

## SMEE GRANGE GARDEN, Beddington Park

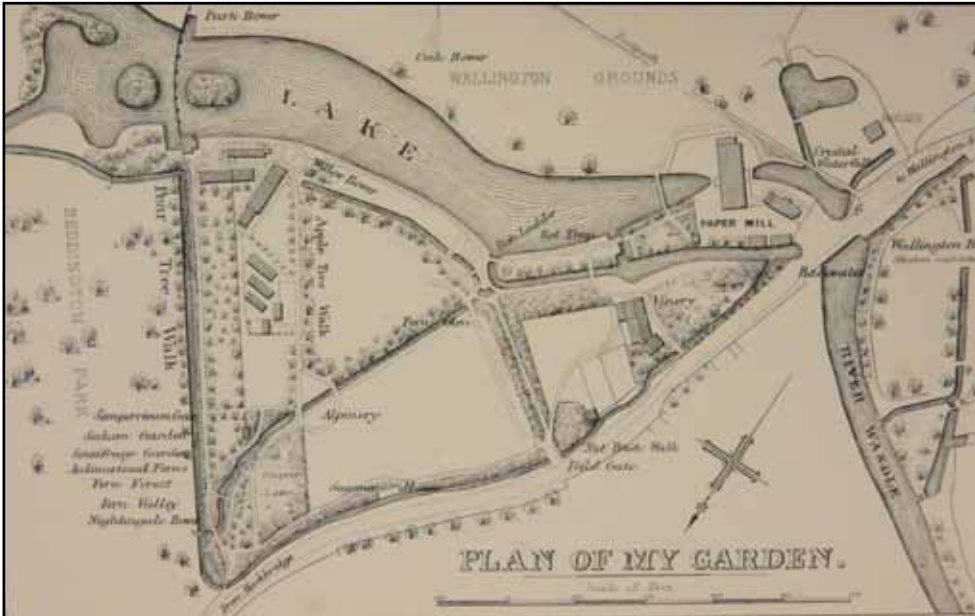


Image Courtesy of: Plan taken from 'My Garden its Plan and Culture' held by Sutton Local Studies and Archives Centre

### TREASURE DESCRIPTION:

An ornamental garden on the north side of a lake which was originally Wallington village mill pond.

### HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

Of the many ornamental gardens which existed along the length of the River Wandle this is probably the best preserved and certainly the best documented.

The Garden was very fashionable in the 1860s and while it is now much altered, the original layout is still evident and some of the original trees have survived.

The best remaining feature is a small area of rockery around a water course and a small stone bridge, both of which are on London Borough of Sutton's local list of buildings.

### SIGNIFICANT PEOPLE

The Garden was developed by *Alfred Smeë FRS (1818-1877)*, an eye surgeon and scientist who was appointed surgeon to the Bank of England. He published a full account in 'My Garden its Plan and Culture' (1872).

The Garden is now owned by London Borough of Sutton and is within the Beddington Park conservation area.

### VOLUNTEER REFLECTIONS

*The garden originally contained a vinery, vegetables, fruit trees, a croquet lawn, glasshouses, a summerhouse and watercress beds as well as flower beds, tress and the alpine area and fernery. The Grange house was built after Smeë's death by his son but was destroyed by fire in 1960. There is currently a restaurant on site.*