

THE PLEASURE GARDEN

1953 – 38 minutes

Director and Writer: James Broughton

Production Company: Flight of Fancy Committee and Farallone Films

In Charge of Production: Lindsay Anderson

CAST

Mrs Albion	Hattie Jacques
Col. Pall K. Gargoyle	John Le Mesurier
Bess	Diana Maddox
Aunt Minerva	Jean Anderson
Sam	Kermit Sheets
Miss Kellerman	Jill Bennett
Michael Angelico	Lindsay Anderson
Lady Ennui	Maxine Audley
Lord Ennui	Derek Hart
Miss Wheeling	Hilary Mackendrick
Mrs. Jennybelle	Gladys Spencer
Mr. Nurmi	John Heawood
Girl in Grass	Daphne Hunter
Mme. Paganini	Mary Lee Settle
Dr. Hemingway	Gontron Goulden

Following the birth of granddaughter Thea, and the consequent opportunity to exercise with a pushchair during a pandemic I was introduced to Crystal Palace Park. It was my first visit and I was totally overawed with the experience. Whilst what remains of the extensive grandeur and splendour is but a very small percentage of the *Crystal Palace* as it was in its heyday there is sufficient to marvel at and to stimulate the imagination to enjoy it as it was. That first visit very quickly led me in to wanting to know more, needless to say, found on the Internet (including Sydenham.org.uk : London Picture Archive : Britain from Above : National Library of Scotland/maps) as well as published books and, of course, a Christmas gift of *The Pleasure Garden* DVD.

Given my involvement with ***Reelstreets*** it will be of no surprise that I was drawn to establish the locations that appeared in the film, notwithstanding the substantial changes that have occurred to the Park since the film was made. It was soon after my interest was fired and I had commenced ‘work’ on the film, for both my own interest and for listing on ***Reelstreets***, that Nick Andrews ‘got there first’. My interest nevertheless continued and continues unabated. With the apparent lack of detailed public record (some as a result of broken links) of both the names of the statues and their locations I am hopeful that this listing will promote information and/or detail from knowledgeable sources or from those that have undertaken similar research. Whilst every endeavour has been taken to achieve factual accuracy the lack of detailed available public records often prompts ‘supposition’ or ‘process of elimination’. Accordingly, I would welcome any input, comment or help in achieving the standard of utmost accuracy that ***Reelstreets*** always seeks to achieve.

During a visit to the Crystal Palace Museum on the occasion of the 85th Anniversary Fire Tour (4th December 2021) I sought the help of museum volunteers with regard to statuary placement. They referred me to www.invisiblepalace.org.uk (IP) who had just started a project on that very topic. My resultant contact with them to review this work brought an immediate willingness to do so from Sue Giovanni. Considered against their records as at the date of the film, her comments, observations and information are included **in red text**.

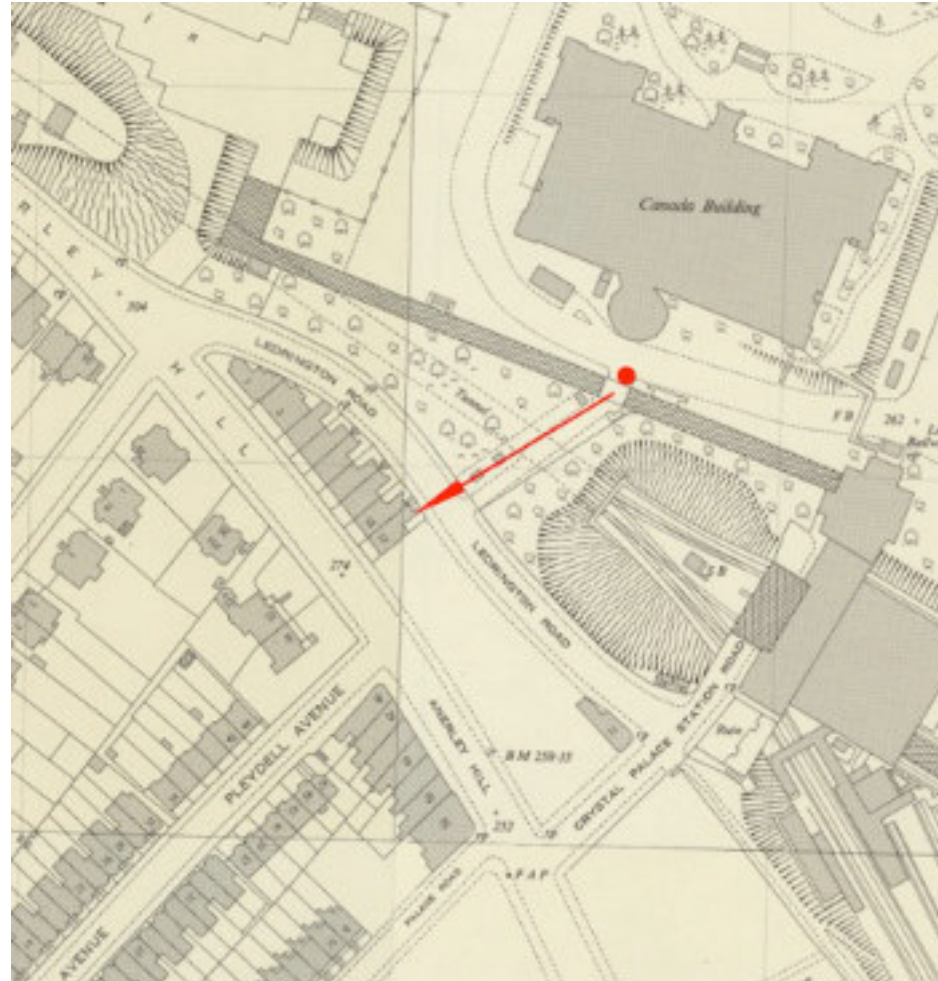
I am indebted to Sue for her help, support and involvement in aiding factual detail and accuracy.

It nevertheless, remains an ongoing project for us all.



1

The break in the glass Railway Colonnade providing an entrance to the Park with a view to Ledrington Road and the rear of the houses on Anerley Hill.



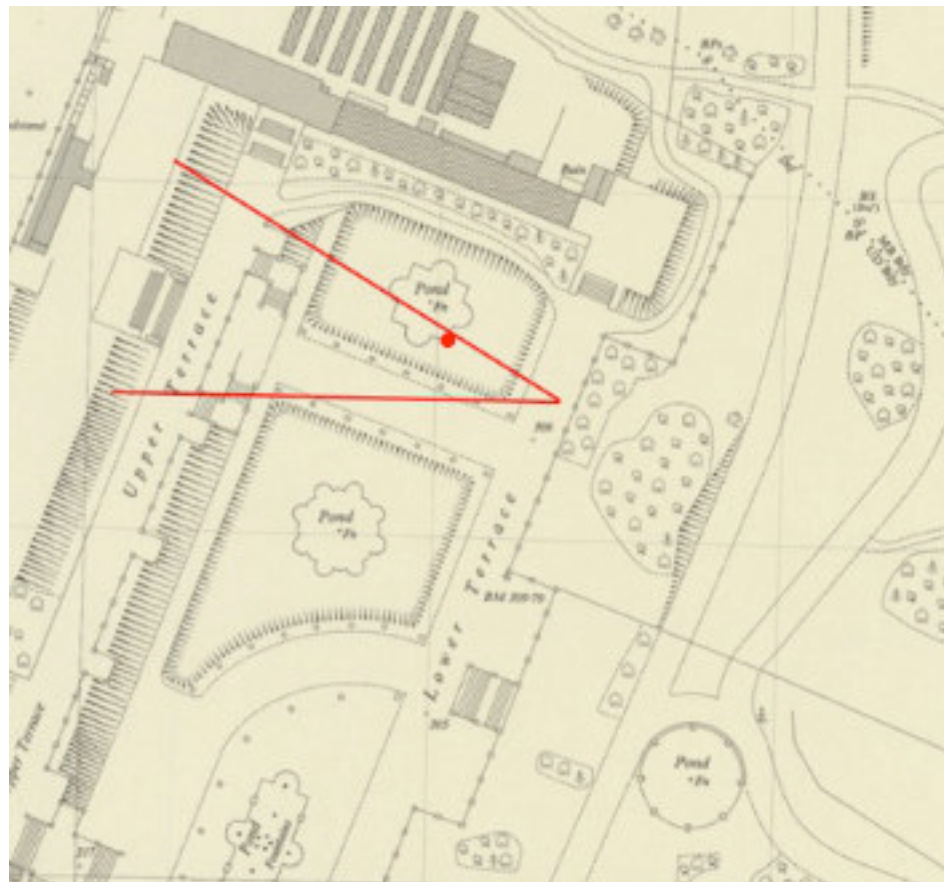
3

4



2

Looking towards the left hand (as viewed from the front) staircase of the northern end, far right, and the Upper Terrace. In the foreground is the statue 'LOVE' after Raffaele Monti (1818-1881) from the original. The three statues to the left are from left to right. Plinth 21 (unknown) Plinth 22 (unknown) Free standing plinth (unknown). The red dot marks the considered location by IP.



5

6



A comparative shot would show little more than the sky.

3

The statue of 'ADONIS' after Bertel Thorvaldsen viewed from the back. As with all statues credited as Thorvaldsen it is a copy rather than an original work.



51° 25' 16" N 0° 04' 19" W

7

8



4

This location remains unidentified.



5

Plinth 7 - "South America" by Raffaele Monti



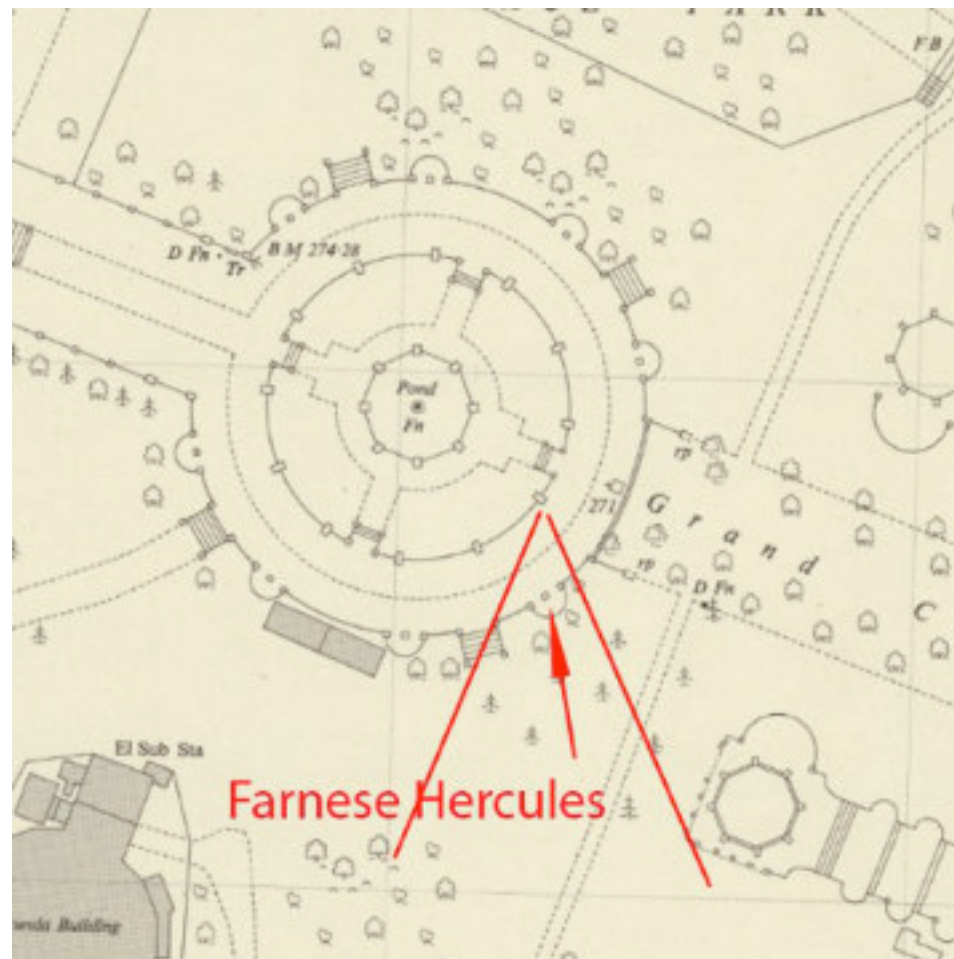
It is not possible to access the other side of the balcony to achieve the exact angle but little remains of this statue.





6

Statue of FARNESE HERCULES



51° 25' 16" N 0° 04' 16" W



7
Statue of ARISTIDES



51° 25' 13" N 0° 04' 27" W



7a

Location based on the fact that ARISTIDES, seen in the previous capture, would appear to be the background statue.



51° 25' 13" N 0° 04' 29" W

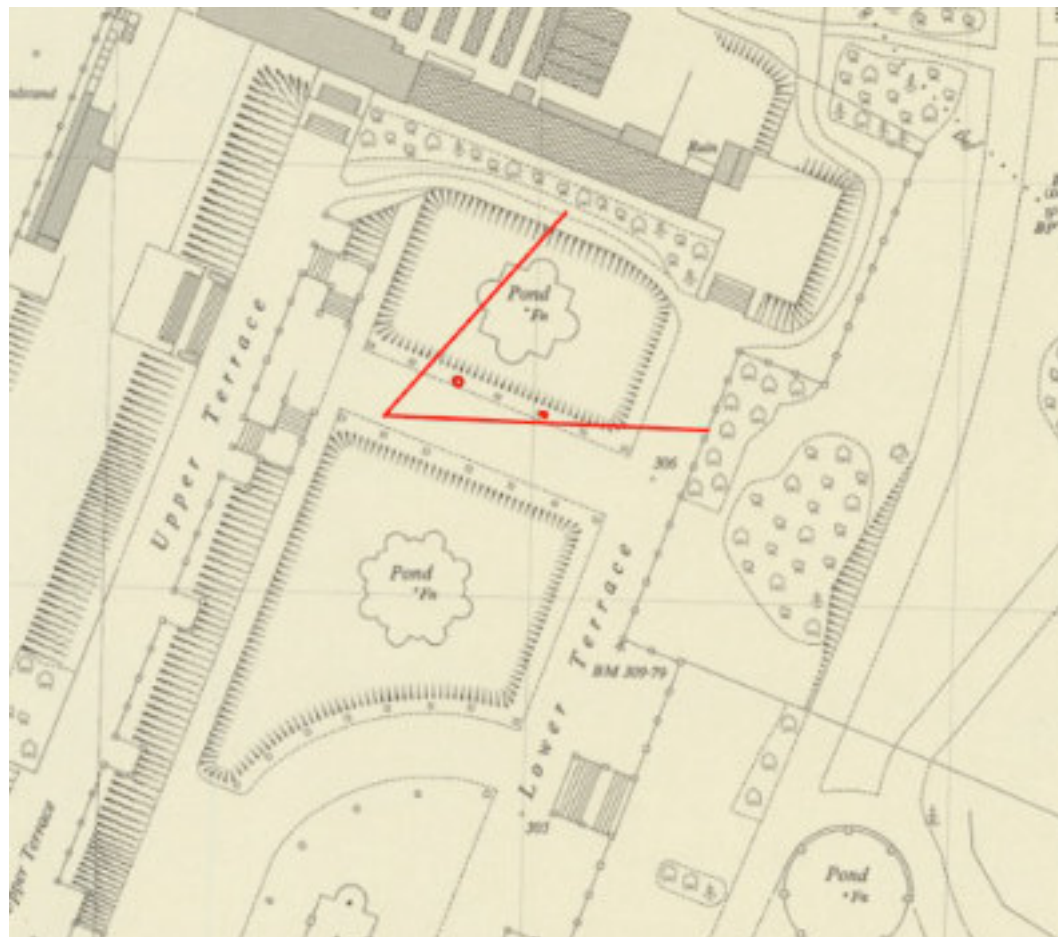
17

18



8

Foreground statue, DANCER WITH FINGER ON CHIN Antonio Canova and VENUS OF ARLES background statue



51° 25' 25" N 0° 04' 23" W and 51° 25' 25" N 0° 04' 22" W



9

PSYCHE WITH THE JAR OF BEAUTY after Bertel Thorvaldsen to the right. Rear statue, CERES, also seen in Capture 18

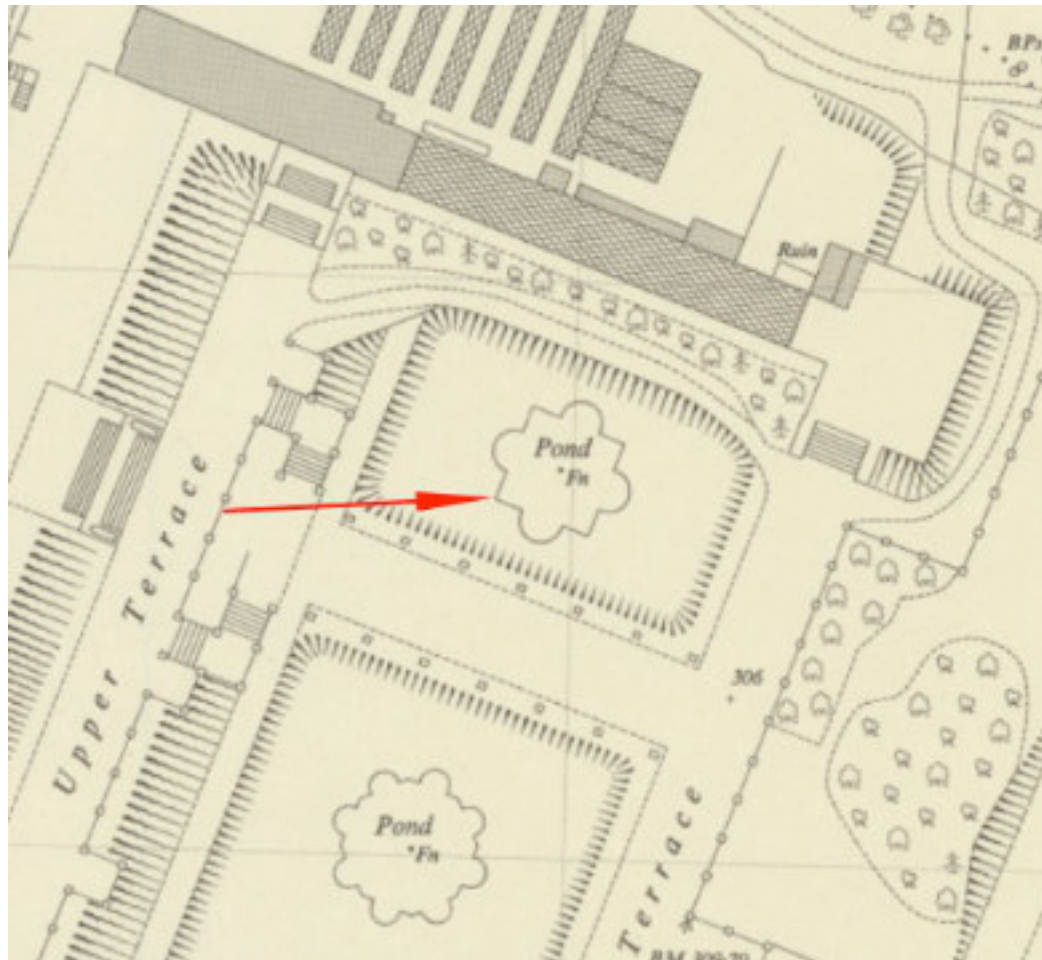


21

22



10
MIRTH



51° 25' 26" N 0° 04' 23" W



11

The bust of Joseph Paxton carved by William Frederick Woodington. In 1873, the work had been unveiled on the lower terrace, then standing on a grand Portland stone base, with the upper part in red Portland cement in imitation of porphyry. Incised into one of the attached slabs was the Latin phrase 'Si monumentum queries circumspice', meaning 'If you see his monument look around'.

By the 1930's, the memorial had been moved further down the terrace with Paxton's bust facing the Palace, the ornate base retained but on a shorter plain middle section and this can be viewed in the 'Pleasure Garden' film. By 1967 the 'Crystal Palace' newsreel captured the gigantic head peeping over the Ledrington entrance gates, now placed on a square brick plinth turned to face the futuristic structure of the Recreation Centre.



25

26

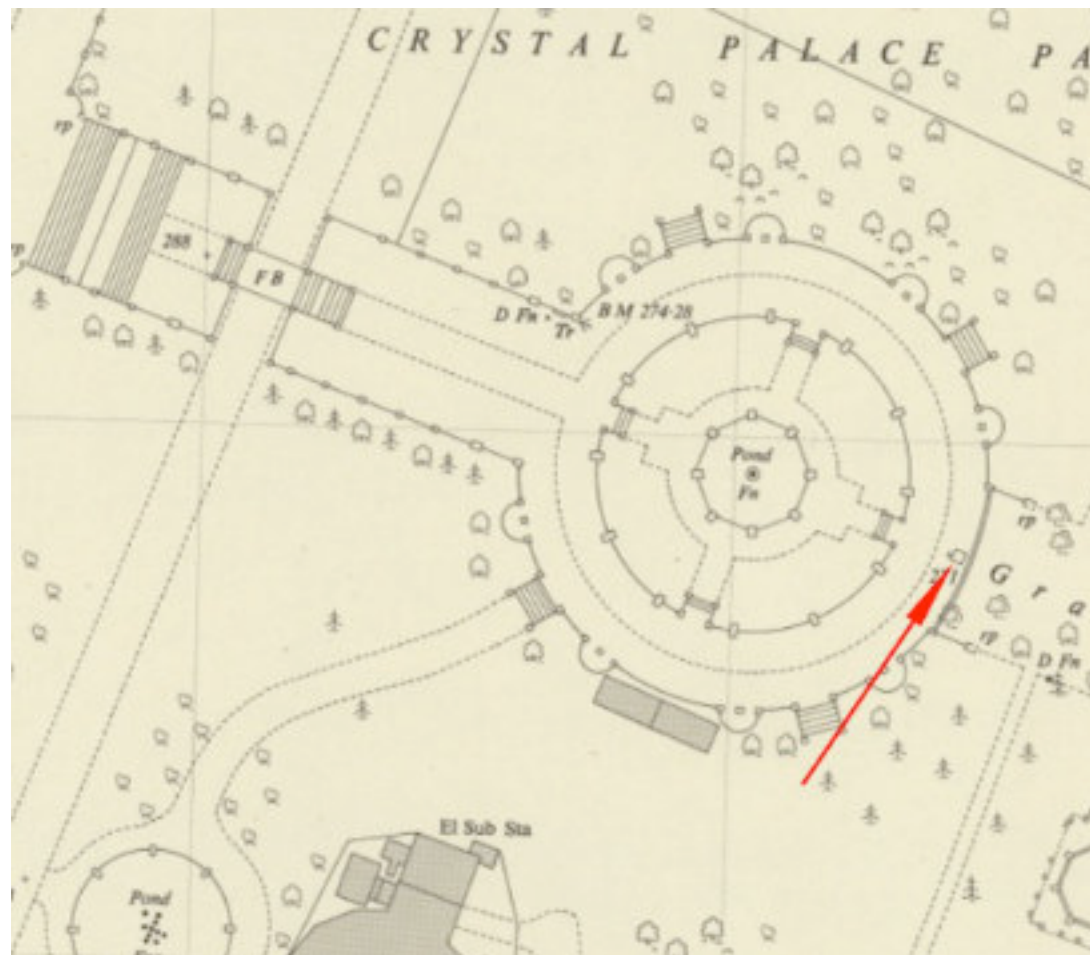


12

The base of the Joseph Paxton bust. Its location can be best viewed in BfA EAW041941 – Aunt Minerva (Jean Anderson) is walking towards the Palace.



