

# **'Archaeology within the 18th century gardens of Horseheath Hall, Horseheath, Cambridgeshire'**

*by S.N.Kemp, 1999*

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Cambridgeshire County Council  
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Archaeological Field Unit

# **Archaeology within the eighteenth century gardens of Horseheath Hall, Horseheath, Cambridgeshire.**

S.N.Kemp

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Report No. A148

*Commissioned by Miles Group*

**Archaeology within the eighteenth century gardens of  
Horseheath Hall, Horseheath, Cambridgeshire.**

S.N.Kemp

September 1999

Editor: Tim Malim BA MIFA  
Illustrator: Jon Cane BA

With Contributions by Dr Twigs Way



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©Archaeological Field Unit  
Cambridgeshire County Council  
Fulbourn Community Centre  
Haggis Gap, Fulbourn  
Cambridgeshire CB1 5HD  
Tel (01223) 881614  
Fax (01223) 880946

Arch.Field.Unit@libraries.camcnty.gov.uk  
<http://www.camcnty.gov.uk/library/afu/index.htm>

## SUMMARY

*During July 1999 the Archaeological Field Unit of Cambridgeshire County Council undertook investigations within the gardens designed by William Kent at Horseheath Hall, Horseheath, Cambridgeshire. Investigations were undertaken to inform on the presence and nature of archaeological remains which might be affected by the proposal to excavate a pond on the northern side of Acre Pond.*

*Investigation identified cobbled and gravel surfaces located directly to the north and northwest of the boathouse and a grotto both of which are set against the northeast corner of Acre Pond. The cobbled surface is the remains of a track which led to the grotto designed by William Kent in the eighteenth century and formed part of a circular walk or ride around Acre Pond. The trackway is depicted on the 1769 plan of the Hall and parklands and bottle glass dated to the middle of the eighteenth century was recovered from the cobbled surface during rescue excavations at the Hall in 1990. The gravel surface was not depicted in 1769 however, this also probably dates to the late eighteenth century. This surface may have provided a hard standing next to the boathouse and grotto or may indicate an open space designed to give an advantageous view across the lake to the Hall.*

*The development will affect archaeological remains whose importance lies in their association with the Kent-designed garden. The trackway provided a circuit of Acre Pond and linked the grotto, boathouses, gardens and buildings which included an orangery, to Horseheath Hall. The remains of these buildings survive as earthworks around the pond and were surveyed by the Royal Commission for Historic Monuments in England in 1990.*

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**Archaeology within the eighteenth century gardens of Horseheath Hall,  
Horseheath, Cambridgeshire.  
TL 623475.**

## **1 INTRODUCTION**

Following on the submission of planning application S/0282/99/F for an extension to an existing pond at Horseheath Park Farm, Horseheath the Archaeological Field Unit of Cambridgeshire County Council were commissioned to investigate the archaeological potential of the development area. The Field Unit was contracted by Miles Group to undertake documentary research and field investigations to verify the presence and nature of any archaeological remains. Archaeological investigations were undertaken during the weeks of 5 and 12 of July 1999.

## **2. LOCATION AND DEVELOPMENT.**

The investigation area lies at TL 623475, on the northern side of Acre Pond and immediately to the south of Hare Wood. Both are situated about 1 km to the east of the village of Horseheath and north of the A604 (Figure 1).

The proposed development consists of the excavation of a new fishing lake connected to Acre Pond. In addition to the construction of the lake the excavated soils will be used to landscape adjacent areas. The affected area will be approximately 0.6ha.

## **3 TOPOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY**

The site of Acre pond occupies a high point of land at about 110m OD with the village of Horseheath lying at about 95m OD. The villages of Cardinal's Green, Shudy and Castle Camps lie to the south. West Wickham and Burton End to the north also occupy the higher land in an undulating topography dissected by existing and former streams and rivers. To the west villages such as Linton and Bartlow occupy the valley of the River Granta.

The geology of this area is of the Chalky Boulder Clays with sands, gravels and alluvium adjacent to the rivers and streams.

## **4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND**

Few early archaeological remains are known from the area and this may have much to do with the heavy soils which would have been difficult to plough and the dense woodland which probably occupied these heights. Today the former extensive forests survive as small woods and spinneys throughout this area and would have provided important resources to the economies of prehistoric and historic communities.

Roman settlements are known to lie about 1-1.5km away at Streetly End. Horseheath is dominated by the presence of medieval and post-medieval remains. Roman finds have

been made in the village and may suggest that the closest Roman settlement lay only 1km away.

The Roman Road, Via Devana (SMR 07373) lies just 100m to the north of Acre pond. The course of the road deviates at this point and heads towards Haverhill. To the south-east of Worsted lodge the road changes from a chalk-capped road demarcated by ditches to an interrupted *agger* and road surface (VCH 1978). The VCH suggests that construction of the road to Haverhill was uncompleted in the Roman period. Margary describes the road east of Streetly End as a slightly sunken green lane and then as an over grown bank 27 feet wide and 2 feet high where it approaches Hare Wood (Margary 1967; 211). After this Margary describes the road as destroyed by arable to the east of Hare Wood before it returns as a hedgerow close to Withersfield). The interrupted condition of the road may indicate that the Roman road followed an earlier prehistoric routeway and the association of the site and road at this point was not a Roman phenomenon.

Horseheath is rich in medieval activity and the village is mentioned in Domesday (1086 AD). Immediately to the south of the existing village of Horseheath lie village earthworks which suggest that Horseheath has either shifted or shrunk since Medieval times.

