



JOHN MOORE HERITAGE SERVICES

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

AT

MAPLETON POND AND VALLEY,

BLenheim ESTATE,

OXFORDSHIRE

NGR SP 41810 17400 (pond) & SP 41752 17206 (culvert)

On behalf of

Natural England

JULY 2013

REPORT FOR Natural England
c/o The Estate Office
Blenheim Palace
Woodstock
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CONTENTS

	Page
<i>Summary</i>	<i>1</i>
1 INTRODUCTION	1
1.1 Site Location	1
1.2 Planning Background	4
1.3 Archaeological Background	4
2 AIMS OF THE INVESTIGATION	16
3 STRATEGY	16
3.1 Research Design	16
3.2 Methodology	16
4 RESULTS	16
4.1 Phase 1: Probably pre-Imperial	16
4.2 Phase 2: c. 1765 or later	19
5 FINDS	24
5.1 Pottery	24
6 DISCUSSION	24
7 ARCHIVE	26
8 BIBLIOGRAPHY	26
9 GAZATTEER – INVENTORY OF CONTEXTS	28

FIGURES & PLATES

Figure 1	Site location	2
Figure 2	Trench location and approximate culvert location	3
Figure 3	Map of 1705	11
Figure 4	Bridgeman Map of 1709	12
Figure 5	Vitruvius Britannicus Map of 1719	12
Figure 6	Map of 1722	13
Figure 7	Pride's Map of 1806	14
Figure 8	Map of 1863	14
Figure 9	Plans and sections	17
Figure 10	Plans and sections	18
Plate 1	Trench 8 pits	19
Plate 2	Trench 2 culvert	20
Plate 3	Trench 3 culvert	21
Plate 4	Trench 4 culvert	21
Plate 5	Trench 5 culvert	22
Plate 6	Trench 7 culvert	23
Plate 7	Trench 8 culvert	23

Summary

John Moore Heritage Services undertook an evaluation in the northwest part of Blenheim Park in the vicinity of Mapleton Pond (SP 41810 17400) and in the Mapleton Valley or Combe Bottom (NGR SP 41752 17206). The aim of the report was to identify the remains of a culvert system that runs from Mapleton Pond to the Lake in Blenheim Park for the Blenheim Estate Management. The culvert was identified (central point SP 41752 17206) and although the lower part of the culvert was found to be operational, the upper part of the culvert has been found to have been damaged by tree roots and badger activity, thus causing problems to drainage capacity in the upper part of the valley and flooding in the valley. Two undated pits were also detected in the evaluation (SP 42310 16453) adjacent to the culvert in Trench 8, and also what may be part of a rammed surface in a cut (SP 42531 16462) in Trench 9. These were not to be further disturbed so were left unexcavated and undated as they were not the primary reason for the evaluation in the first place.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Site Location (Figure 1)

The research area was located in the western valley of Blenheim Park and parish (NGR SP 41752 17206). Mapleton Pond lies at the north end of the research area, and the Lake, created by Lancelot Brown at the southern end. The east and west sides of the research area was defined by the bluffs that exist along either side of the valley.

Blenheim parish has not always existed and is a fairly recent creation. Parts of the parkland are previously considered to have been located in the parishes of Wootton to the northeast and Bladon to the east and southeast. The area of Hensgrove was formerly in the chapelry of Hensington, formerly attached to the church of Bladon. Hensington takes its name from the Heningas, a folk-group that previously occupied the Lower Glyme valley, adjacent parts of the Evenlode, and the adjacent uplands (Gelling 1954). The name may be derived from a former lost river name. The northwest part of the park was considered to be part of an extra-parochial area of the Forest of Wychwood.

The site lies in a valley between 76m and 104m OD. The valley falls away from north to south, before turning to the southeast and then heading in an eastern direction.

The underlying geology has been interpreted by the British Geological Survey (web page) as White Limestone Formation dated 164-169 million years ago, which was laid down in the Jurassic period. There are indications in the valley of Head, a clay, silt, sand and gravel deposit considered to have formed 2million years ago in the Quaternary period. These interpretations are problematic in the light of the evaluation excavations carried out in the valley. The archaeological investigations indicate previously that there was a marl clay material along the whole length of the valley and that there were deep deposits of dumped make-up layer over the culvert.

