

# **Historic Parks and Gardens**

## **Summary of Research and Officer Recommendations**

May 2013

### **Introduction**

This report sets out the current policy position on Crawley's locally identified Historic Parks and Gardens. The council identified that there was a lack of evidence to support its identification in the emerging Local Plan. The Sussex Gardens Trust has recently researched these areas and the council has considered the evidence and put forward recommendations as part of the Site Allocations Consultation. The following sections set out the context, summary of research and officer recommendations. A full copy of the research undertaken by the Sussex Gardens Trust is included in Appendix A.

### What is a Historic Park and Garden

Historic parks and gardens encompass aesthetic, philosophical, botanic and scientific heritage and embody shared values of landscape and place. They play a significant part in maintaining biodiversity, environmental quality and land values and so are generally considered a positive asset worthy of recognition and protection.

The historic interest of a historic park or garden primarily rests on permanent features such as landform, built structures, walks and rides, water features and structural plantings of shrubberies, hedges and trees. Other criteria taken into account include its association with important people or events and, in some cases, its plant collections. Common themes include formal enclosures, villa gardens, woodland, water and rock gardens, kitchen gardens and glass, modern designs (after 1950), and pleasure gardens or public parks.

### **Current Policy Context**

Crawley's Historic Parks and Gardens are currently identified as:

- Worth Park;
- Broadfield Park;
- Ifield Park;
- Tilgate Park;
- Milton Mount; and,
- Burleys Wood

## Crawley's Existing Historic Parks and Gardens



The County Council's Strategic Planning Team have confirmed that the parks were first identified as being of historical importance during the 1980's when the formative register of parks and historic gardens were put forward for formal listing. At the time and at no point have any of the historic parks benefited from statutory protection.

The Local Plan (2000) identifies the current historic parks on the proposals map and under Policy BN18, included for their archaeological importance and for being of attractive landscaped areas prior to the development of the new town. This allocation was brought forward to the current Adopted Core Strategy (2008) and allocated on the proposals map under Policy EN5. These sites currently benefit from local protection which the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) calls "Non Designated Heritage Assets".

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) requires the following for these types of heritage asset:

*Local planning authorities should identify and assess the particular significance of any heritage asset that may be affected by a proposal (including by development affecting the setting of a heritage asset) taking account of the available evidence and any necessary expertise. They should take this assessment into account when considering the impact of a proposal on a heritage asset, to avoid or minimise conflict between the heritage asset's conservation and any aspect of the proposal. (para 129)*

*The effect of an application on the significance of a non-designated heritage asset should be taken into account in determining the application. In weighing applications that affect directly or indirectly non designated heritage assets, a balanced judgement will be required having regard to the scale of any harm or loss and the significance of the heritage asset. (Para 135).*

### Key Issue

The existing policy wording in the Council's Adopted Core Strategy contains no information which would allow development proposals to be adequately assessed against. Similarly, there is little or no information in terms of an evidence base which details the historical significance of the parks. For this reason further work is required to be able to properly determine applications in these areas in accordance with paragraphs 129 and 135 of the NPPF.

In order for the Council to continue identifying these historic parks and gardens as "heritage assets", an assessment of the historical integrity of the parks must be completed.

### Crawley 2029

Crawley Borough Council is in the process of preparing a new Local Plan covering the period to 2029. Once this new Plan is adopted, it will replace the current Adopted Core Strategy and policies saved from the 2000 Local Plan. The new Local Plan will replace Policy EN5 of the Core Strategy, which seeks to protect the distinct character and cultural heritage of the town.

The results of the historic parks and research will be used to inform and support the development of the replacement policies. And to provide applicants and development control officers a clear a transparent approach to what is in important about an area and how we can draft the policies to retain and protect key features.

## Research

Sussex Gardens Trust has recently undertaken a research exercise on each of Crawley's existing Historic Parks and Gardens:

- Worth Park
- Burleys Wood
- Worth Park (Land South of St Nicholas' Church)
- Broadfield Park
- Tilgate Park
- Ifield Park

The following sites were also included in the research to determine if they were of sufficient historical interest to identify as a historic park or garden in the Local Plan.

- Goffs Park
- Memorial Gardens

For each site the following information was compiled:

- Executive summary
- Site description
- Summary of the historic interest
- Chronology of the historic development
- Description of principle features and buildings (e.g. surviving designed features or distinctiveness in its planting or layout)
- Opportunities for improving the historical integrity of the area.
- Historic Mapping, Photos and References.

The full report is attached as Appendix A. The following section summarises the research and proposes a number of changes based on this research.

## **Summary of Research and Recommendations**

### **Broadfield Park**

Broadfield Park contains an ornamental setting for Grade II listed Broadfield House with specimen trees and a lake. The principal building is an English Heritage listing (Grade II): c1830 residence with wing of c1860 which retains many original features. This building is now used as a school. To the east of the school a grassed slope leads to an ornamental lake. To the south of the house were lawns with specimen trees bordered by woodland. Several late 19<sup>th</sup> century trees remain in the pleasure grounds, as does an arbour to the west of the house and woodland which surround the grounds.

### Officer Recommendation

It is proposed to continue to identify Broadfield Park as an historic park in the Local Plan. The park contains heritage assets such as the listed building, ornamental lake and arbour as well as retaining its open character and woodland setting.

### **Burleys Wood**

The historic maps show that the area in question is a remnant of the ancient parkland of Crabbet Park, a residence since the 16<sup>th</sup> century. It forms part of the original

parkland plan. The layout has changed to allow for the residential development to the north, south and west but remains similar to that on the original maps. The 1842 Tithe map shows three separate approaches to Crabbet Park which are within Crawley. These approaches have largely been converted to roads that serve residential development.

#### Officer Recommendation

Whilst the land was originally part of the parkland of Crabbet Park, in the 1960s it was severed from the main estate by the development of the M23 motorway. The shape of the original parkland is identifiable but the area is isolated from the main estate and has a lack of historical features to conserve. The area is of value as open space but it is not considered that it needs to be protected for its historic interest. It is recommended that the value of the area in terms of open space, recreation and wildlife and structural landscaping is reflected in planning policy. The council has recently undertaken an ecological assessment of this area which identified a range of habitats and diversity of wildlife.

#### **Goffs Park**

Although there are echoes of an older landscape at Goffs Park, with surviving trees and shrubs from the 19th and early 20th century, its main historic interest appears to lie in the part it played in the formation of Crawley New Town. The desire to establish open areas and leisure facilities within the new town is very apparent. The planning and development of Goffs Park thus played a real and important part in the history of Crawley in the mid-20th century.

#### Officer Recommendation

It is proposed that Goffs Park is identified as a historic park in the Local Plan. The layout, features and the park as a whole are an important part of Crawley's New Town History.

#### **Ifield Park**

Ifield Park was created c.1860 when a gentleman's residence was built on a previously undeveloped site. The estate consisted of 25 acres with a 14 bedroomed house plus stables and outbuildings, surrounded by lawns and trees. Ifield Park became a residential home for the elderly in the mid 1930s; it is still run for this purpose. In 2013 the park consists of just three and a half acres of land. Additional development has taken place on the site and the area to the south of the house has been built on to provide extra accommodation blocks.

#### Officer Recommendation

Whilst the site was once part of a larger area of land that formed a pleasure ground and park-like meadowlands, the area has changed considerably with much of the land having been developed between 1930s-1950s. Some original trees remain but the site has lost much of its historic interest. It is therefore proposed that this area is not identified as an historic park in the Local Plan. However, any areas of valued landscaping or specific trees will be reflected in planning policy.

#### **Land adjacent to St Nicholas Church, Worth**

This area seems to be historically connected to the Parish Church of St Nicholas, Worth dated between the years 950 and 1050 AD. This is listed as Grade I being one of the finest examples of a Saxon building in England. A rectangular garden or park lies south of the church. Its southern field border is formed by a stream which flows

from the east into Gatwick Stream further west. A semicircular path leads through the parkland from the southwest of the churchyard and then back to the southeast of the churchyard. Features include two fishponds, a moat, and an almost unchanged parkland landscape for the last 200 years.

#### Officer Recommendation

It is proposed that the existing designation of this area should remain due to the historical features and unchanged landscape that make up this parkland area. It is also proposed that the area be extended slightly to include the moat which is shown to be clearly part of the landscaped parkland from historical mapping evidence.

### **Memorial Gardens**

Memorial Gardens was part of a larger area known as Crawley Meadow, surrounded by farmland and allotments in the 1800s. The land was purchased in 1920 to take the form of a recreation ground. The intention was that this should be a place for children to enjoy as well as a memorial to those who had lost their lives in the First World War. Two cast iron gates and a cast iron pillar were erected in June 1921 and bronze plaques were engraved with the names of those who had lost their lives in the war. The park has changed over the years from a recreational area to a more landscaped park with paved pathways.

#### Officer Recommendation

It is proposed that Memorial Gardens is identified as a Historic Park in the Local Plan. The park's historical association with the First and Second World War and also the formation of the New Town is significant.

### **Tilgate Park**

Now a public park, this ornamental garden was laid out around a 19<sup>th</sup> century house (now demolished) with an extensive walled kitchen garden. The existing walls and some of the garden offices remain, as well as the original Head Gardener's cottage. The former orchard and the area around it is now home to a Nature Centre. The pleasure grounds feature two lakes linked by a cascade and a series of paths through lawns with significant specimen trees.

#### Officer Recommendation

It is proposed that this area is retained as a Historic Park and extended to include the ornamental lake and the kitchen gardens together with its adjacent orchard which were part of the original pleasure grounds.

### **Worth Park**

Worth Park has been the country estate of a branch of the Montefiore family, which was known for its philanthropy and passion for education. James Pulham and Son, who also designed features for the gardens of Buckingham Palace and Sandringham House, remodelled the grounds of Worth Park from 1884-1887. The original Victorian mansion was demolished in the 1960s and has been replaced by a seven storey block of flats. However, the key elements of the 19<sup>th</sup> century garden and parkland are still preserved in a compact area.

Principal features and buildings include the stable block Ridleys Court, a Pulhamite Rockery, Pulham fountain and pond basin which are all Grade II Listed. Other

features include the Pulham Terraces, Camellia Corridor, sundial, Dutch and Fountain Garden, Grattons Pond and numerous other parkland features.

#### Officer Recommendation

The historic boundary of Worth Park has been up to the Balcombe Road, as established in the documentation provided to the Heritage Lottery Fund in the application for funding for the restoration of Worth Park but this is not the case with the historic boundary to support it's existing designation as a locally historic park and garden in the Councils Adopted Core Strategy. Beyond the existing historic boundary recorded in the Adopted Core Strategy are the Grade II listed Pulham Rockery and Grade II listed Ridley's Court which are key features of Worth Park. It is therefore recommended that the historic boundary be extended to the east, up to the brick wall alongside Balcombe Road to Include Pulham Rockery and Ridleys Court.





## APPENDIX A



### REPORT ON THE HISTORY OF CRAWLEY PARKS

PREPARED BY THE SUSSEX GARDENS TRUST

FOR

CRAWLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL

MARCH 2013

#### INDEX

Broadfield Park

Burleys Wood Open Space

Goffs Park

Ifield Park

Land adjacent to St Nicholas Church, Worth

Memorial Gardens

Tilgate Park

Worth Park

## **BROADFIELD PARK**

CRAWLEY

Grid ref TQ 26396 34559

### **SUMMARY OF THE HISTORIC INTEREST**

Ornamental setting for Grade II listed Broadfield House with specimen trees and a lake. Now a public park.

### **CHRONOLOGY OF THE HISTORIC DEVELOPMENT**

Broadfield House was built in c1830 on part of the Tilgate Estate and extended in c1860. After World War II, it was converted to use as a country club, until it was sold in 1948 and became the headquarters of Crawley Development Corporation. Until this point, the house and grounds had remained largely unchanged. In 1949, the house was extended and more office accommodation was constructed in the grounds to the west of the house. By 1950, the southern end of the lake had been filled in, the ornamental gardens reduced in size and more trees planted to the south. Broadfield House was then converted into offices for Crawley Urban District Council, the local authority created in 1956 (then Crawley Borough Council from 1974). In 1984, the building was acquired by Radio Mercury and was used by the radio station until 2008. Broadfield House was refurbished and converted for use as a Discovery School in 2011.

### **SITE DESCRIPTION**

#### **LOCATION, AREA, BOUNDARIES, LANDFORM, SETTING**

The site lies on the southern edge of Crawley, bordered on all sides by housing and leisure development. The A23 forms the eastern boundary, and Woodmans Hill the western, with housing to the north and south. The house occupies the highest ground, with a gentle slope east to the lake and south to woodland.

#### **ENTRANCES AND APPROACHES**

There was formerly a Lodge (now demolished) on the main London to Brighton road (now A23) with a drive progressing west and crossing the stream which feeds the lake before curving south towards the house.

#### **PRINCIPAL BUILDING**

From English Heritage listing (Grade II): c1830 residence with wing of c1860. Two storeys stuccoed having low pitched Welsh slate roofs with deep projecting eaves. The main front facing east has five windows, including a curved two-storey bow as a centre feature with a verandah projecting from the lower storey supported on five square piers and two Tuscan columns. The north front is of three bays with a small bow in the centre of the upper storey and a verandah below. The windows have jalousies and are glazed with wide centre panes and narrow side panes. Three ground floor rooms of the original part retain decoration of the end of the first Greek Revival period. Additions on west side of c1860 when a large hall with first floor gallery and top-lighting

was formed. The entrance in the north front is in this westward extension of three bays, which has round-headed windows.

#### GARDENS AND PLEASURE GROUNDS

To the east of the house is an ornamental lake with a sluice at the northern end and, originally, two islands at the southern end. Two paths led down to the lake from the house through lawns with specimen trees, one north-east to the northern end and the other south-east to a boat house on the western edge. To the south of the house were lawns with specimen trees bordered by woodland. The southern end of the lake was filled in between c1932 and c1950, losing the islands and boat house. At this period the paths through the pleasure grounds towards the lake were removed, the lawn was reduced, with more woodland created at the southern end, and a tennis court was constructed to the south-west of the house. Several late 19<sup>th</sup> century trees remain in the pleasure grounds, as does an arbour to the west of the house.

#### KITCHEN GARDEN

A walled area, presumed to be a Kitchen Garden, is marked on maps from c1875 onwards at the west of the house. By c1932 this walled area had been extended to the south and included a glasshouse range on the north wall, with two small structures adjacent to the west, and a path linking it to the main drive and house. By c1950 the walled area had been reduced back to its former size and the glasshouse ranges had been increased. A right-angled earthwork remains on this site, marking the site of the walls.

#### References

##### Books and articles

Roger Barnstable, *Crawley: A Pictorial History*, Phillimore & Co, 1983

Peter Gwynne, *A History of Crawley*, Phillimore & Co, 1990

Ian Nairn and Nikolaus Pevsner, *The Buildings of England: Sussex*, Yale University Press, 2003

##### Maps

c1875

c1900

c1910

c1932

c1950

National Grid 2011

##### Illustrations

colour photograph, Broadfield House, east front, c2008

colour photograph, earthworks at site of walled garden, 2013

colour photograph, arbour, 2013

##### Archival items

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III Historic mapping


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# Boundary map

## Broadfield Park

National Grid 2011

 Existing Historic Garden Boundary

1:3,093



## Key views

# Broadfield Park

National Grid 2011

 Existing Historic Garden Boundary

1:3,093



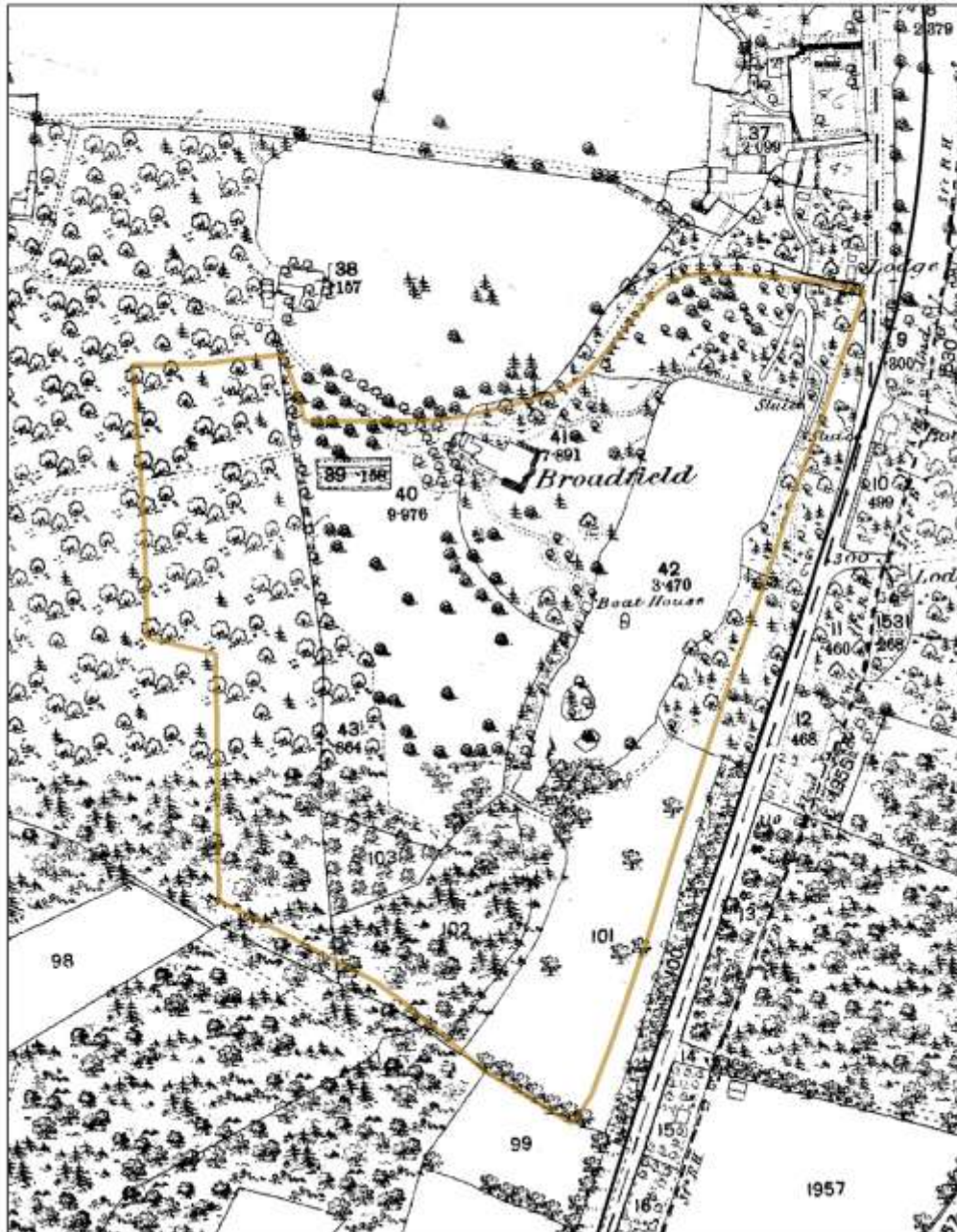


# Historic mapping

## Broadfield Park

Sussex 2500 C 1875

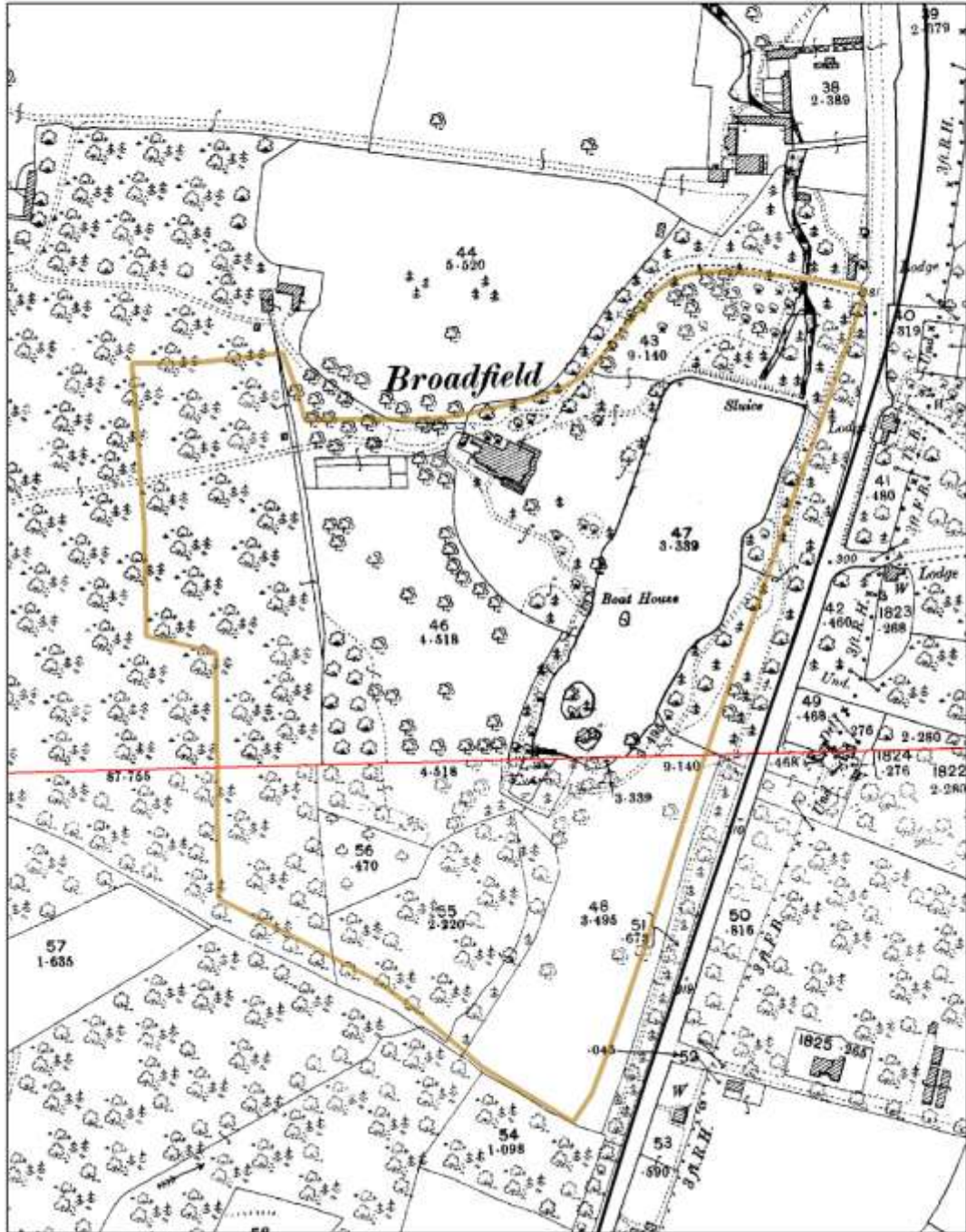
 Historic Garden Boundary



# Broadfield Park

Sussex 2500 C1900

 Historic Garden Boundary

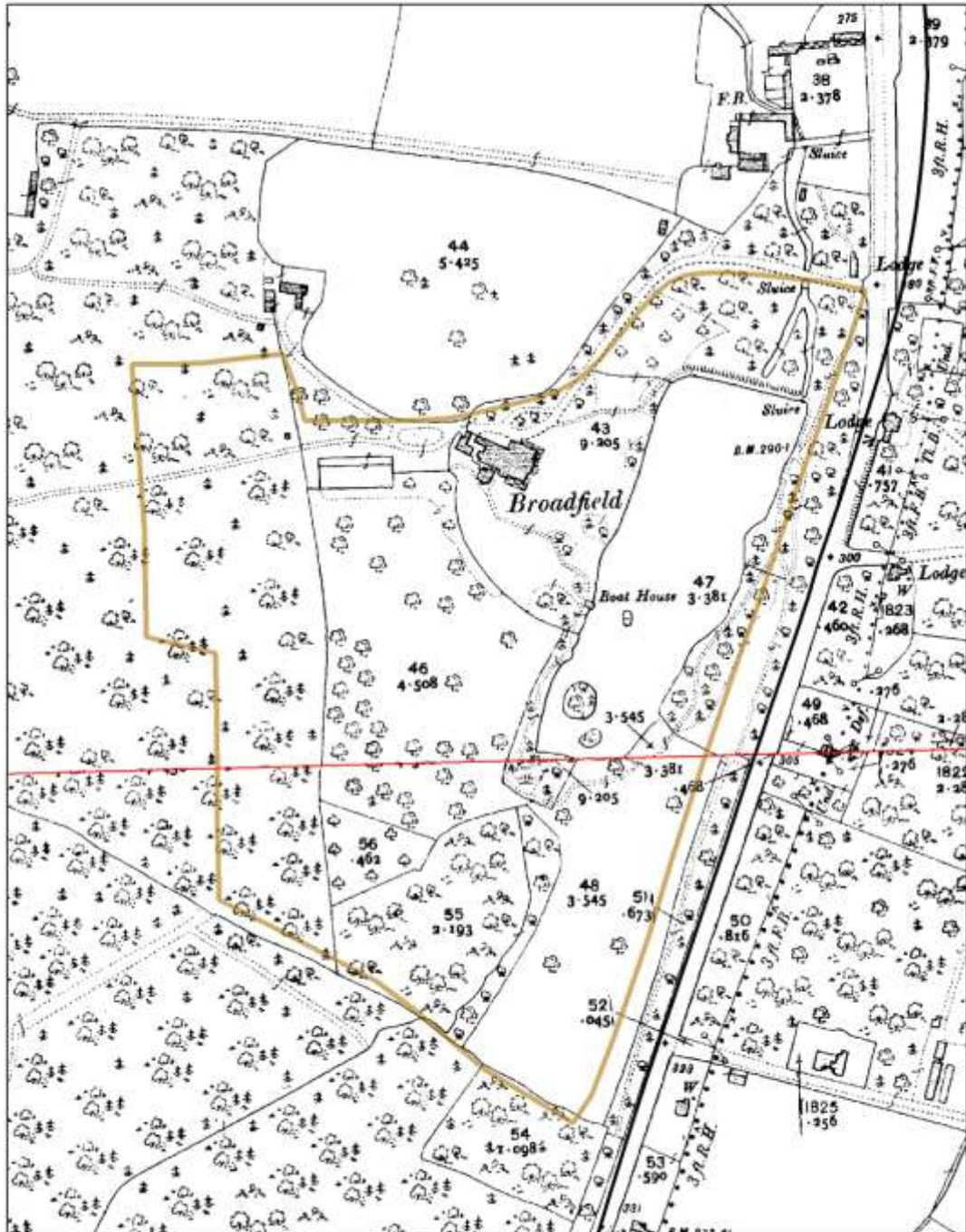




# Broadfield Park

Sussex 2500 C1910

 Historic Garden Boundary

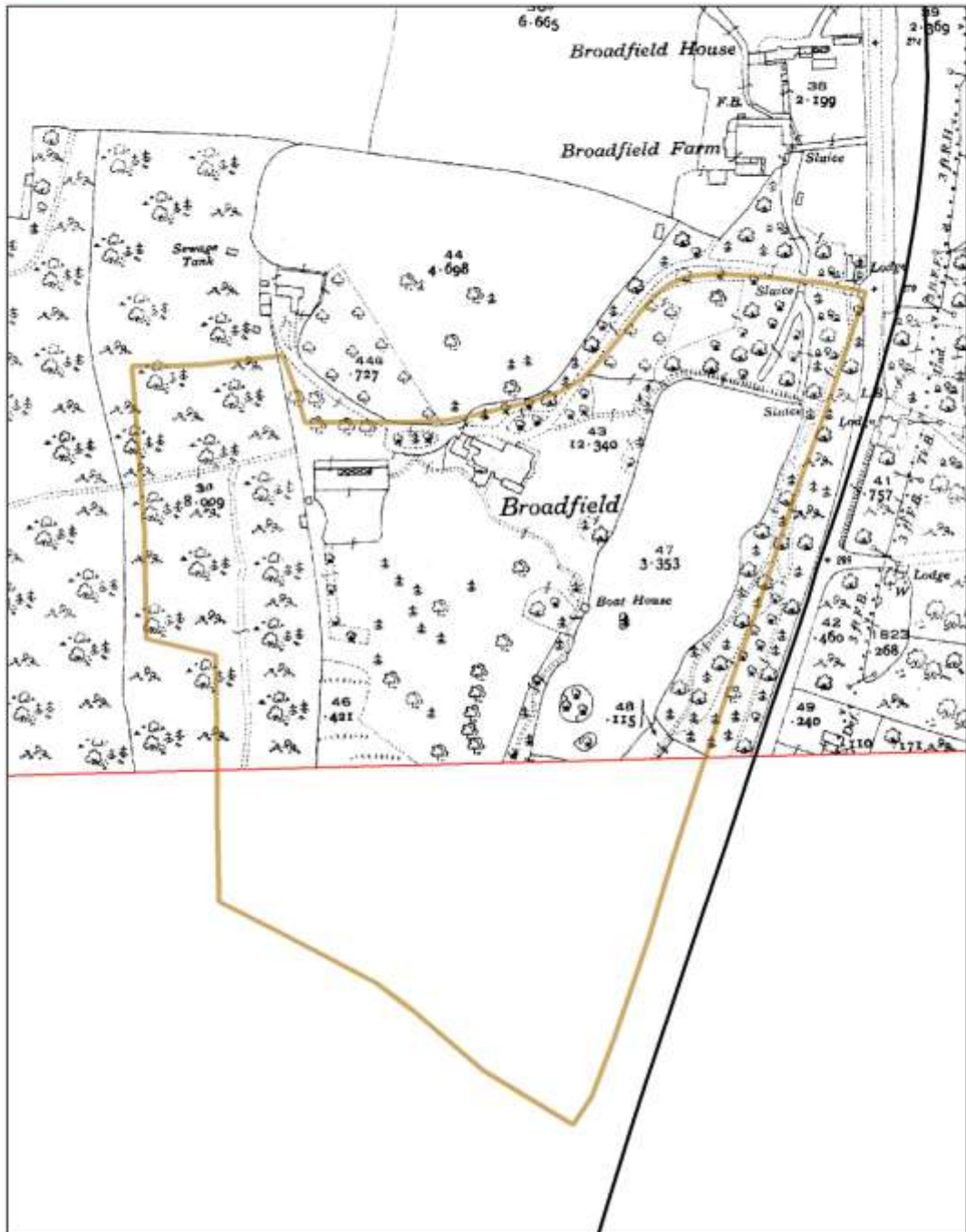




# Broadfield Park

Sussex 2500 C1932

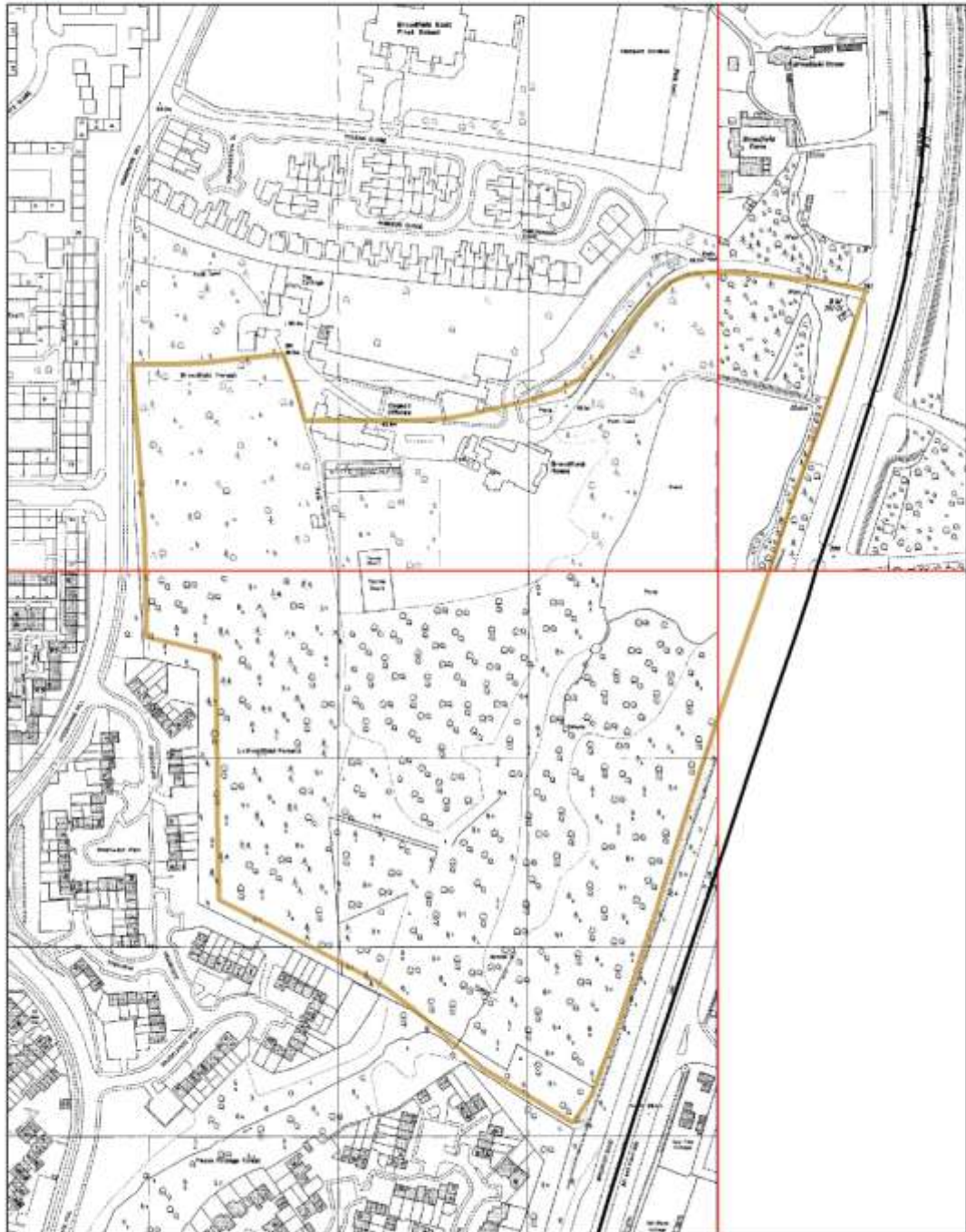
 Historic Garden Boundary



# Broadfield Park

National Grid 1250 C1950

 Historic Garden Boundary



## Photographs



Broadfield House, east front, c2008





Earthworks at site of walled garden, 2013



Arbour, 2013

## **BURLEYS WOOD OPEN SPACE**

Pound Hill  
Worth  
Crawley  
West Sussex

Grid Reference: TQ 30247 37363

### **SUMMARY OF THE HISTORIC INTEREST AND SIGNIFICANCE**

The historic significance of the open land in the Burleys Wood area is high. The historic maps show that the area in question is a remnant of the ancient parkland of Crabbet Park, a residence since the 16th century. In terms of its amenity value, the area surrounding it is densely developed with houses and gardens that are relatively small therefore the amenity value of having an urban space nearby is high, albeit with a boundary on the edge of the M23 motorway.

