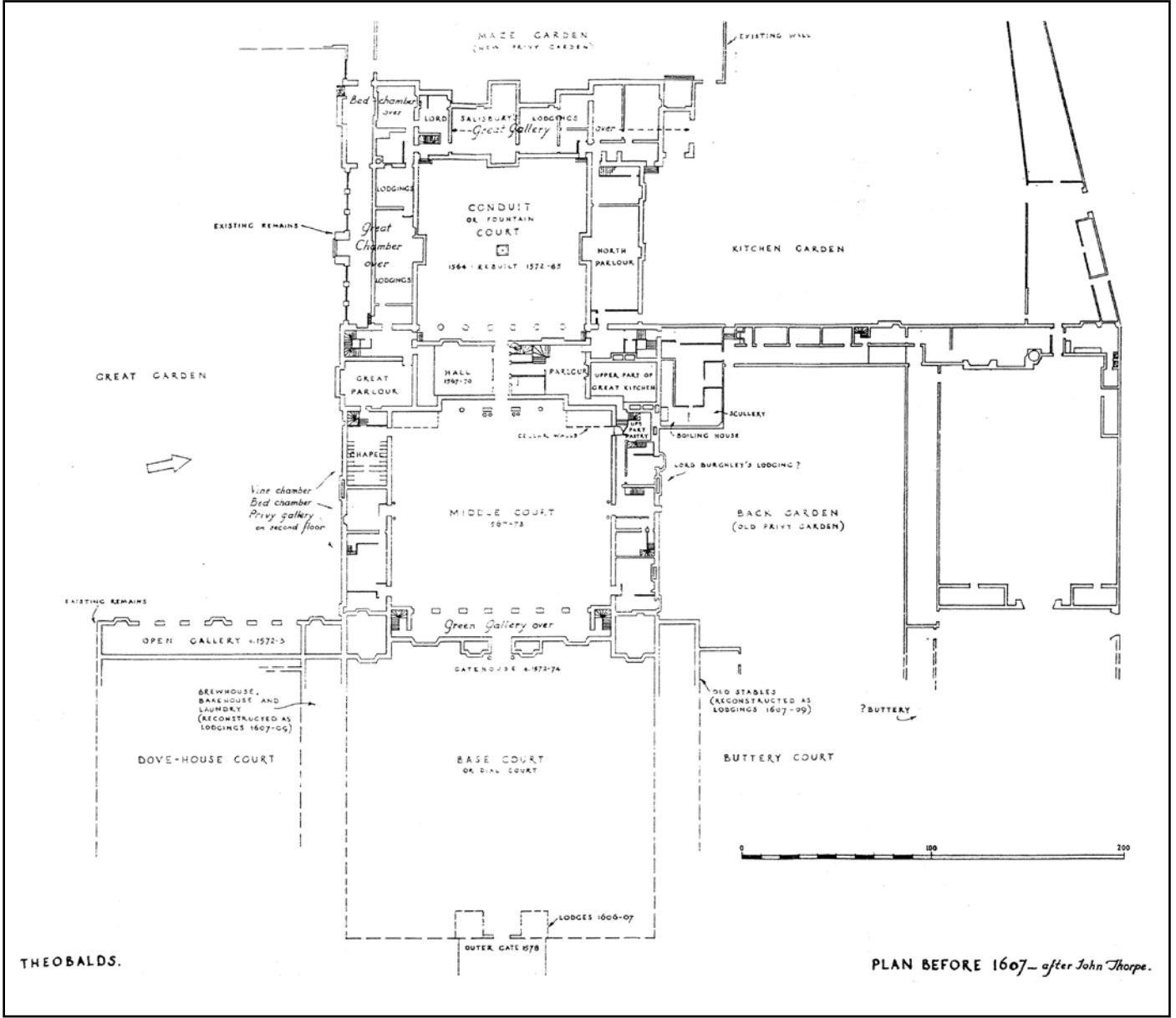


Figure 17: Plan of Theobalds before 1607 - after John Thorpe

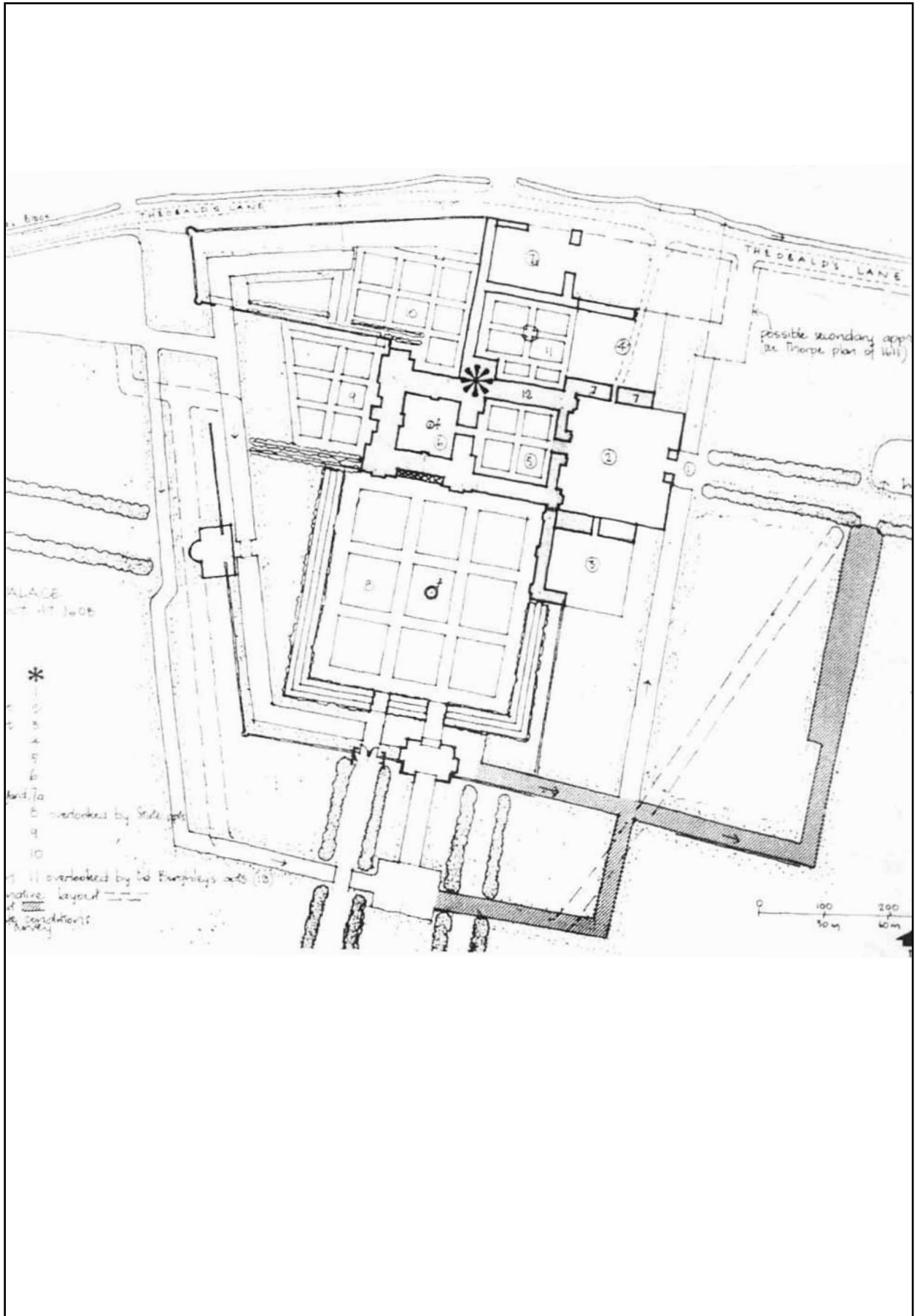


Figure 18: 'Detailed layout of gardens as suggested by the Thorpe Survey of 1608 (Andrews, 1993)'