The replacement plinth



27

28



13

TELEMACHUS [Son of Ulysses] Arming by Luigi Bienaimé



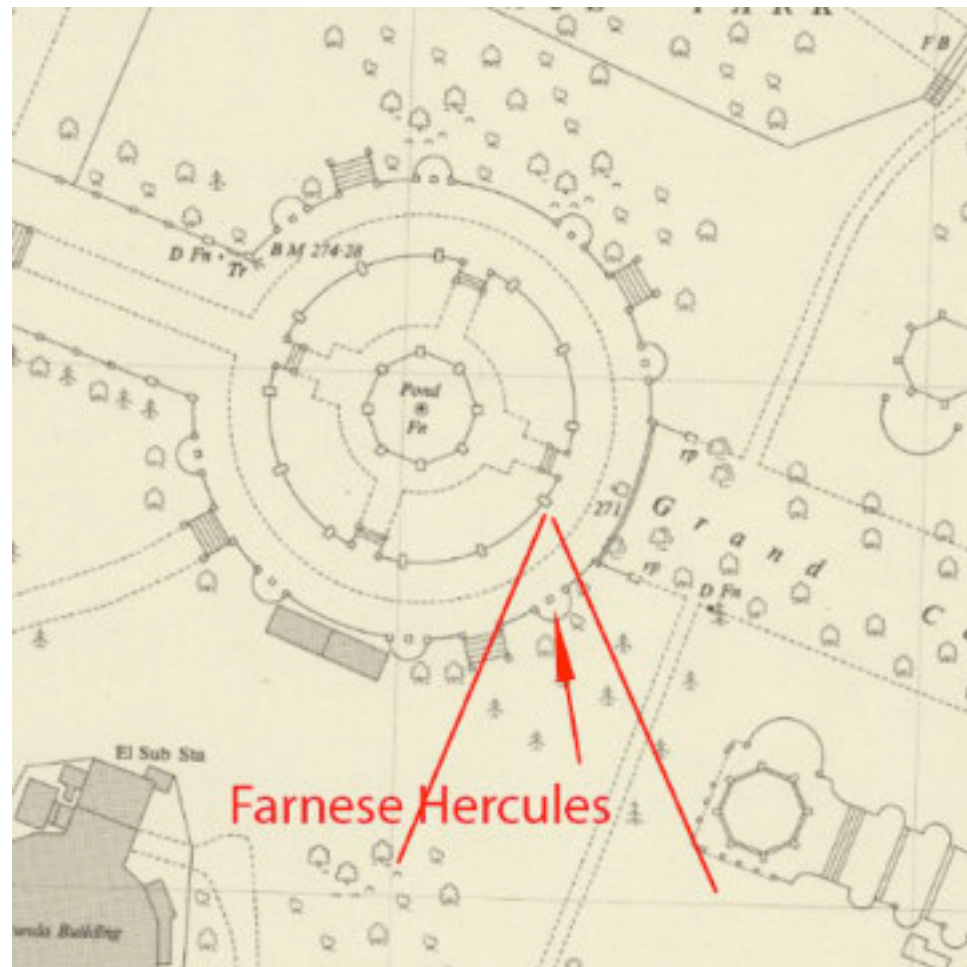
51° 25' 18" N 0° 04' 18" W

The location is best viewed in Capture 15



14

Statue of FARNESE HERCULES



51° 25' 16" N 0° 04' 16" W

31

32



15

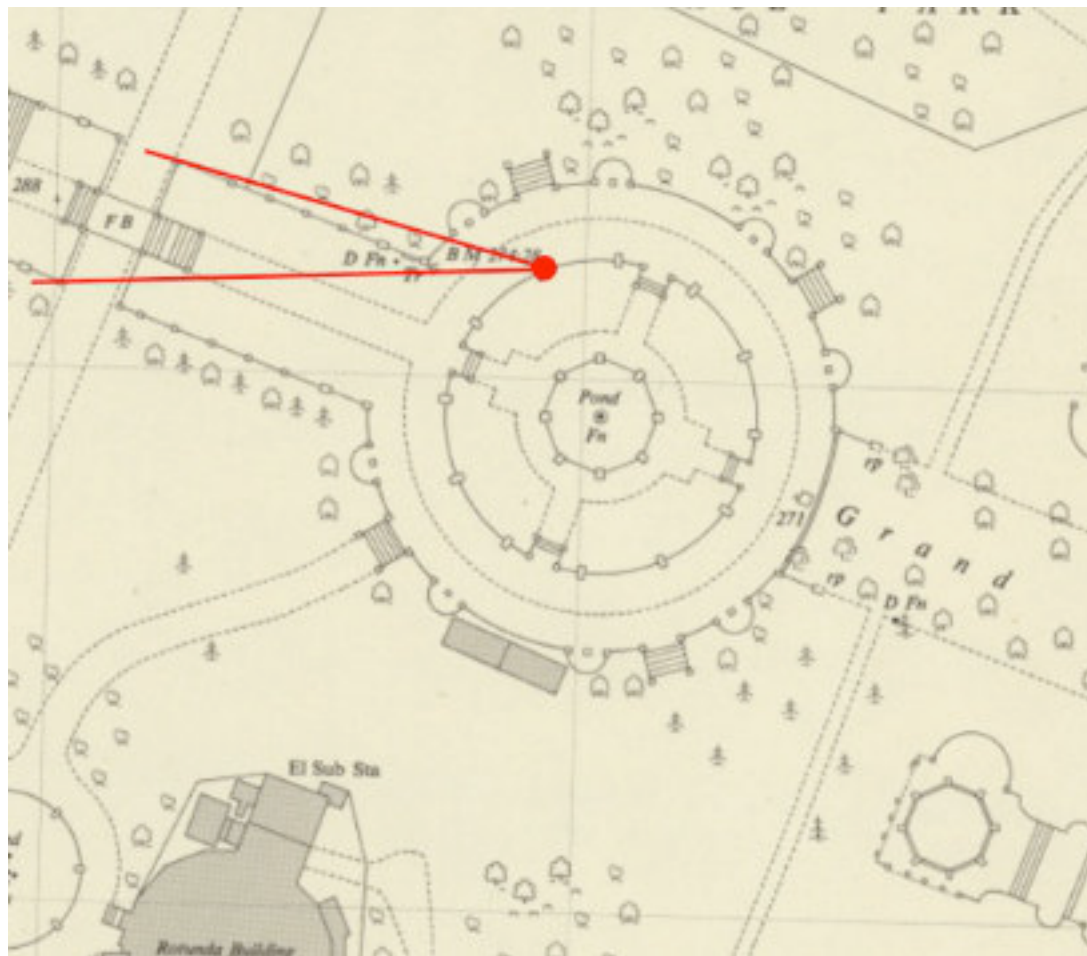
TELEMACHUS (son of Ulysses) Arming by Luigi Bienaimé from The Hermitage, St. Petersburg.



51° 25' 18" N 0° 04' 18" W



16



51° 25' 18" N 0° 04' 19" W – Terrace end feature

35

36



17

Bess about to walk up the steps and with Joseph Paxton statue at the rear.



51° 25' 18" N 0° 04' 21" W

37



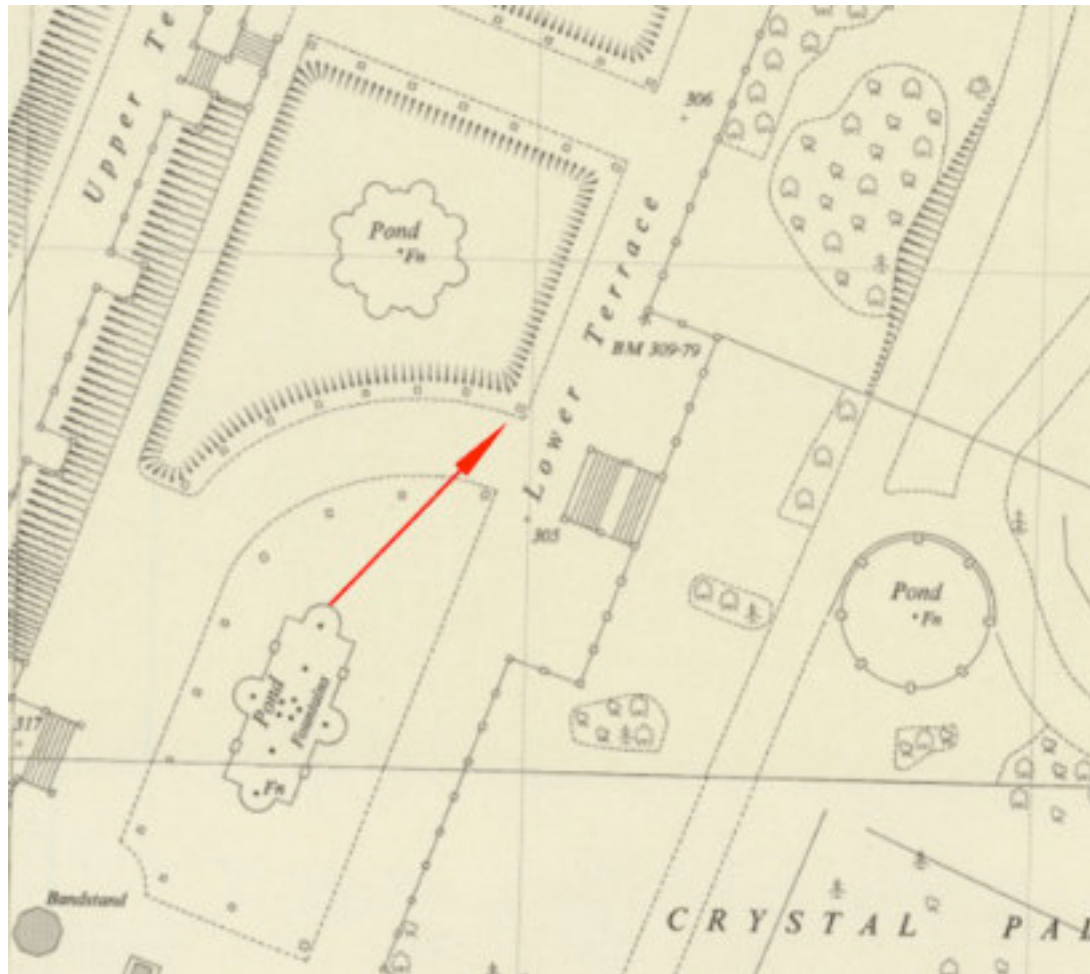
With the footbridge over the race track now long gone, height cannot be obtained. The statue of Joseph Paxton now facing away.

38



18

APOLLO BELVEDERE: The statue in the background, CERES can also be seen in Capture 9



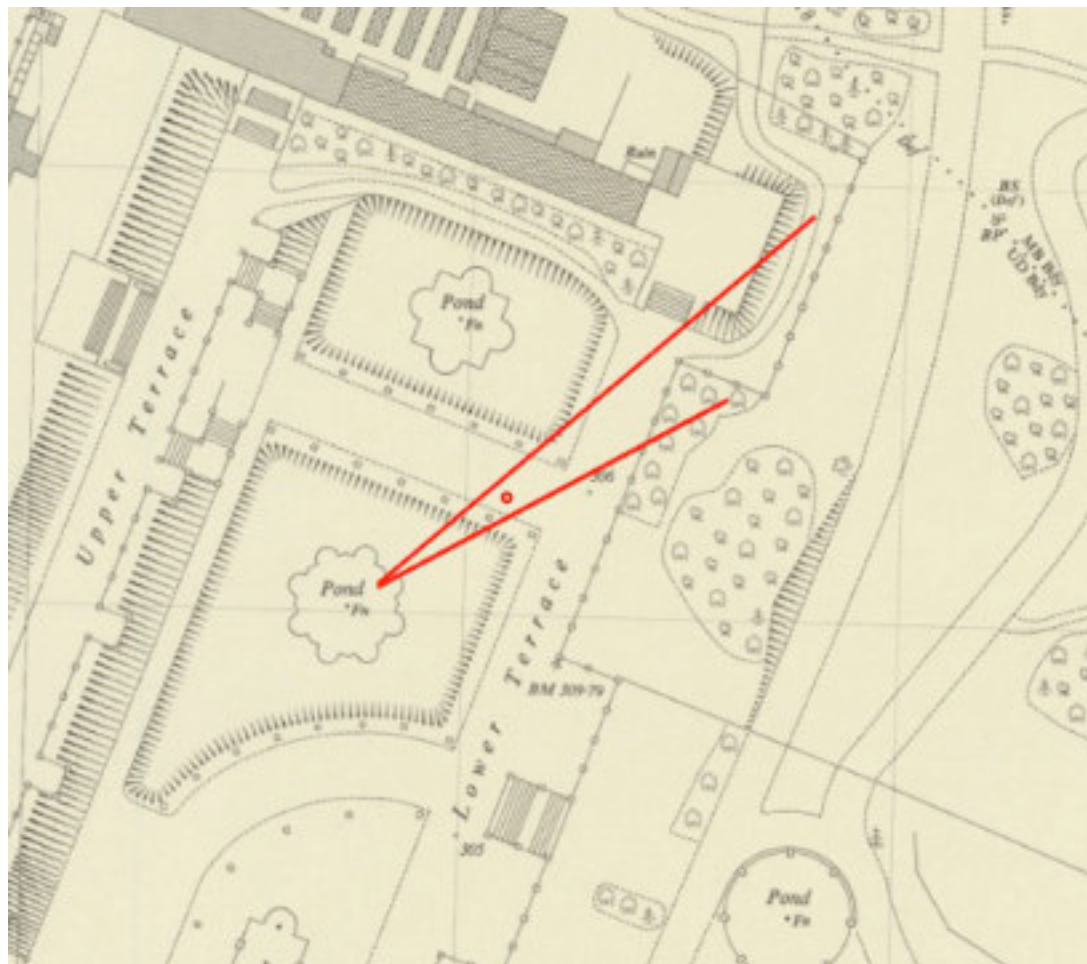
51° 25' 23" N 0° 04' 22" W

39

40



19



51° 25' 24" N 0° 04' 22" W

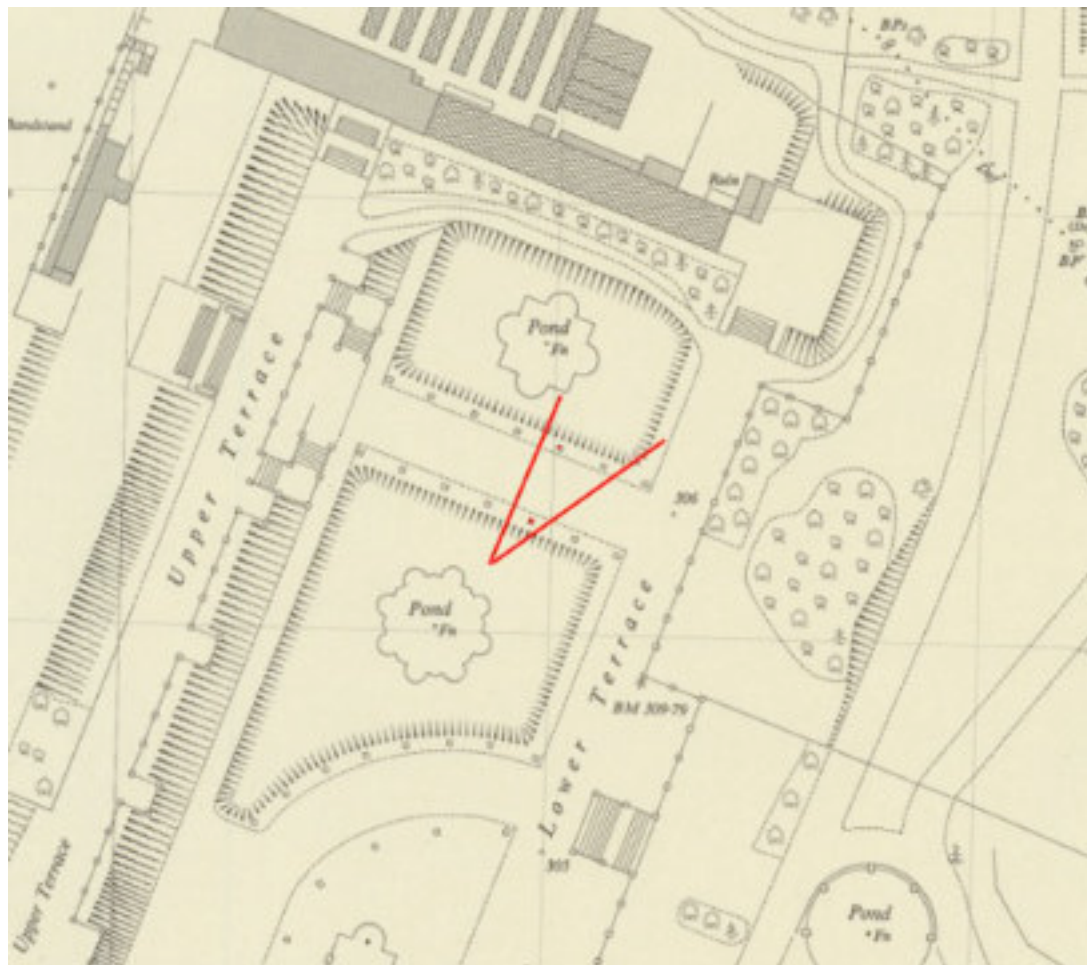
41

42



20

Statue to the left, VENUS OF ARLES is also seen to the right in Capture 8.