Since the map evidence shows that Burleys Wood open land is part of the historic parkland of Crabbet Park, the historic development is recorded for the whole of the estate as it cannot reasonably be separated one from the other until the 1960s when the M23 bisected the site.

### **CHRONOLOGY OF THE HISTORIC DEVELOPMENT**

Crabbet Park is first recorded as being the residence of the Playz family and it then passed to the Mores of Odiham, Hampshire (main residence). In 1504, 'Sir Edward More Knt held by knights service a tenement and certain lands in the parish of Worth, formerly of Richard Playz, called Crabbets'. A later Sir Edward inherited Crabbet on the death of his father in 1582. The house was noted as a 'capitall messuage' ie, more than a farmhouse but less than a mansion. The family held it until at least 1634 his widow marrying Sir John Smith of Shirford, Warwickshire. The estate was sold to trustees and through various generations, marriages, mortgages and settlements the Smiths remained at Crabbets until the house and estate was sold to Leonard Gale (1673-1750) in 1698/1699. This included the Manor and Lordship of Worth. It was again described as 'the capitall messuage of Crabbet House and desmesne lands called Crabbet Lands'. A draft agreement of sale between John Smith and Leonard Gale set the purchase price of £7,500. Including the timber the cost was £9,000. Leonard married Sarah Knight in 1703; and they had three sons and seven daughters, some dying as infants. The Richard Budgen map of 1723 shows Crabbet as a manor or farm.

Although Leonard Gale came from humble stock and started his working life as a blacksmith, through hard work he rose through the ranks of society and in 1710 he was elected as one of the Members of Parliament for East Grinstead. He wrote an admirable memoir for his sons and gave the following reasons for purchasing Crabbet. "Two reasons chiefly induced me to buy Crabbet; one was, that my estate might lie together and the other, that I might

have a good estate which I had not before, for I was always afraid of building.” He was a rich man by then, giving £8,000 for the jointure of his daughter, Philippa.

Leonard’s sons, Leonard and Henry, both died before their father and the Gales became extinct, but one daughter, Sarah, married Samuel Blunt (1723-1800) who already owned Springfield House in Horsham. Following Leonard Gale’s death the estate was to be divided between the remaining three daughters and Sarah and Samuel Blunt were to inherit Crabbet. By 1762 Sarah and one of her sisters had died and Blunt inherited as the representative of his deceased wife. His second wife was Winifrid Scawen, hence the middle name of Francis and Wilfrid (or Wilfred). It then descended directly to his grandson Francis Scawen Blunt (1790-1842), his father, Rev. William Blunt having died in 1790, the year of Francis’s birth. He was resident at Crabbet Park in 1842 (Tithe Map appointment book) although he died in December of that year.

Francis Scawen Blunt’s military career was in the Grenadier Guards and he fought at the battle of Corunna and in the Peninsular War. He died aged 52 after catching a chill while cub-hunting at Crabbet Park (Memorial Tablet, Worth Church). The Lytton manuscripts 42 and 43 in West Sussex Record Office record multiple payments to tradespeople involved in building between 1818 and 1823 so repairs and construction were being carried out.

Following the death his father, another Francis (1839-1872), inherited. On his early death in 1872 aged 33, his brother Wilfrid (1840-1922) inherited both Crabbet Park and Newbuildings Place at Shipley that had been purchased by Samuel Blunt and had remained in the family since 1757. In 1872 he and Lady Anne rebuilt Crabbet House and circa 1900 built the Orangery and Tennis Court. The house, Orangery and Tennis Court are listed by English Heritage at Grade II\*, the Stables at Grade II.

Wilfrid and Lady Ann had spent large amounts of time travelling in Arabia and decided to bring a number of Arab horses back to Crabbet Park to ensure that the pure bred blood line did not die out. A legal separation between the two in 1906 meant that Lady Anne kept Crabbet Park and Sir Wilfrid moved to Newbuildings Place, taking half the horses with him. She died in 1917 and disagreements with his daughter Judith later Baroness Wentworth following Lady Anne’s will destroyed their relationship. He is buried in a tomb in the garden at Newbuildings.

As shown in the sales particulars illustrated below, Lady Wentworth sold most if not all of the outlying farms in 1916. She remained at Crabbet Park, playing real tennis and continuing to breed Arab horses until her death in 1957. Her will stipulated that it should be left to her employee, Mr F C Covey(?), who was her Farm Manager and had given a great deal of help to her and the estate. He died soon after her and it then passed to his son who was unable to afford the upkeep. In 1960 the estate was sold in lots.

*By Order of the Honorable Mrs. BLUNT LYTTON.*

**ON THE NORTHERN BORDER OF SUSSEX.**  
 20 minutes from London in a favourite Residential District. In the Parish of  
**WORTH, IFIELD & CHARLEWOOD.**

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Particulars and Conditions of Sale  
 OF  
 OUTLYING PORTIONS  
 OF THE  
**Crabbet Park Estate**  
COMPREHENDING  
 HAZELWICK, WOOLBOROUGH, PRIORS, SCALLOWS, BLACKWATER,  
 LITTLE BLACKWATER, FROGSHOLE, WAKENAM'S GREEN, LAYHOUSE, COPTHORNE,  
 TINSLOWS FARMS,  
 With Farmhouses, Homesteads and Cottages.  
 A Charming Residential Property. "HAYHEATH,"  
 A small SPORTING ESTATE known as HEATHY GROUND,  
 VILLA RESIDENCE,  
 The Old Curiosity Shop, Crawley,  
 30 COTTAGES, SMITHY, BUILDER'S PREMISES,  
 Various Pieces of BUILDING AND ACCOMMODATION LAND,  
 SMALL HOLDINGS,  
 400 ACRES of heavily TIMBERED WOODLAND,  
THE WHOLE COVERING AN AREA OF ABOUT  
**1635 ACRES.**  
 To be sold by Auction by  
**MESSRS. COBB**

---

At the **GEORGE HOTEL, CRAWLEY,**  
 On **WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20th, 1916,** at 3 p.m. precisely,  
 In 52 convenient Lots.

Particulars and Conditions of Sale, with Plans and Views, may be obtained at the place of Sale; of the Solicitors, Messrs. BURGESS, TAYLOR & TAYLOR, 1, New Square, Lincoln's Inn, W.C.; and of Messrs. H. & R. L. COBB, Auctioneers and Surveyors, 51 & 53, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, W.C., and Higham, near Rochester.

The Printing Company, Ltd., 11, High Street, Rochester.

Sale details of Crabbet Park Estate, 1916; courtesy: Crawley Library

It is not appropriate to chronicle Wilfrid's life in this report in any more than a few words. There are two public archives devoted to his life: West Sussex Record Office (69 boxes in the Lytton Archives) and the Fitzwilliam Museum. He was a poet, writer, diplomat, traveller, Arabic speaker, lover of Egypt and an anti-imperialist. Crabbet Park is still famous for the Crabbet Stud composed of Arabian horses that he and Lady Anne brought back to Crabbet being concerned that the pure Arab blood lines of the horses would be lost by breeding with Bedouin horses. The work that they both pursued in the breeding of pure bred Arab horses is possibly the strongest legacy that they have left, especially to those involved with horses and their breeding. A modest handwritten book exists in Crawley Public Library describing some of the blood lines of the horses, from the 16 stallions and 32 mares brought to Crabbet Park, with a pen drawing of Newbuildings Place as the frontispiece (Anne Lytton, *Newbuildings Place 1878-1978*, Crawley Public Library ref. S636.1, bound quarto, not published).



## **SITE DESCRIPTION**

### **DESCRIPTION OF PRINCIPLE FEATURES AND BUILDINGS**

**Crabbet House:** from English Heritage listing Grade II\* by English Heritage: The house was rebuilt in its present form in 1873 in neo-Queen Anne style, but pre-Norman Shaw/Queen Anne, style and was designed by Lady Anne Blunt, the granddaughter of Byron, and her husband, Wilfred Scawen Blunt, the poet, politician, traveller and breeder of Arab horses. It was occupied by them until their deaths in 1917 and 1922 respectively and after that by their daughter, Lady Wentworth. It was the scene of the famous Crabbet Club in the early years of the 20th century, of which leading politicians and other prominent people were members. It was also here that Wilfred Scawen Blunt, who was the first man to import and breed Arab horses into England, had his stud.

The building is L-shaped with red brick and stone window dressings, quoins, string-course, cornice and a balustraded parapet. It consists of two storeys. The entrance front faces north with nine windows. The three centre window bays project and are flanked by quoins with a pediment over, containing a round window set in a stone surround similar to a star. Casement windows of four sections set in moulded stone architrave surrounds. There is a doorway in similar surround with curved pediment over and a double door of eight fielded panels set at the head of eight steps with curving stuccoed balustrade. The east or garden front has seven windows. The three central ones project with pediments over, containing a large lunette window and on the ground floor a large curved bay of three windows with balustrade over and nine semi-circular steps leading up to the bay. It is listed by English Heritage at Grade II\* for the architectural importance of the house in the development of 19th century architecture and for its associations with Wilfred Scawen Blunt and his contemporaries.

**The Orangery and Tennis Court:** from English Heritage listing Grade II\*: Dating to circa 1900 and built at the time when the Crabbet Club flourished in the house. The tennis court has nine bays and is built of red brick. Each bay is flanked by stone pilasters with a stone balustraded parapet and a hipped tiled roof. The north side the orangery, also of nine bays, projects beyond the tennis court at a lower level. Round-headed double French windows with semi-circular fanlights are set in stone architrave surrounds. Each bay is flanked by stone Tuscan half-columns. A balustraded parapet with solid portions over the half-columns is surmounted by ball caps and with a balustraded parapet in between. In the centre projecting further north is a deep curved portico of six stone columns. To the west of the tennis court is a further orangery section in similar style but without round-headed windows. To the east is a red brick portion of three bays.

**The Stables:** from English Heritage listing Grade II: The 19<sup>th</sup> century stables at Crabbet Park are now converted into a house and consist of one storey and an attic. The construction is of red brick with five

windows and a modern pantilled roof. A pediment in the centre contains an attic window. Round-headed casement windows, two doorways with low rectangular fanlights are extant.

## THE PARK

By 1792, the Yeakell and Gream map names Crabbet Park with Burleys Wood clearly evident and the particular area of remnant parkland also showing as part of open land. In the 18th century many parks were created from farmland so it is a fair assessment that the parkland was already established by this date.

The Tithe Map of 1838-40 (Worth (Middle Division) TD E155) shows that the house and lawn amounted to 5 acres, with the kitchen garden and stables being shown to the south west of the house. The west park stood at 45 acres, the east park to 49 acres together with Burleys Wood, both south and north of the drive from the Balcombe Road, Drivers Wood and rough pasture amounting to 64 acres. The total ownership within the grounds of the house, park and woodland was 322 acres with eight tenanted farms further afield. A series of four fish ponds demonstrate the age of the landscape as these traditional ponds were used to provide fish in the leaner months of the year both in medieval and Tudor times. The most southerly fish pond has by this time been extended into an informal lake that wraps around the house to the east.

## LOCATION, BOUNDARIES, LANDFORM, SETTING

### Location

Burleys Wood is located within the residential area of Pound Hill between the Balcombe Road and the M23. The map evidence is consistent in the shape of the area that was retained as open space when most of the woodland to the west of the M23 was developed. It forms part of the original parkland plan, as shown on the 1795 Yeakell and Gream map. The unusual 'dog leg' effect inserted into the woodland and forming a grander entrance through the parkland as it exits from the woodland and towards the house appears intentional.

### Boundaries

The present layout has changed to allow for the residential development to the north, south and west but remains similar to that on the original maps. Two areas of semi natural woodland remain, one to the west and the second that runs north/south between the M23 and the residential development which it can be assumed to be part of the original Burleys Wood.

### Setting

The open grassed area is bi-sected by what appears to be the line of the original west/east drive and this continues in tunnel under the M23 to Crabbet Park. Some trees remain along this drive as an avenue and continue after the tunnel into Crabbet Park. There is no evidence of such planting on the OS maps and the circumference of the trees do not appear to be great enough to be very mature so may have been planted much later.

Burleys Wood is of high value as it provides views of open green space for residents of the housing to the north and west along its boundaries, providing views into the green space and woodland and provides land for walking in a natural environment and a barrier to the noise of the M23.

### ENTRANCES AND APPROACHES

The 1842 Tithe map shows three separate entrances to Crabbet Park. The entrance from the Balcombe Road, is located almost directly to the west of the property and curves within Burleys Wood to exit into and through the parkland to the forecourt to the north of the house. Two lodges are shown. One is, as to be expected, at the entrance of the drive at Balcombe Road and the second at the point shortly before the drive emerges into the parkland which is the area of parkland that is Burleys Wood open space today. Along this remnant drive through Burleys Wood is a depleted avenue of trees that leads up to the M23 and then continues to Crabbet Park. When seen in the winter it wasn't possible to identify the tree species. The avenue is missing several trees but shows up well on aerial photos such as Google Earth.

Two areas of woodland stand to the north and south of Sedgefield Close and may be taken as remnants of Burleys Wood itself.

The drive to the south of Crabbet Park is located on Turners Hill Road, with a lodge at the entrance, to the east of Caxtons (extant).

The third drive goes due north from the west of the kitchen garden and the stables. It continues through Burleys Wood south west of Wakehams Green Farm and the most northerly fish pond.

All three drives are shown on the OS maps of 1874, 1897 and 1910.

A further drive is shown on the OS map of 1910 that connects more directly to Crabbet Park than the drive situated further north off the Balcombe Road and becomes a more major access to Crabbet Park. From Turners Hill Road it now forms a gated entrance with a new South Lodge to the west of Caxtons, meeting the park and house at the south east end of the present wooded area in Burleys Wood. Pollarded trees line both sides of what is still little more than a lane but these do not show on any of the earlier maps.

### GARDENS AND PLEASURE GROUNDS

There is no evidence of formal gardens or pleasure grounds at Crabbet Park before 1910 when the relevant OS map of that date shows four paths in a rectangular shape with a fountain in the centre to the north of the house. This area still exists today although it is edged with box plants. Trees are shown planted to the west of the house, presumably within mown grass.

### KITCHEN GARDEN

The kitchen garden at Crabbet Park was in existence in 1840 but is possibly 18th century in origin. It is interesting in that it is rectangular although each corner is constructed at the diagonal to the walls, possibly to take maximum advantage to sunlight. The OS maps show the kitchen garden is laid out in

the traditional manner to form four quarters of growing ground. Glasshouses are located to the south outside the walls of the kitchen garden and to the west other associated buildings are shown. It is still extant today but is laid to grass with tarmac paths.

### **Opportunities for improving the historical integrity of the area of open space and woodland:**

It is suggested that the recommendations included in Dolphin Ecological Surveys in the survey of Burleys Wood in 2010 continue to be carried out or be implemented if not already in place.

Specifically, cut back banks of bramble on rotation, coppice old gorse bushes to rejuvenate them, remove at least some of the young oak and ash trees and coppice older grey willow.

The woodland areas are in need of management.

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#### Maps

Tithe Map 1838-40, Worth (Middle Division) TD E155 two extracts.

OS maps      1<sup>st</sup> edn 25" OS map 1874  
                  2<sup>nd</sup> edn 25" OS map 1900  
                  3<sup>rd</sup> edn 25" OS map 1920  
                  NG 2011

#### Archival Items

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PhpGedView, details of Blunt family histories, [www.stanford.edu/group](http://www.stanford.edu/group)

St Nicholas Church Worth, Memorial Inscriptions

Victoria County History, Parish Worth, fn 22 and 23. [www.british-history.ac.uk](http://www.british-history.ac.uk)

David Palmer, *History of Maidenbower* 13 June 2005.

[www.maidenbower.org.uk](http://www.maidenbower.org.uk)

# Boundary Map

## Burleys Wood Open Space

National Grid 2011 Map

 Existing Historic Park or Garden Boundary

1:3,000



## Historic Mapping

**Crabbet Park Tithe Map of 1838-40 Showing Area later to become  
Burleys Wood Open Space**





**Extract from Crabbet Park Tithe Map of 1838-40 Showing Area later to become Burleys Wood Open Space**



# Burleys Wood Historic Garden

Sussex 2500 C1875

 Existing Historic Garden Boundary

1:4,000



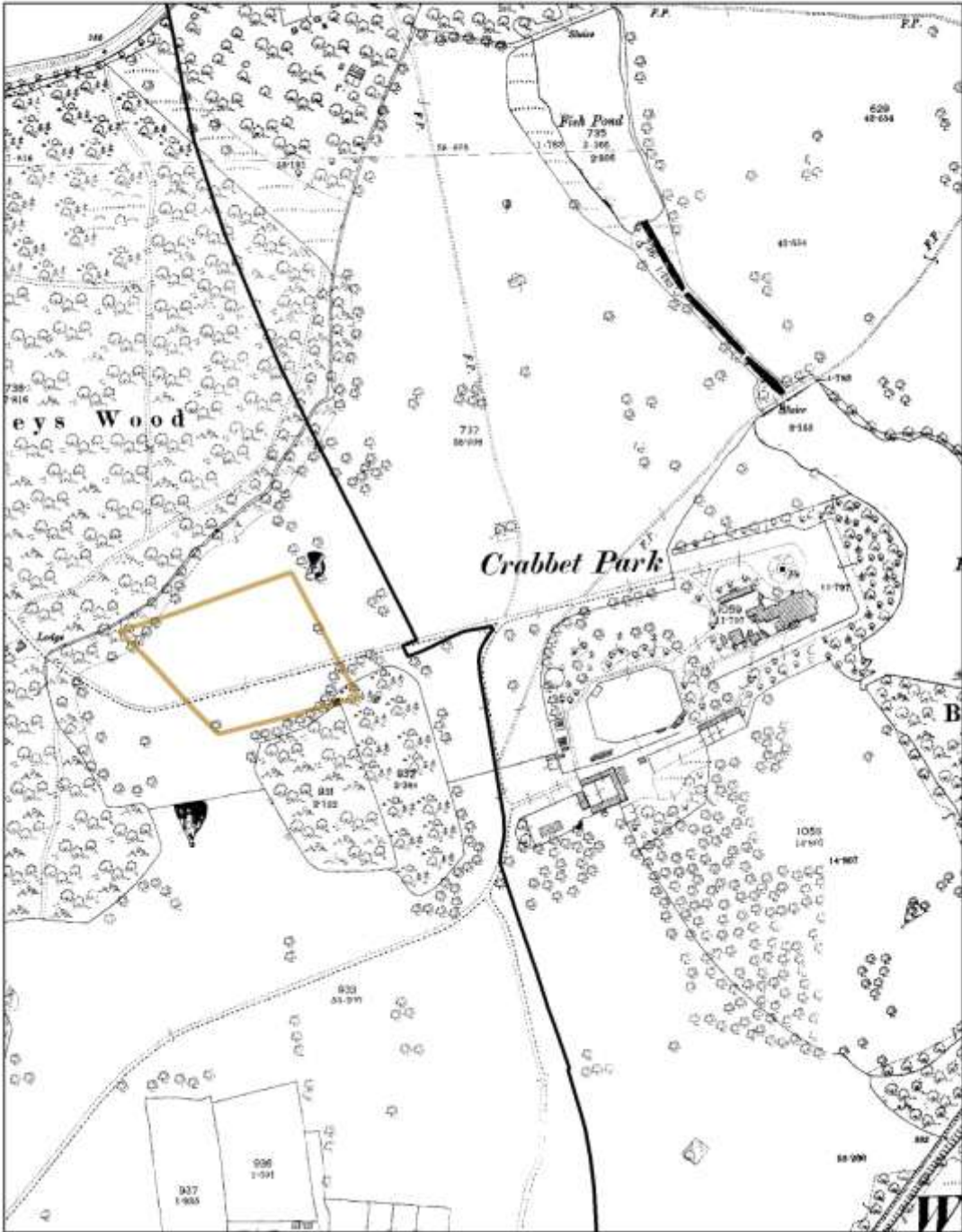


# Burleys Wood Historic Garden

Sussex 2500 C1900

 Existing Historic Garden Boundary

1:4,000

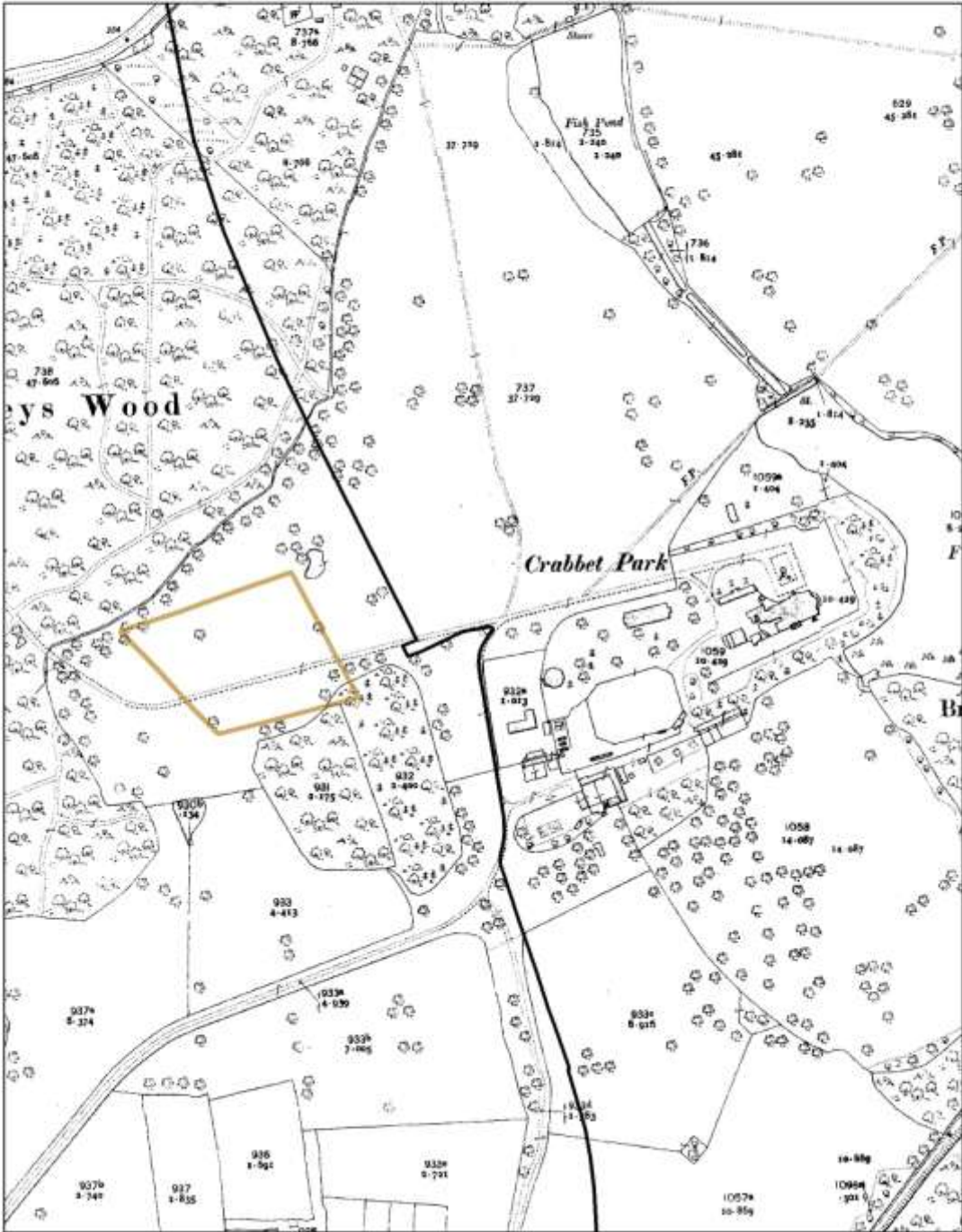


# Burleys Wood Historic Garden

Sussex 2500 C1910

 Existing Historic Garden Boundary

1:4,000





## Illustrations/Photographs



Burleys Wood looking east to boundary with the M23



Avenue planting along the line of the original drive from Balcombe Road to Crabbet Park through Burleys Wood



Parkland tree shown on OS 1910 Edition in Burleys Wood



Tree growing through a raised circular bank in woodland, Burleys Wood



Woodland and path extending north through Burleys Wood



## **GOFFS PARK**

Crawley  
West Sussex

### **SUMMARY OF THE HISTORIC INTEREST**

Although there are echoes of an older landscape at Goffs Park, with surviving trees and shrubs from the 19th and early 20th century, its main historic interest appears to lie in the part it played in the formation of Crawley New Town. The desire to establish open areas and leisure facilities within the new town is very apparent. The planning and development of Goffs Park thus played a real and important part in the history of Crawley in the mid-20th century.

### **CHRONOLOGY OF THE HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT**

At the beginning of the nineteenth century the areas around the Parishes of Ifield and Worth were populated by small Wealden farms, with the village of Crawley straddling the two parishes. The London to Brighton turnpike road ran through Crawley and passed the door of Goffs Manor Farm. The Ifield Parish Tithe Map 1839 (CL:TD/W156) shows a round toll house just to the south of the farm, and that all the area of Goffs Park was arable apart from the immediate lawn on the slope from the later house which was pasture. The Tithe Map also shows a woodland area that was coppice and orchard with a distinctively shaped field in the centre called Furze Field and presumably at some time set aside for 'Furzes' or gorse. Gorse was valuable to a farm with heavy soil as it was used for filling open field drains which were then covered with clay or turf and improved drainage, which would have continued for many years before the creation of Goffs Park (see figure 1).

In 1841 the London, Brighton and South Coast railway opened, and shortly afterwards the branch line from Three Bridges to Horsham opened which cut through the toll road and Goffs Manor Farm fields to form what would be the northern boundary to Goffs Park. Although the railway destroyed the coaching trade, it attracted a new wealthy class of businessmen, industrialists and bankers who established large estates on the outer periphery of Crawley such as the Tilgate estate of 2185 acres, Buchan Hill at 2550 acres and Worth Park at 2055 acres. The middle classes swiftly followed the example of the wealthy.

In 1882 it was reported in the December edition of 'The Builder' that Mr. Edwin Henty had erected, for the sum of £3750, a house at Goffs Hill (see photo 3) on what was described as an elevated site with exceedingly fine views of the picturesque town of Crawley and stretching as far as the Surrey hills (The Builder, 1882). In the 1891 Census Edwin Henty is described as a 47 year old Banker, born in Crawley, and living in Goffs Hill with his wife, two younger unmarried sisters, a butler, cook and three maidservants.

From uncatalogued documents held at the Legal Department of Crawley Borough Council it appears that in 1896 Goffs Park was sold to Fanny Trower who appears to have died the same year and left it to her sister and the children of her cousin, one of whom, Henry Hobson Finch a wine merchant, bought out the others for £5833, and raised a mortgage. He eventually sold it to George F.G. Woodhall in 1905. By 1924 when his widow sold it to George Paget Walford, ship-owner from Kensington for £7000, the plans show a joining up of 2 ponds in the woodland and a loss of the original kitchen garden. On this schedule the glade is now referred to as pasture and kitchen garden as shown in the 1927 Abstract of Title of R.L Bayns-Powell and L.W.H Fairtlough to the freehold property known as Goffs Park (in care of CBC Legal Dept). George Walford immediately made covenants with his neighbour at Goffs Manor Farm, Captain Saunders, agreeing to not use their premises and gardens for anything other than private use.

Three years later George Walford sold up to Gilbert R. Lewis of Regent's Park for £7500 who rented it to Henry Druker on or before 1929 when *Pike's Blue Directory* shows Henry in residence until 1935 when only Mrs Druker remains living there. The owner and landlord, Gilbert Lewis raised a mortgage on Goffs House, but by 1940 he was bankrupt and the matter went to Chancery. This must have been of concern to Mrs Druker as a tenant, particularly as the Master Plan for Crawley New Town published in 1947 shows Goffs Park as a public park. However, she bought her home for £7000 from the mortgagees on 12th May 1948. She may have been trying to raise money when in 1952 she applied to the Forestry Commission for a license to fell 110 trees on Goffs Park, this was initially refused by Crawley Development Corporation Board as they felt the amenity value of the future park would be affected by the loss of the fine trees, however they eventually agreed to 75 being felled on silvicultural grounds (WSRO: CDC Board Papers Vol 19 141-145). Sophie Druker, owner of Goffs Park House and grounds, died on 15th October, 1953 and so the house and gardens were sold to the Parish Council of Crawley on 23rd December 1954 for £7580.

The creation of Goffs Park from a mansion garden arose out of new town planning ideas, and the imposition of a Master Plan to incorporate green spaces within the town. According to the Conveyance of Goffs Park to the Parish Council of Crawley dated 23.12.1954 (in care of CBC Legal Dept) the northern part butting up against the railway had already been sold on 20.7.1954 to Crawley Development Corporation for public use and a chain linked fence was to be built across the land. As time moved on this barrier was unnecessary as ownership of the park as a whole fell to Crawley Urban District Council. Earlier minutes of the 144<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Corporation on 17.7.1952 note the Corporation's suggestion to the Parish Council that due to the concern of new roads impinging on the eastern side of the town recreation ground, or Memorial Gardens, an alternative recreation ground could be provided in Goffs Park in the flat northern part of the park and it was felt that this would be a fair exchange. It was noted in the Joint Report of the Chief Architect and Chief Engineer when this plan was originally raised that it would be necessary to remove the line of oaks crossing the field, these would have been the remains of the original field boundaries.(WSRO: CDC 144/7 E Board

Papers 17.7.1952). After a Public Inquiry and much consideration in Council, this was agreed on 7.9.1954 and 12 acres of land in Goffs Park was to be laid out as a recreation ground (WSRO: PAR/60 49/7 Minutes of Recreation Grounds Committee, Crawley Parish Council).

There was considerable optimism when the 59 acre estate was bought by the Council. The locations of parks in the master plan were designed to ensure all residents would be but a short walk from an attractive open space. A swimming pool sub-committee was set up to consider an open air pool in the 12 acre flat northern area. An additional 4 acres of land was added and two men worked full time for 8 weeks to cut grass and trim hedges. Football and hockey pitches, a cricket table and pavilion were planned and authority given for locals to fish in the lake. By June 1955 architects plans, plus costings, were received for the swimming pool, the more expensive option was chosen and the architect asked to provide more detailed plans. In August of the same year a Park Keeper was appointed for the summer holidays to prevent vandalism.

In January 1956 the surveyor recommended terracing the grass banks around the house and providing raised flower beds at the front of the house. A Council plant nursery was planned and later constructed for the south west corner of Goffs Park with glasshouses, cold frames and potting sheds which provided all the floral displays in the town. It is clear from local knowledge that the pavilion and cricket pitch went ahead and good memories are reported of summer evenings watching cricket (pers.comms. J. Roskilly, P. Townend, 2007). In the 1960s the pitch and putt area was added due to growing demand for golfing facilities. G. Brooke Taylor in his report to the Commissioners for New Towns *Crawley: A Study of Amenities in a town*, published 1966 suggests a shortage of play equipment for the under 14s and a need for a new kind of social and sports centre for families (WSRO: Lib No. 10,618 Box 78A). At Goffs Park he envisaged a lounge bar with games rooms; youth club, sports hall, six tennis courts, outdoor swimming pool and a riding school. None of these recommendations were taken up at Goffs Park, instead the 400 acre Tilgate Park became the centre for sport and leisure against the recommendation of G. Brooke Taylor who felt it was too far out of town to be the focus of leisure facilities. Initially, Goffs Park was well looked after with three full time park keepers, evening and weekend cricket matches, a paddling pool and boating lake, and in 1962 the miniature railway was added.

In March 1956 one gets a hint of the money drying up, the Parish Council is told by the Development Corporation to defer any capital expenditure that was not essential for 6 to 12 months, and if they wanted any ornamental gates they would have to pay for it themselves (WSRO: PAR60 49/7 Minutes of Recreation Grounds Committee 29.3.1955, 30.6.1955, 1.9.1955, 3.1.1956 and 6.3.1956). As Goffs Manor Farm was compulsorily purchased by the Development Corporation on application from the owner, the covenants tying the two properties to restricted private use were rescinded.