Figure 19: Theobalds Park, plan signed by John Thorpe, 1611, British Museum

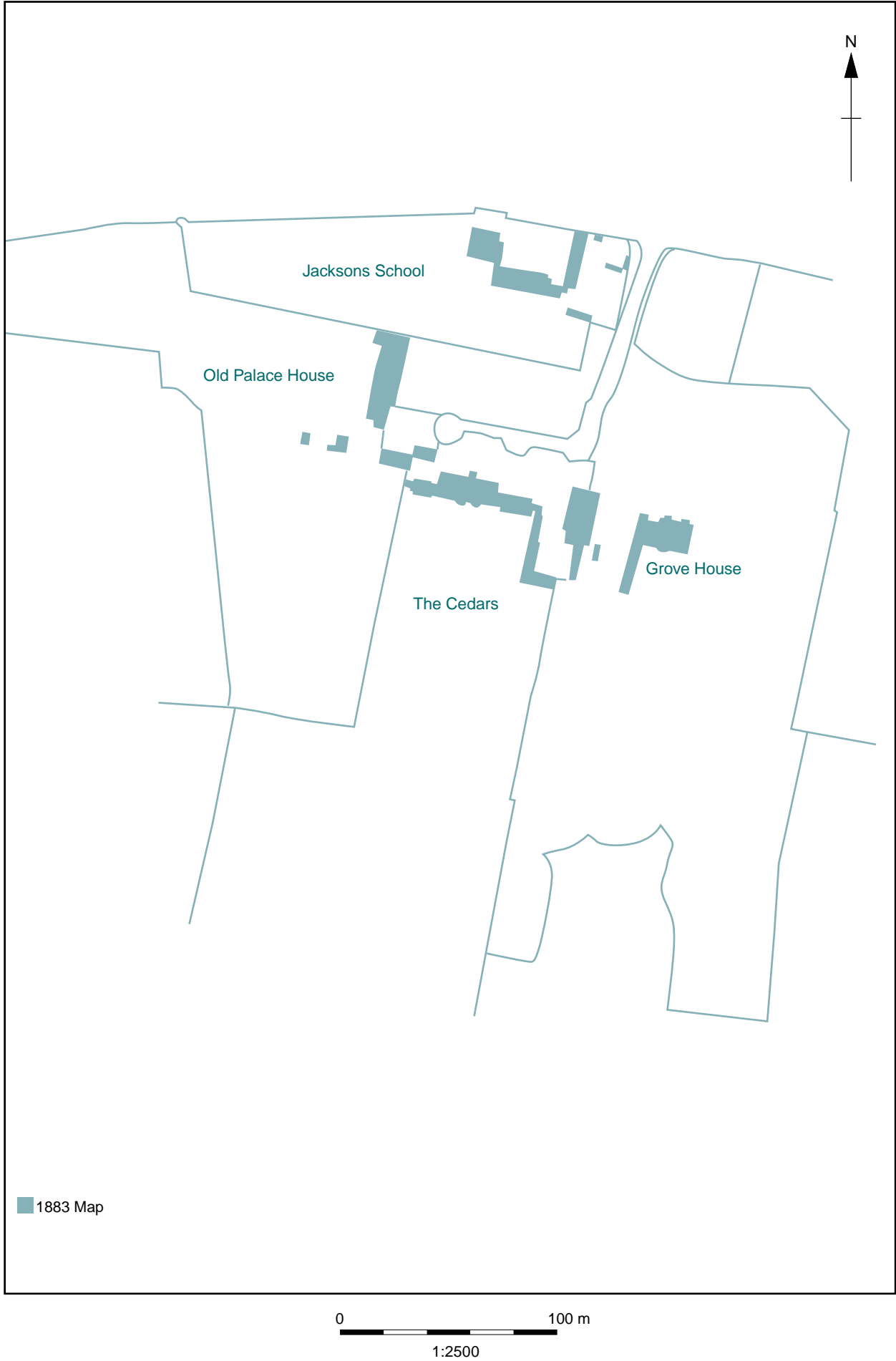
