# The Nuneham Estate Parkland Management Plan

Appendix B: Arachaeology & Heritage Report by BSA Heritage

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## Nuneham Estate, Oxfordshire

Archaeology & Heritage Report



## Nuneham Estate, Oxfordshire Archaeology & Heritage Report

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## 1.0 Introduction & Methodology

- 1.1 BSA Heritage Limited has been instructed to undertake archaeological and heritage survey comprising desk based research, field reconnaissance and analysis of much of the Nuneham Estate lying east of the River Thames in Nuneham Courtenay parish Oxfordshire and as defined on Figure 1.
- 1.2 The survey area will henceforward be described as the survey area and extends over approximately 400ha of principally arable, pasture and woodland. Much of the southern part of this area lies within the Grade I Registered Park at Nuneham. It contains numerous listed buildings too, although many of these lie within the area surrounding Nuneham House and a further separate area and these are excluded from the scope of the survey (Figure 1).
- 1.3 The work forms part of the latest Parkland Management Plan (PMP) for the Estate and informs management recommendations. A walkover survey of the entire park was completed by Ben Stephenson in March 2019.
- 1.4 This work was informed by data provided by the Oxfordshire Historic Environment Record (HER), which holds information relating to known designated heritage assets. It also holds records of past archaeological investigations and chance finds (findspots) and undesignated elements of the historic environment which have been identified through past fieldwork, from aerial photographs or from historic maps and secondary source
- 1.5 The client has supplied copies of past assessments within the study area and park, with key reports being a Conservation Management Plan (CMP) prepared by Nicholas Pearson Associates in 2009 and a more recent CMP prepared by Alliance Planning and Savills dating to 2014. A number of archaeological reports held at the Oxfordshire History Centre were also considered.
- 1.6 Historic maps and other documents supplied by the team and consulted at the Oxfordshire History centre were also considered in advance of the walkover survey. The survey was also informed by detailed analysis of more than four hundred aerial photographs held by Historic England in Swindon.
- 1.7 Figure 1 within this report shows all identified archaeological or heritage sites referred to in the text. A gazetteer of structures and sites identified or proven to survive has been compiled and this also notes condition and significance (Appendix 1). Plates of key features are also provided, with a more extensive archive of photographs provided with the gazetteer.

## 2.0 Archaeology and Heritage Baseline

#### Prehistoric

- 2.1 There is considerable evidence for prehistoric activity within the wider area which accords with the higher potential associated with the gravels of the River Thames which provided fertile soils for cultivation as well as the communication and natural resource benefits of the river itself.
- 2.2 The Oxfordshire HER confirms that extensive prehistoric remains have been identified and investigated west of the Thames around Lower Radley. These have included the finding of several Palaeolithic axes and Mesolithic worked flints. Recent rescue investigation during the excavation of a 'nature pond' recorded hundreds of both Mesolithic and Neolithic worked flints at a likely production site with hearths (HER 26383).
- 2.3 Neolithic pits and possible ditches have also been recorded during investigations west of the Thames ahead of gravel extraction which also recorded extensive Iron Age settlement and field system remains (HER 16507). At least six likely Bronze Age barrows are thought to have lain in the same area, noted as cropmarks, whilst a rapier and sword of the same period have been recovered from the Thames at Sandford Lock, north west of the site (HERs 5533 & 7704).
- 2.4 Recent geophysical survey at Culham Science Park south of the site located a circular feature which might be a ploughed out barrow or the remains of a round house. Extensive archaeological evaluation ahead of a large greenfield residential urban extension north east of the site also found extensive Iron Age settlement and related remains.
- 2.5 Despite extensive prehistoric remains nearby, little is recorded within the site itself. This may in part reflect the absence of gravel extraction or development which would have led to archaeological investigation. It is likely that a 'banjo enclosure' noted as a cropmark in an arable field south of Nuneham House reflects later prehistoric remains (Site 21, Figure 1). Although the site has not been investigated, the distinctive enclosure and funnel entrance morphology tends to reflect a middle to late Iron Age site.
- 2.6 Several oblique photographs held by Historic England's archive show faint cropmarks south of Upper Farm which appear to form at least one enclosure (Figure 1, 5). The shape of these features indicates that they may reflect a field system or settlement which is most likely of prehistoric date (albeit a Romano-British date is also possible).
- 2.7 Three other cropmarks in the south of the site do not have a form which makes a prehistoric origin as likely. Site 27 is a regular enclosure which seems to respect the field boundary to its north's alignment and may therefore be post-medieval, or possibly relate to the known Second World War military activity on site (see below). An arrow shaped feature east of Nuneham House may also be relatively modern (Site 20). It is almost certain that a regularly patterned rectangle containing multiple squares noted west of the house and close to the Thames is due to modern activity, although the exact cause is unclear (Site 19).