As money for parks and open spaces became more scarce in the later 20th century, and as they were not a statutory service for local authorities, councils cut back the parks departments or they were swallowed up by larger leisure services departments, horticultural skills were lost and parks professionals marginalized. Local Government Acts of 1988 and 1992 introduced competitive tendering which transferred park care to external contractors (Worpole, 2005 p 810). The neglect of Goffs Park was clear around this time, attendance fell, and within the last fifteen years the cricket pavilion burnt down and was not replaced, flower beds with summer bedding were removed; the paddling pool and boating lake drained and there was a reduction in park staff. Only the miniature railway was kept going at weekends thanks to the enthusiasm of the volunteers. However, a group of local people established The Friends of Goffs Park in 2004 as a grass roots community action to improve the park. Local volunteers have helped to clear scrub and rhododendron, and care for the park. In 1996 The Urban Parks Programme was launched by the Heritage Lottery Fund and the same year The Green Flag Awards created a National benchmark of quality which emphasized community involvement. These are much sought after indicators of excellence and the *Goffs Park Management Plan 2006-2011* enabled the park to attain a Green Flag Award.

Goffs Park House which was owned by Crawley Council suffered a serious fire in 1987/1988 when it was being used by the West Sussex County Council Area Education offices. There was considerable delay and concern about the costs of refurbishment but it escaped proposals to demolish it and was leased in 1989 to the Probation Service and rooms were set aside for the museum.

## **SITE DESCRIPTION**

### **DESCRIPTION OF PRINCIPLE FEATURES AND BUILDINGS**

Goffs Park House lies at the southern entrance to Goffs Park with an entrance drive from the Old Horsham Road. Goffs Park House was built in 1882 for a local banker, Edwin Henty by the architect William Buck of Horsham. The house was on three floors, with three reception rooms, hall and other rooms on the ground floor, six bedrooms and two dressing rooms on the first floor and six rooms on the second floor. It was faced with red kiln bricks with Bath stone dressings and red local tiles on the roof. It was described at the time of being built on an elevated site with 'exceedingly fine views of the picturesque town of Crawley and stretching as far as the Surrey hills' (The Builder, 23.12.1882).

The front and west of the house had, and still has, small shrub borders around the building, and a long terrace bordered by shrubs and herbaceous plants the length of the back of the house. From this terrace the lawns slope away to the north, and to the west is a small lake of a convoluted design which had been made as an ornamental feature, which used to have a small boathouse on the southern bank. By consulting OS maps it can be established that it was created sometime between 1910 and 1932. It does not appear on the 1910 OS County Series Map but does appear in the 3rd Revision, 1932.

The lake is set within woodland with steep sides and invasive rhododendron (*Rhododendron ponticum*) making access difficult to the edge of the lake, apart from the eastern side closest to the house where a seat has been placed. Oak (*Quercus robur*) hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*) and holly (*Ilex aquifolium*) predominate in this woodland but there are remains some species rhododendron and azalea from original plantings. The woodland area around the lake then opens out to the north to the old cricket pitch, and further to the west is a pitch and putt area with small café and finally a wild life triangle of land, all on the flat. Immediately to the north of the lake is a new play area for children, beyond this a new zip wire and finally the model train circuit before the northern boundary of the park by the railway.

## LOCATION, BOUNDARIES, LANDFORM AND SETTING

### Location

Goffs Park lies to the south of Crawley and is less than a mile from the centres of Westgreen, Gossops Green and Southgate neighbourhoods, and less than a mile from the town centre, hence its importance as a green space in the development of Crawley new town.

Goffs Hill is about 90 metres above sea level so that Goffs Park is situated on one of the highest areas to the south of Crawley. Goffs Park House faces the Old Horsham Road to the south and to the north looks over the park to the North Downs. From the rear terrace the lawns slope away to the north, dropping 15 metres to a flat area beyond the lake and play area to the boundary of the railway, which is known as the old cricket pitch (see photo 1). The woodland area is situated around the lake to the west of the house, which then opens out to the old cricket pitch, and further to the west is a pitch and putt area and finally a wild life triangle of land, all on the flat.

### Boundaries

The western boundary between the woodland and St. Wilfred's RC School appears to be old with a ditch and trees growing up on the edge of the ditch. However, the banks are not large enough to conclude old parkland boundaries, but the Ifield Parish 1839 Tithe Map (see figure 1) and subsequent OS County Series maps 1897, 1910 and 1932 show field boundaries with trees in rows which continue to echo these original field boundaries (see figure 3).

## GARDENS AND PLEASURE GROUNDS

Goffs Park had good plantings around the house until recently. In 2005 two large borders with annual bedding were removed from the front of the house. All that remains are the immediate herbaceous borders around the house and a raised terrace to the back. There are some more unusual shrubs remaining around the house that may have survived from original planting. A tree peony (*Peony suffruticosa*) to the right of the front door (see Photo 2) and a Pineapple Guava, *Acca sellowiana*, to the left of the front door, and a Chilean lantern tree (*Crinodendrum hookerianum*) against the south wall.

The trees in Goffs Park are largely oak (*Quercus robur*), hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*) and holly (*Ilex aquifolium*) in the woodland, and Scots pine (*Pinus*

*sylvestris*) on the northern railway perimeter. Field maple (*Acer campestre*) can be found in the woodland and also as a good sized tree in the lawn. To the west of the house is a sizeable cedar of Lebanon (*Cedrus libani*) and to the east what appears to be a rather misshapen western red cedar (*Thuja plicata*), both exotic species that would have been planted for impact and status when the house was built over 100 years ago. Species rhododendron and azaleas were also planted in the woodland. In spring the woodland is full of white wood anemonies (*Anemone nemorosa*), Early dog-violets (*Viola reichenbachiana*) and bluebells (*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*) giving an indication of well-established woodland. It appears to be a coincidence of names that a Count Oscar Reichenbach lived next door in The Hollies, where St Wilfred's School is now, from 1907 to about 1914, and he does not appear to be connected with the naming of the early dog-violet.

## References

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Census 1901, Ifield District 18

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CPC PAR60 49/7 Minutes of Recreation Grounds Committee 29.3.1955, 30.6.1955, 1.9.1955, 3.1.1956 and 6.3.1956

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## Historic Mapping

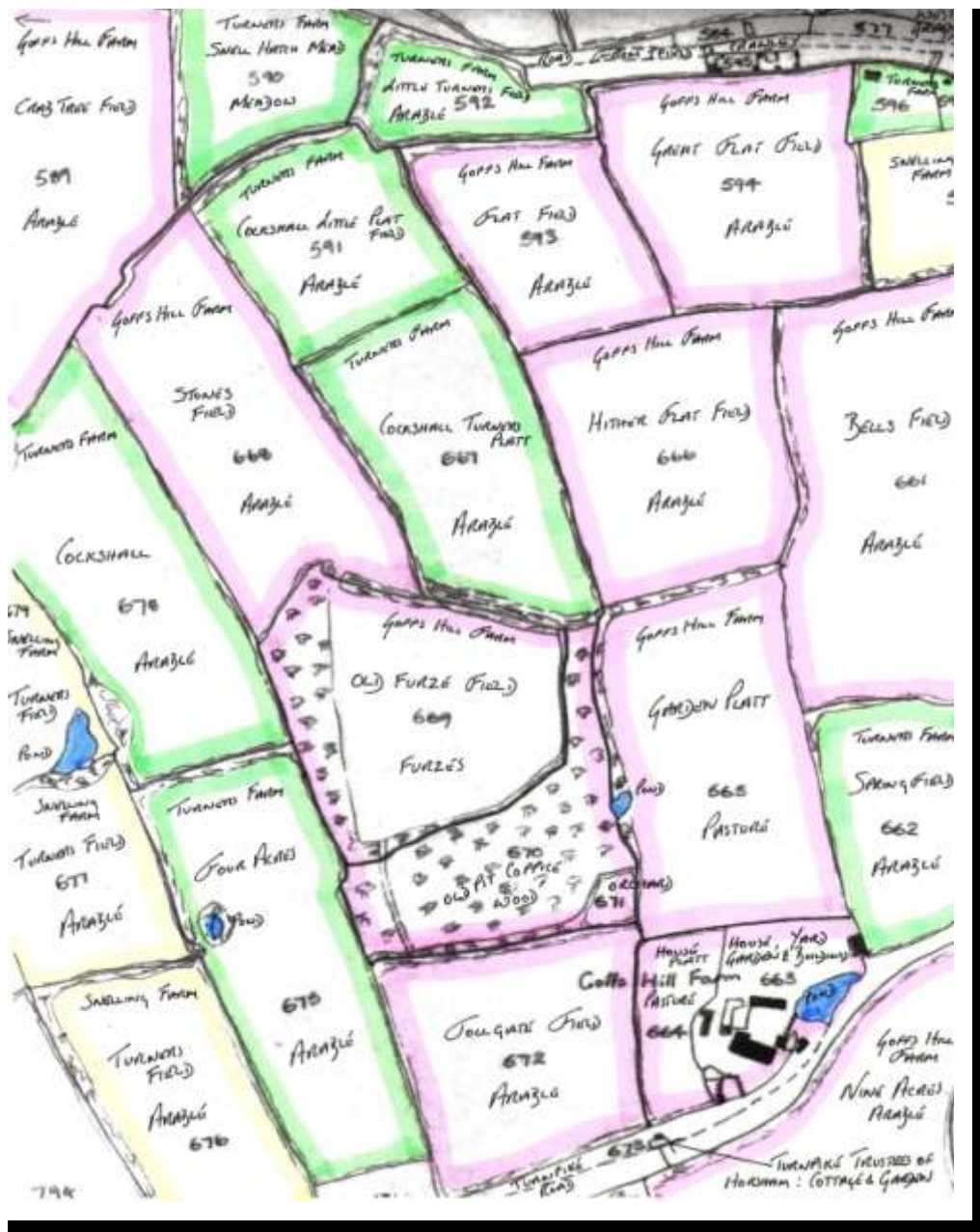


Fig. 1: Ifield Parish Tithe Map Sheet 3 1839 from tracing held at Crawley Library (CL:TDW/156), notated and coloured by M. Weir-Wilson with information from Apportionment of rent charges.  
**KEY:** Pink= Goffs Hill Farm, Green = Turners Farm, Yellow = Snelling Farm, Blue = Ponds





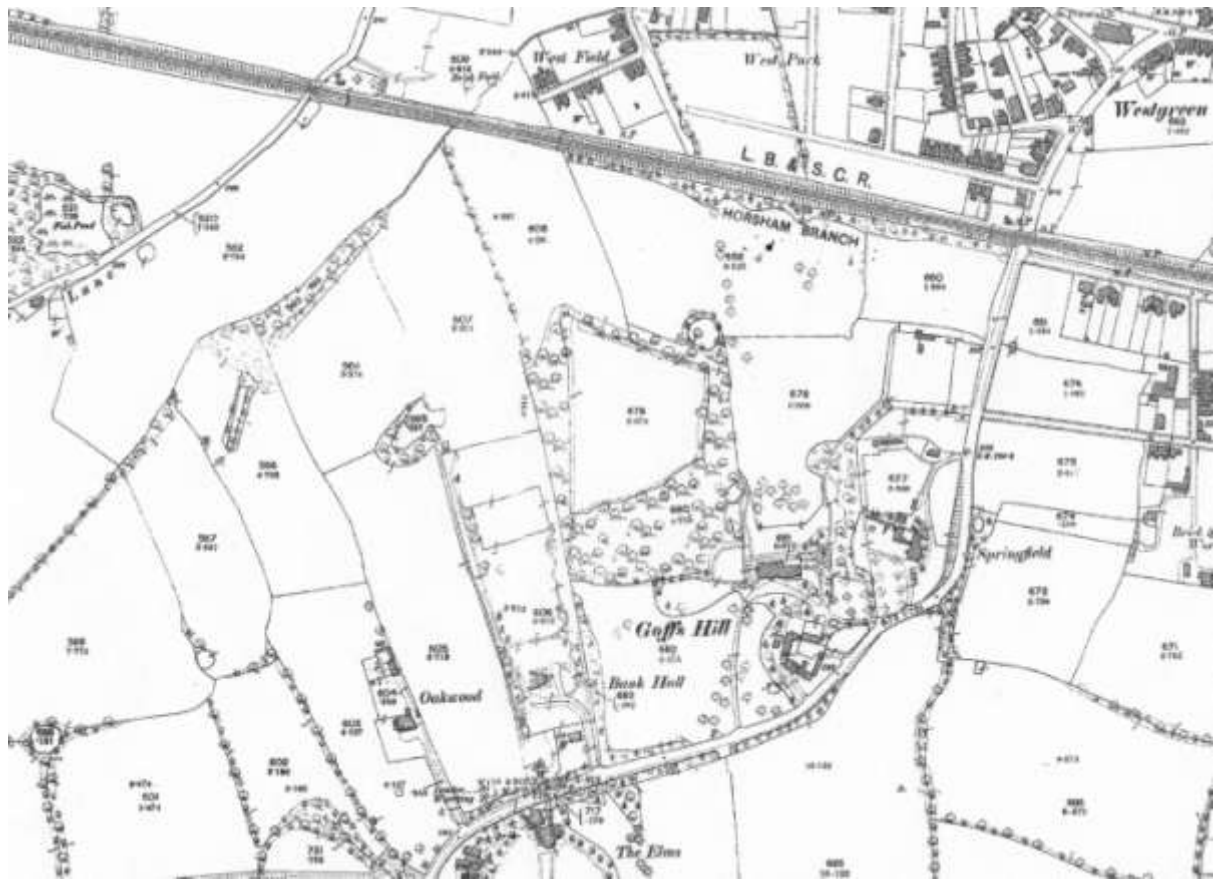
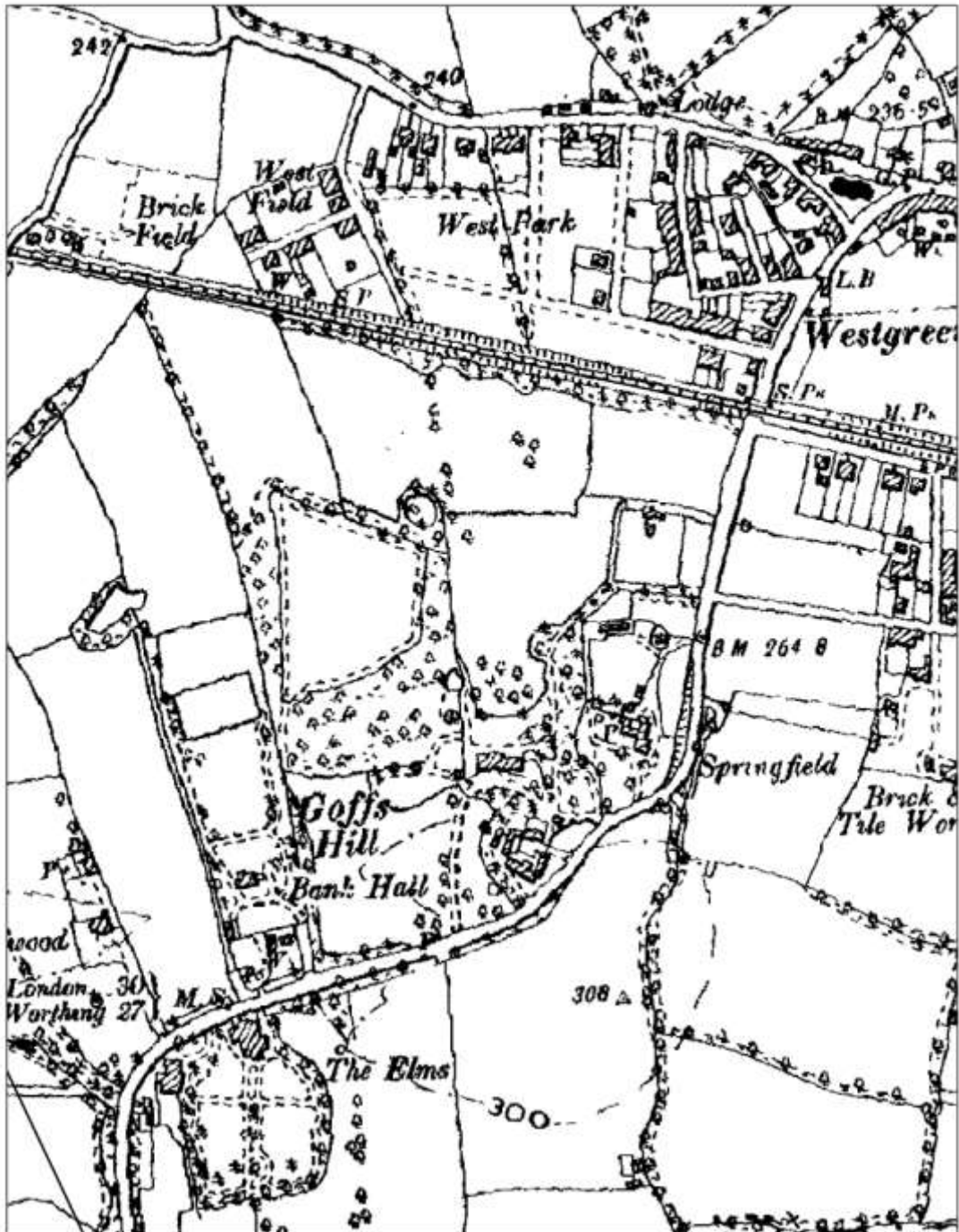


Fig. 3: Ordnance Survey County Series 1st Revision 1897 showing Goffs Hill with mansion, ponds and field boundaries.

# Goffs Park

Sussex 10K C1900

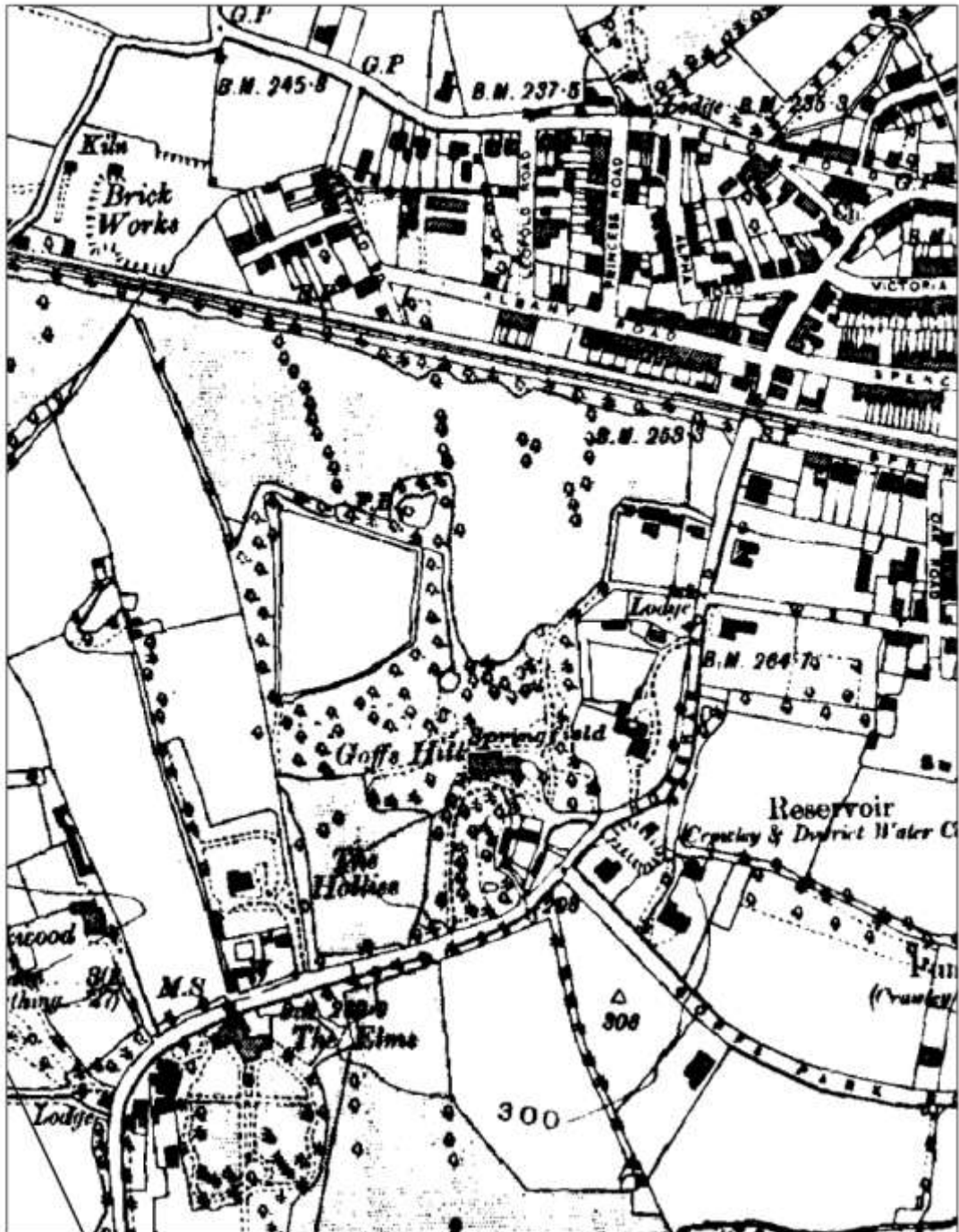
1:2,797



# Goffs Park

Sussex 10K C1910

1:2,797



# Goffs Park

National Grid 1250 C1950

1:1,804







# Goffs Park

Ordnance Survey 2011

1:1,804



## Photographs



Photo 1: Goffs Park looking south from the northern boundary across the old cricket pitch towards the play area and slope towards the house (2006 before improvements to access and play area, author's photograph).



Photo 2: Tree Peony in flower outside Goffs Park House





Photo 3: Rear terrace looking west towards woodland and lake



Photo 4: Sketch from The Builder, 23 December 1882, illustrating the rear of the gothic style Goffs Park House with terrace.

## **IFIELD PARK**

Rusper Road,  
Ifield, Crawley  
West Sussex, RH11 0JE

Grid Reference: TQ247366

### **SUMMARY OF THE HISTORIC DEVELOPMENT**

Ifield Park was created c.1860 when a gentleman's residence was built on a previously undeveloped site. The estate consisted of 25 acres with a 14 bedroomed house plus stables and outbuildings, surrounded by lawns and trees. Ifield Park became a residential home for the elderly in the mid 1930s; it is still run for this purpose.

### **CHRONOLOGY OF THE HISTORIC DEVELOPMENT**

The house was built, in the revived vernacular style, probably about 1860 on a previously undeveloped site. It does not appear on the Ifield Tithe map. Much rural building in Ifield in that period was in the form of large houses for "gentlemen" as Ifield, like neighbouring Rusper, became a place for moneyed people to reside in or retire to.

The 1874, 1st edition, Ordnance Survey map shows the house built alongside the railway line, close to a station then called Ifield Halt. The property was sold by auction in 1913. The auction details show that it was an estate of 25 acres. The sale particulars described it as a "picturesque and commodious residence" with "beautifully timbered pleasure grounds and park-like meadowlands". A photograph of the house is included which shows some of the planted trees.

During the late 1920s/early 1930s Sir John Drughorn, the local landowner who lived at Ifield Hall, planned to develop the area as the Ifield Estate. In particular he was attempting to develop the area between the village and the railway as a high class residential estate. New roads were to be cut, and detached three to five bedroomed houses built, in Tudor style and of various plans, each plot having enough space for a tennis court. The advertised attractions of the estate were its rural character, access to London by railway, and the proximity of Ifield golf course laid out in 1927. Nineteen houses were built, but the development was stopped by the Second World War. Sir John died in 1943.

Ifield Park was sold in the 1930s and this time the house became a residential home for the elderly. It is still run for this purpose. The 1950 Map shows that much of the estate had been sold off for housing development.

Ifield Park in 2013, see 2011 map, consists of just three and a half acres of land. Additional development has taken place on the site and the area to the south of the house has been built on to provide extra accommodation blocks. The house itself has not been extended but the large conservatory at the rear



has been demolished. A lawn surrounded by some of the original trees remains to the west of the frontage. Two photographs, taken from the nursing home's website, show the house and the remaining lawn today.

The site has lost much of its historic interest and is no longer an "attractive landscape area".

## **SITE DESCRIPTION**

### **DESCRIPTION OF PRINCIPAL FEATURES AND BUILDINGS**

The house had 14 bedroom and dressing rooms, bath room, three reception rooms and good domestic offices. There was a large conservatory build on the back (south) of the house. There was stabling for three horses, coach-house and coachman's rooms.

### **LOCATION, BOUNDARIES, LANDFORM, SETTING**

Ifield Park is located to the west of Ifield village. Part of its land was sold for housing development in the early 1950s as shown on the 1950 map. Since then the remaining area has been gradually infilled with additional residential buildings for the nursing home, see 2011 map.

### **ENTRANCES AND APPROACHES**

There is a lodge on the west side of a short avenue leading to the house. Today this avenue is still tree-lined but rather unkempt. The lodge is not included in the historic garden boundary.

### **GARDENS AND PLEASURE GROUNDS**

According to the 1913 sales particulars the whole was set in "beautifully timbered pleasure grounds and park-like meadows with entrance lodge, farmery etc.". The photograph of the house shows it set amongst some good trees. Little of these remains today.

### **KITCHEN GARDEN**

There was no formal kitchen garden.

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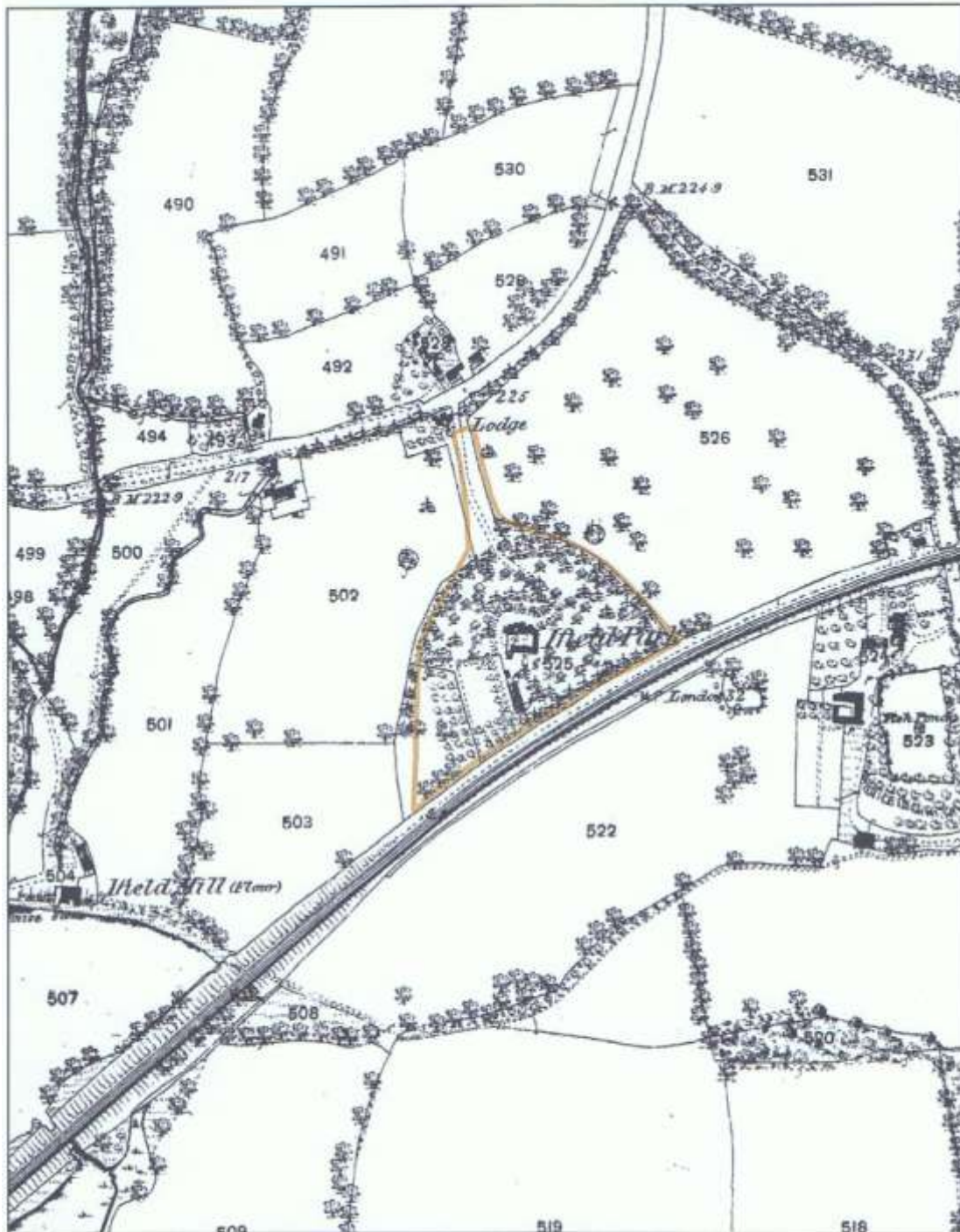
# Historic Mapping

