





# A Millennium at Crawley Court

1000 - 2000 AD







### Main menu

- ♦ Introduction
- Early history
- Mediaeval
- Early modern
- Victorian
- Twentieth century
- Remainders and reminders
- Maps



















### CRAWLEY

derives its name from the from the Saxon

### CRAWAN-LEA

meaning "meadow or clearing of the crows"



...their descendants inhabit Crawley Court to this day



## Early days to 1000 AD

- ♦ BC Archaeological evidence of Bronze Age (3000-1000BC) and Iron Age settlements adjacent to Crawley Court site...
- ♦ AD ... and later Roman & Celtic occupation in the north of the village and Anglo-Saxons in the southern part.
- 643 Land granted to the See of Winchester
- ♦ 909 Royal Charter granted by Edward the Elder (901-924) confirms lands of about 2400 acres at Crawley to the <u>Bishop of Winchester</u>



## 1086: The Domesday Book

In the Domesday Book the size of the Manor of Crawley is recorded as around 3600 acres.

Less than half was arable land farmed by 'villeins' and peasants for the benefit of the Lord of the Manor (the Bishop) administered by the Prior of Winchester

The value of the Manor is given as £28





### 1400 - 1800: Mediaeval Crawley

- ♦ 1457 The first manor farm was leased by the Bishop to John Serle who built a house adjacent to Crawley church. The tenure passed in turn to:
- 4 1487
  John Cooper
- ♦ 1508 Gilbert Cook
  - Thomas Percy
- \$ 1588
  John Holdwey (alias Edmondes)
- ♦ 1605
  Sir Gerard Fleetwood
- ♦ 1663 Dutton Fleetwood (son)
- 4 1667 John Henley > Sir Robert Henley > Sir Robert Henley Kt
- ♦ 1694 Anthony Henley
- 1711 Anthony Henley II
- ♦ 1745 Robert Henley (1st Earl Northington)
- Robert Henley (2nd Lord Northington)
- Sir Willoughby Ashton / Lady Jane Henley
- ♦ 1791 Richard Meyler

### 1600-1800 : Crawley House & lands

In 1605 a manor house was built on this site by Sir Gerard Fleetwood and this was progressively renewed, improved and enlarged by subsequent tenants.

The Crawley estate was sold in 1786 for £21,000 to Sir Willoughby Ashton who, in 1791, sold to Richard Meyler whose wealth had been created by slave trading and sugar plantations in the West Indies.

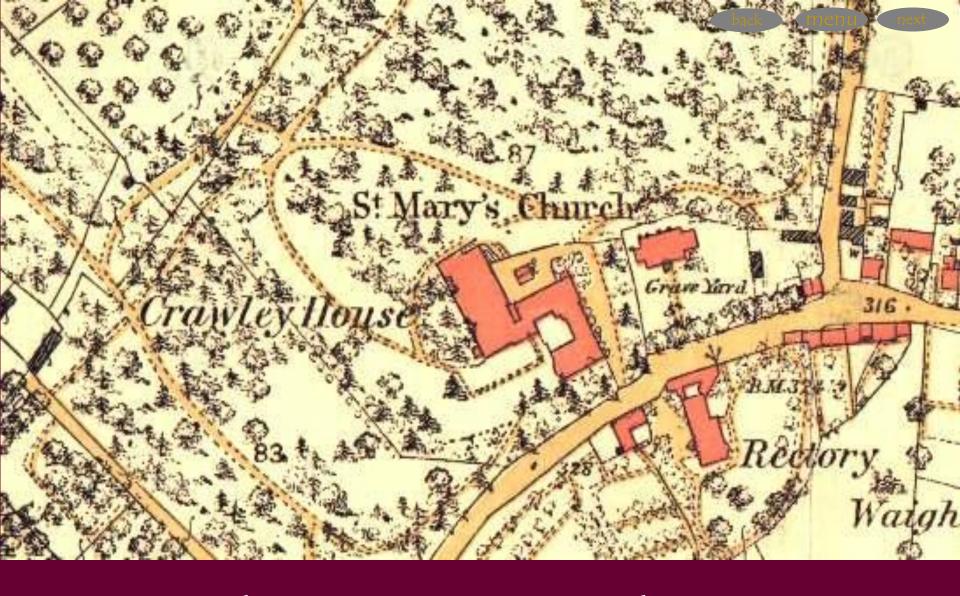
In 1794 he built a Real (Royal) Tennis Court adjoining the house

"for the delectation of the Prince of Wales and his brother the Duke of Gloucester"

### 1800 - 1818

Richard Meyler died in 1802 and the estate passed to his son "Dick" who continued to own and occupy Crawley House, entertaining royalty and adding to the house including a cricket pitch\* where in the first match on 15th July 1816 "eleven gentlemen of Crawley defeated the same number from Wherewell by 38 runs"

<sup>\*</sup>on the site of today's main car park



OS Map of 1871 showing location of Crawley House and the church

### 1818 -1871

In 1818 the estate passed to a distant relative, Richard Bright, a confirmed misogynist, who rarely visited Crawley and when he did he used only two or three rooms leaving the rest of the building to decay.

So the great days of Crawley House came to an end. He undertook no maintenance and it slowly became derelict.

