

Cavendish Road and the Allotments

by John Rabbitt

The photograph on the right was untitled in the Residents' Association archive collection but I was able to confirm which house it is by identifying the two newer houses on the left hand side of the photograph. These houses are quite distinctive from their side elevations, they are definitely numbers 40 and 42 Cavendish Road. The Victorian house is therefore Wharton Lodge on Cavendish Road and the open area in the foreground was the large allotment which was on the right hand side of Cavendish Road walking up from Monton Road. Wharton Lodge was demolished in 1982 and the site was developed into six houses, naturally called Wharton Lodge.



Wharton Lodge 1980



Highfield circa 1960

There were very few Victorian houses built on Cavendish Road. Looking at the 1909 map of that area it shows Wharton Lodge and opposite another Victorian semi-detached house, Highfield, shown in the photograph on the left.

Highfield was demolished in the late 1960s, the Mistral Court apartments were subsequently built on that site.



Map of Cavendish Road 1909

On the 1909 map the large house on the corner of Cavendish Road and Monton Road was Monton House (which predates Ellesmere Park), and was owned by the Boddington family of the brewery empire.

Adelphi House purchased Monton House and the adjacent land which was used as an allotment. Monton House was used as a Catholic school for many years. This large house was eventually sold and then demolished, a sheltered housing complex was subsequently built on the site.

The allotment was sold and the land developed into what is now the twenty houses forming Bledlow Close.