## IFIELD PARK

Sussex 2500 C1875

 Existing Historic Garden Boundary

1:3,000

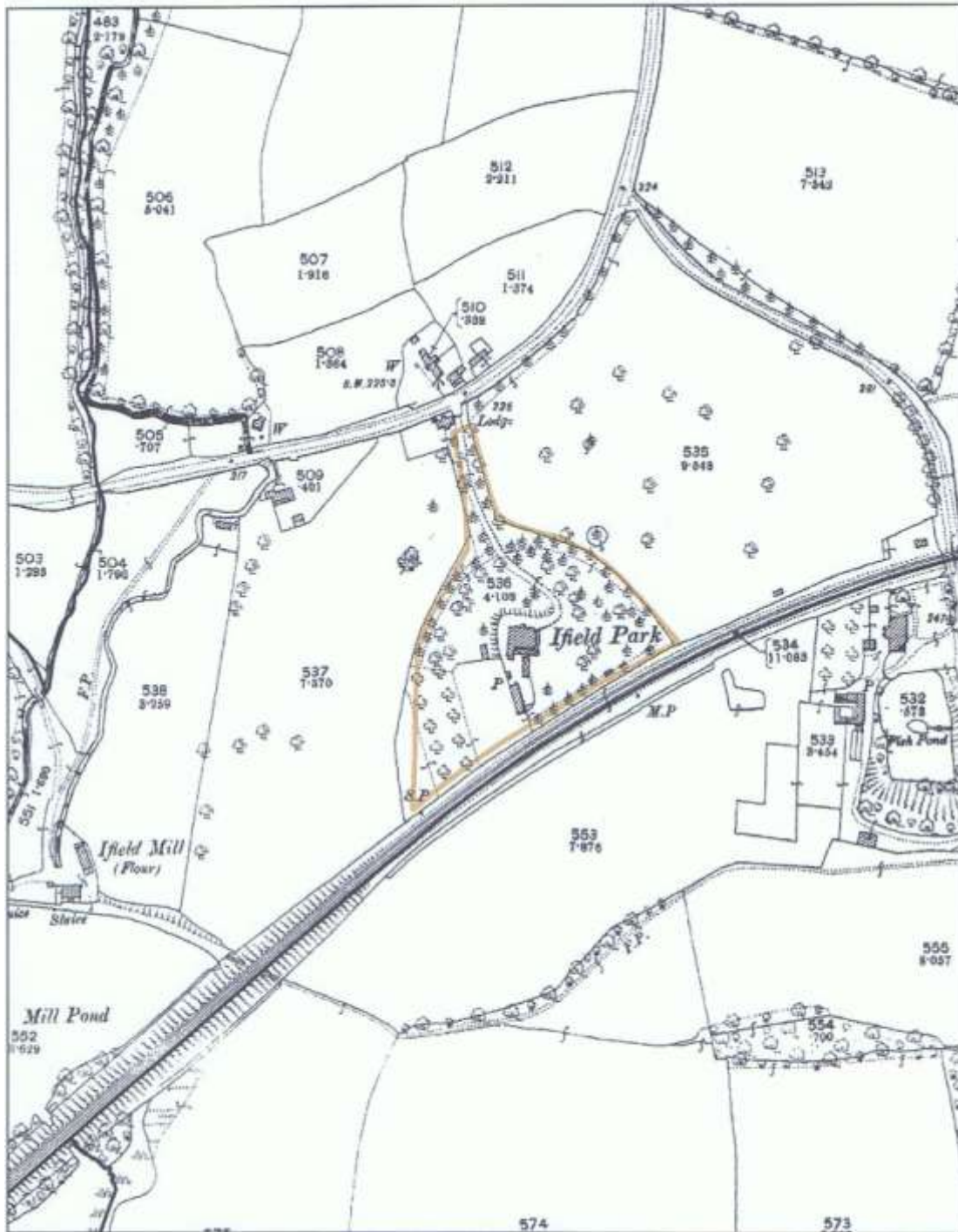


# IFIELD PARK

Sussex 2500 C1900

 Existing Historic Garden Boundary

1:3,000

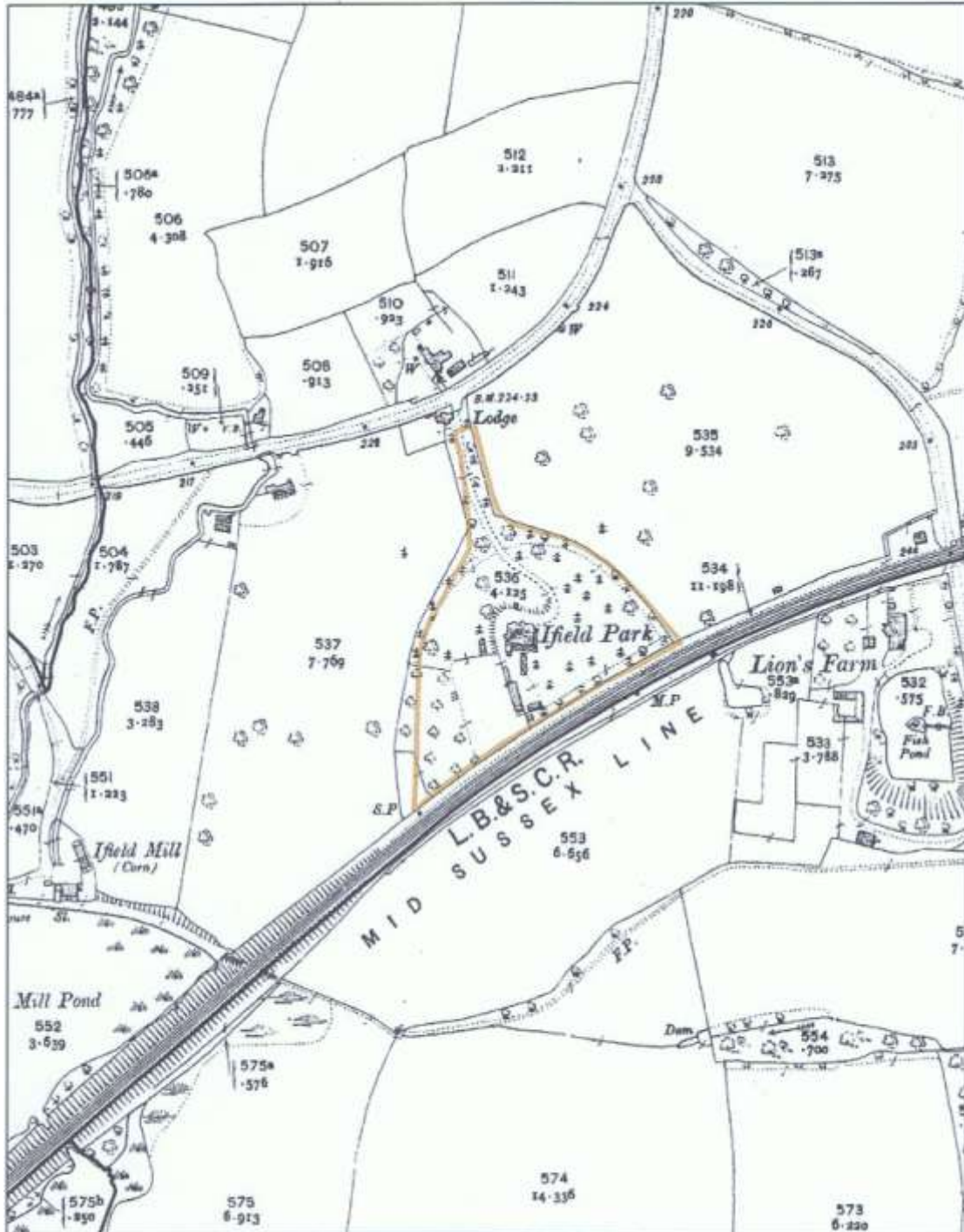


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Sussex 2500 C1910

 Existing Historic Garden Boundary

1:3,000



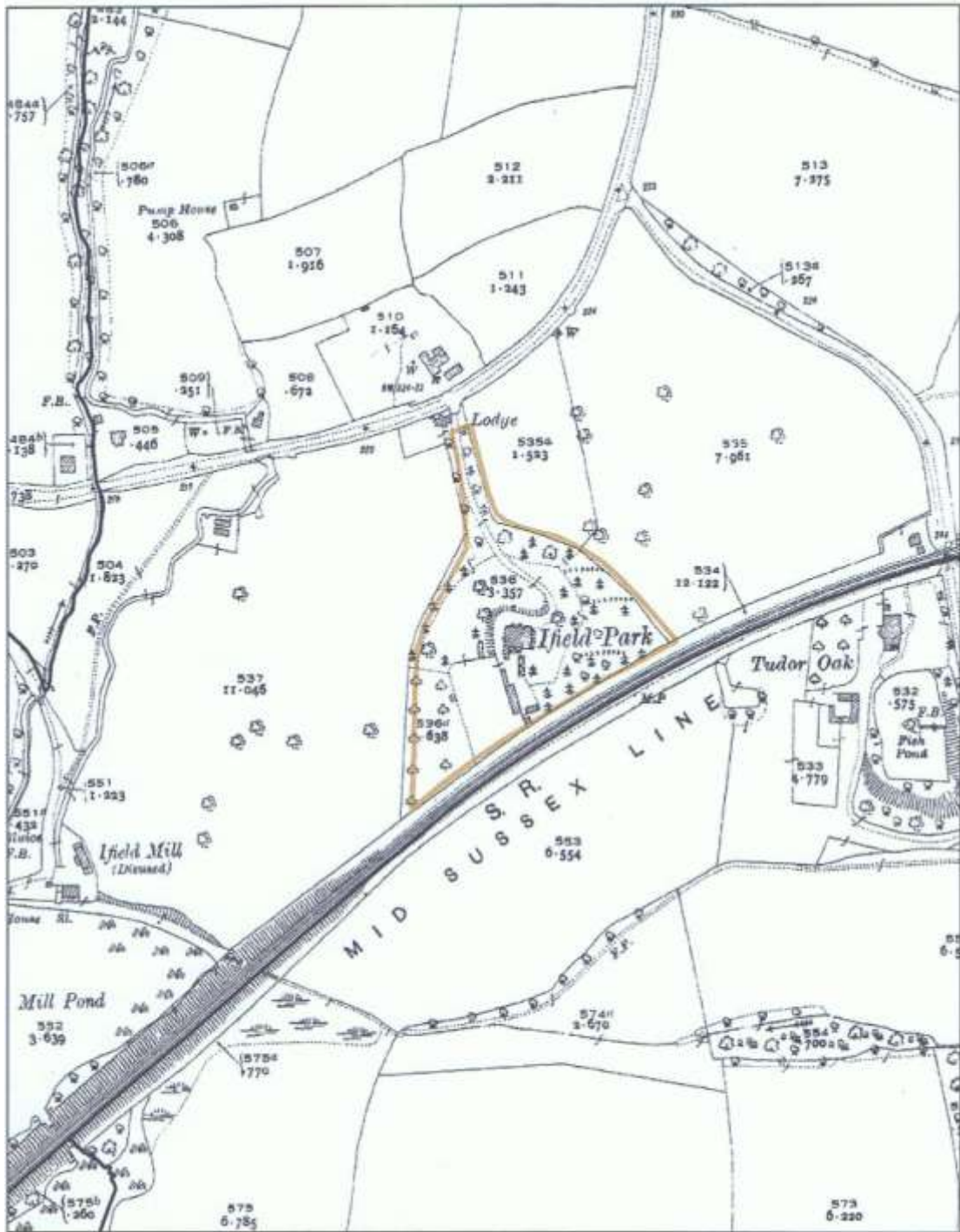


# IFIELD PARK

Sussex 2500 C1932

 Existing Historic Garden Boundary

1:3,000



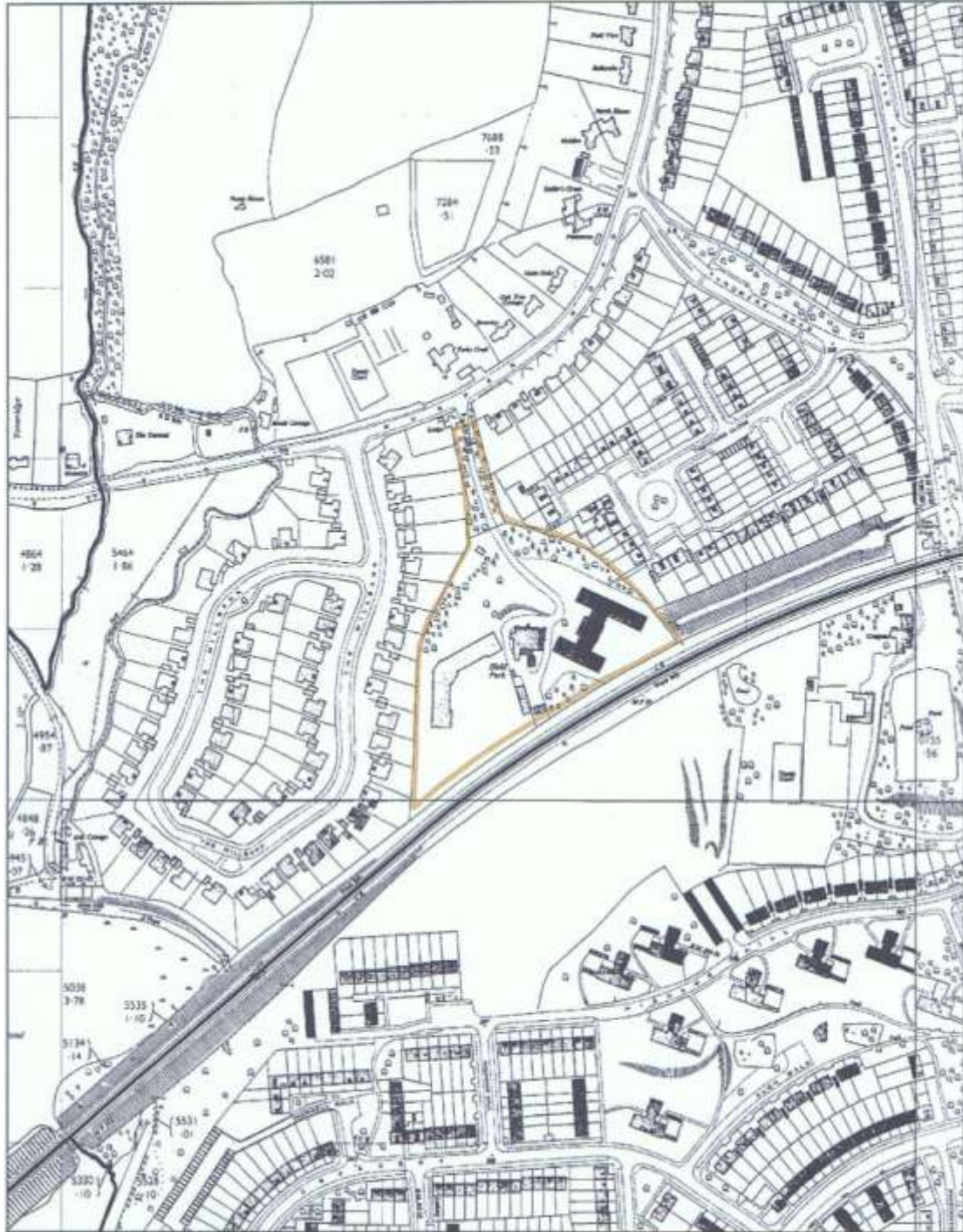


# IFIELD PARK

National Grid 2500 C1950

 Existing Historic Garden Boundary

1:3,000

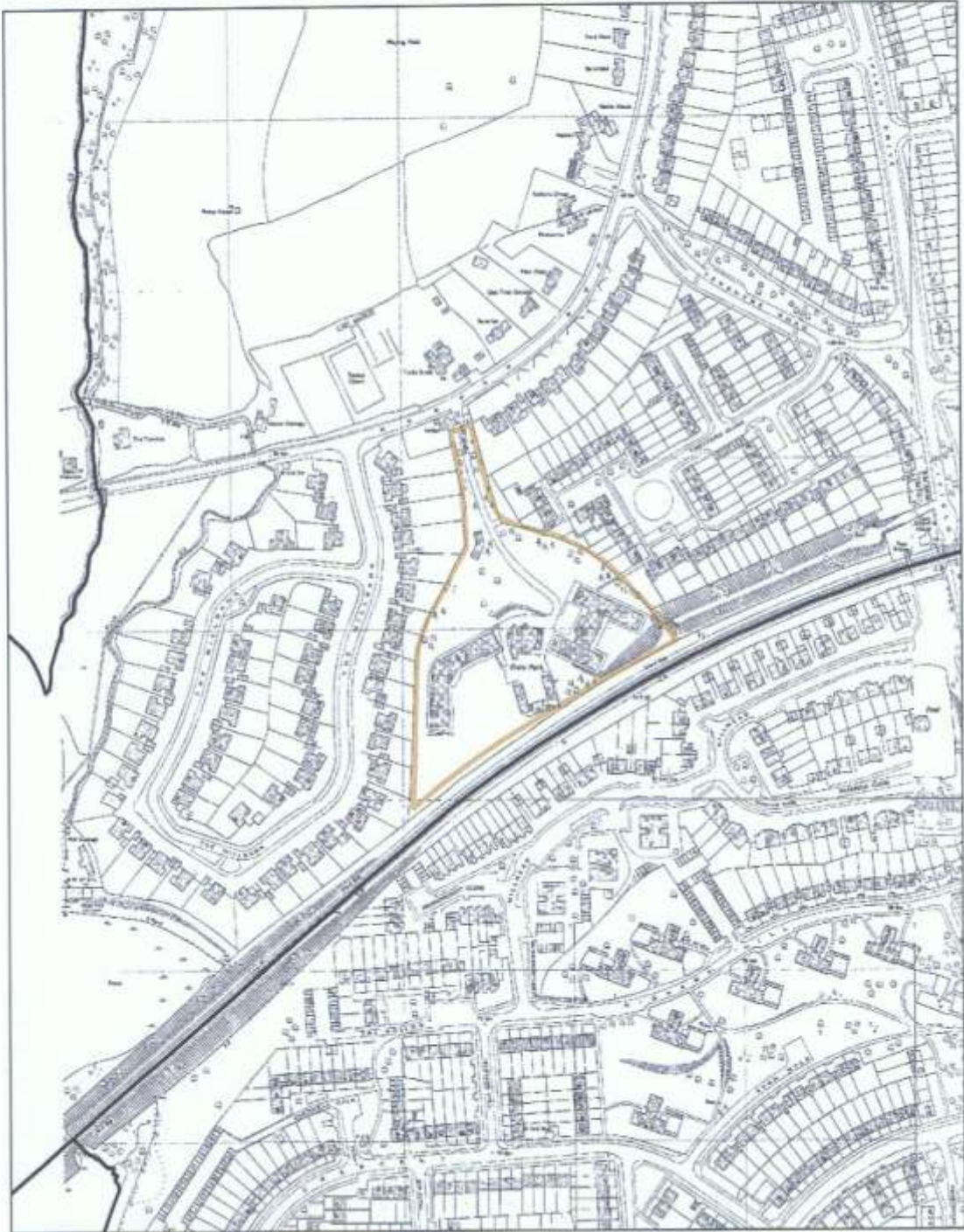


# IFIELD PARK

National Grid 1250 C1960

 Existing Historic Garden Boundary

1:3,000





# IFIELD PARK BOUNDARY MAP

National Grid 2011

 Existing Historic Garden Boundary

1:3,000



Illustrations

IFIELD PARK



Particulars.

The Desirable Freehold

Residential Property,

*situate about one and a half miles by road from the Town and Station of Crawley,*

In the Parish of IFIELD, near Crawley, Sussex,

*in a beautiful position on rising ground,*

Commanding Good Views over the surrounding Picturesque Country,  
*and comprising an area of about*

**24 $\frac{1}{2}$  ACRES.**

The Picturesque and Commodious Residence

KNOWN AS

**Ifield Park,**

Approached from the road by

**A Long Carriage Drive,**

King & Chasemore. 1913. Particulars: freehold property... known as Ifield Park. 4 pages.

**SUSSEX.**

# IFIELD, NEAR CRAWLEY,

About a quarter of a mile from IFIELD Halt, one and a half miles from CRAWLEY Railway Station and Town and three miles from THREE BRIDGES Junction, whence London can be reached in about fifty minutes and Brighton in about forty minutes.

---

Particulars, Plan and Conditions of Sale

OF THE DELIGHTFUL

## Freehold Residential Property,

KNOWN AS

### Ifield Park,

Situate in one of the most Picturesque and Wooded parts of Sussex,  
AND COMPRISING

## EXCELLENT FAMILY RESIDENCE,

CONTAINING :—

Fourteen Bed and Dressing Rooms, Bath Room, Three Reception Rooms and good Domestic Offices ;

Stabling for Three Horses, Coach-house and Coachman's Rooms,  
Beautifully Timbered Pleasure Grounds & Park-like Meadowlands

WITH

## ENTRANCE LODGE, FARMERY, &c.

The whole lying compactly together and embracing an area of nearly

# 25 ACRES.

WHICH

---

## Messrs. KING & CHASEMORE

---

Have received instructions from the Owner to Sell by Auction,

*At the Mart, Tokenhouse Yard, London, E.C.,*

**ON MONDAY, THE 30TH DAY OF JUNE, 1913,**

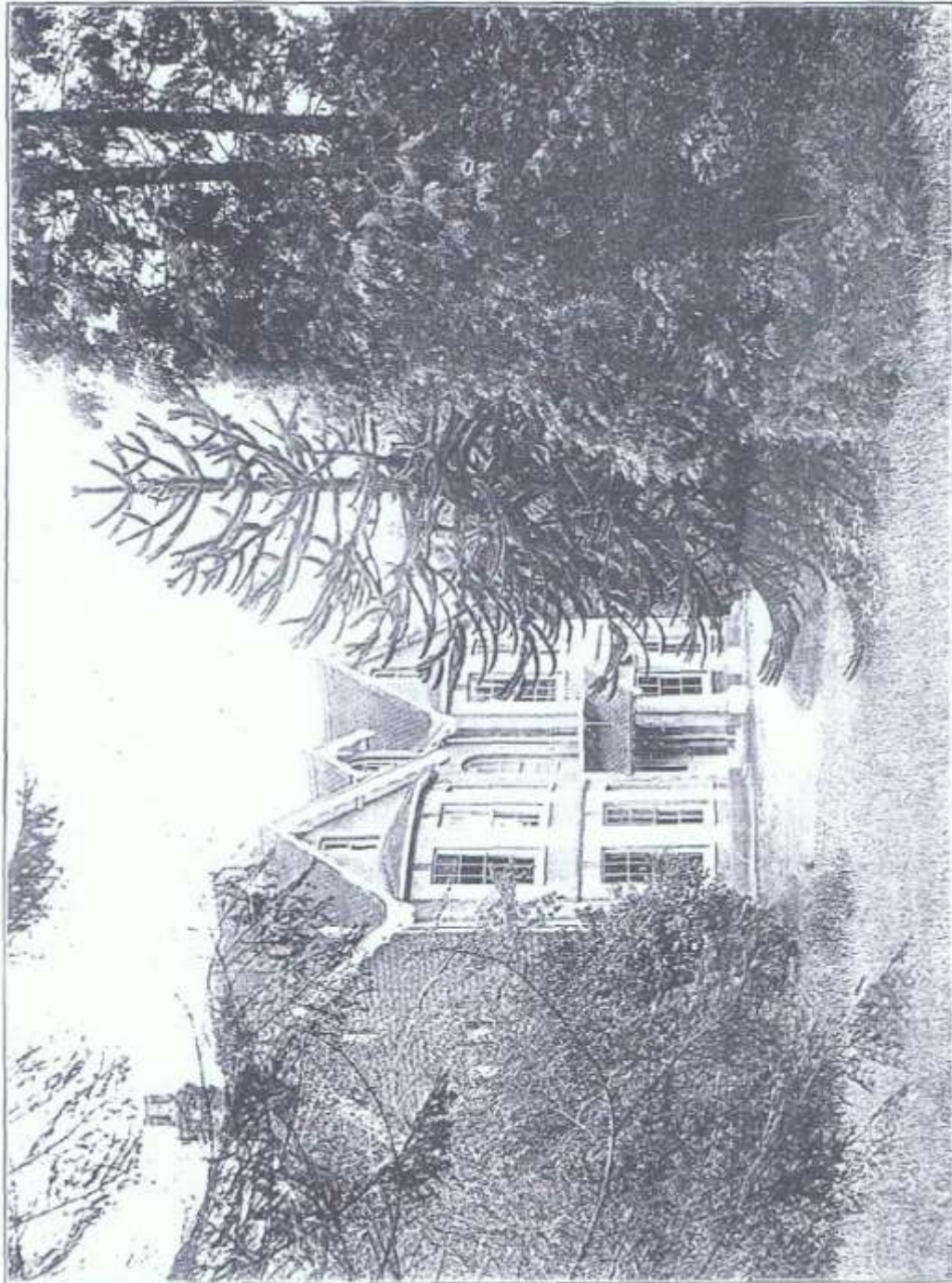
*At TWO o'clock in the Afternoon.*

Particulars, Plan and Conditions of Sale may be obtained of MESSRS. MEDWIN & CO., Solicitors, Horsham ; of ARTHUR S. TIPPETTS, Esq., Solicitor, 3, Quality Court, Chancery Lane, London, W.C. ; and of Messrs. KING & CHASEMORE, Land and Timber Surveyors, Horsham, Sussex.

W. TUDEN, PRINTER, LONDON RD., HORSHAM.



## Photographs



Ifield Park.

Photograph of the house from the 1913 sale particulars.

Two photographs, taken from the nursing homes' website, show the house and the remaining lawn today.



## **LAND TO THE SOUTH OF ST NICHOLAS CHURCH**

### **WORTH CONSERVATION AREA**

Crawley  
West Sussex

Grid Reference: TQ 301 361  
Full Grid Reference 530195

### **SUMMARY OF THE HISTORIC INTEREST**

The conservation area was designated in 1987 “to preserve and enhance the character of the area surrounding the Parish Church of St Nicholas, Worth, one of the finest Saxon buildings in England”. Experts have dated Worth Church between the years 950 and 1050 AD. The church is of national importance and listed grade I. In addition, three grade II listed structures lie within the area, the church’s lych gate which leads from Church Road into the churchyard towards the church, Street House and Toll House. There is also a moat, which is located in the south-west of the area.

Modern cartographic evidence, starting with the Ordnance Surveyor’s drawing of 1808 shows that large parts of the rural landscape within the conservation area has seen no significant changes over the last two-hundred years.

Since 1979, the path which runs north of the church and then leads towards the bridge over the M23 motorway has been incorporated into Worth Way, a recreational route which leads from Three Bridges Railway Station to East Grinstead. This route leads through the High Weald Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and follows in parts, but not within the Worth Conservation Area, along the now disused railway line from Three Bridges to East Grinstead.

With the exception of the public areas of Worth Way and a small strip of land to the east of the conservation area, parallel to Street Hill, the land is owned privately.

### **CHRONOLOGY OF THE HISTORIC DEVELOPMENT**

Early references place Worth in the Rape of Lewes and Buttinghill Hundred. Parish, district and county boundaries have changed many times. In the 11<sup>th</sup> century, Worth manor was located in the Cherfelle (Reigate) Hundred, in the county of Surrey.

The Victoria County History states that Worth Forest was closely connected with the manor and that the manor house probably served as a hunting lodge. Letters were dated there by John de Warenne in 1318 and 1329, and by Richard II in 1439.

The Norden/Speed map of 1610 shows Worth village and its church in the north of the enclosed Worth Park, so does the Morden map of 1695.

## WORTH CHURCH

There are many features which bear witness to the early origin of the church: To name but a few:

- The powerful Saxon chancel arch and the arches to the two transepts
- The original cruciform ground-plan has never been altered
- The transepts which are considerably lower than the nave and which finish not quite at the eastern end of the nave
- The three two-light windows (two on the northern side and one at the southern) high in the walls of the nave.

Most early churches in Sussex are on the Downs or on the coastal strip, areas which were much more populated than the forest of Worth. Here the manor was reserved for hunting. Some sources say that the church might have been built earlier than between 950 and 1050. It is not likely that the large, isolated church in the forest of Worth was erected for just the local population. The builders were probably not local. The craftsmanship is of a very high standard and it is suggested that royal craftsmen had been employed. It was probably Edward the Confessor who founded Worth Church, perhaps as an Abbey or Minster Church, or as an outpost of the Abbey of Chertsey.

Originally, the advowson of the church belonged to the manor of Worth. In 1065 it was held by the brother of the abbot of Chertsey. After the Norman Conquest it was granted by William the Conqueror to his son-in-law, William de Warenne (1088 or 1089). The stained glass in the north window of the north transept shows the arms of the Warenne family. The glass is dated 14<sup>th</sup> century (Sussex Parish Churches 2011). Manor and church passed in the middle of the 14<sup>th</sup> century to the Fitzalan family when the daughter of last male member of the Warennes married the Earl of Arundel. In 1415 the manor passed to the Nevills, Earls of Abergavenny, and from there in 1476 to Lord Abergavenny.

In 1698 John, son of John Smith of Crabbet, sold the manor but kept the patronage of the church. The Bethunes of Rowfant held the advowson from 1786 to 1858; the south transept is still known today as the Rowfant Chapel. Later names of patrons are Banks, Goddard, Rev. Arthur Bridge (rector 1896-1917) and Waller Bridge. The Victoria County History lists Mrs. Waller Bridge as the patron in 1940. She sold the patronage later to the Chichester Diocesan Patronage Board.

The balustraded gallery at the west end of the nave was a gift of Anthony Lynton, parish rector, who died in 1610, as the inscription carved into the fascia of the sill reports.

Major restoration work to the church was carried out by Anthony Salvin from 1869 to 1871. The church tower and spire to the east of the north transept replaced a timber belfry which rested on the transept itself and had necessitated an internal bell-frame. The latter could so be removed to create more seats. Against angry protests, the chancel was completely

reconstructed; the large buttresses, however, which had to support the chancel were no longer needed. All the roofs were replaced, so was much internal and external stonework, but the nave walls were left intact. The entrance porch at the south side of the nave dates from 1886.

The church yard bears witness to the social life at Worth in the Victorian area. We find the graves of the Nix family (Tilgate) and the Scawen Blunts of Crabbet. Contemporary newspaper articles tell us of loving funerals of members of staff from Worth Park. The large number of servants working on these substantial country estates would have worshipped at Worth. In addition, the London to Brighton railway line with Three Bridges station just about one mile to the west made the area easily accessible and contributed so to an increase in the population.

In 1974, T F Ford and Partners removed most of the elaborate fittings installed by Salvin.

On September 8<sup>th</sup>, 1986 a major fire destroyed the nave roof completely. The contents of the nave had to be removed, the organ dismantled, the nave floor, the memorials, the Saxon stonework and arches were eased up, the gallery and font boxed in. The company of Roth and Partners replaced the roof to a new design with laminated transverse beams of light wood and plastered rafters. The interior now appears much lighter. Restoration work was completed in 1988.

By 2007, Worth Church served a population in excess of 30,000 people. Together with the church of St Barnabas in Pound Hill (built 1955), it is a place of worship for the people of Worth, Pound Hill and the new neighbourhood of Maidenbower (Church Guide 2007).

## **SITE DESCRIPTION**

### **DESCRIPTION OF PRINCIPLE FEATURES AND BUILDINGS**

#### **The Parish Church of St. Nicolas Listed Grade I**

The listing details read: Cruciform building with tower to the north of the chancel and south porch. One of the finest Saxon churches in England with the largest Saxon chancel arch in the country (22 ft high and 14 ft wide) and an apsidal east end to the chancel. The tower with a broached shingled spire was added by Anthony Salvin in 1871. The south porch is also C19. Pulpit dated 1577.

The pulpit shows figures in arches and was acquired by the rector in 1841. It bears an inscription from John 14.23 in low German.

Font: The cylindrical base with attached angle-shafts has been identified as originating from a font different to the square bowl with carved arcading and crosses which was probably added in the 13<sup>th</sup> century. The base is possibly pre-conquest (Sussex Parish Churches 2011).



There are many fine windows with stained glass, dating mainly from the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century.

### **The Lych gate to the Churchyard of the Parish Church of St Nicholas: Listed Grade II**

The gate dates from the 16<sup>th</sup> century and was restored in 2006 (Guide to St Nicholas, Worth, 2007). The timber structure consists of 8 square wooden uprights with one large and one small arch on each of the north and south sides and two small arches on each of the east and west sides. The roof is Horsham slab.

### **Street House Listed Grade II**

The building is 17<sup>th</sup> century or of earlier origin. It has been much altered inside. The timber-framed walls had a red brick infilling, but most of the ground floor was refaced with brick and the first floor is wholly covered with weather-boarding. The roof is covered with Horsham slabs. According to the Victoria County history, "one door in the west front is ancient and the room inside has exposed chamfered ceiling-joints. The building is said to have been an inn and this was the tap room". There are casement windows, a modern gabled porch and bay windows on each side of it on the ground floor.

### **Toll House Listed Grade II**

The listing entry states that this one storey building is early 19<sup>th</sup> century and T-shaped.

It has two windows, a slate roof and casement windows. It is stuccoed. The gable end to the south wing contains an animal's head. The east and west wings have splayed ends. This property is now (2013) completely shielded by a high conifer hedge.

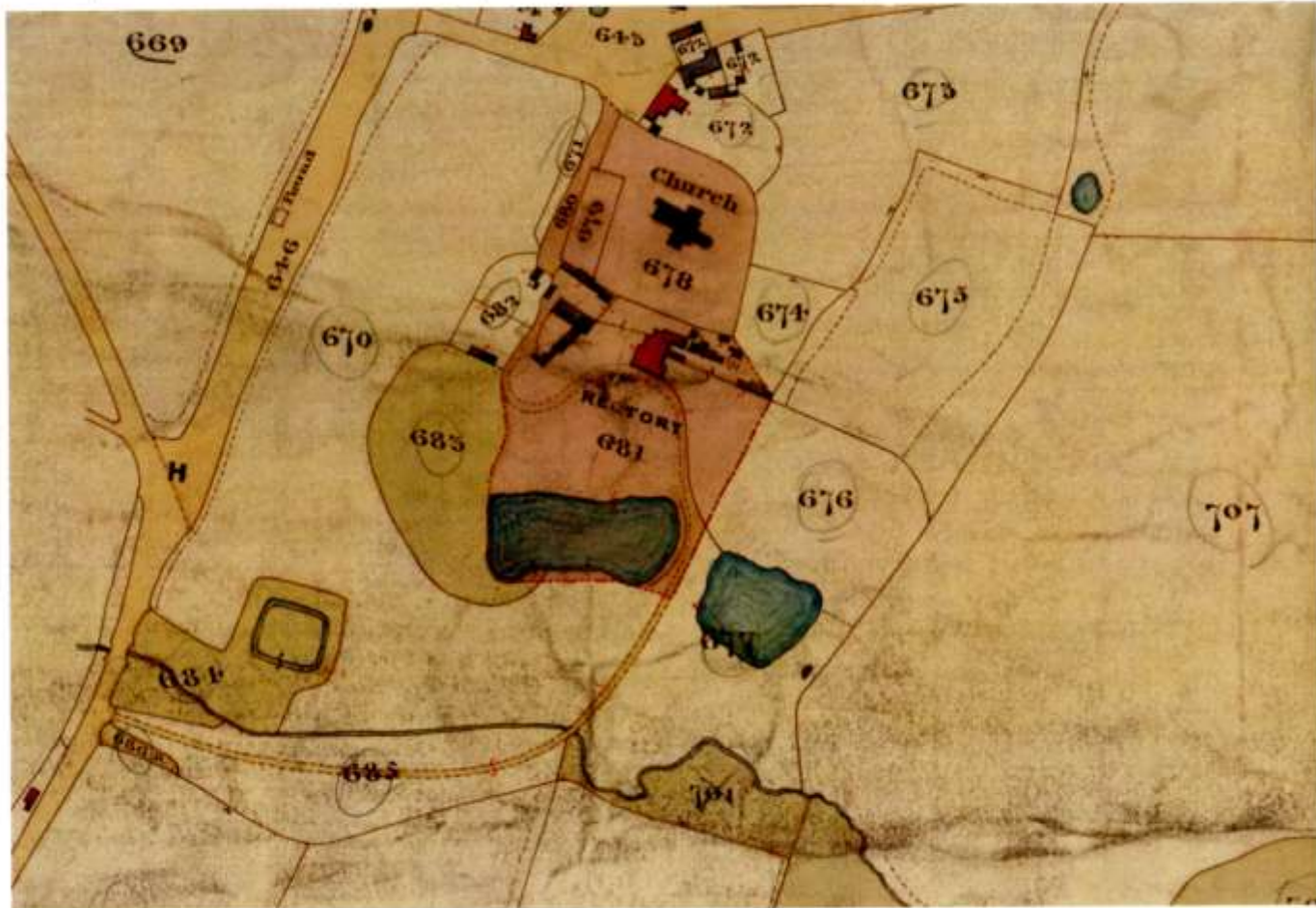
### **LAND ADJACENT TO THE CHURCH**

The first accurate depiction of the immediate neighbourhood of Worth Church is given with the Ordnance Surveyor's drawing of 1808. Worth Way is clearly marked as a road north of the church. A rectangular garden or park lies south of the church. Its southern field border is formed by a stream which flows from the east into Gatwick Stream further west. A semicircular path leads through the parkland from the southwest of the churchyard and then back to the southeast of the churchyard.