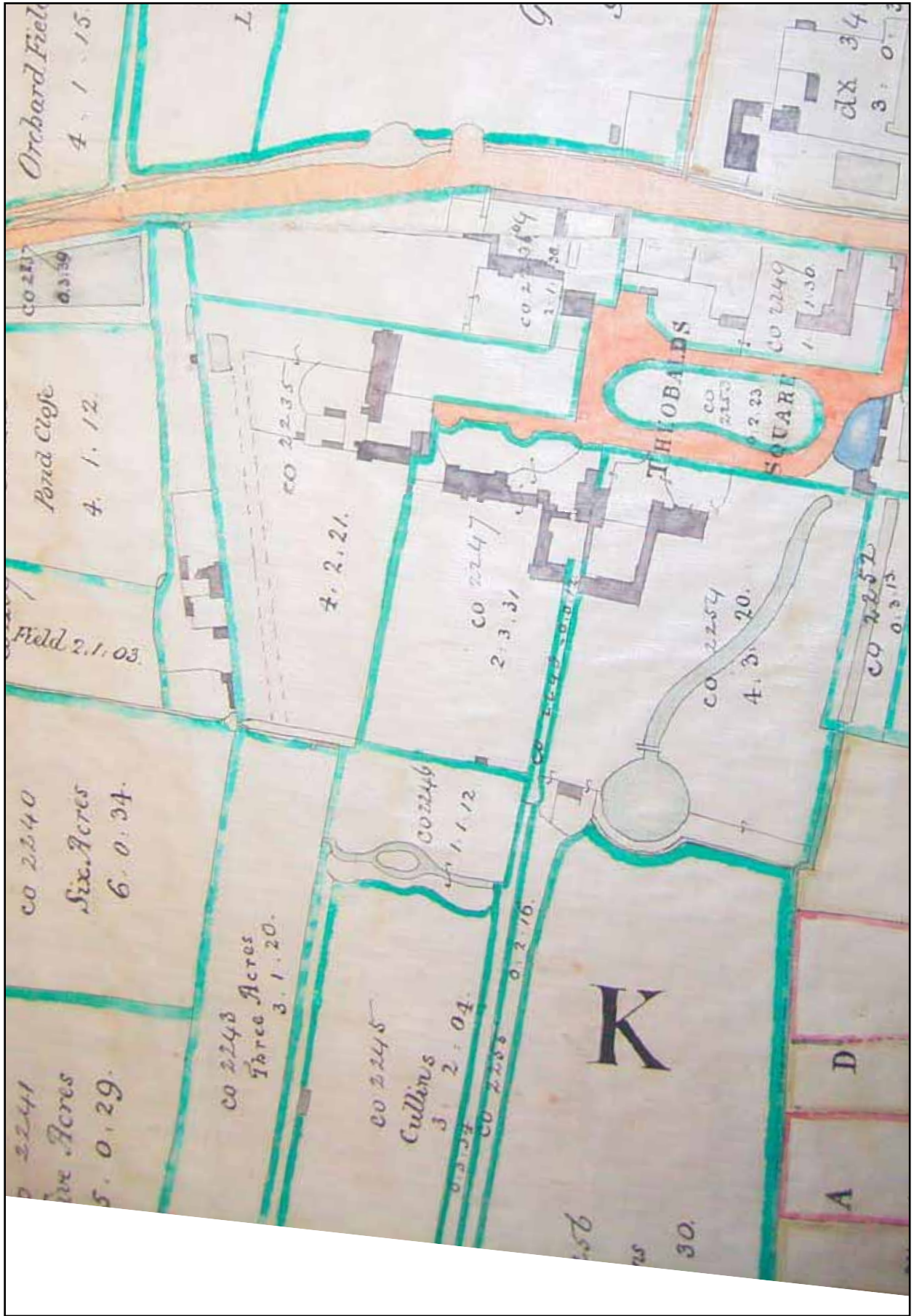
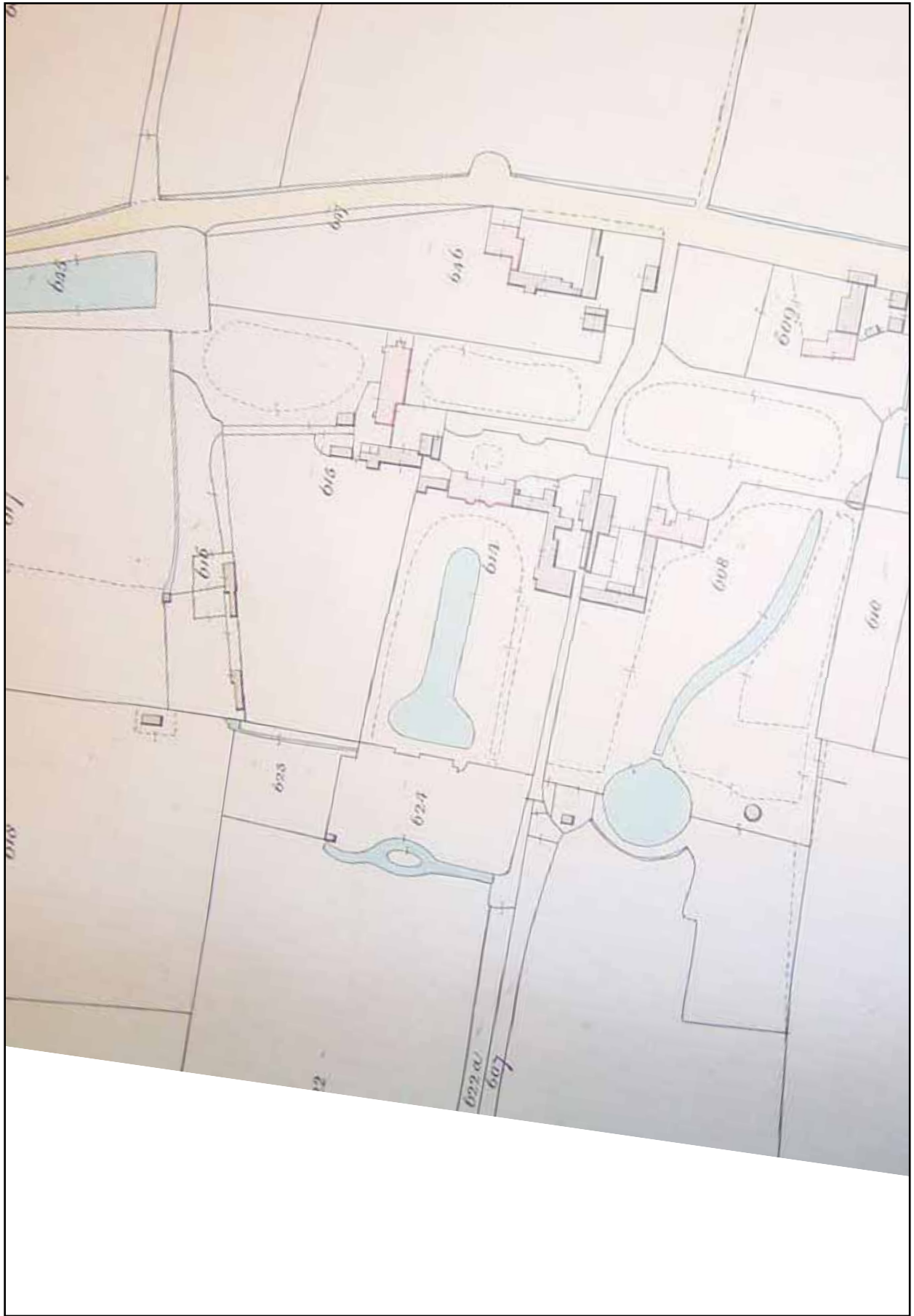


