



ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT
VOLUME 2
APPENDIX 10.2 – DESIGNATED ASSET
GAZETTEER

Site Number	1
Site Name	Anglo Saxon Barrow 40m SE of Oxford Lodge
Type of Site	BARROW
List Entry Number	1015553
HER Number	5125
Status	Scheduled Monument
Easting	453360
Northing	222140
Parish	CHESTERTON
Council	OXFORDSHIRE
Description	<p>Includes an AS hlaew situated SE of Oxford Lodge. Survives as earthwork measuring up to 20m in diam, and standing up to 2m high.</p> <p>(1) Despite the W quadrant of the barrow having been removed to bedrock by excavation prior to road widening in 1974, the barrow mound survives as a clearly visible earthwork measuring up to 20m in diameter (N to S) and standing up to c.2m high. The barrow mound originally stood c.2.5m high but has been partly landscaped on the W side to improve road visibility. There was no indication that it ever had a quarry ditch. Excluded from the scheduled area is the boundary fence between the road carriageway and the field in which the barrow lies, although the ground beneath is included</p> <p>(2) Large mound at junction of A43 and A4095 over 2m high by 20m across. Covered by trees. Unusually large for a Bronze Age barrow - perhaps Roman or Saxon?</p> <p>(4) Excavation carried out in advance of damage by road widening in 1974. Quadrant of mound excavated to bedrock. No inhumations or other structures recorded. Mound contained a number of abraded RB sherds but no other dating evidence - probably quite recent?</p> <p>(5) Classified as Saxon hlaew for MPP</p> <p><1> English Heritage, Scheduled Ancient Monuments Record, SM 28165 (Scheduling record). SOX283.</p> <p><2> General reference, Wharton: History of Kiddington, 3rd edition, p.18 (Bibliographic reference). SOX373.</p> <p><3> Victoria County History of Oxford, Vol I (1939) p.263 (Serial). SOX252.</p> <p><4> CBA South Midlands Group, South Midlands Archaeology, CBA9 NL 4 (1974) p.12 (Serial). SOX5.</p> <p><5> MPP Documents for Oxfordshire, S Lisk, 22.1.93 (Index). SOX259.</p> <p><6> Oxfordshire County Council, 1961, Fairey Aerial Surveys, 6125/12.105 (Photograph). SOX264.</p>

Site Number	9
Site Name	Church of St Mary, Manor Farm Lane, Great
Type of Site	CHURCH
List Entry Number	1300898
HER Number	5108
Status	Listed Building- Grade II*
Easting	456180
Northing	221360
Parish	CHESTERTON
Council	OXFORDSHIRE

Description Late C12, C13-C15. Restored in 1865 by F.C. Penrose
 SP52SE CHESTERTON MANOR FARM LANE
 6/39 (North side)
 07/12/66 Great Chesterton
 Church of St Mary (Formerly listed as Church of St Mary Virgin)
 GV II*

Church. Late C12, C13, C14 and C15; restored 1866 by F.C. Penrose. Limestone rubble, partly rendered, with ashlar dressings; lead roofs. Chancel, aisled nave, west tower and south porch. Chancel has two 2-light Decorated windows to south but has C13 lancet low-side windows, cusped to south, and a C13 priests' door with a renewed shouldered arch; east window is of 1852 and the parapet is probably C15. Narrow south aisle has a 2-light Decorated window with geometrical tracery and 3 square-headed C15 windows. South porch is probably C14 but the entrance arch has been rebuilt though retaining ancient doors; it shelters a simple C14 doorway. Rendered north aisle is restored, with C19 windows to east and west, but it retains a blocked chamfered doorway and 2 square-headed windows, one with Perpendicular tracery. C15 clerestory has square-headed windows of 2 trefoiled lights. 3-stage C14 tower has a 2-light west window with reticulated tracery, and has similar bell-chamber openings; the solid parapet has a frieze of quatrefoils. Interior: chancel has a C14 triple sedilia with free-standing shafts and ball-flower ornament plus traces of painted decoration; rectangular double-bowl piscina and aumbry, above, also have some painted patterning. Roof is dated 1857. Chancel arch has detached shafts with stiff -leaf capitals. Transitional north arcade of 3-bay nave has pointed arches on round piers with scalloped capitals; taller C13 south arcade has moulded capitals. Nave roof with moulded cambered beams and moulded purlins is probably C15/C16, but aisle roofs are C19. Fittings include a plain tub font with an elaborate C18 wrought-iron finial and arched crane, plus several pieces of C16 and C17 woodwork incorporated into furnishings and a fine C17 communion table with carved baluster legs. Memorials include a brass to William Maunde (died 1612) and his wife. Wrought-iron chandeliers have details similar to the font ironwork and may be contemporary.

(V.C.H.; Oxfordshire, Vol. VI, p.102; Buildings of England: Oxfordshire, pp.617-8).
 Listing NGR: SP5618821366

(3) Replacement of suspended timber floors beneath the pews has confirmed that both the north and south aisle arcades rest on foundations of an earlier rectangular nave.
 6) Transferred to Oxon History Centre.

