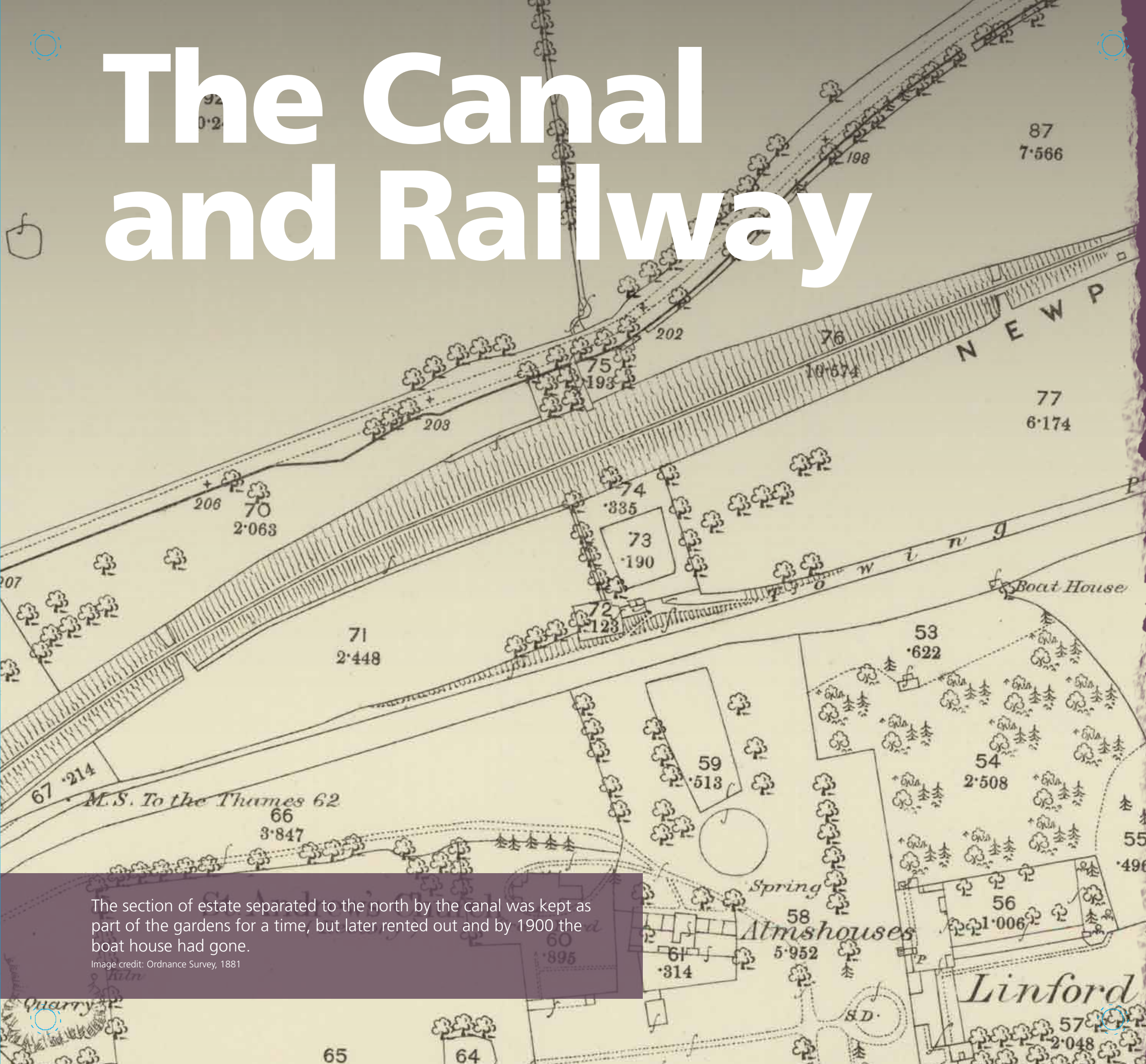


The Canal and Railway



The section of estate separated to the north by the canal was kept as part of the gardens for a time, but later rented out and by 1900 the boat house had gone.
Image credit: Ordnance Survey, 1881

Cutting Through

The coming of the Industrial Revolution had a devastating impact on the Manor estate, beginning in 1800 when the Grand Junction (now Grand Union) Canal cut through the middle of the Pleasure Gardens.

Constant Change

The canal impacted privacy and security at the Manor, yet a boat house was built on the bank of the Wilderness, so for a time at least, the owners made the best of it. And with the canal came new opportunities for the village – jobs, and a brickworks by the Wharf.

The railway line's arrival in 1864 had a much greater impact on peace and privacy. Though the estate reduced in status, the railway helped the village grow, and was much loved until it closed under the 'Beeching Axe' of the late 1960s.