Figure 20: Showing the four houses built during the 18th Century c.1768



0 100 m
1:2500

Figure 21: 1785 Map of Cheshunt



0 100 m
1:2500

Figure 22: 1842 Tithe Map

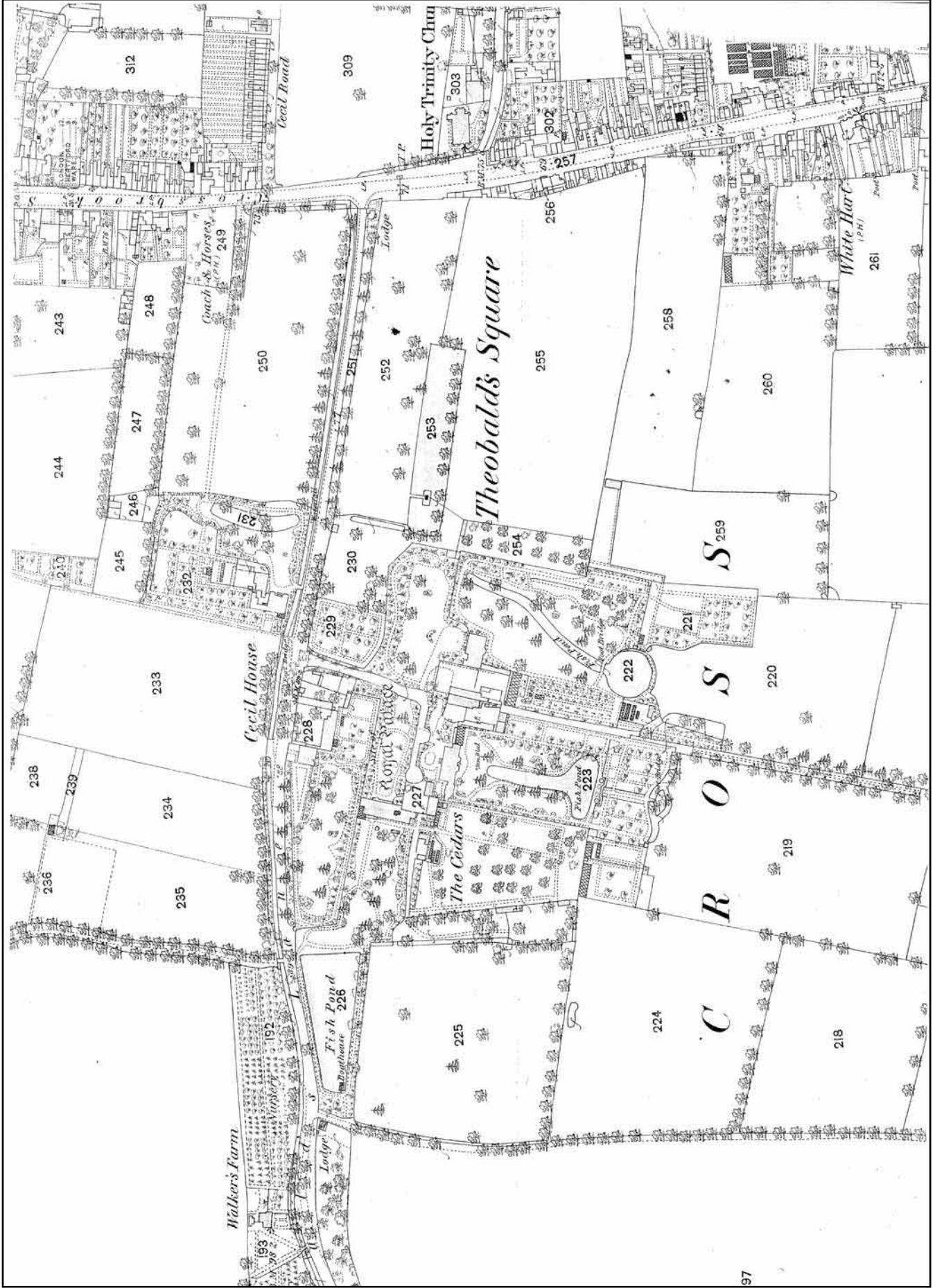