The Tithe map for Worth Middle of 1839/1840 (shown below) breaks the area down into separate plots, which are described in the apportionments in detail:

Church Road (east) leads directly east to Street House (672), to the south of it lie the church and church yard, with an Orchard south west of the church (679), west to that is a road (680) which leads from Church Road to the rectory, garden and stables (681). The Rev. George M Bethune is named as

the owner of the Rectory and Orchard. A fishpond lies at the southern border of this plot. A second fishpond, about half the size of the rectory pond, is situated to the east in plot 676. The Rectory is bordered to the west by land characterised as "Gill and Plantation, Wood". On the north-eastern side of plot 684 is a moat. The stream (see the Ordnance Surveyor's Drawing above) flows through the southern part of this area, which is in its entirety described as an orchard. South of the stream, a path runs through a meadow from the foot of Street Hill eastwards, then crosses the stream in northerly direction, leading past the eastern side of the rectory's fishpond towards the rectory and stables. The southern orchard and the meadow are owned by Sir Timothy Shelly and occupied by the Rev. George M Bethune. At the northern end of Street Hill lies Toll House on a long narrow plot which borders Church Road to the west. The property is described as Lodge and Garden. It is owned by the Rev. George Bethune and occupied by Mary Goring and others (plot 647).



*Extract from Tithe Map for Worth Middle, 1839/1840, West Sussex Record Office*

The OS map of 1875 gives a picture which is almost identical to that from the Tithe map, but this time shown with detailed vegetation. We can make out

“The 12 Apostles”, an avenue of limes which lead from the lych gate to the church. Also marked are the trees along the path to the east of Street Hill, many of which are shown in Appendix 3 of Crawley Borough Council’s Worth Conservation Area Statement of 2003. The plots numbered 674 and 675 on the Tithe map, east of the church, have changed: There are sheds or greenhouses along the northern end of plot 674 and a reversed L-shaped kitchen garden on plot 675 (in 1875: field 1086). The access area to Street House and the churchyard has now a small carriage circle and a triangular green space. The latter still exists (2013). A small lodge building has been erected south of the path at the southern border of the Conservation Area.

The landscape has hardly changed by 1900. The line of trees to the east of the churchyard was removed to create a larger churchyard. Toll House is enlarged in northerly direction and Street Cottage appears east of Toll House. The land inside the moat is shown as planted with deciduous trees.

By 1932, Fieldgate and Beaumont Cottage have been built, Street Cottage (north of Worth Way) has been enlarged.

The OS 4<sup>th</sup> edition map of 1944, sheet IV/13, shows the new rectory building south of the church. This was erected in the mid 1930s and stands to the west of where the previous rectory was located. Bushend appears for the first time on plot 1015 east of Street House.

On the OS Sussex map of 1950, the path south of the stream does not lead any longer northwards to the rectory, but towards new buildings lying east of the lodge. This southern lodge is now named “The Jungle”. Beaumont Cottage has been enlarged. Drives in carriage- turn style are shown for Fieldgate, Beaumont Cottage and Bushend. Vegetation is shown in the larger pond of the two ponds.

The 1970 Sussex map shows for the first time the M23 motorway as the new eastern border of today’s Conservation Area. Street Cottage has become the Rectory, the previous one has been named “The Old Rectory”. Bushend Cottage is now called Lodge Lane Cottage and Toll House has been enlarged eastwards.

In March 1987, “Worth Conservation Area was designated by Crawley Borough Council.

Maidenbower Office Park lies to the south of the stream at the bottom of Street Hill in 2011 (NG Map 1:3000). It replaced the southern lodge and the path at the southern border plus land further to the south of the Conservation Area. Oaksworth, a new property, is shown lying to the east of Bushend. The latter property is now known as Bridleworth.

### **Fishponds**

The two fishponds were already depicted on the first detailed map of the area, the Tithe map of 1839/40. As they are situated on private land, this report can only refer to the report by Marion Finch of May 1992 (West Sussex Sites of

Nature Conservation Importance) to describe today's condition. It is stated that both ponds were overgrown. The larger pond was "virtually willow carr, with shallow water and marshy margins". The smaller pond had open water with abundant dead wood, but little vegetation. Both ponds are surrounded by trees: the larger pond mainly by ash, sycamore and birch. Dense hazel, laurel and rhododendron were shaded by oak, yew and pine. The vegetation north of the small pond was predominantly pine, horse chestnut over hawthorn, hazel and elder. The view from Street Hill eastwards lets us assume that now, 13 years later, the area of the larger pond is even more overgrown.

### **The Moat**

The latest OS map of 2011 shows the moat as seen on the Tithe map. Marion Finch's report does not mention this feature. Latest aerial photographs (Google Earth) show densely wooded land. The presence of a moat is interesting in connection with the large moated site in Pound Hill, scheduled under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979. No dating is given for that site. It is stated that the peak period for the building of moated sites was between 1250 and 1350, but that they were also erected throughout the medieval period. The majority of them served not as a defence, but as a site of prestige.

Moated sites often occur in clusters. Smaller sites near larger moats with residences were frequently places for gardens or orchards.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

The management recommendations given in 1992 by Marion Finch set out that the southern fields of the Conservation Area need heavier grazing and that alternating between grazing and cutting for hay would be helpful. Restoration of the pond seems now (2013) even more urgent. Ideally, rhododendron and laurel should be removed from woodland.

Ideally, the moated orchard should be restored.



## REFERENCES

### Books and articles

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[www.westsussex.gov.uk/leisure/explore\\_west\\_sussex/etc](http://www.westsussex.gov.uk/leisure/explore_west_sussex/etc), entry for "Worth Way"

# Boundary Map

National Grid 2011

 Existing Historic Garden Boundary

1:3,000




## Historic Mapping

Ordnance Surveyor's Drawing 1808, from The old Series Ordnance Survey Maps of England and Wales, A Reproduction of the 110 sheets of the Survey in Early State, Volume III

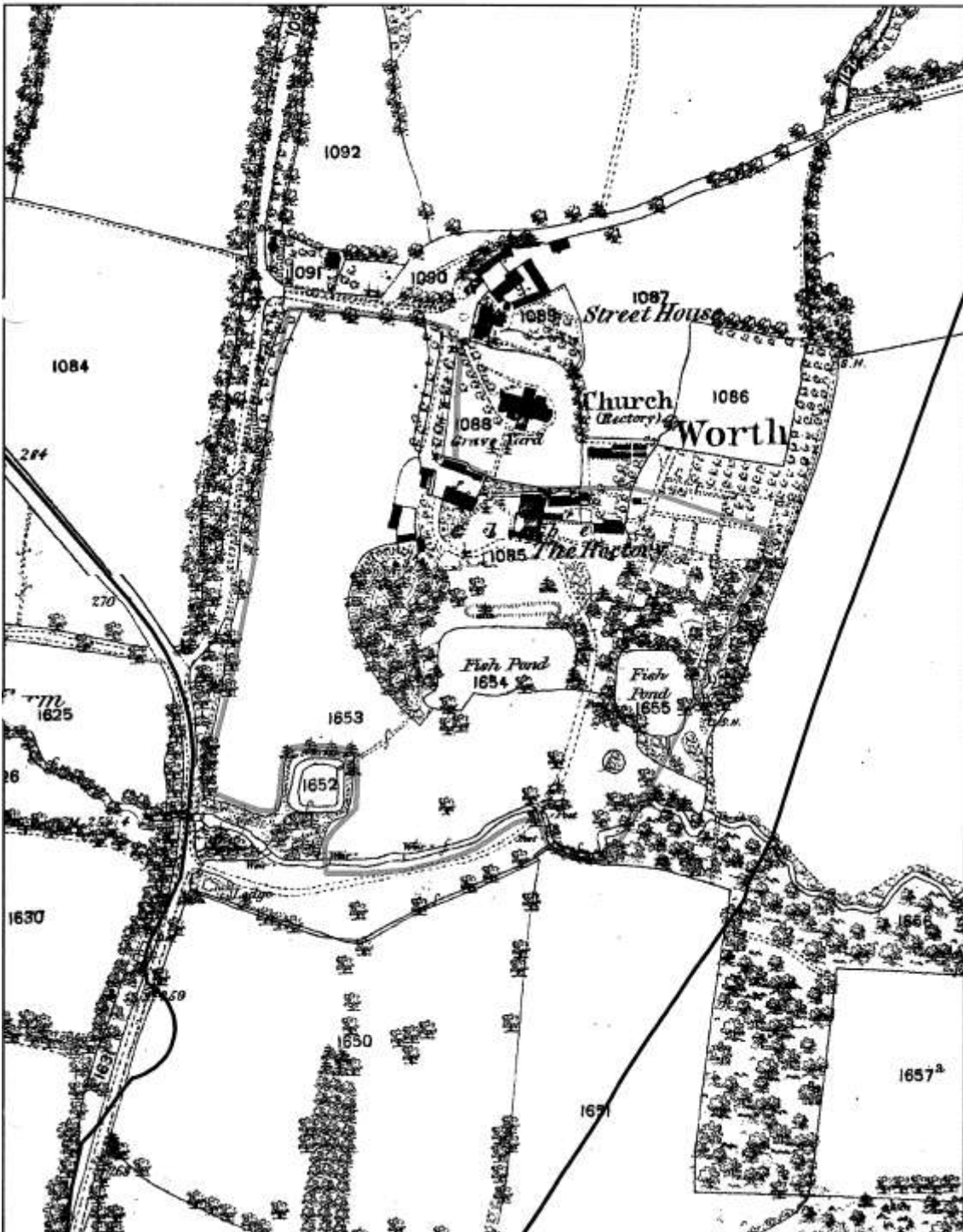


*Extracts from the Surveyor's Drawings 1808, Courtesy of Crawley Library*

# Sussex 2500 C1875

 Existing Historic Garden Boundary

1:3,000

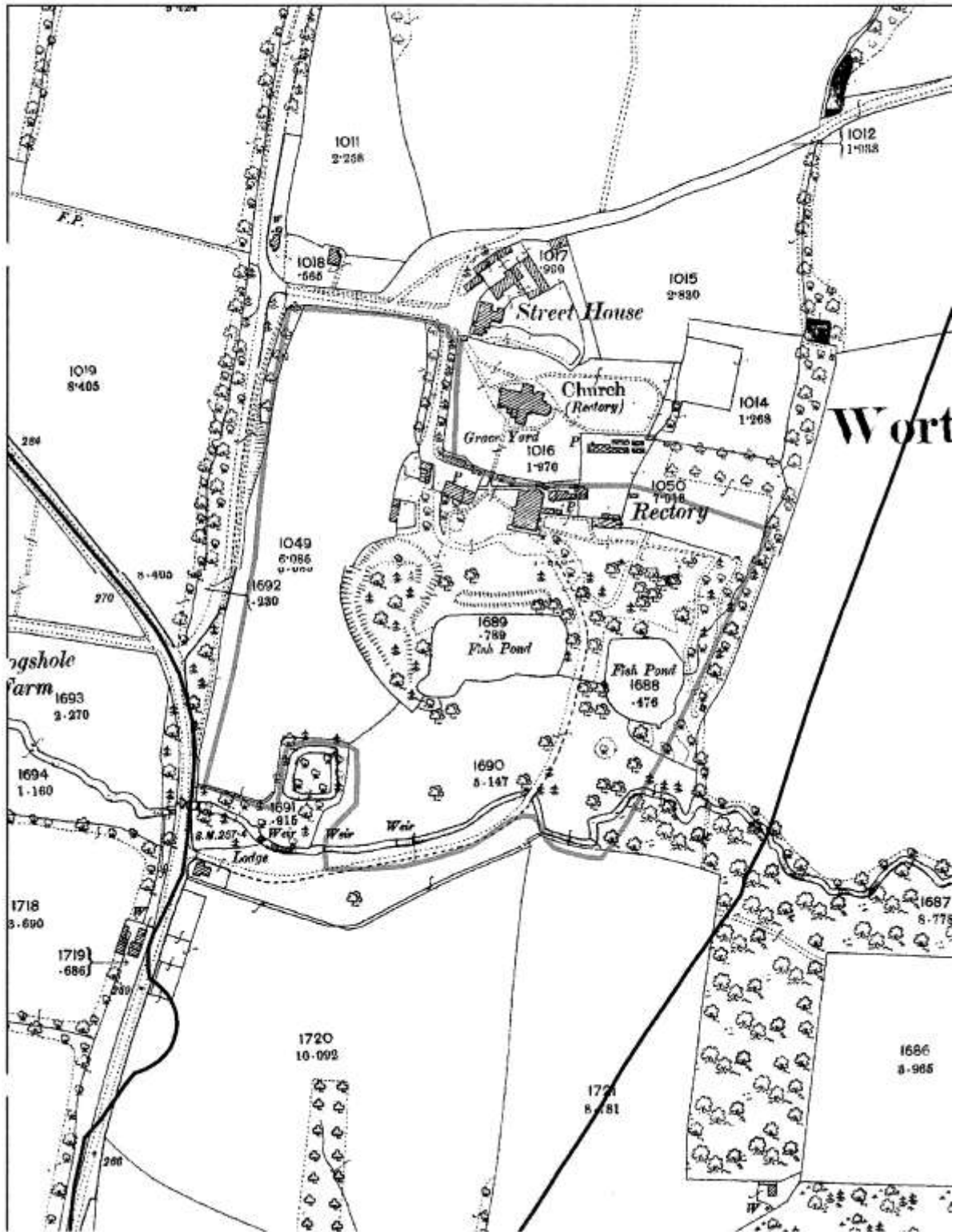




# Sussex 2500 C1900

 Existing Historic Garden Boundary

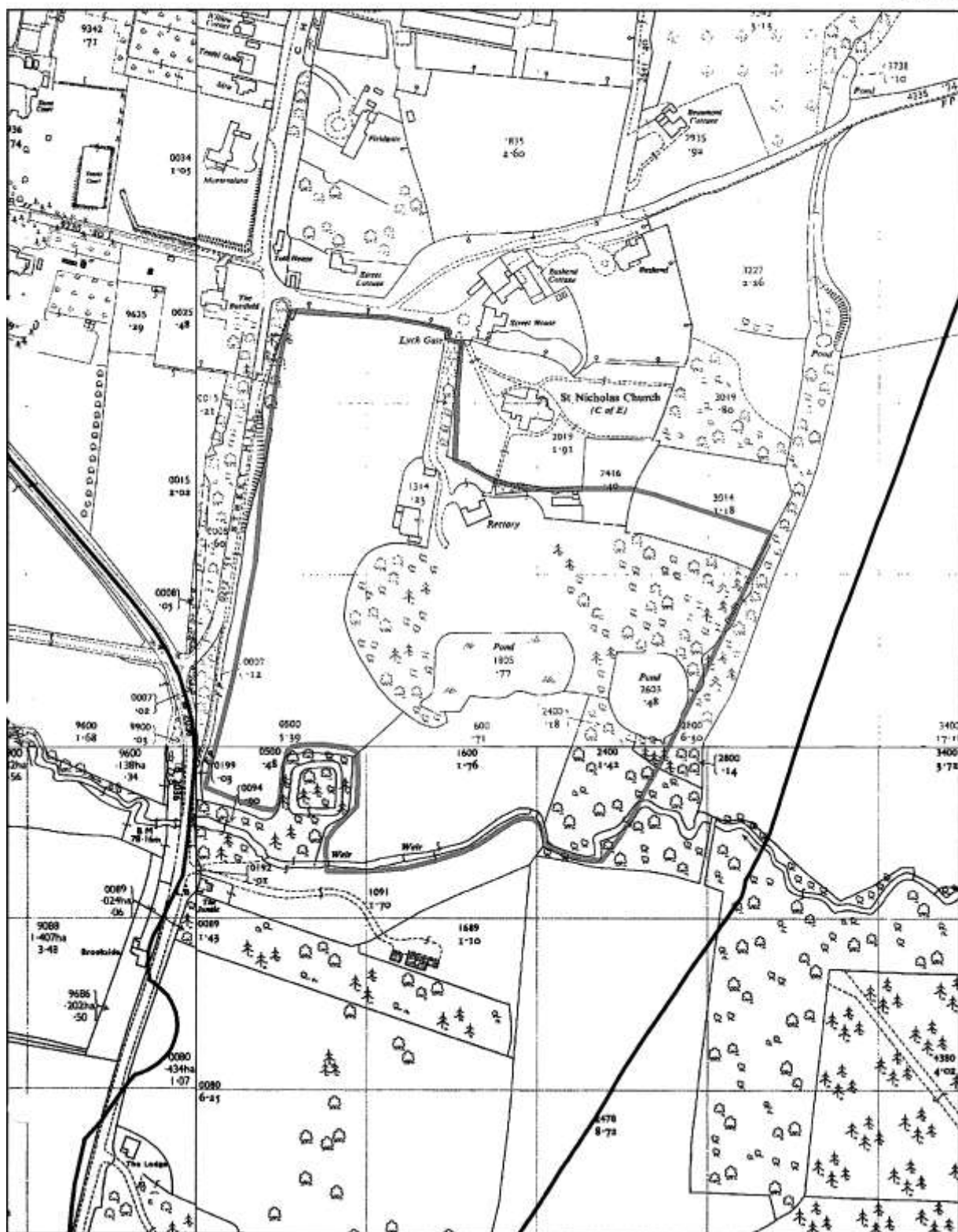
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# Worth NG 2500 C1950

Existing Historic Garden Boundary

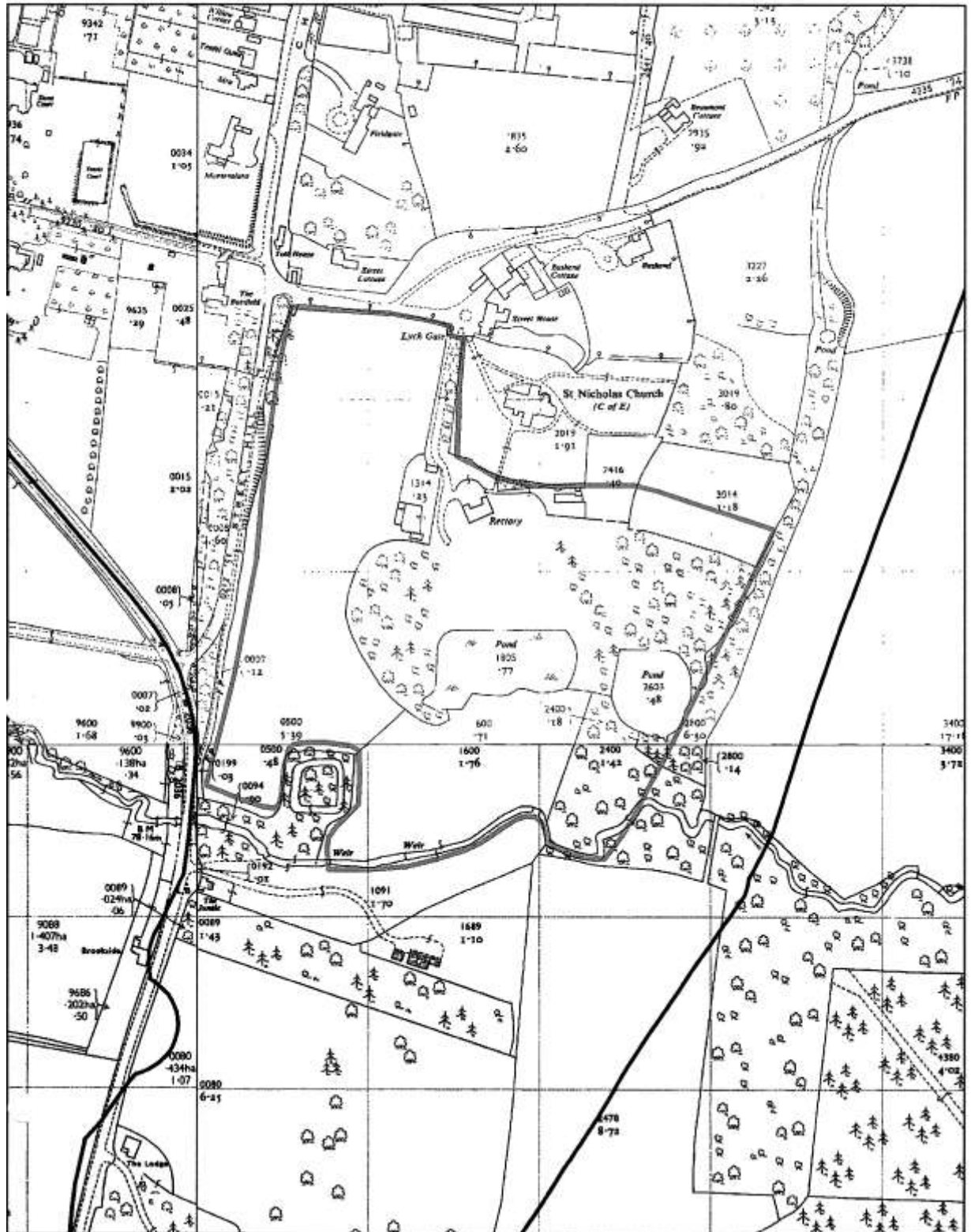
1:3,000



# Worth NG 2500 C1950

 Existing Historic Garden Boundary

1:3,000



## **MEMORIAL GARDENS**

Crawley  
West Sussex.

### **SUMMARY OF THE HISTORIC INTEREST**

The Memorial Gardens were originally land purchased in 1920 to take the form of a recreation ground. The intention was that this should be a place for children to enjoy as well as a memorial to those who had lost their lives in the First World War. During the 1920s a bandstand, a set of swings and a fountain were bought for the recreation ground, but apart from some copper beech trees the ground was kept open so that children could make use of the open space. Gradually changes were introduced to the use of the land. In 1920 West Sussex and Chichester Joint Education Committee were given permission to teach organised games and in the same year the West Crawley Prize Band was allowed to play on alternate Sundays. Flower beds and pathways were added at later dates, appearing on Ordnance Survey maps towards the end of the 1960s. Originally named the Recreation Ground it was decided in 1958 that a more appropriate name would be the Memorial Gardens and it is likely that after this date the planting increased. The original bandstand, swings and fountain no longer exist. Two cast iron gates and a cast iron pillar were erected in June 1921 and four bronze plaques were engraved with the names of those who had lost their lives in the war. According to local historian Nadine Hygate there were originally six plaques, two of which were stolen in the 1980s and the originals are now kept by Crawley Museum.

### **CHRONOLOGY OF THE HISTORIC DEVELOPMENT**

At the end of the First World War the local community raised money to purchase land in Crawley for a memorial recreation ground which would be both attractive and useful. The names local men who lost their lives during the war were inscribed on cast iron pillars. A bandstand was built, and trees from a local nursery, Cheal and Sons, planted. In 1945 the names of those who died in World War II were added to the memorial tablets. In the 1950s Crawley became one of the government's New Towns and development grew: increased housing and new roads surrounded the recreation ground, although it survived a proposal to appropriate the land under the New Town scheme. By the early 1960s the recreation ground had been re-named the Memorial Gardens, with new pathways and flower borders.

More recently a sensory garden and a number of mosaics have been added to the site. The flower beds have been replaced by planting which is drought tolerant and low maintenance.

The need to memorialize the First World War was immediate, with stone crosses and plinths, soldier-statues and granite monuments appearing in

every town and village.<sup>1</sup> Memorials could be dramatic and imposing, inspired by allegory and national pride, acknowledged privately and publicly, the ceremonial unveiling a part of the ritual of remembrance. But, for many communities, finding a way to remember the dead became a debate about an alternative to built monuments, an attempt to make sense of recent events through schemes that would serve the community, by usefulness, and practicality, rather than symbolic ideas invested in stone crosses and statues. The variety of these alternative monuments is surprising: village halls, endowed beds in hospitals, electric lighting installed in churches, avenues of trees, bus shelters.

Each small town in Britain set up a War Memorials Committee, to decide on what would be appropriate, and the records from these meetings reveals what was undesirable, as well as deemed fitting, in the years just after the war. At a public meeting in The Railway Hotel, Crawley, in February 1919, for instance, the suggestions rejected as not entirely suitable for the 'debt of gratitude owed',<sup>2</sup> included a club where ex-servicemen could meet, a grand public hall, and a granite column with space on the top for a statue of a local celebrity. A bandstand was considered worthy, provided it was not ornate, such as found on piers, but was more in the likeness of a garden temple. But the popular choice was for a recreation ground, which could incorporate the bandstand, and together with ornamental trees, and electric light, would be both attractive and useful (Figure 1).<sup>3</sup>

After some disagreement by the Memorial Committee an area on the Three Bridges Road, known as Crawley Meadow, was purchased, at a cost of £820. The four acre site was part of a larger piece of land, purchased only a few years earlier by Frederick Parsons, from the sale of Crabbet Park (Figure 2).<sup>4</sup> This estate, of over sixteen hundred acres, owned by the Blunt family in Crawley since the 1700s, had passed Baroness Wentworth, who sold off the farmland in various lots in 1916 (Figure 3).<sup>5</sup> At the time of the sale the land that was to become the recreation ground had changed little from the 1800s, surrounded by farmland and allotment gardens (Figure 4).<sup>6</sup>

The bandstand was built, and the West Crawley Prize Band were allowed alternate Sundays to perform.<sup>7</sup> Twenty 'standard' trees were ordered from the local nursery, Joseph Cheal & Sons, costing 12/6 per tree, and planted on the western side of the ground.<sup>8</sup> Six oak seats were provided, but the local children had to wait until 1923 before a pair of swings were erected; clearly

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<sup>1</sup> See 'War Memorials, Diversity of Aim and Design', '...practically every city, county, town, village, hamlet, possesses at least one memorial..', *The Times*, 23 September 1926, p.13.

<sup>2</sup> War Memorial Committee Minutes of Ifield and Crawley Joint Committee, February 1919-July 1922, (13 February 1919), West Sussex Records Office (WSRO), Par.60 Crawley 54/3.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>4</sup> Recreation Ground at Worth: Indenture dated 16 March 1920, Crawley Library (CL).

<sup>5</sup> Sale Particulars of Crabbet Park Estate, 1916, CL.

<sup>6</sup> Ordnance Survey map West Sussex, 1910, CL.

<sup>7</sup> Correspondence with Crawley Recreation Ground Committee, April to December, 1921, WSRO, Par. 60 Crawley 54/3.

<sup>8</sup> Recreation Ground Committee Record Book, January 1922-May 1934, WSRO, Par 60 Crawley 54/4, p. 11.



marked 'Boys' and 'Girls'. In 1926 a drinking fountain was erected, and when some of the original trees died, they were replaced by copper beech trees.<sup>9</sup> The Ordnance Survey (OS) map of 1937 shows the recreation ground, with houses starting to appear on what was once the open meadow land (Figure 5).

## **SITE DESCRIPTION**

### **THE PARK**

The creation of this site as a memorial evolved slowly. During the inter-war years the community responded to the need for remembrance by raising funds, publishing letters in the newspapers, distributing leaflets, and asking for volunteers to organise subscriptions from local residents. Although it would take ten years to provide children with play equipment, and visitors with public lavatories, it was clear that these were grounds dedicated to the memory of the First World War. The imposing wrought iron gates and the cast iron pillars, with inscription and names of the fallen, were made by a Wolverhampton company, Bayliss, Jones & Bayliss, on behalf of the local firm, Bartley & Ward (Figure 6). Amongst the list of names, was William Drughorn, a Private with the Royal Fusiliers, killed in the first month of the battle on the Somme, July 1916; his father, John Drughorn, paid for the gates and the inscribed memorial tablets (Figures 7 and 8).

Recording of names was the only way that the dead would be remembered. There were no commemorative plants, symbolising regeneration, nor allegorical statues, only a short inscription on the memorial tablets, and although the unveiling ceremony brought the community together to share individual memories, the recreation ground was seen as a service to the community that remained, rather than evoking memories of the past.

The residents of Crawley were not alone in their utilitarian choice. The National Inventory lists 114 recreation grounds that were chosen as memorials for the First World War. There was a growing need to provide for children, who needed 'play plots' and recreation grounds, as existing playing fields were often no more than open spaces, without play equipment, and the debate about memorials in the 1920s was welcomed by developers and planners as an opportunity to increase the amount of green space in their towns.<sup>10</sup>

The past must still have been a vivid memory when in 1945 the names of those who died in World War II were added to the memorial tablets in Crawley (Figure 9).

Whilst the recreation ground remained unchanged, apart from the addition of children's play equipment, the surrounding landscape began to develop: increased housing to the north, new roads to the south and west, and in 1954,

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<sup>9</sup> Ibid, pp. 17, 26.

<sup>10</sup> Henry Alexander, 'Town Planning in relation to Parks and Open Spaces', *The Journal of Park Administration, Horticulture and Recreation (PAHR)*, Vol.3, No.4, (September 1938), pp. 133-141, (p.137).

designation as one of the government's proposed New Towns, planned to ease the overcrowding of the metropolis. The recreation ground survived a proposal to appropriate the land under the New Town scheme, although two small sections in the north-west corner and along the eastern boundary were taken for the new road around Crawley.<sup>11</sup>

The memorial significance of the land prevailed, resisting requests for ice-cream kiosks, for example, but other changes reflected different attitudes to commemorating the past. Buried amongst the council minutes of January 1959, is a proposal that such areas as recreation grounds should have 'more suitable names' and the ground became the Memorial Gardens.<sup>12</sup> Flower beds and a variety of shrubs and pathways appeared (Figures 10 and 11). By the late 1960s the garden appears as a surviving fragment of green space between new roads, car parks and housing (Figure 12).

Different memories are now celebrated. A mosaic seat, designed by a local artist, represents the theme of transport and marks the town's associations with Gatwick Airport, the George Coaching Inn and the London to Brighton Veteran Car run, whilst the 'Doves of Peace' mosaic is a modern interpretation of the original meaning of the memorial gardens.

New ideas have changed the planting and design. Roses in the circular bed in the centre of the gardens have been replaced with plants that will be drought resistant, as well as low maintenance. Paths and a sensory area have been added to the gardens (Figure 13).

A recent OS map shows the garden surrounded by all the urban clutter of the late twentieth century: networks of roads and roundabouts, town squares, car parks and shopping centres (Figure 14). A myriad of pathways criss-cross the garden, a reflection of the continual movement of those who pass from the town, enter the separate memory space and then leave. The memories in this garden are not expressed through special plants, or sculpture, but built up in layers, a scrapbook of open farmland, enclosed parkland, and a small patch of green enduring as a focus for remembrance.

#### LOCATION, AREA, BOUNDARIES, SETTINGS

The Memorial Gardens lie within an urban landscape of commercial buildings and roadways within the centre of Crawley town. The Gardens are bounded by Queensway on the north side and on the east side by College Road (A2004). Haslett Avenue and a multi storey car park form the southern boundary. The County Mall shopping centre lies on the north west boundary.

#### ENTRANCES AND APPROACHES

The main entrance is on the north west boundary. A network of paved paths crosses the Gardens, radiating from a central circle to each boundary. Grassed areas and flower beds separate the pathways. Mature trees within

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<sup>11</sup> 'Must Have New Memorial', *Crawley & District Observer*, (22 July 1949), p.1.

<sup>12</sup> Crawley Parks & Open Spaces Committee Minutes, 1 January 1959, p.159, CL. The alteration may have suggested a more formal attitude to remembrance, but for the older generation of Crawley the ground continues to be known as 'the rec'.

the Gardens and lining the outer boundaries help to hide views of the town buildings and car parks, thus creating a private enclosure.

## **References**

Sale Particulars of Crabbet Park Estate, 1916, Crawley Library Archive.

'Ifield and Crawley War Memorial', *Sussex and Surrey Courier*, 20 January 1921, p.8.

Recreation Ground Committee Record Book, January 1922-May 1934, WSRO, Par 60 Crawley 54/4, p. 11.

## **Histories/Literary Description**

War Memorial Committee Minutes of Ifield and Crawley Joint Committee, February 1919-July 1922, (13 February 1919), West Sussex Records Office (WSRO), Par.60 Crawley 54/3.

## **Views/Illustrations**

Memorial Gardens, c1970. *Crawley Borough Council Official Guide*, c1970, (Home Publishing, Crawley), p.78.

Memorial Gardens, *Crawley Borough Council Official Guide*, 1987, (Home Publishing, Crawley), p.51.

## Illustrations

*By Order of the Honorable Mrs. BLUNT LYTTON.*

**ON THE NORTHERN BORDER OF SUSSEX.**  
70 minutes from London in a favourite Residential District. In the Parishes of  
**WORTH, IFIELD & CHARLEWOOD.**

---

Particulars and Conditions of Sale  
OF  
**OUTLYING PORTIONS**  
OF THE  
**Crabbet Park Estate**  
COMPREHENDING

**HAZELWICK, WOOLBOROUGH, PRIORS, SCALLOWS, BLACKWATER,  
LITTLE BLACKWATER, FROGSHOLE, WAKENHAM'S GREEN, LAYHOUSE, COPTHORNE,  
TINSLOWS FARMS,**  
With Farmhouses, Homesteads and Cottages.

A Charming Residential Property, "HAYHEATH,"  
A small SPORTING ESTATE known as HEATHY GROUND,  
VILLA RESIDENCE,

**The Old Curiosity Shop, Crawley,**  
30 COTTAGES, SMITHY, BUILDER'S PREMISES,  
Various Pieces of BUILDING AND ACCOMMODATION LAND,  
SMALL HOLDINGS,  
400 ACRES of heavily TIMBERED WOODLAND,  
THE WHOLE COVERING AN AREA OF ABOUT

**1635 ACRES.**

To be sold by Auction by

---

**MESSRS. COBB**

---

At the **GEORGE HOTEL, CRAWLEY,**  
On **WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20th, 1916,** at 3 p.m. precisely,  
in 50 convenient Lots.

