



**BLENHEIM ESTATE**

**HOMES**

Land East of  
**Park View**  
Woodstock

Environmental Statement Technical Appendix C:  
Cultural Heritage





BLENHHEIM ESTATE

HOMES

Land East of  
**Park View**  
Woodstock

---

Environmental Statement Technical Appendix C:  
Cultural Heritage

# C1

Gazetteer of designated  
and non-designated  
heritage assets in the  
study area

## Technical appendix C1: Gazetteer of heritage assets in the study area

### *Entries in Oxfordshire HER, Undesignated and non-designated archaeological assets*

TOR ref	Mon ID	Description
1	MOX12171	Medieval pottery, found during field walking by Ival Hornbrook near Sansom's Lane.
2	MOX1721	Prehistoric Lithic Scatter, Woodstock Bypass. Five flakes, 1 core, 1 microlith and 1 lump were scattered along proposed route; indicative of activity, rather than settlement.
3	MOX1722	Prehistoric Lithic Scatter on Woodstock Bypass. Three flakes and a scraper found. May have moved downslope by ploughing.
4	MOX26902	Northern extension of Blenheim Villa. Area of geophysical anomalies including a rectilinear arrangement at the north end of the site was confirmed as being of Roman origin, representing another focus of occupation.
5	MOX26903	Late Iron Age and Roman features NE of Blenheim villa Complex of anomalies in the north-eastern corner of the site showed a series of linear features of Late Iron Age and Roman date which certainly represent a focus of occupation.
6	MOX3797	Possible Bronze Age Barrow. Clear disc barrow c.30m in diameter and c.1m high but not marked as an antiquity on 1872 OS map, and may be an ornamental feature. Possible barrow.
7	MOX3811	Roman Settlement. Occupation site just N of Campsfield Farm on the Oxford-Woodstock road excavated in 1949 by Oxford University Arch Society.
8	MOX3845	Prehistoric flints, found during field walking by Ival Hornbrook near Sansom's Lane in 1973.
9	MOX3851	Medieval iron arrowhead. Barbed and socketed iron arrowhead 5 found August 1975 in garden at Crecy Walk, Hensington Gate.
10	MOX3853	Milestone Type P2. Woodstock to Compton route.
11	MOX3856	Site of tollhouse. Site of Bladon Check Gate. Shown on 1880 25" OS map.
12	MOX3857	Site of tollhouse. Site of Bladon Cross Roads Gate. Shown on 1880 25" OS map.
13	MOX27429	Bronze Age pit and Iron Age settlement. Three Iron Age ring ditches, a ditch and medieval/post medieval furrows were identified and a Yeltham type Bronze Age shield was recovered from a shallow pit.
14	MOX27596	Later prehistoric/Roman rectilinear enclosure. Identified during geophysical survey and confirmed by evaluation to be of later prehistoric and/or Roman date.
15	MOX27707	Site of WWII stanton shelters. Line of 4 stanton shelters to east of A4095, shown on the 1971 1:2500 OS map. Now removed.
16	MOX27982	Undated Ditches and Pits. Evaluation revealed features resembling ditches and pits. No finds recovered.
17	MOX3849	Blenheim Roman Villa and Field System. Also known as Begbroke Villa. Complex of rectangular enclosures, including a range of negative cropmarks indicating stone buildings, almost certainly a villa. Located on NW edge of Oxford Airport.
18	MOX28103	Blenheim Palace Park and Gardens. A country mansion (PRN15007) surrounded by an extensive and complex park and pleasure grounds, created from the medieval royal hunting park of Woodstock. Main phases early and mid C18 and early C20.
19	MOX28160	Oxford Kidlington Airport. A former military airfield opened in 1938, now an airport. During World War Two the airfield was assigned to 23 Group and was the parent airfield of the (similar sounding) Kidlington relief landing ground.

TOR ref	Mon ID	Description
20	MOX3846	Witney Branch Ridgeway. Grundy's 'Road 3', the NE end of which is called 'Heh Straet' in the Shipton-on-Cherwell charter of 1005.
21	MOX27131	GWR Woodstock Branch Line. Woodstock Railway Act, 1886; promoted and built by Duke of Marlborough largely at his own expense. Opened 1890; closed 1954.

### ***Oxfordshire HER, Archaeological events***

TOR ref	Mon ID	Description
EV1	EOX1390	Woodstock Bypass: Stage 1 Report
EV2	EOX1391	Woodstock Bypass: Report on Geophysical Survey 1992
EV3	EOX1888	Land North of Shipton Road, Woodstock: An Archaeological Desk Based Assessment
EV4	EOX2156	Evaluation at Land North of Shipton Road
EV5	EOX5640	Trial excavations at Blenheim Villa
EV6	EOX6024	Evaluation on Land at Shipton Road
EV7	EOX6405	Geophysical Survey on Land at Shipton Road
EV8	EOX6495	Excavation on Land south east of Woodstock
EV9	EOX6634	Evaluation on Land North of Shipton Road
EV10	EOX6635	Geophysical Survey on Land north of Shipton Road
EV11	EOX7031	Air Photo Survey of Land at Shipton Road
EV12	EOX7033	Evaluation at Bladon Chains Caravan Club Site