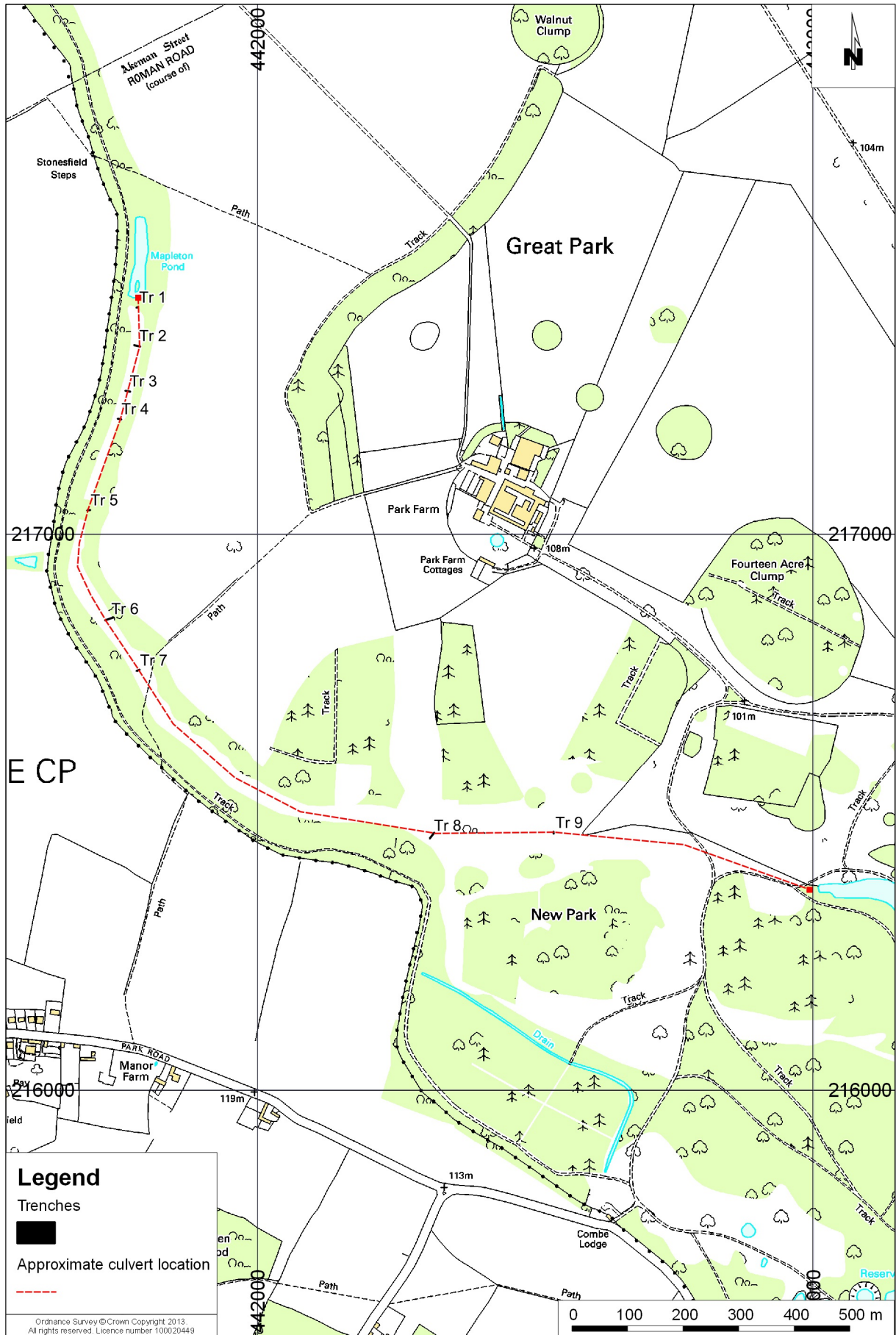


Figure 2. Trench locations and approximate culvert location

1.2 Project Background

The evaluation was carried out as part of a research project. This investigation was carried out at the behest of Blenheim Park estate management and English Nature to ascertain how the pond drained and what problems had arisen with this system. Archaeological work was carried out in line with general guidance from the Institute of Field Archaeologists and English Heritage.

As a result of this activity further rebuilding work will probably be arranged.

1.3 Archaeological Background

Activity has been identified across the park, which is dated to a number of early periods. These have all been listed as two undated pits were identified and though they cannot as yet be dated it is apparent that the background material and our historical knowledge is likely to imply that undated features could be placed roughly into any pre-medieval period. The following account includes monuments recognised in the land to the northeast and southwest of the Mapleton Valley.

An hour-glass perforated quartzite pebble macehead was found in Blenheim Park (UID 336688: SP 44 15). The find is imprecisely located and dated as stone maceheads were used in Northern Europe from the Mesolithic through to the early Bronze Age. A Mesolithic blade or flake was found in Blenheim Park (UID 336696: SP 44 16), and is now at Eton College Museum. The find is poorly located within the area of the park. Neolithic flint flakes have been recovered from Blenheim Park (14386-MOX1585: SP 4161 1812). A flint celt was recovered from Blenheim Park (PRN 5271; WA4), but its co-ordinates are to imprecisely placed.

The remains of a Bronze Age bowl barrow 14m in diameter and 0.3m high (12743-MOX261: SP 4303 1807; WA5). The barrow is located on a ridge 350m southwest of Furze Platt Farm and is 14m in diameter and 0.3m high. There is a depression in the centre of the mound that is considered to be from a possible excavation.