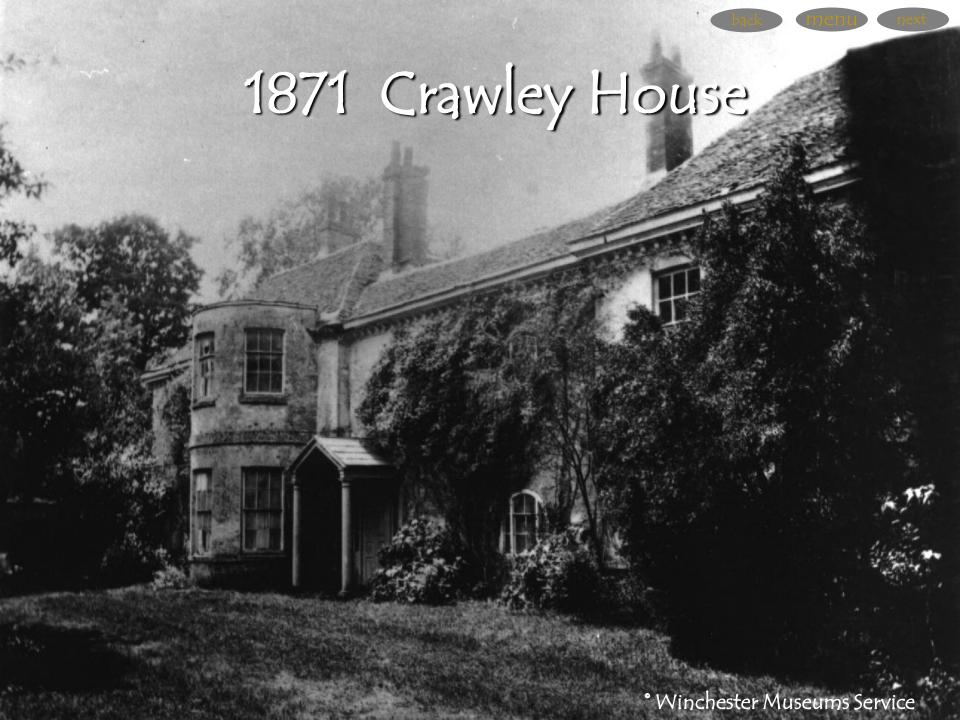






## 1871 Crawley House (derelict)



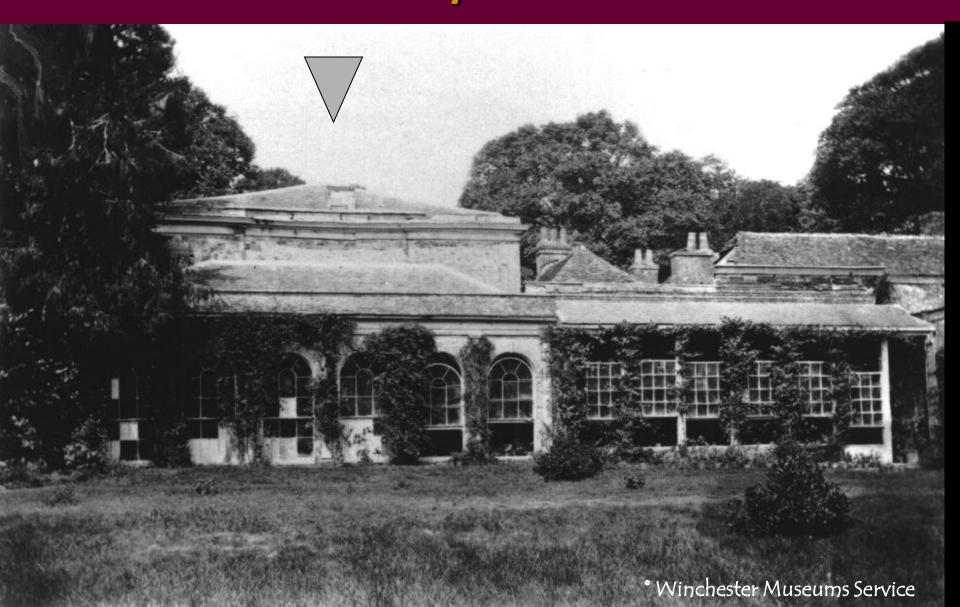


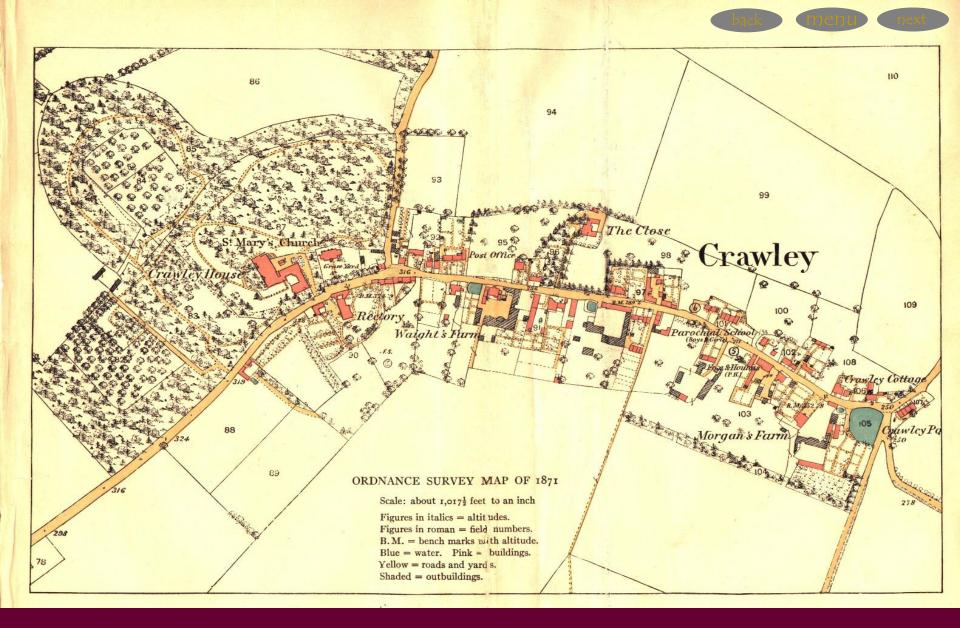






## 1871: The Royal Tennis court





CRAWLEY in 1871 before fire destroyed part of the village in 1880

### 1869 –1874

1869 On the death of Richard Bright's son Henry, Lord Ashburton became the new owner.

He felled much of the timber on the estate and stripped the tennis court of some of its stone, while leaving the Jacobean house to deteriorate further.

1874 Lord Ashburton sold the estate to Adam Kennard, a wealthy London banker.





## Crawley Court - 1877

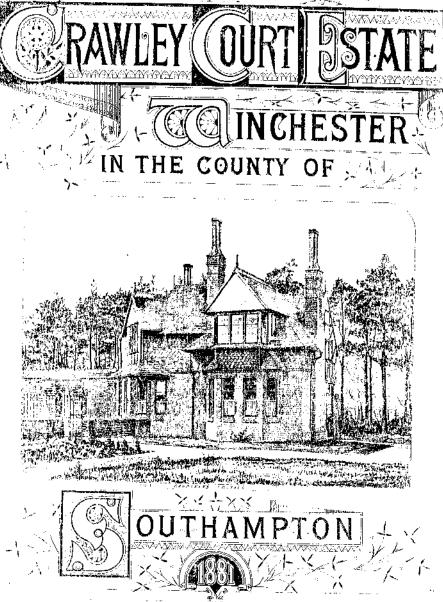


Adam Kennard demolished Crawley House in 1877 and commissioned the President of RIBA (Sir Pepys Cockerill) to design and build a large Elizabethan-style mansion, Crawley Court, some distance from the old site.



In September 1880, shortly after completion of the new mansion, Adam Kennard's wife Grace Ellen died, and was buried in Crawley churchyard.

In 1881 Crawley Court was put up for sale along with about 2000 acres of land.



#### TO BE SOLD BY PRIVATE TREATY.

THE THESE PARTICULARS WITH PLANS & VIEWS, or 10 TREAT FOR THE PROPERTY.

ME JOHN WHALLEY Estate Agent MEPER STREET CHESDER

MESSES HOLLAND. 23 MOUNTS!- GROSVENOR SQ BONDON. MESSE SEWELL&SON.
SOLICITORS.
GIRENGESTER.

### PARTICULARS.

### The Crawley Count Estate

IS PLEASANTLY SITUATED IN THE

#### COUNTY OF SOUTHAMPTON,

in territor

#### PARISHES OF CRAWLEY, SUTTON, AND HEADBOURNE WORTHY,

Within Fire Miles from the ancient City of Winchester; Three-and-a-half Miles from Fullerton and Stockbridge, both Stations on the Andorer, Romsey, and Southampton Hailway, and only two hours journey from London.

The ESTATE is particularly weethy the attention of sportraining to the midst of a first-class HUNTING HISTRICY, within easy reach of the Horsley, flampshire, Hambledon, and Vice Fox Hounds, and Mr. Dear's Harriers.

The South Hanta celebrated Coursing Meeting is held in Danisbury, only six mules distint; and there is good THOUT FISHING in the Rivers Itches and Test, near to the Property.

The Partridge and Ground Game Shooting is excellent, and a fair head of Pheasants is annually killed.

#### THE ESTATE

FORMS A COMPACT AND MOST ENJOYABLE PROPERTY OF

#### ONE THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED & THIRTY-TWO ACRES,

IN A RING FENCE,

Bounded by good Roads, and sufficient supply of Water.

The PARISH CHURCH stands within the Grounds, and is only five minutes walk from the Mansion, by a Private Entrance.

The Estate is all FREEHOLD, except a few Cottages with Gardens, which are Copyhold.

#### THE MANSION

HAS BEEN RECENTLY RESCRED IN

#### MODERN ELIZABETHAN ARCHITECTURE,

Of Red Brick and Flint, enriched with Terra Cotta Mullions and Carving, regardless of cost, from the designs of an eminent Architect,

AND ARTISTICALLY DECORATED BY MR. JOHN CRACE, LONDON,

The details of the internal accommodation are as follows:-

LOFTY AND ELEGANT SALOON, 36ft. by 19ft. 6in., With Panelled Cak Walls, Oak Floor, Handsomely Carved Stone Fire-place, Ceiling Punciled and Decorated, Oak Staircase leading to Corridor on First Floor; and Felding Doors leading into

#### DRAWING ROOM, 32ft. by 25ft.,

With large Bay Windows, Walls Lined with Figured Silk, Handsomely Decorated Ceiling; and Folding Deors leading into

#### HANDSOME DINING ROOM, 32ft, by 20ft.,

With Panelled Oak Dade very Richly Curved, and Coiling Panelled and Decorated.

#### LIBRARY, 46ft. by 16ft.,

Filted with Handsome Walnut Bookeases, Two Fire-places, Richly Carved Mantleplaces, Duors to match Walnut Dade, Two large Bay Windows, and Panelled and Decorated Ceiling.

#### BILLIARD ROOM, 29ft. by 19ft.,

With large Bay Window, and Painted and Decembed Walls and Ceiling.

BOUDOIR, 21 feet 6 inches by 15 feet 6 inches,
Wells and Colling Pointed and Decorated.

STUDY AND SMOKING ROOM, 20ft, 6in. by 14ft.

19 BED & DRESSING ROOMS ON FIRST FLOOR.

14 BEDROOMS ON SECOND FLOOR.

#### A COMPLETE SUITE OF ROOMS ON BASEMENT,

COMPRISING

House-Keeper's Room, Butler's Room, Servants' Hall, Kitchen, Pantry, Larders, Still Room, Wine and Beer Cellars, &c.



LARGE WALLED-IN KITCHEN GARDEN of 3 Acres.

The Fruit Trace are in full hearing. Extensive and coally range of

Glass Houses, comprising Vineries, Peach Houses, Fernery,

#### CONSERVATORY,

EXTENSIVE FORCING PITS, MUSHINGOM and RHUBARR REDS, &c., &c., all heated by Het Water.
Potato Room, Potting Shed, and other Out-Buildings.

ORNAMENTAL GARDENER'S COTTAGE,

WITH LIVING ROOMS FOIL DROFT-GARDENERS.

THE CHARMING AND EXTENSIVE

#### RETERNE CROUNDS AND CARDENS

Were laid out under the direction of Wir. Bannenter Thomas, Pag., and are

Adorned with stately Timber and rare specimen trees of mature growth, including many splendid and noble Cedars of Lebanon, intersected by pretty Lewns, winding secluded Paths, &c.: also, a fine Orchard, Orleket Field, Park, &c., the whole enclosed within a thick belt of Plantations.

WITHIN THE GROUNDS, AND MEAR THE MANSION, IS A

#### FINE OLD TENNIS COURT.

Of solid stone walls and floor, 95 feet 9in, by 31 feet 8in, exclusive of the Pent House, which occupies three sides of the Court, and is 6 feet wide. It contains Two Dressing Rooms on each side of Porch to South Entrance; a Work Room for the Tennis Marker with fittings complete, and Out-offices; also a Side Entrance on the North-east corner. The Court is lighted and ventilated from the sides, bears the Royal Arms of Charles II., and is generally allowed to be one of

THE BEST IN ENGLAND.

#### Newly Butly & Very Ornamental Laundry

IN THE VILLAGE OF CRAWLEY.

Containing Sitting Room, 14ft. by 12ft; Kitchen, 14ft. by 14ft; Scullery, 14ft. by 9ft.; Two Pantries, Mangle Room, Laundry, Wash-house, Drying Closet, Coal House, Two Wood Sheds, Horse Pumps, large Tanks for rain water, with

GOOD DRYING GROUND AND PRODUCTIVE GARDEN.

The whole of the Fiftings were supplied by Messas. Francia & Co., Clifford Street, London.