- 2.8 A number of prehistoric finds have also been made within the site, although it is not clear if these relate to extensive sub-surface remains. In the north of the site, Site 36 records the findspot of a Bronze Age implement. Pre-Roman pottery and a coin are also recorded as being found at Lower Farm, just beyond the Estate. Site 34 records a re-cut Iron Age pit(s) recorded during 2003 pipeline investigations (Figure 1, Coleman 2003).
- 2.9 A score of prehistoric flints were recovered during the investigation of a Roman pottery production site in the north of the Estate (Site 4, see below). A single worked flint was found during investigations along the pipeline which revealed the Roman site, although this is a weak indication of related remains of itself (Site 30, Booth *et al* 1993).

#### Roman

- 2.10 Extensive Roman settlement and field system remains have been found west of the Thames often during the same investigations which revealed prehistoric features (HER 1422). More recently, Roman features interpreted as a rural farmstead have been found at Kennington, north west of the site (HER 28762). Roman pottery, coins and a ditch have also been found east of the main road, east of the site.
- 2.11 An extensive Roman site, likely to have primarily been a pottery production site lies in the north of the site area (Site 4, Figure 1, Booth *et al* 1993). Finds made in the 1960s hinted at something in this area, but it was only when a water pipeline was constructed in the 1990s that an extensive excavation along the pipeline route revealed the richness of the remains which had been partly protected beneath medieval ridge and furrow.
- 2.12 Excavation revealed the remains of kilns, paved drying floors and stone lined clay stores, waste pottery dumps and related settlement remains dating from the 2<sup>nd</sup> to the 4<sup>th</sup> centuries. Subsequent geophysical survey confirmed numerous kilns and a series of enclosures lying west of an access road, as well as circular features which may be earlier (SMA 1997). It appeared that although the features petered out to the west and north, they continued as far as the A423 to the east and an uncertain distance to the south.
- 2.13 Given this evidence, the find of significant amounts of Roman pottery during fieldwalking ahead of a Transco pipeline being built in the east of the site is not surprising (Site 35, Coleman 2003). The only other Roman find within the site area was the find of Roman pottery on the 1990s pipeline, south of Nuneham House (Site 31, Booth *et al* 1993). Although an Anglo-Saxon spearhead has been found in the Thames, there is limited evidence for this period held by the HER, as is often the case.