<1> Dept of Environment/DCMS, List of Buildings of Special Architectural or Historic Interest, Cherwell List 64: 6/39 p.17 (Index). SOX260.
 <2> Victoria County History of Oxford, Vol 6 (1959) p.102 (Serial). SOX252.
 <3a> OAU Newsletter, Arch News vol xviii no 1 March 1990 p.18 (Article in serial). SOX270.
 <3> CBA South Midlands Group, South Midlands Archaeology, Vol 21 (1991) p.101. R A Chambers (Serial). SOX5.
 <4> OAU Newsletter, Arch News, vol xvii no 4 December 1989 pp.11-12 (Article in serial). SOX270.
 <5> Additional Information in Detailed Record File, Report and section regarding replacement of floorboards beneath pews (1991) (Index). SOX258.
 <6> English Heritage (RCHME), 1987-1989, Historic Buildings Photographic Record Card (Photograph). SOX2063.

Site Number	10
Site Name	Manor Farm House, Manor Farm Lane
Type of Site	HALL HOUSE
List Entry Number	1369747
HER Number	12700
Status	Listed Building- Grade II*
Easting	456310
Northing	221360

Parish	CHESTERTON
Council	OXFORDSHIRE
Description	<p>Early C12 and C16/17, remodelled late C18. SP52SE CHESTERTON MANOR FARM LANE (South side) Great Chesterton 6/40 Manor Farm House GV II*</p> <p>Manor house. Early C12 and C16/C17, remodelled late C18. Limestone rubble with wooden lintels; Stonesfield-slate and Welsh-slate roof with brick stacks. L-plan with attached range. 2 storeys plus attics and one storey plus attic. Regular 5- window front of main range has a central doorway and renewed sashes (12-pane at ground floor and 9-pane above) and has a stone band above first-floor windows; stone-slate roof has 3 gabled roof dormers with brick gable stacks. Lean-to addition against right gable wall. Short rear wing, returning on left, is probably C16/C17 and originally extended beyond the present front; a single-storey kitchen bay to rear of it is C18. Large range linked to rear of right end of main range, and parallel with it, is C12 with a C17 roof; it has 2 original small window openings in the right end (both with later lintels) and an original round-headed entrance, converted to a window and now contained within the linking range. The remains of a window in the left gable is probably medieval. C20 gable and steps to rear. To rear of this range is a timber-framed privy, with brick infill, probably early C18. Interior: rear wing and left end of house have intersecting chamfered beams and an early partition with lattice panels; front windows have panelled shutters; pine panelling in lean-to room. Linking range has some medieval stonework and an early beam which may have formed part of a porch to the C12 range. Lower storey of C12 range is the barrel-vaulted undercroft to a first-floor hall or chamber; the round-arched splays to the end windows and the groined vault over the original doorway survive, but the undercroft is now subdivided by a later, though possibly medieval, crosswall, and there are inserted doorways to right and in the left gable wall plus an inserted window to rear. Upper floor is now contained within the 6-bay butt-purlin roof which has through tenons and had 2 collars (the lower collars are now removed). The building had become a detached outbuilding until late C20 when it was linked to the house, converted, and recognized as one of the earliest known examples of the first-floor hall or chamber, and evidence for a contemporary encircling moat was found. (Dr. J. Blair, <i>Medieval Archaeology</i>, Vol.28, (1984), pp.235-6; V.C.H.: Oxfordshire, Vol.VI, p.93). Listing NGR: SP5631621367</p> <p>(3) To the east of the present manor house is a rectangular building with paved stone barrel vaulted undercroft. Undercroft probably dates to first half of C12th, and is rare surviving fragment of domestic architecture of that period. Rebuilt in Post Med. Report transferred to Oxon History Centre.</p> <p>(4) Survey by J Steane and J Blair to rear of house revealed barrel vault and 2 semi-circular headed doorways. Recognised as lower part of a Norman 1st floor hall house; photographic and measured surveys have been made</p> <p>(5) Excavation and study of standing building by J Blair and J Steane. Found were mid-Saxon sherds in a ditch, one of few Saxon sites in NE Oxon. May have been centre of some importance due to its location on Akeman Street. C12th sherds of St Neots ware may indicate this site was the caput of a small barony; vaulted cellar and stone building and moat remain as well. Later medieval buildings were found. Plans and sections included.</p> <p>9) Transferred to Oxon History Centre (including B&W photos).</p> <p>(11) Archaeological observations and photographs of undercroft, rare C12th survival of utilitarian nature. All proposed alterations will not impinge on undercroft.</p> <p>(12) Attention was given to the C12th undercroft, which survives because of stone construction. Good status indicator. A brief walk was taken around the interior of the house to ascertain the overall relationship of the parts. Detailed historical account.</p> <p>13) Transferred to Oxon History Centre.</p> <p><1> Dept of Environment/DCMS, List of Buildings of Special Architectural or Historic Interest, Cherwell List 64:6/40 p.18 (Index). SOX260.</p> <p><2> General reference, M Wood: 'The English Medieval House' (1965) pp.16-34 (Bibliographic reference). SOX373.</p> <p><3> Field Notes/Field Visit, J M Steane, J Blair, C Bradford, (1980/1). (Unpublished document). SOX261.</p>

<3a> CBA South Midlands Group, South Midlands Archaeology, CBA9 NL 11 (1981) pp.80-1 (Serial). SOX5.
<4> Medieval Archaeology, Vol XXV (1981) p.218 (Serial). SOX318.