Particulars and Conditions of Sale, with Plans and Views, can be obtained at the place of Sale; of  
Messrs. BARNES, TAYLOR & TAYLOR, 1, New Square, Lincoln's Inn, W.C.; and of Messrs.  
H. & R. L. COBB, Auctioneers and Surveyors, 41 & 43, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, W.C., and Higham, near  
Rochester.

---

The Printing Company, Limited, 11, High Street, Rochester.

Figure 1.

Sale details of Crabbet Park Estate, 1916; courtesy: Crawley Library

LOT 4.  
(Coloured Yellow in Plan)

**TWO PIECES OF EXCELLENT & WELL  
TIMBERED PASTURE LAND**

Available for Building or Accommodation Purposes

With long frontage to the Three Bridges Road, situate close to Lot 3 and covering together

**12a. 3r. 15p.**

Lot is Mr. Whittier with Lots 3, 4, 5, 13, 14 and 4 acres not included in the Sale, as mentioned in the Particulars of Lot 3.

The appraised rent of this Lot for sale purposes being

**£24 PER ANNUM.**

Power is reserved in the Lease to remove Possession after three months' notice if required for building purposes.

Figure 3.  
Sales details of land part of which would become  
the memorial recreation ground, 1916; courtesy: Crawley Library



IN REPLY ADDRESS  
FENCING DEPARTMENT.

# QUOTATION.

TELEGRAMS "BAYLISS, WOLVERHAMPTON"  
Replies by Telegram must be prepaid  
TELEPHONE, No. 1041.

BAYLISS, JONES & BAYLISS,  
LIMITED.

LONDON OFFICES & SHOW ROOMS,  
139 & 141, CANNON ST. E.C.

WMB/KG.

VICTORIA WORKS,

WOLVERHAMPTON,

14th June, 1921.

Messrs. Bartley & Ward, Ltd.,  
Builders & Contractors,  
High Street,  
CRAWLEY.



Sirs  
We thank you for your esteemed enquiry of  
the 11th inst. and have pleasure in submitting the following  
quotation which includes free delivery to **Crawley Station**.  
Terms **Nett** ~~cash~~ ~~for~~ **Cash on 10<sup>th</sup> of Month following**  
date of Invoice.

We await your commands which shall have our best attention.

Yours faithfully,

FOR BAYLISS, JONES & BAYLISS, LIMITED. *H.B.*

2 Wrought Iron Foot-path Gates as our No. H1636, 4'0" high  
x 3'0" wide,  $\frac{3}{8}$ " dia. bars, made self-closing one way, with  
bows to match, and one Cast Iron Pillar No. 9L with base  
to fix in ground to each, painted,

@ £10. 0. 0. each.  
-----

References required with first transaction.

Figure 6.

The estimate sent to Bartley & Ward, for the memorial gates and the pillars,  
1921. Crawley Recreation Ground Committee Record Book  
(correspondence), January 1922-May 1934; courtesy: WSRO, Ref.54/4.

## Historic Mapping

Ordnance Survey Maps – attached for 1910, 1937, 1968, 2009, showing changes to the site.

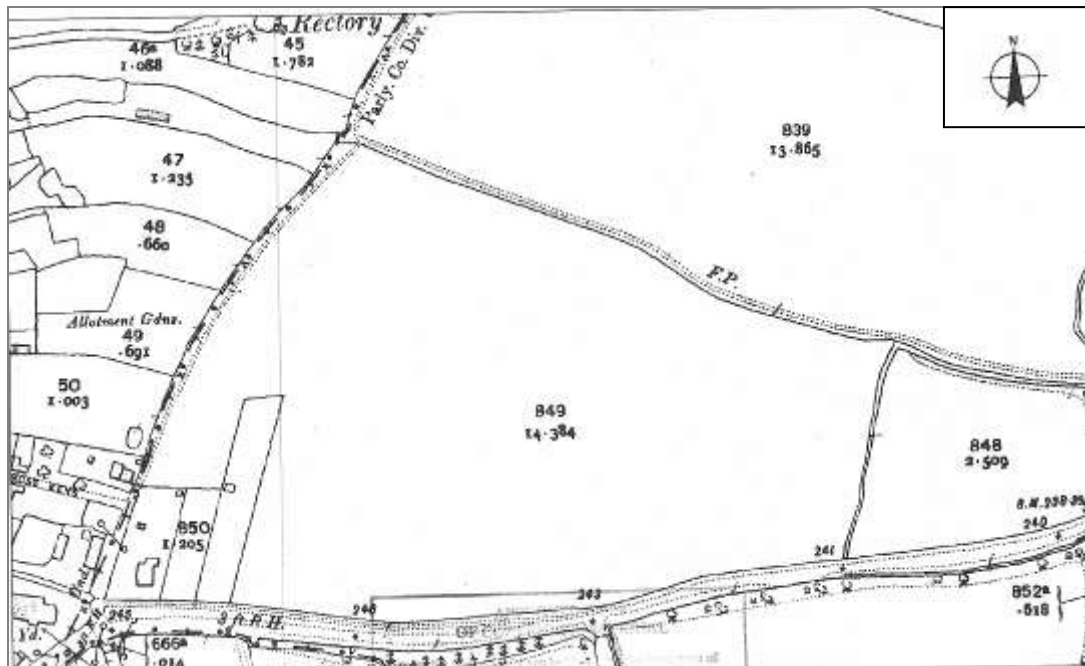


Figure 4.

Detail from Ordnance Survey (OS) map of 1910, showing the field of just over 14 acres, to be sold in smaller sections in 1916. 1:2,008, HMSO; courtesy: West Sussex County Council, Crawley Library

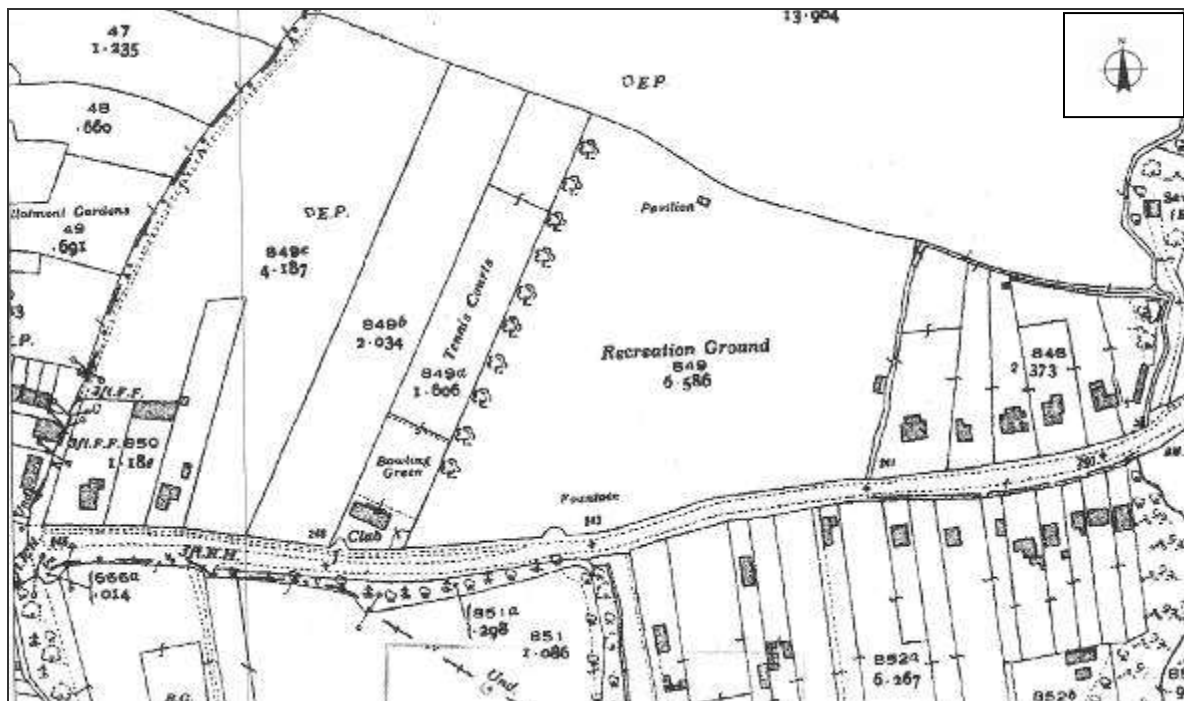


Figure 5.

Detail from OS map of 1937, showing the section of the original field which became the recreation ground. 1:2,008, HMSO; courtesy: West Sussex County Council, Crawley Library

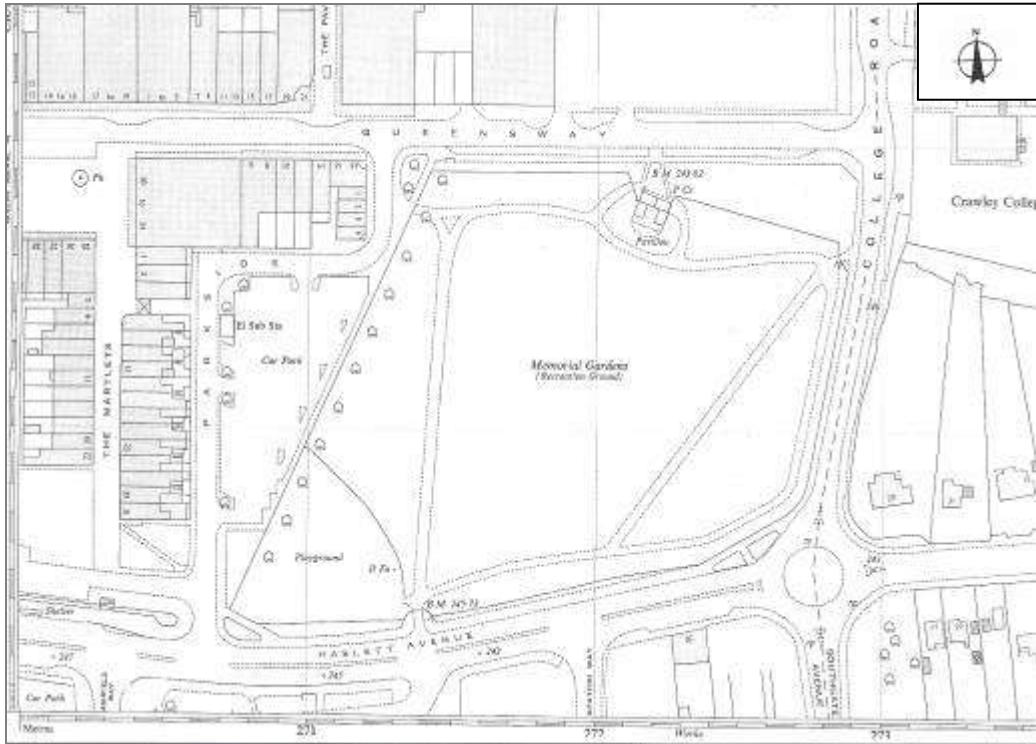


Figure 12.

Detail from OS map, 1968, showing the re-naming of the recreation ground and the increasing number of roadways, car parks and additional building surrounding the site.

HMSO 1:1250, Plan TQ 2736, NW. Courtesy: West Sussex County Council, Crawley Library



Figure 14

The memorial garden 1993, a small oasis of green in urban development.  
HMSO 1:1250, Plan TQ 2736, NW. Courtesy: West Sussex County Council,  
Crawley Library



Figure 10  
 Memorial Gardens, c1970. Crawley Borough Council Official Guide  
 C 1970 (Home Publishing, Crawley) p. 78



Figure 7  
 The memorial tablets, identifying the commemoration of the site. Photo: author, 2009

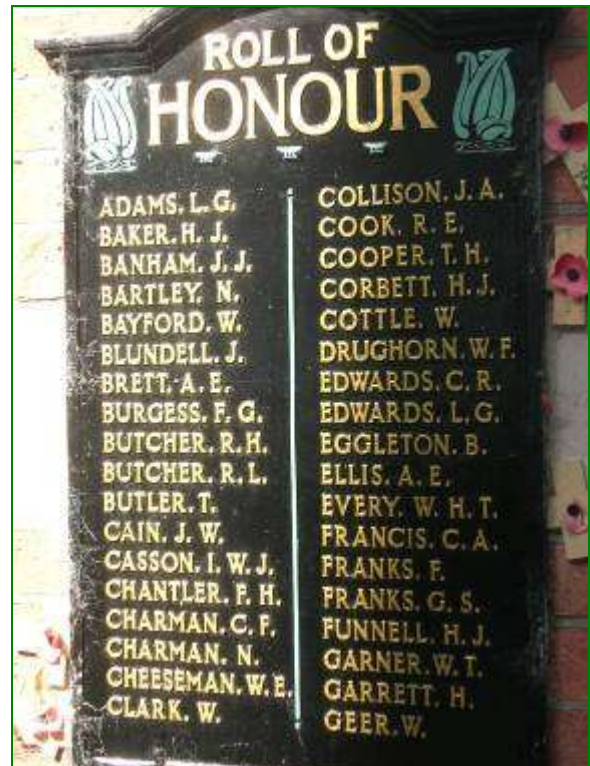


Figure 8.  
 John Drughorn's son, William, was amongst those who died during the First World War. Photo: author, 2009





Figure 9.  
Memorial plaques inscribed with  
the names of the fallen from World  
War II. Photo: author 2009



Figure 11.  
Memorial Gardens, *Crawley  
Borough Council Official  
Guide*, 1987, (Home Publishing,  
Crawley), p.51.



Figure 13

A view through the sensory garden, encircled by pleached lime trees. Photo: author, 2009

## **TILGATE PARK**

### **CRAWLEY**

Grid ref TQ 27635 34458

### **SUMMARY OF THE HISTORIC INTEREST**

Now a public park, this ornamental garden was laid out around a 19<sup>th</sup> century house (now demolished) with an extensive walled kitchen garden. The pleasure grounds feature two lakes linked by a cascade and a series of paths through lawns with significant specimen trees.

### **CHRONOLOGY OF THE HISTORIC DEVELOPMENT**

The area has a prehistoric past, recorded by the geologist Gideon Mantell who in 1825 discovered fossil evidence of a creature which he named 'Iguanodon'. In 1827 Mantell published *Illustrations of the Geology of Sussex*, which was devoted to the vertebrate fossils of Tilgate Forest.

The Tilgate Estate was originally part of Worth Forest and belonged to the Lords Bergavenny who sold it to Sir Walter Covert and Sir Edward Culpepper in 1566. The estate passed to the Sergison family in 1702, then to a succession of owners in the early nineteenth century – William Skrine in 1814, James Armitage in 1818, William Haygarth in 1824 – before being bought by Gilbert East Jolliffe in 1830 and passed down through his family. Hedworth Jolliffe inherited the estate in 1848 and, as he was a minor, leased it first to Henry Hoyle Oddie in 1849 then to Charles Fauntleroy in 1851, before selling the estate to George Ashburner in 1862. Ashburner died in 1872, but in c1865 his son-in-law John Hennings Nix took over the estate.

Tilgate Manor was situated at the northern side of the lake and is shown on a map of c1875 adjacent to a small walled garden with an aviary and two fountains. In c1865 Nix commissioned Thomas Henry Wyatt to design a new house on the ridge to the west of the lake with a stable block to the west of the house. This was known as Tilgate House. An ornamental garden was created to the south of the house while to the east were views to the lake with parkland to the north and west. Tilgate Forest to the south was intersected with a series of paths and rides, including 'The Avenue' which runs from north-west to south-east. On the south side of the house was a large, curving conservatory. By 1900 the original manor house (possibly dating back to 1647) had been demolished.

The estate then passed to John's son, John, who took the name Ashburner Nix. Both John and his brother Charles were keen horticulturalists and John served as Treasurer to the Royal Horticultural Society. The brothers were responsible for many of the specimen trees planted in the ornamental gardens.

By 1900, a large walled kitchen garden and orchard had been built to the south-west of the house. By 1932 this was being used as a Horticultural Research Station by FW Burke and Company, with the layout of the glasshouses ranges remaining

unchanged. By 1950 the walled garden is described as 'Tilgate Park Nurseries' and was used to supply trees to the developing neighbourhoods of Crawley New Town.

A carriage circle was added to the north front of the house by 1900 and the ornamental gardens to the south had been laid out with a series of interconnecting paths with specimen trees. The southern tip of the lake was extended and made ornamental by the construction of a cascade from the silt lake to the south and by the addition of two islands planted with trees. A boat house was built at the south of the lake, to replace that already existing at the north, which was removed by 1910. By 1932 a further two boathouses were built on the western edge of the lake, which was always referred to on maps as the 'fish pond'.

When John Ashburner Nix died in 1926, the estate was inherited by his brother Charles George Ashburner Nix who sold the property by auction in 1939. The estate was divided into lots and much of the land to the north used for housing development. The western area of the estate was used as an army camp for the Canadian Army during the Second World War and is now run by Crawley Borough Council as a Recreation Centre. The lakes were bought by Sir Malcolm Campbell who used them for flotation trials for his speed boat *Bluebird*. They were inherited by his son Donald in 1948, who sold them to Colin Campbell. In 1952 the lakes were purchased by Mr Baker, who sold them to Crawley Urban District Council in 1964. Tilgate House was bought in 1940 by BT Estates Ltd, then sold to Crawley Urban District Council in 1964, when the house was demolished. The stable block remains and has been converted into residential accommodation.

The pleasure grounds were purchased by the council in 1966 for use as a public park. The steep northern bank of the lake was heightened and a wide footpath created at the head of the lake and new ornamental plantings have been introduced, including a Pinetum, Heather Garden and Peace Garden. The Kitchen Garden was redesigned in 1994 for amenity use with ornamental show gardens, café, picnic area and maze. The existing walls and some of the garden offices remain, as well as the original Head Gardener's cottage. The former orchard and the area around it is now home to a Nature Centre.

## **SITE DESCRIPTION**

### **LOCATION, AREA, BOUNDARIES, LANDFORM, SETTING**

The site is on the edge of Crawley, accessed through the Tilgate housing development from the north, or by the A23 from the west. The housing development forms the northern boundary and the edge of the lake borders the site to the east, while the M23 almost touches the southern tip. The western boundary runs along the edge of Titmus lake.

The site of the former house and Kitchen Garden is on a high ridge running north-west, with the pleasure grounds occupying an area sloping towards the lake to the east and forest to the south.

### **ENTRANCES AND APPROACHES**



There are two Lodge Houses serving the Tilgate estate: to the west at Pease Pottage (now demolished) and to the east at Three Bridges, presumably constructed to provide a link to the new railway station (now a branch of Barclays Bank). The drives from both directions formerly met at a carriage circle to the north of the house.

### PRINCIPAL BUILDING

Tilgate House was designed by Thomas Henry Wyatt (1807-80) in c1865 to replace the existing Tilgate Manor situated next to the lake, and was demolished in 1964. The house was built in the Tudor style with French hipped roof towers on the east front, a 17<sup>th</sup> century-style portico entrance on the north front and a Dutch gable on the south front. On the south front there was a large, curving conservatory with substantial chimneys to support a boiler. All that remains of the house is the low wall which ran around the platform upon which the house was built, punctuated with steps on the north, south and east sides.

### GARDENS AND PLEASURE GROUNDS

The map of c1875 shows a formal garden to the south of the newly-built house with a series of paths intersecting at right angles with a shrubbery beyond. The area to the east of the house was open parkland sloping down to the lake. By c1900, the whole of the area to the south and east of the house had become an ornamental garden with groups of trees and specimen trees (many now champion trees) positioned between curving, interconnecting paths. A straight, level path runs from the house due south, and formerly featured a circular island at one of its intersections. The lake to the east of the garden had two ornamental islands at its southern end, constructed between c1875 and c1900 when the lake was extended to the south and linked to the silt pond by a cascade.

### KITCHEN GARDEN

The walled kitchen garden was constructed between c1875 and c1900 to the south west of the house, linked by a drive which is now a tarmacked road. The kitchen garden was divided into four quadrants by paths with a tank pond in the centre. Glasshouse ranges and garden offices lined the north and west walls, and projected from the east wall into the adjacent orchard. The Head Gardener's cottage is situated on the north-west corner. From c1932 the kitchen garden and orchard was used by FW Burke as a Horticultural Research Station then in 1962 the area was purchased by Crawley Urban District Council and used as a tree nursery to supply the developing neighbourhoods of Crawley New Town. In 1996 the walled garden was redesigned for amenity use and the former orchard and surrounding land is now a nature centre.



## References

### Books and articles

Belinda Cole, *Crawley – A History & Celebration*, Ottakars, 2004

Michael Goldsmith, *Crawley and District in Old Picture Postcards*, Europese Bibliotheek, 1991

Michael Goldsmith, *Around Crawley in Old Photographs*, Sutton Publishing Ltd, 1990

*Victoria County History*

### Maps

c1875

c1900

c1910

c1932

c1950

National Grid 2011

### Illustrations

b/w photograph, conservatory at Tilgate House, c1939

b/w photograph, George Cook, gardener, in Kitchen Garden, 1945

tinted photograph, Tilgate Lodge, Pease Pottage, from north, 1906

tinted photograph, Tilgate Lodge, Pease Pottage, from east, 1906

tinted photograph, north front, Tilgate House, 1907

b/w photograph, east front, Tilgate House, c1910

b/w photograph, south front, Tilgate House, c1910

b/w photograph, view to north of Tilgate House from roof, c1960

b/w photograph, south front, Tilgate House, showing conservatory, c1960

b/w photograph, Tilgate House, showing low wall around building (extant), c1960

b/w photograph, Tilgate stableblock, 1925

colour photograph, cascade from silt pond into lake, 2013

### Archival items

Particulars and Condition of Sale of the Tilgate Estate, 1861 (Add Mss 28,405, nd)