#### Medieval

- 2.14 The exact location of the medieval settlement at Nuneham is uncertain. It was mapped in 1707, a half century before it was raised in order to allow the 1<sup>st</sup> Lord Harcourt to create a fine landscape around his new house. Detailed examination of the sources in the 1960s appears to have the wrong scale for the 1707 map with village cottages as large as the new house (Batey 1968). It is likely that the village lay between the current main house, church to its north (the medieval church is reported to have lain six metres from it), a house to the north and 'Village Lodge' (Site 15).
- 2.15 Archaeological investigations during the construction of a new book depository within the walled garden did find evidence of a medieval enclosure and pits (Hiller 1996). As remarked upon by other sources, no evidence for potential medieval features was noted during the site walkover.
- 2.16 South of the new house, a linear feature on Brown's Hill has the appearance of a section of holloway and runs on a north south alignment which would make it a possible 'Abingdon Road' to old Nuneham (Site 23, Plate 1). It may be post-medieval and related to a park ride or boundary though.
- 2.17 In the north of the site, the last definite vestiges of ridge and furrow marking Nuneham's medieval open field system runs east west south of Lower Farm (Site 2, Plate 2). Aerial photographs confirm that, post-war, the ridge and furrow survived much more extensively north of the park, but as elsewhere, modern cultivation techniques have removed almost all of it, including some within the pasture field in which what remains lies.
- 2.18 North east of Nuneham House, and also under permanent pasture, enigmatic earthwork features may also be the vestigial remains of ridge and furrow or of partial tracks (Sites 6 & 7). Site 6 relates to one or perhaps two 'lynchet' type cultivation terraces on the steep side of a valley. Site 7 includes short stretches of ridges and also a likely former quarry which is now being damaged by vehicle tracks (Plate 3).
- 2.19 Closer to the new Nuneham arrayed along the main road (a former turnpike) east of the site are other earthwork features under pasture (Site 9, Plate 4). As the settlement only moved to this location in the later 18<sup>th</sup> century, it is most likely that these features and an adjacent pond which may have been a quarry are of this or later date.

#### **Post-medieval**

- 2.20 The majority of later features relate to the park created by the 1<sup>st</sup> Lord Harcourt in the second half of the 18<sup>th</sup> century. Possibly earlier than that and other than the earthworks mentioned above are the likely site of farm buildings and a pond south of the extant and listed Lower Farm converted barn and farmhouse (Site 1). These earthworks are later than the ridge and furrow and look to include platforms which may equate to demolished structures or where they lay (Plate 5).
- 2.21 South west of these and in the same field, a small circular depression is likely may have been a related dew pond (Site 3, Plate 6). Site 13 is not located, but relates to the names 'Windmill Field' and 'Windmill Hill' which indicate the historical location of such a structure. However, once removed, little might survive of a timber framed post mill, ploughing might obliterate a low mill mound and the highest ground for a mill lies east of the site itself.
- 2.22 Also outside the site and adjacent to the Thames is the location of 'Lock Cottages' and a lock of 18<sup>th</sup> century or earlier date and marked on historical maps (Site 29). No evidence of this could be seen from the site, although the arable field to the north appeared to have a greater density of tile in its south.

#### Park Related

- 2.23 A large area within the site is designated as the Grade I Nuneham Park Registered Park and Garden (Figure 1). This was created in the second half of the 18<sup>th</sup> century by the 1<sup>st</sup> Lord Harcourt and led to the loss of the medieval or earlier village and its rebuilding to the east on the Reading to Oxford turnpike (A483). The houses flanking the main road are Grade II listed and they and much of the park are also designated as a conservation area (Figure 1).
- 2.24 For the purposes of this study, the majority of listed structures are excluded. They include the Grade I listed main house of 1757 which sits on high ground with views west across the River Thames (Plate 7). A ditched ha-ha demarcates the study site from the lawns west of the main house, whilst its surrounding terraces have Grade II listed balconies parts of which look to have been recently restored.
- 2.25 North east of the main house, a nationally important 18<sup>th</sup> century garden lies south of a late 18<sup>th</sup> century classical church (All Saints, GII\*). Several elements within the garden, including a grotto/rockery, Temple of Flora, orangery and urns are separately Grade II listed. The site visit confirmed that the remains of a later garden lie north west of the church (Plate 8). Also excluded from this study is an area of land north of the main house which includes a Grade II listed former rectory, its listed kitchen garden and an ice house.
- 2.26 Related to the park and included within the site is an extensive kitchen garden to its north east (32, Plate 9). Although not listed in its own right, an ornate gateway to the east is, and it might be argued that the connected walls and wider garden are therefore curtilage listed (16, Plate 10). The walls of this 18<sup>th</sup> century garden look to have been repointed in places, although repair would be useful in other areas. A late 20<sup>th</sup> century book repository fills up much of the southern garden. Elsewhere there is some planting and disused greenhouses, although the open areas and some internal structures in the north are slightly forlorn in appearance.
- 2.27 There is no sign of a well recorded by the HER and likely to have lain just within the garden close to the listed gateway. The HER entry notes that this had horse powered headgear which, in 1973, was set to be scrapped. However, a fine cast iron mechanism was noted north of the gateway which appears to be what once lay above the well (16, Plate 11).