Site Number	24
Site Name	STABLES AND COACH HOUSES NORTH WEST
Type of Site	COACH HOUSE
List Entry Number	1241628
HER Number	18122
Status	Listed Building- Grade II
Easting	456200
Northing	221245
Parish	CHESTERTON
Council	OXFORDSHIRE
Description	<p>Stables and coach houses. Probably 1890; for Henry Tubb, a Bicester banker SP52SE CHESTERTON Stables and Coach Houses north 1714-0/6/10007 west of Chesterton Lodge GV II Dressed and coursed limestone with freestone dressings. Slate roofs with stone coped gable ends and lead roll ridges. Stone axial and gable-end stacks. PLAN: H-shaped plan with small forecourt on the north side and longer wings on the south side flanking a larger courtyard. Italianate style. EXTERIOR: 1-storey and attic and single-storey south wings. North front: 3-bay centre with arched ground floor openings and three small gables with oculae and small finials; flanking 2-storey wings with rusticated quoins, oculae on the ground floor and round-arch windows above. South side facing courtyard has similar gables, central segmental arch doorway with hoodmould and carriage doorways to left and right with elliptical arches with hoodmoulds. Long single-storey wings to right and left with hipped-roof blocks in the angles, the S.E. wing with segmental-headed sash windows and round-headed doorways, all with moulded architraves with keystones, the S.W. wing has carriage doors; both wings have large roundheaded sashes in the gable ends. Low wall enclosing south side of courtyard with ashlar gate-piers with ball-finials. Leadclad clock tower over centre of main range with low square dome with finial. INTERIOR not inspected. Listing NGR: SP5620021245 Dept of Environment/DCMS, List of Buildings of Special Architectural or Historic Interest, Cherwell List 64: 1714-0/6/10007, p.18(a) (Index). SOX260.</p>

Site Number	25
Site Name	THATCHOVER, ALCHESTER ROAD, GREAT CHESTERTON
Type of Site	HOUSE
List Entry Number	1046535
HER Number	18117
Status	Listed Building- Grade II
Easting	456078
Northing	221366

Parish	CHESTERTON
Council	OXFORDSHIRE
Description	<p>House, formerly subdivided. C17 SP52SE CHESTERTON ALCHESTER ROAD (West side) Great Chesterton 6/38 Thatchover II</p> <p>Limestone rubble with wooden lintels; thatch roof with brick stacks. L-plan. One storey plus attic. Irregular 4-window front has a doorway, to right of centre, beside a shallow projection; windows, of 2 and 3 lights, all have renewed casements and, at first floor, are mostly half dormers. Main range has 2 ridge stacks plus a gable stack, to left, rising from a stone chimney projection. Rear wing, returning on right, has similar casements plus further gable stack. Interior: some original spine and lateral beams have matrices for soffit tenons with diminished haunches.</p> <p>Listing NGR: SP5607821366 <1> Dept of Environment/DCMS, List of Buildings of Special Architectural or Historic Interest, Cherwell List 64: 6/38, p.16 (Index). SOX260. <2> English Heritage (RCHME), 1987-1989, Historic Buildings Photographic Record Card (Photograph). SOX2063</p>

Site Number	26
Site Name	NO 6 TUBBS LANE GREAT CHESTERTON
Type of Site	HOUSE
List Entry Number	1046536
HER Number	18119
Status	Listed Building- Grade II
Easting	456339
Northing	221345
Parish	CHESTERTON
Council	OXFORDSHIRE
Description	<p>Cottage, probably formerly a mill house. 1769 on datestone, part possibly earlier: extended C20 SP52SE CHESTERTON TUBBS LANE (North side) Great Chesterton 6/41 No.6 GV II</p> <p>Limestone rubble, partly coursed, with wooden lintels; concrete interlocking-tile roo. Singleunit plan, extended to rear. 2 storeys. 2-window front has a doorway to right, 3 renewed 2-light casements, and an area of random rubble walling to left, defined by a straight joint, which is probably older than the dated section. Interior not inspected.</p> <p>Listing NGR: SP5633921345 <1> Dept of Environment/DCMS, List of Buildings of Special Architectural or Historic Interest, Cherwel List 64: 6/41, p.18 (Index). SOX260. <2> English Heritage (RCHME), 1987-1989, Historic Buildings Photographic Record Card (Photograph). SOX2063.</p>

Site Number	27
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Site Name	OXFORD LODGE, A43
Type of Site	GATE LODGE
List Entry Number	1200180
HER Number	18116
Status	Listed Building- Grade II
Easting	453321
Northing	222144
Parish	CHESTERTON
Council	OXFORDSHIRE
Description	<p>Gate lodge. Late C18 SP52SW CHESTERTON A43 (West side) 5/37 Oxford Lodge II</p> <p>Limestone rubble with some ashlar dressings. Elongated octagonal plan with additions. 2-storey crenellated tower has arched Gothick ground-floor windows with a crenellated porch in the left cant of the front. First floor has small openings above an ashlar band: at the front, round windows flanking a blind quatrefoil; at the rear, the same but mostly blind. Crenellated chimney to right. Hipped-roofed addition to rear. Interior not inspected. One of the gate lodges to Middleton Park (q.v.).</p> <p>Listing NGR: SP 53321 22144</p> <p><1> Dept of Environment/DCMS, List of Buildings of Special Architectural or Historic Interest, Cherwell List 64: 5/37, p.15 (Index). SOX260.</p> <p><2> English Heritage (RCHME), 1987-1989, Historic Buildings Photographic Record Card (Photograph). SOX2063.</p>

Site Number	28
Site Name	NO 4 TUBBS LANE GREAT CHESTERTON
Type of Site	HOUSE
List Entry Number	1200194
HER Number	18120
Status	Listed Building- Grade II
Easting	456314
Northing	221311
Parish	CHESTERTON
Council	OXFORDSHIRE
Description	<p>House. C17 or possibly earlier SP52SE CHESTERTON TUBBS LANE 6/42 (South side) Great Chesterton No.4 GV II</p> <p>Coursed limestone rubble with some wooden lintels; concrete interlocking-tile roof with rendered stacks. 3-unit plan. 2 storeys plus attic. 3-window front has the doorway to left of centre and a 2-light casement to right, both with rendered lintels, and has a 3-light casement to left with a wooden lintel; first-floor casements are all of 2 lights. Left gable has a 2-light attic window above the roof of an early single-storey addition. Right end wall is rendered. Main roof</p>

has stacks to left of centre and on the right gable, both with stone weatherings. Interior not inspected.