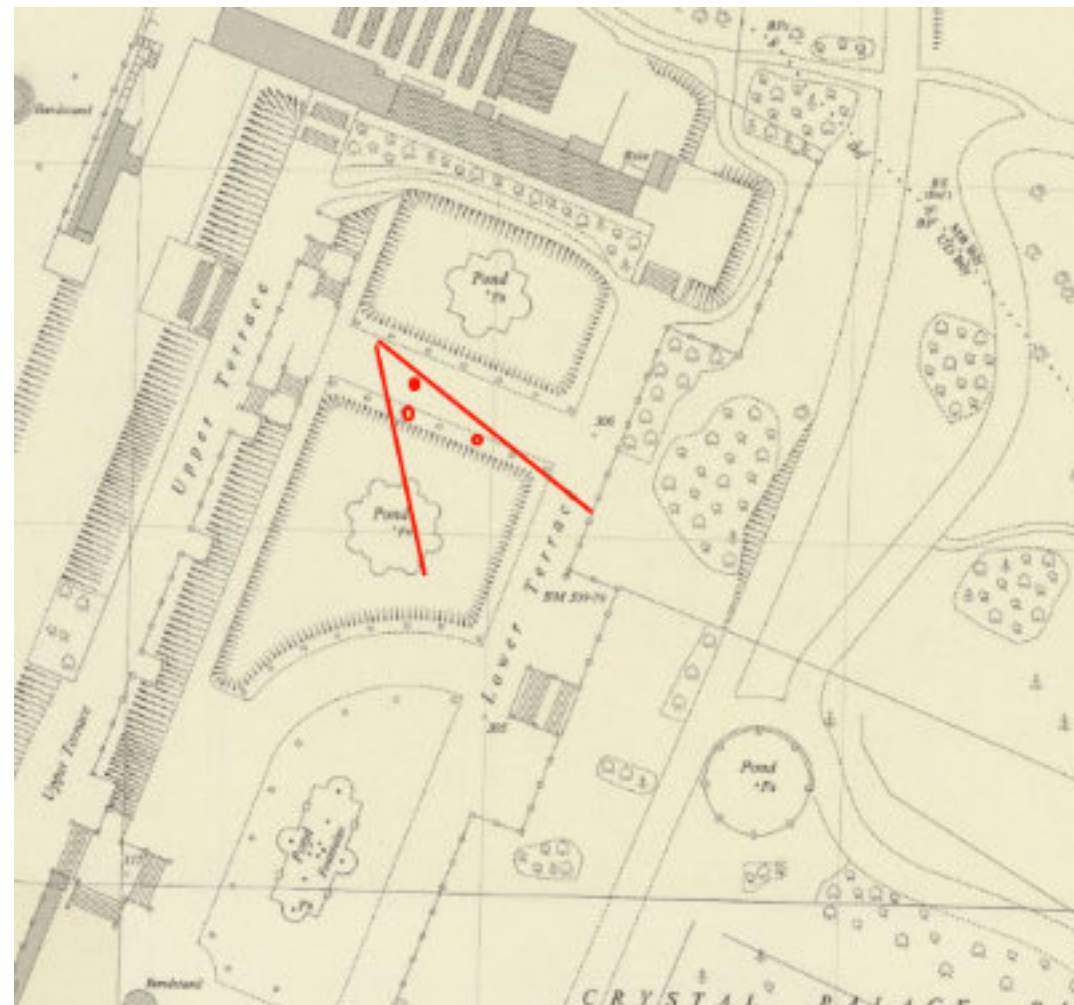
51° 25' 24" N 0° 04' 22" W

43

44



20a



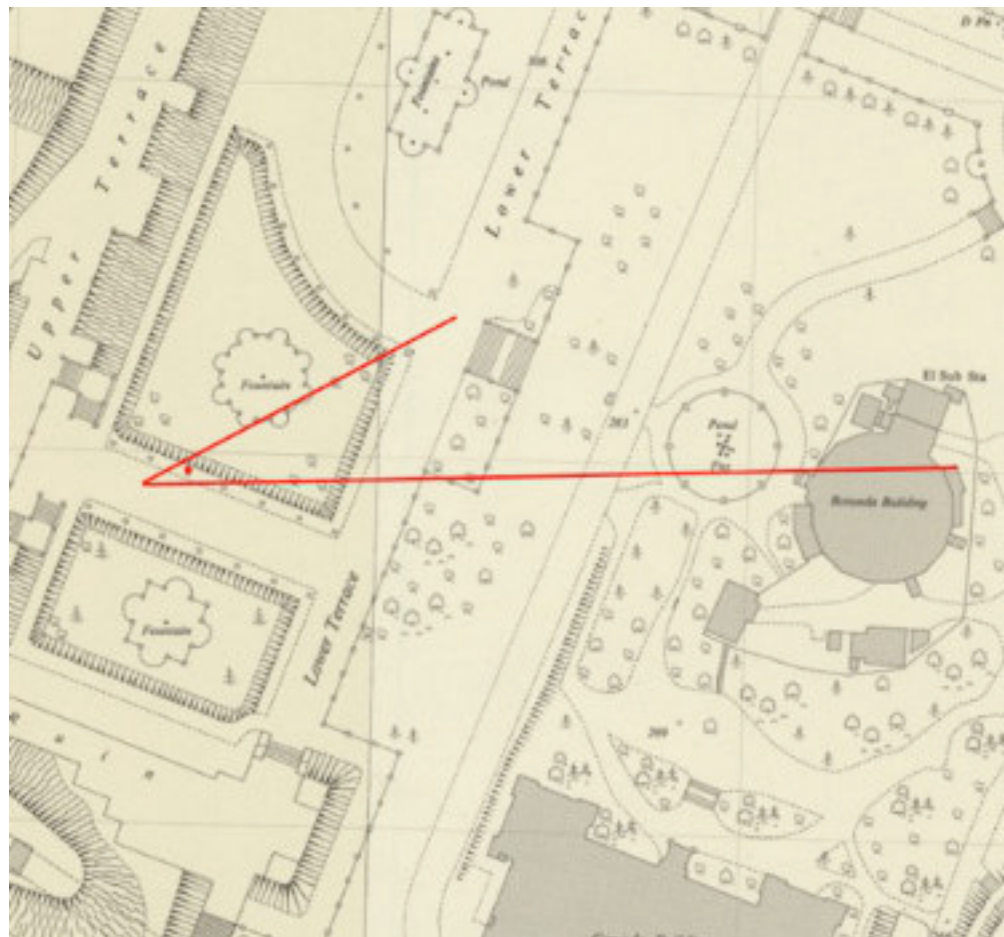
51° 25' 25" N 0° 04' 23" W



21

Statue of a SHEPHERD BOY AND HIS DOG after Bertel Thorvaldsen 1817-1844

The red dot marks the location identified by IP



51° 25' 14" N 0° 04' 30" W

47

48



22
The Band Stand



Center of Bandstand at 51° 25' 19" N 0° 04' 27" W

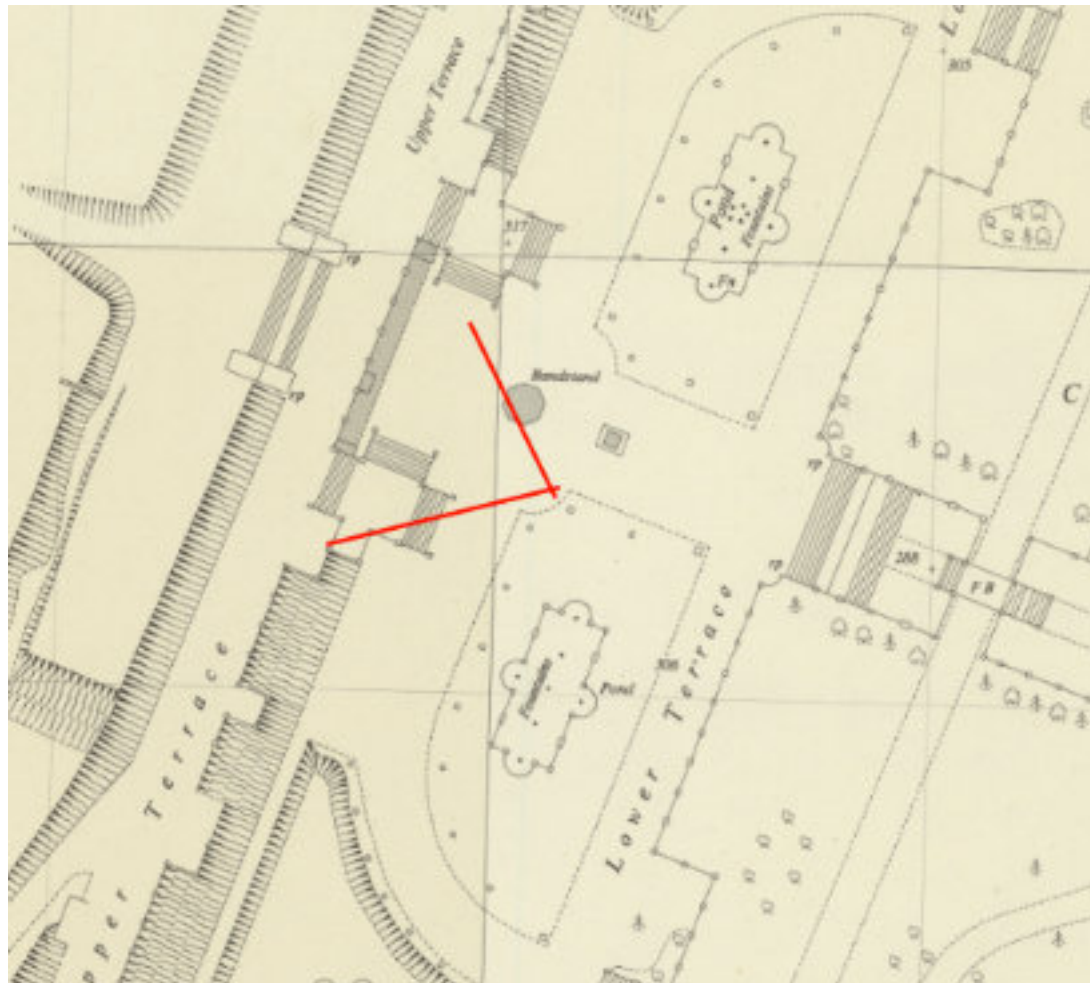


23

Currently an unidentified location.



24



53

54



25

Band Stand viewers. Rotunda Building roof extreme left.



The tree line remains much the same.



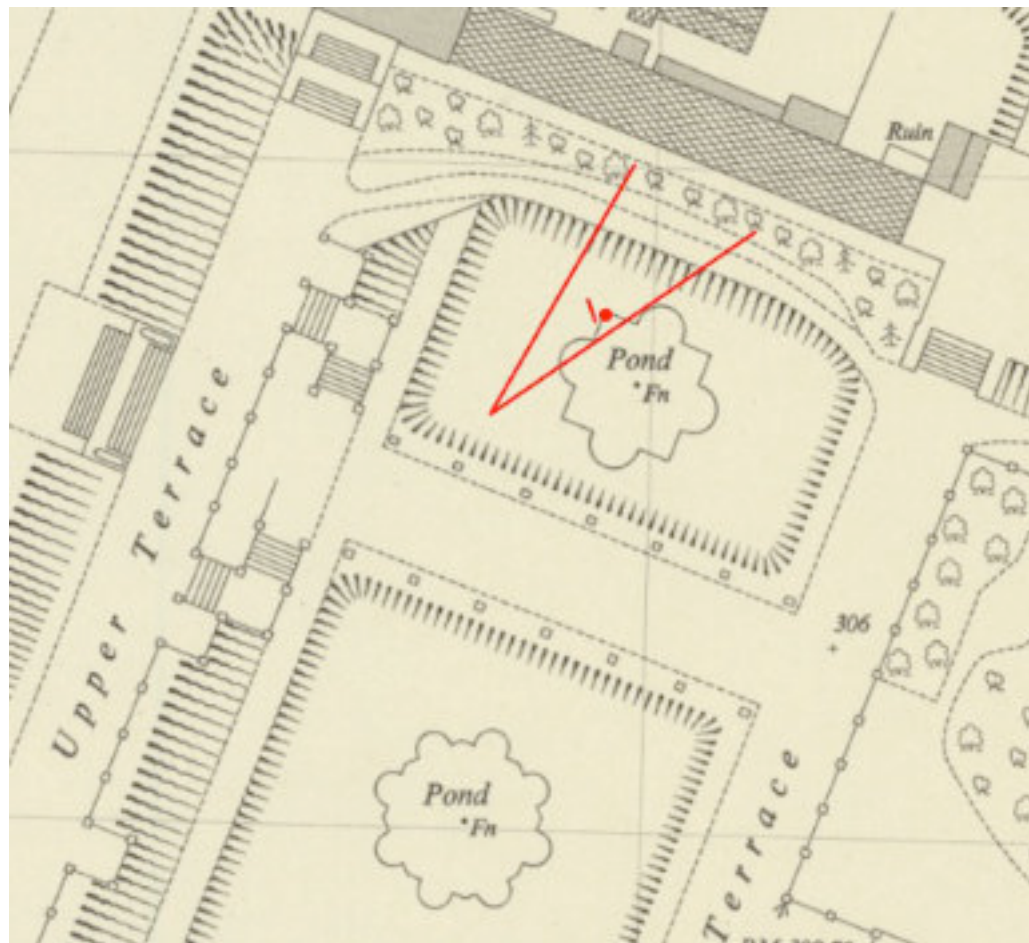
55

56



26

HOPE after Raffaele Monti – See also 41b for further location detail.



51° 25' 26" N 0° 04' 22" W



27

I stand to be corrected but I believe this to be the north (right hand) central staircase that no longer exists.



59

60



28

DISCOBOLUS: A reproduction of a lost bronze original, made by the Greek sculptor Naucydes at the beginning of the fourth century BC. This statue of a Discobolus, or discus thrower, was part of the collection of antiquities at the Villa Borghese in Rome, where it stood with three other athletes around the Gladiator, which entered the Louvre at the same period - around 1808, when Napoleon Bonaparte purchased the collection from his brother-in-law, Prince Camillo Borghese. invisiblepalace.org.uk state that Discobulus formed part of six marble sculptures around one of the six basins that stood on the top terrace. They were, Discobulus, Apollo, Italian Dancing Girl and Venus with the Apple.



51° 25' 23" N 0° 04' 23" W

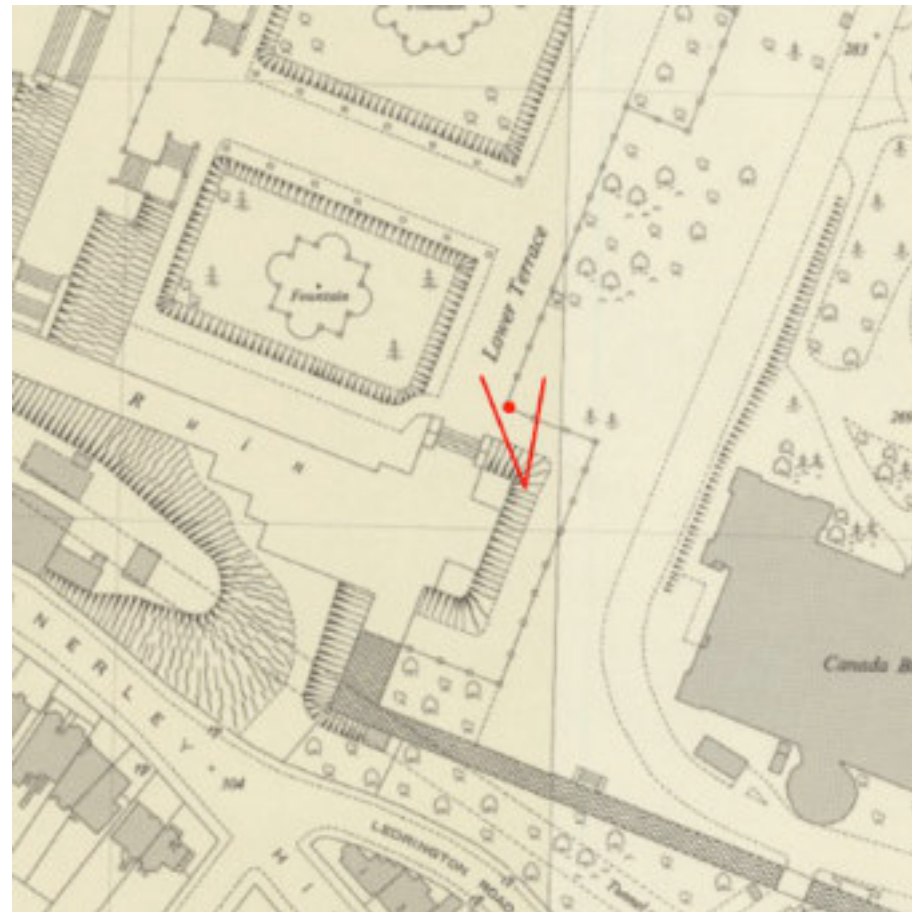
61

62



29

ARES BORGHESE – Identified as Ares by the helmet and by the ankle ring given to him by his lover Aphrodite.



51° 25' 12" N 0° 04' 29" W



30

Foreground statue PETRACH, rear statue SOPHOCLES. Several people have said that the plinths that are there now are copies of the original Victorian ones that were bulldozed.



51° 25' 19" N 0° 04' 25" W

65

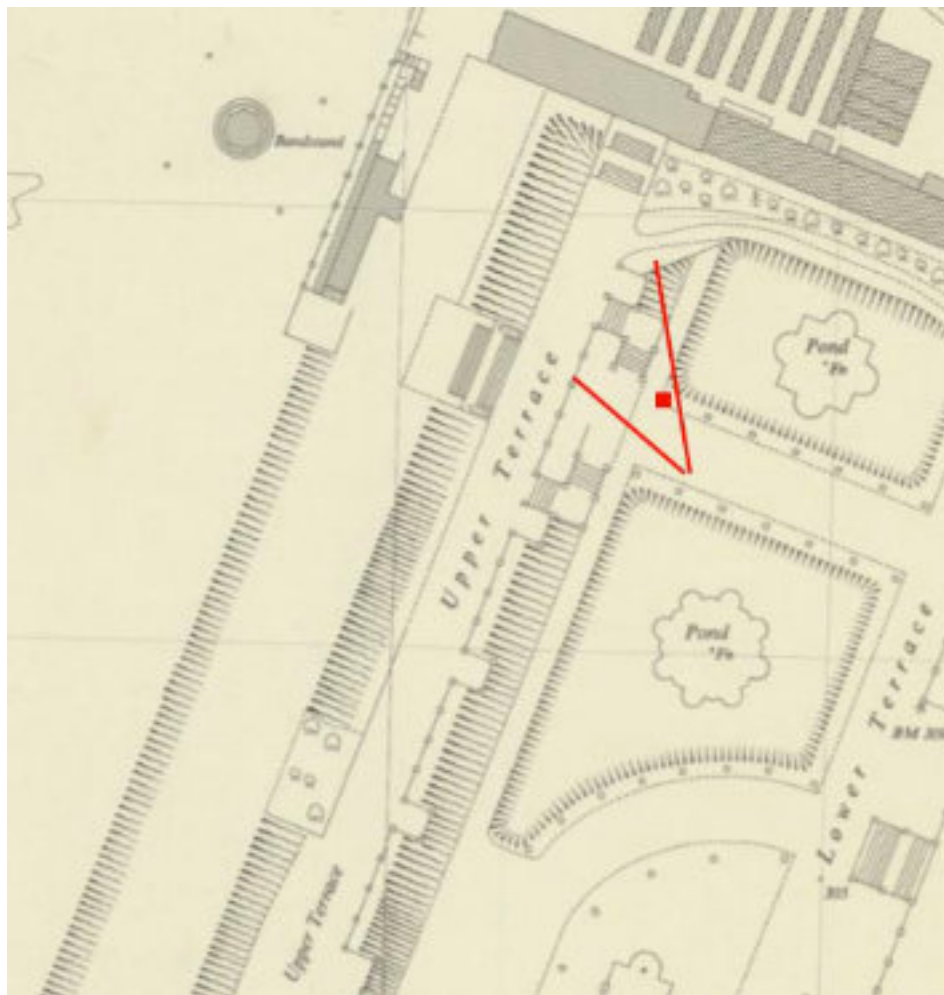
66



31



I need to improve on the angle of this when I next visit



51° 25' 25" N 0° 04' 24" W

67

68



32

Currently an unidentified location.



33

VENUS AT HER TOILET - The statue is also seen in Capture 39



51° 25' 15" N 0° 04' 26" W

71

72



34

MERCURY SLAYING ARGUS after Bertel Thorwaldsen – One of the statues around the fountain.

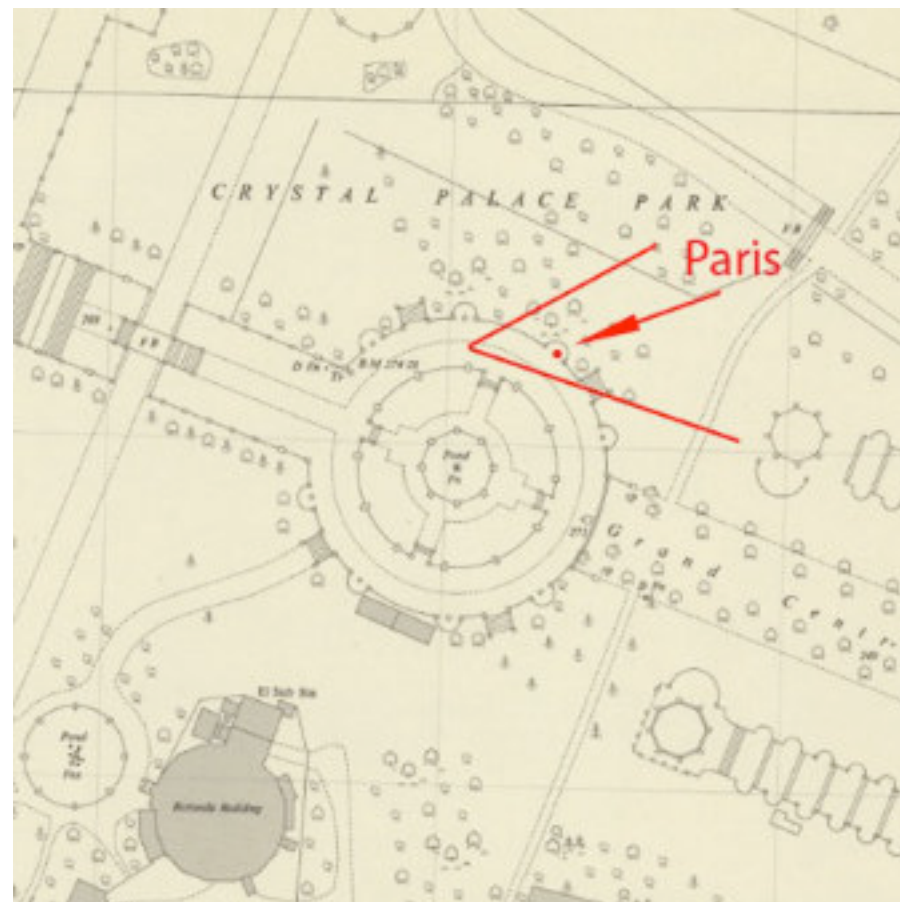


51° 25' 18" N 0° 04' 17" W



35

The statue of PARIS



Statue at 51° 25' 18" N 0° 04' 16" W

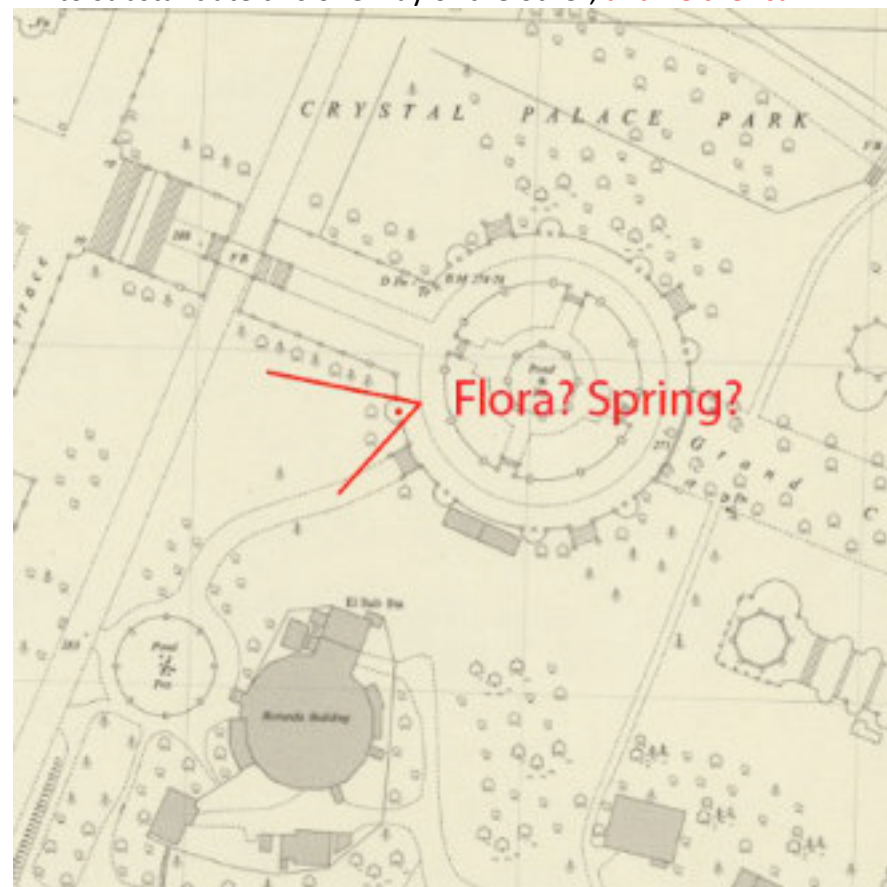
75

76



36

Front view of the following capture. The Sydenham Forum says that this is “SPRING? FLORA? by Rafaele Monti and provides a web extract showing the marble statue for sale. I cannot, however, find anything to substantiate this one way or the other, and neither can IP.



Statue at 51° 25' 16" N 0° 04' 19" W

77



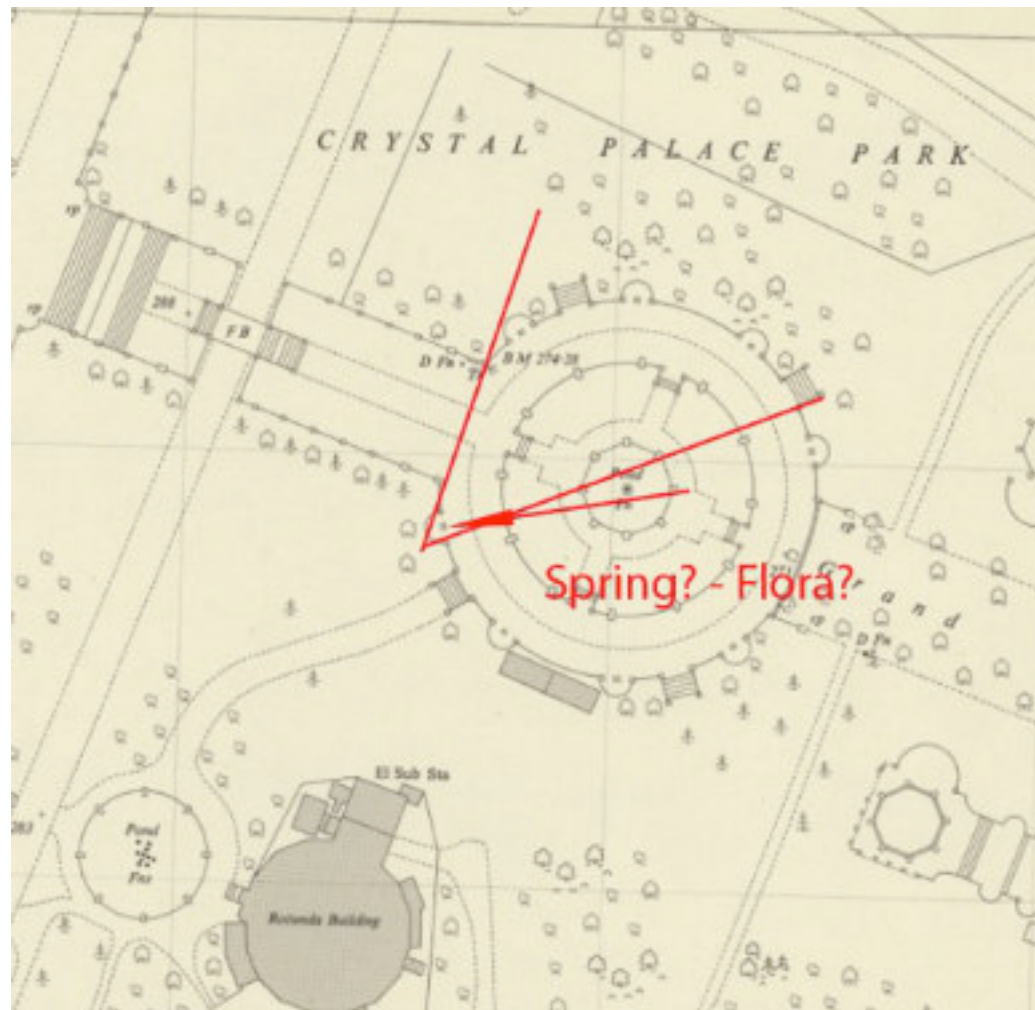
Just the other side of the wall actually.

78



37

The rear view of the previous capture.