#### SUPERIOR GAME-KEEPER'S COTTAGE AT THE WARREN,

WITH DOG KENNELS AND SHEDS



### 1884 –1901

The 1881 sale found no purchaser and the younger Kennards continued to live in Crawley Court while Adam Kennard moved away and later remarried. A second attempt to sell the estate by auction was made in 1884. This too was unsuccessful and the Census of 1891 records that the great house was occupied by just four people:

Edward Kennard

(the 18 year old son)

Mary Jane James

(34 - housemaid)

Ethel Bessie Gray

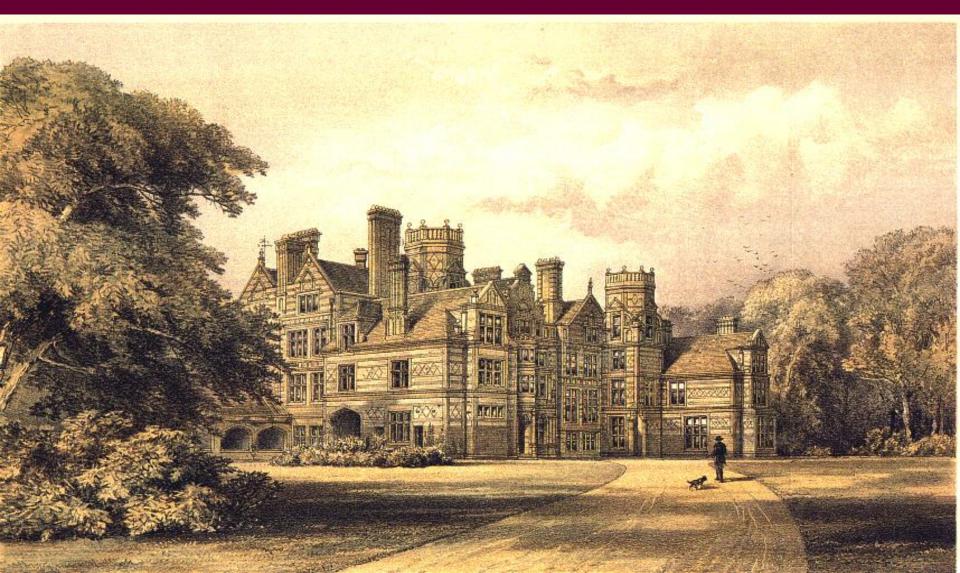
(19 - scullery maid)

Alan Ingram

(20 - odd job man)

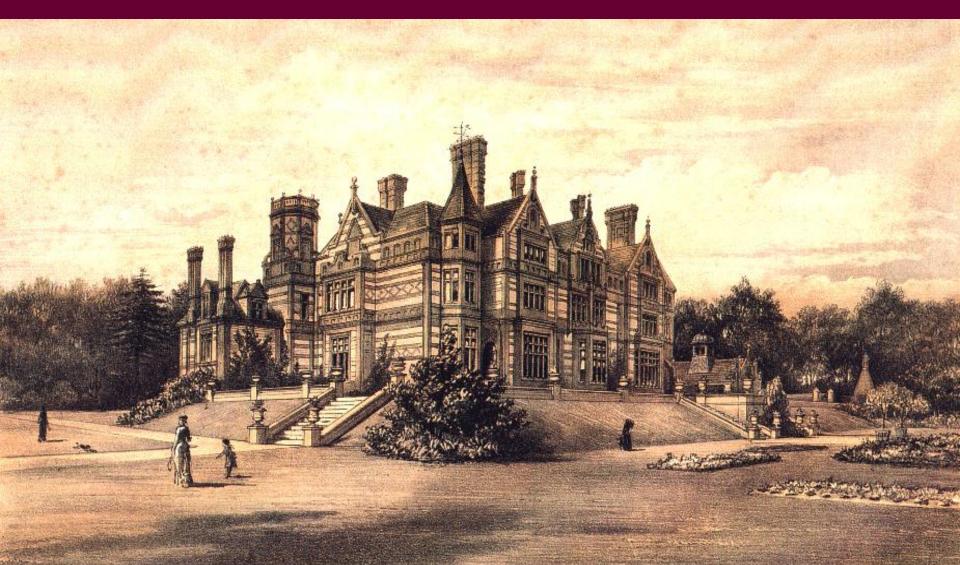


## 1884 - Crawley Court North view





## 1884 - Crawley Court South-east front



## Twentieth century

- ♦ 1900 1918
- 1918 1931
- 1932 1953
- 1953 1970
- ♦ 1970 1973
- 1973 present day





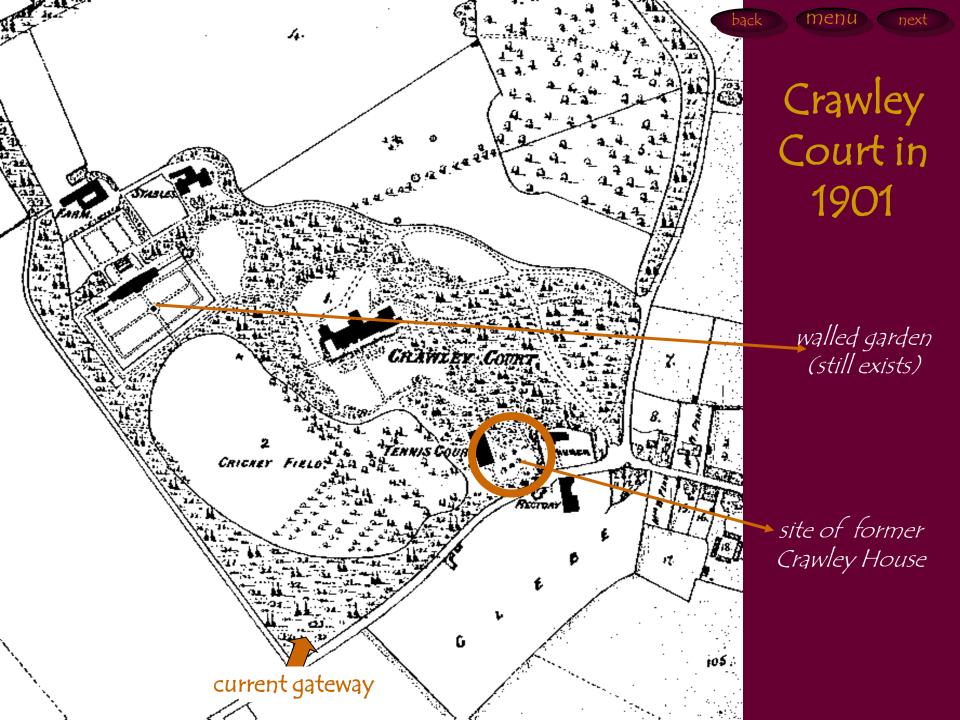
t

### Otto Ernest Philippi.

He was the wealthy MD of the cotton business

J & P Coats Ltd

of Paisley, Scotland and he moved his entire household, horses, farm stock (and boat!) by a specially chartered train from Paisley to Stockbridge station.









# While his wife, two sons and two daughters enjoyed country life at Crawley Court ....



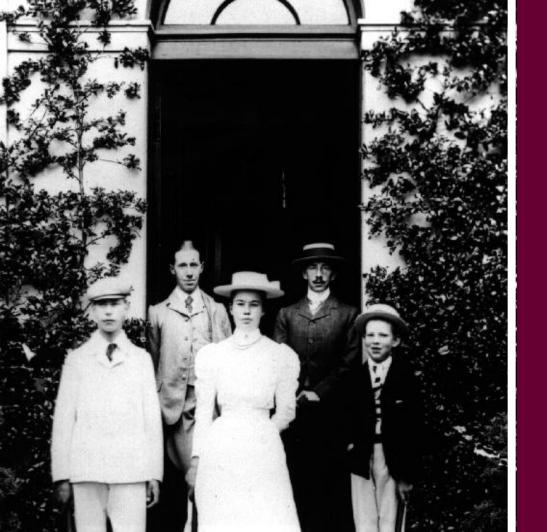
....Ernest Philippi set about purchasing and modernising almost all the run-down and decrepit village houses to create a "model village"



Ernest Philippi continued to play an active part in managing (from Crawley Court) J&P Coats Ltd in Scotland but he refused to install a telephone in Crawley Court, preferring instead to employ a full-time telegraph boy to ferry messages to the village post office.







## The younger Philippis c.1905

left to right

George (younger son)
Alex (elder son)
Dora (daughter)
FW Pledge (tutor)
visitor









## 1910 - Crawley Court staff







## The 1914 - 1918 war

- Although of Prussian origin, Otto Ernst Philippi became a naturalised Briton in 1867 (aged 21) and took the name Ernest.
- Both his sons served as officers in the British Army. George transferred to the fledgling Royal Flying Corps, reaching the rank of Lt Colonel.
- He set up a small recuperation unit in Crawley Court for war-wounded servicemen.
- Work on improving Crawley Village was suspended.
   (Building had ceased in 1912)

### 1917

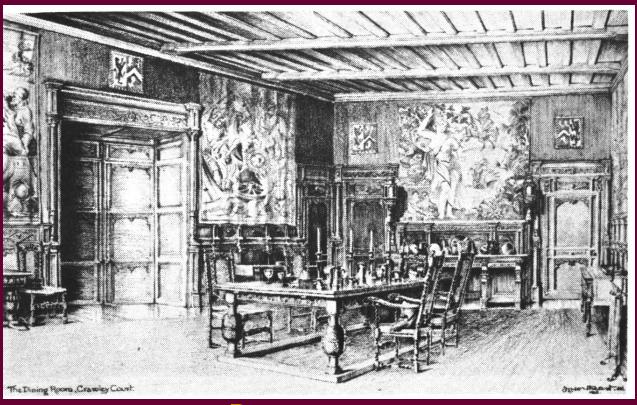
Ernest Philippi died in February 1917 just three weeks after his wife, Magdalena.

He was succeeded by their younger son George who had been created "Lord of the Manor" (on his 21st birthday) by his father in 1911.





### 1918 - 1929



Dining room

George Philippi ran Crawley Court as a famous country sporting estate, with shooting, fishing, golf, tennis and many other sports for guests.

## 1929 - 1931

♦ 1929 The world financial crisis hit both international investments and local farming and seriously damaged George Philippi's wealth. The high social life at Crawley Court gradually declined.

