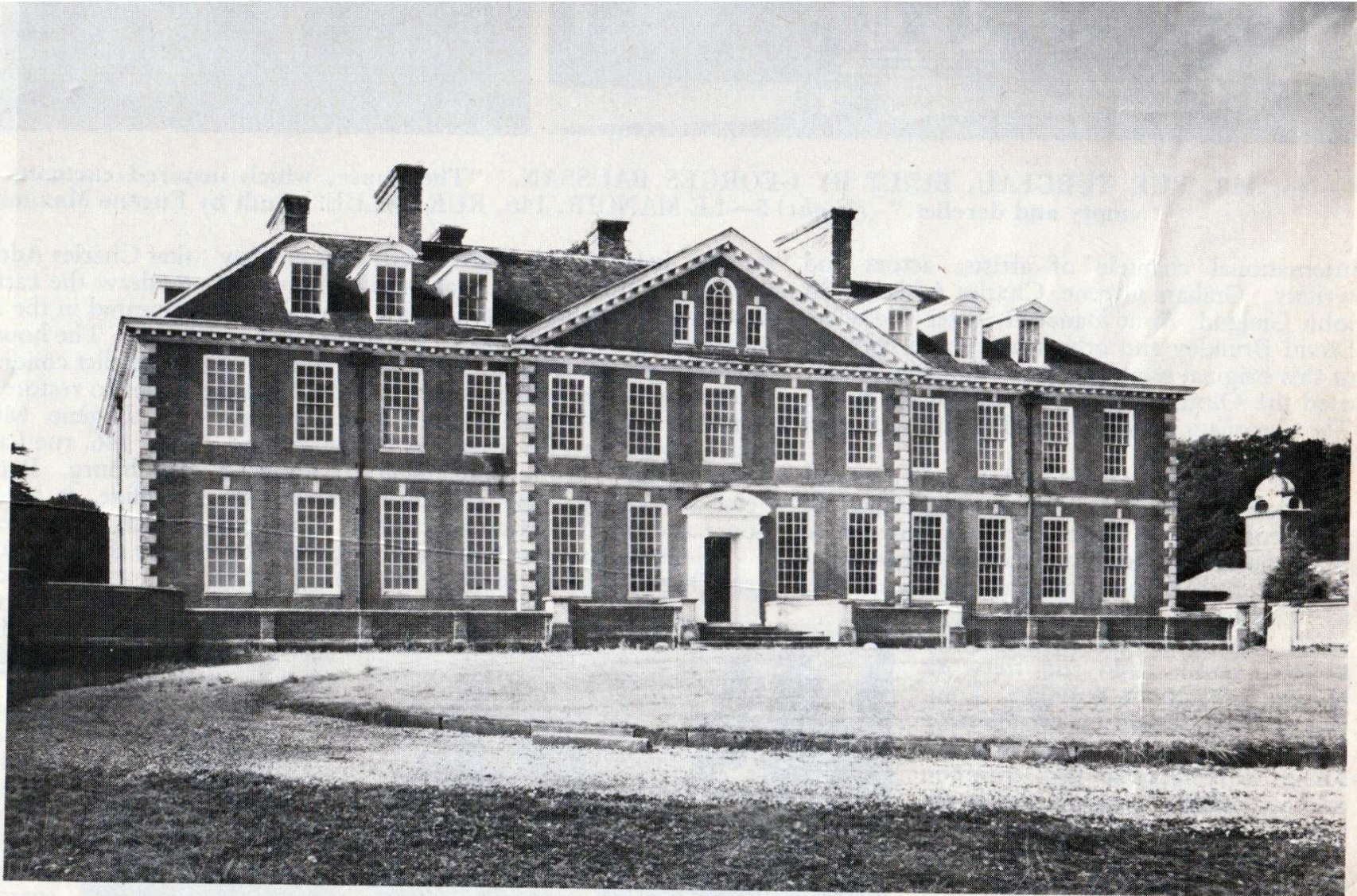


...me or recession, they have generally had a good year, selling more houses than they did in 1980, but taking far longer to do so. Not all houses or farms have sold equally well, of course. Peter Lee, the senior partner of Strutt and Parker, sums it up best when he says: "The good has been in great demand; the not so good has attracted very little interest. The top of the market has been buoyant; the bottom in danger of sinking without trace." For example, of the 18 houses being offered for sale by their Ipswich office in the summer at prices of £100,000 and over, 14 have since been sold or are firmly under offer. The situation has been the same almost everywhere, except in Scotland, where the partner in charge of Strutt and Parker's Edinburgh office, Colin Campbell, admits that "large houses and estates did not sell easily".

As it is however, it is difficult to generalise, for the large houses and estates in Scotland did sell well this year. In much the same way, it would be true to say that there were fewer auctions in 1981 and several



5/10/80

BOURNE PARK, NEAR CANTERBURY, KENT. This Grade I house was bought this year by trustee clients of Humberts, to house the art collection of the 8th Earl Fitzwilliam, who died in 1948