Listing NGR: SP5631421311

<1> Dept of Environment/DCMS, List of Buildings of Special Architectural or Historic Interest, Cherwell List 64: 6/42, p.19 (Index). SOX260.

<2> English Heritage (RCHME), 1987-1989, Historic Buildings Photographic Record Card

Site Number	29
Site Name	CHESTERTON LODGE INCLUDING FORECOURT
Type of Site	COUNTRY HOUSE
List Entry Number	1241627
HER Number	18121
Status	Listed Building- Grade II
Easting	456296
Northing	221176
Parish	CHESTERTON
Council	OXFORDSHIRE
Description	<p>Country house. 1890; for Henry Tubb, a banker of Bicester</p> <p>The following buildings shall be added:-</p> <p>SP53SE CHESTERTON Chesterton Lodge including forecourt</p> <p>1714-0/6/10001 balustrade immediately west</p> <p>GV II</p> <p>Coursed dressed limestone with freestone dressings. Slate hipped roofs with lead roll hips and ridge and moulded stone eaves cornice. Stone axial stacks with cornices.</p> <p>PLAN: Central 3-storey block with entrance and stairhall, flanking 2-storey wings and service wing on left [north]. Italianate style.</p> <p>EXTERIOR: 3-storey 2:2:2 bay centre block with superimposed orders with Composite pilasters, entablatures, pedimented centre bay with acroteria, rusticated corner pilasters and central doorway in antis with tripartite window above with balustrade. 2-storey 2:2 bay flanking wings with tripartite sashes on the ground floor and paired sashes with scrolled pediments. The right [south] wing projects at the rear and has two large 2-storey bow windows on its south side.</p> <p>2:5:4 bay east garden front. Service wing on north side has tower with balustraded parapet. Centre block has wooden lantern over centre.</p> <p>INTERIOR: Elaborate intact interior with large central stairhall. INCLUDING balustrade to forecourt immediately west of house.</p> <p>SOURCES : Buildings of England, p. 618. Kelly's Directory.</p> <p>Listing NGR: SP5629621176</p> <p>Dept of Environment/DCMS, List of Buildings of Special Architectural or Historic Interest, Cherwell List 64: 1714-0/6/10001, p.18(a) (Index). SOX260.</p>

Site Number	30
Site Name	IVY COTTAGE INCLUDING FRONT GARDEN
Type of Site	HOUSE
List Entry Number	1276742
HER Number	18118
Status	Listed Building- Grade II

Easting	456152
Northing	221321
Parish	CHESTERTON
Council	OXFORDSHIRE
Description	<p>House. Circa 1840; extended circa late C19 or C20</p> <p>The following building shall be added:- SP52SE CHESTERTON ALCHESTER ROAD 1714-0/6/10006 (East side) Ivy Cottage including front garden area railings and gate to west GV II</p> <p>Limestone rubble with vermiculated cement quoins; brick extension at rear. Slate roof with gabled ends. Gable-end stacks with short red brick shafts.</p> <p>PLAN: Double depth plan with two principal front rooms , central entrance to stairhall and service rooms in integral outshut at rear right. Outshut extended on left circa late C19 or C20.</p> <p>EXTERIOR: 2 storeys. Symmetrical 3-window west front. C19 12-pane sashes in exposed boxing on first floor; ground floor in moulded architraves and replaced by C20 French casements; central doorway in pilastered doorcase with entablature and 6- panel door. Roof at rear carried down over outshut; brick extension on right; casement windows with glazing bars and panelled door at centre.</p> <p>INTERIOR: Staircase has stick balusters, wreathed mahogany handrail and turned newel. Much of the joinery survives including panelled doors, but the chimneypieces in the front left and right rooms have been replaced. INCLUDING: C19 Wrought and cast-iron front garden area railings and gate with fleur-de-lis finials and scroll stanchions.</p> <p>Listing NGR: SP5615221321 Dept of Environment/DCMS, List of Buildings of Special Architectural or Historic Interest, Cherwell List 64: 1714-0/6/10006, p.16 (Index). SOX260.</p>

Site Number	31
Site Name	BARN APPROXIMATELY 40 METRES NORTH
Type of Site	BARN
List Entry Number	1046534
HER Number	18115
Status	Listed Building- Grade II
Easting	454286
Northing	222418
Parish	CHESTERTON
Council	OXFORDSHIRE
Description	<p>Barn. Mid/late C18</p> <p>SP52SW CHESTERTON A4095 (North side) 5/36 Barn approx. 40m. NW of Chesterton Fields Farmhouse II</p> <p>Limestone rubble; corrugated-asbestos roof. 5-bay and 3-bay plans, each with porch. Front has 5-bay section to left with central hipped-roofed porch; smaller section to right has central double doors. Rear has small double doors below a depressed arch in the centre of the 5-bay section, and has a central hipped-roofed porch to the 3-bay section. Small rectangular ventilator are now blocked. Interior: butt-purlin roof with through tenons.</p> <p>Listing NGR: SP5428622418 <1> Dept of Environment/DCMS, List of Buildings of Special Architectural or Historic Interest, Cherwell List 64: 5/36, p.15 (Index). SOX260. <2> English Heritage (RCHME), 1987-1989, Historic Buildings Photographic Record Card</p>

(Photograph). SOX2063.