The proposed pond lies within the gardens of Horseheath Hall, and as we will see later, Acre pond was an important element of this designed landscape around the Hall. A detailed history of the Hall and its owners can be found in the Proceedings of the Cambridge Antiquarian Society (Parsons 1948). Recent archaeological work has included rescue excavations and an earthwork survey (Figure 2) undertaken by the Royal Commission for Historic Monuments in 1990 (Cocroft 1999).

The Allington family, who had the Hall built, are known to hold land in Horseheath from at least 1397. In 1448 William Allington created a park, initially 320 acres when licensed. In 1550 the park was enlarged by an additional 400 acres and extended into the parishes of Balsham, West Wickham and Withersfield (VCH 1978, 72; Way 1997, 270). The original medieval manor house probably stood close to the village of Horseheath and included a chapel, parlour, kitchens, dairy and stabling and was large enough and important enough to accommodate Elizabeth I and her retinue in 1578 (Parsons 1948).

About 1663 Sir Roger Pratt was commissioned to rebuild Horseheath Hall (Cocroft 1999). The resultant house was about 42m long and sat in a range of 182m in length and 78m in width with stables and offices to either side (Cocroft 1999). A drawing of the house was published in 1725 by Campbell (Campbell 1725). John Evelyn in the eighteenth century and Lysons in the nineteenth century were two famous visitors who described the house and aspect. The Hall built by Sir Roger Pratt was now situated in the centre of the original and commonly referred to as the 'Old Park' and overlooked the Village and church of Horseheath which lay to the west (Way 1997, 360). In 1700 the estate was sold to the Bromleys who started to redesign the Hall and gardens. By 1733 William Kent was employed to continue the remodelling of the Hall and gardens which included work around Acre Pond which lay immediately to the northeast of the main house. Kent was an eminent landscape gardener of the time and was referred to as the father of modern gardening by Horace Walpole (Plumptre 1993). Kent designed gardens at Chiswick House, London, Holkham Hall, Norfolk, Rousham House, Oxfordshire and Stowe in Buckinghamshire. A separate historical assessment on the landscaping around Acre Pond and William Kent's involvement was commissioned in order to understand the context of the landscaping, indicate the types of archaeological remains likely to be placed around the pond and inform the planning authorities on the relative importance of the site. This report has been included as Section 7.

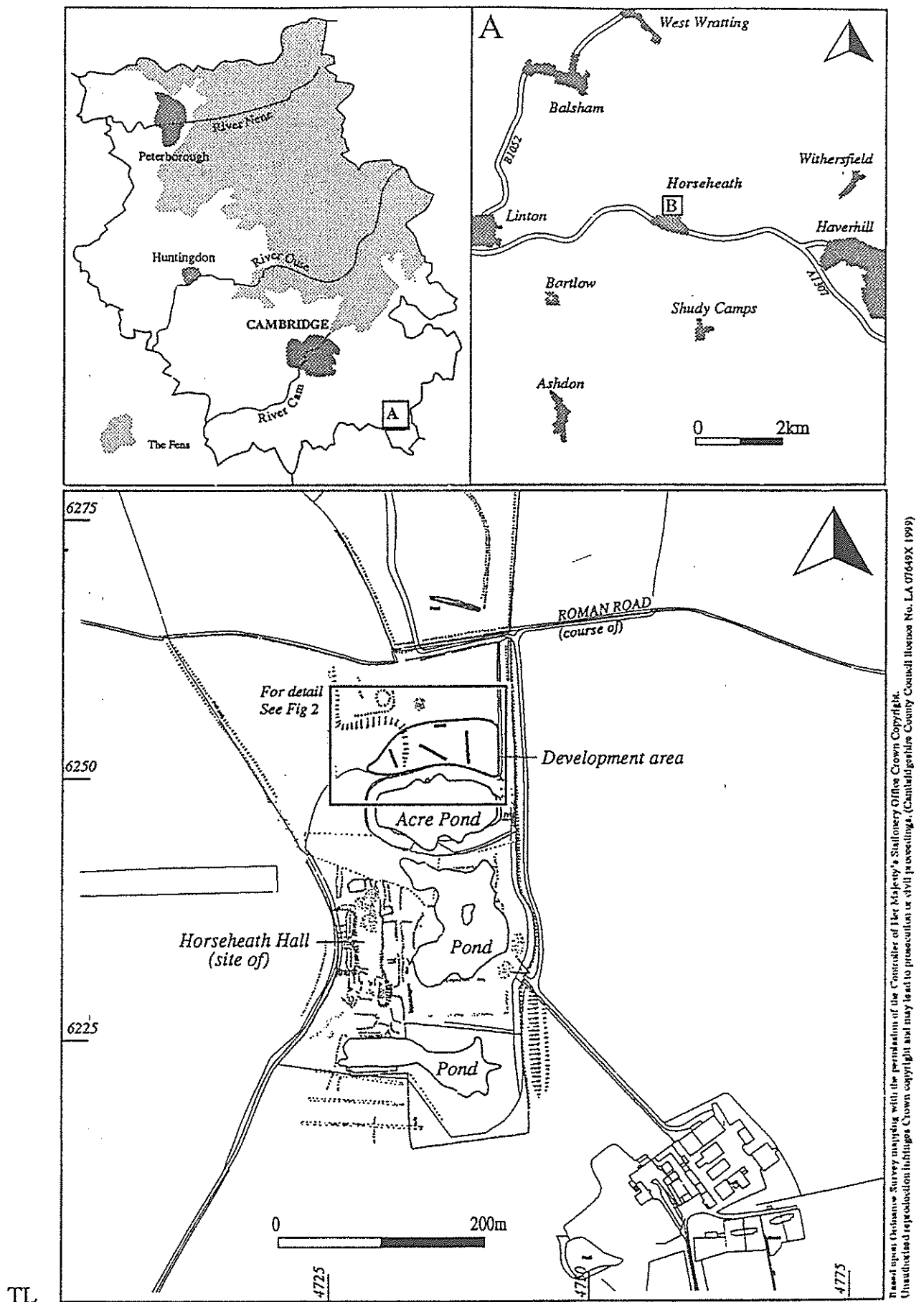


Figure 1 Location plan showing position of archaeological trenches and RCHM survey results