TOR ref	Description
LB1	Park walls, surrounding Blenheim Park GV II Park walls. Mostly 1722-1729 by William Townesend and Bartholemew Peisley; medieval origins and later repairs. Squared and coursed limestone, with canted coping. Enclose area of medieval park, and run for approximately 14.5 KM. (Blenheim Park is included in the HBMC Register of Parks and Gardens at Grade I; D. Green: Blenheim Palace, 1951, pp102, 313-4)
LB2	The Cowyards and Cowyards Cottage II Farm buildings. c.1860. Squared and coursed limestone; gabled Welsh slate roofs, with ball finials to stone-coped gables of central range. U-plan, with central range dividing enclosure into 2 foldyards open to front. Yard to right: range on right side has saddle room with segmental arch over plank door and stone ridge stack, and loosebox range with 3 stable doors and slatted openings and cast-iron columns to row of slatted ventilators beneath eaves; to rear are segmental stone arches over door flanked by 2-light casements with glazing bars, and through-entry to right. Yard to left has similar stable doors and casements to rear and 8 plank doors to range on left; double doors to swill house with stone stack to front of left range. Central range has cast-iron columns to row of slatted ventilators beneath eaves: to rear are segmental stone arches over plank double doors to 2-storey mixing house. Interior: plank doors and feeding passages. Subsidiary features: mid C19 Cowyards Cottage, of similar materials, attached to right. Good example of mid C19 stock fare. (Blenheim Park is included in the HBMC Register of Parks and Gardens at Grade I)
LB3	Eagle Lodge II Lodge. c.1860. Limestone ashlar; hipped Welsh slate roof; stone internal stack. Cruciform plan. One storey; 3-window range. Tuscan pilasters to walls. Semi-circular porch with Tuscan columns and niches flanking panelled door. 6-pane sashes set in moulded stone architraves. C20 door in flat-roofed extension to rear right. Interior not inspected. (Blenheim Park is included in the HBMC Register of Parks and Gardens at Grade I)
LB4	Kitchen Garden Walls and attached house approx. 600m SE of Blenheim Palace GV II Walls enclosing kitchen garden. c.1710 by Thomas Churchill and Richard Stacey. Stone-coped walls, of Flemish bond brick and 4.5m high, enclose area approximately 80 x 320

TOR ref	Description
	metres. Walls have two elliptical curves to each side. Keyed stone ashlar niches set in walls; bellcote with bell over niche to north. Large piers, with raised panels and moulded stone plinths, flank north and south entrances with C20 gates. Banded brickwork with flared headers to piers of east entrance, with C20 gates, and west entrance which has stone ashlar pedimented Tuscan gateway flanked by niches, by Sir William Chambers, 1766-75, and late C19 wrought-iron gate. Late C18 gardener's house attached to south-west: of limestone rubble with M-shaped concrete tile roof, and C19 brick end stacks. Double-depth plan. 2-storey, 2-window range front has keyed flat stone arches over late C19 plate-glass sashes. C20 door in gable end. Interior noted as having quarter-turn stairs with turned balusters. Limestone rubble walls enclose area approximately 40 x 320 metres to rear. Stacey and Churchill were master-bricklayers who built Queen Anne's Orangery at Kensington Palace. (Blenheim Park is included in the HBMC Register of Parks and Gardens at Grade I; Buildings of England: Oxfordshire: p475; D. Green: Blenheim Palace and Gardens: 1972, p4)
LB5	Sundial approx. 6m S of Nos.1 and 2 Bothy Cottages (not included) GV II Sundial. c.1710; designed by Nicholas Hawksmoor. Limestone. Vase-shaped pedestal, with acanthus-leaf carving to base and carved swags. Brass dial has ducal coronet set in gnomon. Pedestal carved by Henry Banks and dial made by John Rowley. (Blenheim Park is included in the HBMC Register of Parks and Gardens at Grade I; Buildings of England: Oxfordshire: p475; D. Green: Blenheim Palace, 1951, pp117,252)
LB6	Hensington Lodge GV II Lodge. 1876-7, by F.B. Osborn. Limestone ashlar; gabled Welsh slate roof; limestone ashlar ridge stack with pedimented top. T-plan. One storey; 7-bay range with one-bay blocks flanking 3-bay portico to front. Doric pilasters to walls. Pedimented portico has Doric antae and corner columns, and carving of Imperial eagles in tympanum. Plate-glass sashes set in raised architraves; one-bay blocks flanking portico have 4-panelled door with overlight to left and balustraded parapets with urns. Stone-coped gable ends with urn finials. Interior not inspected. Included for group value. (Blenheim Park is included in the HBMC Register of Parks and Gardens at Grade I)
LB7	Hensington Gate GV I Gateway. c.1706-1710, by Nicholas Hawksmoor. Limestone ashlar. Frosted columns, set on polygonal plinths, each support cornice and flat scrolls flanking two-tier campanile-style superstructure crowned by vases of flowers carved by Grinling Gibbons. Late C19 carriage gates. Cast-iron railings on low limestone walls swept to meet terminal piers of banded rustication. The gate piers originally stood in the garden to the east of Blenheim Palace (q.v.) and were moved to their present position in the 1770s. (Blenheim Park is included in the HBMC Register of Parks and Gardens at Grade I)
LB8	Caroline Court (Nos.1-23 Oxford Street) and attached wall and outbuilding GV II Almshouses; converted 1969 into old people's flats. Built for Caroline Duchess of Marlborough in 1797. Limestone ashlar; hipped Welsh slate roof. Plan form unclear. 2 storeys; 9-bay range with central 3 bays brought forward. To centre are 3 doorways (windows inserted 1969) set in moulded stone architraves with fluted frieze to each cornice. Outer wings each have central doorway (windows inserted 1969) set in keyed moulded architrave. Stone lintels over C20 windows; plain medallion set over each outer door. Apron in central bay has inscription as follows: THESE ALMSHOUSES/WERE BUILT AND ENDOWED/BY CAROLINE DUCHESS/OF MARLBOROUGH/A.D. MDCCXCVII." Interior not inspected. Subsidiary features: to right is stone-coped limestone rubble wall, approximately 5 metres long and with wood gate, is attached to late C18 outhouse: of limestone rubble, with hipped Welsh slate roof and flat stone arches over two C20 doors to left, and two 2-light wood-mullioned windows to front. Rear wing, built 1969, is not of special architectural interest.
LB9	Nos.7-11 Oxford Street GV II Row of 3 houses. Early C19. Coursed limestone rubble; gabled concrete tile roof, with Welsh slates to rear, except old tile roof to rear wing of No.7; brick end and ridge stacks. Double-depth plan. 2 storeys and attic; 4-window range. Flat stone arch over C19 six-paneled door to passage left of centre. Keyed stone lintels over early C19 six-paneled