The last acquisition of village property had been in 1925 and development of the village gradually ceased.



### Supplement to COUNTRY LIFE

July 18th 1931

ESTABLISHED OVER A CENTURY.

xii

#### GUDGEON & SONS

Telephone: 21.

ESTATE AGENTS, WINCHESTER.

#### CRAWLEY COURT ESTATE, NEAR WINCHESTER, HANTS

ONE OF THE MOST NOTED SPORTING ESTATES IN THE COUNTY.

affording an excellent Partridge Shoot, a capital Pheasant Shoot and yielding a yearly Bag per acre difficult to surpass in the County. AVERAGE BAG FOR THE PAST TEN YEARS: 2,288 PHEASANTS, 1,135 PARTRIDGES, 696 HARES, 8,562 RABBITS. THE RESIDENCE IS SUBSTANTIALLY BUILT, MODERNIZED, COMMODIOUS, BUT NOT UNWIELDV.



THE RESIDENCE.

Five entertaining rooms, five suites of bedrooms, dressing rooms and bathrooms, ten good guests' bedrooms and four bathrooms. Ample staff accommodation and complete domestic offices. Good garages, stabling, and other useful outbuildings.

ELECTRIC LIGHT. COMPANY'S WATER and GAS. TELEPHONE. CENTRAL HEATING.

The Residence is situate on high ground commanding extensive views of the delightfully timbered parklands and pleasure grounds which surround the Residence and include a

PRIVATE GOLF COURSE.



VIEW FROM PRINCIPAL ROOMS.

THREE CAPITAL FARMS, HOMESTEADS AND COTTAGES, COMPACT RESIDENCES AND PICTURESQUE COTTAGES IN THE NOTED VILLAGE OF CRAWLEY. THE TOTAL AREA OF THE ESTATE EMBRACING

4,000 ACRES (MORE OR LESS), OF WHICH ABOUT 700 ACRES ARE WOODLANDS AND YOUNG PLANTATIONS. To be SOLD by Private Treaty as a whole or in part, and if not Sold to be offered by AUCTION early in September. Particulars of the Agents, Messis, Gudgeon & Sons, The Auction Mart, Winchester,

NORTH DEVON COAST.



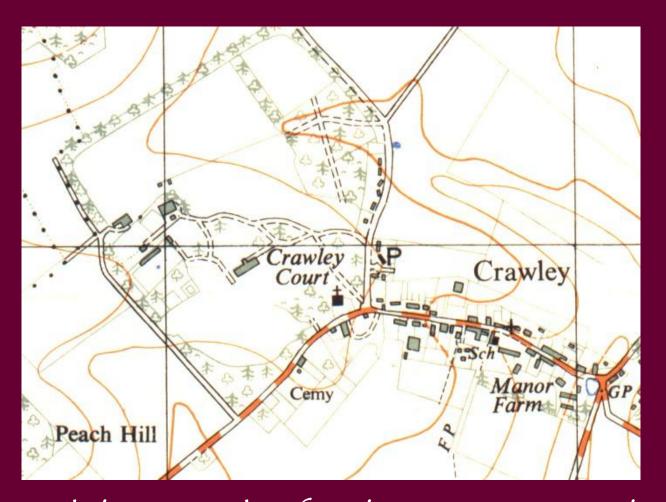
# 1931 - 1944 : Disposal

- ♦ In 1931 the Crawley estate was broken up and put up for sale. It took several years and three auctions.
- The houses and cottages in the village were bought individually.
- Crawley Court, with 32 acres of grounds, was finally sold in 1944 to the Diocese of Portsmouth
- George Philippi was granted a lease for life on the house and grounds.





## 1944 - 1953



George Philippi and his family occupied Crawley Court until his death in **1953** at the age of 63.





## 1953 - 1970



Under the ownership of the Diocese of Portsmouth, Crawley Court was used briefly as a Carmelite Convent . It was then acquired by the Bon Secours Nursing Order as a hospice.



## 1970

The Hospice closed in early 1970 due to high maintenance and running costs and difficulties in getting low-paid female staff from Ireland.

Crawley Court again became empty and abandoned.





from north-west

from south-east

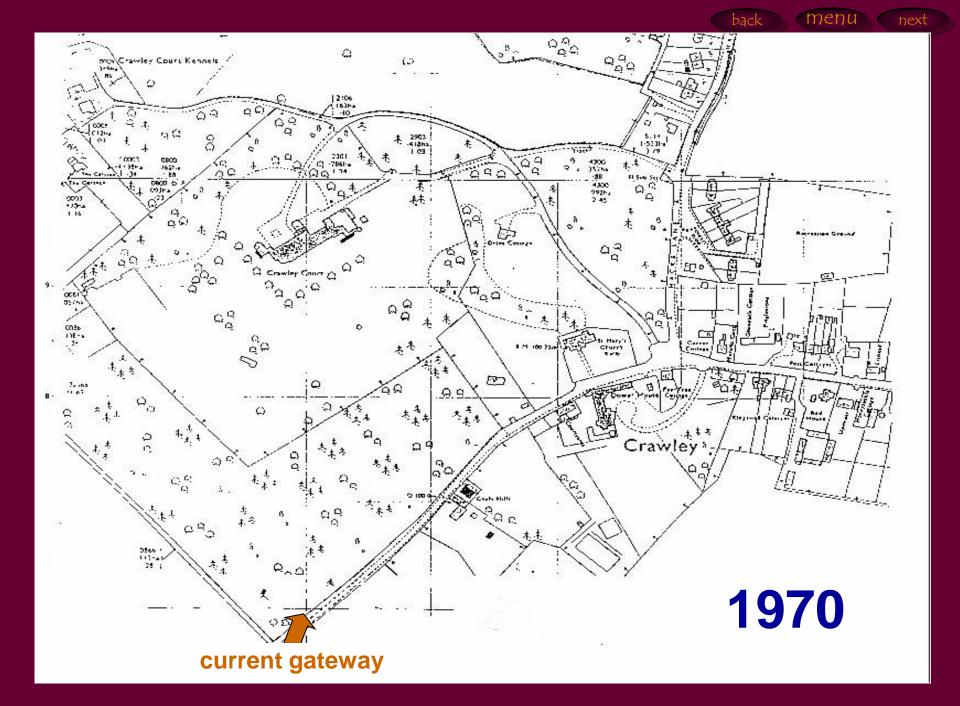


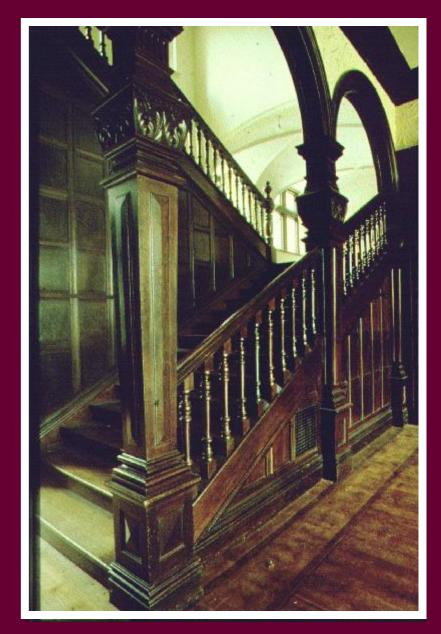
### 1970 - ITA

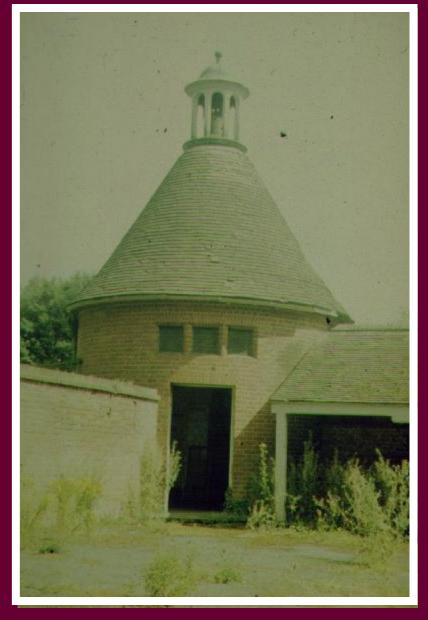
The property was purchased in December 1970 for £47,000 by the

## Independent Television Authority

which was planning to move several departments from its Brompton Road headquarters in Central London







**Main staircase** 

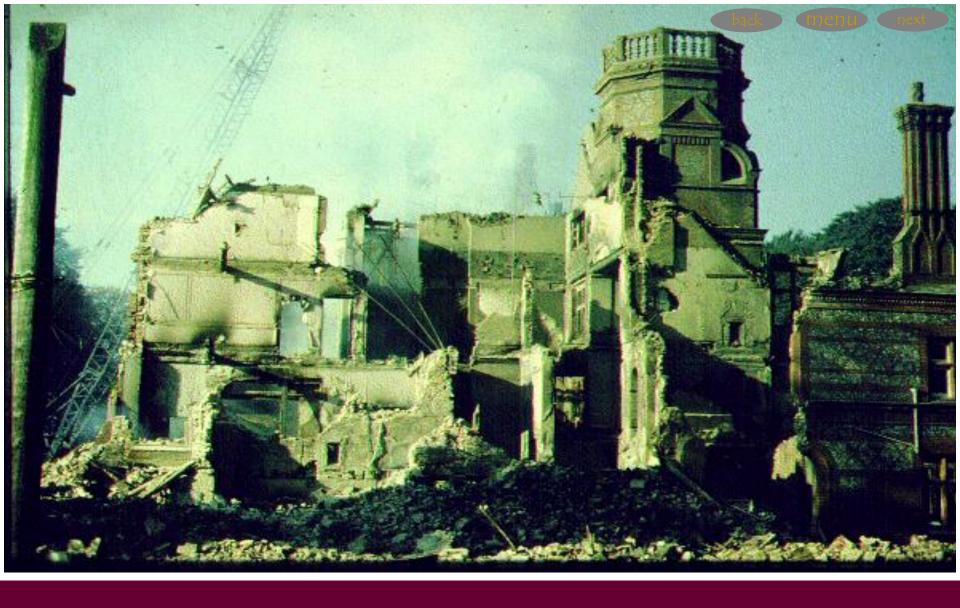
Game Larder



## 1971 - Demolition

### Crawley Court was judged to be :-

- in a very poor state of repair
- unsuitable for conversion into offices and research laboratories
- of very little architectural merit
   so it was demolished....