In 1775 financial problems resulted in the sale of the Hall and gardens and the park was disparked. At the end of the eighteenth century the Hall was demolished and sold for building materials. No above ground level remains of the Hall now survive, however, drawings and maps of the some of the features including the house and grotto do (Figure 4). The plan of the Demesne of Horseheath 1769/70 (CUL Ms Plans) shows the extent of the Hall and gardens at this time (Figure 3).

## 5 METHODOLOGY

The aims of the evaluation were to report on the nature and condition of any archaeological remains present within the development area. This was undertaken by the machine excavation of trenches totalling 90m in length at 1.8m in width (Figure 1). The trenches in the main focused on the eastern side of the development area where the extension to Acre Pond is proposed (Figure 1). The western side will be affected by landscaping which will consist of building up the existing ground level.

Three of the linear trenches (1, 3 and 4) were excavated down to expose the natural clays whilst machining of Trench 2 stopped when archaeology was encountered.

On exposure of the archaeology features were cleaned to clarify stratigraphic relationships and planned. Hand excavation occurred to inform on the nature and date of the archaeology encountered. Excavated features were recorded using a combination of photography, section drawings and a written contextual description as was outlined in the specification for archaeological works.

Trench plans are the result of a local co-ordinate survey undertaken with a Zeiss Recelta total station. The survey was rectified for presentation along with the Ordnance Survey digital map for the site (Figure 1).

Subsequent to this a detailed historical analysis of the pond and the Kent landscaping which lie in the immediate vicinity of the proposed development was undertaken in order to understand the historical significance of the archaeology.

## 6 RESULTS

Trenches 1 and 4 contained no archaeological remains, whilst Trench 3 contained a layer of fine flint gravels 0.44m below ground surface and was 0.16m in depth. This layer extended 3m northwards of the southern limit of the trench. All three trenches were excavated to the natural boulder clays which lay at a depth of 0.84 m below the ground surface. Archaeology was exposed and hand excavated in Trench 2.

The basic stratigraphy of the site as a whole consists of a layer of topsoil which was about 0.25m in depth. Beneath the topsoil lay a layer of about 0.20m in depth of sandy clayey silts with comminuted chalk. This deposit also contained brick and tile, although, no pottery was recovered. The nature of this deposit suggests a mixed derivation from the natural boulder clays which have been reworked with other soils. Where archaeology was present it was found immediately underlying the above deposit. Beneath the archaeology lay a layer of silty clays of up to 0.24m in depth and in which no soil structure could be identified. The basal deposit was the natural boulder clays.

Only Trench 2 contained significant archaeological remains with those in Trench 3 only extending a short distance (3m) into the trench. Archaeology in Trench 2 extended the

full length of the trench and consisted of layers of fine gravels and flint cobbles. Three ditches were identified as cutting across these surfaces.

A coarse cobble surface of about 10m in width lies at the southern end of Trench 2. The cobbles are of about 0.10-0.15m in maximum length, although occasionally larger stones of up to 0.30m are present. These cobbles are very closely packed at the surface with little matrix except where silts have filtered down into the voids. Both sides of the cobbled surface are cambered. Cleaning over the cobble surface and hand excavation to expose the camber failed to retrieve any archaeological finds which may have indicated when the surface was in use.

The rest of the trench is covered in fine flint gravels contained in a sandy matrix. Maximum gravel size was 30mm. Again cleaning yielded no dating evidence, the gravel layer did overlap the margins of the cobbled surface suggesting that it was laid more recently. Given the restrictions of the evaluation it remains unclear as to whether the timing between these events should be measured in days or years, but as no soil build up or weathering horizon was apparent between the two a short period of time is suspected.

Two of the three ditches were excavated. All of the ditches are more recent than the gravel and cobble surfaces and are directly overlain by the layer of clayey silts which contained brick and tile; a deposit which may have much to do with the construction of the lakes and landscaping in the early 1990s. The most northerly ditch, 3, was a shallow linear of 0.30m in depth and 1.80m in width, flat based with slightly concave sides which ran northeast-southwest. This ditch was filled with yellow brown sandy clayey silts with very occasional flint gravels. No finds were recovered. The second ditch, 1, was also orientated northeast-southwest. This ditch had concaved sides and base and was filled with yellow brown silty clays. The only artefact from this feature was an antler tine from a young deer.

## 7 DOCUMENTARY RESEARCH

By Dr Twigs Way.

### *Introduction*

This brief report is in response to the initial results from an archaeological evaluation being carried out the proximity of Horseheath Hall. The site of the Hall and associated earthworks are recorded as SMR 07372.

The archaeological works comprise an evaluation of proposed ground disturbance works associated with the construction/enlargement of a pond. The pond is situated to the north of the 17<sup>th</sup> century Hall site (at TL6235 4750) and is known as 'Acre Pond'.

Results within the area of the evaluation indicate the presence of a stabilised gravel surface, which it is suggested might indicate the presence of construction or landscaping works associated with the Hall and park. This report, based on secondary documentary sources, examines the possible type and period of any such landscaping works.

