

HERTFORDSHIRE GARDENS TRUST
LOCAL LIST: **DACORUM**

Present Name of Site
GADDESSEN HALL

Historic Name (if known)
Southall in 1200
Gatesden
Oliver's Place in 1448
Gaddesden Hall since C17

Parish/Town **GREAT GADDESSEN**

National Grid Reference of Principal Building: TL040 097

Present Area (approximate) 4 acres as described in sale particulars October 1982.

Brief History

The Manor of Southall was part of Great Gaddesden Manor and was held in 1200 by the Malmaims before passing, on forfeiture, into the family of John the Physician. By 1658 the manor and manor house were owned by John Halsey. It passed from the Halseys to Earl of Bridgewater and in 1673 to the Earl of Shaftesbury and others as trustees. It is probable that after coming into the hands of the Bridgewaters this manor was merged in the principal manor of Gt. Gaddesden, but the site of Southall which became known as Gaddesden Hall came into the possession of a Thomas Smith and by the 19th century was a farmhouse. It is now a private residence.

Principal Building: A house is mentioned in the Domesday Book. The current building is a Manor house where the south wing has a late medieval crosswing and the hall range rebuilt in last quarter of 16th century with flint walling, large rear chimneys and stair tower. Attic storey created and stair heightened in late 17th century, porch removed and crosswing altered for new entrance in 20th century. East wing: a separate hall and crosswing house in 17th century when hall floored over, brick cased and extended to North in 20th century. Originally all timber framed but now South wing of uncoursed flint with brick dressings, and East wing cased in 20th century red brick.

Approach: South west along Noke Lane from the Leighton Buzzard Road turning north east into a gravel driveway around a quadrangle of possible 17th Century or earlier with north north west facing main entrance to the Hall in the south wing.

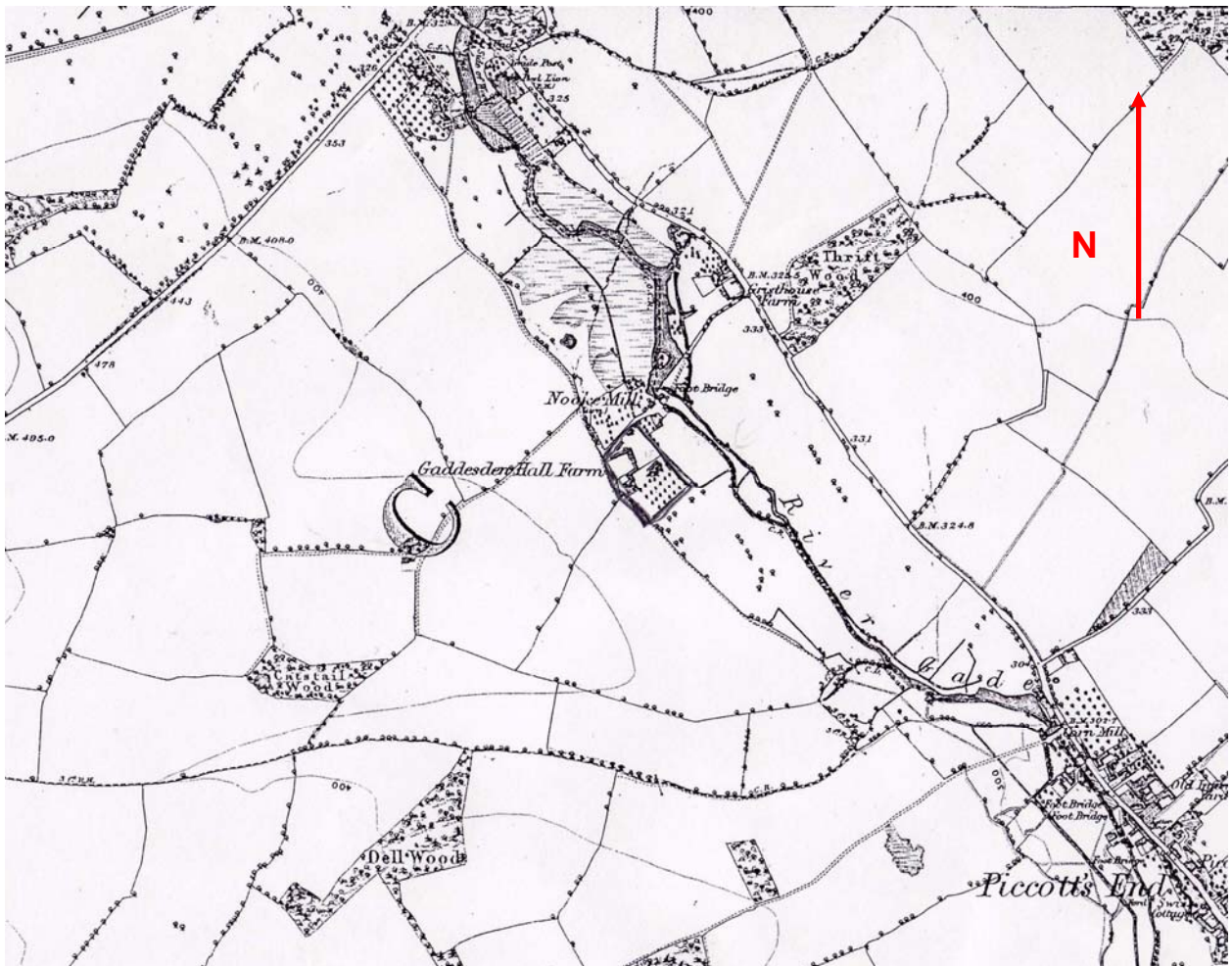
Stable block/other utilitarian buildings: Parallel with the main entrance is a brick and tiled roof tiled barn used as loose boxes, storage and garage

Pleasure grounds: Gaddesden Hall lies immediately to the east of the River Gade. The following description incorporates the 1982 sale particulars and current aerial views. The western side of the gravelled driveway has an area of lawn with steps leading to a stone and brick area, flanked by box and yew hedges – yew hedges appear of some considerable age. Immediately facing NNE (the front of the house) there is a stone terrace and lawn flanked by borders from where the lawn leads round to west and south.