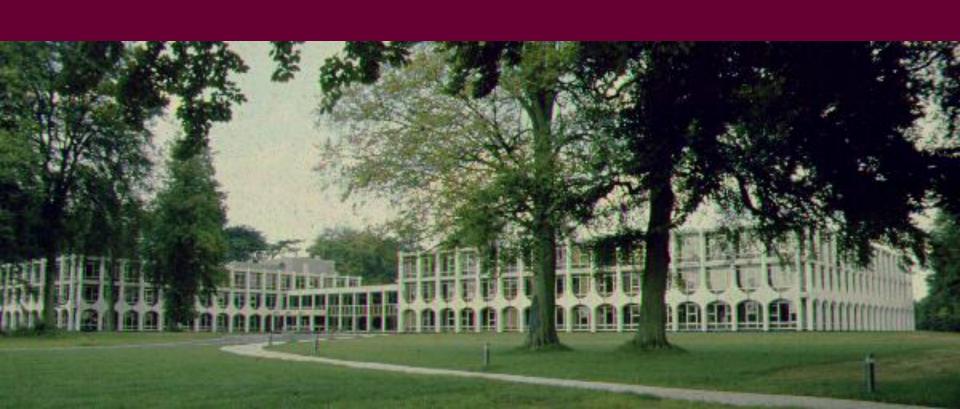
1971 - Under the hammer

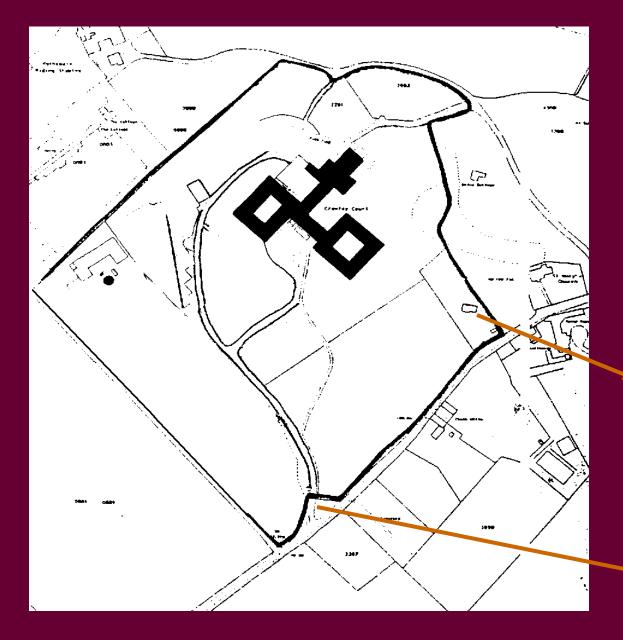




## 1972-1973: Reconstruction

.... and replaced by the present awardwinning 125,000 sq ft office and laboratory complex on the site of the old house.





1973

Layout of **IBA Crawley** Court

bungalow on site of the former Real **Tennis Court** 

new entrance

1973



1990

The Engineering and Finance departments of the recently re-named

Independent Broadcasting

Authority

moved in on 15th October 1973







### 28th November 1975 - Royal Visit







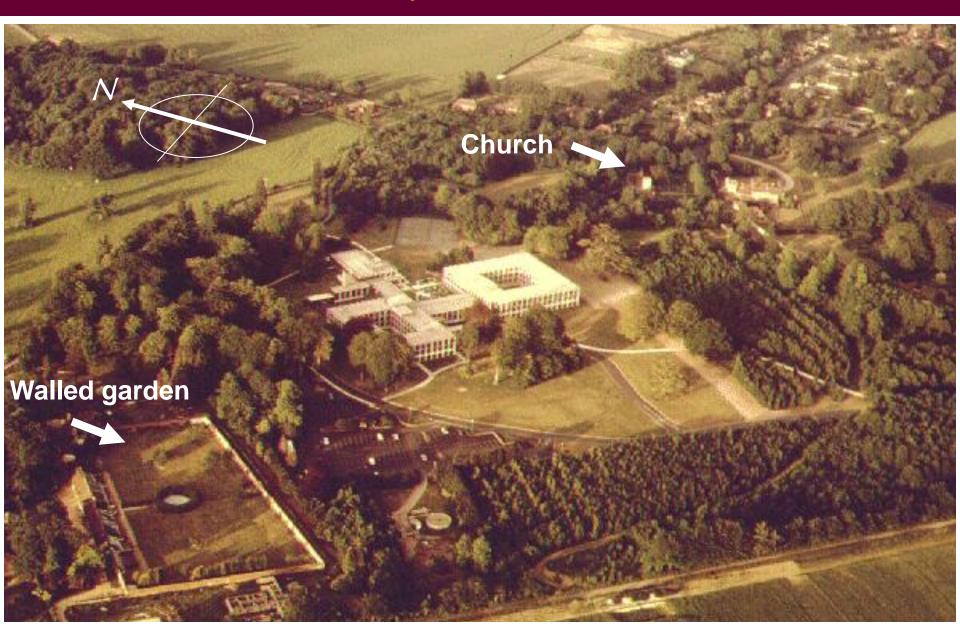
- 1. Arrival with the Lord Lieutenant
- 2. Signing in with Lady Plowden
- 3. Viewing displays with Stuart Bevan and Howard Steele







### 1975 - Crawley Court from the west









# 1974 - 1999 : Site development

- 1974 East Wing completed
- 1977 First satellite dish installed
- 1982 Sports building opened
- 1993-9 Satellite teleport developed
- 1995 Western car park built
- 1998 Woodland car park built



## 1973 - 1999 Achievements at Crawley Court

During the last 27 years of the old millennium, engineers of Crawley Court led the world with development of broadcasting technology including (inter alia):-

•1973 DICE Digital Intercontinental Standard Conversion

•1975 ORACLE TELETEXT system for television

•1978 Satellite Broadcasting Studies

•1981 SABRE Steerable Adaptive Broadcast Reception Equipment

•1992+ MPEG Motion Picture Expert Group -

video compression for broadcasting

•1995-9 DTT / DAB Digital Terrestrial Television and

Digital Audio Broadcasting





## 1970 - 2000 : Owners & logos

1970: Independent Television Authority



1972: Independent Broadcasting Authority



1991: Privatised as National Transcommunications Ltd





1993: Company known as NTL



1996: Purchased by CableTel



1999: ntl launched as "single brand"

## 2000 AD

#### Today CRAWLEY COURT houses:-

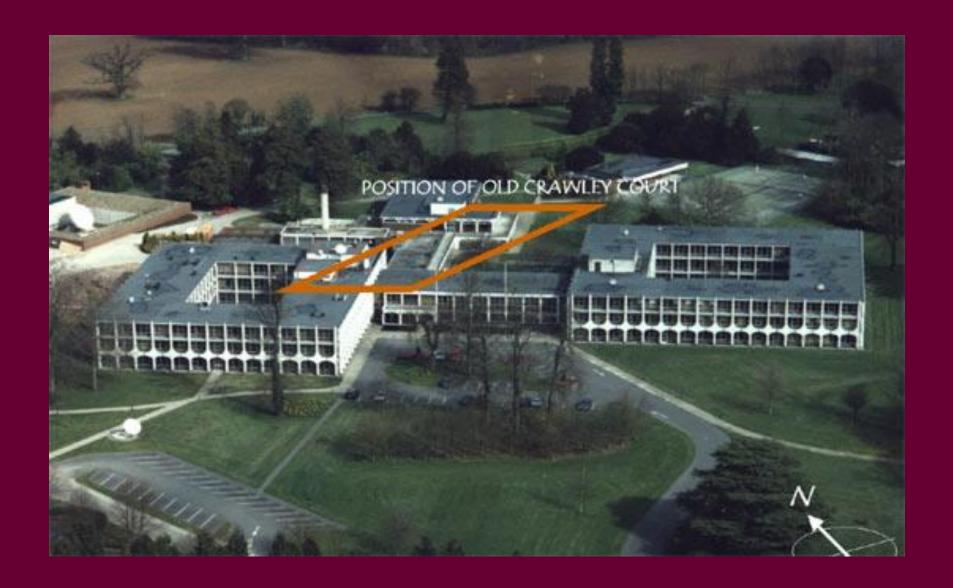
- about 1000 broadcast and communications engineers and their support groups
- the national control centre for **ntl**'s fibre-optic communications network.
- A satellite communications teleport and control centre with about 30 dish antennas of up to 16 metres diameter





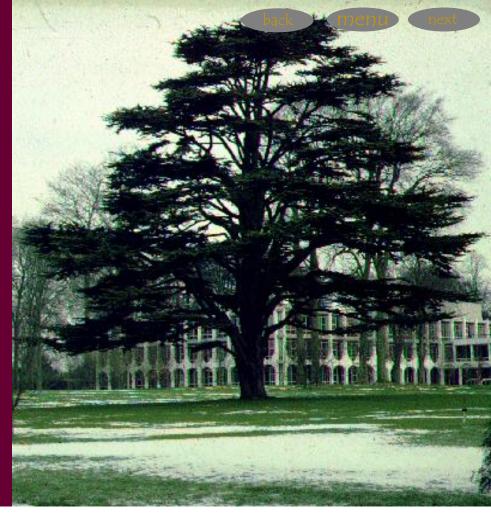






The two great Cedars of Lebanon on the front lawn of Crawley Court were planted around 1750-1780