- 2.28 To the north of the kitchen garden lie a range of predominantly brick agricultural structures and two residences of Home Farm. These are likely to be 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century in origin and the agricultural buildings appear to be little used, but all are in good condition (Plate 12).
- 2.29 On the west side of the kitchen garden are further brick buildings now mainly converted to residential use and in a good state of repair. They include the Grade II listed Dairy Cottage and also a water tower incorporated into a former coach house block (Plate 13). South of this, two southern elevations of the original 18<sup>th</sup> century stable block survive incorporated into much later structures (33, Plate 14).
- 2.30 North of the kitchen garden and Home Farm complex, features within the site which relate to the 18<sup>th</sup> century park include The Lake to the north east and an Ox tunnel which provided a route for cattle movement beyond the designed landscape (11 and 18, Plates 15 & 16). North of The Lake lie the late 19<sup>th</sup> century 'Village Lodge' and inter-war 'Park Cottages' to its south (12, Plate 17). Closer to new Nuneham lie the late 19<sup>th</sup> century new All Saints Church and 'Church View Cottages' (8 & 10, Plates 18 & 19). All are fine buildings in good repair, but none are listed.
- 2.31 In the south of the site area, the early 17<sup>th</sup> century Carfax Conduit is Grade I listed and also a Scheduled Monument (28, Plate 20). It was moved from Oxford city centre to the park in the late 18<sup>th</sup> century to provide an eyecatcher south of the house. In the south east corner of the site area, 25 marks the site of the Grade II listed Venison House, a rare example of this type of structure (Plates 21 & 22). It has recently been restored. Historic 19<sup>th</sup> century maps confirm the park kennels once lay south west of the Venison House and the grade II listed 'Keeper's Cottage' which is excluded from the site area (Plate 23).

#### Military

- 2.32 Aerial photographs dating to the 1940s confirm that an extensive Second World War air base at Culham, confusingly a Fleet Air Arm station, included elements which extended into the site. Many of the hangars to the south centred on the runways survive as part of Culham Science Park. Hutments were located east of the house and kitchen gardens and immediately south of the study area (Figure 1). The sewage works north of the main house is also likely to have been constructed to support the new accommodation.
- 2.33 Very few remains relating to the Second World War use of the park now survive. Beyond the current site area, two small structures lie at the former sewage works. In a field east of the kitchen garden, piles of broken concrete are likely to be the remains of hut bases in this area. South west of the kitchen garden, an air raid shelter and likely wartime building also survive (22, Plates 24 & 25). East of Brown's Hill a section of track is likely to be contemporary (Plate 26).
- 2.34 Site 14 relates to a small post-war copse which also contains fragmentary remains of Second World War structures including brick foundations and concrete surfaces (Plate 27). This area is also used to store architectural salvage which may be from Nuneham Park structures, but may also be from other Oxford University sites (Plate 28).