TOR ref	Description
	doors, with wrought-iron brackets supporting flat hood to left and bracketed stone hood over adjacent doors to right. Keyed stone lintels over 6-pane sashes including smaller sashes to right. Hipped half dormers with 3 over 6-pane sashes. 3 gabled wings to rear. Interior not inspected. Included for group value.
LB10	No.50 High Street GV II House, now offices. Early C17, refronted c.1830. Coursed limestone rubble; C19 stucco front. Gabled Welsh slate roof; left end stack of stone finished in brick. 2-unit plan. 2 storeys; 2-window range. Early C19 six-paneled (2 glazed) central door set in reeded architrave with scrolled wrought-iron brackets to flat hood. 6-pane sashes, and C19 two-light first-floor casements with glazing bars. Short one-bay range of similar materials attached to left. Interior: chamfered beams with jewel stops; winder stairs to left.
LB11	Nos.46 and 48 High Street GV II House, now shop and flat. C17, refronted in early C19. Coursed limestone rubble; gabled C20 tile roof; end stack of rendered stone finished in brick. 2-unit plan. 2 storeys and attic; 3-window range. C19 open pediment over central six-paneled door, and stone lintel over late C19 six-paneled (2 glazed) door to right. Stone lintels over 6-pane sashes and, on first floor, 6 over 3-pane sashes. C20 roof dormer. Interior: first floor not inspected.
LB12	Nos.38 and 40 High Street GV II House, now supermarket and flats. Early C19. Squared and coursed limestone; gabled Welsh slate roof; brick end stack. Double-depth plan. 3 storeys; 4-window range. C20 shop windows to ground floor. Flat stone arches over 3 eight-pane sashes on first floor and 4 three-over-6 pane sashes on second floor. Interior not inspected. Included for group value.
LB13	No.36 High Street GV II House, now 4 flats. Early C19. Limestone rubble, with rendered front; gabled concrete tile roof; brick stack. L-plan with rear right wing. 2 storeys and attic; 3-window range. Plank double doors with overlight to left. Central late C19 four-panelled door with overlight. Early C19 eight-pane sashes set in moulded wood architraves on first floor; gabled C20 dormers. Interior not inspected.
LB14	No.34 High Street GV II House, now house and shop. Early C19, with late C16/early C17 origins. Squared and coursed limestone; gabled Welsh slate roof; brick stacks to rear. L-plan with rear right wing. 2 storeys; 2-window range. C20 door with overlight. C20 windows set in mid C19 architrave with pilasters to moulded cornice. Flat stone arches over six-pane sashes. Rear wing partially of limestone rubble, rebuilt in early/mid C19 brick with Welsh slate roof and 6-pane sashes; later C19 brick extension with concrete tile roof to rear. Interior: late C16/early C17 hollow and ogee-moulded beams on ground floor.
LB15	No.32 High Street GV II House. Late C18/early C19. Coursed limestone rubble with stucco front; gabled stone slate roof, concrete tiles to rear; brick rear stack. Double-depth plan. 2 storeys and attic; 2-window range. C20 six-panelled door with overlight and C20 bracketed flat hood. Early C19 bow window with glazing bars and opening pane to right. 6-pane sashes; C20 gabled dormer. Late C19 brick extension to rear. Interior not inspected.
LB16	No.30 High Street GV II House, now 2 shops and offices. Late C16/early C17, remodelled c.1840. Coursed limestone rubble with stucco front. Gabled Welsh slate roof, with stone slates and concrete tiles to rear; brick end stack. L-plan with rear left wing. 2 storeys; 2-window range. C20 shop front. Mid C19 horned 3-pane sashes. C17 rear wing, of limestone rubble with gabled concrete tile roof and stone end stack; side walls partly rebuilt in C20. Interior: late C16/early C17 hollow and ogee-moulded beams. Rear wing has chamfered beams.
LB17	No.28 High Street (Cromwell House) GV II House. Mid C17, with early C19 alterations. Coursed limestone rubble; gabled stone slate roof; brick rear stack. 2-unit plan. 2 storeys and attic; 2-window range. Early C19 open-pedimented hood over ten-panelled door with overlight to left. Segmental-arched blocked openings behind door and to right. Early C19 two-storey bow window with sashes to right. Mid C17 chamfered stone-mullioned and transomed cross windows on first floor. C17 dentilled wood cornice; C20 hipped roof dormers. Early C18 two-storey wing to rear of