Tilgate Estate Sale Catalogue, 1939

- I Boundary map
- II Key views
- III Historic mapping
- IV Photographs

# Boundary Map

## Tilgate Historic Garden

National Grid 2011


 Existing Historic Garden Boundary

1:5,000



# Tilgate Historic Garden

National Grid 2011

 Existing Historic Garden Boundary

1:5,000



**Key Views**



# Historic mapping

## Tilgate Historic Garden


Sussex 2500 C1875

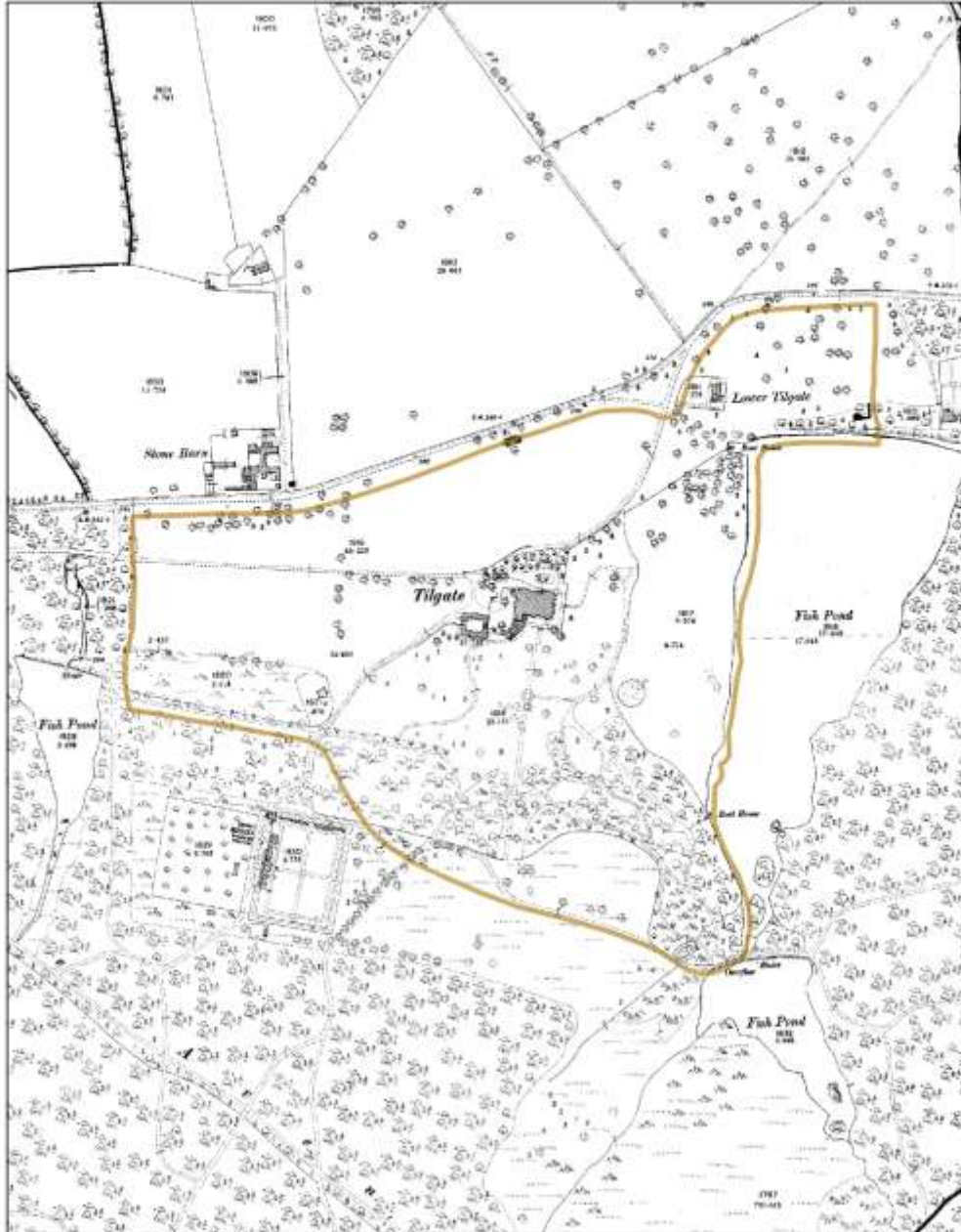
 Existing Historic Garden Boundary



# Tilgate Historic Garden

Sussex 2500 C1900


 Existing Historic Garden Boundary

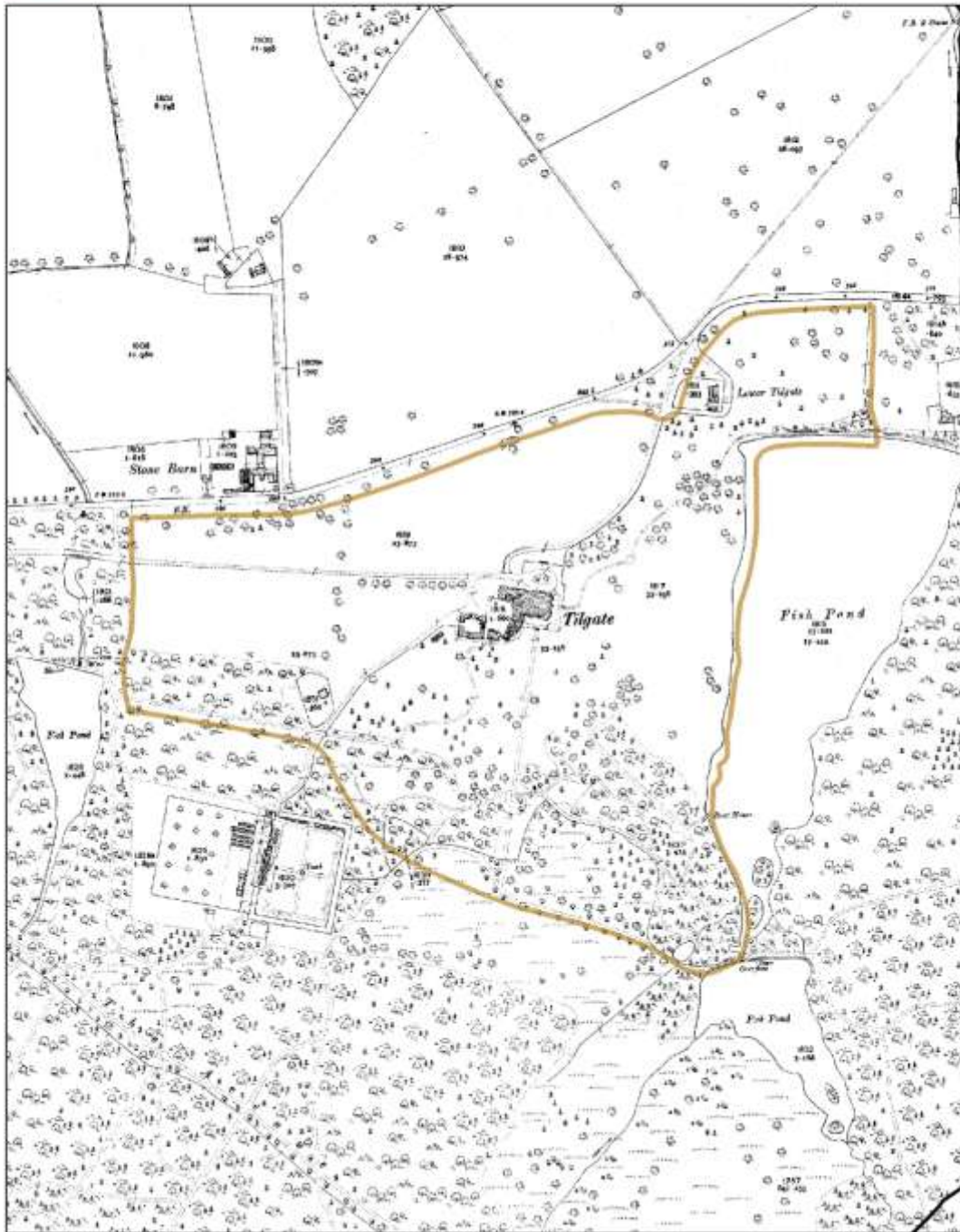




# Tilgate Historic Garden


Sussex 2500 C1910

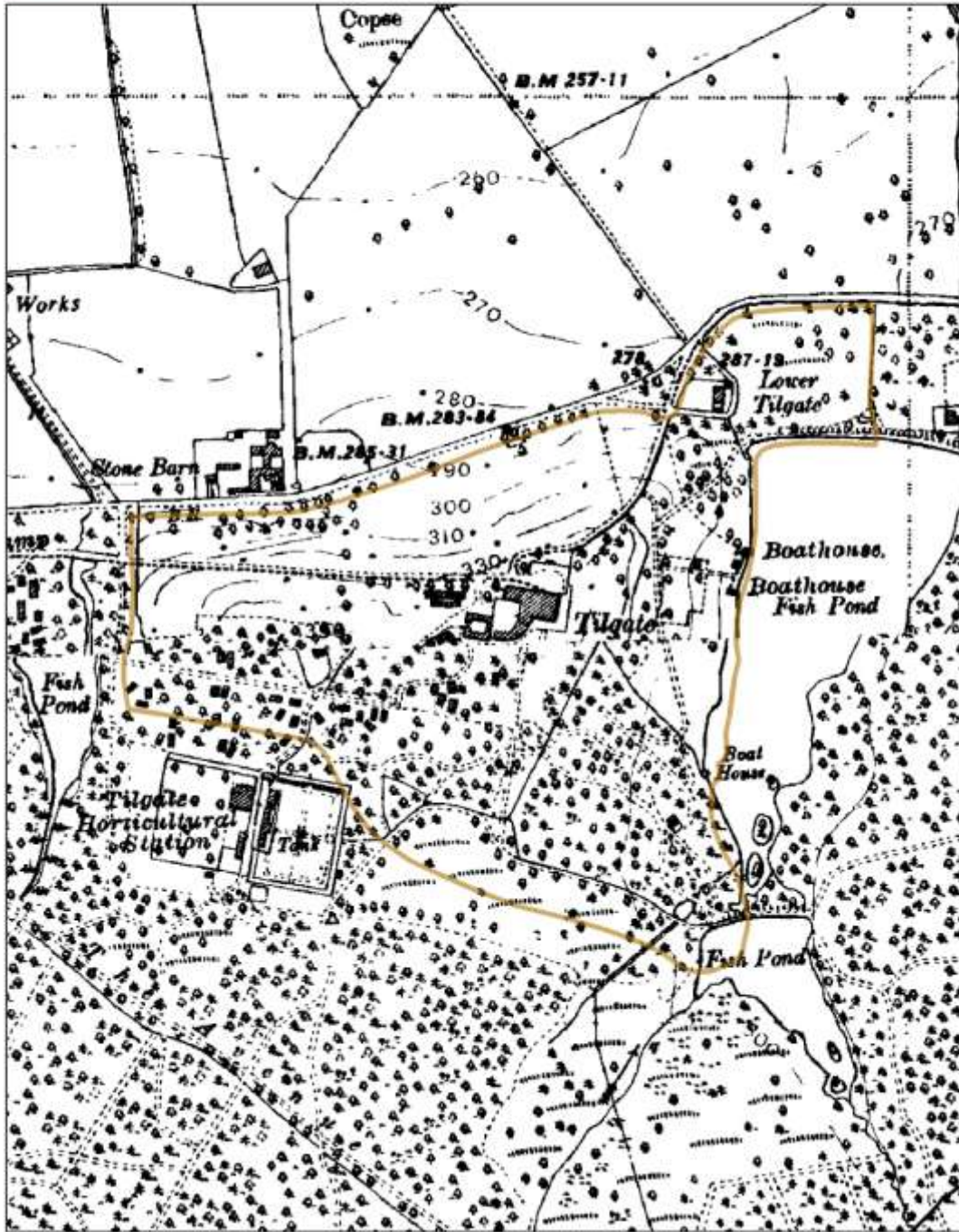
 Existing Historic Garden Boundary



# Tilgate Historic Garden

Sussex 10k C1932

 Existing Historic Garden Boundary

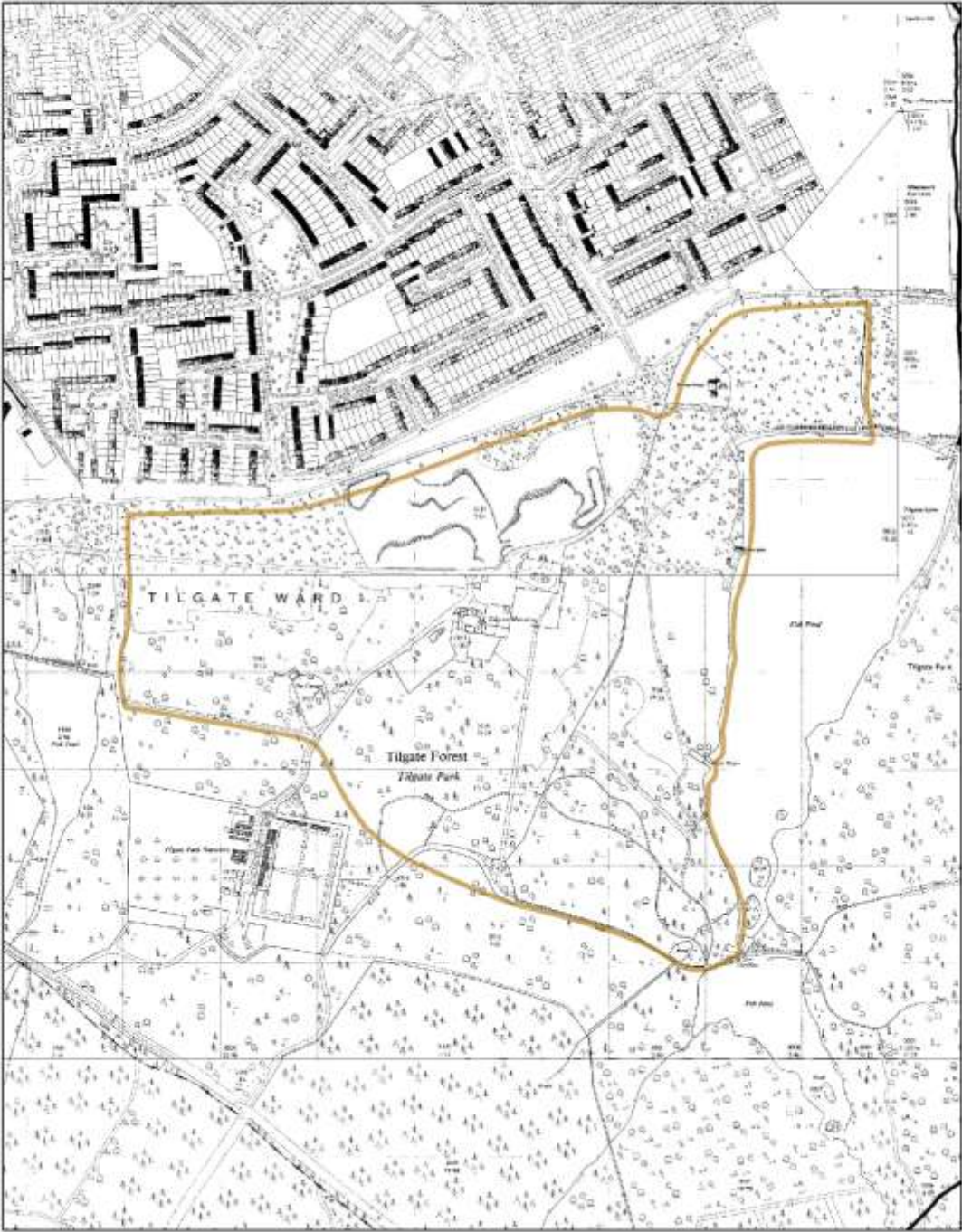




# Tilgate Historic Garden

National Grid 2500 C1950

 Existing Historic Garden Boundary



## Photographs

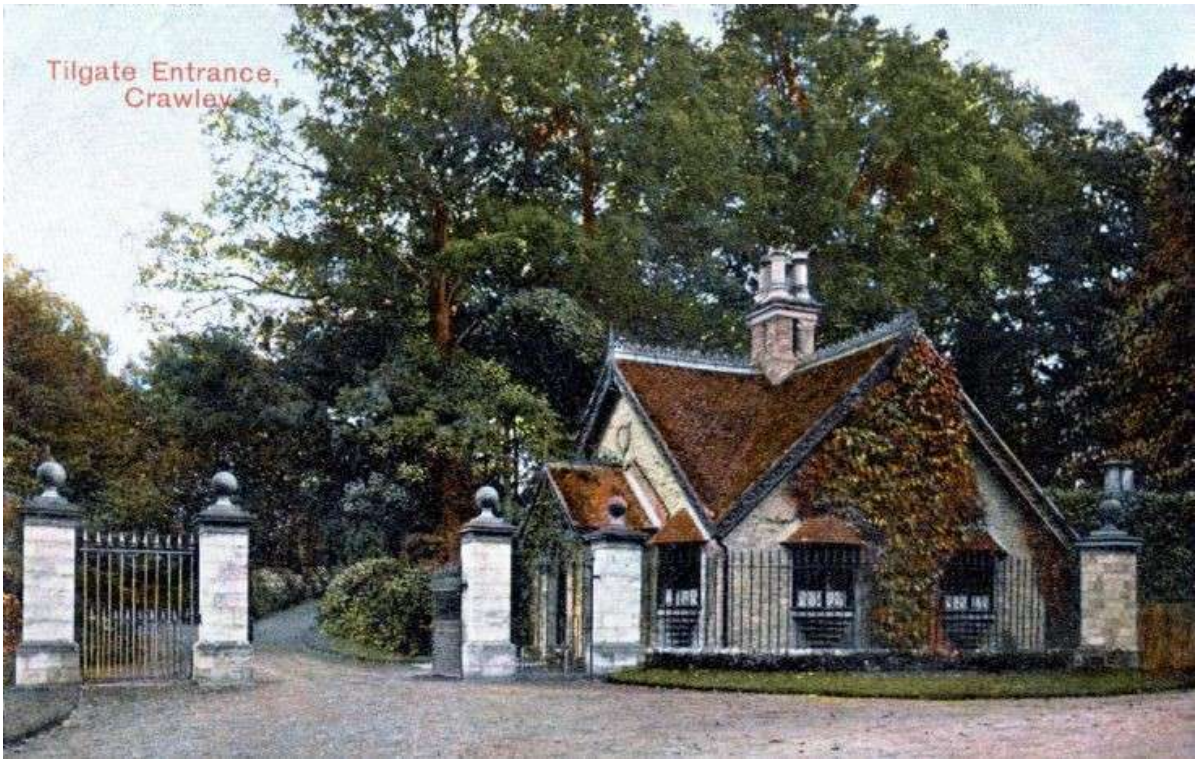


Conservatory at Tilgate House, c1939



George Cook, gardener, in Kitchen Garden, 1945





Tilgate Lodge, Pease Pottage, from north, 1906

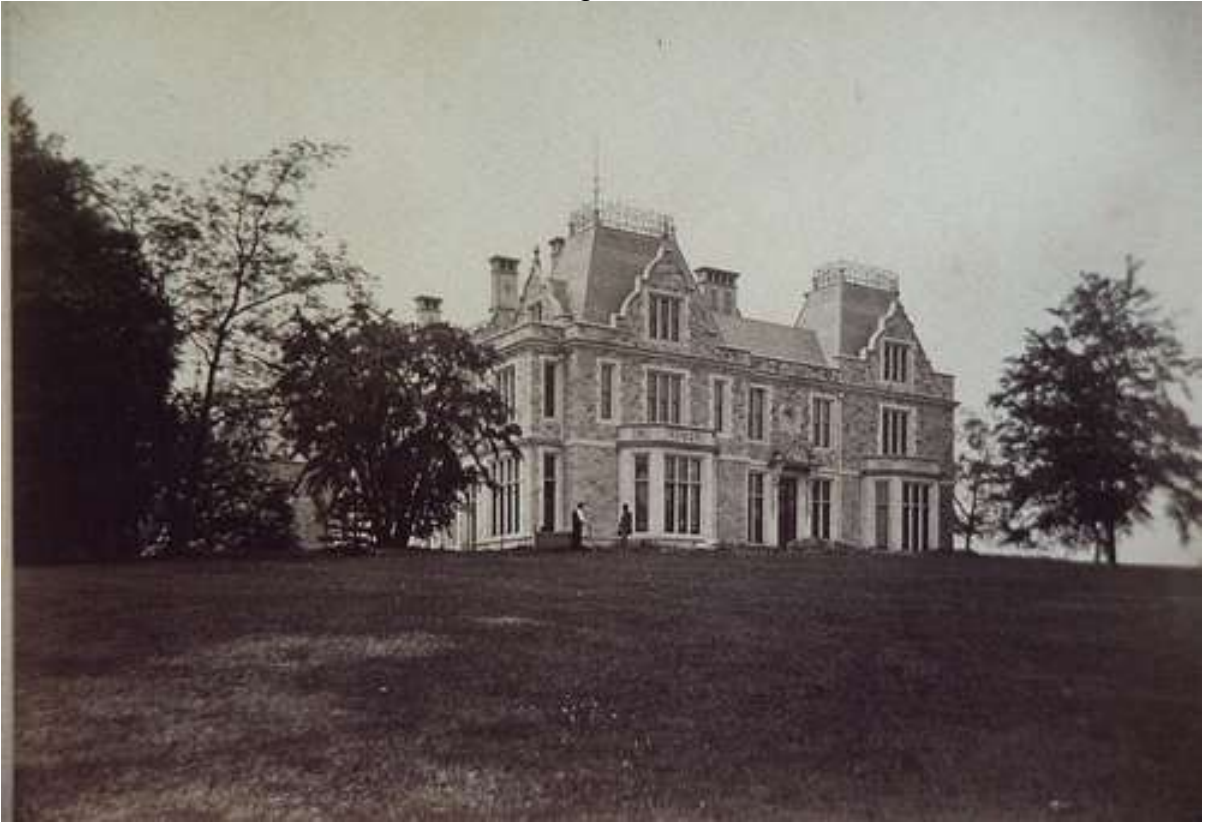


Tilgate Lodge, Pease Pottage, from east, 1906





North front, Tilgate House, 1907



East front, Tilgate House, c1910



South front, Tilgate House, c1910



View to north of Tilgate House from roof, c1960



South front, Tilgate House, showing conservatory, c1960



Tilgate House, showing low wall around building (extant), c1960





Tilgate stableblock, 1925



Cascade from silt pond into lake, 2013



## **WORTH PARK**

Crawley,  
West Sussex

Grid Reference: TQ 29697 37960

### **SUMMARY OF THE HISTORIC INTEREST**

For a hundred years Worth Park has been the country estate of a branch of the Montefiore family, which was known for its philanthropy and passion for education. James Pulham and Son, who also designed features for the gardens of Buckingham Palace and Sandringham House, remodelled the grounds of Worth Park from 1884-1887.

From 1920-1960, the house and part of the grounds were the home for Milton Mount College, a boarding school for girls. The original Victorian mansion was demolished in the 1960s and has been replaced by a seven storey block of flats. However, the key elements of the 19<sup>th</sup> century garden and parkland are still preserved in a compact area.

The Park is now (2013) being renovated with help from the Heritage Lottery Fund and Big Lottery Fund.

### **CHRONOLOGY OF THE HISTORIC DEVELOPMENT**

Worth Park was part of the large forest of Worth which extended over the parishes of Worth, Crawley, Ardingly, Balcombe and Slaugham. In 1279, most or all of this forested area became an enclosed deer park, called the Park in Worth, when John de Warenne claimed "free warren and liberties". Over the centuries, the forest was partitioned and changed ownership many times. Worth Park in the modern sense refers to an estate which can be chronicled from the Ordnance Surveyor's Drawings of 1808.

**Abraham Montefiore** (1788-1824) bought Worth-Park Farm (shown in the 1808 Drawings directly west of the Balcombe Road) in the early 1810s. His ancestors came originally from Livorno (Leghorn) in Italy, but his paternal grandfather had moved to London. The older brother of Abraham was the famous philanthropist Moses Montefiore, a friend of Queen Victoria. Abraham started his career in London as an apprentice in the silk trade. He firstly made a fortune in this line of business and then joined his brother Moses at the London Stock Exchange. **Henrietta Rothschild** (1791-1866) became Abraham's second wife. With Henrietta he had four children.

**Joseph Mayer Montefiore** (1816-1880), the oldest child, was a director of the Alliance Insurance Company for 23 years and acted for several years as a director for the National Provincial Bank of Ireland. He became a Justice of the Peace and Deputy Lieutenant for Sussex. He also served as High Sheriff of Sussex in 1870.

Joseph was involved in many charities and held numerous posts on the board of schools, including the position of governor at Christ's Hospital School.

Abraham Montefiore died early in 1824, leaving a large fortune of £400,000 to £500,000. The Times of 18th November 1824 reports that he had left several wills. The first will of 1820 did not make it clear who should inherit his real estate (**Worth-park farm** and the Brighton farm), "which he had purchased about 8 years previously".

The Tithe map of 1839/1840 and apportionments for Worth West show that Worth Park House and Garden were owned by Josef Mayer Montefiore (apportionment ref 708). Amongst his possessions were also Stables and Yard (707), Pond and Plantation (711), Kitchen garden (700), Park Farm (693) and many others. Joseph owned most of the land on this map lying north, west and south of Worth Park. Only plots 703 and 704 south and south-east of Worth Park House had different owners, Bet Baker and Francis Scawen Blunt respectively.

A report about a fire at Worth-Park House in the Times of 13th January 1847 describe the old residence as a very ancient large farmhouse which Mr. Montefiore had doubled in size and modernized for several thousand Pounds. The mansion was rebuilt by 1856. Joseph married Henrietta Sichel of the Hague in 1860. The couple had two sons, Francis Abraham (1860-1835) and Edward Mayer (1862-1927).

Joseph Mayer Montefiore died in 1880. His eldest son Francis Abraham inherited Worth Park when he came of age. Francis' famous great-uncle, Sir Moses Montefiore, died in 1885, childless. The baronetcy was granted to his great-nephew Francis in 1886. **Sir Francis Abraham Montefiore** became the 1<sup>st</sup> Baronet of Worth Park, Crawley, Sussex, and oversaw with his mother Henrietta a complete remodelling of the house and park. Work had already begun in 1884 and was completed in 1887. The landscaping was carried out by James Pulham and Son.

The Pulham Dynasty of garden builders spanned four generations. Construction of follies, picturesque ferneries and rock garden scenery started with the first James Pulham (1793-1838). Each James Pulham had at least one son, who was also named James. The work at Worth Park was undertaken when Pulham and Son were owned by the second James and the third James (1865-98). The Pulhams' clients included the Prince of Wales, Sir Bache Cunard, Baron Ferdinand de Rothschild (Waddesdon Manor), Lionel and Charlotte Rothschild (Gunnery Park) and the Barclay family. The Royal Warrant was received in 1895 from the Prince of Wales and was renewed when he ascended to the throne as Edward VII. The warrant was also granted by King George V. Specialities were the Pulhams' own brand of artificial rock (Pulhamite) and their terracotta work of urns, vases, sundials, fountains and balustrades.

Sir Francis married Marianne, daughter of Baron Wilhelm Gutmann of Vienna in 1888. The couple had no children. Marianne fell ill soon afterwards, never recovered and never came to stay at Worth Park.

The Gardeners' Magazine of 10th February 1912 listed Worth Park as one of the important Pulham sites in a tribute to the third James Pulham (1845-1920).

Henrietta Montefiore died in 1915 and the estate was put up for sale. By then Worth Park covered an area 2,055 acres (estimate, Sales Prospectus Knight, Frank & Rutley for the auction on 16th September 1915) and included numerous cottages, even Crawley Fire Station.

The house and gardens were purchased in 1920 by **Milton Mount College**, a boarding school for girls. The college had been established in 1873 on a hill in the Milton district of Gravesend, but had to leave their original premises in the First World War. The College was one of the first girls' schools to be equipped with a laboratory, a gymnasium and domestic science facilities. It also had a school magazine and a hand work department. Changes to the garden features were relatively small. The croquet lawn was divided into tennis courts, the parkland to the immediate west of the formal gardens beyond the ha-ha (not within today's boundary and now residential housing) was used as kitchen gardens (referred to as Nursery on the 4th edition OS map of 1932, 25 inch). A gymnasium was built in the forecourt, behind and to the east of the camellia corridor, and is now (2013) used as a Community Hall. A cottage (College House) was added in the northern part of the forecourt area.

Sir Francis continued to have a residence at Farmleigh, one of his estate properties on Grattons Drive. When he died in 1935, the remainder of the estate was sold.

On 22th June 1940 the College and grounds were commandeered by the War Office to accommodate Canadian troops. Milton Mount College re-opened at its old site in 1946 but had to repair extensive damage.

The Board of Governors decided in 1958 to move the school. Milton Mount College closed at the Crawley site in 1960, two years later it was amalgamated with Wentworth School in Bournemouth and became Bournemouth Collegiate School in 2009, taking in boys and girls. Worth Park is still held in high affection by the Old Miltonians. The former students have assembled a rich collection of photographic evidence to chronicle the old school grounds. Meetings of the Miltonian Guild take place regularly in or near the Park.

Crawley Borough Council bought the house and gardens in 1963. The Montefiore mansion was demolished (1968) and Milton Mount Flats, a seven storey block, were erected in its footprint, comprising 148 units of which two thirds are privately owned now (2013). Substantial areas of the park were also released for development of residential housing.

The remaining parkland and gardens became a public park (including the stable block, Ridley's Court). However, the northern forecourt area with the historic carriage turn and the land immediately west of the house up to the balustrades is leased to Milton Mount Residents Association. College House and the land north

and east of it are excluded from the arrangement. The Milton Mount name was maintained at first; in 2007 it reverted to the original Worth Park.

The area around Grattons Pond obtained status as a Site of Nature Conservation Importance in 1992.

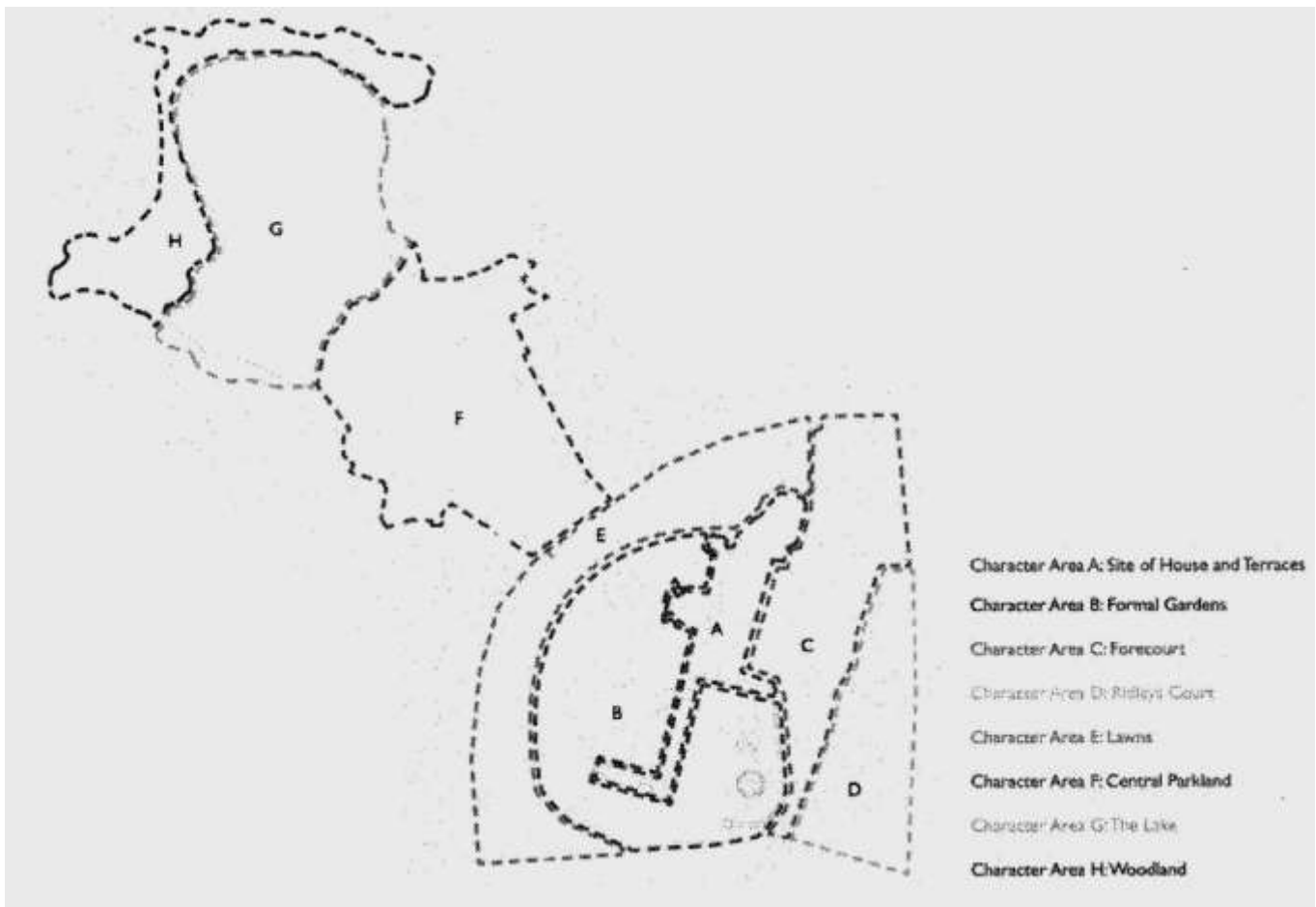
Since 2005 the historic park has been supported by The Friends of Worth Park Gardens, their name and constitution were in 2009 changed to **Worth Park Friends**.

Crawley Arts Council commemorated the work of the third James Pulham with a Blue Plaque in 2007. This can be seen on the eastern façade of the Community Centre.

A grant of £2.4 million for a much needed restoration of the pleasure gardens including the large fountain, Grattons Pond and for public areas in Ridley's Court was obtained from the **Heritage Lottery Fund** (HLF) and the Big Lottery fund in December 2011. Actual work on the restoration project started late in 2012.

## **SITE DESCRIPTION**

For easy location of the main features of Worth Park, the area has been subdivided into distinctive character areas as shown below:



Source: *Worth Park Management and Maintenance Plan 2011 – 2021*, CBC

## DESCRIPTION OF PRINCIPLE FEATURES AND BUILDINGS

**Ridley's Court:** Listed Grade II by English Heritage

The former quadrangular stable block is situated in area D. It comprises a courtyard of two storey ranges on three sides with stabling and coach houses on the ground floor and accommodation over, and an ornamental three-storey tower with carriage arch below facing west towards the back of the camellia corridor.

Ridley's Court is the only remaining original estate building in Worth Park and a reminder of the mansion. The Quadrangle provided stabling for 22 horses, garages and Coach-house; men's rooms including 10 bedrooms, sitting room, bathroom, linen cupboard, kitchen, washhouse and two WCs (Sales Catalogue 1915). Milton Mount College used the block as dormitories and science laboratory. The block was converted by Crawley Borough Council into flats with garages on the ground floor. There are plans to use part of the ground floor for community rooms and public toilets as part of the ongoing Lottery-funded project (2013).

The building is dated 1882 and was constructed in the same style as the former mansion house. Photographs of the mansion, released by English Heritage and



taken by Bedford Lemere and Company, list Z King as the architect of the mansion, which was changed at the same time; reference is the Bedford Lemere daybook.

Materials are red brick in Flemish bond with stone dressings and slate roof. The western range has a three-storey square tower with stone parapet of pierced intersecting circles and corner piers with urn finials and end quoins. This was originally a clock tower: a photograph in *Country Life Illustrated* (p. 404, 30th September, 1899) shows there was originally a steep slate roof with clock faces and ogee dome with weathervane above the tower, but according to a photograph from the 1920s, it was already then not present. There is, however, a reference to the clock tower in the *Sales Catalogue* of 1915. There are two oculi on each face above the second floor windows. Three identical oculi stand out on photos of the west face of the demolished mansion's flag tower. The remaining windows are in pedimented surrounds, mainly triangular but with a curved pediment to the first floor window. There is a stone-headed carriage arch with keystone, impost blocks, shields to the spandrels and curbing stones to the inner sides. Attached to north west is a lower octagonal turret with quoins, diagonally placed stone bands and arrowslit window which has a lead ogee-shaped dome with finial. There are one storey pavilions to north and south plus connecting brick walls to the side wings which have gable ends with a date stone of 1882, urn finials, a pedimented window to the first floor and two cambered arched windows to the ground floor. The north side of the north wing retains some original wooden windows, an oculus and a ground floor entrance with 20th century door. Its courtyard face has four gabled semi-dormers and a further window to the first floor, the ground floor has two large cambered openings and some residential doors. The courtyard face of the south wing has identical windows to the first floor, but the ground floor has large cambered openings with 20th century garage doors. The courtyard face of the east wing has a projecting central gable with finials and first floor round-headed opening, later reduced. On each side is a semi-dormer flanked by small casements. The ground floor has two original openings with C20 shutter-fronted garage-doors.

#### Pulhamite Rockery: Listed Grade II

The rockery lies in the north of forecourt area (C), to the east of the college house and near the Balcombe Road boundary.

Construction took place from 1884-1887 by James Pulham and Son and consists of Pulhamite cement over a core of clinker and scrap brickwork. The naturalistic rock composition projects about 1.25 m above ground level and is circa 12 to 14 m long. The upper part contains planting compartments, the east and rear side show exposed brickwork.

The Victorians were fascinated by ferns and collected and displayed them avidly. It is not known what the original planting on the rockery was, but "Ferns are great favourites here, judging from the quality grown", wrote *The Gardening World* of 24th September 1898. The magazine recommends especially a large *Adiantum* (Maidenhair Fern) Wall. Although this was planted in a lean-to greenhouse in the kitchen and greenhouse area (JHC 22<sup>nd</sup> Dec 1892), which has given way to

residential properties, the Pulham rockery would have been well planted at the time of the Montefiores.

### The Pulham Terraces

The elegance of the mansion was projected towards the gardens to the west by the long terrace (area A) which runs in a straight line south south westwards up to the end of the croquet lawn and then turns at a right angle west as a southern boundary to the games lawn. The latter part is known as the Italian Terrace. There is a semicircle in the line of the balustrade at the northern side and a larger semicircle west of the middle of the building, both extending westwards. Three separate flights of steps lead down to the lower garden level. The main steps west of the house widen as one descends, the balustrades either side are following an outward sweeping semicircular line. Originally, there was no break in these steps. Now a middle strip, about 3 meters wide, planted with roses, divides the stairs. This strip can already be seen in a photo of the college of 1948 (pg. 132, *Rock Landscapes - The Pulham Legacy*, Claude Hitching). The second flight of steps connects the path south of the house with the path at the northern side of the games lawn. The final flight leads down from the end of the Italian Terrace.

Two Pulham Catalogues of Garden Ornaments are at the Lindley Library in London. The first one is from c. 1925, the second was published slightly later. From a comparison of historic photographs with the catalogue pictures, the terracotta work can be identified as follows: The balustrades are an upside down version of the Warlingham design. Most of the balustrading is now missing, but there had been some partial reconstruction from the house to the middle flight of steps.

The Pulham pedestals at each end of the steps were adorned with vases. The end ones of the middle steps may have been Forty Thieves Vases (Pulham Catalogue No. 22). The ones at the lower end of the steps from the Italian Terrace are Otford vases (Pulham Catalogue No. 4). A photo with a Manchester Tazza (Cat. No. 2) in the middle of the Italian Terrace still exists, the ones on the pediments on top of the grand steps in front of the house were of the same design (Photo in CLI pg. 400). Most of the Pulham terracotta ornaments were auctioned off when Milton Mount College sold the house and grounds.

Both plinths for the vases at the bottom of the steps to the Italian Terrace show stamps marked "Pulham's Terracotta Broxbourne".

The terrace paths were originally mainly filled with gravel, now they are laid to lawn. A photo in *Country Life* (p. 404) shows that the terrace area immediately to west of the house was of part lawn, part gravel. Circular flower beds were planted in the centre of the lawned parts.

### The Pulham Fountain and Pond Basin Listed Grade II

Descending from the terrace via the large steps we come to a path which surrounds a circular lawn with the pond basin and fountain at its centre (Character area B). The fountain is modelled in stone coloured moulded terracotta and comprises a lobed twenty sided circular basin structure with egg and dart cornice and leaf motifs below,

on a raised base. The circular pond basin in which the fountain is centrally situated has a low Pulhamite retaining wall. This is the largest Pulham ornament constructed of moulded terracotta in the gardens. The feature survives intact as a water basin, the inner fountain does not function, but will be repaired with Lottery Funding. Archive photos taken in the time of Milton Mount College's residency shows a number of terracotta planters in the pond basin. They were circular with four semicircles added in regular intervals at the edge. The planters are resting on a base which is shaped like a half-ball. The fountain basin is shown only in part on the photograph, there were probably twelve planters altogether. A photo of the large pond and fountain from c. 1948 depicts the basin without planters (Hitching, Rock Landscape).

According to the Hydrology report, which is attached to the Worth Park Conservation Management Plan of July 2008, there are records that the company Green and Carter, specialists in hydraulic rams, supplied two 32 Easton Rams to the Worth park in 1885. It is mentioned in the same report that the basin had to be filled with a hosepipe to prevent it from drying out.

The surrounding lawn area was originally planted with 14 ball shaped yews. The yew sculptures are now (2013) overgrown and will be replaced.

#### Camellia Corridor (or Camellia Walk)

Four Victorian magazines featured Worth Park in the 1890s. Each one devotes at least a paragraph to this feature (Character area B).

The Corridor is backed by a brick wall which starts from the path bordering the southern end of Milton Mount flats at the level of the parking area east of the building, then runs south for three quarter of its length and ends with a semicircular bend in west-eastern direction. The front is mainly west facing and consisted originally of wooden framing (oak) over a brick base in the Arts and Craft style. The wooden frames were filled with plated glass (Country Life 1899, p.401 and others). The corridor was covered by a roof which was sloping from east to west, south to north at the southern end. The long roof line was interrupted by gables where a break in the base wall for the timber balustrading allows access from the formal garden. Camellias were trained along a trellis on the wall.

The original floor tiling is still in place and in reasonable order. The tiles are red and black and laid in a diagonal checkerboard pattern with a border, which is also laid diagonally. The corridor widens at its southern side in a part semicircular, part semi-hexagonal area. There is an opening towards the path which leads along the southern boundary of the formal gardens. The original mansion was directly connected to the corridor at its northern end by a short angled section and then by a hexagonal gazebo type widening. This connection was lost with the mansion. Photos from the late 1880s show that the corridor's back wall, that faced the forecourt, was well hidden by planting of small conifers and bushes.

The oak pergolas had been restored from 1982 to 1991 by T. Ledner and D Mugridge. A plaque to that effect has been mounted on top of the exit opening at the

southern end. Roof and glazing were not put back into place. Plans for the present restoration show a provision for roofing of the corridor's middle section. Work is now in progress, (2013), the wall has been cleared, but some camellias have been left in place. Judging by the thickness of the trunk, they might have survived from the original planting in the 1880s.

#### Sundial, Dutch and Fountain Garden

The Camellia Corridor shelters a lawn area which sweeps down to the balustrades of the Pulham terrace. The upper, levelled lawn is the base for three circular parterres which are surrounded and partitioned by pathways, with each circular bed having two paths as concentric circles. The middle path is reached via a flight of six steps from the north side of this upper area, at its southern end it leads to the last section of the Camellia Corridor which has a break in the lower brick section to allow entrance. The three circular formal gardens increase in size looking from north to south. The smallest circular arrangement, the Sundial Garden, takes its name from the Pulham Sundial, which used to be its centre piece. In the Pulham Catalogue, this ornament is named "The Work Park Sundial" (No.301). Present, at least in part, are the Pulham border edgings for all three parterres.

The middle circular arrangement in the Dutch Garden, has no sculptural centerpiece, but allows for colourful planting in eight sectors radiating from the inner circular path.

The Fountain Garden forms the last arrangement. The upper basin of the centre fountain had been used as a planter in recent decades. At present (start of 2013) it is empty and awaiting renovation. The lower basin is filled with earth for planting, the rim of this basin almost looking like border edging. The outer circular parterre has an inner edging pattern consisting of alternating small and large circles with the latter touching the outer circumferential edging.

#### Croquet Lawn

At the level of the large fountain, about 1.5 m lower than the terrace level, lies the croquet lawn. The area is fenced off by a hedge and a mesh fence of 0.75m height to prevent access to the costly-to-maintain lawns. The majority of the park is underlain by clay with poor drainage characteristics. There are bushes at the eastern side, with a small wooden hut and access through a small gate in the middle. A larger gate at the northern boundary of the lawn provides access for larger mowers. This area is used by Crawley Croquet Club in the warmer half of the year. The lawn is surrounded by a path which, opposite the western side of the games lawn, branches into a path leading around a circular lawn, planted with yews similar to the arrangement at the large fountain and pond. In December 2012, the Pound Hill North Residents Association planted a Monkey Puzzle Tree north of the Croquet Lawn to commemorate the Diamond Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II. A plaque stone was also erected.