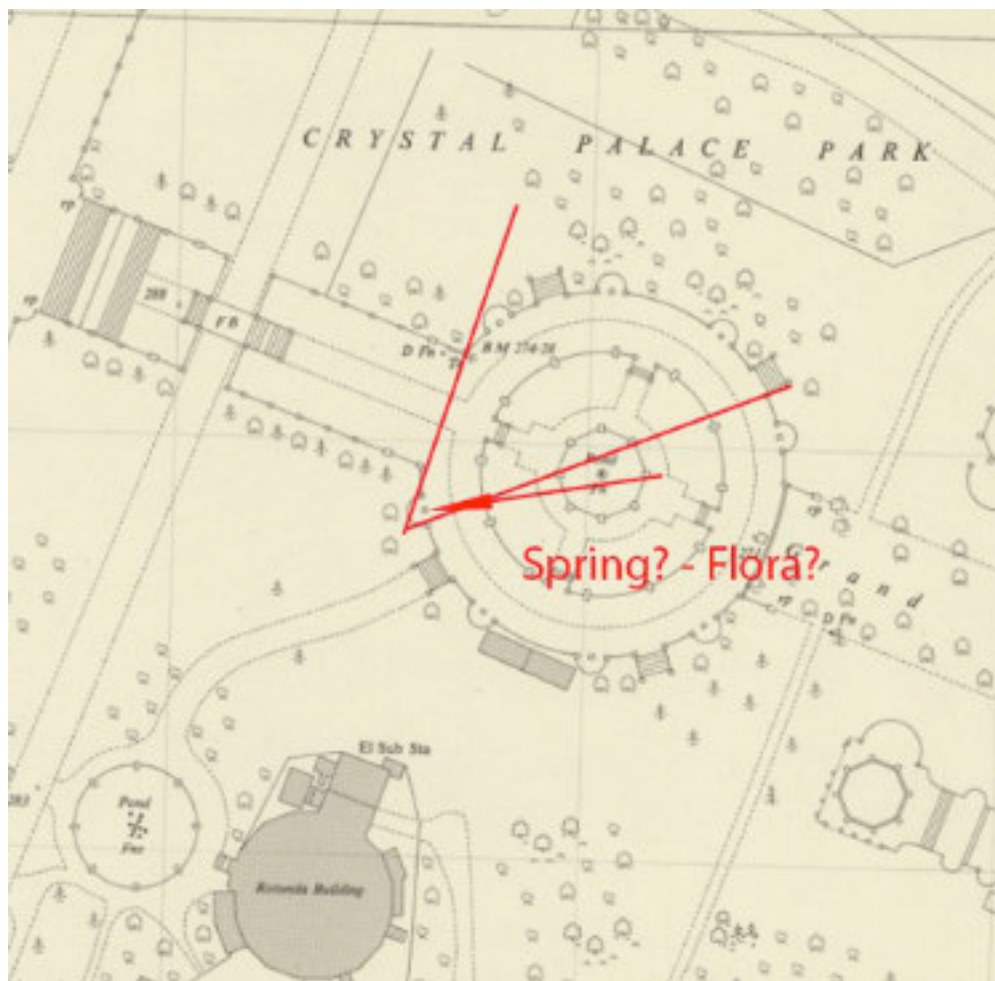
79

Not possible to take a comparative shot without height or a drone.

80



38



As for 37 but pan slightly left

81

82



39

The stairs no longer exist and not possible to take a shot of that statue base from this angle.



51° 25' 15" N 0° 04' 26" W

83

84



40

Sydenham Forum say that this is MELPOMENE situated 'Edge of Lower Steps'. However, IP say that this looks like one of the dancers CERES/MELPOMENE has a long dress on. They have called this DANCING BACCHANTE by Bienaime although they are not sure which Bienaime brother. They propose the location as 51° 25' 20" N 0° 04' 22" W

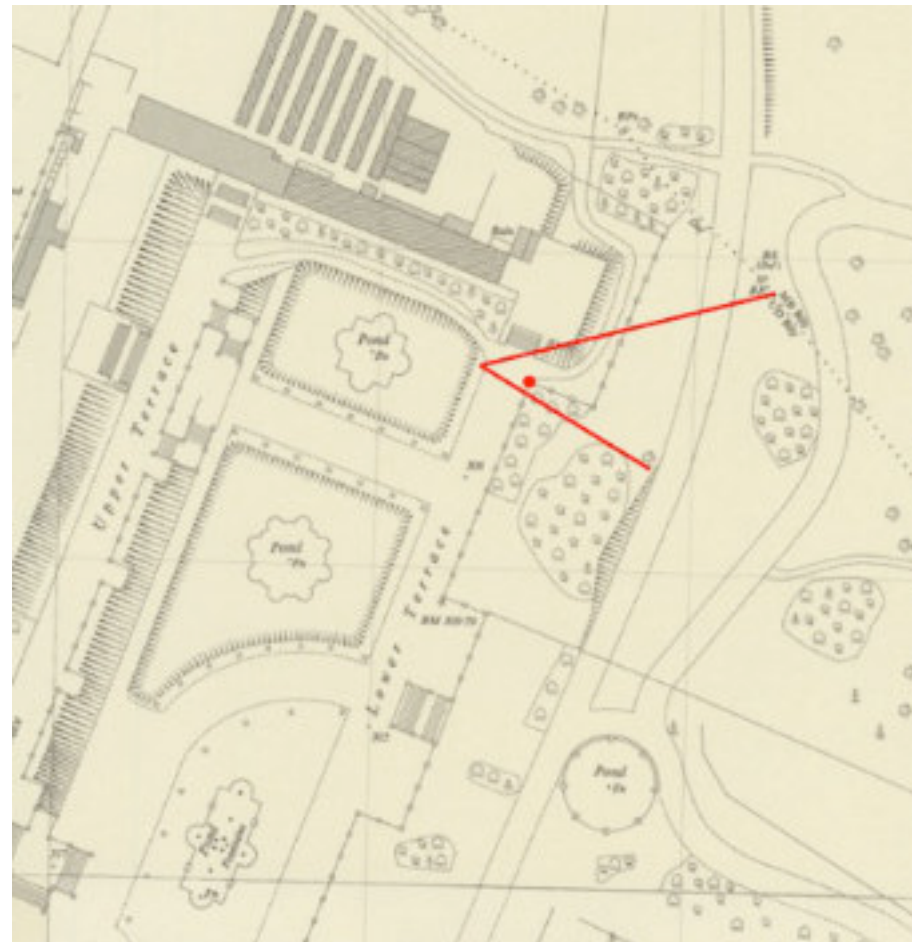


I currently see it as 51° 25' 23" N 0° 04' 21" W but we remain in discussion regarding this.



41

FAUNE WITH PIPES – Lower Terrace – I am of the opinion that this sequence has been horizontally flipped



51° 25' 15" N 0° 04' 26" W

87



88



41a

Also seen in Capture 44

Royal Navy Volunteer Reserve Trophy – Commemorating the men of the Royal Navy at the training depot HMS Victory VI at the Crystal Palace, 1914-1918 : At the time of filming it was behind the bandstand on the lower terrace. Now re-sited in the lower part of the Park near Vale Gate and sports centre.

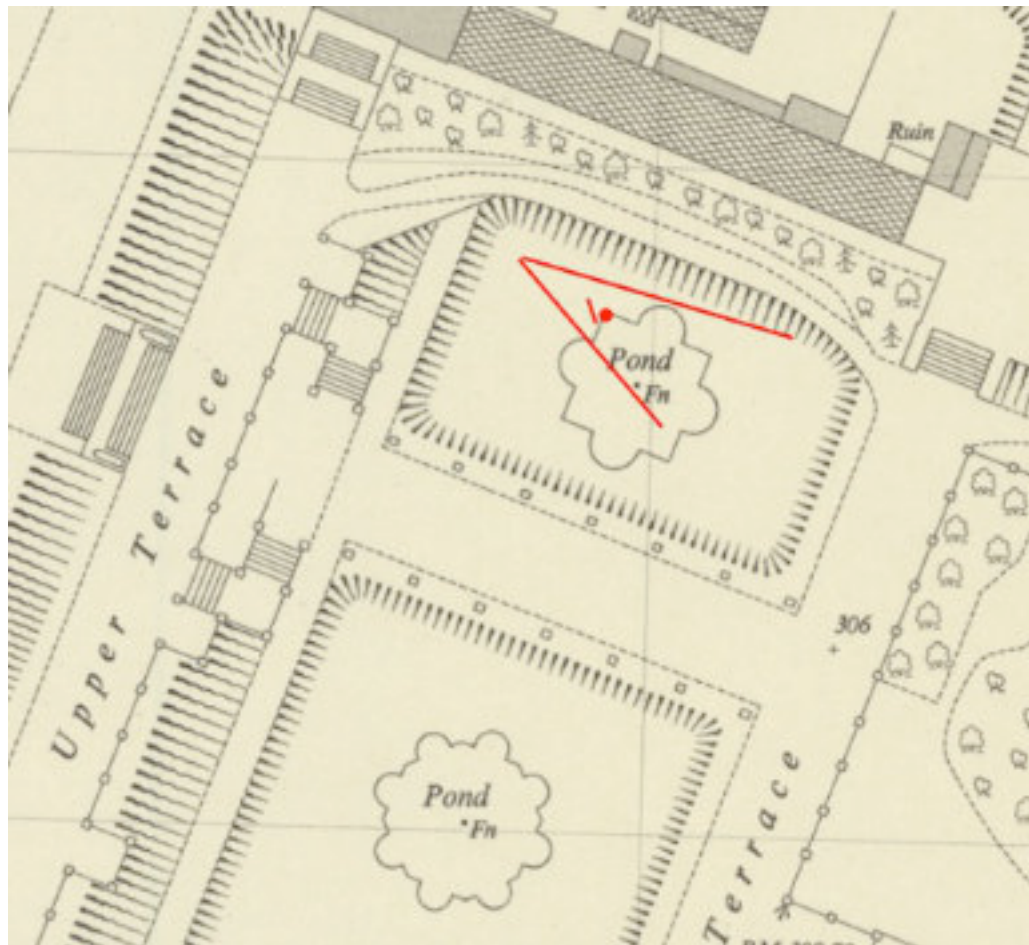




41b
See also 26



From ground level.



51° 25' 26" N 0° 04' 22" W



42

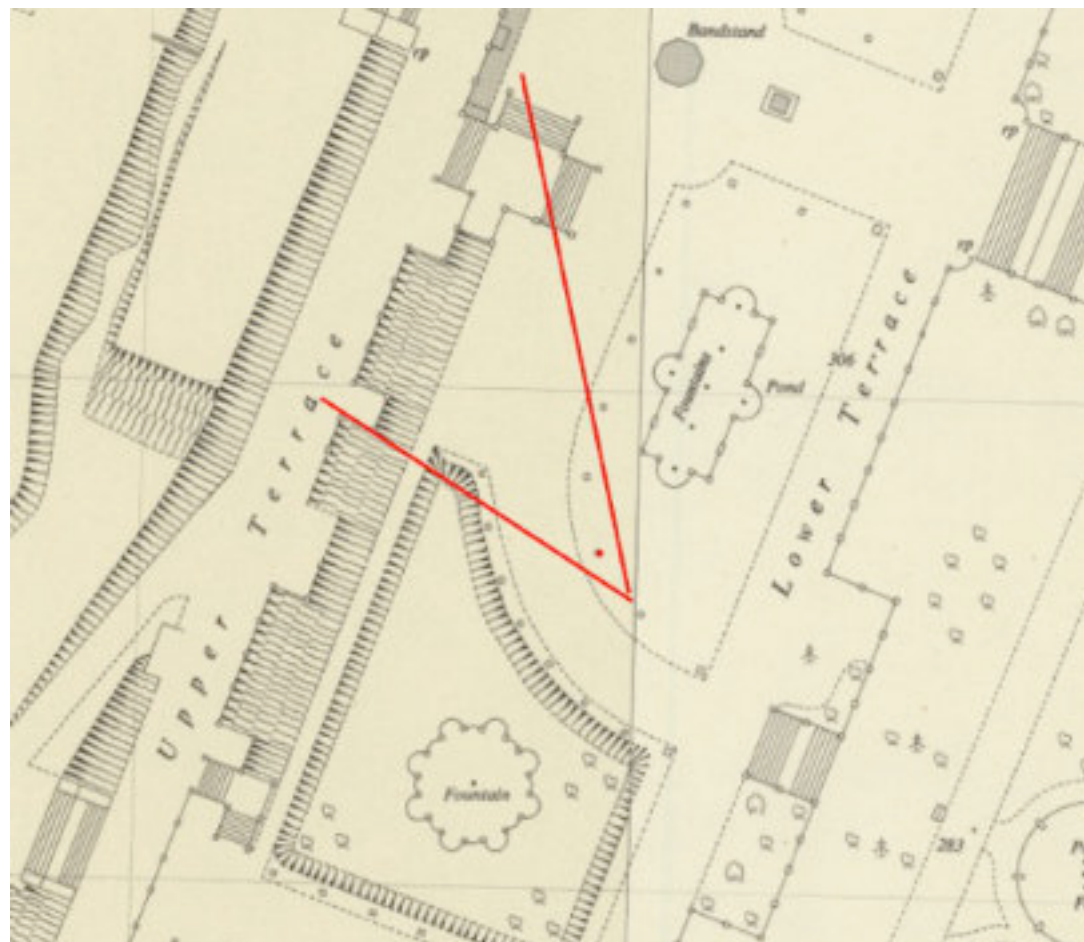
Plinth 7 - "South America" by Raffaele Monti – See Capture 5 for a more meaningful capture.





43

IP have a title of LOVE'S LOST for the fallen statue but one reference to it has a question mark so it remains open to other possibilities.



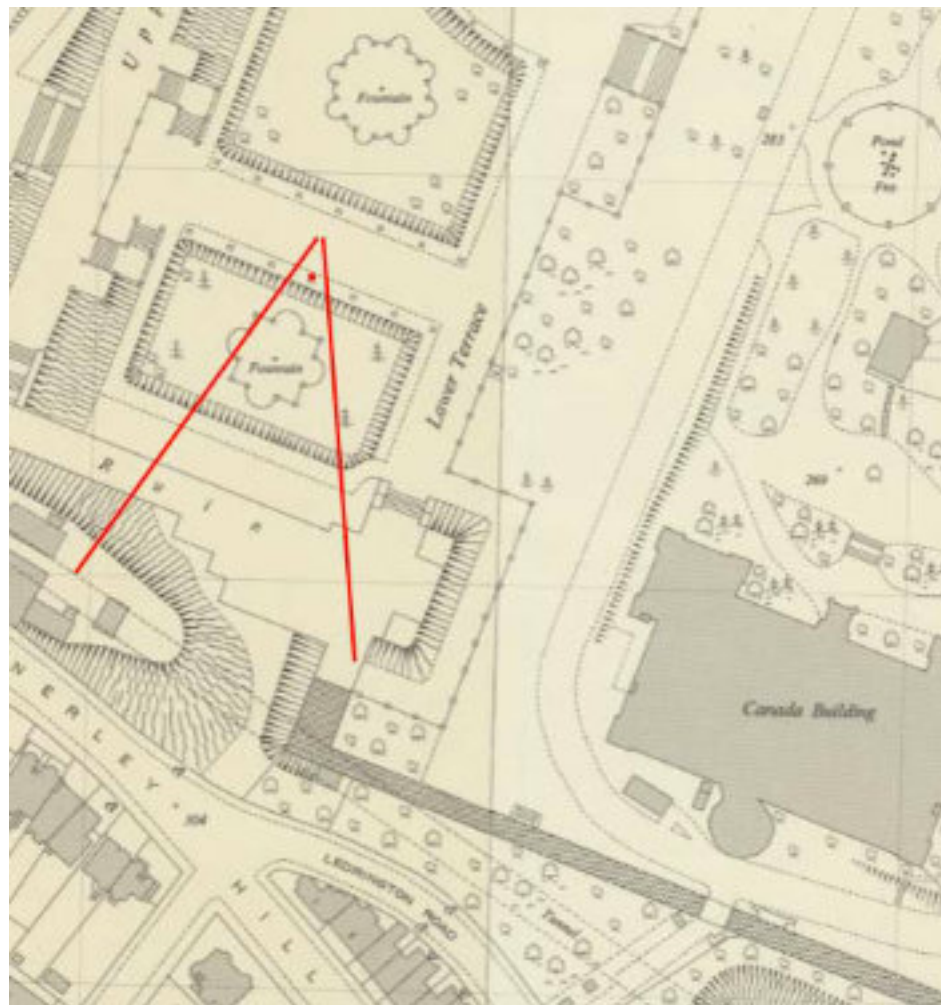
51° 25' 16" N 0° 04' 28" W

95

96



43a



51° 25'13" N 0° 04' 30" W

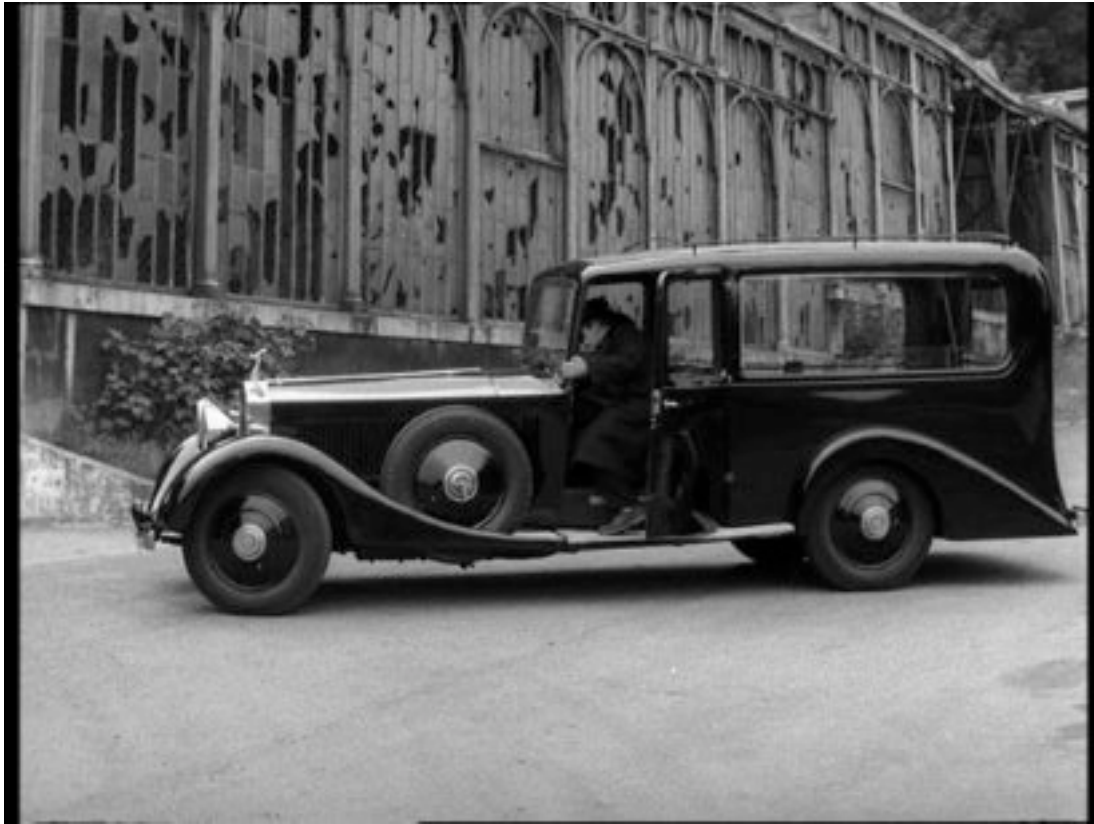


44

Royal Navy Volunteer Reserve Trophy – Commemorating the men of the Royal Navy at the training depot HMS Victory VI at the Crystal Palace, 1914-1918 : At the time of filming it was behind the bandstand on the lower terrace. Now re-sited in the lower part of the Park near Vale Gate and sports centre.

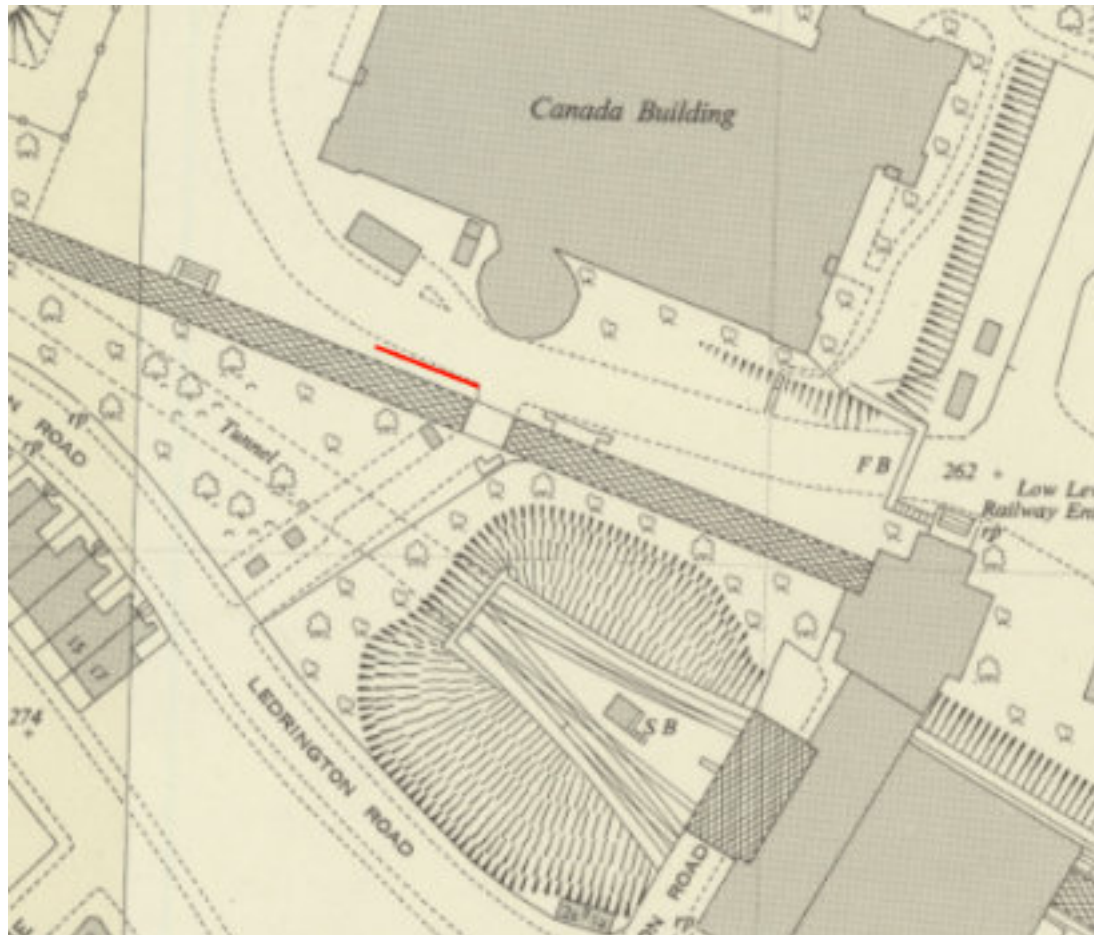


A token shot of one corner.