TOR ref	Description
	limestone rubble and with added C20 storey and gabled concrete tile roof. Early C20 extension to rear left. Interior: much restored mid C17 dog-leg staircase. Early C18 bolection panelling in rear right room. First floor room not fully inspected but noted as having early C18 fireplace with panelled over mantel. From 1675 it was occupied by John Cary, a lawyer and agent for various local aristocrats, who claimed to have been a royal servant for every seventeenth century King: he entertained William III at this house in 1698. Formerly part of a large house divided up after 1750 and on site of Nos.30-36 High Street. (Information from the VCH)
LB18	The Crown Inn, Oxford Street GV II Inn. Mid C19 (c.1840) remodelling and refronting of C17 and C18 building; late C19 extension to left. Coursed limestone rubble; gabled Welsh slate roof; brick end stacks. 2-unit plan extended by 2 wings to rear. 2 storeys and attic; 2-window range. Mid C19 canted bay window with stone slate roof and glazing-bar sashes to right. Keyed flat stone arches over 6-pane sashes. Gabled roof dormers with 3-pane sashes. Late C19 two-storey extension to left has stone lintel and flat hood over late C19 six-panelled (2 glazed) door, and sashes with glazing bars. To rear of main range is 2-storey bay to right, rendered in C19 and with gabled Welsh slate roof; larger 2-storey wing to rear left of limestone rubble with similar roof, much remodelled in mid C19 brick. Interior: first floor not inscribed.
LB19	17 AND 19, Oxford Street OXFORD STREET GV II House, now 2 shops. Early C18. Coursed limestone rubble, colourwashed to left; gabled stone slate roof; brick end stacks. 3-unit plan. 2 storeys and attic; 3-window range. No.19 to right has timber lintel and wrought-iron brackets supporting flat hood over C20 central door. Mid C19 canted bay windows. No.17 to left has early C19 beaded 6-panelled (4 glazed) door with overlight and C20 shop window with glazing bars. On first floor, timber lintels over early C19 eight-pane sashes; 2 gabled roof dormers to right and hipped roof dormer to left. Left gable end has flat stone arch over early C19 ten-pane sash. 2-storey rear left wing, of similar materials, has early C19 eight-pane sashes. Interior of No.17: chamfered beams and quarter-turn stairs rising to attic. No.19 not inspected but likely to be of interest.
LB20	Nos.22 and 24 Oxford Street GV II House, now 2 shops and 2 dwellings. Early C19 and 1947 refronting of C17 house to left (No. 24) and C18 house to right. Squared and coursed limestone with ashlar bands and central pilaster strip; gabled concrete tile roofs; brick ridge and end stacks. 2-unit (No.24) and one-unit with through-passage (No.22) plans. 3 storeys; 5-window range. No.24 to left, of 3-window range, has C20 door set in C18 moulded stone architrave with bracketed flat hood; flanked by C20 windows; 6-pane sashes set in raised stone architraves. No.22 to right has scrolled wrought-iron brackets to moulded flat stone hood over C19 paneled and glazed door set in C18 moulded stone architrave; tripartite sash and horned 6-pane sashes set in flush stone architraves. Late C17/early C18 wing, of 2-storey and attic, 4-window range with brick end stack and timber lintels over openings, to rear of No.24. Interior of No.22: C18 six-paneled door to rear of passage. No.24 has deeply chamfered beams; late C17/early C18 bolection panelling in room to left, which has eared architrave to fireplace. Partial inspections only.
LB21	Nos.18, 18a and 20 Oxford Street GV II Two houses, now shop and dwelling. Mid C18 No.20 and late C17/early C18 No.18, with late C19 alterations. Limestone ashlar fronts; gabled roofs, of Welsh slates to No.20 (left) and concrete tile roof to No.18; brick end stacks. Two 2-unit plans. Two storeys and attic. No.20, to left, of 2-window range: wood pelmet board over late C19 four-paneled door to passage on left, late C19 half-glazed door, and square bay windows with plate glass windows; canted first-floor bay windows with plate-glass sashes; late C19 gabled roof dormers with pilasters and moulded tympana. No.18 of symmetrical 3-window range; wrought-iron brackets support flat hood over late C19 paneled half-glazed door to centre; late C19 four-paneled door to right, and late C19 square bays with plate-glass windows; stone lintels over horned 6-pane sashes on first floor. To rear is old wing, remodelled and

