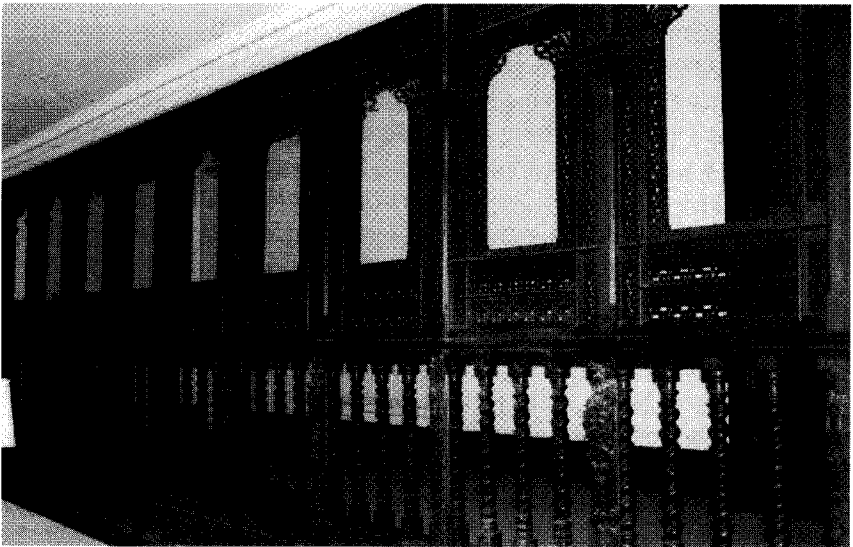


Gibson's work was done)? Or is it possible that North was dissatisfied with Gibson, and did he deliberately tell Morris nothing about it? At present there seems – as with so much about Wroxton – no way of knowing.

Thereafter, the house has been little changed, although there is one intriguing detail that it is tempting to link to work done in the eighteenth century. In Gibson's new range of 1858 there is a gallery originally with a balustrade. However, above this balustrade there seems to have been added a pierced screen of obviously Chinese character. In the eighteenth century, there had been a number of little buildings in a Chinese style in the grounds. These were probably built in the 1740s; Horace Walpole commented on them in 1753, describing them as among the first examples of a style that had by then become widely fashionable. None now remain, but one at least survived until the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, and it is possible that this screen came from one of these Chinese summer-houses.



*The Chinese screen in the gallery.*