Figure 23: 1st Edition Ordnance Survey Map 1883

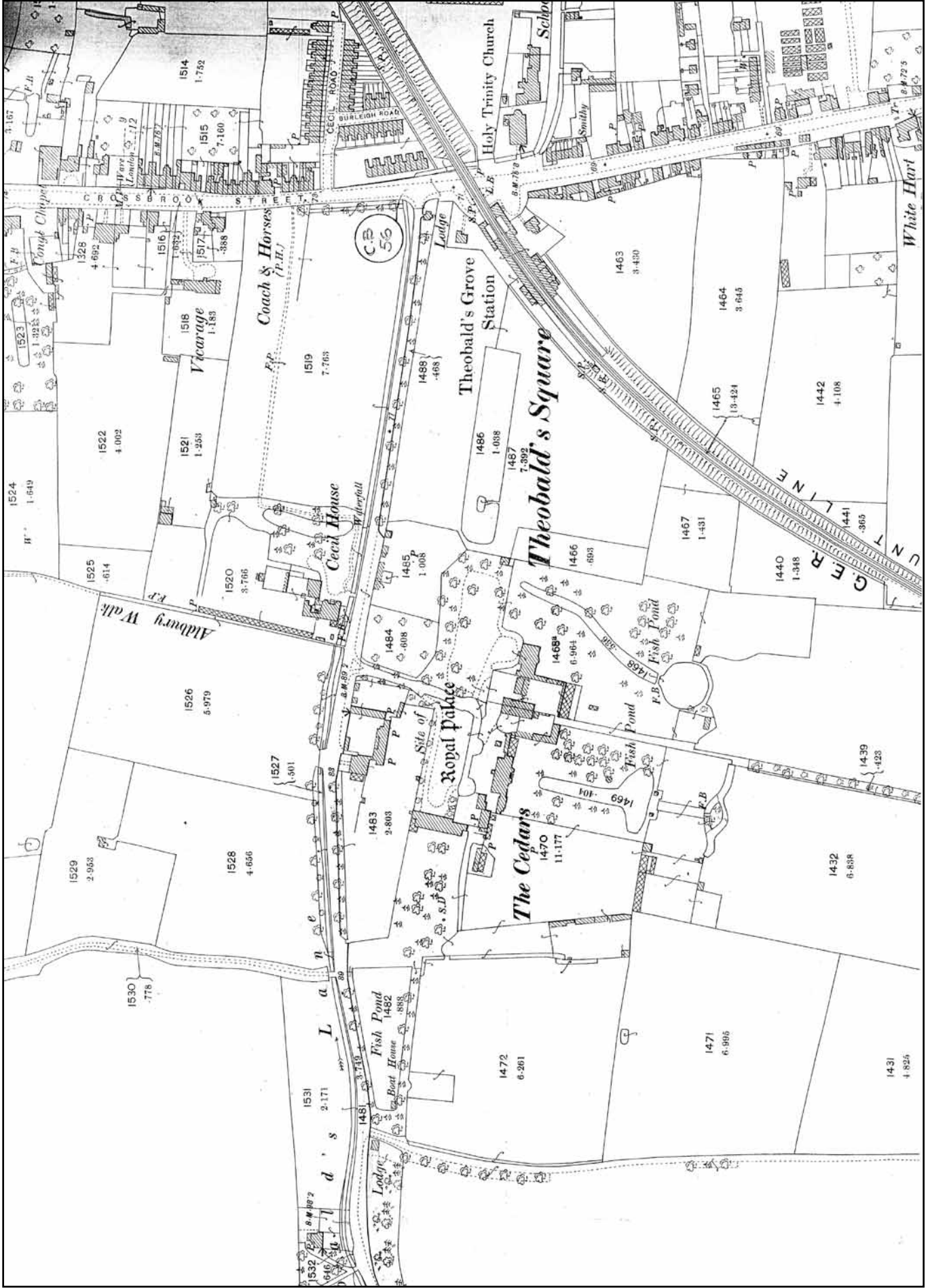


Figure 24: Ordnance Survey Map 1898

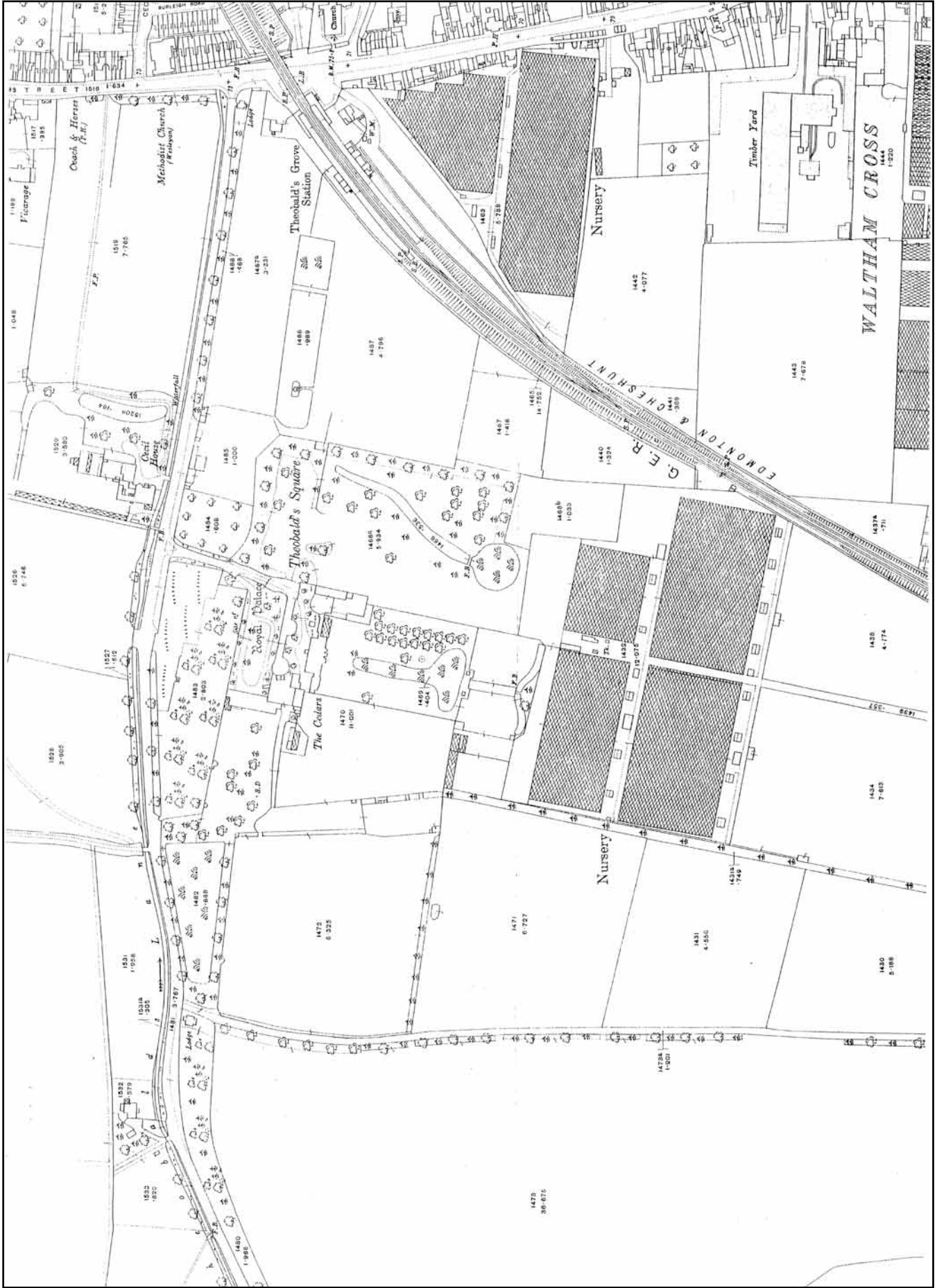


Figure 25: Ordnance Survey Map 1914

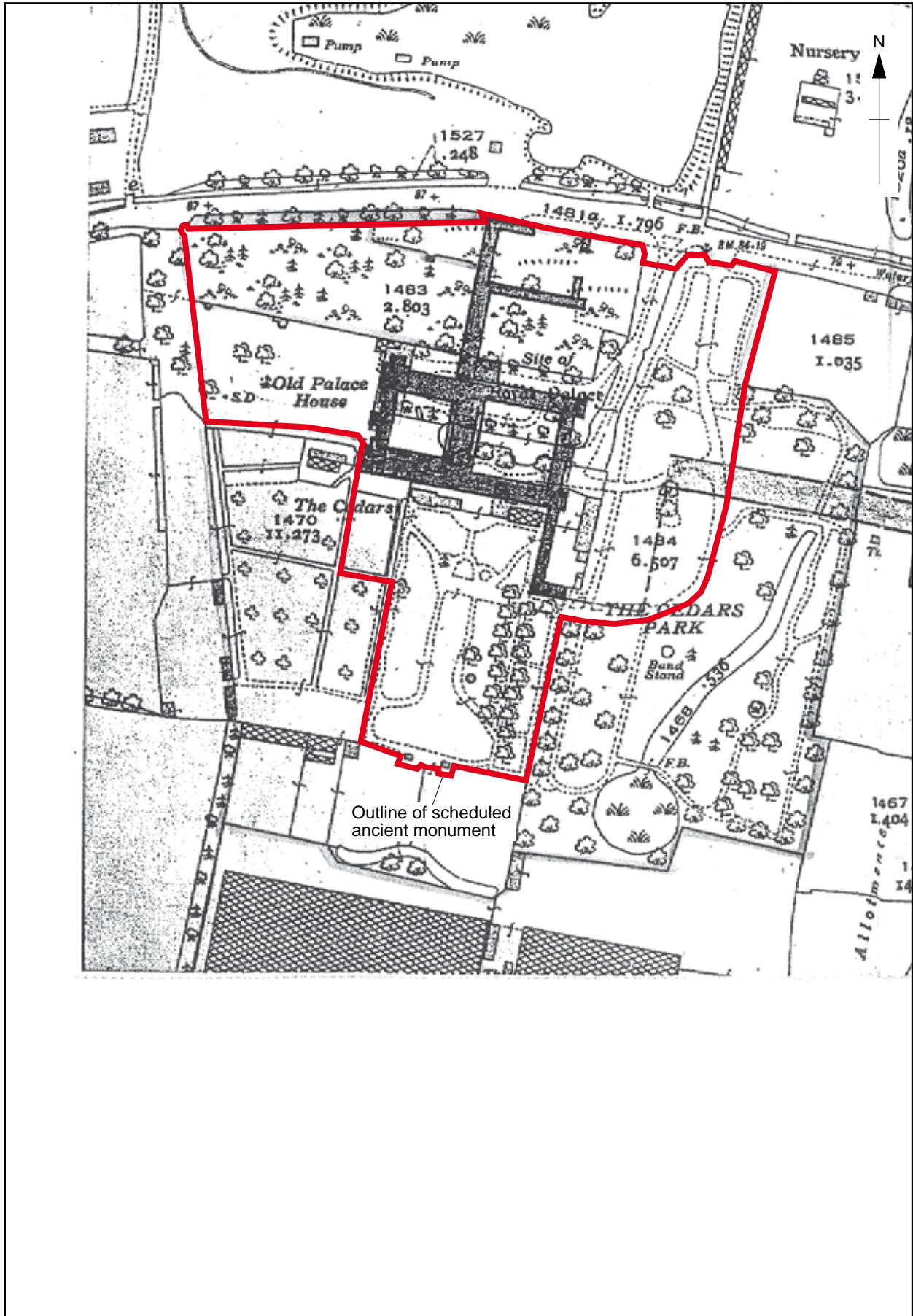


Figure 27: Plan of Theobalds imposed on the Ordnance Survey (1935 revision) showing the citing of the house and approximate line of the eastern approach also shows current boundary of scheduled ancient monument