TOR ref	Description
	eaves heightened in C19, with two 8-pane sashes; stair-turret to rear of No.18. Interior: cased beams. First floor of No.18 not inspected. Included for group value
LB22	No.16 Oxford Street GV II House, now house and tea shop. C17, with early C19 alterations; refronted in 1950s. Coursed limestone rubble; ashlar front. Gabled stone slate roof, with concrete tiles to rear roofs; stone right end stack. L-plan extended to double-depth plan. 2 storeys; symmetrical 3-window range. C20 door set in open-pedimented architrave. C20 shop windows; raised storey band; keyed flat stone arches over horned 6-pane sashes. Early C19 rear right wing, with tripartite and 6-pane sashes; wing to left is C17 but remodelled in C19 with hipped roof. Interior: chamfered beams throughout; roof not inspected. Included for group value.
LB23	No.14 Oxford Street (Hope House) GV II* House, now house and 2 flats. c.1708, for Miles Parker, with extension of c.1720 to rear and c.1800 alterations. Limestone ashlar; flat lead roof with stone slate gables; ashlar end stacks set on stone-coped gables. Double-depth plan. 8-baroque style. 3 storeys; 3-window range. Semi-circular arch over c.1800 doorway to left, with 6-panelled (2 glazed) door with decorative fanlight: cast-iron columns support stuccoed c.1800 bow window above door, which has tripartite sash window set in reeded architrave and with moulded cornice. Similar 2-storey bow window to right bay. Early C18 blind windows to centre, with heavy keyed and segmental-arched architraves. Raised storey band and pilaster strips; similar blind attic windows with keystones touching parapet band; blind panels to parapet. Three-bay right gable wall has similar blind windows, which are semi-circular arched on ground floor. Rear right wing of c.1720: front facing Hensington Road of 2-storey-and-attic, 2-window range: has brick end stack, and 6-pane sashes set in moulded stone architraves with ground-floor cornices; C18 hipped roof dormers with moulded cornices; late C19 outshut to left. Rear left range, housing stairs, altered in early C19 and has hipped roof. Interior: stone-flag floors to hall which has C18 two-panelled doors to left and early C19 doorway to right. To rear of hall is open-well staircase: early C19 with stick balusters to bottom, beneath early C18 staircase with heavy turned balusters and square newels; late C17 plank and stud partition to left of stairs; to rear of stairs is C17 plank door to stone winder stairs to cellar, which has C17 chamfered stone-mullioned window. Room to right of hall has early C18 beaded stone fireplace and early C19 cornice; early C18 panelled door to rear right room which has fine early C18 bolection panelling and marble fireplace; similar panelled room above. One of two houses in Woodstock, the other being The Bishop's House, Rectory Lane, (q.v.), which are early C18 and copy the Baroque architecture of Blenheim Palace (q.v.). Miles Parker, maltster, was a Woodstock Councillor by 1694 and mayor in 1711 and 1715. From 1707-11 he was Receiver General of Taxes in Oxon, and as such was deeply involved in the supply of cash to build Blenheim Palace. (Buildings of England: Oxfordshire: p858; Information from VCH)
LB24	No.12 Oxford Street (The Punchbowl Inn) (formerly listed as Old Grammar School) GV II House, now public house. Early C18. Squared and coursed limestone, with colourwashed front; gabled stone slate roof, with C20 tiles to rear; late C19 brick end stacks. L-plan with rear left wing. 2 storeys and attic; 2-window range. Flat stone arch and scrolled wrought-iron brackets to flat hood over C20 central door. Early C19 canted bay windows with glazing-bar sashes and moulded cornices. Flat stone arches over early C19 tripartite first-floor sashes; gabled roof dormers. C18 two-storey ranges to rear, one with hipped roof and tripartite sash. Mid C18 rear left wing, of limestone rubble with gabled stone slate roof: of 2-storey and attic, 3-window range with segmental arches over two first-floor mid C18 six-pane sashes with thick glazing bars; later C18 two-storey range with concrete tile roof and C19 two-light casements with glazing bars. Interior: first floor not inspected.
LB25	No.1 Hensington Road (The Old Malt House) and Nos.3-7 (GV II Row of 4 dwellings; No.1 is part of Hope House, Oxford Street (q.v.). c.1720 to left, extended in late C18. Squared and coursed limestone; ashlar walling to Nos.1 and 3, built at same time as Hope House (q.v.). Gabled concrete tile roof, with stone slates to No.1; brick ridge and end stacks. 8-unit plan. 2 storeys; 9-window range. Keyed segmental arches over C20 doors and late C18 six-pane sashes; 3-window range to left has timber