45

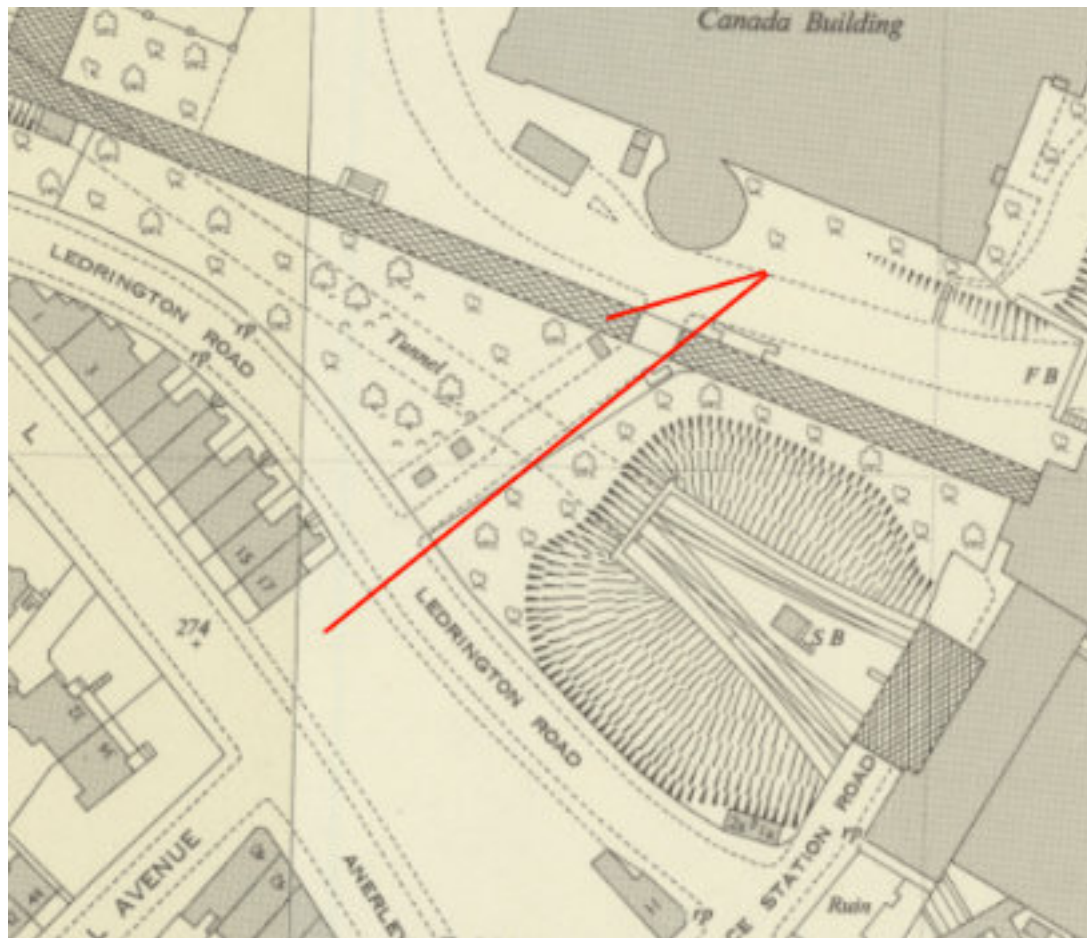
Crystal Palace Park – About to exit the Park towards Ledrington Road





46

Crystal Palace Park – looking towards Ledrington Road and the rear of the houses on Anerley Hill



103

104

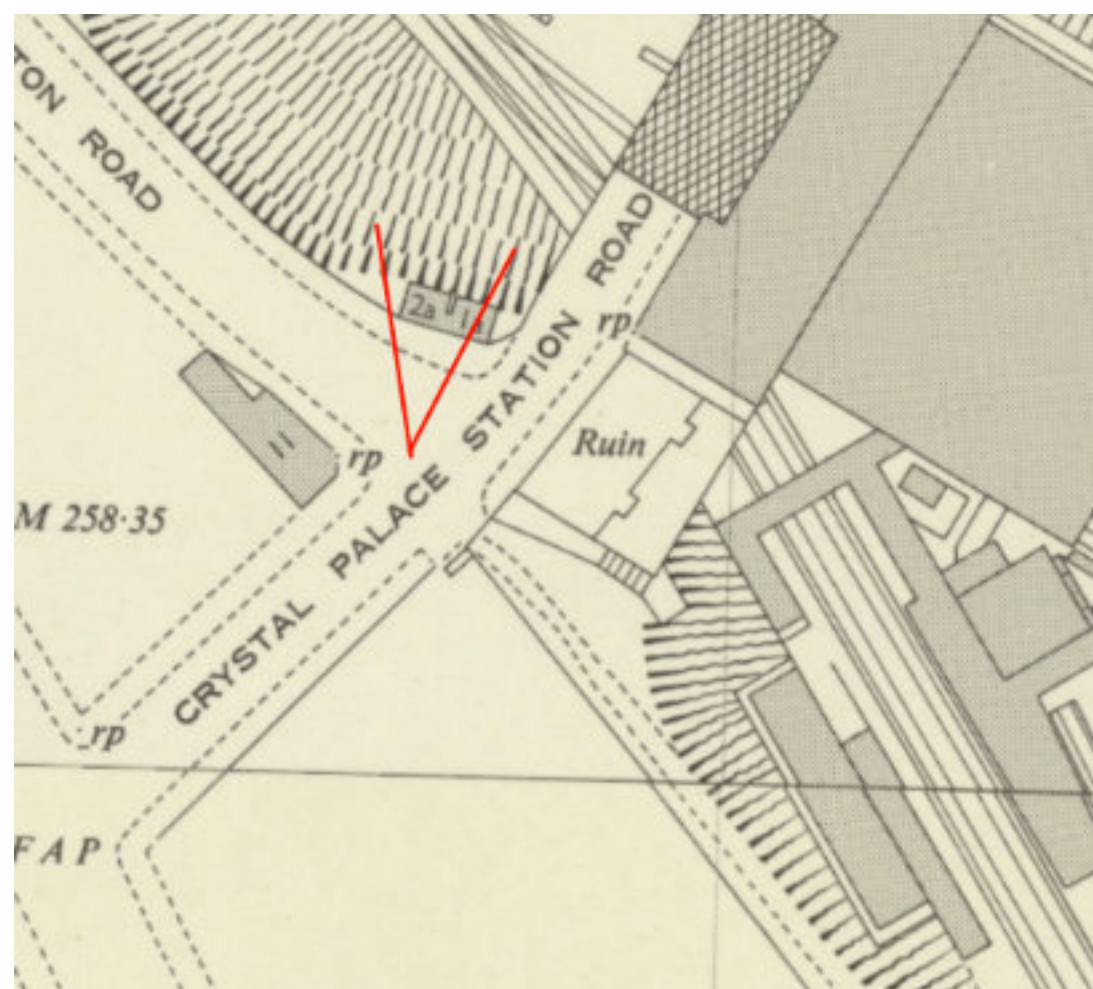


47

The junction of Crystal Palace Station Road and Ledrington Road



Some features remain.





48
Anerley Road

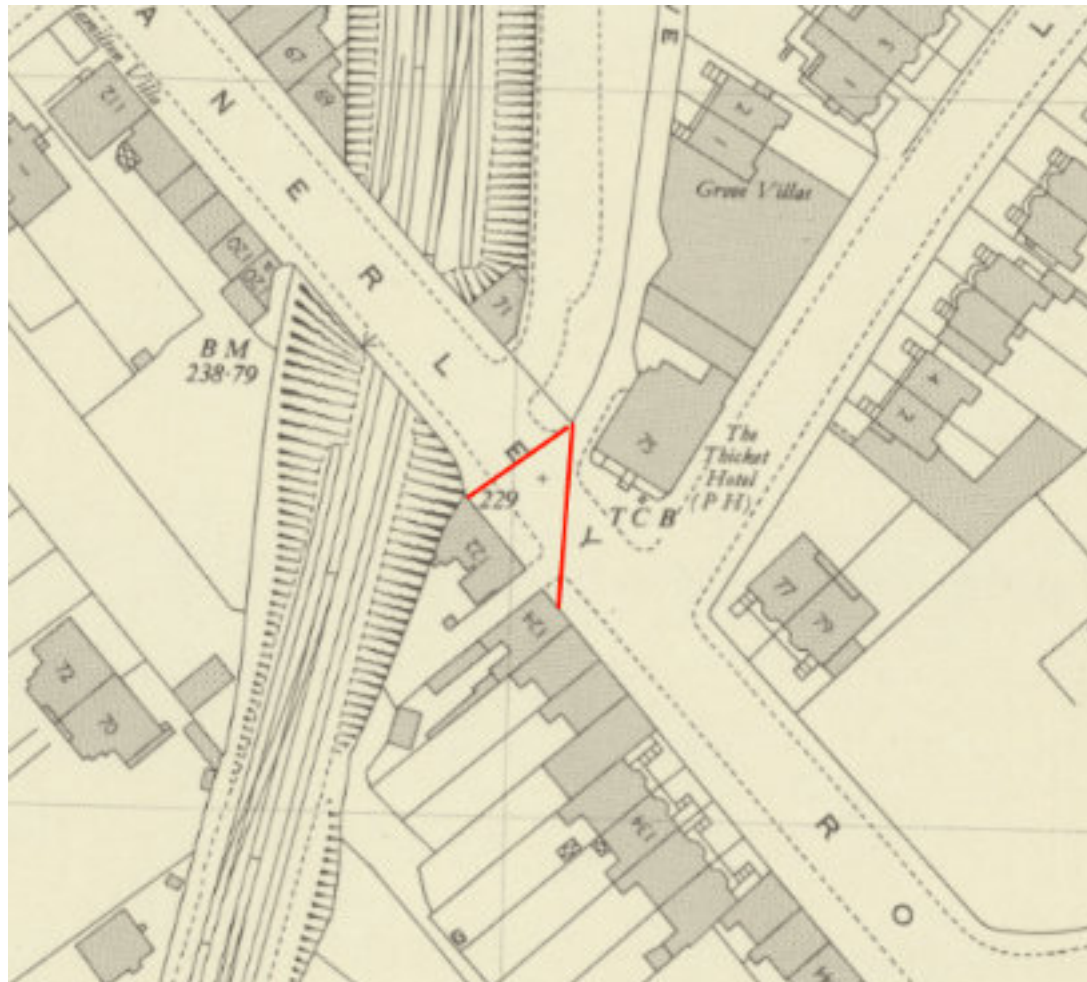




49
Anerley Road

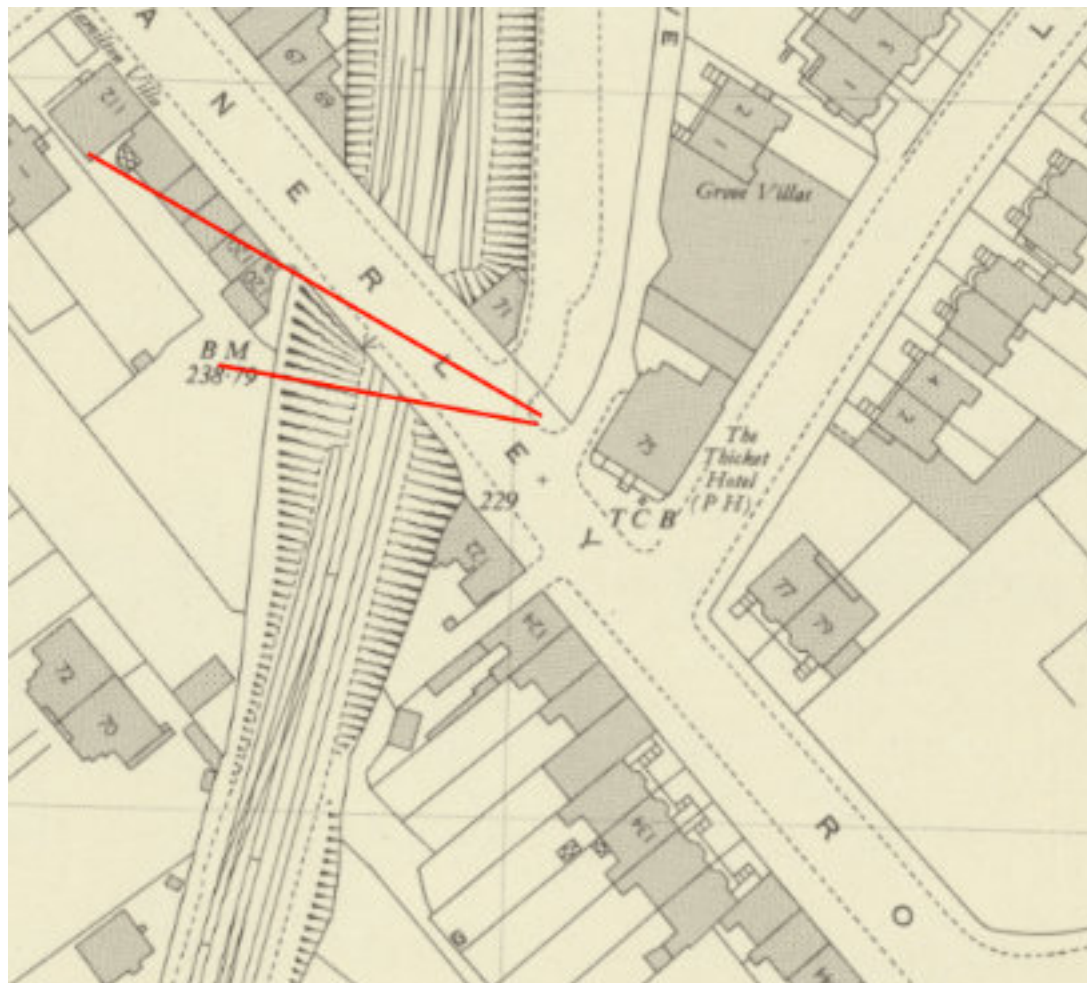


The long standing scaffolding eventually gave way to a white van.





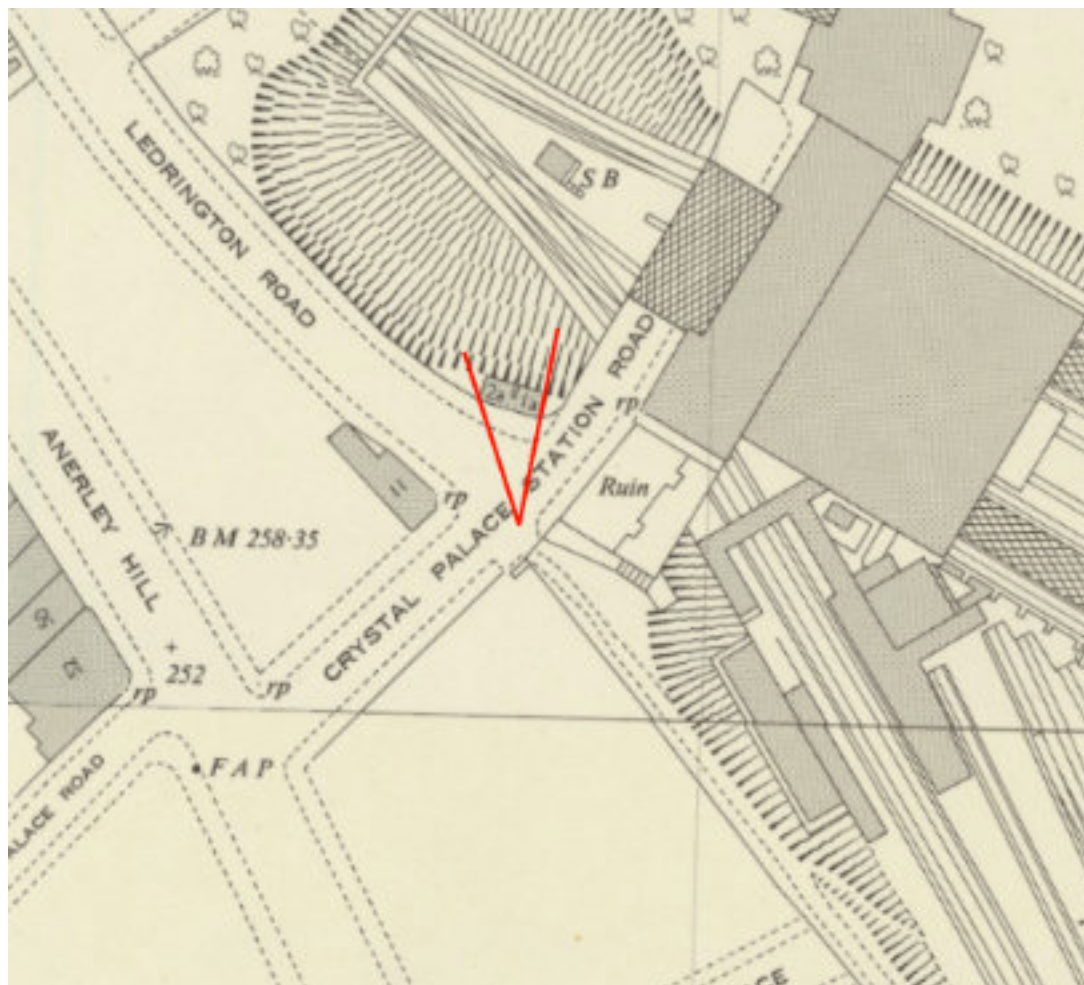
50
Anerley Road





51

The junction of Crystal Palace Station Road and Ledrington Road.



113

114



52

Right hand side (north) of the main matching pair of steps that linked the Upper and Lower Terraces.
Nothing now remains.



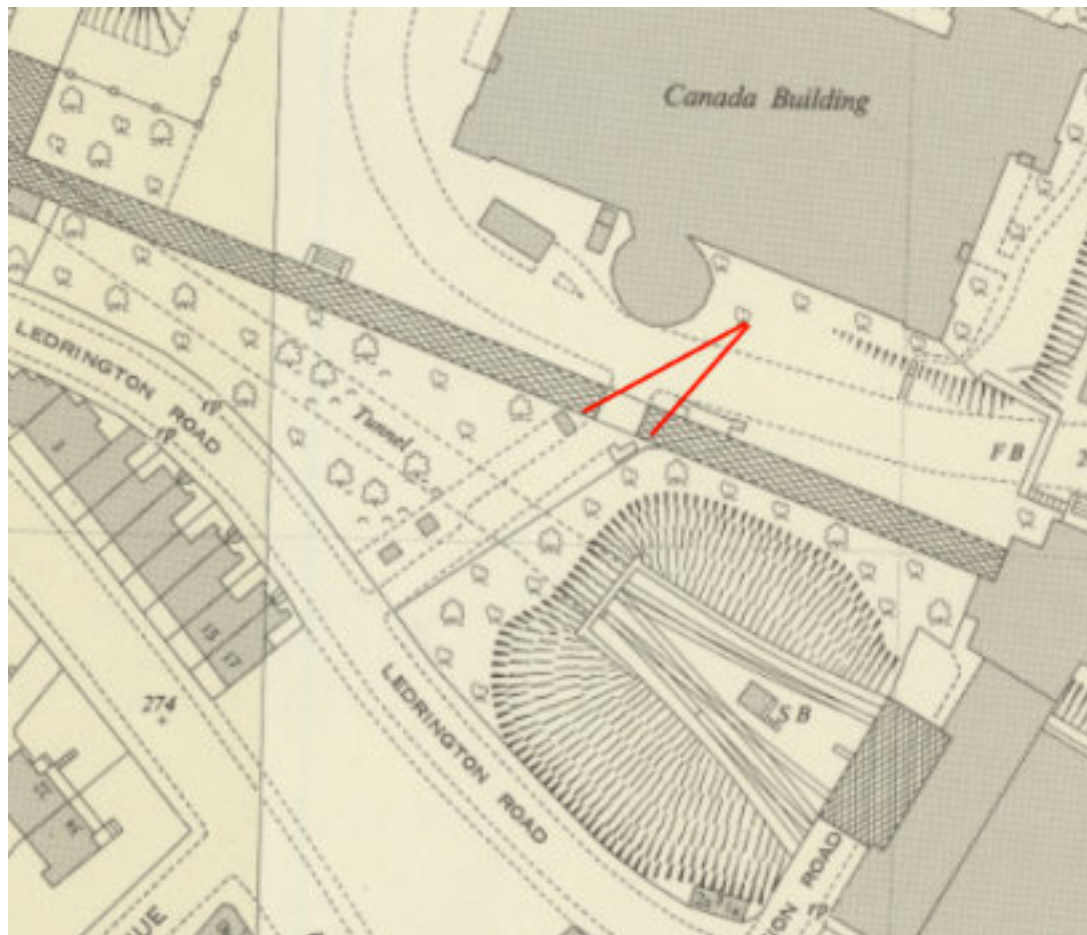
115

116



53

The car is entering Crystal Palace Park from Ledrington Road, Canada Building would have been behind the camera.



117

118

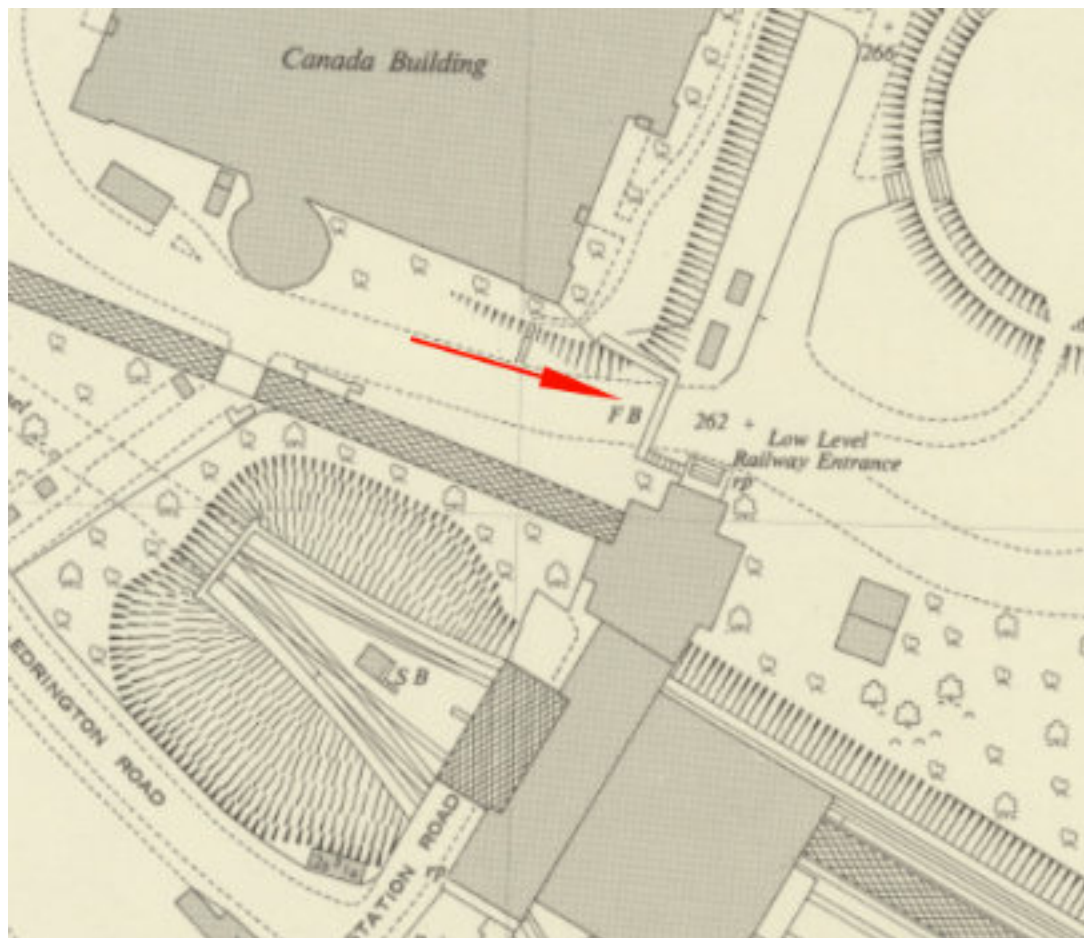


54

Looking east down the path/road in the Park from the entrance to the National Sports Centre.



The bridge was where the zebra crossing is now.