### 3.0 Management of Sites and Features

- 3.1 The majority of existing records for the Nuneham Estate area considered relate to postmedieval park related structures and features. A small number of these are listed. The park features do not provide any indication of wider archaeological potential across the study area either. These features are of considerable significance even where not separately designated as they are constituent parts of the Grade I Registered Park and Garden and most lie within a conservation area too.
- 3.2 Most park features are in good condition and appear well managed. In particular, structures are well maintained, although there is limited evidence of burrowing at the Ox Tunnel and Venison House (18 & 25, Figure 1). The Venison House appears to have benefited from recent restoration with new thatch, repointed brick base and painted weatherboarding. It is likely that the renewed thatch will provide better protection for the vulnerable metal grilles henceforward.
- 3.3 Kitchen garden walls also appear to have been partially repointed, although other stretches of wall could benefit from appropriate intervention. The converted residences surrounding the garden all appear to be in good order, although removal of vegetation from the surviving elevations of the mainly demolished stables is advisable.
- 3.4 A number of small areas of pasture preserve earthworks which may relate to the landscape prior to its formal re-design. This land use type is by its nature the most benign for such archaeological remains and preserves both ridge and furrow and a likely post-medieval farmstead site near Lower Farm as well as parts of an important pottery production site (Sites 1 to 4).
- 3.5 Elsewhere, more enigmatic earthwork features may be medieval or later (Sites 6, 7 & 9). As ever, scrub growth needs to be kept down to ensure long term preservation and the lynchets in the steep sided valley are at risk at present (6). The features east of this also appear to be slightly eroded by vehicular traffic across them and the HS5 payment might be sought to better manage these areas.
- 3.6 Management of all of these features would be enhanced by a better understanding of what the earthworks reflect. Geophysical survey of these areas and their surroundings might be an efficient means of evaluating these sites at circa £200 per hectare of survey. These costs might be reimbursed under HE1 of the Higher Tier schedule of payments.
- 3.7 HE1 might also fund Investigation of four of five areas where distinctive cropmarks have been identified (5, 20, 21 & 27. Site 19 is clearly modern in origin). Again, geophysical survey represents a cost-effective way of confirming the extent and likely nature of any sub-surface remains. The banjo enclosure may not be as isolated as it appears and the cropmark complex south of Upper Farm is likely to be more extensive than apparent on aerial images.
- 3.8 The technique could also be used to chase the limits of the Roman pottery production site in the south or if the Estate do not wish to assume the site extends east to the A423. However, survey might confirm that sites 20 and 27 do not warrant any special management.
- 3.9 As a minimum, and ahead of any further archaeological investigation, it is recommended that the area outlined in the north and the areas of cropmarks at 5 & 21 (banjo enclosure) be either low tillage or taken out of cultivation totally, ideally with a buffer. Higher tier payment options HS2 and HS3 may apply. These areas could be extended or revised if fieldwork suggest this is appropriate.

- 3.10 Despite the extensive military activity in the 1940s within the site area, little now survives. The nature of wartime expansion sites led to relatively poorly built and utilitarian structures which are of limited significance in their own right. Related rarer building types are well maintained to the south at Culham and if vestiges of the Second World War need to be removed, this may be acceptable.
- 3.11 Nonetheless, needless removal of concrete roadways and the small number of surviving structures should be avoided where possible. In particular, the air raid shelter is in good condition and should be maintained (Site 22). It might in the future prove a good structure on which to focus interpretation of the Estate's wartime use.
- 3.12 The unexpected survival on site of the well headgear is positive. However, it currently lies close to an estate road and next to a refuse skip. It could be removed relatively easily and this should be moved as a priority where it is more secure. Ideally it would also be stored in a dry space where it will not deteriorate. Reinstatement within the kitchen garden might be considered in due course, with a capital payment possibly available for interpretation and enclosure.
- 3.13 Further research and site investigation might provide a better understanding of the extent of the original settlement at Nuneham. The only feature now evident which may be related is a holloway to the south of the main house. The majority of the settlement now lies under later structures and grass. However, elements may lie in the arable field north of Home Farm and this may be an area worthy of proactive investigation and positive land use change, if proven to contain significant sub-surface remains.
- 3.14 Past archaeological investigation in the north of the study area, cropmark sites and finds made elsewhere suggest there is potential for hitherto undiscovered sub-surface remains of prehistoric through to medieval or later date. Existing areas of pasture land represent the best passive protection for potential archaeological remains and no change is required as a result in these areas of the park. Areas of woodland will cause root damage to any sub-surface remains, but it is likely that the long-established woodland within the park has already disturbed any remains and other than those sites mentioned above, there is no indication that any change is warranted on the basis of archaeological potential.
- 3.15 However, where intrusive works are undertaken, appropriate archaeological involvement should be considered. In order to enhance the interpretation of the park, dedicated archaeological investigation might also be considered. Geophysical survey may be a suitable initial method. This might be complemented by targeted trial trenching thereafter.
- 3.16 Standard approaches to the archaeological and built heritage resource should also apply, with suitable consultation with the relevant local authority advisors ahead of any changes to land management or development which would have an impact on built structures or known archaeological remains. Listed building consent may be required in some cases.