In **1881** they were already mature and were mentioned in the sale details

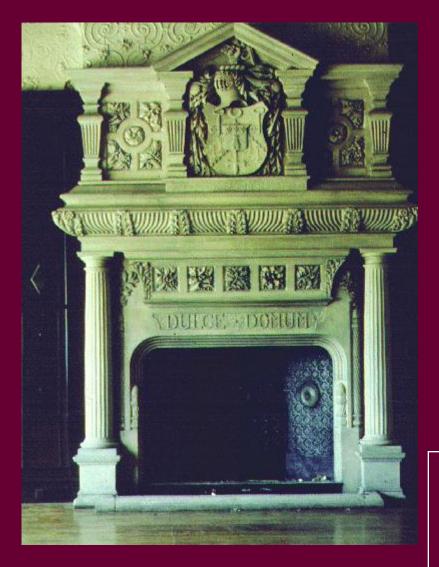


#### THE CHARMING AND EXTENSIVE

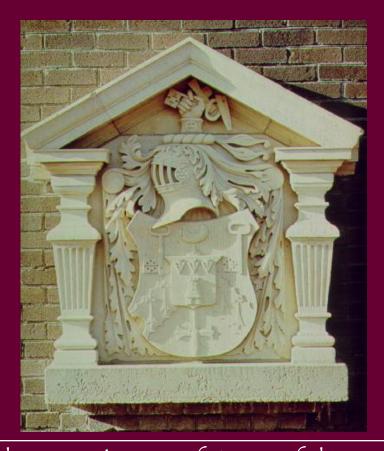
#### REFERENCE CROUNDS AND CARDINS

Were laid out under the direction of Wir. Boonview Thomas, Peq., and are

Adorned with stately Timber and care specimen trees of mature growth, including many splendid and noble Cedars of Lebanon, intersected by pretty Lewns, winding secluded Paths, &c.: also, a fine Orchard, Cricket Field, Park, &c., the whole enclosed within a thick belt of Plantations.



Adam Kennard's Arms

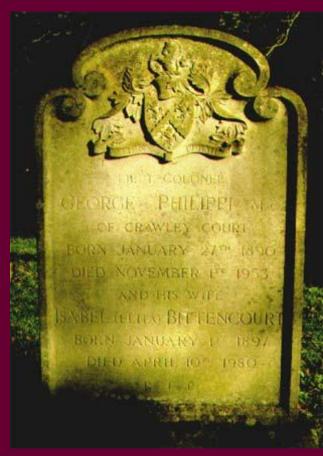


This carved Coat of Arms of the Kennard family originally adorned a mantle-shelf in the hall of the 1874 Crawley Court and is now displayed in the Satellite Teleport area.





Just across the road from the present entrance to Crawley Court there is a small cemetery containing a number of Philippi family graves.



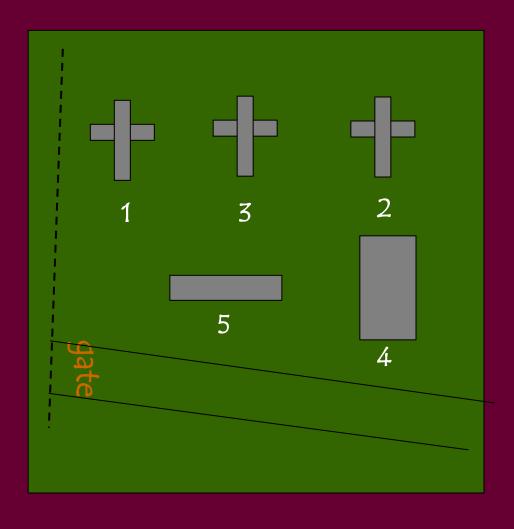
Lieut.Colonel

GEORGE PHILIPPI MC

OF CRAWLEY COURT



### The Philippi family Plot



#### 1 Otto Ernest Philippi

4 June 1847 - 10 February 1917

#### 2 Magdalena (his wife)

14 December 1852 - 21 January 1917

#### 3 Kate (his daughter)

2 August 1884 - 24 April 1903

#### 4 Dora (his daughter)

June 1879 - 3 November 1924

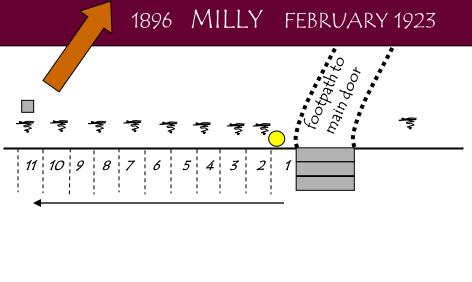
#### 5 George (his son)

27 January 1890 – 1 November 1953 Isabel Elita Bittencourt (wife of George) 1 January 1897 – 10 April 1980









This simple stone marking the grave of one of the Philippi's pet horses was found in 1998 on the woodland car park site and has been reset on its northern verge.



# The Real ('Royal') Tennis Court

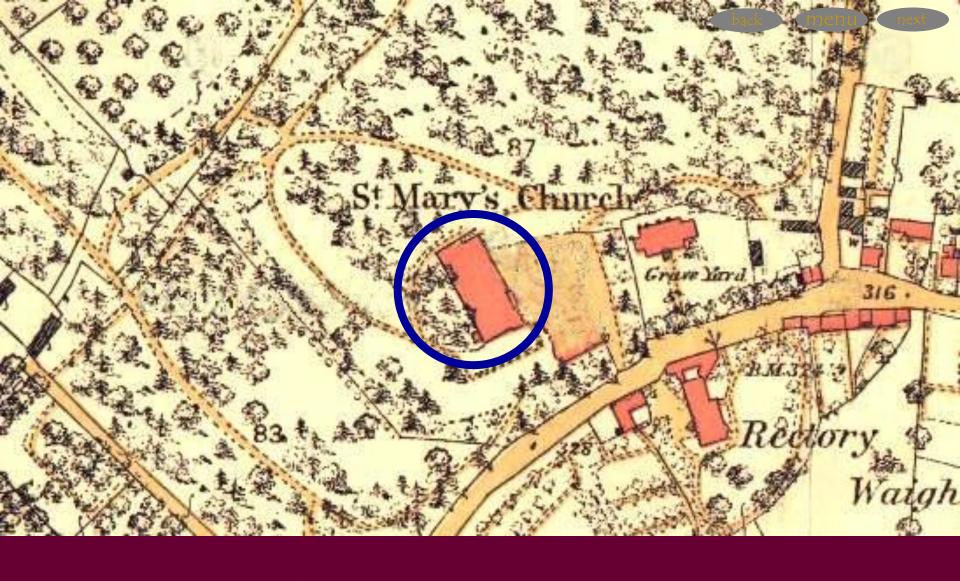
WITHIN THE GROUNDS, AND NEAR THE MANSION, IS A

### FINE OLD TENNIS COURT,

Of solid stone walls and floor, 95 feet 9in. by 31 feet 8in., exclusive of the Pent House, which occupies three sides of the Court, and is 6 feet wide. It contains Two Dressing Rooms on each side of Porch to South Entrance; a Work Room for the Tennis Marker with fittings complete, and Out-offices; also a Side Entrance on the North-east corner. The Court is lighted and ventilated from the sides, bears the Royal Arms of Charles II., and is generally allowed to be one of

THE BEST IN ENGLAND.

from the 1881 details of sale



The location of the Real Tennis Court after demolition of Crawley House in 1871



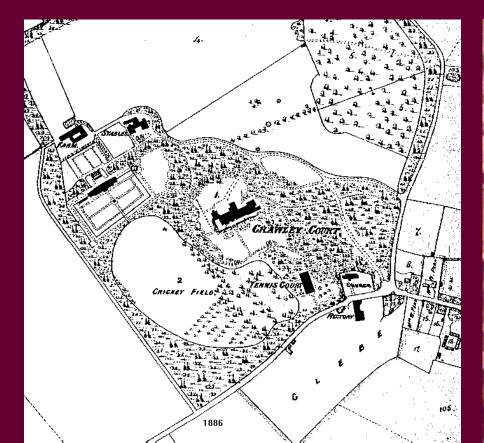
## 1794 -1944: The Real Tennis Court

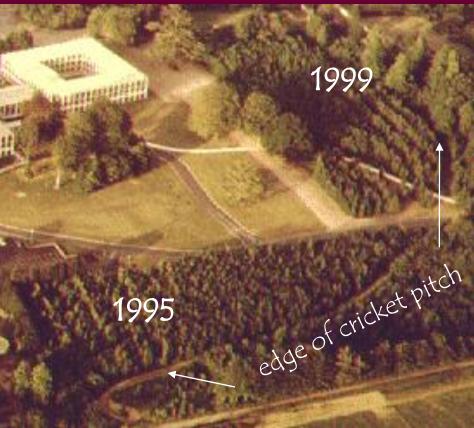
- Ashburton between 1871 and 1874 the Real Tennis Court was refurbished in 1877 by Adam Kennard when the original Crawley Court was built.
- ♦ It was used by many prominent players during the Philippi years including a match between the Colonial Secretary, Alfred Lyttleton, and the Foreign Secretary, Sir Edward Grey
- It was destroyed by fire in 1944 and is now the site of a bungalow ("Tall Trees") built just inside the original gateway.



## The Cricket Field

During the 1939-45 War the old cricket field, on the western side of the grounds, was planted with conifers for the war effort. These were only felled in 1995 & 1999 to make way for new car parks.







The original Crawley
House, and later Crawley
Court, had private access
from the grounds to the
church for the use of
residents and quests.