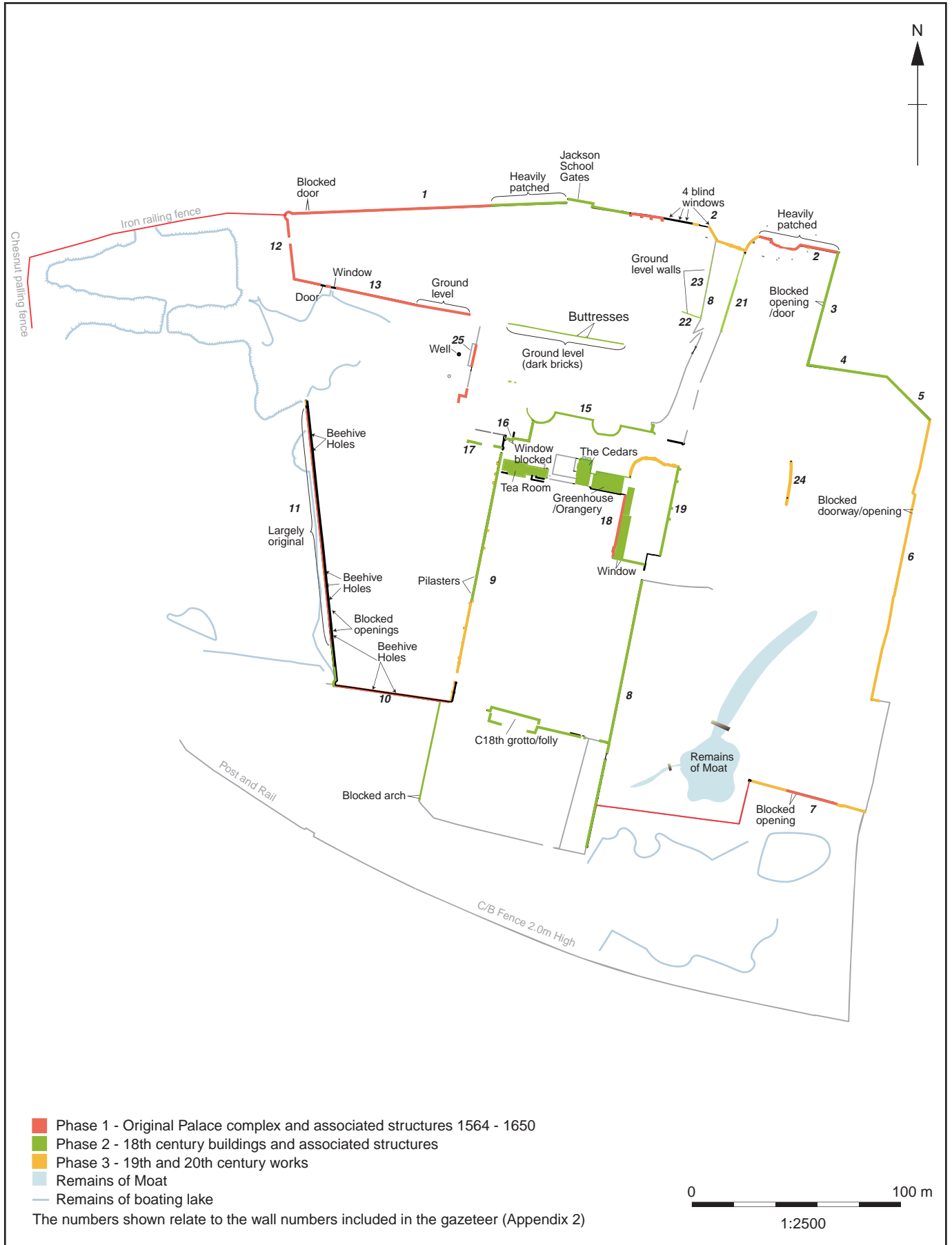


Figure 28: Remaining archaeological features as seen at present

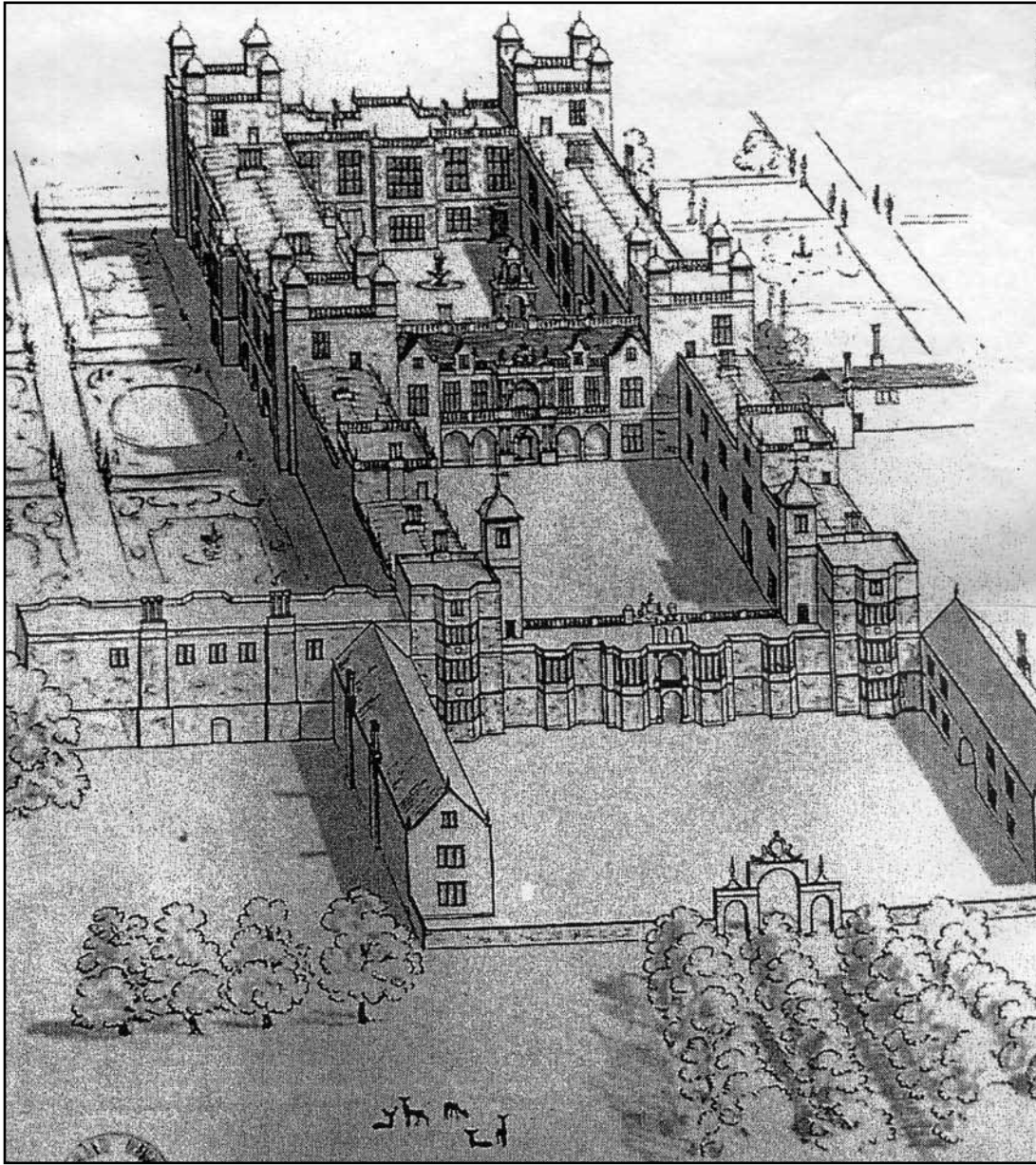


Plate 1: Theobalds Palace: a birds eye view from the east based on Sir John Summerson's research