Site Number	51
Site Name	Chesterton
Type of Site	Conservation Area
List Entry Number	
HER Number	
Status	Conservation Area
Easting	456080
Northing	221601
Parish	Chesterton
Council	OXFORDSHIRE
Description	<p>Chesterton Conservation Area was designed in March 1988. Under the Act Local Planning Authorities have a duty to consider boundary revisions to their conservation areas "from time to time". Chesterton Conservation Area was reviewed in January 1995 and it is now considered appropriate to undertake a further review in order to further define the key characteristics of the area, so that this document can be used to inform the development of the proposed South West Bicester urban extension.</p> <p>Archaeology</p> <p>The Chesterton Conservation Area occupies much of the original historic village core. Still present within the village are the medieval buildings of the Old Manor and St Mary's Church, plus 13th Century building remains and the Post Medieval site of manor farm mill, a smithy and a school. From studying it would seem logical that the roman road, which enters the village from the west and exits from the south east, at one time crossed through the heart of the village. It would appear that this road was diverted in order to make way for Chesterton Lodge. Predominantly the archaeological sites lie outside of the boundary of the conservation area, located to the North and West. The archaeological map includes two large areas investigated as part of the Bicester urban extension.</p>

Site Number	61
Site Name	MIDDLETON PARK
Type of Site	Park and Garden
List Entry Number	1001405
HER Number	
Status	Registered Park & Garden
Easting	452409
Northing	221867
Parish	Chesterton
Council	Oxfordshire
Description	<p>Country house with remains of early-C18 pleasure grounds based on medieval park, surrounded by C18/early-C19 landscape park. Early-C19 improvements to pleasure grounds and park probably by Lewis Kennedy.</p> <p>HISTORIC DEVELOPMENT</p>

In 1201 Gerard de Camville emparked Home Wood at Middleton Stoney, which, in 1328, was surrounded by a stone wall half a league (c.3km) in circuit. The park seems to have incorporated the area presently known as Home Wood, being incorporated into the later landscape park. By 1710 a new house had been built to replace the old manor house close to the village, its new location towards the south end of a rectangular park and bounded by its own formal courts to north, east and south. In 1737 the estate was sold to William Villiers, 3rd Earl of Jersey, in whose family it remained until 1946. The 3rd Earl built a replacement house in the later 1750s. Sanderson Miller designed two buildings for Lord Jersey in 1749, one of which could have been the Gothic gate lodge. The C18 house was demolished in 1934, replaced in 1938 by a house on the same site, designed by Sir Edwin and Robert Lutyens for the 9th Earl of Jersey, and converted to flats in 1974.

SITE DESCRIPTION

LOCATION, AREA, BOUNDARIES, LAND FORM, SETTING Middleton Park lies to the west of the village of Middleton Stoney, 15km north of Oxford. The c.330ha park is defined by the parish boundary and wall to the south, a strip of farmland between the perimeter belt and the ancient monument known as Ash Bank to the west, and the B4030 public road to the north and east, along with the village of Middleton Stoney, which also lies to the east. The land is mainly level, the ground falling gently to west and south.

ENTRANCES AND APPROACHES The main entrance is that from Middleton Lodge, with its accompanying screen and gates (together listed grade II), which stands at the south end of the village. The stone lodge was built in 1805 to the designs of Edward Blore, and the screen is possibly by Thomas Cundy, erected at the same time as he was working on the mansion, 1806-07. From the entrance the drive leads west across the parkland to the pleasure grounds, continuing this line to pass between a pair of two-storey lodges (1938, Sir Edwin Lutyens, listed grade II*), and hence arriving at the north side of the turning circle. Beyond the circle, c. 50m north of the house, stands a pair of stone urns (possibly Thomas Cundy, C18/early C19, listed grade II).

A second lodge, Oxford Lodge (late C18, listed grade II), built in Gothic style and of elongated octagonal plan, with a small crenellated tower, marks the south-east corner of the park. From here a drive crosses north-westwards through the park to join with the east drive as it enters the pleasure grounds. Also joining at this point is a drive from the north which enters the park at Heyford Lodge, the lodge standing to the east of Park Farm. The drive runs south-east across parkland, then south down the east side of the pleasure grounds. An estate building, known as the Swiss Cottage, stands 350m west of Oxford Lodge on the south boundary of the park.

The structure of the drives pre-dated the re-working and re-orientation of the house in the 1930s, and remains as shown on the 1833 Ordnance Survey, when the entrance was on the east front.

PRINCIPAL BUILDING Middleton Park (listed grade I) stands at the centre of its parkland, enjoying views across the gently falling ground to the west and south. A service wing (Sir Edwin and Robert Lutyens, listed grade II*) extends the main block of the south facade eastwards to the southern of the forecourt lodges and incorporates as its southern facade part of the C18 house. The present house, the fourth on the site, was built 1934-38 to the designs of Sir Edwin and Robert Lutyens.

Between 1805 and 1810, the 3rd Earl of Jersey called on Thomas Cundy to remodel the house, commissioning a number of paintings to record these works.