## 4.0 References

Alliance Planning and Savills 2014 Nuneham Park Conservation Management Plan, Oxford

Batey M. 1968 Nuneham Courtenay – an Oxfordshire 18<sup>th</sup> Century Deserted Village, in *Oxoniensia*, vol. 33, Oxford

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Coleman L. 2003 Abingdon Pipeline, Oxfordshire – Fieldwalking Survey, Cirencester (Cotswold Archaeology report CA03041)

Hiller J. 1996 Report on results of Archaeological Investigation of Oxford Book Repository, Nuneham Park in *South Midlands Archaeology*, vol. 26, Milton Keynes

Keevil G. 1997 – Article on Lower Farm Roman Pottery Production Site in *South Midlands Archaeology*, vol. 27, Milton Keynes

Nicholas Pearson Associates 2009 Nuneham Park Conservation Management Plan, Bath

Appendix 1: Gazetteer of Sites

Plan/ HER ref.	Name	NGR (SP/SU Prefix)	Period	Stability	Vulnerability	Survival/ Condition	Significance	Notes
1	Earthworks	5375 0055	Post- medieval	Stable	Low	Good	Local	Later than medieval ridge and furrow (2) a pond and earthwork features to the south are likely to reflect the site of farm buildings associated with Lower Farm. Under pasture.
2	Ridge and furrow earthworks	5375 0050	Medieval	Stable	Low	Fair	Local	Last remaining ridge and furrow of Nuneham open field system runs east to west and is stable under pasture, but affected by later enclosure boundaries/arable and pipeline route.
3	Pond	5370 0049	Post- medieval	Stable	Low	Good	Local	Regular pond in pasture field with ridge and furrow to east.
4/ 1428	Roman pottery production site	5394 0054	Roman	Deterior ating	Medium	Good - uncertain	National	Site of extensive pottery kilns and related remains was identified by 1990s' excavation on line of pipeline and subsequent geophysical survey. Very extensive site may extend beyond A423 to east. Good preservation under ridge and furrow, but site continues to be ploughed to east of this. Earlier remains may also lie within this area. HER 16919 records pottery found in 2003 fieldwalking.
5	Cropmarks	5460 9925	Prehistoric ?	Deterior ating	Medium	Uncertain	Local?	Extensive cropmark features within one larger arable field appear to include an enclosure and likely to be late prehistoric or Roman.
6	Earthworks	5470 9885	Medieval	Stable	Low	Fair	Local	At least two 'lynchets' or ridges on steep sided pasture valley with scrub. Likely to reflect medieval cultivation, but this is uncertain.
7	Earthworks	5470 9878	Medieval	Stable	Medium	Fair	Local	Partial ridges and furrows and a large depression in pasture field may be remains of ridge and furrow and a quarry pit, but may include an older route north of Nuneham. Erosion of earthworks due to vehicular traffic, despite being under pasture.
8/ 5879	Church	5500 9915	19 <sup>th</sup> century	Stable	Low	Good	County	Unlisted All Saints Church is Victorian of circa 1880 and not to be confused with late 18 <sup>th</sup> century listed church near