Plate 2: Sketch reconstruction of Theobalds by Malcom Higgs. View from The Great Garden (south-west)

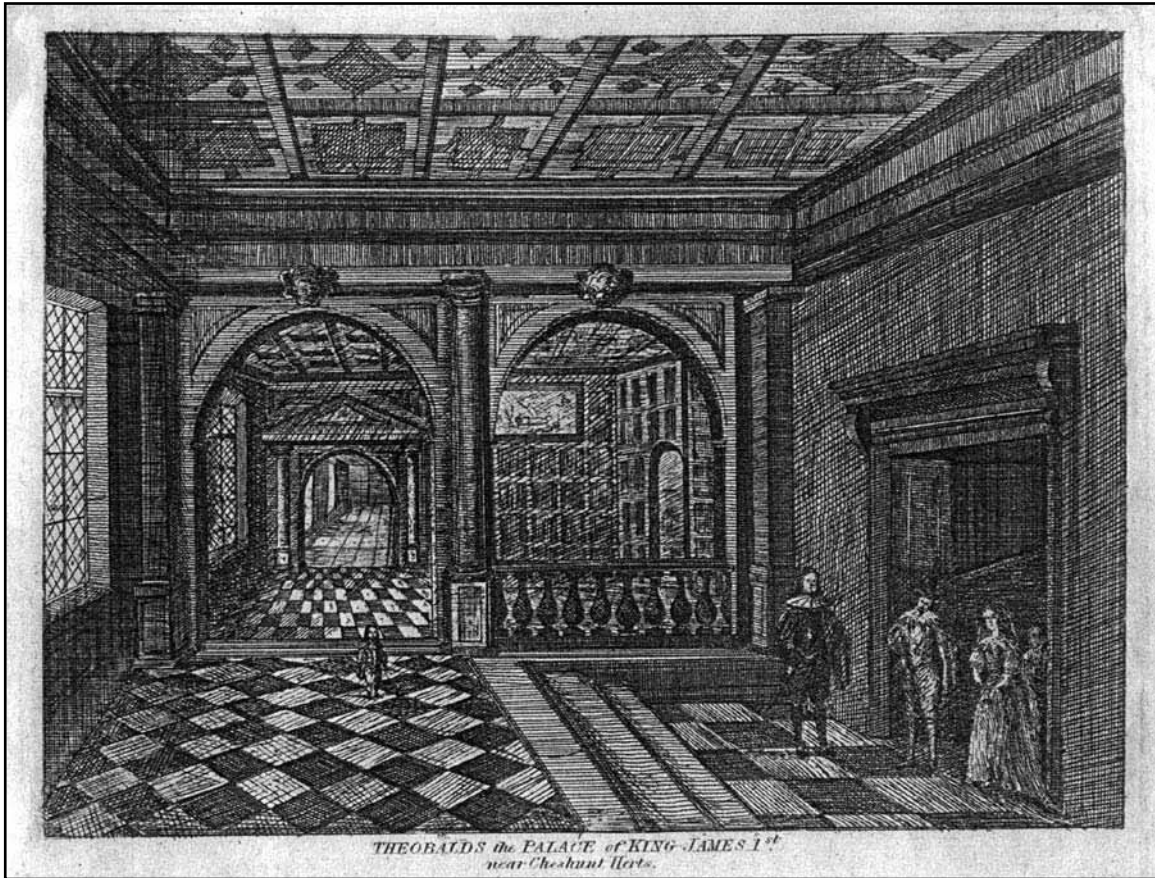


Plate 3: Engraving of interior room of Theobalds

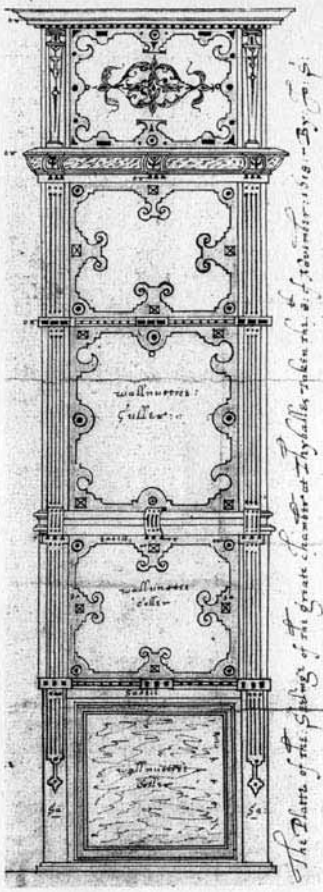


Plate 4: Drawing of panelling at Theobalds by John Smythson, 1618



Plate 5: Old Palace House, view of to east, c.1935



Plate 6: Mullioned windows of Old Palace House c.1968



Plate 7: The Cedars, view to north, c. 1955



Plate 8: Aerial photograph of Cedars Park, 1952



Oxford Archaeology

Janus House
Osney Mead
Oxford OX2 0ES

t: (0044) 01865 263800
f: (0044) 01865 793496
e: info@oxfordarch.co.uk
w: www.oxfordarch.co.uk



Oxford Archaeology North

Storey Institute
Meeting House Lane
Lancaster LA1 1TF

t: (0044) 01524 541000
f: (0044) 01524 848606
e: lancinfo@oxfordarch.co.uk
w: www.oxfordarch.co.uk



Director: David Jennings, BA MIFA FSA

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Oxford Archaeological Unit
Janus House, Osney Mead, Oxford OX2 0ES