GARDENS & PLEASURE GROUNDS The house stands at the southern end of an extensive, roughly rectangular area of pleasure grounds, c.800m long (north-south) and c.325m wide (west-east). This level, c.25 ha. plot, possibly on the site of the medieval park, is separated from the surrounding landscape park by an encircling ha-ha. To the south of the house is a sunken lawn, a double flight of steps leading down from the stone retaining wall to the terrace alongside the south front. The lawn is bordered on west and east sides by low retaining walls supporting terraces planted with flowering shrubs, above which are grassed terrace walks.

From the house there are views out across the park, over the lawn and the ha-ha which marks the garden's southern boundary. A view of Cundy's proposals for the new house, from the first decade of the C19, shows a formal garden set on a balustraded raised platform, from which a broad set of steps leads down into the park.

Flanking the west front are two low, stone walls (listed grade II), part of the 1930s work, terminated by stone lions (Coade stone, late C18-early C19, listed grade II), the lions having formerly flanked the carriage drive in front of the earlier house. On the north side of the house, the line of the east drive continues westwards, through a grassed area set with specimen trees, as a walk to the edge of the pleasure grounds.

The northern two-thirds of the pleasure grounds is planted as commercial woodland, Home Wood. A central ride bisects the wood, focussed on the north front of the house; its line once continued further north as a ride across the park through the 'North Door' in the boundary wall, and, planted to either side with platoons, so on, across the two public roads to The Heath woodland. Within the wood subsidiary paths branch off the central ride, with a perimeter walk starting at the house, leading west, then north along the top of the ha-ha, curving further into the wood along the northern edge of the ground, then returning back to the ha-ha to lead south, and so back to the house via the north and western sides of the kitchen garden. An C18 icehouse (listed grade II) lies c.300m north-west of the house, its stone face probably having once held a simple triangular pediment; close by is a statue base.

In the early C18 Home Wood, then known as 'The Park' (1710 map) was cut through by two straight rides arranged in cruciform pattern running north-south and west-east (Map of Middleton Stoney, 1710). By the mid-C18 additional straight and curving paths through the woodland had been created, linking small open spaces (1736 map).

PARK The park, created in the second half of the C18, is now primarily under the plough, with consequent loss of many parkland trees. Those remaining include a number of Lebanon cedars. It is largely enclosed by belts and woodland, however: Mangthorn Wood and Old Nursery to the west, Pedigree Plantation and The Belt to the east, and Old Covert to the south-east. Within the park are also a number of substantial clumps: along the west side, from south to north, Cowground Covert, Busheyground Clump, Sainfoinhill Clump and Alder Clump; along the east side, again from south to north, Whitegate Plantation, Cowground Clump, Rubbishpit Clump and Parsonsfield Clump.

Set to the south of the east drive, 350m from Middleton Lodge and 100m north of Parsonsfield Clump, stands the largely medieval All Saints Church (listed grade II*), extended eastwards for the Jersey Mausoleum, c.1805. A medieval wayside cross stands 50m to the north. East of the church is a castle mound and bailey. North of the east drive, adjacent to the north drive, is a cricket field with pavilion. Beyond this to the north is a c.9ha area fenced off from the park, as it has been since at least the mid-C19 (Ordnance Survey, 1st Edition 1", 1833); south-east of this, between the park and the public road, lies the western part of Middleton Stoney village.

West of the house, but not visible from it, and just set in from the western edge of the park, is a lake, fed by a stream which enters the north-west corner of the site, and flows from the dam at the southern end of the lake to feed a second, smaller, body of water, lying 350m south of the house. A view by Lewis Kennedy, entitled 'Alterations for the Improvement of Middleton Park', done for the Earl of Jersey in 1811, shows the view south from the house as parkland with a ribbon of water crossing the middle ground. In the early C18 only a stream existed along the course of the water bodies (Grantham, Map of Middleton, 1710), later widened to form a 'pond' and 'new pond' (map, 1736).

Following the remodelling of the house by Thomas Cundy, the 5th Earl of Jersey employed the gardener Lewis Kennedy in the early C19 to produce an improvement scheme for the park, which seems to have been executed. At this time Lord Jersey also extended the park on the east side: in 1814 c.29ha were added to the park, and in 1824-25 a further extension involved demolishing the old manor house near the church, together with nearby cottages and streets, to be replaced by new, picturesque cottages outside the park.

KITCHEN GARDEN The walled kitchen garden complex lies to the north-east of the house,

within the pleasure ground area. The main, southern area is walled and contains a pair of C19 cottages built into its north wall. The northern part is smaller and surrounded by brick and stone walls on three sides, and a bank with yew trees on the fourth. It is occupied by a 1980s house and a converted stable.

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Maps [all held at Oxfordshire Record Office] A map of Middleton Stoney, 1710, The Honble Henry Boyle, Lord of the Manor (private enclosure map) The contents of Severall Inclosures and Parts designed for the Rt Honble the Earl of Jersey at Middleton Stoney, 1736. Davies, A *New Map of the County of Oxford*, 1797. Ordnance Survey 1" to 1 mile: 1st edition published 1833 6" to 1 mile: 1st edition published 1884 2nd edition published 1900 25" to 1 mile: 1st edition published 1881

Illustrations Lewis Kennedy, *Alterations for the Improvement of Middleton Park, 1811* (private collection)

Description written: February 1998 Amended January 1999 Register Inspector: SR Edited: March 2000