#### Tennis Court

This is located in the south-western corner of the park (area E). The court was built by the College and is outlined on the OS maps from 1932 onwards. It is surrounded by high mesh fencing and well hidden between the trees.

## Ha-Ha

The border between the formal lawns (area E) and parkland (area F) is in good condition and kept clean with the brickwork intact. A modern bridge leads over the ha-ha along the lawn towards Somerville Road. The ha-ha runs as a quarter-circle from the area north west of the house to today's southern boundary, but it is hidden in the gardens which are situated north of the central parkland.

## Maze

A large yew maze north of the mansion was also constructed during the Pulham period, depicted on the maps from 1900 onwards. It was destroyed during the housing development north of St. Catherine's Road.

## THE PARK

### Central Parkland

A feature of the central parkland is a London Plane, which is estimated to have been planted in 1819. It is situated west of Somerville Road and already marked on the 1st edition OS Map of 1875. Deciduous trees line the boundary to the residential housing at the northern boundary.

There are older trees in Worth Park. A remarkable yew tree (estimated to be from 1664) is situated on the footpath from the Balcombe Road in Area D. The park is also home of another yew (estimated 1772), as well as two limes and two oaks which were planted pre-1800. Much loved are three Cedars of Lebanon (1903 and 1914) which stand just to the west of the Dutch garden, a copper beech (1821) and a Cedar of Lebanon (1851) in the Forecourt (Area C).

### Grattons Pond

The Ordnance Surveyor's Drawings of 1808 show no pond in the vicinity of Park Farm.

Four ponds were depicted on the Tithe Map of 1839/40: A large pond south of the woodland called The Birches, in the location of today's Grattons Pond, but extending further eastwards and three smaller oblong ponds south of the larger pond. The 1st edition Map 2500 of **1875** shows that the large northern fishpond is now connected to the most northerly of the three smaller ponds by a ditch or canal which could be crossed via a footbridge.

The Pulhams created four islands and eight promontories as part of the 1884-87 changes. Many of the latter were planted with groups of yew trees to create a picturesque setting. Most striking is an additional rocky islet east of the most northern island:

### Pulhamite Rock Islet in Pond at Worth Park: Listed Grade II

The islet consists of Pulhamite cement over a core of clinker and scrap brickwork. Measurements are 3m across with 3m visible above the waterline. The lowest section is of small rocks with some brickwork visible. Above this is a band of larger



rocks surmounted by a set-back band of narrow rocks. At the top is an irregular-shaped mass of larger rocks with a planting pocket, out of which a tree is growing. This image is striking. Is it a parody of Loudon's gardenesque style, popular in the mid-1800s? Trees then were often planted on mounds of earth to improve their presentation.

The dam at the northern and western shore of the Grattons Pond can already be seen on the 1<sup>st</sup> edition OS 2500 map from 1875, today the main footpath still runs on top of it. The sluice at the north western edge of the pond is also shown from 1875 onwards. A brook runs from east to west in the woodlands north of the pond (The Birches).

When the land north and west of the pond gave over to detached housing in the early 1970s, the southernmost part of the pond was filled in and the most southern Pulham island disappeared with it. The remaining three islands, with exception of the listed islet, are overgrown with trees and shrubbery. Wooden fishing platforms have been constructed at suitable places at the northern and western shore, but are in need of repair. A footpath leads from Selwyn Close (off Somerville Road) from the southern edge around to the north western side. Walkers have to cross the meadow at the eastern side of the pond for a complete round walk.

Work to bring the pond into line with recent EU regulations has started (2013).

#### Woodland

A narrow area between residential properties and the dam at the pond's edge in the north of the eastern boundary is fenced off as a conservation area. The whole of Areas F and G obtained status as a Site of Nature Conservation Importance in 1992.

Specimen trees in Area G are a group of six oaks at the western boundary with Grattons Park and a Wellingtonia each to the northwest (1887) and further to the southwest (1861) of the pond.

The woodland has been cleared of *Rhododendron Ponticum* a few years ago but further tidying, especially of laurel, is needed. Tree-felling is in progress, not only in line with improvements to the dam but also for the lottery-funded historical restoration work. Several Victorian gardening magazines reported of rhododendrons in flower which could be glimpsed from the formal gardens.

#### LOCATION, AREA, BOUNDARIES, LANDFORM, SETTING

##### Location

Worth Park lies to the north east of Crawley Town Centre in the northern part of Pound Hill. The Distance from Three Bridges Mainline Station is just over 1.5 km.

The park extends to 8ha and is situated on the Upper Tunbridge Wells Sand. This formation is up to 107m in thickness, of Cretaceous age and comprises a sequence of sandstone and clay.

The aspect is north west, seen from its south eastern part, where the former mansion was situated. This part of the site is at an elevation of 85m and falls gently by 15 m from there to Grattons Pond in the north-west, which lies at approximately 70m. The sloping aspect was utilized in the construction of the 19th century gardens.

Grattons Pond spans 2.4 ha. Outflow occurs via a weir at the north western bank of the pond and discharges into the Gatwick Stream, a tributary to the river Mole, some 400m to the west of the park.

According to the Hydrology Report in the Worth Park Conservation Management Plan of 2008, a water-well has been located at the northeast corner of the park boundary (TQ 2960 3806). The Tithe Map 1839/40 shows a well or small round water-hole just south-west of the mansion on plot 708.

### Boundaries

The eastern boundary is the B2036 Balcombe Road, which runs from Redhill in Surrey straight south to Balcombe in Sussex. The Sales Catalogue of 1915 describes the protection from the road as closed fenced and ivy-clad walled. In 2013 the wall is clean and still in place forming some of the eastern park border or that of private gardens of the properties lying north and south of Worth Park.

At the park's extremely western boundary is Grattons Drive. Grattons Park, a 7.8 ha area of council owned open space with playing fields and a nature reserve, lies west of the road. This area was also part of the Montefiore estate

Somerville Road runs directly through the park at approximately 50m to the east of Grattons Pond. It severs the park in a straight line in a north-easterly direction. Grassed bunds prevent access of vehicles to the park on both sides of the road.

All other borders are defined by residential development which is characterized by cul- de-sacs leading off the residential through routes just described.

### ENTRANCES AND APPROACHES

The main and oldest entrance to Worth Park was from the Balcombe Road east of the House. This road was served by the Horley, Worth and Cuckfield stagecoach. Two entrances are shown on the Sussex Map 2500 of 1875. South of the northern entrance lay a lodge, the drive led westwards, then north towards an oval carriage drive in front of the main House, or west then south towards the stables. The second entrance from the road was marked further south, near the southern park border of today with two buildings lying directly to the north. By 1900 only the southern entrance remained. The building directly north was marked as a lodge and had its own forecourt. A new stable block was built in a position to the north of the lodge and is described as a main feature below. The oval carriage drive is larger, now with a grassed island with conifers in the middle. A Coast Redwood (estimated planting 1851) is still in place. The drive is used today (2013) as vehicle access to the car park for Milton Mount flats, accessible from Milton Mount Avenue and St. Catherine's Road. The entrance gate with a pair of massive wrought-iron gates, with lamps over

(Sales Catalogue 1915) and the drive from the Balcombe Road exist no longer, only a footpath which leads from the Balcombe Road bus stop along the southern park boundary into forecourt area remains.

Three Bridges Station was opened in 1841. During the 1884-87 renovations a new avenue branching off from the Crawley to East Grinstead Road was created, leading from today's Worth Park Avenue north north eastwards to the house. It is today's Milton Mount Avenue. Worth Park's Three Bridges Lodge is still standing on the junction of Worth Park Avenue and Worth Road, north of the latter. Also remaining are some lime trees and the Wellingtonias which were planted behind the deciduous trees in Milton Mount Avenue.

St. Catherine's Road provides access from the north. Somerville Road gives access by bus and Grattons Drive leads the visitor to the Grattons Pond area from the road or directly from Grattons Park.

### KITCHEN GARDENS

The 1st edition OS Map 2500 of **1875** shows extensive kitchen gardens with buildings and greenhouses south of a small conifer plantation at the south east of the estate. This complex was also renewed during the 1880s and is depicted on the OS maps from 1900 onwards. In each of the four articles in the Victorian garden magazines about Worth Park, the highest praise was given to the produce and decorative plants grown there. This area lies outside of the park boundary and has given way to the houses and gardens around the road called Woodlands.

### FARM

Worth Park became well known for its breed of Jersey cows. The model dairy was luxurious, complete with electric cream separator (The Gardeners' Chronicle, 9<sup>th</sup> Jan 1897). There is a picture of the Dairy in Country Life Illustrated of 30<sup>th</sup> Sept. 1899, the building on the left can still be seen on Grattons drive today, but again does not lie within the boundaries of the today's park.

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Acknowledgements:

Isabella Chatterjee, Secretary of Worth Park Friends (2013), has undertaken extensive research into the Montefiore Family. It was her idea to research the family via the Archives of The Times.

MAPS

Ordnance Surveyor's Drawing 1808, British Library OSD 96


Tithe Map for Worth West, West Sussex Records Office



## Boundary Map

# Worth Park

National Grid 2011

 Existing Historic Garden Boundary

1:3,500



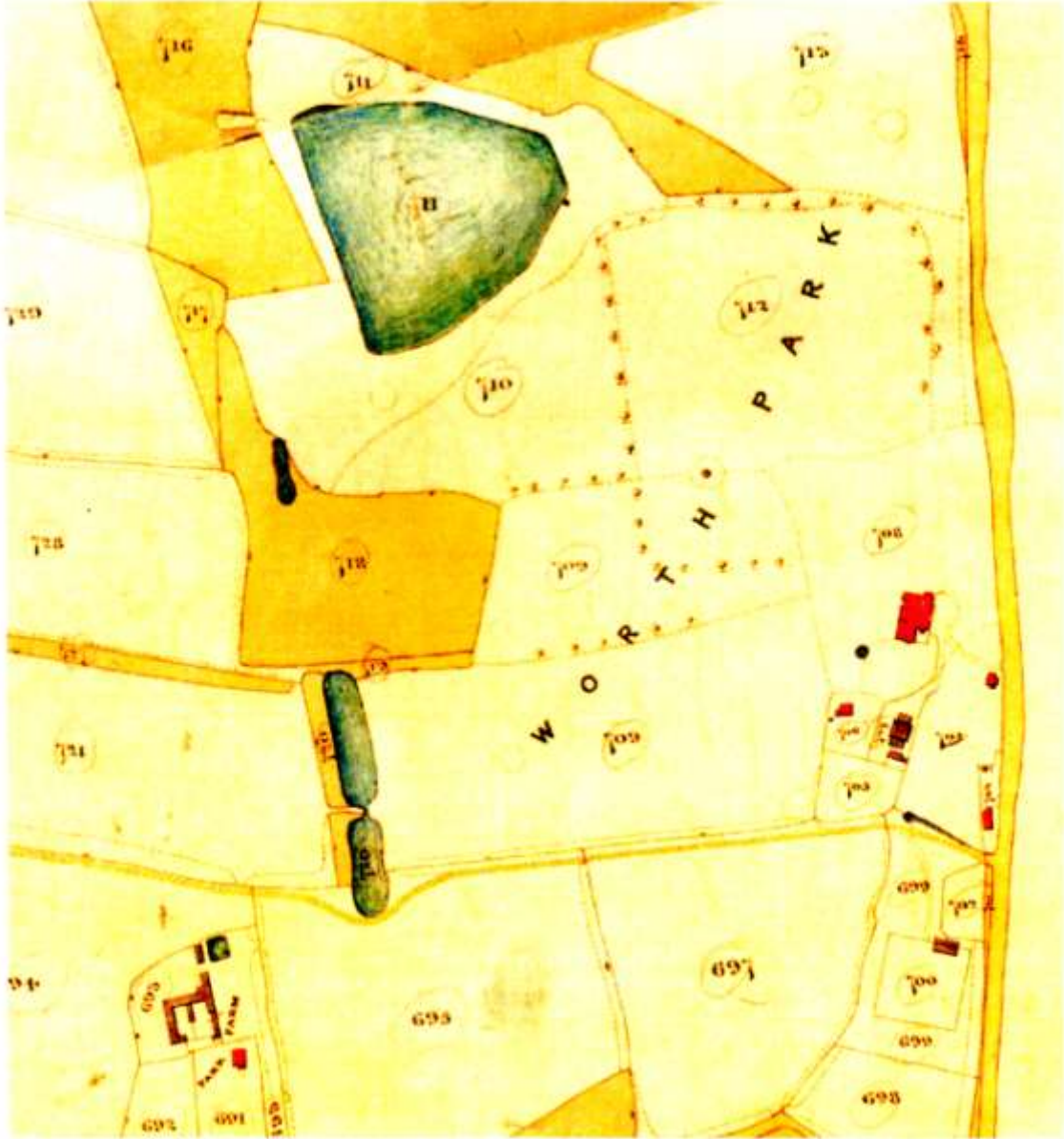
Worth Park NG Map 2011, Courtesy of Crawley Borough Council

## Historic Mapping



Extract from the Surveyor's Drawings 1808, Courtesy of Crawley Library





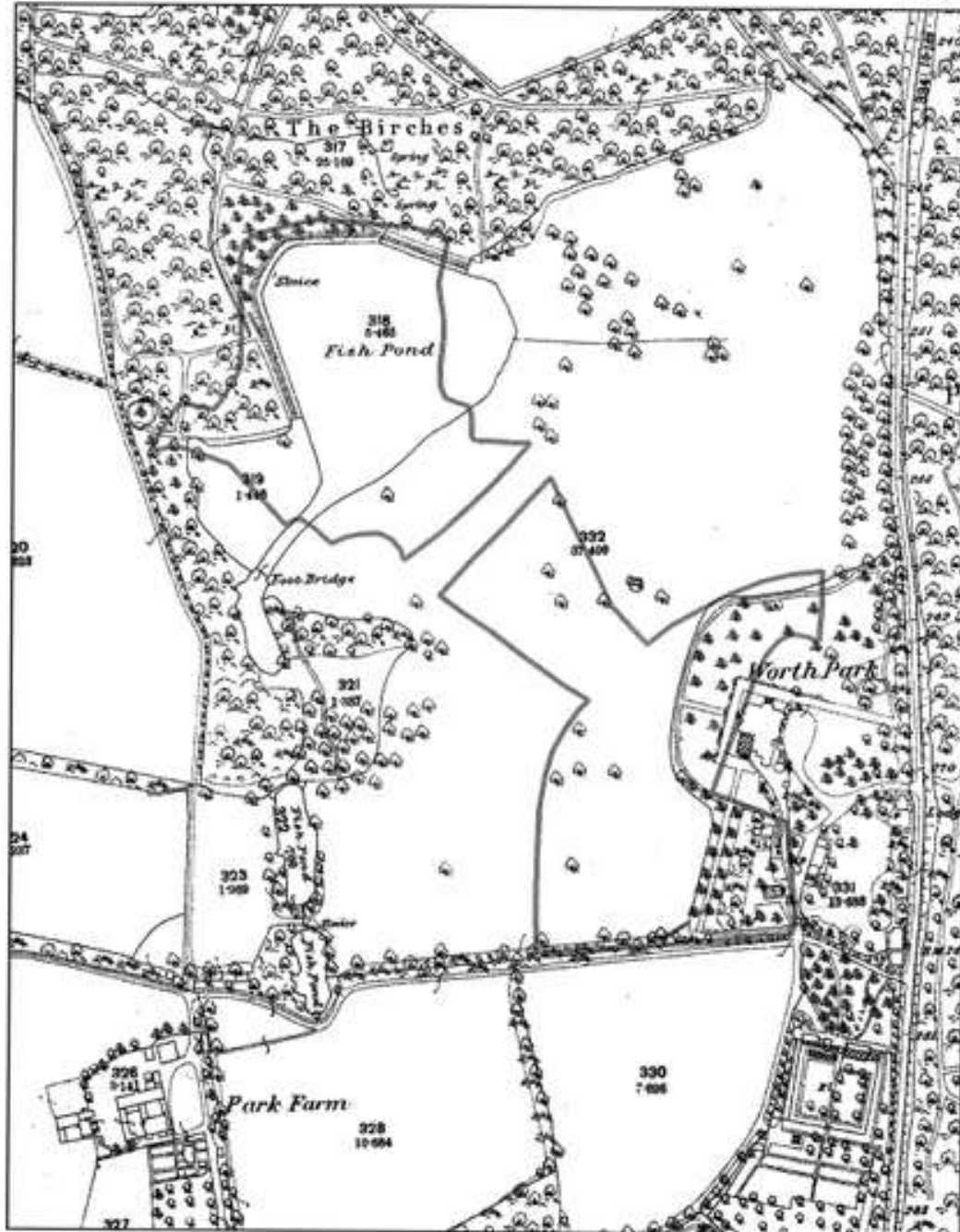
Extract from Tithe Map for Worth West, 1839/1840, West Sussex Record Office

# Worth Park

Sussex 2500 C1875

 Existing Historic Garden Boundary

1:3,500



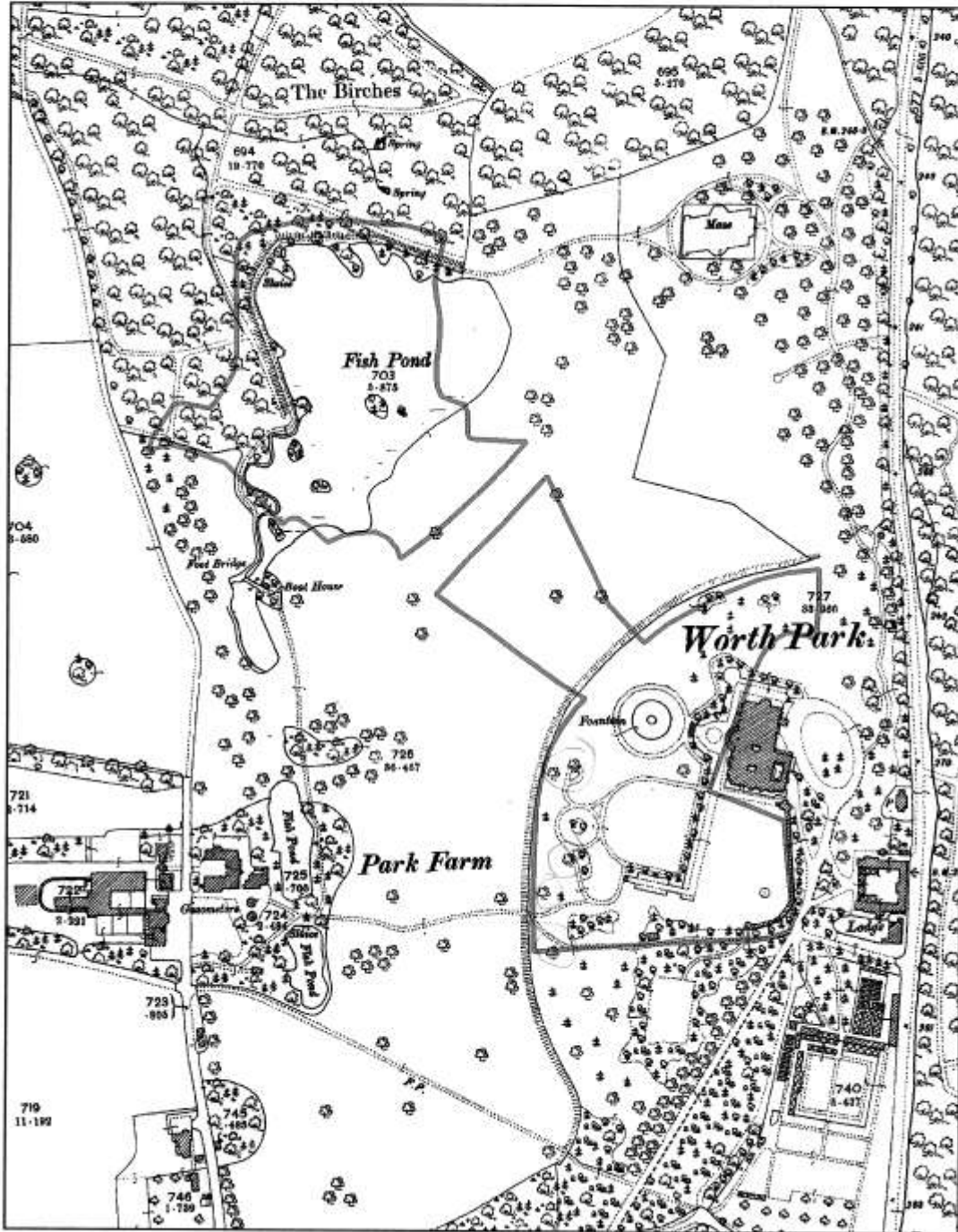
Worth Park 1875, Map Courtesy of Crawley Borough Council

# Worth Park

Sussex 2500 C1900

 Existing Historic Garden Boundary

1:3,500



Park 1900, Map Worth Courtesy of Crawley Borough Council

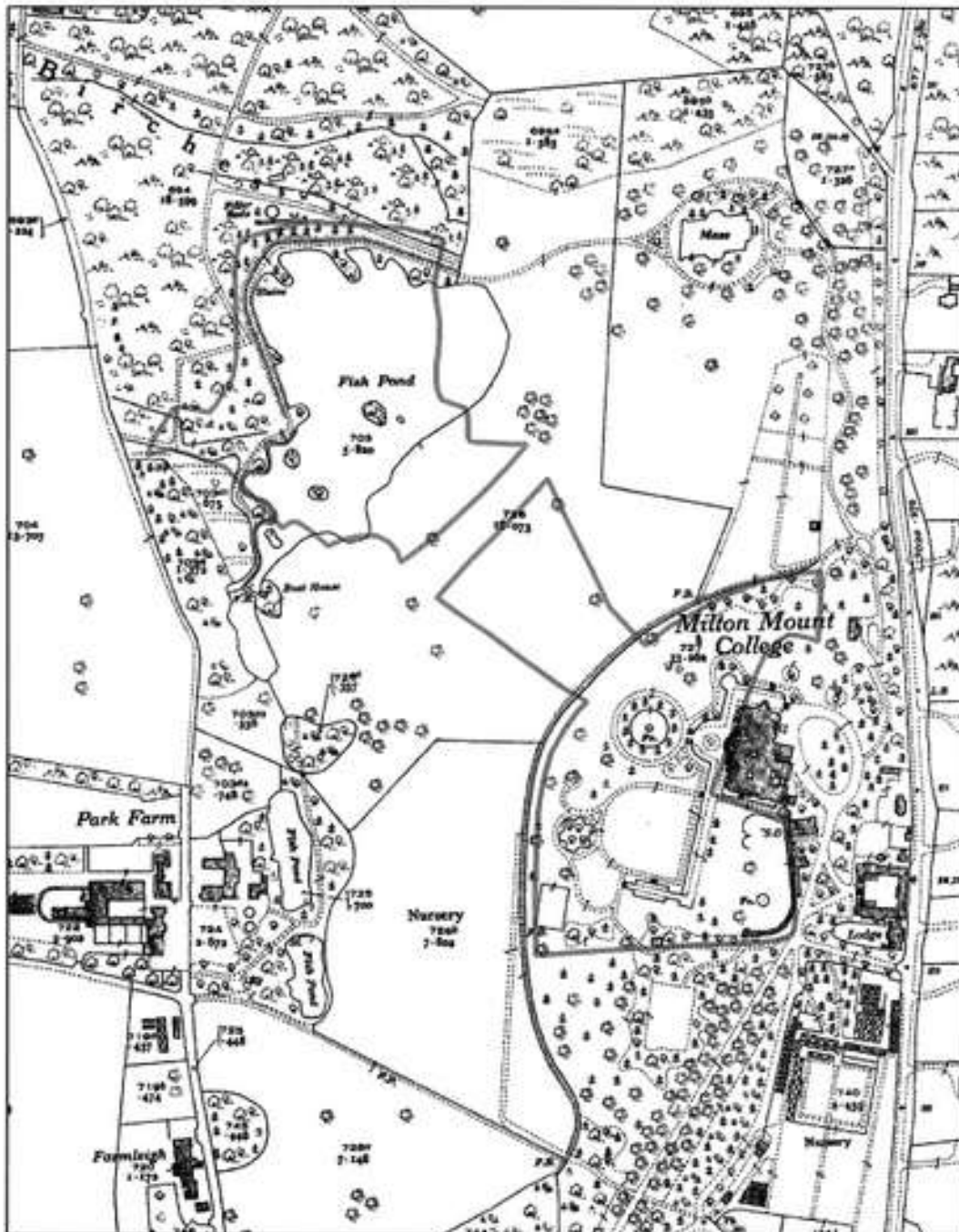


# Worth Park

Sussex 2500 C1932

 Existing Historic Garden Boundary

1:3,500



Worth Park 1932, Map Courtesy of Crawley Borough Council



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"Exterior of Worth Park showing the west front", Photographer: AAB  
Date Taken: 7<sup>th</sup> Nov 1895, Collection: Bedford Lemere and Company



Ridley's Court 2012



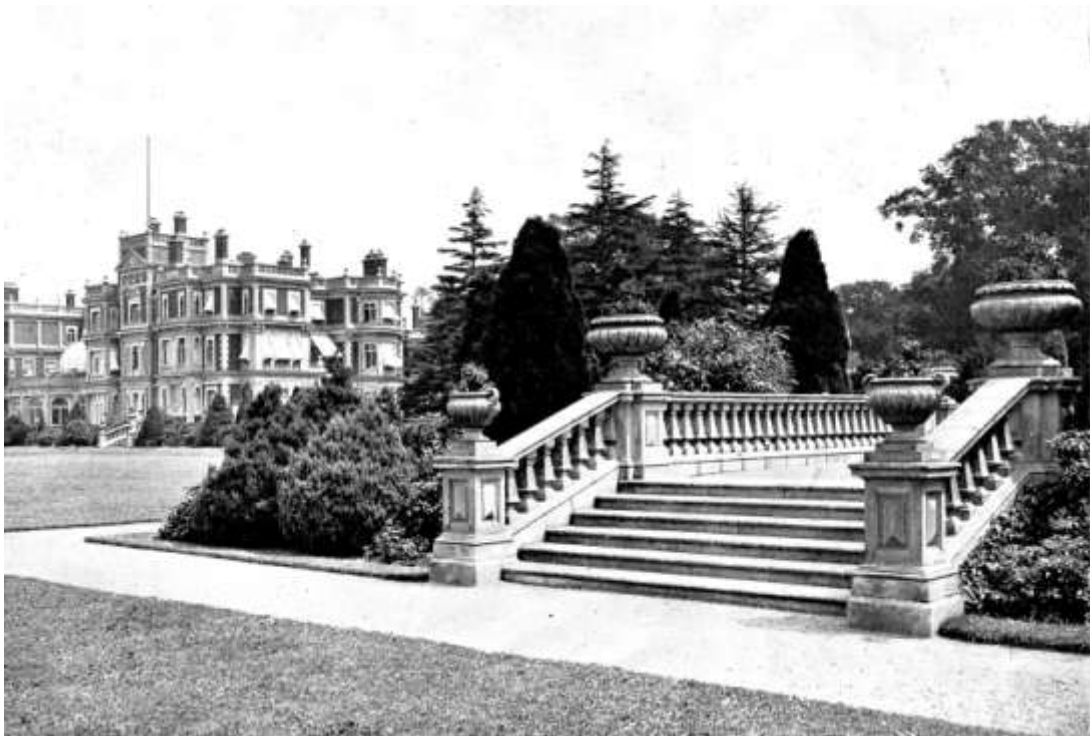


The Pulham Rockery



The Terrace looking east with Milton Mount flats in the background





The Italian Terrace 1899, © Country Life



The Italian Terrace 2012, borders have been cleared for renovation

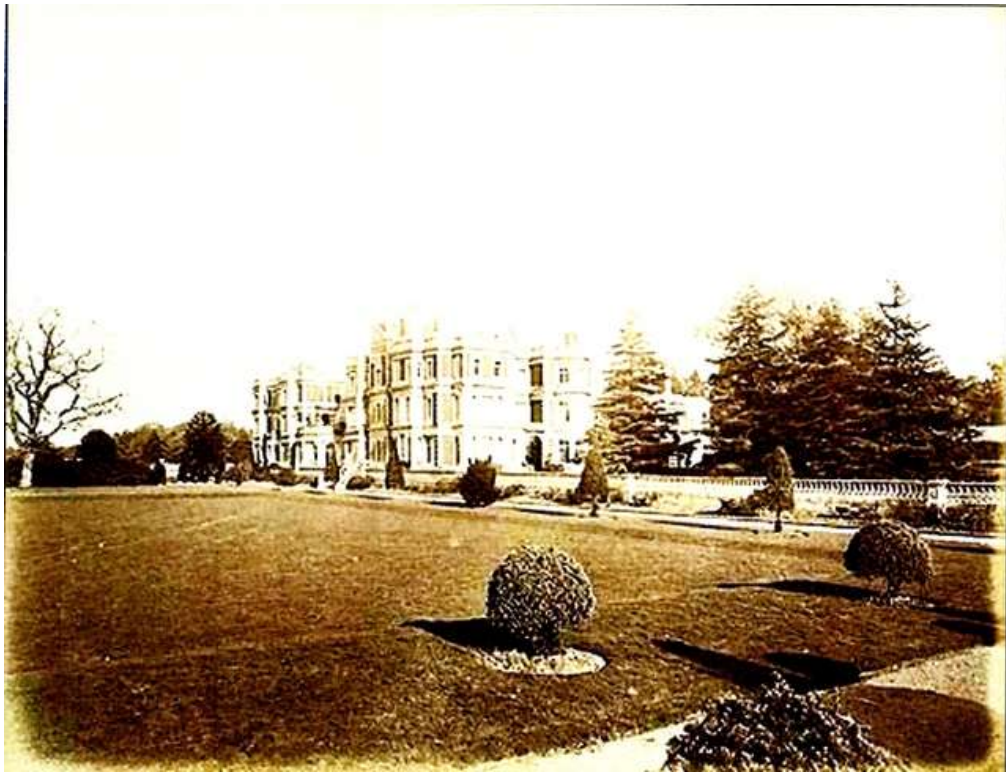


The large Fountain and Pond pre-1940s, Source: Milton Mount College



The large Fountain and Pond 2013

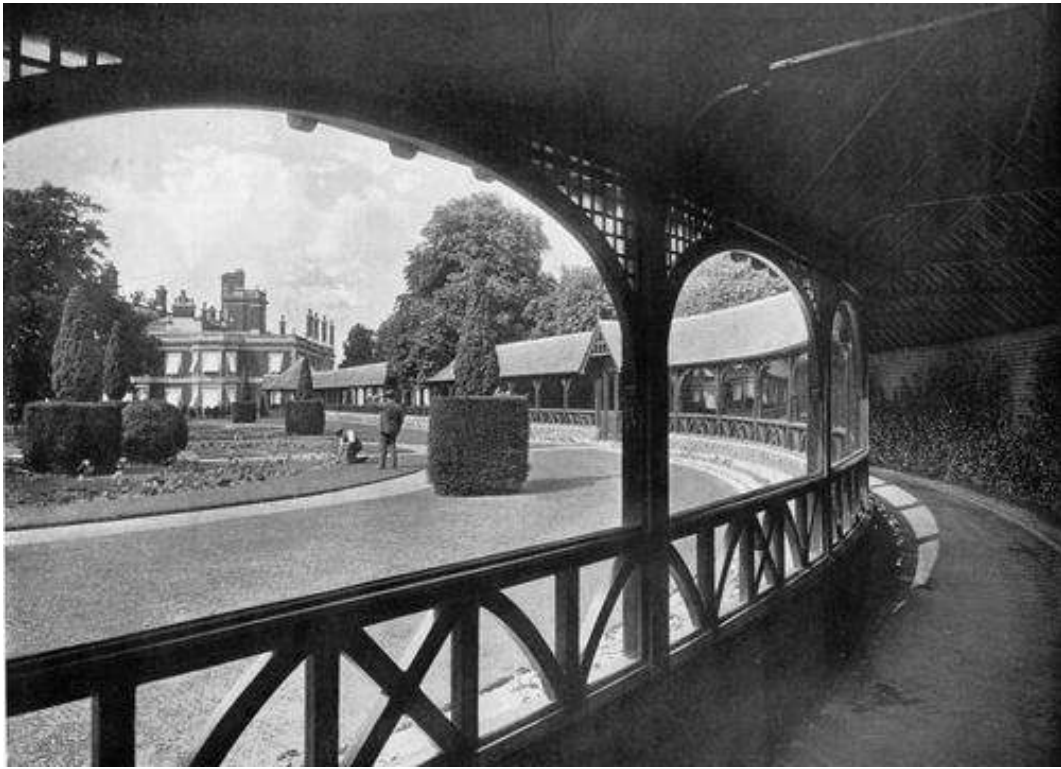




Reproduced by permission of English Heritage, NMR Ref. No. BL06724  
"View from the south-west looking across the lawns towards Worth Park"  
Photo taken 18 Nov 1886 by A A B, Bedford Lemere. In 2013, the croquet lawn.



View over the Croquet Lawn from the North with the Wellingtonias  
of Milton Mount Avenue in the background



View from the Camellia Corridor towards the Dutch Garden, CLI 30<sup>th</sup> Sept 1899



The Fountain Garden awaiting restoration, February 2013





Looking along the ha-ha in northerly direction



View towards Grattons Pond westwards with ha-ha in the foreground



Grattons Pond with northern island and islet



A closer look at the Pulhamite Islet