### *Previous Research*

The history of Horseheath Hall formed the subject of an extended article by Catherine Parsons in 1948 (Parsons 1948). This work was based largely on primary documents, including the Cole manuscripts (held at the BL) and the contemporary notebooks of Pratt, one of the major architects. Additional source material included *Lysons Magna*

*Britannia* (Lysons 1808), Lamer's manuscript History of Cambridgeshire (1635) and *Vitruvius Britannicus* by Campbell (1725).

The parish and Hall site were again researched during the compilation of the Victoria County History for Cambridgeshire, with the parish appearing in volume vi. Much of the material produced there was based on Lysons, with further reference being made to the Cole manuscripts.

Most recently, the park was the subject of a field survey in 1990. This field survey was carried out by the RCHME following a request by the Cambridgeshire County Council during the re-landscaping of the Hall area (Figure 2). The report on the field survey, accompanied by an examination of the historical context and history of the Hall and park, was published in 1999 (Cocroft 1999).

The estate was described in 1746/7 and surveyed again in 1769/70 (Figure 3) providing valuable source material.

### *Outline History of the Site*

Detailed histories of the site have been presented by Parson (1948) and Cocroft (1999). It is therefore only necessary to give a very brief outline here.

Horseheath manor was in the hands of the Alington family from at least 1397 until c1700, when it was sold to John Bromley. The Bromley family (John Bromley and, after his death his two sons, John and Henry) owned the estate until 1775-7 when the contents and house were sold to pay debts. The house was levelled shortly afterwards and many of the outbuildings park ornaments etc. dispersed.

In 1663 William Alington commissioned Sir Roger Pratt to design and rebuild the Hall and also to redesign the gardens. Pratt, although a prestigious architect of the Renaissance style carried out few commissions and Horseheath Hall was one of his largest. A picture and plan of the Hall was published by Campbell in *Vitruvius Britannicus* in 1725. That Pratt also carried out works in the gardens is evidenced by a list of trees and plants which he ordered to be placed within the grounds (Parsons 1948), and a note of John Evelyn. Evelyn refers to the placement of the new Hall within a 'sweet prospect and stately avenue' although in an intriguing addition notes 'water still defective' (Evelyn ms in Cocroft 1999). In the context of the description, and in comparison with other Evelyn comments, this is likely to refer to arrangements for waterworks such as fountains or canals or other decorative water features including pools and streams. The gardens are likely to have been the subject of some alterations during the next 100 years, as fashions in garden design fluctuated; there are no records of major redesign until the 18<sup>th</sup> century.

Shortly after the purchase of the estate by John Bromley, and after 10 years of neglect following the death of the last Giles Alington, the Hall and gardens were again redesigned. This work appears to have continued from c1700, through to the death of John Bromley in 1707 and was to be continued by his son, also John. In his will of 1718 John Bromley (the son) specified that the work on the gardens *be finished according to plan* (Parsons 1948).