Site Number	62
Site Name	Alchester Roman site
Type of Site	Roman town
List Entry Number	1006365
HER Number	
Status	Scheduled Monument
Easting	457208
Northing	220339
Parish	Merton
Council	Oxfordshire
Description	<p>The Roman settlement of Alchester is situated at the junction of five roads. The second century defences enclose an area of approximately forty-five hectares. A number of excavations have identified several phases of construction, with stone buildings gradually replacing earlier ones of timber. The occupation appears to date from the mid-first to the fourth centuries. The site of a possible bath house, with tessalated floors and a hypocaust were uncovered in the 18th century and lie outside the western defences. A cemetery was also uncovered and twenty-eight undated inhumation burials were recovered. An accurate plan of the Roman town centre at Alchester was mapped from aerial photographs which have revealed several buildings and perhaps a temple. Details of the defensive banks and walls, metalled roads and streets, wall footings and robber trenches of buildings, areas of paving and the debris of collapsed buildings were also recorded.</p> <p>The Roman settlement of Alchester is situated at the junction of five roads. The second century defences enclose an area of approximately forty-five hectares. A number of excavations have identified several phases of construction, with stone buildings gradually replacing earlier ones of timber. The occupation appears to date from the mid-first to the fourth centuries. The site of a possible bath house, with tessalated floors and a hypocaust were uncovered in the 18th century and lie outside the western defences. A cemetery was also uncovered and twenty-eight undated inhumation burials were recovered. An accurate plan of the Roman town centre</p>

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[Centred SP 57242025] Alchester ROMAN TOWN [GS] (Site of) (1)

"The main settlement is almost a square. Its sides, each about 350 yds long, were originally bounded by a rampart & ditch. The ditch is well preserved on the west only, where it still forms a field boundary; the rampart is easily distinguishable on the W & E, less easily on the S. where the place of the ditch was taken by Chesterton Brook. On the N both rampart & ditch have disappeared along the line of the road. Within the square two banks cross one another at right angles diametrically. One runs N-S, & occupies the line of the Ro. road from Watling Street to Dorchester. It takes a curious & unexplained Z bend near the southern rampart. The other runs E & W & continues outside the square eastward to the ford. Other subsidiary banks once existed within the town, of which some in the SW corner are still traceable, but those in the NE have disappeared in subsequent ploughing. At two corners, NE & SE, especially the latter, circular mounds are visible". The NE mound proved to be a tower, the SE is presumed so." If towers existed at the W corners their traces have now disappeared, but Stukeley (2) says that 'the country people

tell you in those places (i.e. the corners) were four towers to defend the city'.... The traces of buildings that Stukeley mentions in the meadows N. of the main settlement cannot now be seen An A/P taken by the O.S. in 1926 (print in Ashmolean Mus.) revealed the plan of a rectangular building SE of the town across the railway line [V.C.H. plan also shows a ditch - "A" to "B" - W of the town which it attributes to "Air photo 1926"]. R-B sherds can be picked up in most of the neighbouring fields." The first lit. ref to the site is Camden's (3) from which we can infer that, three centuries ago, there was little more to be seen on the site in the way of ruins than there is to-day. Stukeley's engraving (2) of 100 years later tells the same tale Hussey (4) thought, arguing from the sundry signs of foundations & noted by Brown & others in the meadows N & E of Alchester, that the town itself was a camp, with unenclosed civil settlements around it. He even suggests there may have been one as far away as Chesterton. Brown (5) made several exploratory excavns, the chief being in 1850, when he found a walled porticus in the NW angle of the main cross-streets: this is probably the same building excavated by Manning & Myres in 1892. He also mentions Ro. remains found east of Alchester in building the railway line in 1848; a cemetery of 28 skeletons was discovered at the same time just outside the SE corner of the town. In 1850 & 1856 (6) objects from Alchester were shown at meetings of the Brit. Arch. Assn. in London. They included Samian & other pottery, some stamped with makers' names, fragments of glass, a head of Diana in white clay, & other small objects. "In 1892 (7) T.L. Myres & Perry Manning proved that the defences on the E side of the town 'consisted of a bank of gravel faced with rubble'. At the NW angle of the main cross-streets they found 'foundations of walls bounding three sides of a court', which court appeared 'to be open to the south, & to be surrounded on the other sides by a corridor, interrupted in the middle of the N. side by a rectangular chamber.' The coins ranged from Drusus the Elder to Honorius. "In 1925 (8) trial trenches were made through the E. rampart & near the centre of the town... The E rampart proved to be about 22 ft wide.... In 1926 (9) a section was taken across the N-S street and its side ditches. The street surface was 15 ft wide & was bounded on each side by a steeply cambered slope leading to a V-shaped ditch. This street was probably laid out in the Claudian period or shortly after, for pre-Flavian pottery was found in the bottom of one of the ditches. In 1927 (10) a trench driven across the eastern edge of the town revealed what was then thought to be an early defensive system inside the main ramparts, consisting of a gravel & clay bank behind two parallel ditches 2 1/2 ft apart. But the subsequent discovery (11) of similar ditches 20 ft. apart at the NE corner & of another ditch running into these (12) makes it clear that these ditches were only drainage works, & we may assume that the first rampart is the gravel one, about 22-25 ft wide, which lay immediately outside [sic] the stone rampart-wall & of which a section was taken in 1928 (11). The ditch, 15 ft wide & about 2 ft deep, outside, & belonging to this rampart, yielded native & Samian pottery of mid-1st century date." No pre-Claudian pottery found and "a coin of Tiberius (13) & a republican denarius of Pisa Frugi found in 1910 are quite likely to be survivals brought in by the Romans & lost many years after minting. "It appears therefore that Alchester was founded about the middle of the 1st cent. A.D. & was enclosed by a gravel rampart & ditch. Since remains of wattle-and-daub,