								Nuenham House which replaced the medieval village church.
9	Earthworks	5515 9925	Uncertain	Stable	Low	Good	Local	Uncertain features in small pasture paddocks are likely to be lost structures or boundaries and include a pond which may have been quarry. That close to Nuneham Courtney new village suggest they are post-medieval.
10	Cottages	5517 9912	20 <sup>th</sup> century	Stable	Low	Good	Local	Well built Church View cottages are three sets of semi- detached houses built in early 20 <sup>th</sup> century.
11	Lake	5455 9845	18 <sup>th</sup> century	Stable	Low	Good	National*	Waterbody 'The Lake' part of Registered park's designed landscape.
12	Lodge and cottages	5457 9850	20 <sup>th</sup> century	Stable	Low	Good	National*	'Village Lodge' and 'Park Cottages' to its south are circa 1900 and inter-war in date and enhance Registered area.
13	Windmill site	Not known	Post- medieval	Deterior ating	Medium	Uncertain	Local	'Windmill Field' and 'Windmill Hill' indicate the site of a mill, but may have lain east of site on high ground. All traces may have gone given nature of such sites and arable land use in site.
14	Stone store/WWII structure	5460 9815	20 <sup>th</sup> century	Stable	Medium	Fair	National*	Remains of WWII structure in brick and concrete surfaces within copse which holds piles of stone and paviours including some from a West Bromwich manufacturer.
15/ 1087	Old Nuneham	542 981	Medieval	Stable	Low	Poor	Local	Site of original village is likely to have lain within area defined by current house, church, The Lodge (12) and lodge east of main house. Investigations in walled garden revealed evidence of enclosure etc.
16/ 21053	Gateway/ Walled Gardens	5445 9828	18 <sup>th</sup> century	Stable	Low	Good	National*	The Grade II wrought iron gates to Nuneham's main kitchen garden (the walls and related structures of which may be curtilage listed as a result).
17/ HER 40	Pump headgear	5447 9833 (original)	18 <sup>th</sup> century	Stable	High	Good	National*	Fine machinery relating to now lost well just within walled garden and reputedly horse operated. Located outside of walled area, by skip/road and at risk of removal. Noted to be up for scrap in 1973!
18	Ox Tunnel	5420 9849	18 <sup>th</sup> century	Slow deterior ation	Medium	Fair	National*	Tunnel to lead cattle around park now silted up, some loss to facing brick and stonework and danger from animal burrows and scrub.
19	Cropmark	5385 9818	20 <sup>th</sup>	N/a	Medium	Poor	N/a	Unusual cropmark feature evident on 2000 obliques, but not

20	Cropmark	5460 9802	century 20 <sup>th</sup> century?	Deterior	Medium	Uncertain	Local	other APs. Large rectangle containing regular patterning of small squares in arable likely to be result of short term activity and not of archaeological significance. Included for clarity. Arrowhead marking may be related to wartime airfield to south, although lies near definite prehistoric cropmark (21),
			century:	ation				so earlier origin cannot be discounted entirely.
21/ 15274	Banjo enclosure	5440 9760	Prehistoric	Deterior ation	Medium	Uncertain	County	Distinctive cropmark of small enclosure and 'funnel' entrance to east is likely to reflect a later prehistoric site (Middle Iron Age – 800 BC to 1BC). In large arable field.
22	Shelter	5424 9816	20 <sup>th</sup> century	Stable	Low	Good	Local	Standard communal air raid shelter aligned east west consists of brick revetted entrance with door intact into shelter under mounded earth. Ventilation duct in east has rubber cover suggesting past water ingress.
23	Holloway	5402 9782	Medieval?	Stable	Medium	Fair	Local	Short stretch of Holloway may reflect earlier route and as north south aligned may be routed from Abingdon through old Nuneham village. May have marked boundary between gardens and park. Recent damage due to new drainage channel bisecting route.
24	Military areas	Various	20 <sup>th</sup> century	Slow deterior ation	Medium	Poor	Limited local	Little now survives in areas which APs show to have held WWII hutments associated with Culham airbase to south. One set of foundations at Site 14, shelter (22) and building close to stable remains (33). Removed concrete piled north of (14). Two concrete trackways noted north of sewage plant and east of Brown's Hill.
25/ 21055	Venison House	5453 9735	Late 18 <sup>th</sup> century?	Slow deterior ation	Low	Good	National*	Recently restored Grade II listed rare venison house is thatched and weather boarded with stone flag floor and sits on island in pond. Bridge to it in poor repair (not original) and some decay of wire mesh vent' panels and undermined of brick base from animal burrowing.
26	Kennels	5450 9740	19 <sup>th</sup> century	N/a	N/a	Destroyed	Local	Site of kennels shown on Tithe map and later OS maps. Nothing likely to survive in arable field.
27	Enclosure	5350 9710	Undated	Slow	Medium	Uncertain	Local?	Rectangular enclosure visible on some APs. As this respects