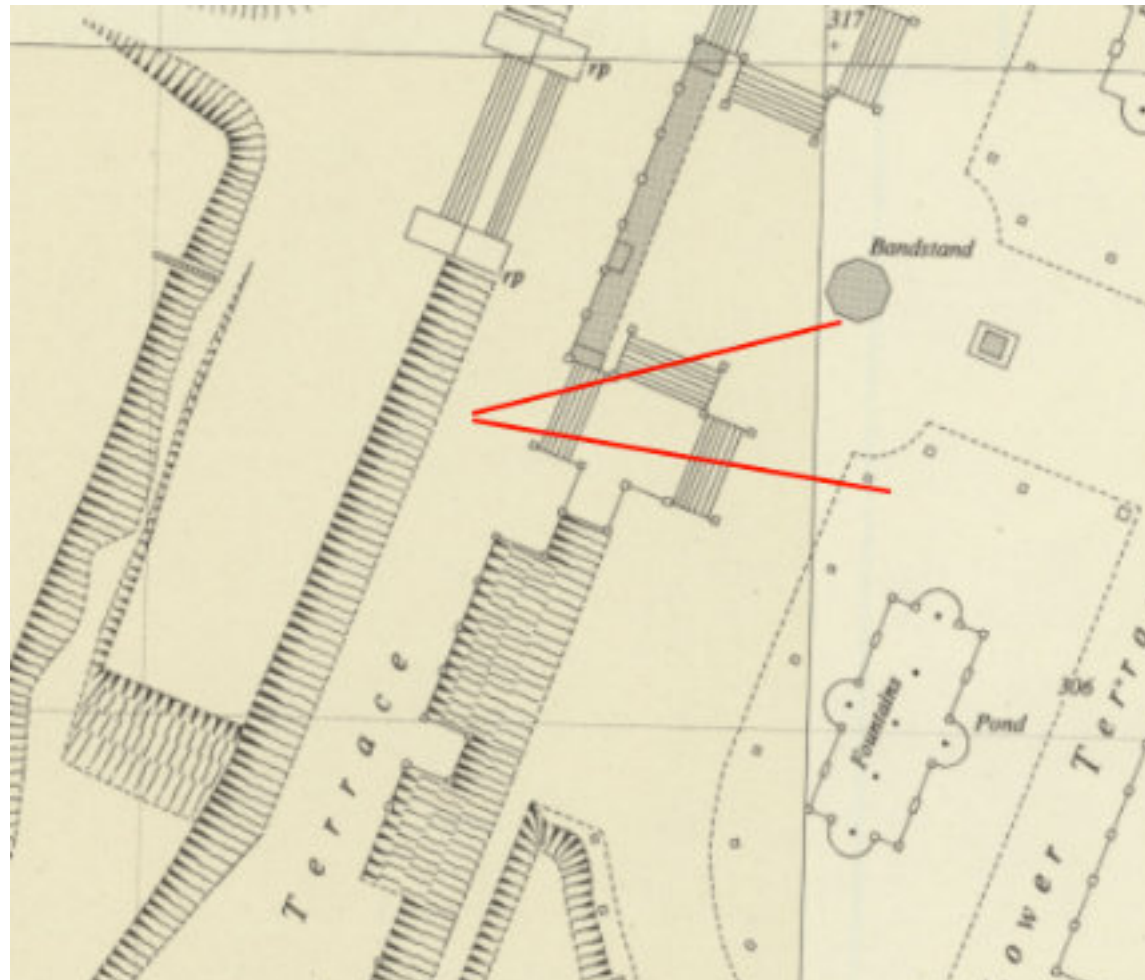
119

120



55

Left hand side (south) of the main matching pair of steps that linked the Upper and Lower Terraces.



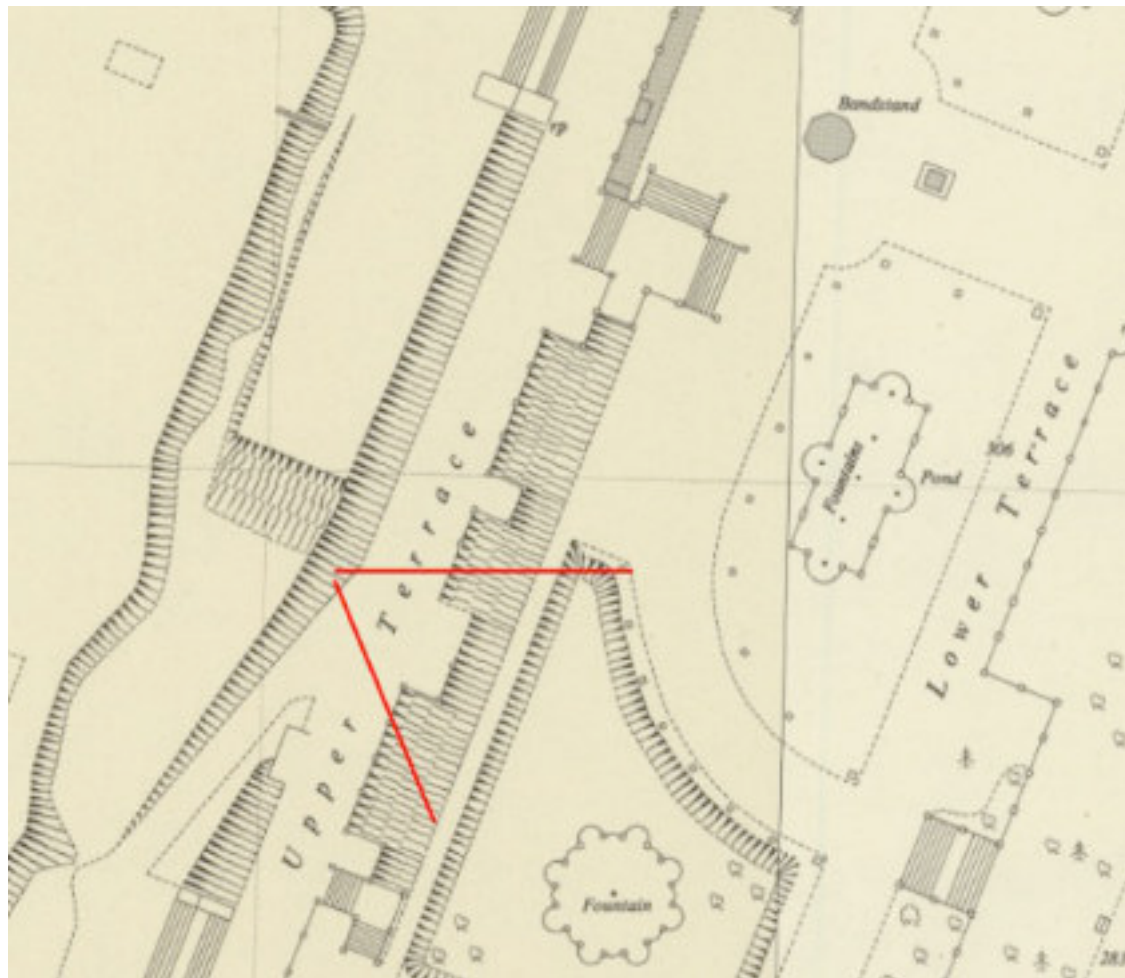
121

122



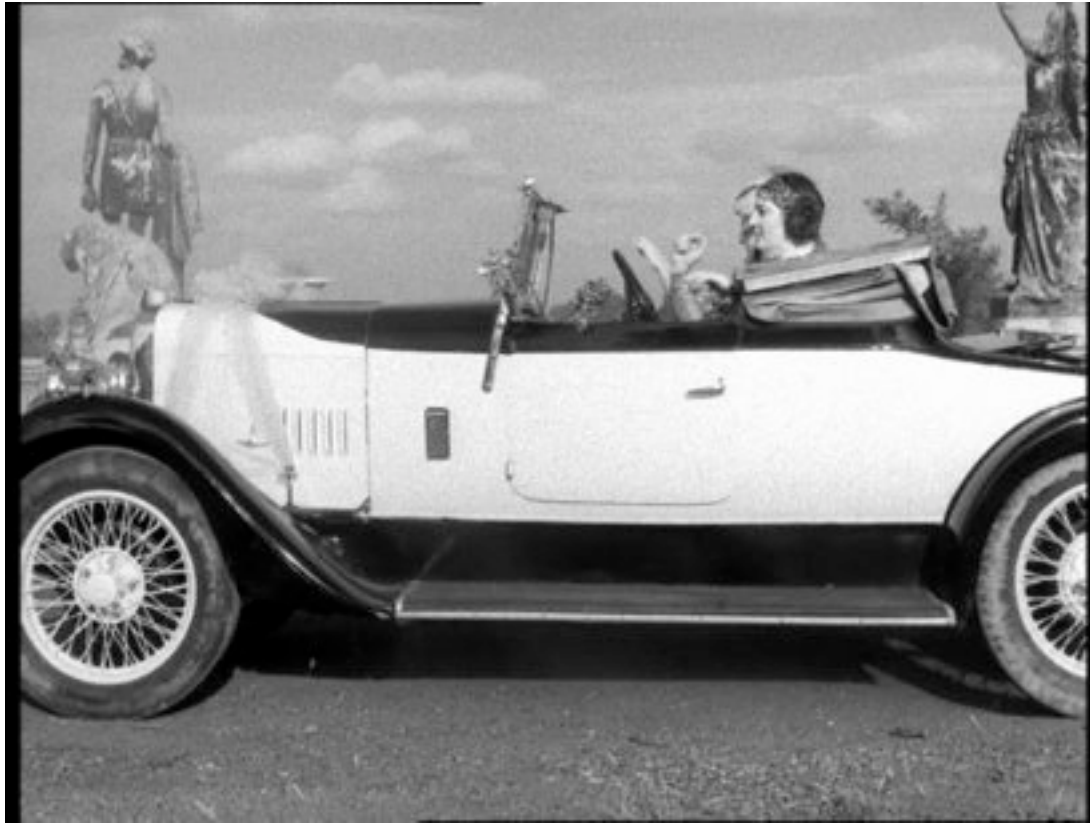
56

Upper Terrace with SOUTH AMERICA by Raffaele Monti behind the car on Plinth 7.



123

124



57

The car stops with Plinth 10 to the left with 'India' and Plinth 9 to the right with 'California'.



125

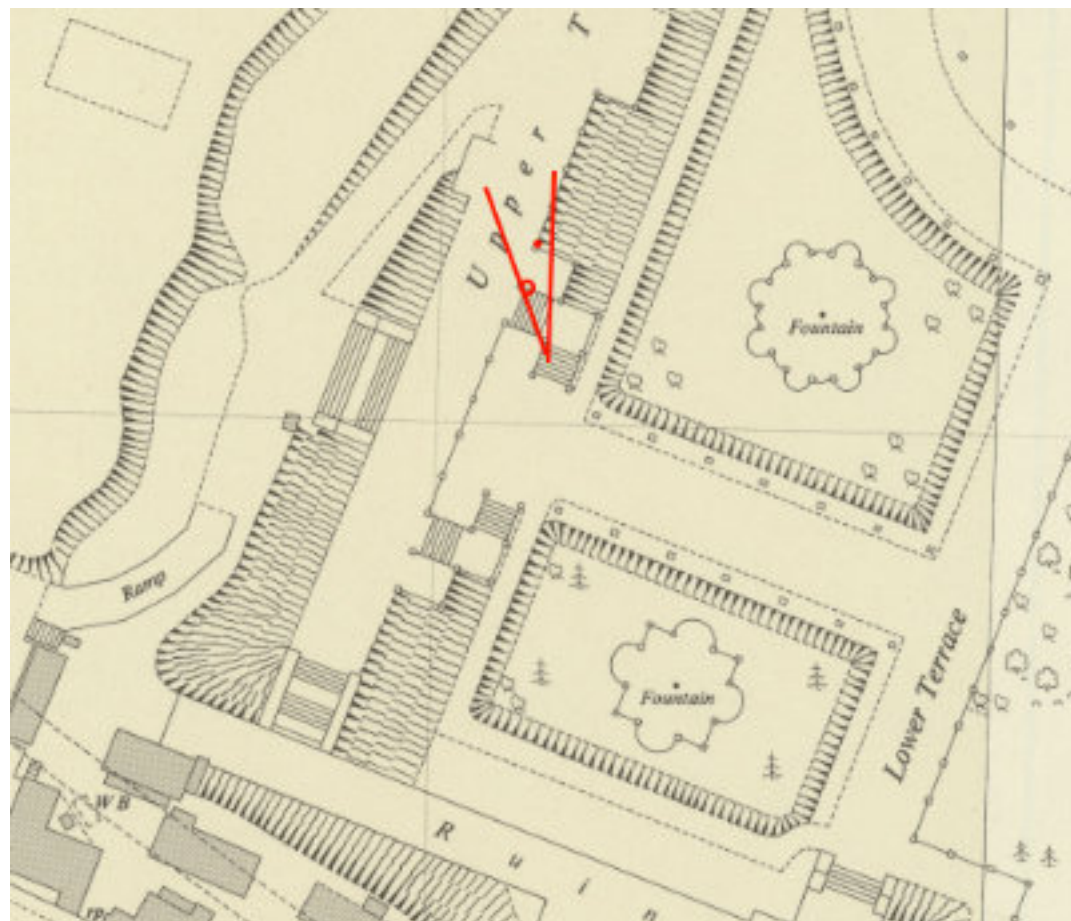
126



58 – 18:11

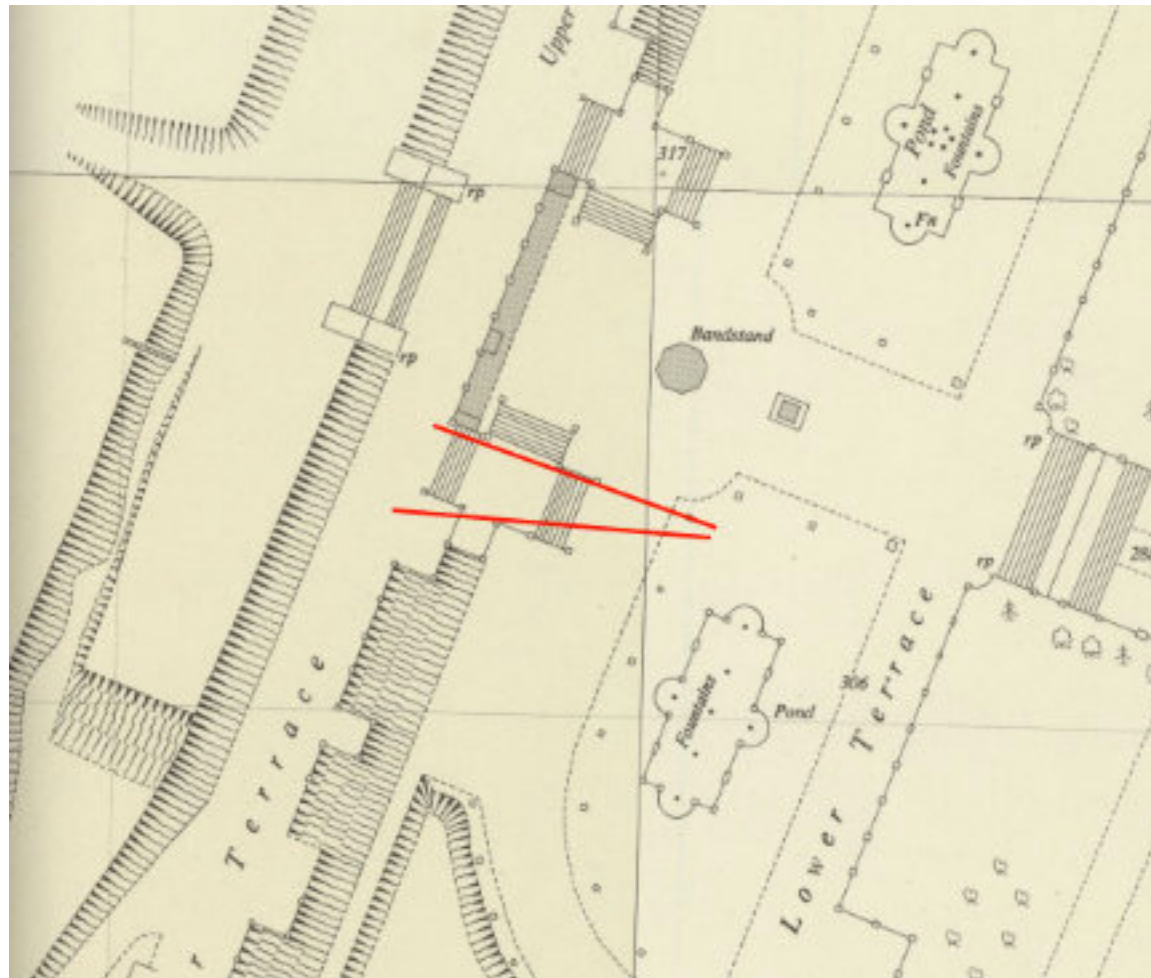
Plinth 5 (left) – Unknown: Plinth 6 (right) – Unknown but existing statue commonly known as the 'Hollow Lady'

Right hand side of the far southern flights of steps, no longer existing.





59



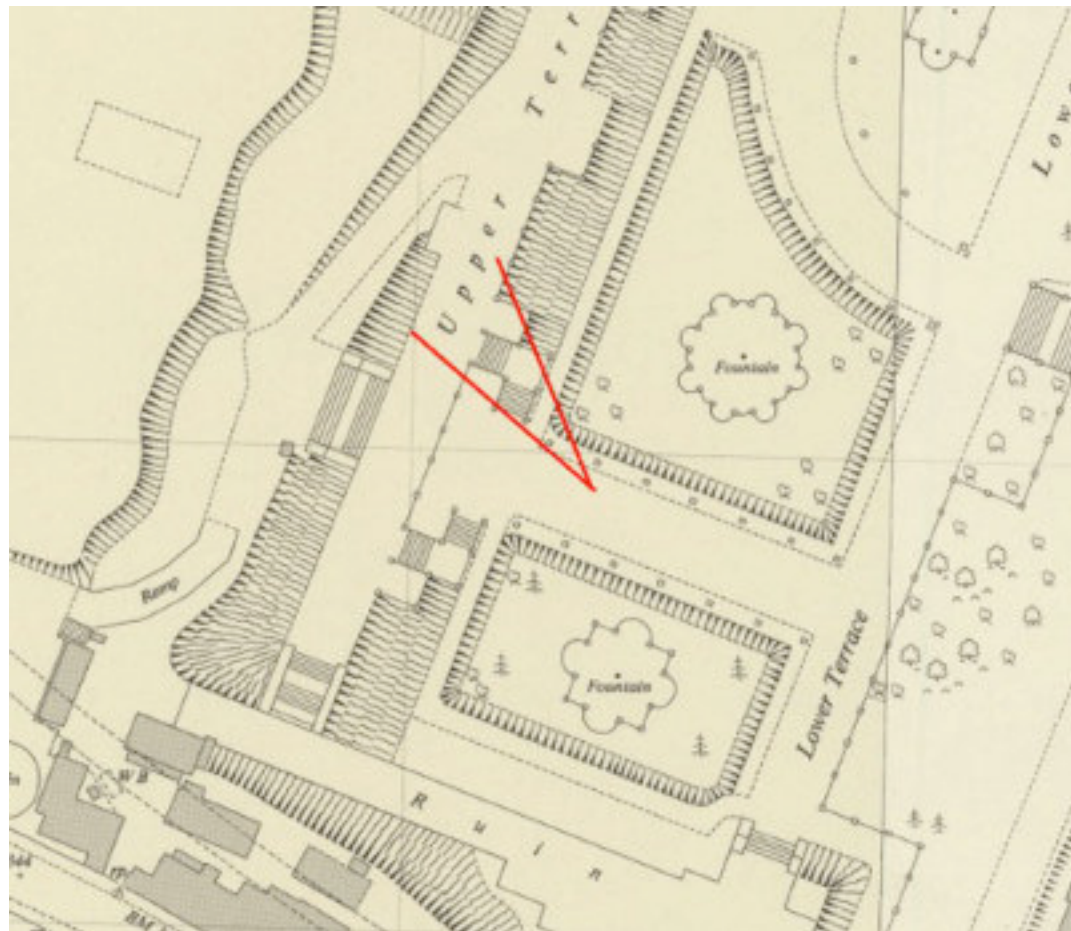
129

130



60

Right hand southern staircase. See BfA EAW000568 – No longer exist.



131

132



61

Statue DANCING GIRL WITH HER HANDS ON HER HIPS by Antonio Canova



51° 25' 15" N 0° 04' 27" W

A comparative shot would only show the sky.



62

As previous statue, DANCING GIRL WITH HER HANDS ON HER HIPS by Antonio Canova



51° 25' 15" N 0° 04' 27" W

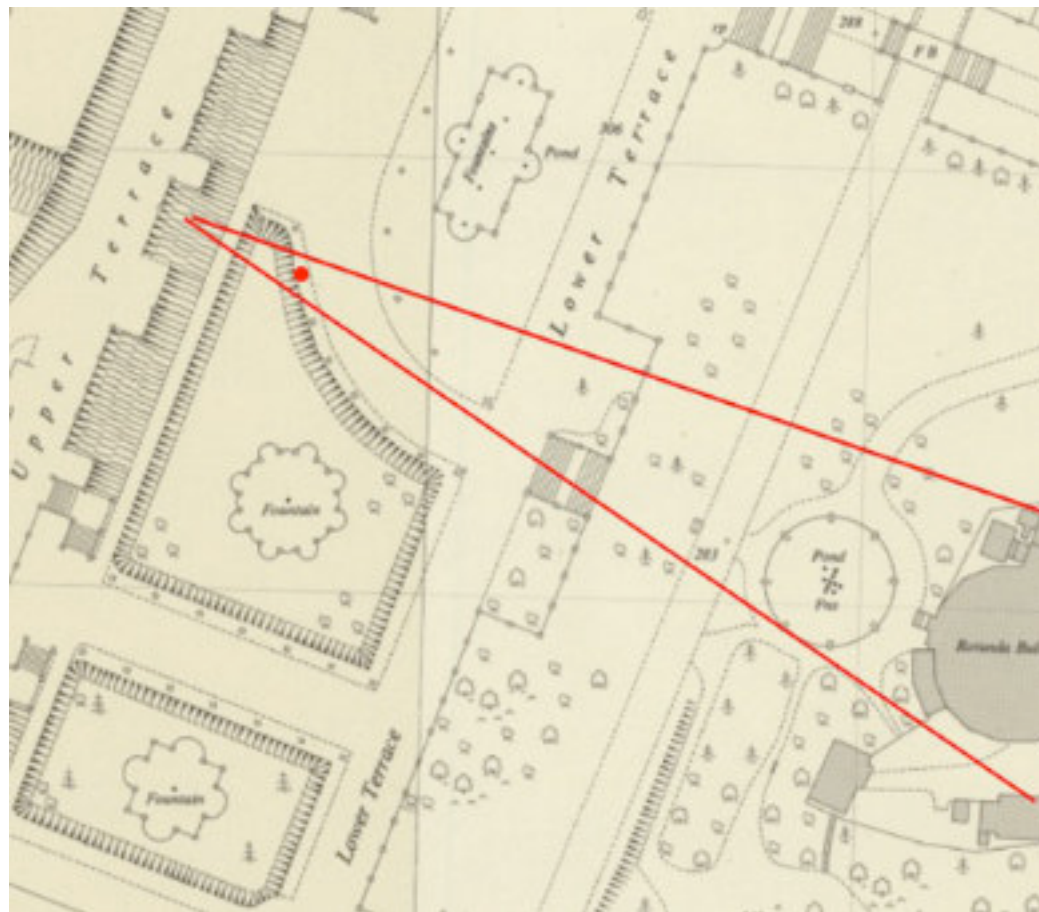
135

136



63

The statue of ANDROMEDA as in the next capture.