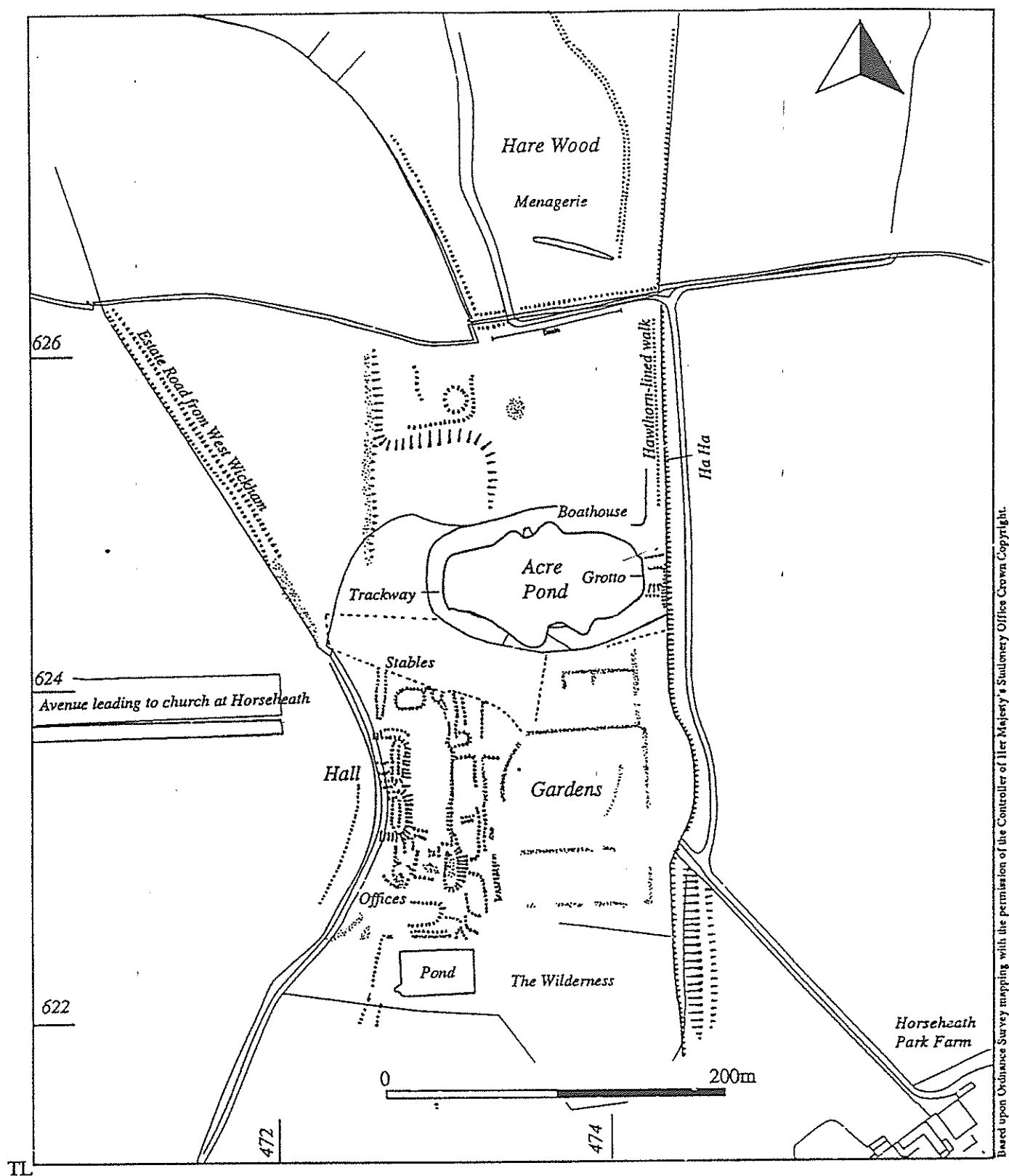


Figure 2 Plan showing results of 1990 RCHM survey of Horseheath Hall and environs (after RCHM)

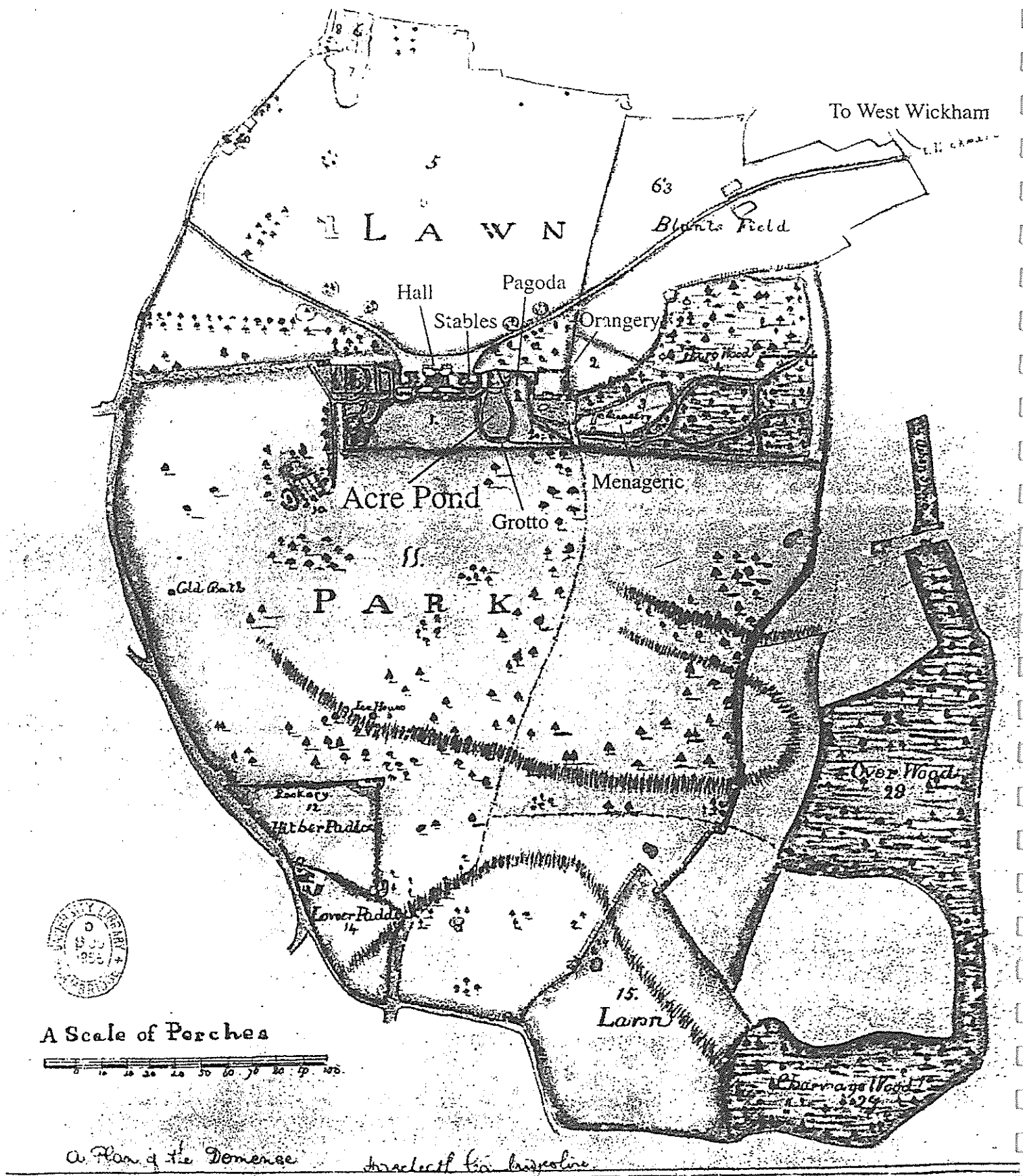


Figure 3 Plan of the Demense of Horseheath 1769  
(C.U.L. Ms. Plans)

The estate now came to Henry Bromley, a younger son, who employed William Kent to remodel the Hall and redesign the gardens. Work was probably underway by 1733 and would have proceeded according to Kent's design. Kent himself died in 1748, whilst Henry committed suicide (due to financial difficulties) in 1755. His son continued to spend on the Hall and gardens, adding an orangery in c.1762, until continuing financial problems forced the sale of the Hall and gardens in 1775-1777. The Hall was demolished by the end of the century.