TOR ref	Description
	lintels over late C19 doors, 6-pane and 8-pane sashes and flat stone arch over C20 window. Small one-storey range to right remodelled as garage. Interior: No.1 has chamfered beams and stone segmental-arched fireplace with reset late C17 Baroque carvings to one jamb. Nos.3-7 not inspected. Nos.1 and 3, contemporary with rear wing of Hope House, (q.v.), were formerly part of the Malt House owned by Miles Parker of Hope House. Included for group value.
LB26	No.10 Oxford Street GV II House, now shop and flat. c.1730. Squared and coursed limestone; gabled concrete tile roof; brick end stacks. Double-depth plan. 2 storeys and attic; 3-window range. Wrought-iron brackets support early C18 shell hood over C18 six-paneled (2 glazed) door. Canted bays have late C19 plate-glass windows. Flat stone arches over C19 three-over-6-pane sashes; gabled roof dormers. To rear, hipped stair projection adjoins gabled early C18 wing of 2 storeys and attic with keyed flat arch over door. Interior: cased beams. Central passage has stone flag floors, and C18 paneled doors; fine early C18 dogleg with landing staircase to rear has turned balusters set on closed string and ramped handrails. First floor not inspected. Described as "lately rebuilt" in 1746: on site of C16 grammar school. (Information from VCH)
LB27	No.8 Oxford Street GV II House, now offices. Early C18. Squared and coursed limestone; gabled stone slate roof, with Welsh slates to rear; brick end stacks. 2-unit plan with rear outshut. 2 storeys and attic; 3-window range. Timber lintels over C20 door to left, and horned 8-pane and tripartite sashes; on first floor are early C19 eight-pane sashes. Gabled roof dormers. Interior: chamfered beams. Partial inspection only.
LB28	Nos.4 and 6 Oxford Street GV II Two houses, now house and offices. Early C19 refronting of early C18 house. Coursed limestone rubble; ashlar front with raised plinth and storey bands. Gabled concrete tile roof; brick ridge and end stacks. L-plan with rear right wing. 2 storeys and attic; double-fronted 6-window range. Each house has stone lintels over central 6-panelled doors with overlight and late C19 plate-glass sashes. Roof dormers, hipped to left and gabled to right. Rear: C18 rear-right wing of similar materials, 2 early C18 stair turrets with thick glazing bars to 4-pane sashes and early/mid C19 two-storey wings with concrete tile and Welsh slate roofs. Interiors: No.6 has mid C18 quarter-turn stairs with turned balusters. No.4 not inspected but likely to be of interest.
LB29	Nos. 2 and 4 Union Street II Two houses. Late C18. Coursed limestone rubble; gabled stone slate roof; brick ridge stack. 4-unit plan. 2 storeys and attic; 4-window range. Flat stone arches over central C20 plank doors and 2-light casements to each house; gabled roof dormers. C20 rear extension. Interior not inspected.
LB30	Barn range approx. 30m WSW of No.7 Banbury Road (Hensington Farmhouse) GV II Two barns. Late C17 to left and dated 1811 to right. Barn to right of limestone rubble with squared stone to porch and gabled stone slate roof. 3-bay plan with central threshing floor. Gabled porch with plank doors. Barn to left of similar plan and materials with plank double doors. Interior: two 3-bay collar-truss roofs with butt purlins.
LB31	Stables approx. 10m NNW of No.7 Banbury Road (Hensington Farmhouse) GV II Stables. C18. Coursed limestone rubble; gabled stone slate roof. 2 storeys; 2-window range. Timber lintels over C20 stable doors flanking window. Old plank loft door to right; gabled loft door to left. Interior not inspected. Included for group value.
LB32	No.7 Banbury Road (Hensington Farmhouse) and attached farmbuildings GV II Farmhouse. Late C17. Coursed limestone rubble; gabled concrete tile roof; ridge stacks of stone finished in late C19 brick. 3-unit plan. 2 storeys and attic; 5-window range. Timber lintel over central C20 door. Timber lintels over C20 and late C19 two- and 3-light casements; gabled dormers. Interior not inspected but noted as having chamfered beams, and narrow central hall with reset C17 dado panelling and mid C18 quarter-turn with winder staircase with turned balusters. Subsidiary features: C18 farmbuildings to front left, of limestone rubble with gabled concrete tile roof to rear and half-hipped stone slate roof to front: 4-bay cartshed to rear, with concrete block infill to former open front, and tall 3-

TOR ref	Description
	bay open-fronted cartshed to front which has C18 plank loft door to front gable; stone steps to rear rise to loft to rear, probably former granary; collar-truss roofs with butt purlins.
LB33	Nos. 21 and 23 and attached barn range, Banbury Road II Farmhouse, now 2 dwellings. Early C18. Coursed limestone rubble; gabled concrete tile roof; ridge stack of stone finished in C20 brick, and C20 brick end stack. 3-unit plan. 2 storeys and attic; 4-window range. C20 gabled stone porch to left; timber lintel over C20 door with late C19 brick jambs to right. Timber lintels over C20 casements; 3 gabled roof dormers. Interior of No.19 not inspected. Subsidiary features: early C18 barn range to right, with 2 threshing floors, of limestone rubble with gabled asbestos sheet and corrugated iron roofs and noted as having butt-purlin roof.
LB34	Shipton Slade Farm, barn approx. 50m SW of farmhouse GV II Barn. Early/mid C17. Coursed limestone rubble; gabled stone slate roof, with concrete tiles to right. 5-bay plan with central threshing floor. Full-height central gabled porch has owl hole in apex and timber lintel over double entry. Splayed ventilation slits. Late C19 outshuts flank porch. Interior: stone flags to central threshing floor, and 5-bay collar-truss roof with butt purlins.
LB35	Shipton Slade Farmhouse, GV II Farmhouse. Mid C18, with early/mid C19 alterations. Coursed limestone rubble; gabled concrete tile roof, with Welsh slates to rear; brick end and ridge stacks. 4-unit plan. 2 storeys and attic; 4-window range. Symmetrical 3-window range has early C19 porch with columns and pilasters with entasis, and beaded six-panelled door with overlight; mid C19 canted bay windows with glazing bar sashes, horned to left; keyed flat arches over early C19 six-pane sashes above. Similar arches over similar sash and C20 door to right. Gabled roof dormers. Mid C19 outshut to rear, and C18 rear wing of one storey and attic with gabled stone slate roof. Interior not inspected but noted as having stone-flagged floors, early C19 straight-flight staircase with stick balusters and panelled doors set in moulded wood architraves.