51° 25' 16" N 0° 04' 29" W



64

ANDROMEDA as in the previous capture



51° 25' 16" N 0° 04' 29" W



65
AMAZON

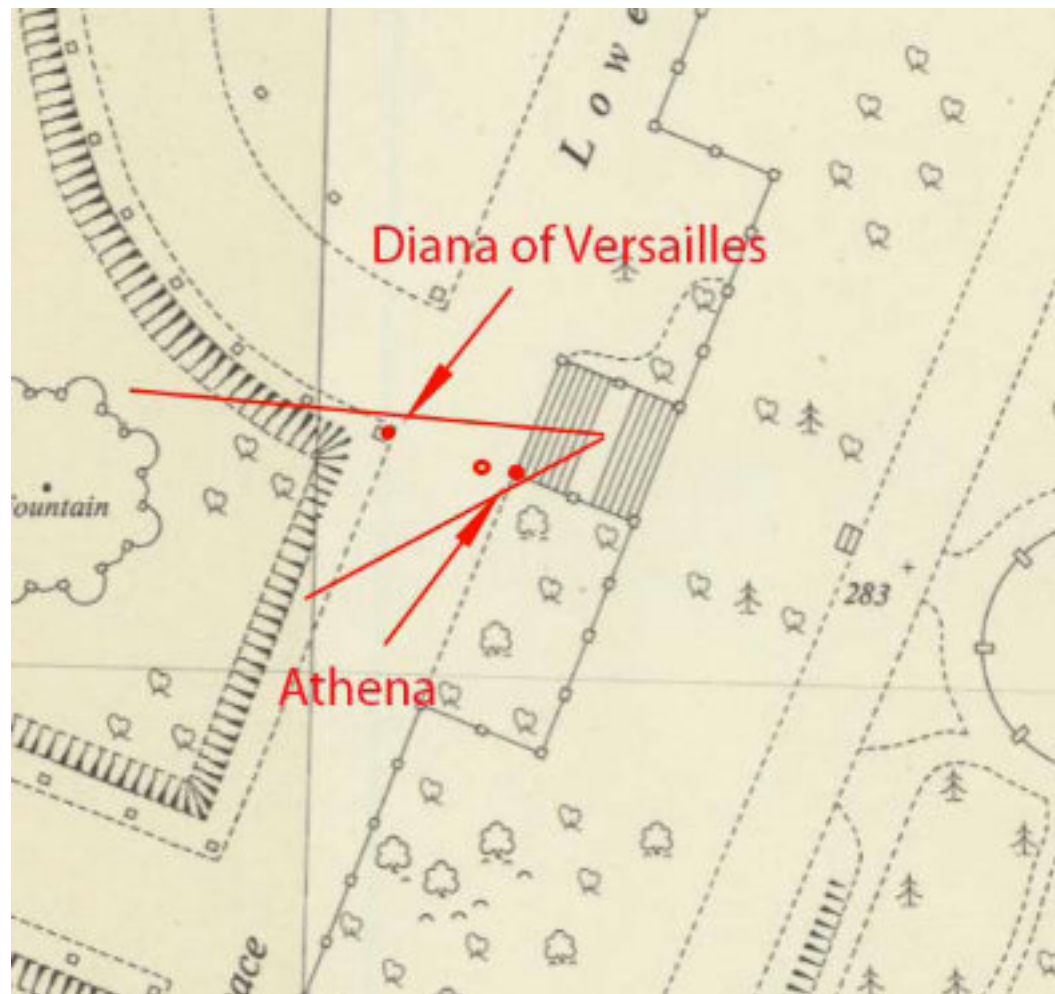


51° 25' 20" N 0° 04' 25" W



66

ATHENA GIUSTINIANI foreground and **DIANA OF VERSAILLES** in the background.
Lower Steps, **southern end**.



143

144



67

Plinth 15 to the left believed to be the statue of BELGIUM, but a question mark remains

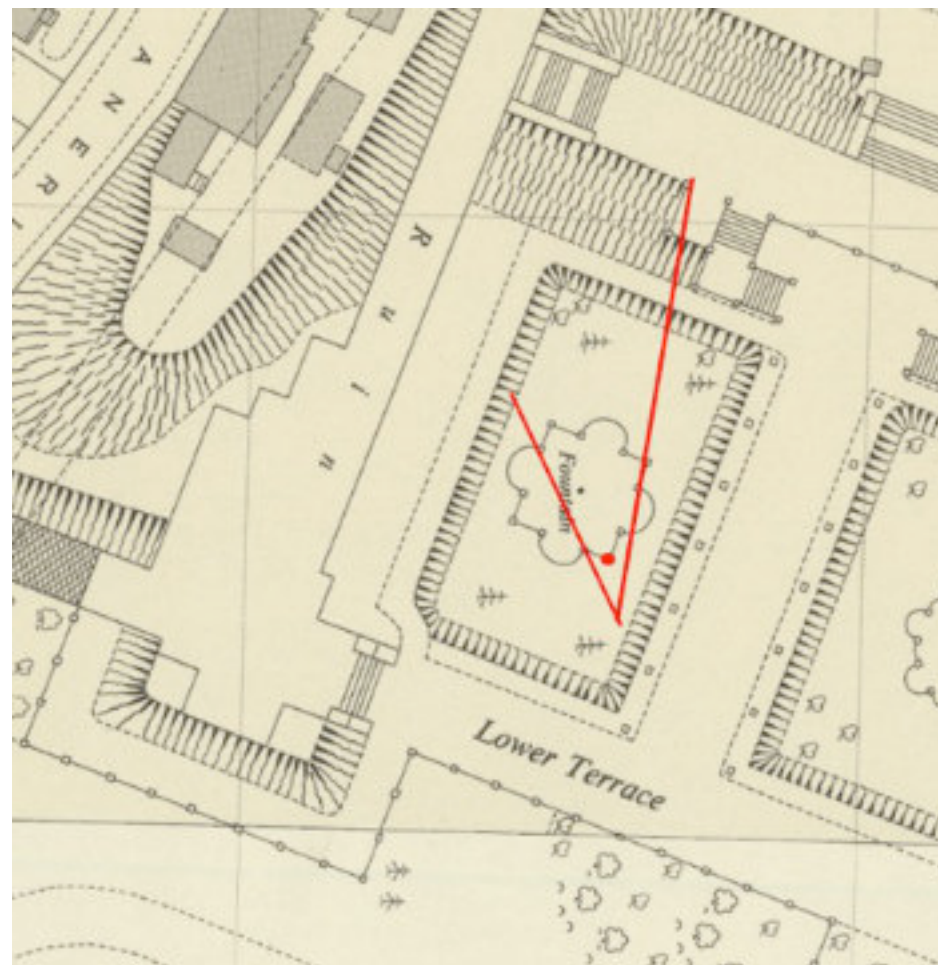


51° 25' 20" N 0° 04' 27" W



68

VALOUR



51° 25' 13" N 0° 04' 30" W

147

148



69

SOPHOCLES to the left and Paxton to the far right



Grouping 51° 25' 19" N 0° 04' 25" W

149

150



70



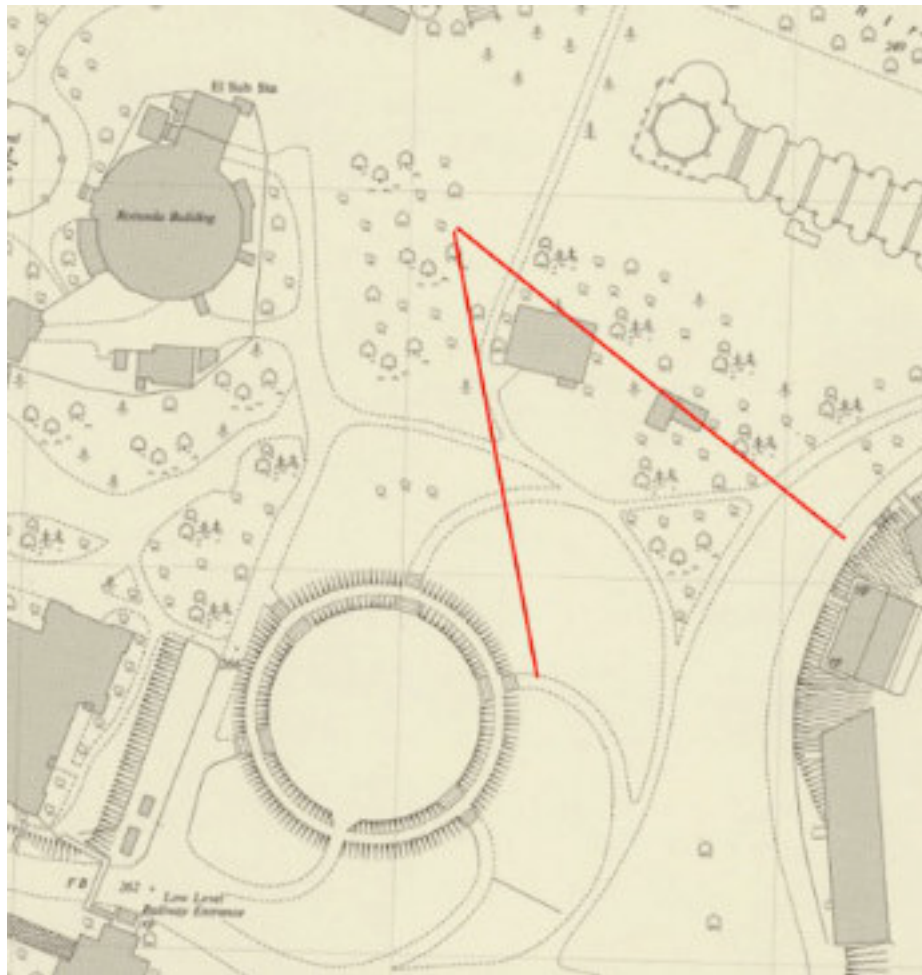
151

152



71

Supporting evidence as to my proposing this as the location can be found in **Appendix A** that follows at the end of screen captures and locations.



153

154



72
Farquhar Road





73

Farquhar Road looking towards Crystal Palace Parade



The station has long been demolished and replaced by a medical rehabilitation centre.



157

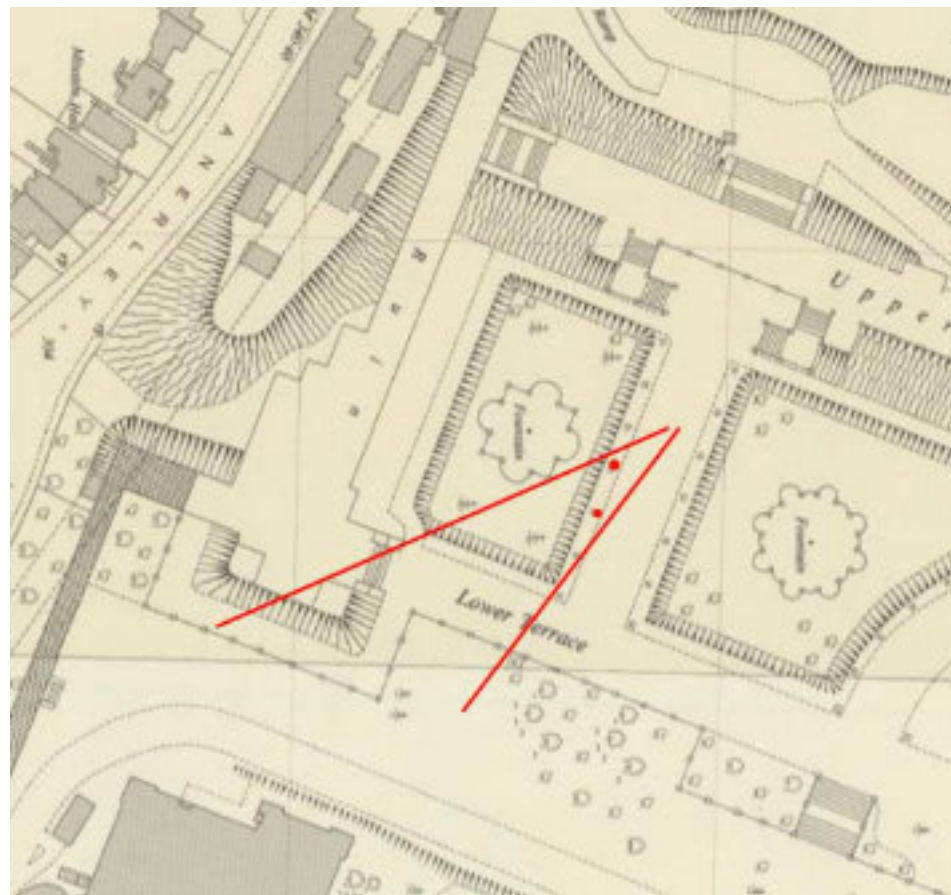
158



74

Statue of DIANA OF GABII to the left

See also 77



51° 25' 13" N 0° 04' 30" W



75

Plinth 20 – 'AUSTRALIA' by John Bell



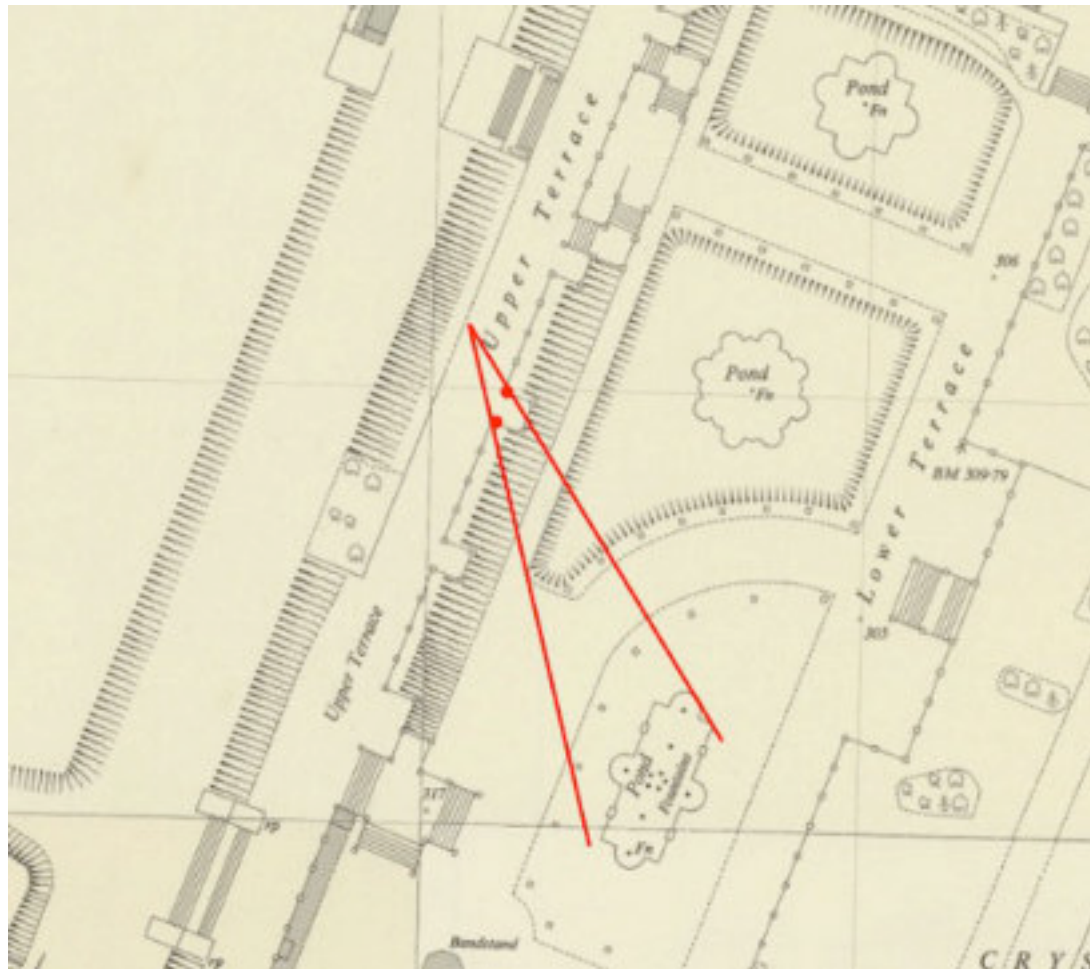
161

162



76

Plinth 19 – Thought to be EGYPT by Carlo Marochetti, to the right and AUSTRALIA Plinth 20 to the left





77

DIANA OF GABII

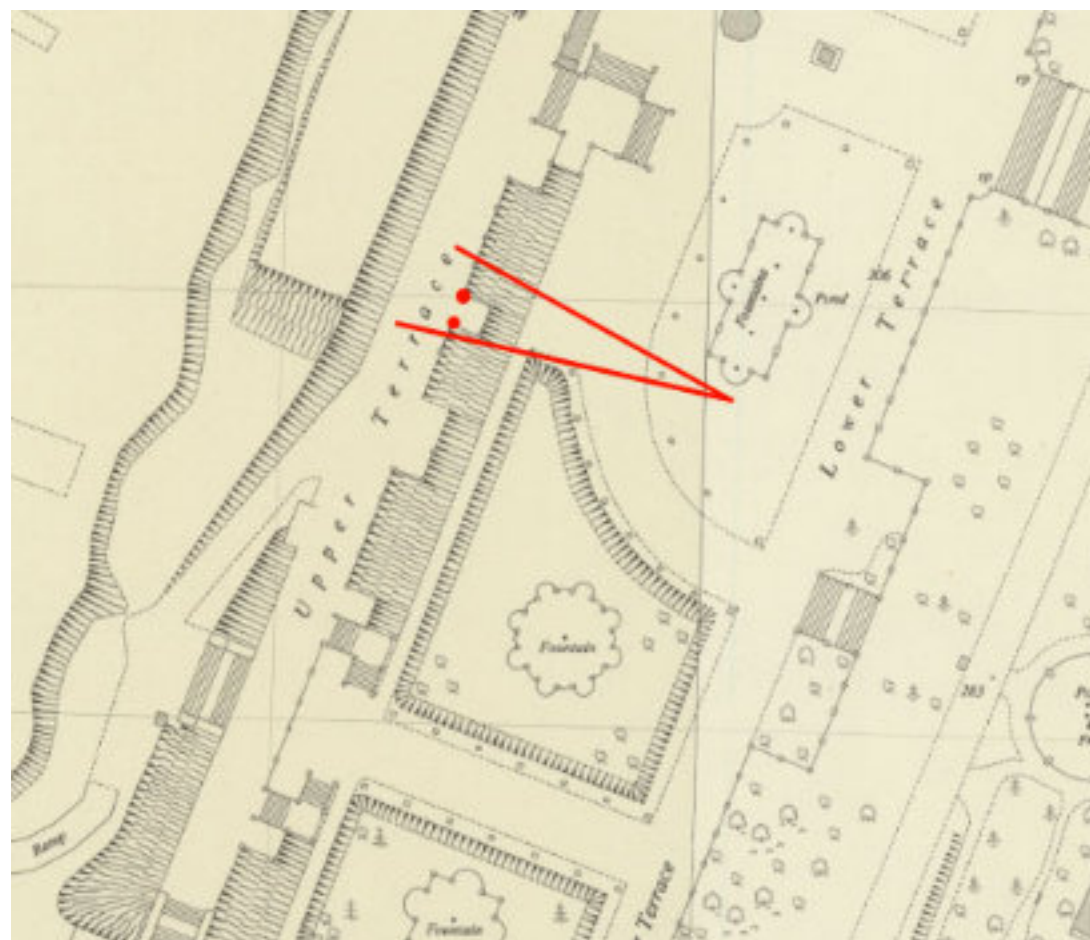
51° 25' 13" N 0° 04' 30" W

See also 74



77a

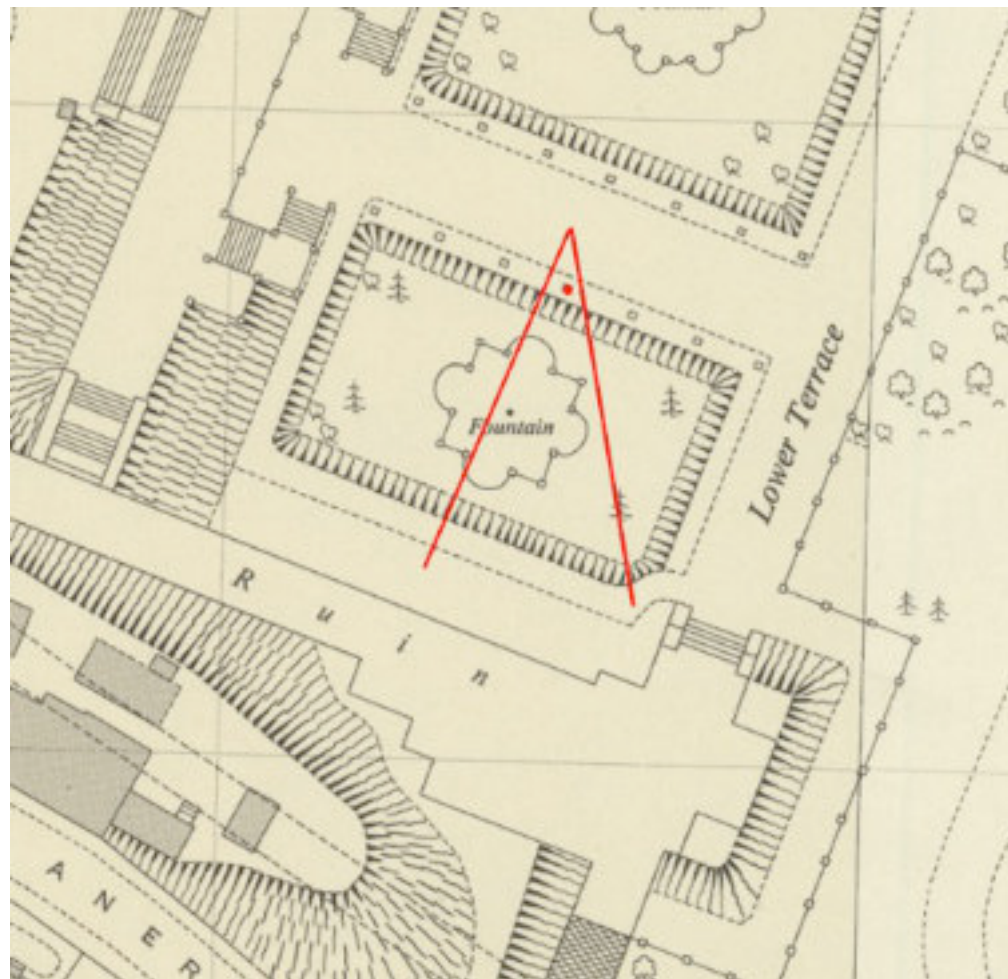
Plinth 9 – 'CALIFORNIA' to the left and Plinth 10 – 'INDIA' to the right