### *Horseheath Hall Landscape Design; with special reference to Acre Pond*

The present research concentrates on the area to the north of Acre Pond. Acre Pond lay about 200m to the north of the Hall (prior to its demolition) and formed part of a much wider designed landscape associated with the Hall. As noted above the grounds were landscaped during the mid 17th century in Renaissance style, re-worked during the early 18<sup>th</sup> century and then completely redesigned by Kent in the mid 18<sup>th</sup> century.

A detailed history of the landscaping is examined within Cocroft (1999).

The Hall was sited on a terrace that fell away to the west and east, typical of Renaissance style and probably dating to the Pratt layout. A formal garden lay to the east of the house, extending north, composed of rectangular compartments possibly subdivided by brick paths. The formal garden is most likely to date from the 17<sup>th</sup> century and be related to the designs of Pratt, as are the formal avenues.

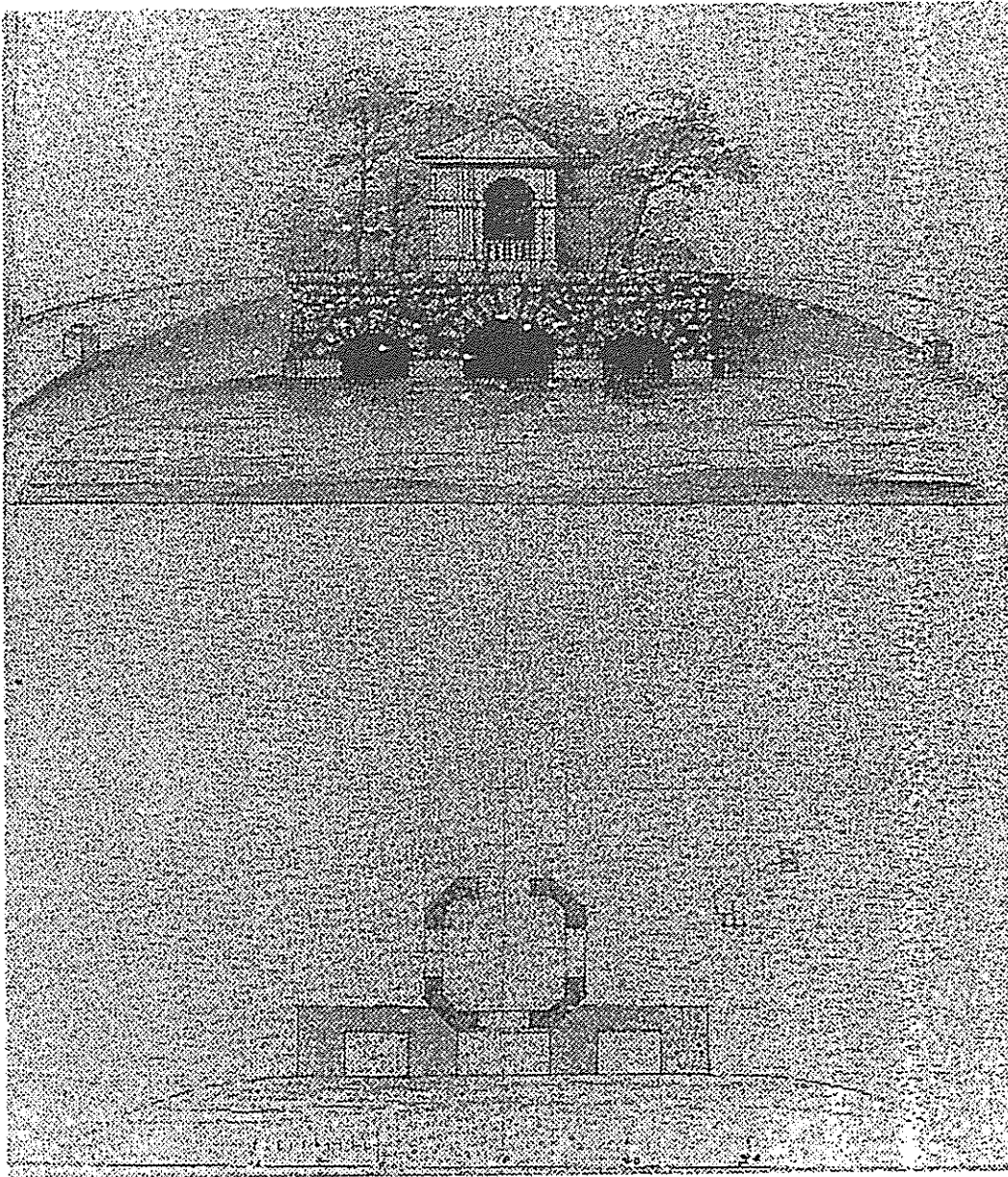
Following the redesign by Kent the gardens contained a 'Wilderness', eye-catching grotto, and ponds. There were additional outbuildings in the form of stables and boathouses. Kent also added Cedar of Lebanon to the grounds, one of his favourite trees; two, although in poor condition, survive.

The gardens and parkland at this period would be less formal with an 'opening up' of grassland lawn areas, and perhaps clump planting. Typically of Kent, buildings would be set within an 'arcadia' of classical allusion usually with extensive use of water features. A ha-ha, enabling an uninterrupted view across the park and fundamental to the type of landscape design in the 18th century surrounded the gardens.

Acre Pond is an oval pond to the north of the house, 110m x 55m in size, with a small inlet on the north side. Its appearance and curving outline is typical of this period and it was originally associated with an eye-catching grotto (Figure 4). Boathouses were set on the north, south east and eastern sides of the pond. The boathouse to the east was associated with the Kent grotto, whilst that to the north is related to the inlet. The south eastern boathouse is suggested by Cocroft as being 19<sup>th</sup> century.

