

**Fulham
Palace
House &
Garden**



Alexis Haslam, Fulham Palace community archaeologist
and Edmund, Palace cat

The medieval Palace

fulhampalace.org

Fulham Palace & Putney Bridge now



Fulham Palace sits on the river Thames, next to Putney bridge

The Palace was the country home of the Bishop of London, but people have lived on this site for thousands of years!

I'm Edmund the Palace Cat – join me as I explore the medieval Fulham Palace!



The medieval Palace



The oldest part of the Palace that you can see today is the Tudor Palace which was built in 1485.

There was a Palace before this, a mysterious medieval building...

All we know about this medieval Palace has been pieced together from archaeology and research.

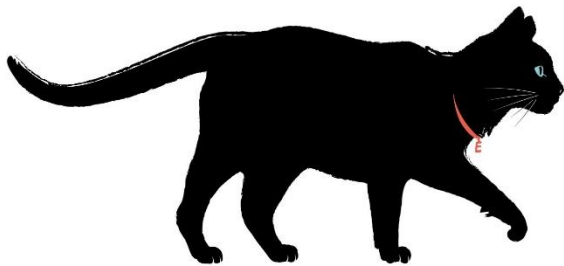


How do we know?

Archaeological discoveries

We have been uncovering evidence for years and Alexis, our community archaeologist, has turned detective to solve the mystery of the medieval Palace.

What are the clues we have about the medieval building....?



What are
you digging
up in my
garden?



Tile hearth

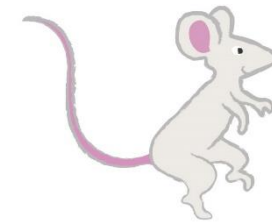
During archaeological excavations in the early 2000's, this tile hearth was discovered on the north lawn.

It has been dated to between 1180 and 1450, although some of the materials it is made of has been dated to between 1135 and 1220.