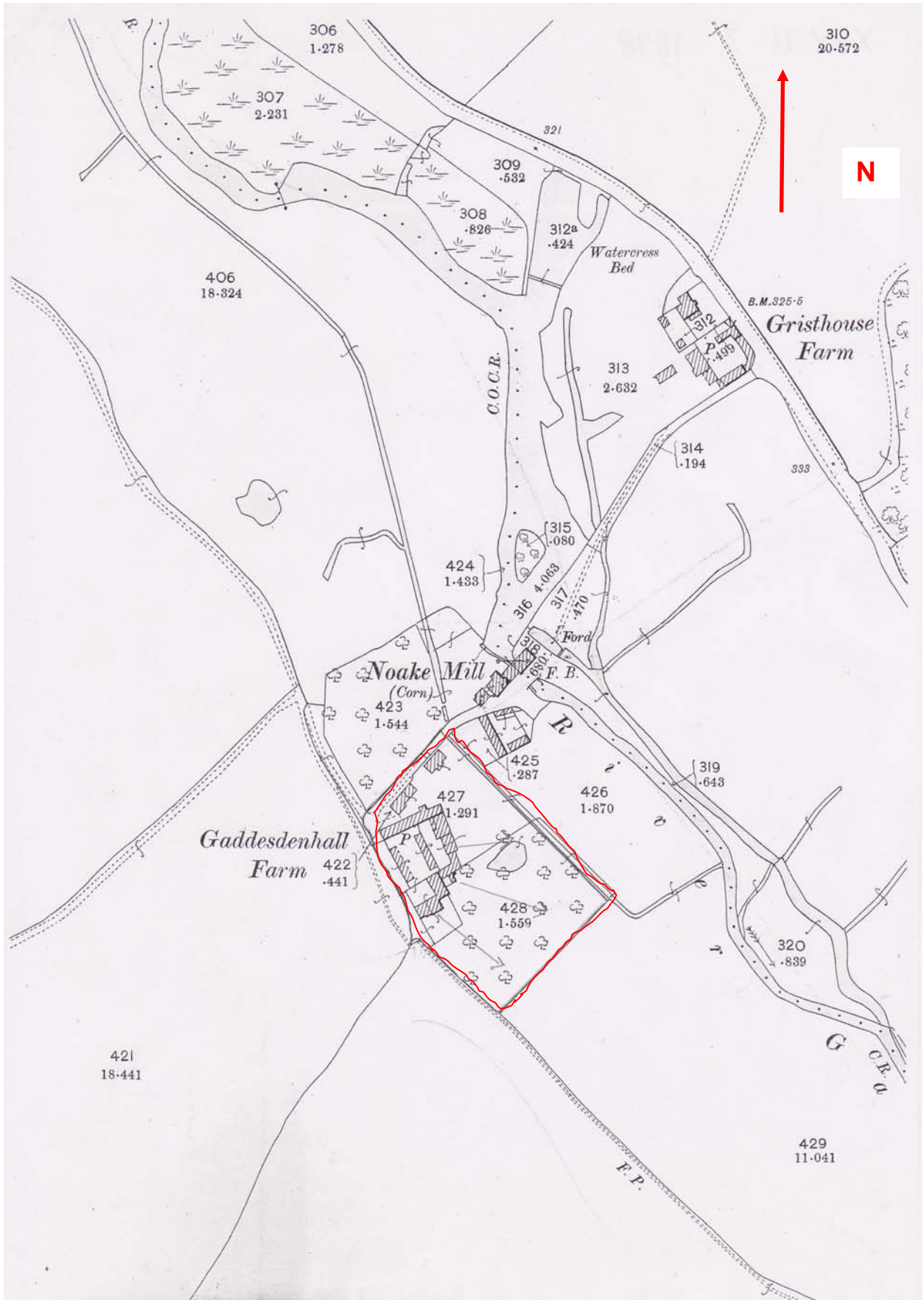
Walled Garden: The lawn from the west leads to the south where there is an area of walled garden with lawn and borders and to the east beyond is yet a further area of lawn and an old wall beyond which is a vegetable garden.

Park: Description provides for an additional area of 2.5 acres in 3 paddocks to the west and south of the house.

Important people associated with site:	
Owners: Family of John the Physician, Earls of Bridgewater	
Assessment of significance. A late medieval house still with walled enclosures on an ancient site.	
Principal Uses: Residential	
Public Access/Rights of Way: FP57, 58	
Designations: (e.g. Scheduled Ancient Monuments, Conservation Area, Listed Buildings, EH Register of Historic Parks & Gardens, Tree Preservation Orders, SSSIs, Nature Reserve, National Trust, County Wildlife Site, etc)	
Grade II*: House	
Green Belt	
Landscape Character Area: 123 High Gade Valley	
Sources of information: Drury & Andrews Map of Hertfordshire 1766, British History on Line and Heritage Gateway.	
Site visited by:	Date:



Ordnance Survey First Edition 1873 Sheet XXXIII Scale 6" to 1 mile



Ordnance Survey Second Edition 1898 Sheet XXXIII.3 Scale 25" to 1 mile