In 1990 a small mound was discovered on the eastern end of the pond which might be grotto designed by William Kent (Cocroft 1999; Dixon Hunt 1987) (Figure 4). Brick footings representing the site of the grotto survive along the lake edge at this point.

Nineteenth century mapping indicates a path leading around the pond, and this was exposed as flint hardcore in 1990s ground disturbance. However, dating indicates this path to be post 1750 (Cocroft 1999) and thus may not be associated with either Pratt or Kent layout, but, it may have been associated with the creation of the orangery to the north of the pond. Northwards of the grotto a 4m wide walk, hawthorn lined, linked the grotto to the menagerie within Hare Wood (Cocroft 1999).



*Figure 4 Design by William Kent for the Grotto pavilion at Horseheath Hall.*

### *Conclusion*

Acre Pond appears to be a remnant of the William Kent design for the gardens and grounds of Horseheath Hall. It was associated with an 'eye catcher' grotto, for which a design by Kent exists (Figure 4). Both the location and design of the oval pond, a short distance from the Hall, is typical of Kent. The inclusion of at least one building, and possibly additional boathouses would also be typical. The plan of 1769/70 shows a second possible building in the form of a possible pagoda also to the north of Acre Pond.

Other sites for which Kent executed similar designs include Rousham (Oxfordshire), Chiswick (London) and Esher (Kent). More locally, Kent also designed the gardens at Holkham Hall in Norfolk. Many of Kent's drawings and designs still survive for these



sites, and include frequent reference to water features and grottoes of a similar type to Horseheath (Dixon Hunt 1987; Wilson 1984).

Later features associated with the pond include later 18<sup>th</sup> century paths, recovered in the 1990 archaeological works, and boathouses of several periods. Results from the current archaeological work will provide further information on the chronology of change to the grounds at Horseheath Hall and may be integrated with the information provided by the 1990s survey.

### Recommendations for Further Work

The present report is based on research of a limited nature appropriate for an initial evaluation. Should further archaeological works be recommended further information on the landscape designs may be available within the primary sources held at the CRO (Deeds and surveys of Horseheath CRO R70/ 45-48), at Pembroke College (Surveys of Horseheath). The historian William Coles was a frequent visitor to the Hall in the first half of the 18<sup>th</sup> century and his manuscripts are likely to contain much material of relevance. Some of this has been recorded by Parsons, but specific material relating to Acre Pond may also be held within the Coles manuscripts (held at the BL Add Ms. 5808).

In addition, further details may be gained from the various advertisements for sales and let in the late 18<sup>th</sup> century (Cambs Chronicle 1775, 1777) and from an article dated 1790 held within the Cambridgeshire Collection. The notebooks relating to the landscape designs of Pratt have been published by Gunther (1928).

## 8 DISCUSSION

The history of the Hall and gardens shows that it was designed and re-designed by eminent designers of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries such as Pratt and Kent with additions and adaptations over time by the owners. The Hall and gardens went through a long period of mixed fortune until in the late nineteenth century when the buildings were sold for construction material. Degradation continued with some areas brought into plough and others used for dumping farm waste. The gardens to the west of the Hall and south of Acre Pond were largely removed by the construction of a fishing lake.

The only archaeology found to lie within the ground of the proposed extension to Acre Pond consisted of a cobble surface which is the trackway shown on the 1769 plan of the Demesne. The RCHME recovered fragments of bottle glass which indicated that the track was laid down post-1750 and after Kent's death in 1748. As this track forms a circular walk or ride between Kent's Grotto and the Hall it is probable that it follows Kent's design or lies on the course of an earlier track which may have originally been laid out by Kent. The 1769 plan also shows that the area north of Acre Pond was crossed by paths leading to the orangery and menagerie, whilst the eastern boundary of the site was a hawthorn bound track leading along the ha-ha into Hare Wood and the menagerie.