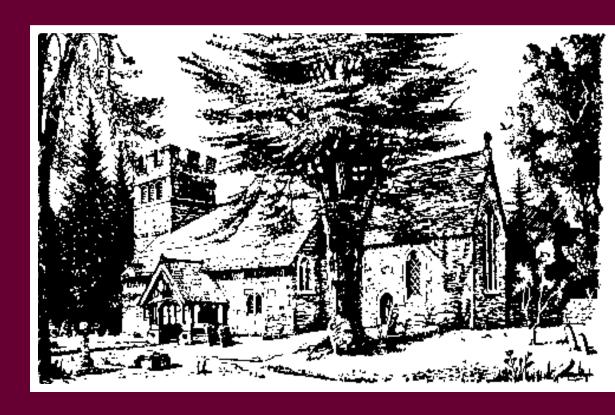
This was bricked up by the nuns in c. 1956 for better security of their grounds.



The bricked-up access gate in Crawley Court boundary wall

# Crawley Church

The Church of St Mary existed prior to 1000AD and is recorded in 1086 in the Domesday Book.



Having been repaired in the early 19th century and restored in 1887 on a considerable scale it now incorporates the 14th century church and a fragment of Norman building.



## Crawley Church & Crawley Court

- ♦ The cross-pews to the left of the chancel are still known as "the court pews" - reserved at one time for Crawley Court residents.
- \* Behind the court pews there is a plaque in memory of Adam Kennard (1833–1915) and a stained glass window in memory of his wife Grace Ellen (1844–1880)
- The Kennard burial plot is at the east end of the churchyard.



## Crawley Church & Crawley Court

- \* Though highly moral, Ernest Philippi was not a religious man, and in 1928 a chronicler of the village, N S B Gras, observed that "the owner of Crawley Court has no interest in formal religion".
- ⋄ ntl holds its annual Carol Service here and in 1995 gave financial help to restore the organ.



and so ends . . . .

# A millennium at Crawley Court 1000 - 2000 AD



Researched and compiled for **ntl** 

by

Mike Lambert

(IBA/NTL 1976-1998)

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## Sources & acknowledgements

- Crawley Glimpses into the past of a Hampshire Village
   *F W Pledge 1907*
- The Economic and Social History of an English Village,
   Crawley, Hampshire 909 1928
   NSB Gras 1930
- Philippi's Crawley lan T Henderson 1977
- Hampshire Record Office
- Winchester Museums Service
- Crawley Parish Council D S Dunbar 1999
- Photographs from IBA, ITC and NTL archives
- Photographs by M J Lambert
- Presentation by James Hoskins
- Produced by Bruce Randall



## Crawley Court Maps

appendix to
"A Millennium at Crawley Court"



church

The following maps are presented at the same scale and are overlaid in red with the present Crawley Court site boundaries (and the church). The area has varied over the years reaching a peak of almost two thousand acres in 1882

