



Figure 1b.
Roman Villa: later phase
and geophysical survey
information

¹ Archaeological information taken from Chedworth Roman Villa, Geophysical Survey Report 98/67, by GSB Prospection, 1998

² Features detected by Ground Penetrating Radar, Site Investigation Report by Mann Williams, 2006

In the 4th century, the villa was substantially expanded. There was extensive re-modelling of the buildings around the inner courtyard, which were developed and linked so that the inhabitants could move between them without having to step outside. The courtyard itself appears to have been a grassy space; no evidence has been found to support the suggestion that it contained a garden.

As part of this later phase, the wings of the villa were extended eastwards. The remains of the south wing have been largely hidden or lost beneath a terrace of spoil created by Lord Eldon's men in the 19th century, when the villa was excavated. Archaeological evidence suggests that the eastern end of the villa complex lay some 20m to the east of the east garden fence. Geophysical surveys have also detected what appears to be a track following a line that could have run from the inner courtyard central gateway down to the present-day crossing point over the River Coln. There is also evidence of a road which may have continued eastward from this point through the present-day woodland south of Yanworth Common. The villa in the same area of woodland may not have been residential; it possible that it had a more functional purpose, relative to the main Chedworth villa.

Geophysical traces have been found in the area to the north of the north-east wing of the villa, suggesting archaeological remains. However, it is thought that this area may have had been some form of compound or service area associated with the construction of the villa. There is also evidence of a track running through this area and walls running parallel to the north range.

A Site Investigation Report dated March 2006 (by Mann Williams Consulting Engineers) indicated un-identified buried features in the car park area to the immediate east of the reception building.

Apart from these findings, buried archaeology outside of the known arrangement of the villa buildings is thought to be limited.