78

Statue of VALOUR to the left



51° 25' 13" N 0° 04' 30" W

169

170



79
Circa 69 Anerley Road





80

The Thicket Hotel (as was) Anerley Road and the junction with Lullington Road



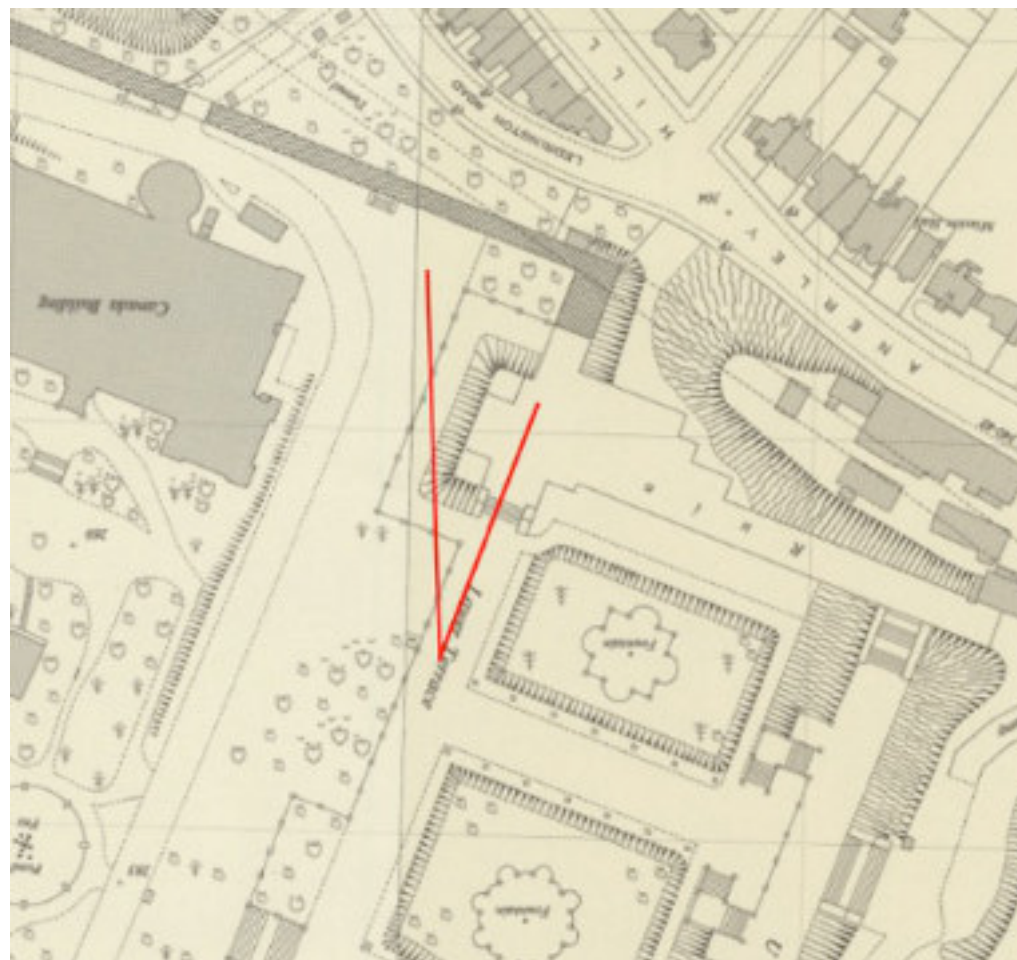
173

174



81

The statue of ARES BORGHESE behind Mrs Albion (Hattie Jacques)



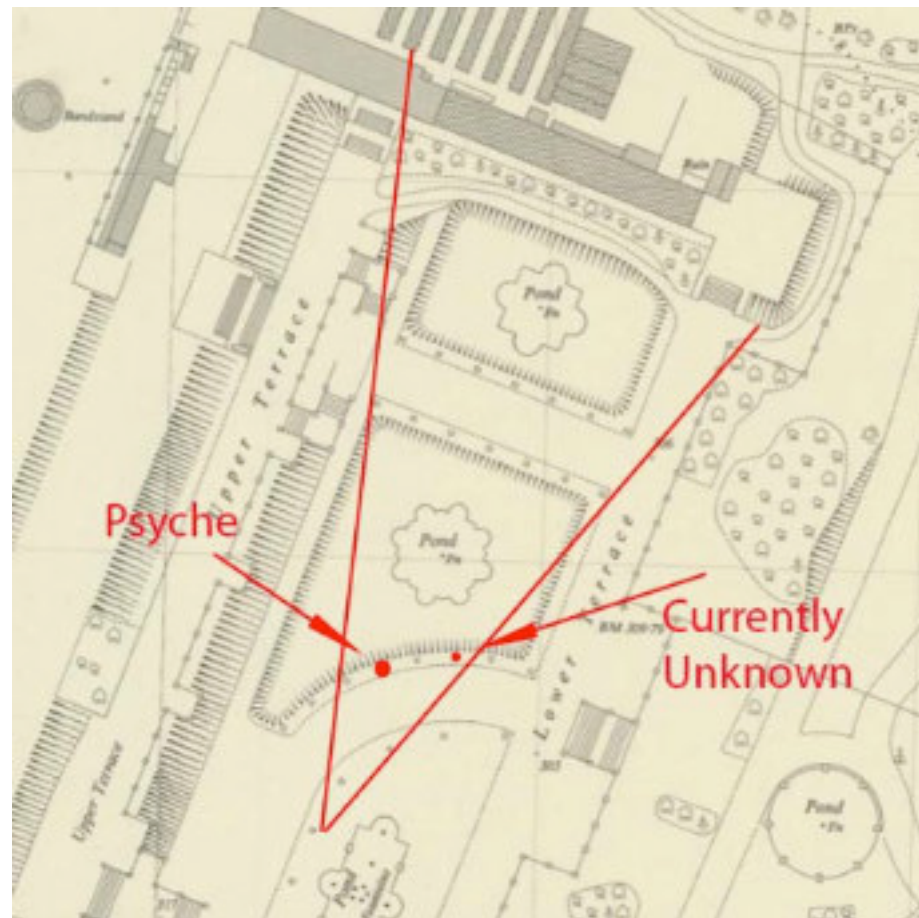
175

176



82

Looking towards the northern covered walkway.



PSYCHE - 51° 25' 23" N 0° 04' 24" W



83



179

180



84



181

182



85



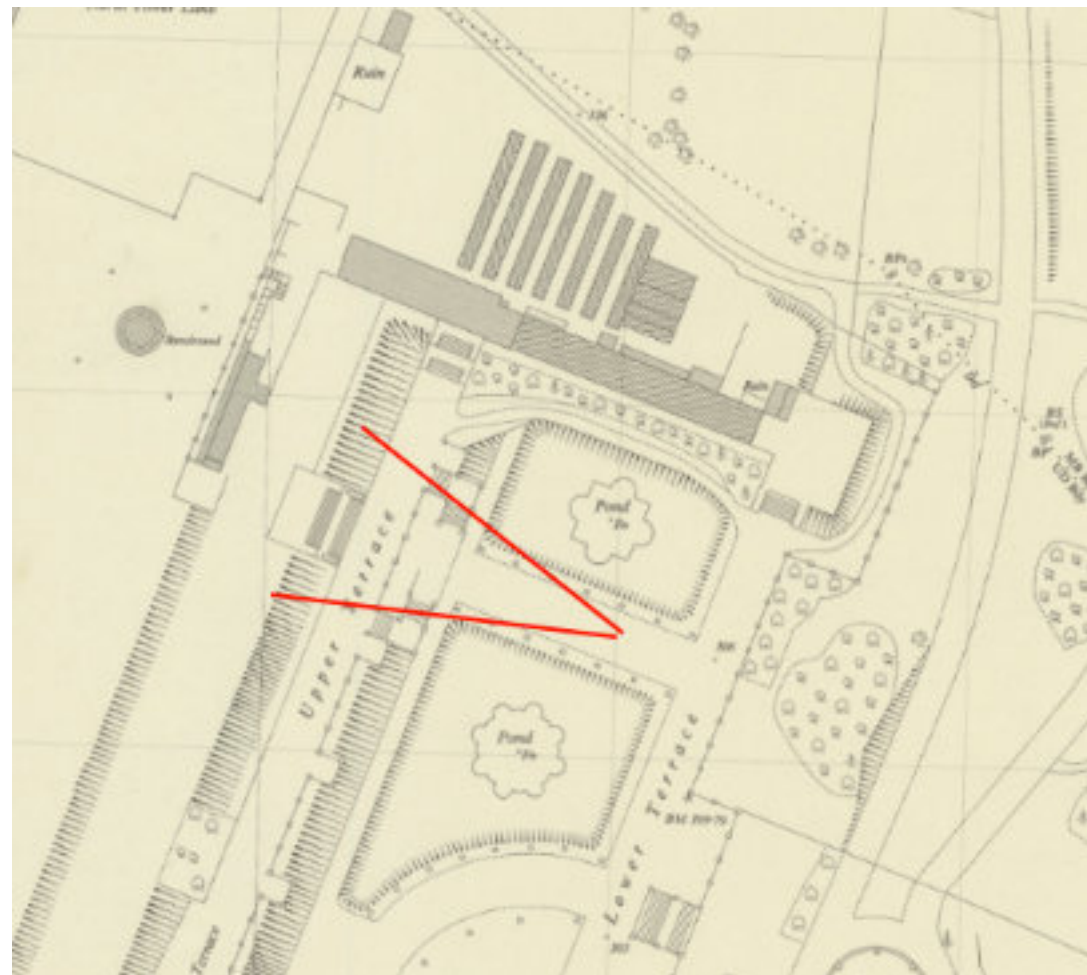
183

184



86

The north, left hand flights of stairs, identified by remains of Palace (and Sphinxes).
Plinth 24 to the right but unknown statue.



185

186



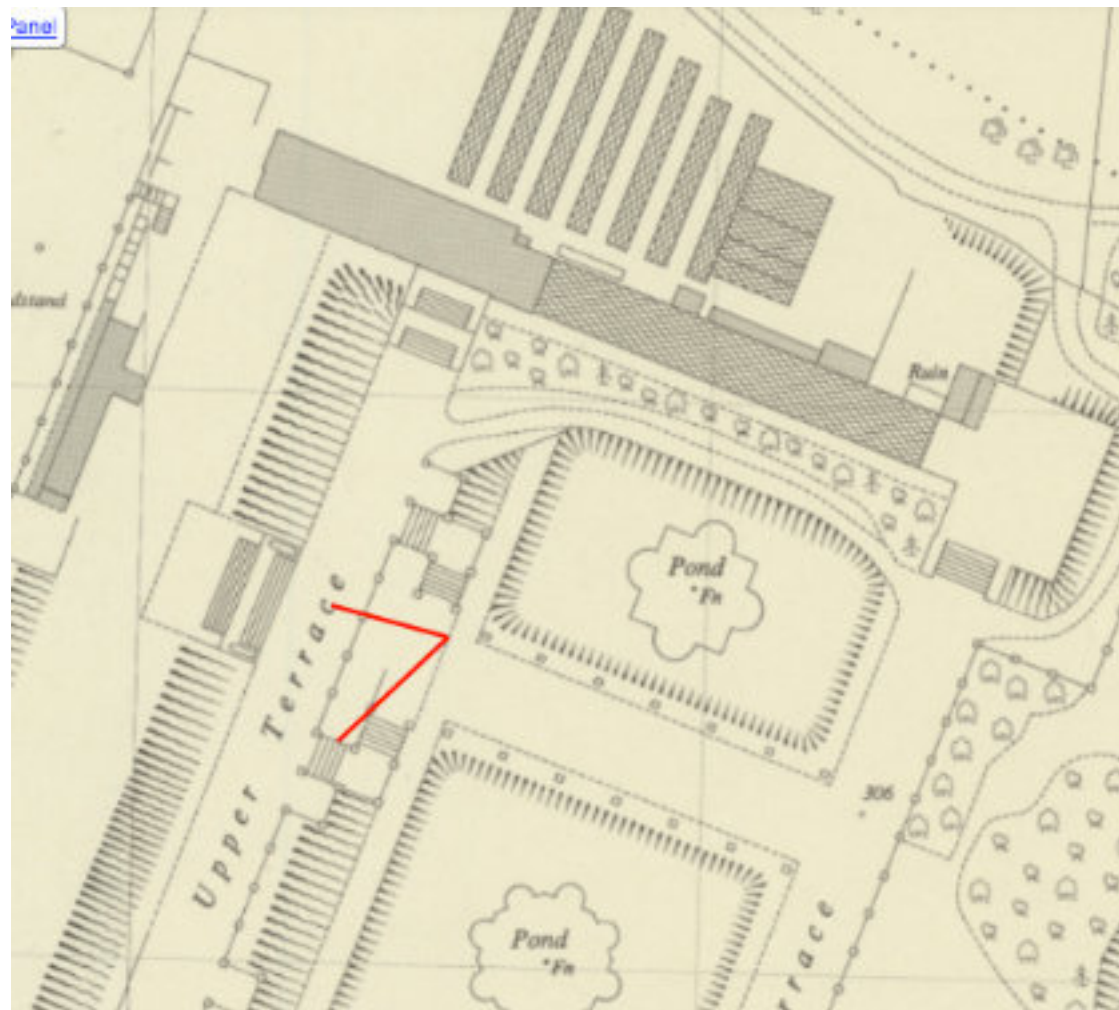
87



Center of Bandstand at 51° 25' 19" N 0° 04' 27" W



88



189

190



89

Which one is it? Based on the height of the weeds to the right and in consequence the likely ground level I am believing this to be the right hand sphinx to the southern steps.

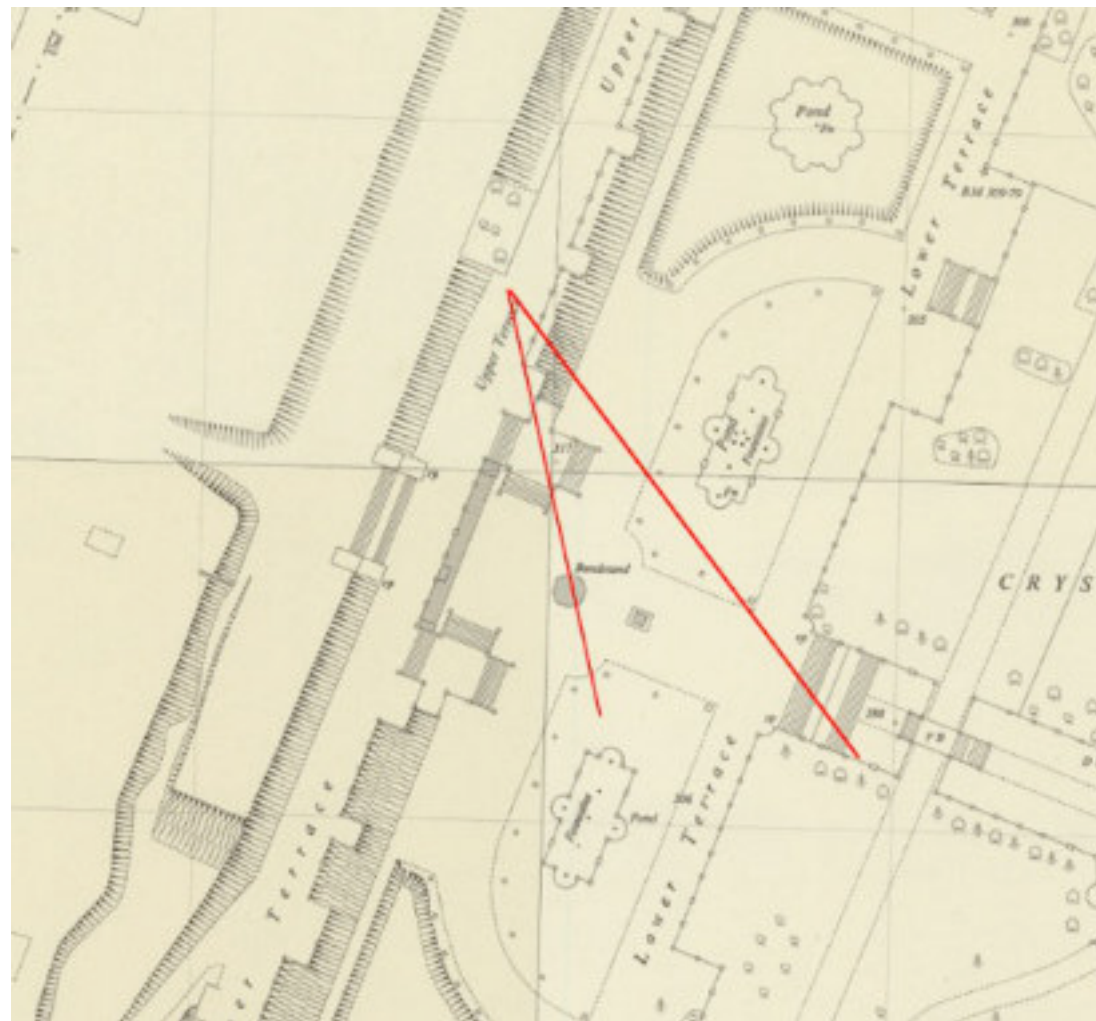


191

192



89a

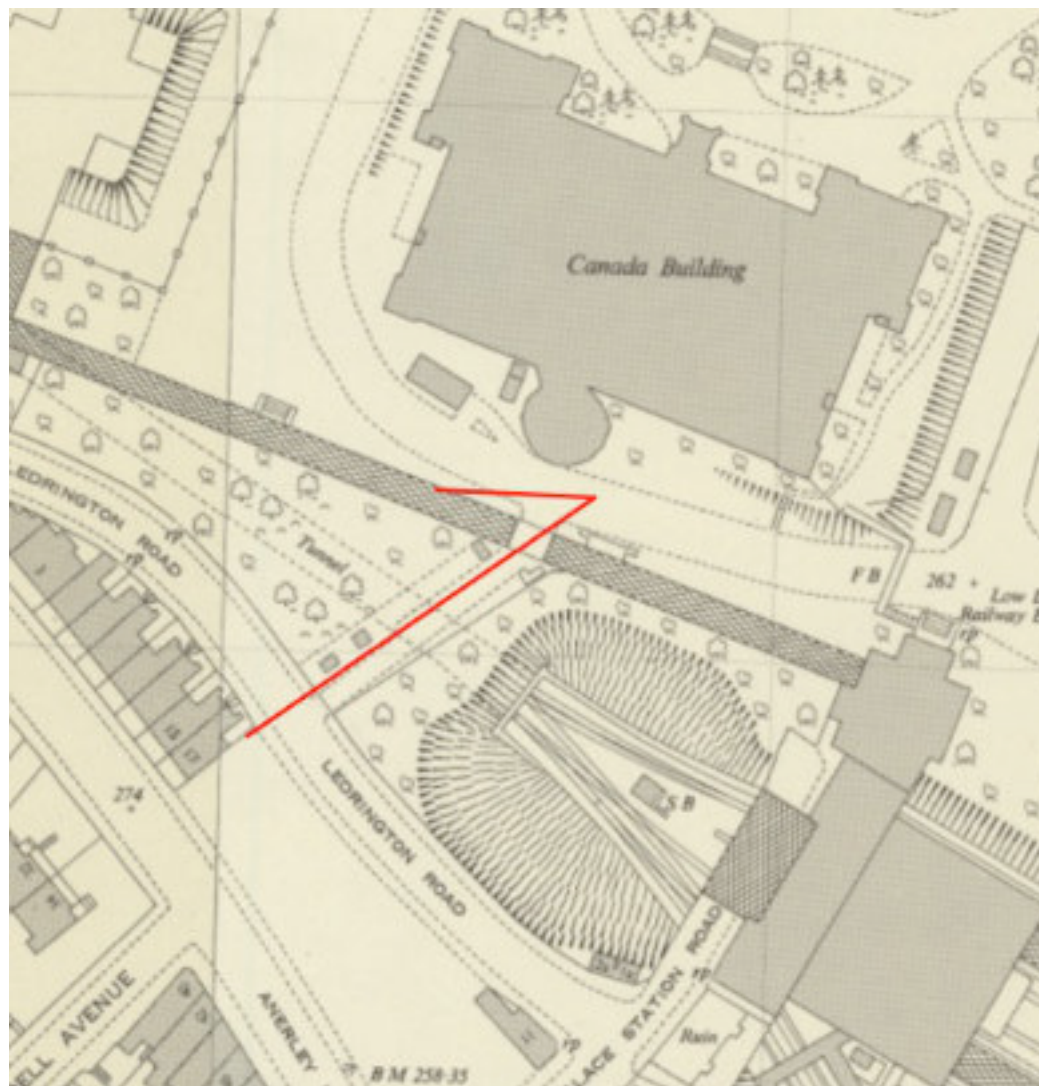


193

194



90



195

196

APPENDIX A



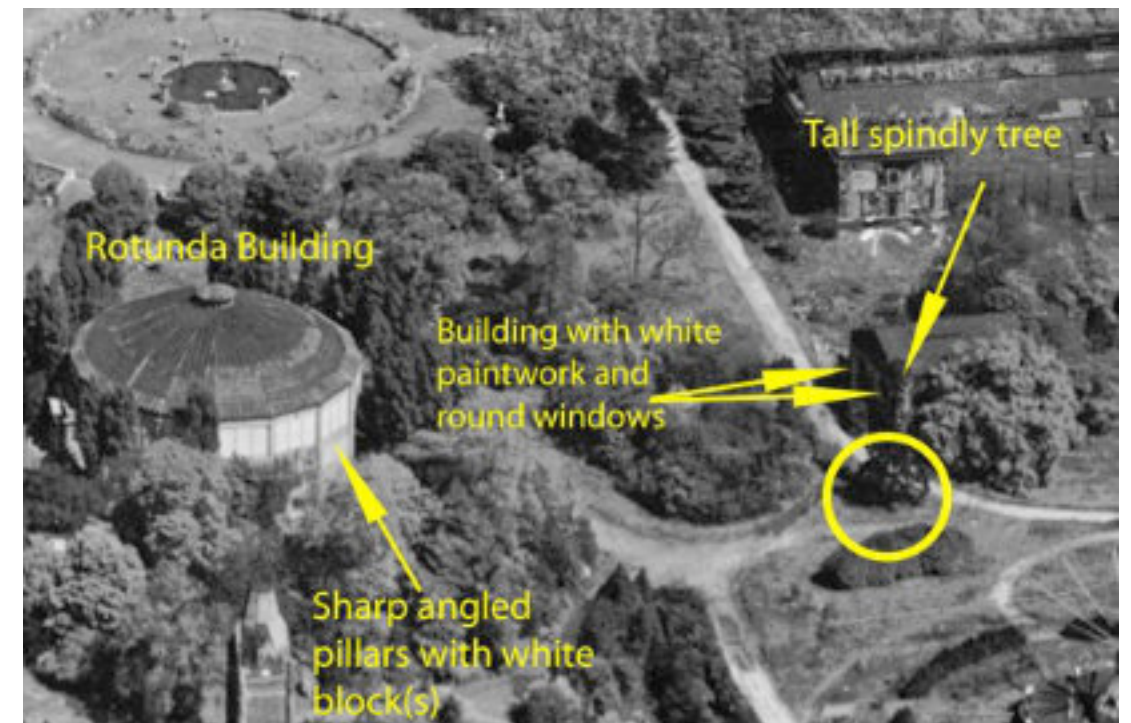
We see the couple descending a hillside from left to right, with trees bushes and evidence of 'Sharp edged white blockwork' and 'Exposed brickwork'



Before the couple appear to us again we see in the top right hand corner a building, that would appear to be occupying higher ground revealing a sharp angled pillar and a small protruding 'shelf'.



As they descend to flatter land, a building is seen through the arched object that confounds us. Besides the visible white 'stripe' with lettering, clearly evident, is a round window. The roof ridge is visible top left. In addition there is a tall spindly tree framed right of center top.



Extract from Britain from Above EAW000570 (1946)

Here we see the Rotunda Building with sharp angled pillars and white blocks on higher ground. With the Rotunda Building entrance on 'ground level' it would be reasonable to assume that the higher ground is accommodated by the brickwork foundation seen in the captures on the previous page. The building

with round windows and white 'stripe' on the lower level ground relates to the passage of the pair. The tall spindly tree seen in the earlier capture, on the far corner, can also be seen here. An interesting 'sculpture' is circled and could well be what the arched object was part of.

In the earlier capture showing the arched 'sculpture' it appears to be propped up and may or may not be leaning against a tree trunk with what could well be a lamp column nearer to camera. Whilst neither the tree nor the lamp column appears in EAW000570 above, the tree could well have grown in the intervening years. Many lamp columns that appear in some of the aerial photographs taken at the same time do not appear in this image but they can variously be seen in other photographs.



A clearer view of the building with round windows can be seen in the following extract from EAW000571 Unfortunately, there is not a clearer view of the 'sculpture' but the openwork of its nature is further evident.



A more detailed extract for the purposes of clarity.

In summary I believe that the 'structure' formed part of the element, by the path, at the junction to the right of the building. The piece of 'structure' found its way to the left of the building with round windows with the couple descending the hill from the Rotunda Building.