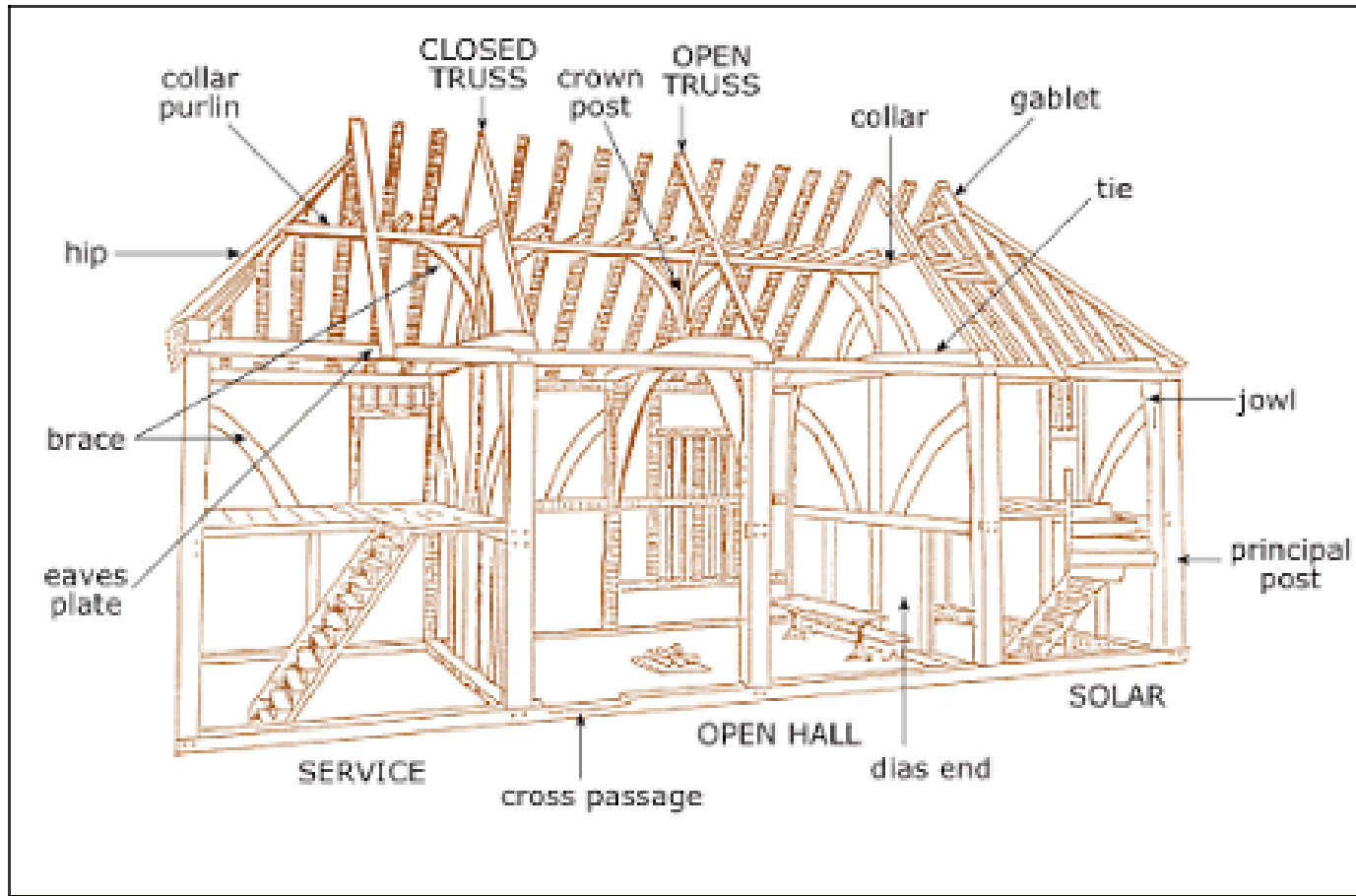


Grindal, a hearth is a fireplace, which is how they heated the medieval Palace.

What is a tile hearth, Edmund?



What did the medieval Palace look like?



Most of life took place in the open hall, it was the heart of the house.