### **Register of parks and gardens**

Blenheim Palace, Park and Garden, Grade: I  
List Entry Number: 1000434  
Date first listed: 01-Jun-1984

#### Details

A country mansion surrounded by an extensive and complex park and pleasure grounds, created from the medieval royal hunting park of Woodstock. Main phases early and mid C18 and early C20, with early C18 work by Henry Wise and John Vanbrugh, mid C18 work by Lancelot Brown and early C20 work by Achille Duchene.

NOTE This entry is a summary. Because of the complexity of this site, the standard Register entry format would convey neither an adequate description nor a satisfactory account of the development of the landscape. The user is advised to consult the references given below for more detailed accounts. Many Listed Buildings exist within the site, not all of which have been here referred to. Descriptions of these are to be found in the List of Buildings of Special Architectural or Historic Interest produced by the Department of Culture, Media and Sport.

#### HISTORIC DEVELOPMENT

Henry I (1100-35) appears to have first enclosed the park at Woodstock at the beginning of the C12, it subsequently becoming an important royal hunting park. The park was focused on Woodstock Palace, a medieval hunting lodge of C12 origin, occupied by many monarchs and their spouses, who developed the buildings and surrounding gardens.

John Churchill, first Duke of Marlborough, was rewarded by Queen Anne in 1705 for his

services in defeating the French in Europe, by the grant of the Royal Manor of Woodstock, given with the understanding that she would build him, at her own expense, a house to be called Blenheim (named after the 1704 victory at the battle of Blindheim, close to the Danube). The former royal hunting park was probably then in poor condition, and the remains of Woodstock Palace were pulled down (despite a letter from Sir John Vanbrugh (1709) to the Duchess pleading for its retention, on grounds of historical association, as an eyecatcher) and its gardens removed.

The new palace, built 1705-22, was designed, together with the monumental Grand Bridge over the little River Glyme, by Sir John Vanbrugh (assisted by Nicholas Hawksmoor), and was set within a great formal garden designed by Henry Wise (1653-1738), Queen Anne's Royal Gardener. Following the Duke's death in 1722, a formal canal scheme designed by Colonel Armstrong, his chief engineer, was implemented by the Duchess along the course of the River Glyme. In 1764 Lancelot Brown (1716-83) was called in, producing a plan to landscape the central core of the park which included flooding the river valley to produce a large lake, and landscaping the surrounds, with new belt plantings around the park boundary. In the early C19 the fifth Duke created a substantial rock garden and series of flower gardens (mostly gone) south of Brown's lake. In the late C19/early C20 the ninth Duke carried out much restoration and replanting within the park, and created formal gardens to the west and east of the house, designed 1908-30 by Achille Duchene. Restoration of park planting has continued during the C20, and the estate remains (1998) in private ownership.

#### SUMMARY DESCRIPTION

Blenheim lies c 12km north-west of Oxford, adjacent to the south-west side of the village of Woodstock, within the confines of the medieval Forest of Wychwood. The c 10 sq km site is bounded largely by a c 14km long stone park wall (masons William Townesend and Bartholemew Peisley Junior, c 1720s, listed grade II), apart from a stretch along the south boundary west of Bladon, with to the east the A44 Oxford to Stratford-upon-Avon road and to the south the A4095 road to Witney. The village of Bladon straddles the valley adjacent to the south boundary, the parish church tower being prominent in views from the south front of the house. The park lies at the foot of the Cotswold dip slope, the Great Park in the north half being situated on a high plateau, dropping down to the undulating Lower Park to the south, with the flooded Glyme valley separating the two. The setting is largely rural and agricultural, with the C18 town of Woodstock against the east park wall, its church tower prominent from various points in the park. Numerous other views extend beyond the park from within.

Blenheim Palace (Sir John Vanbrugh 1705-29, listed grade I) stands towards the centre of the park on a level plateau, approached via several drives and avenues. The main approach, directly from Woodstock via the Woodstock Gate, enters the park c 700m north of the Palace, passing through a square, stone-walled court, on the south side of which stands the Triumphal Arch (Nicholas Hawksmoor 1723, listed grade I). The drive emerges into the park, suddenly revealing Brown's lake divided by Vanbrugh's Grand Bridge (1706-12, listed grade I) standing in the valley below. To the north-west the Column of Victory (to a design by Lord Herbert, later ninth Earl of Pembroke, 1727-30, listed grade I) is prominent on high ground across Queen Pool and to the south the roofscape of the Palace is visible, the main facade partially hidden. The drive continues south, with panoramic views across the Glyme valley, joining, 300m north-east of the Palace, the straight drive from the monumental Hensington Gate (1706-10, moved to present position 1770s, listed grade I). This drive enters off Oxford Road 800m north-east of the Palace, being aligned on East Gateway arch at the east end of a series of axially arranged openings between the courtyards north of the Palace. The drive curves north and west from the East Gateway, overlooking the lake, Grand Bridge and Column of Victory beyond, to join

the Ditchley Drive at the entrance to the Great Court.