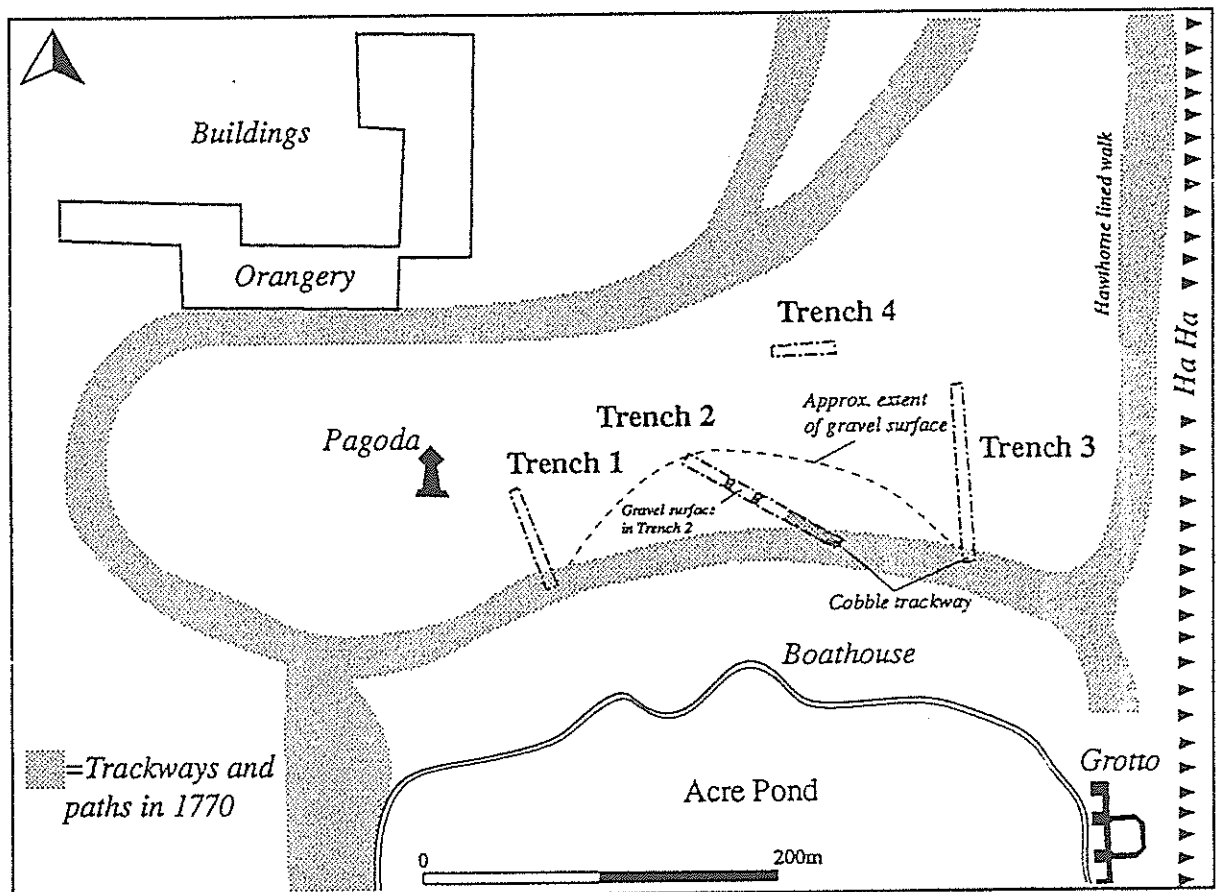
Whilst the date and function of the cobbled trackway has been relatively easy to define the gravelled area directly to the north has been less so. The stratigraphic relationship suggests that this surface is of a similar date to the cobble trackway which is part of the circular walk around Acre pond. The extent of the surface, as understood from our four trenches, suggests a semi-circular area of gravels which lay directly behind, to the north of, the eighteenth century boathouse and adjacent to the grotto. No post-holes were



identified to indicate structures or buildings, however, only a small area of this surface was cleared for investigation. It is possible that this surface acted as a standing area for coaches or such during trips out to the grotto or as a station or vantage point providing views across the lake to the Hall. Unfortunately, the 1769 plan provides no clues to the function of this surface as it is not depicted. The date of these surfaces would seem to indicate that landscape alterations were occurring up to the date of the sale of the house and grounds even though the family were presumably feeling the strain of their financial situation.

Although no remains of the monument were identified in Trench 1, on the northwestern side of Acre Pond lay a garden feature of unclear form. Dr Way suggests that this was a pagoda which would have been a typical feature of gardens of this period. The exact location and form of this feature remains unclear although an attempt to map its approximate location and how the proposed development will affect the immediate 1770 garden features is shown in Figure 5.

A levelling deposit of bricks and tiles within silts and clays overlies the gravel and cobble surfaces. Much of this building material presumably comes from the Hall, stable, orangery etc. The matrix is derived from the natural boulder clays and has presumably been excavated from a pit or during the construction of one of the modern lakes. Much of this deposit is representative of the degradation and destruction of the Hall and gardens and has probably been introduced to this area as part of the recent landscaping.



**Figure 5** Detail of archaeological trenches, superimposed on a schematic plan based on the 1769/70 plan.

Because of the importance of the area further archaeological work would appear to be appropriate if the development goes ahead. Such work should consider the date of the trackway and gravel surfaces, their life span and their linkages within the designed landscape. The full extent of these surfaces will need to be exposed to analyse the activities undertaken within these areas. Further investigative work should be undertaken to resolve the nature of the monument which was located on the northwest side of Acre Pond. The development proposals suggest that the cut linking Acre Pond with the new lake will affect what Cocroft's 1990 survey suggests to be the location of a nineteenth century boathouse. Historical research using primary documents to map the evolution of the gardens around Acre pond and assess the involvement of Kent in the laying out of the trackway and the possible pagoda would be appropriate. Importantly any landscaping should be undertaken sympathetically with the monument and not used to bury existing earthworks.

Whether or not the scheme goes ahead, the opportunity should be taken to consider the preservation of the orangery buildings to the north and west of the proposed development zone. This small area, presently under plough, should preferably be turned to pasture or grassland without the addition of trees which would result in unintended disturbance of the remains.

## 9 CONCLUSION

Even though considerable re-landscaping of the Hall and gardens has occurred since the sale of the property in the 1770's and particularly in the last 10 years the RCHME has shown that significant archaeological remains are preserved at the Hall and where the stables and orangery once stood. Although archaeological remains within the development area appear to only consist of paths and trackways these are important linkages within the eighteenth century designed landscape providing both access to the grotto and boat houses as well as impressive views across the lake to the Hall. However, the demolition of the Hall in the late eighteenth century and the construction of lakes to the east of the Hall and landscaping in the 1990s has removed or disguised much of the landscape context for the surviving remains.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Firstly I wish to thank all of the members of the Archaeological Field Unit who have been involved in the project. I also wish to thank Jon Cane for his masterful drawings and Scott Kenney for the trench location survey.

I have also appreciated the assistance of the Tim Malim the Project Manager who has managed the archaeological work.

Specialist services have been admirably provided by Dr Twigs Way who identified the importance of the site and placed the archaeology within the context of the history of the Hall and gardens.

Twigs and I would like to thank Christopher Taylor for his help in locating the publication of the 1990 field survey at Horseheath Hall.

Finally I wish to thank the Miles Group for arranging the funding of the archaeological evaluation.

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