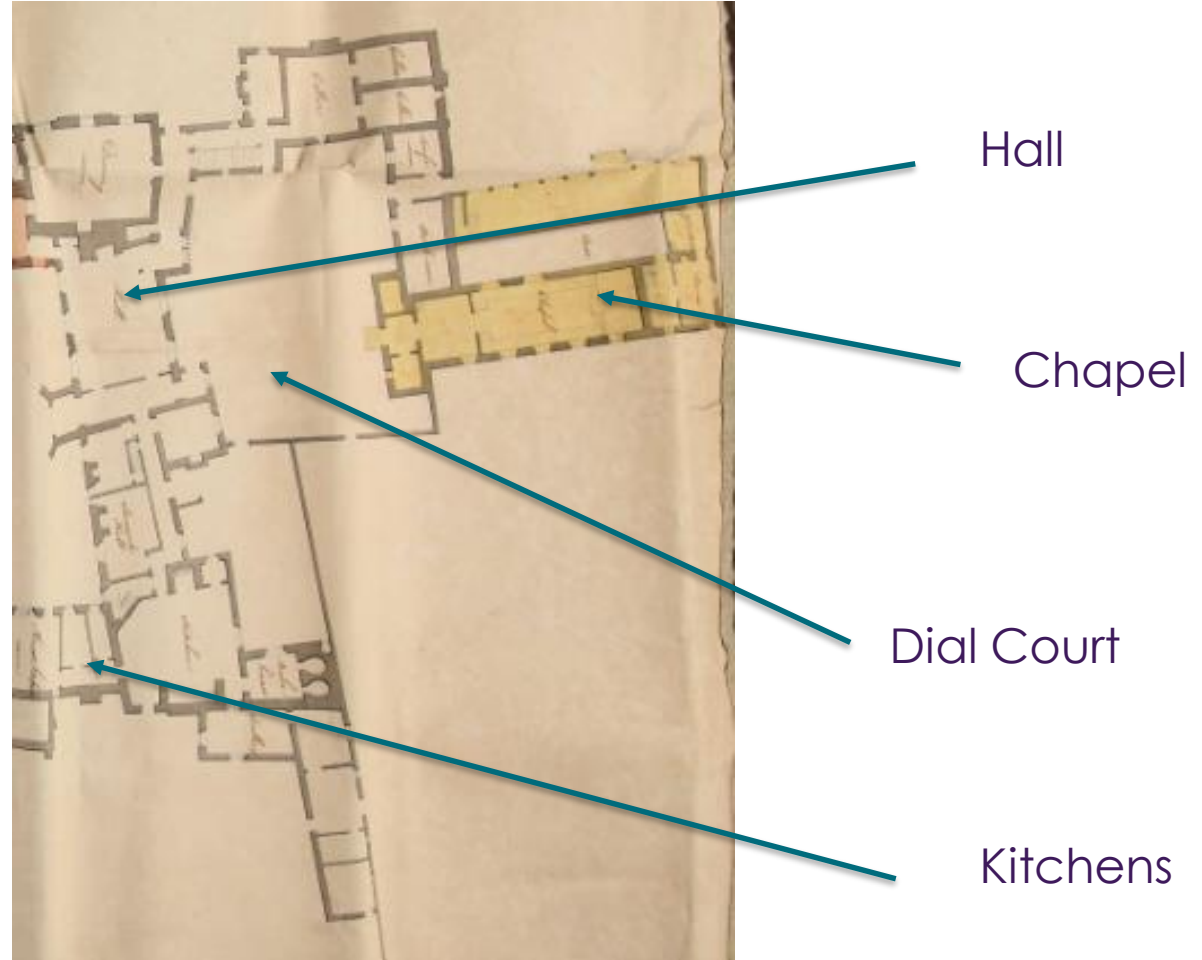


13th century changes

The early medieval hall appears to have gone out of use and been replaced with a new manor in the early 13th century.

With buildings now centred around a small courtyard (Dial Court), the first reference to a chapel dates to 1231.

Opposite the chapel was the hall with the kitchens situated to the south-west.



Medieval chapel

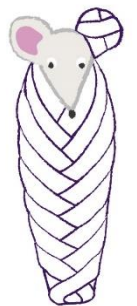


We know very little of what the chapel looked like although it is recorded with a wine cellar and still house beneath it.

We can tell where the chapel was because of these amazing parch marks that appear in the main lawn in hot weather!



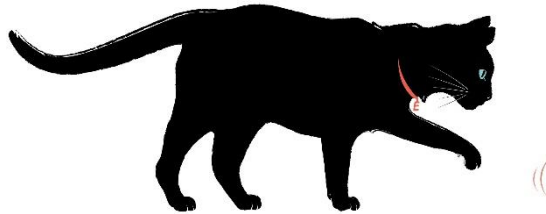
A still room is where medicines were made



Something like this?

Croft Castle Church, Herefordshire

The chapel might
have looked like
this:



The medieval great hall

The medieval hall stood where the great hall stands today.

Queen Joan of Navarre stayed in 1402-3.

1439-40 Henry VI and his entourage visited.
Took 4 days to clean the halls and rooms after he left!

It might have looked like the great hall at Stokesay Castle.