but no stone foundations, have been found in the earliest levels, it must be assumed that the town was composed of timber buildings & wattle-and-daub huts. The post-holes & sleeper-beam trenches that would be visible on a drier site were obliterated in the damp conditions of Alchester [???]. About the turn of the century the wooden houses were replaced by stone-built houses & the gravel rampart backed [sic] by a stone rampart-wall. Stone buildings of this age have been found in the NW (7) & NE (9) angles of the central cross-streets, & also inside the NE corner (11). The stone rampart-wall was reinforced, presumably at each corner, by an internal tower of stone. The foundations of that the NE corner were examined in 1927-28 (10,11) but were very fragmentary, & its plan could not be ascertained. On the N. side of the E. gate foundations of what may have been an internal angle-turret built of concrete were found in 1927 (10), but the remains were not completely uncovered & the interpretation of them is not certain. The stone rampart-wall itself was about 9 ft wide in its foundation-courses (12)(15), the stones of which were set on edge & slightly tilted. Nothing but foundations remained, except for one or two roughly squared single stones laid horizontally in cement upon them. That all these works date from the time of Hadrian is suggested by the pottery found in the buildings in the centre of the town (13) & in the stratum between the foundations of the NE corner tower & the underlying 1st-cent ditches (11). After Hadrian's time no drastic refashioning of the defences seems to have taken place, but ... it is clear that there was much rebuilding & replanning of the houses during the late 2nd & 3rd centuries To judge from the evidence of coins & pottery, there can have been no diminution of the intensity of occupation up to the end of the 4th century, yet no considerable house foundations of this late period are known Road-metalling of this period was laid bare in 1927 (10) at the junction of the E.W street with the street which skirted the east wall on the inside." The latest coins are of Honorius & Arcadius - no 5th cent barbarous imitations. "That its buildings were robbed by Bishop Birinus in the 7th cent. to provide building stone for his new foundation of Birinchester has now become an integral part of antiquarian tradition" but there is no real evidence to connect Birinus with Bicester. The derivation of the name Alchester is uncertain. Plans & ill. (20-21)

"At Alchester... Crop marks establish that the main N & S street ran straight through the town in line with the road from the S (the Z-shaped bend... near the S rampart is formed of plough ridges & not by the Ro. road). There are two parallel E-W streets. Within the rectangular insulae so formed are foundations of buildings. A square structure W. of the main street near the site excavated in 1892 looks like a temple. A little to the S. this street is lined with rectangular buildings that might be houses or shops. Further to the W., near the middle of this insula, is a small circular building. Other buildings stand beside the E-W street, so it appears that the town was equipped to some considerable extent with stone buildings." Site heavily ploughed & very wet. (22)

The main Roman settlement falls within two fields The northern field is ploughed - as it has regularly been for many years - the southern field is permanent pasture.

The southern field is overlaid by ridge and furrow and the only visible Roman features are the east rampart and a possible fragment of the road from the south.

Surface features in the northern field have been so spread by ploughing that they are no longer surveyable, However, two intersecting roads and the east rampart are indicated by broad bands of limestone. These features show very clearly on A.Ps (23), as does the continuation of the road between the east rampart and the railway, although this is not visible on the ground. There is a very dense spread of Roman material - brick, tile, Samian coarse wares - on the surface west of the east rampart in this field.

David Watts, 3 Manchester Terrace, Bicester, has a large quantity of 2nd c. pottery from drainage trenches dug along the boundaries of fields immediately to the north-east of the settlement (Centred at SP 573205 and SP 574204) in 1963-4.

Resurveyed at 1/2500 (24)

SP 572202: Alchester Roman town, scheduled. (see illustration card). (25-26)

Additional reference. (27)

An RCHME 1:2500 scale, level 3 air photo interpretation project (Event UID 932842) was carried out on this monument in November 1990. The area of the interior of the town was not covered as this had only recently been published in an article in *Britannia* (28a) which included a plot of features visible on aerial photographs. However, examination of early RAF vertical cover of the site revealed traces of a bank running north-south just to the west of "The Castle" (SP 52 SE 5). This bank also appears to follow a gentle curve through 90 degrees before reaching the modern field boundary to the north (SP 56912037). To the south, aligned on the north-south bank, and the mirror image of the northern turn is a feature visible as a faint bank on the RAF verticals and as a double ditch on the 1990 specialist cover (SP 56922015). The form, straight sides with rounded corners, is suggestive of Roman military features, but in the absence of any other evidence it is difficult to make any firm interpretation. The archive created by this project (Collection UID 932889) is held by the RCHME. (28)

An RCHME 1:2500 scale air photo interpretation project was carried out in August-October 1998 in order to produce an accurate plan of the Roman town centre at Alchester. Details of the defensive banks and walls, metalled roads and streets, wall footings and robber trenches of buildings, areas of paving and the debris of collapsed buildings were recorded. The Alchester town plan was primarily based on NMR photographs taken on 16 July 1996. (29-30)

The bank and ditch feature to the west of "The Castle" (SP 56912037-SP 56922015) mentioned in authority 28 appears to be roughly aligned on one of the roads within the town. A similar bank with a rounded 90 degree corner was recorded to the east of Alchester at SP 57552018, also aligned on one of the town's internal streets. The shape of these banks is suggestive of Roman military features, and their apparent alignment on Alchester's street pattern may strengthen this impression.

Elements of the town's street pattern extend beyond the ramparts to the west (SP 5602021) and to the east (SP 57652028). Banks on the same E-W alignment (SP 57002045 and SP 56652021) may also be associated with the Roman town. (31-32)