site

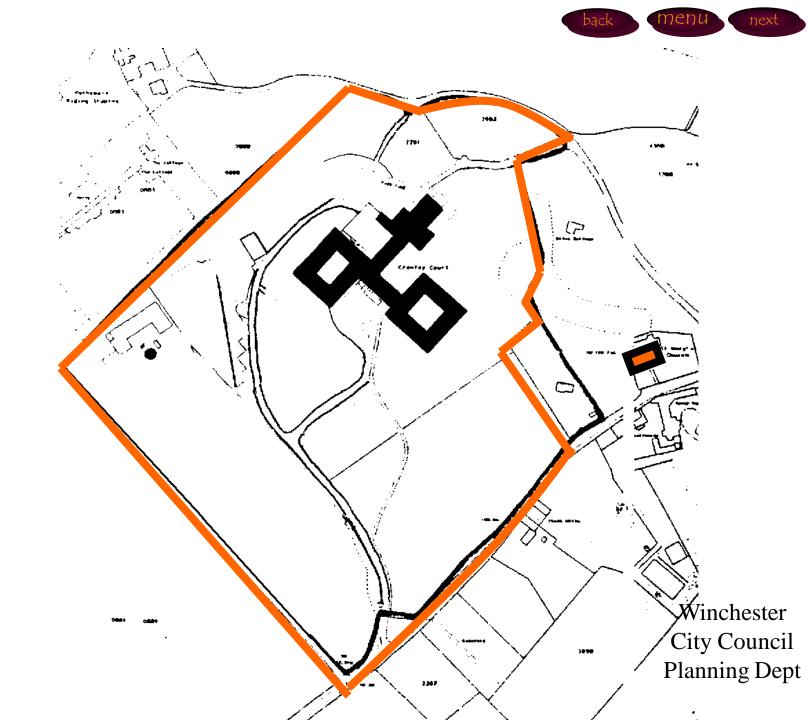
Crawley Court site 2000

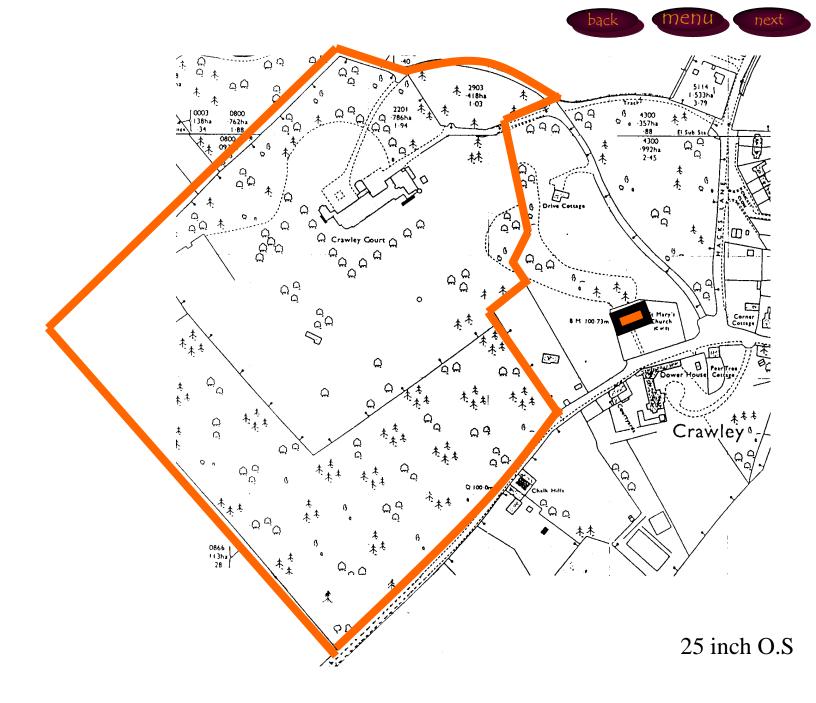


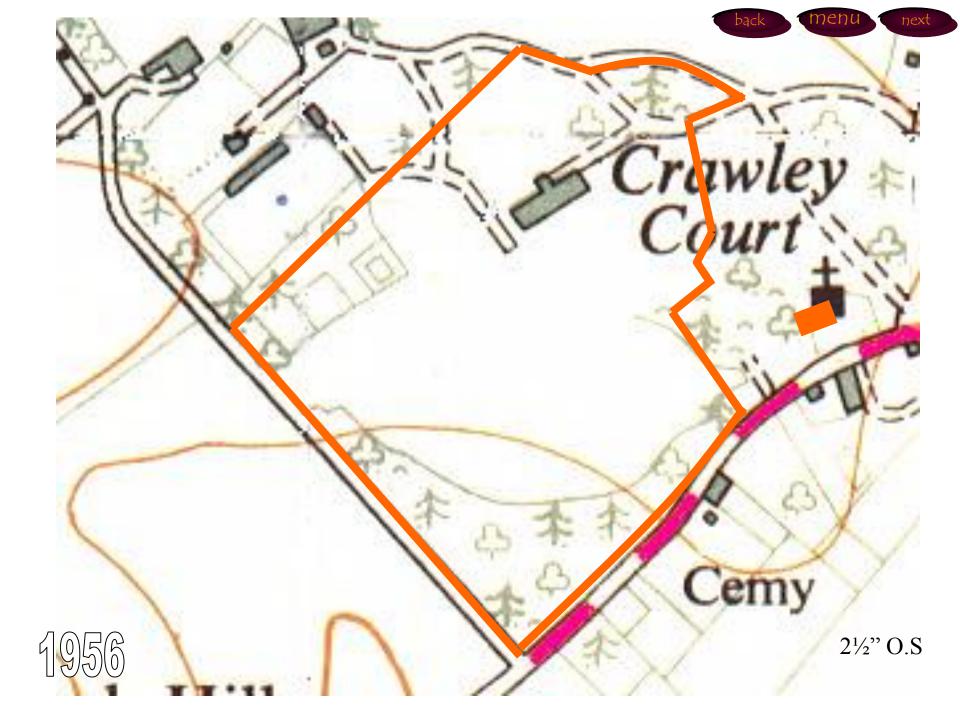


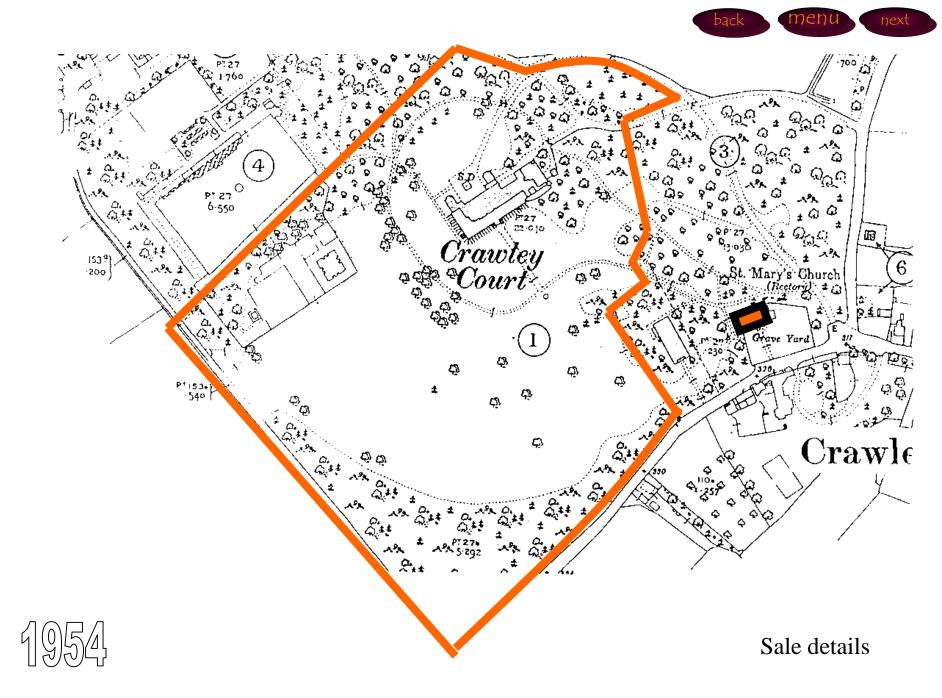


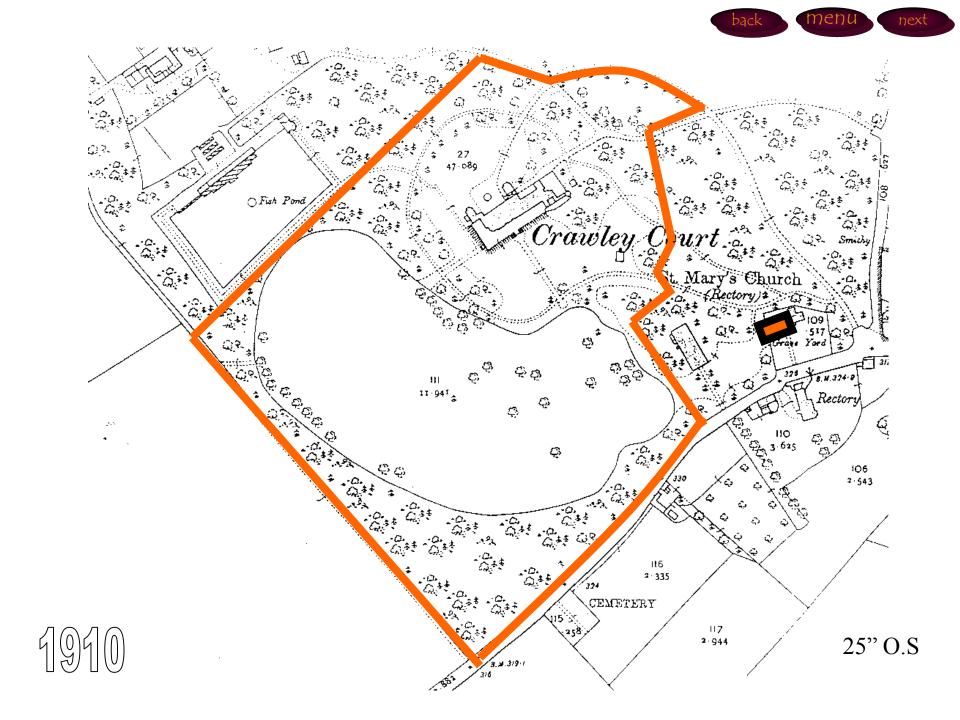
ntl survey

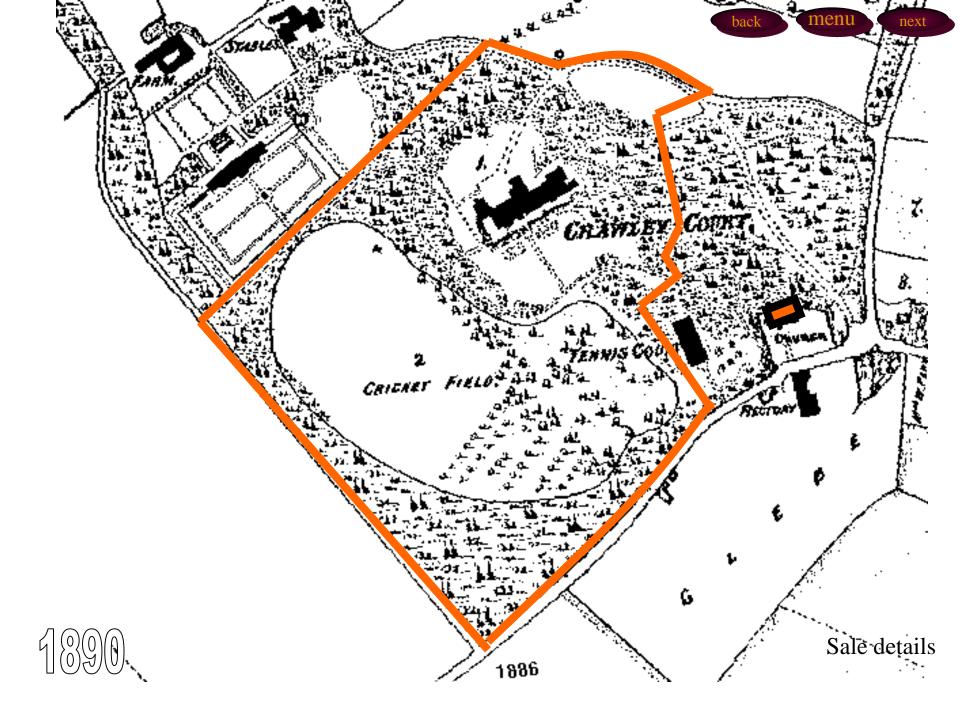


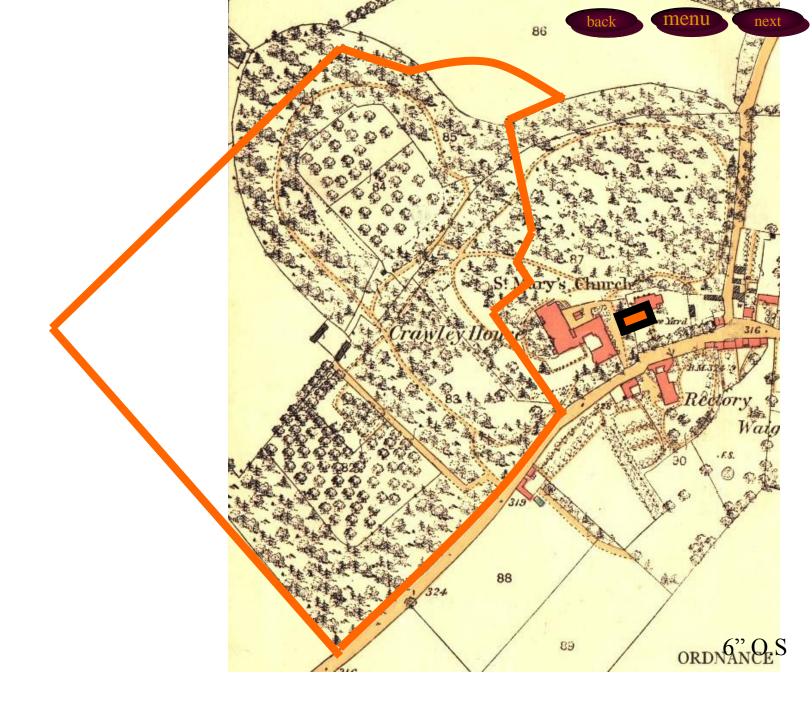




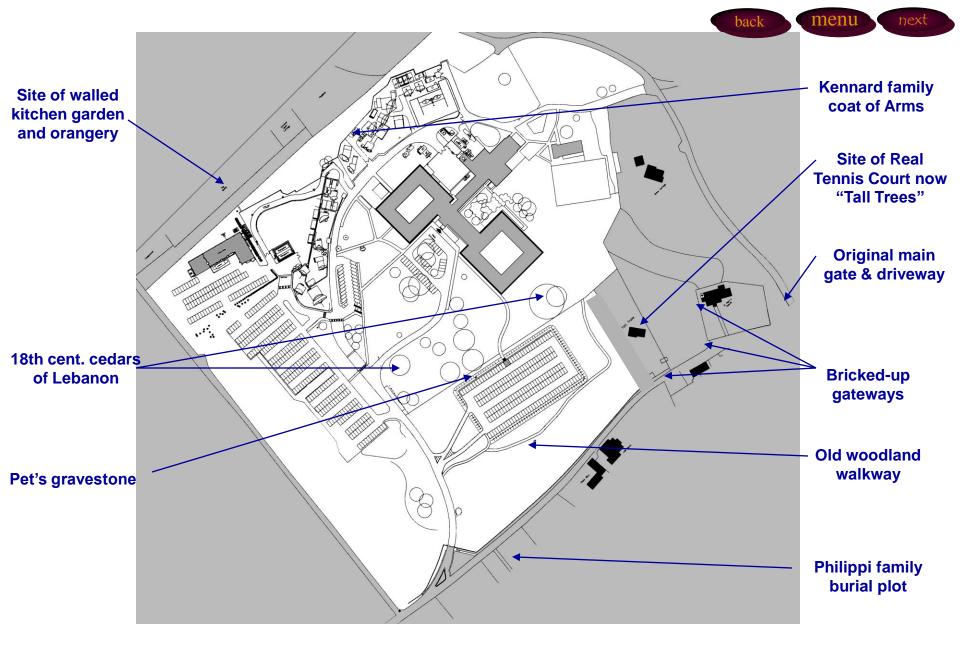












Surviving relics from the past



## presentation for