				deterior ation				field boundary, this may be relatively recent.
28/ 3512	Carfax Conduit	537 976	17 <sup>th</sup> century	Stable	Low	Good	National	Grade I listed and scheduled structure likely to date to early 17 <sup>th</sup> century and was moved to Nuneham to act as eyecatcher in late 18 <sup>th</sup> century.
29/ 307	Lock and cottages	533 974	18 <sup>th</sup> century	Stable	Low	Poor	Local	Site of lock and cottages shown on historic maps, but no sign now, albeit likely outside of site.
30	Flint findspot	5380 9755	Prehistoric	Slow deterior ation	Medium	Uncertain	Uncertain	Find made during investigation on water pipeline route. No indication of related activity.
31	Pottery findspot	5390 9750	Roman	Slow deterior ation	Medium	Uncertain	Uncertain	Find made during investigation on water pipeline route. No indication of related activity.
32/	Walled garden structures	9423 9822	Post- medieval	Stable	Low	Good	National*	Numerous structures mainly now in residential use west and north of walled gardens include Home Farm buildings, coach house inc. water tower and Grade II listed Dairy Cottage (HER 13340). HER 410 refers to site of gasometer in south of area.
33/13 341	Stables	5424 9818	18 <sup>th</sup> century	Stable	Low	Poor	National*	Southern end wall s of late 18 <sup>th</sup> century stable block survive and have been incorporated in later structures. Hinges and gate piers also survive.
34/ 16927	Iron Age pit	5402 0012	Iron Age	Slow deterior ation	Medium	Uncertain	Local	Found during pipeline works. Indicates more extensive remains relate to kiln site to north.
35/ 16928	Roman pit	5439 0048	Roman	Slow deterior ation	Medium	Uncertain	Local	Found during pipeline works. Indicates more extensive remains relate to kiln site to west.
36/ 1430	Implement findspot	5336 0033	Bronze Age	N/a	N/a	N/a	Local	Find within site confirms background prehistoric potential.

Condition uses National Trust scheme of grading. \*National importance ascribed to features and structures directly related to Nuneham Registered park.

## Figure 1: Identified Heritage Sites





## Plates



Plate 1: Holloway south of Nuneham House, looking south



Plate 2: Ridge and furrow south of Lower Farm, looking south



Plate 3: Earthworks east of The Rectory, looking north west



Plate 4: Faint earthworks west of Nuneham Courtenay (new), looking east



Plate 5: Earthworks south of Lower Farm, looking south east



Plate 6: Small pond south of Lower Farm, looking west north west



Plate 7: Nuneham House, looking north east



Plate 8: Garden features north of Nuneham House



Plate 9: View west into kitchen gardens



Plate 10: Listed gate and piers, looking west



Plate 11: 18<sup>th</sup> century pump headgear



Plate 12: Home Farm looking east



Plate 13: Water tower forming part of converted coach house west of kitchen garden



Plate 14: Surviving southern end of 18<sup>th</sup> century stable block



Plate 15: The Lake, looking north



Plate 16: East end of Ox Tunnel



Plate 17: Park Cottages and Village Lodge beyond



Plate 18: Latest Church of All Saints, looking north



Plate 19: Church View Cottages



Plate 20: Carfax Conduit, looking south



Plate 21: Venison House, looking east



Plate 22: Internal view of Venison House



Plate 23: Keeper's Cottage, looking south east



Plate 24: Air raid shelter (north side)



Plate 25: Likely wartime building east of stables



Plate 26: Track east of Brown's Hill, looking south



Plate 27: Military building remains south east of kitchen garden



Plate 28: Paviours stored in copse