The Ditchley Drive enters the park 3km north of the Palace, flanked by a stone gateway with wrought-iron gates (John Yenn 1781, listed grade II), and a single-storey lodge (c 1860, listed grade II). The drive, aligned on the Column of Victory, and 1km beyond this the north front of the Palace, runs straight across the Great Park plateau, flanked by a double avenue of limes (replanted late C20 on the site of Wise's early C18 avenue, said to have been originally laid out in the formation of the Battle of Blenheim), being diverted 1.5km from the Palace into the wooded Icehouse Valley to the east, to remerge on the axial line 0.5km from the house. The drive crosses the Grand Bridge, standing 400m from the Palace, with views east to the Triumphal Arch and the buildings of Woodstock beyond the park wall, continuing up the valley side, arriving at a bastion forming the north side of the Great Court (remodelled by Duchene, 1910, to an early C18 pattern). The drive continues through the central gateway flanked by iron gates, crossing the large, level, paved and gravelled forecourt to the steps up to the portico on the north front. Several lesser drives, their entrances marked by lodges, traverse the park.

The Palace is flanked to the east by the Italian Garden (Duchene c 1910, steps listed grade II), containing box-hedged knots with Waldo Storey's central Mermaid Fountain (1900-10, listed grade II), and to the west by the Water Terraces (Duchene 1925-30, listed grade II), based on the Parterre d'Eau at Versailles. The upper terrace contains a series of linked pools within a framework of box hedging, whilst the lower terrace contains two rectangular ponds with central obelisks and fountains (the northern one called the Bernini Fountain, late C17, listed grade I) the whole overlooking the Lake, the hillside beyond, and, glimpsed at the top of the hillside, Brown's remodelled gothic High Park Lodge. South of the Palace, flanked by informal, wooded pleasure grounds containing three stone garden temples, lies an open, level lawn, formerly the site of Wise's Great Parterre (early C18), removed by Brown in the 1760s. Views extend south from the south front and lawn across the Glyme valley to Bladon and its church tower, with distant hills beyond. The east arm of the pleasure grounds leads to the kitchen garden. The west arm of the pleasure grounds leads south to Brown's Cascade, lying c 1km south of the Palace, at the south end of the earth dam retaining the Lake. The large, rocky Cascade, hidden from the main body of the Lake, conducts water back into the enlarged Glyme riverbed as it runs east, crossed by the three-arched New or Bladon Bridge (Sir William Chambers 1773, listed grade I), standing 850m south of the Palace, before curving south and west to leave the park west of Lince Bridge. Laurel Bank, south of the river, seems to contain the remains of pleasure grounds which may have been linked with the former rock and flower gardens lying closer to the south side of the Cascade.

The park is divided into several sections, mostly connected by Brown's Lake and the River Glyme to the south. The Great Park to the north is largely arable land with woodland clumps, bisected from north to south by the Ditchley Drive and from west to east by the Roman Akeman Street with the remains of Grim's Ditch in the north section, and dominated by the Column of Victory. A tablet marks the site of the former Woodstock Palace, lying c 500m north-west of the Palace on what is now the north bank of the Lake. West of this, 200m west of the Grand Bridge, lies Rosamund's Well, a spring and stone pool marking the site of the former bower created in the mid C12 by Henry II for his mistress, Rosamund de Clifford. By the C15 the site contained a suite of rooms and a cloister surrounding a paved courtyard, through which the spring waters were led through a flight of three pools (Bond and Tiller 1997). This was in ruins by the C16, the remains being sketched by John Aubrey in the C17. High Park, on the hillside west of the Lake, consists largely of ancient oak woodland in which, overlooking the Palace 1km to the north-east, stands High Park Lodge (Brown 1768, listed grade II\*), remodelled in the Gothic style with a central three-storey tower and battlements, on the site of a medieval hunting lodge. The Lower Park and Bladon Park lie to the east and south of the

pleasure grounds respectively, largely laid to pasture with many park trees.

The rectangular kitchen garden (masons Thomas Churchill and Richard Stacey, c 1710, listed grade II), covering 3ha, stands 600m south-east of the Palace, with four large, semicircular bastion walls projecting from the north and south walls, and two circular ponds.

#### REFERENCES

Note: There is a wealth of material about this site. The key references are cited below.

N Pevsner and J Sherwood, *The Buildings of England: Oxfordshire* (1974), pp 459-75  
D Stroud, *Capability Brown* (1975), pp 111, 218; pls 27-30  
Victoria History of the County of Oxfordshire 12, (1990), pp 430-70  
Blenheim Palace, guidebook, (1996) J Bond and K Tiller, Blenheim, *Landscape for a Palace* (rev edn 1997)

Maps R Davis, *A New Map of the County of Oxford ...*, 1797  
A Bryant, *Map of the County of Oxford ...*, surveyed 1823

OS 6" to 1 mile: 1st edition published 1878-80  
2nd edition published 1900  
OS 25" to 1 mile: 1st edition published 1876

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