Stokesay Castle, Ludlow



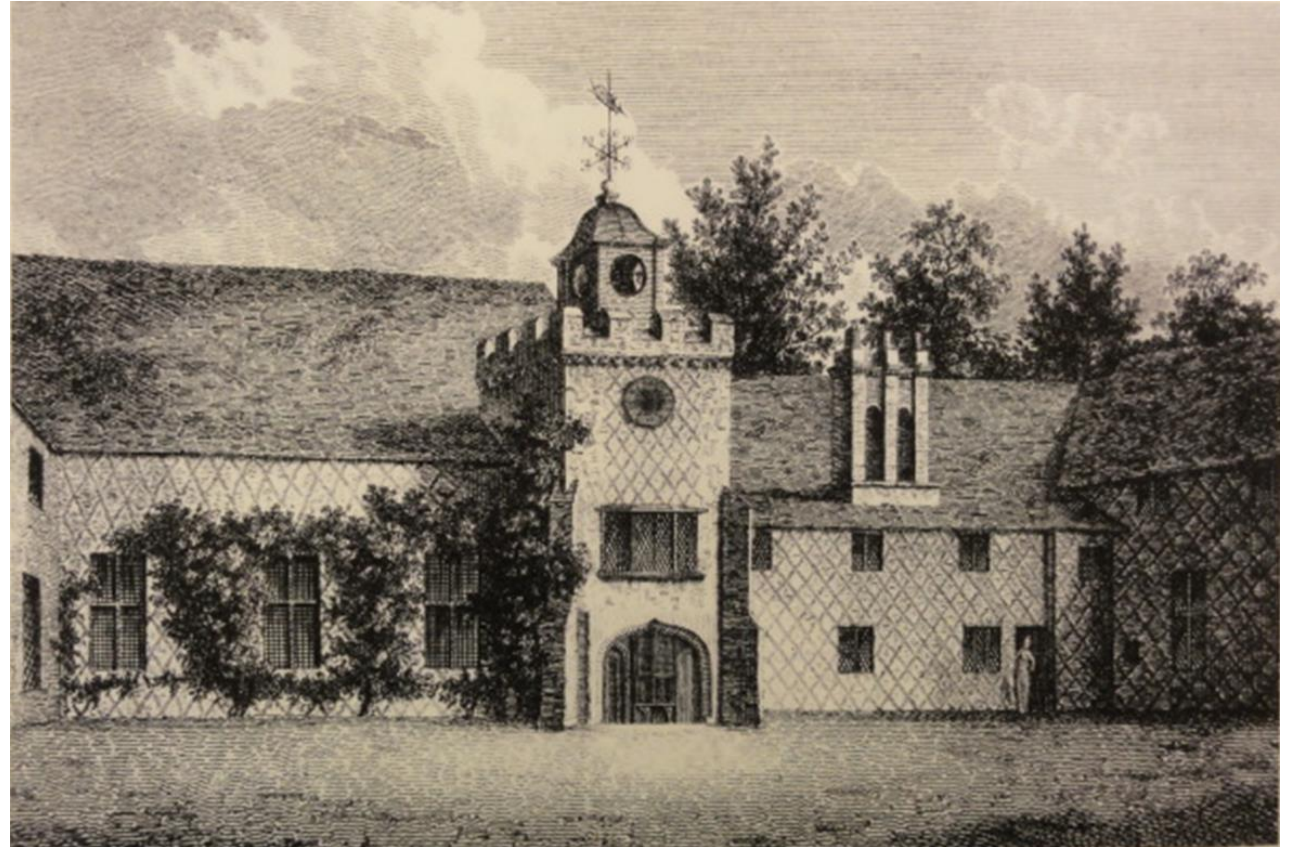
Upgraded!

What happened to the medieval Palace?

