



Figure 2b.
The wider landscape:1777
 (based on Map of Gloucester by Isaac Taylor, 1777)

The Chedworth Woods are semi-natural ancient woodland and are likely to have existed from at least the 1600s, if not earlier. They are not shown on early maps of Gloucestershire - such as the Saxton map of 1577 - but this does not mean that they did not exist. The basis for this map is the Map of Gloucester prepared by Isaac Taylor in 1777. The woodlands shown to the north-east of the River Coln are also areas of semi-natural woodland that have not been clear-felled and re-planted.

By 1700, nearly all of the Chedworth Woods had passed into the ownership of the Howe family. The woods that exist today were defined around that time and have changed little since.

A large lime kiln was built on the bank to the immediate north of the villa which, on the evidence of a Charles II penny, is believed to date from the late 17th century. It is thought that the masonry of the Roman villa was used as an easily quarried source of limestone for burning in the kiln. The resulting lime may have been used to build the Cassey Compton house, about 2km to the north.