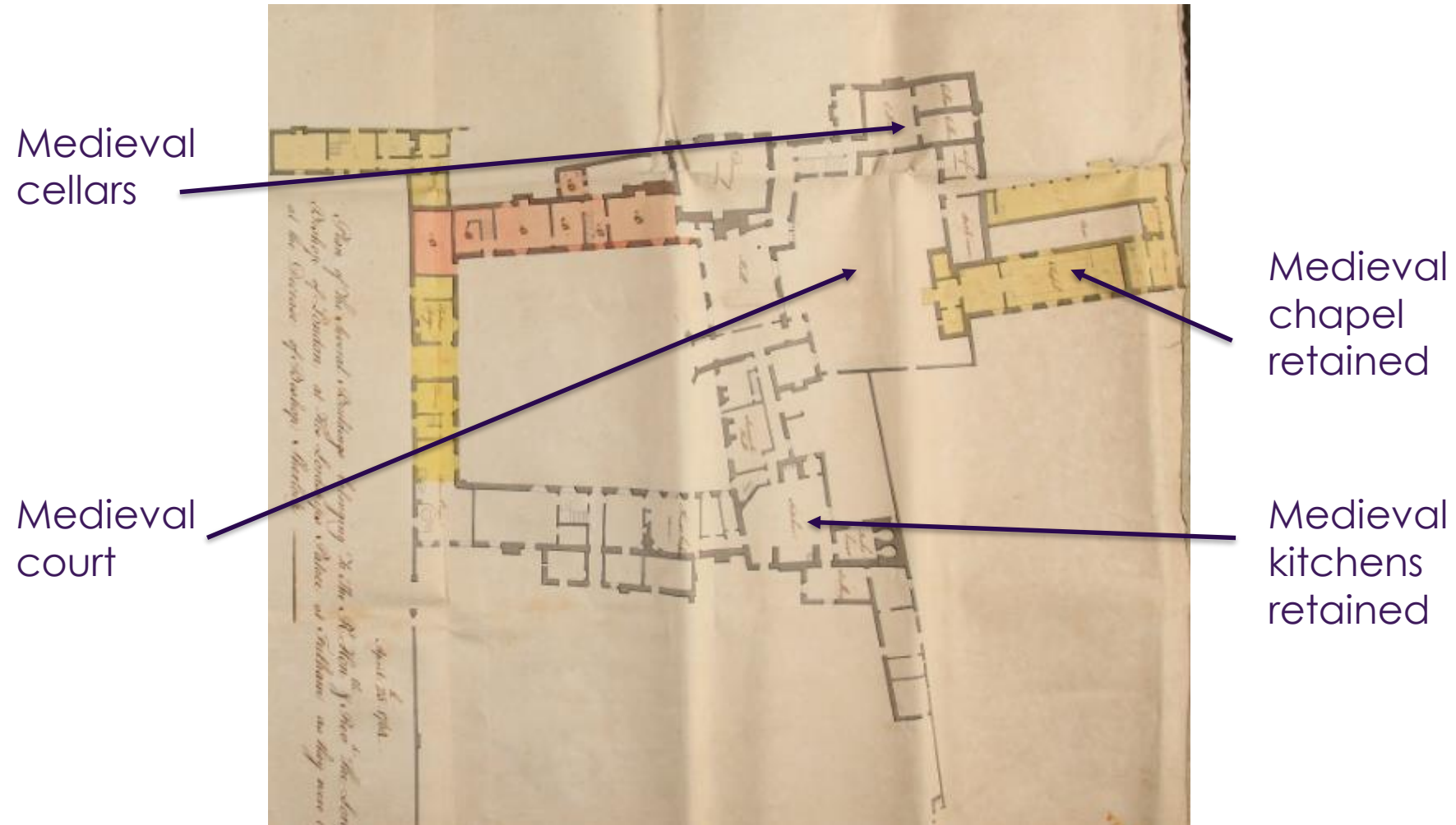
By the end of the 15th century, the Bishop of London wanted an upgrade to his country house. The magnificent brick Palace you can visit today was built around 1485.

The medieval Palace wasn't just knocked down though, they kept the best bits and built the new Palace around them!

Would you like to have lived in the medieval Palace?



An expansion, not a complete rebuild



What is next?

There is still so much we don't know about the medieval Palace, but we will keep looking.

Do you enjoy being a history detective? Why not join our Young Archaeologists Club and work with Alexis to uncover the secrets of Fulham Palace!

fulhampalace.org/learning/young-adults/