The Grim's Ditch is a scheduled ancient monument catalogued by the NMR as LINEAR 67: SP 429 183 to SP 402 216, and is, therefore, of national importance. There are two related archaeological events on this stretch of the monument, the first at Starveall Farm (EHEN 1456496) just to the north of the park, and a further event at North Lodge inside the park (see below). A number of sections of the Grim's Ditch have been noted as surviving as earthworks running across the northern part of the current Blenheim Park. The first of these contains two sections of rampart and associated ditches either side of a 4m wide entrance (2417-MOX273: SP 4268 1831, WA6). This section of the Grim's Ditch is associated with an entrance through the bank along which Akeman Street runs, however, the entrance is now considered to be pre-existing. The second section of the Grim's Ditch (17195-MOX290: SP 4223 1875, WA7) is located to the west-southwest of Ditchley Gate. Here there is an 80m section that is terminated in a butt-ended ditch, with evidence of a rampart, berm, ditch and in-filled palisade trench. An archaeological watching brief in 2011 along the line of a new trackway identified the remains of a wide ditch that was thought to be associated with the adjacent Grim's Ditch (27462-MOX23971: SP 42619 18230). There were also indications of Iron Age settlement outside the line of the Grim's Ditch.

The remains of a rectangular cropmark has been identified and interpreted as a late prehistoric enclosure (5312-MOX1514, EOX3171, EHEN 1553915: SP 4210 1835). Later prehistoric can be interpreted as Bronze Age or Iron Age, the latter is statistically more likely to include this monument. There are two undated circular features in the park (EHUID 336685: SP 430 181). These have been interpreted as possible round houses of a possible Bronze Age, Iron Age or early Roman date.

The major Roman feature in the park is Akeman Street that runs east to west and is the Roman road from Alchester in the east to Cirencester in the west, the tribal capitol of the Dobunni in whose territory the Cotswolds predominantly lay. The western section of Akeman Street (8921-MOX1703: SP 4205 1800: NMR LINEAR 211, WA9) contains a road and roadside ditches. The road is normally noticed through the identification of its roadside ditches. The road cuts through the Grim's Ditch but the route is considered to be pre-existing (2417-MOX273: SP 4268 1831); at this point one has to presume the existence of an earlier prehistoric trackway. Observations were made on the construction of the construction of Akeman Street (27462-MOX23971, EOX3171: SP 42619 18239). The road eventually heads from Alchester to Verulamium or St Albans, which means that it curves northwards before heading south again. One reason suggested for this line is that it avoided the territory of the Atrebates, which when this road was laid was the site of a client kingdom, and presumably had some autonomy from the Roman Legions.

The probable site of a Roman period temple in a square earthwork 19m square with an entrance on the southeast corner (12740-MOX262: SP 4340 1626: UID 970346: SP 4339 1625, WA8). The site overlooks the Glyme Valley to the east and is located where a tributary of the Glyme that rises in Mapleton Well approaches its confluence with the Glyme to the south. The site of a Roman Villa at Woodstock is known from aerial photographs at Woodstock (UID 336708: SP 44 15). The co-ordinates given imprecisely locate the site.

Roman artefacts have been recovered from a number of sites across the park; a number of these were reported in the Victoria County History of 1939 and also marked on OS maps at the Ashmolean Museum. The most elaborate of these finds is a Roman ornament bearing a Medusa mask reportedly found by or on the line of Akeman Street in Blenheim Park in 1810 (UID 336680: SP 42 16). The object has been compared to two other Roman military medals in the Ashmolean Museum. Roman coins have also been recovered from a number of sites including that marked on an OS map (5790-MOX1540, UID 336653: SP 434 183 / 4340 1840, WA12). Roman coins from near the site of the Old Palace in 1791 reported in the VCH (5791-MOX1541, UID 336679: SP 439 166, WA13). The VCH record a further group of Roman coins from Blenheim Park, not precisely located, that included those of the Emperors Vespasian, Gallienus, Tetricus I and II, Carausius, Constantine and Valentinian (PRN 5793 (?); UID 336678: SP 42 16, WA14). A Roman coin of Aurelius was recovered from the area of Dog Kennel Hill in 1911 (UID 336676: SP 42 15), on the southwest border of Blenheim Park. In some cases the finds simply include Roman pottery sherds (1287-MOX1444, UID 336653: SP 4341 1839, WA17; 1299-MOX1446, UID 336656: SP 4210 1863, WA16). Roman pottery has been recovered from the northwest of Rosamund's Well (9853-MOX1559: SP 4350 1646, WA15). The VCH (1990, 430-1) considers that Roman settlement is likely near Ditchley Gate and southeast of Furze Platt.

The Mapleton Bottom or Combe Bottom, as it is known in its lower stages, was recorded as the site of a vast burial ground in the 18th century (VCH 1990, 430-1). The site is described as being on a northeast bluff above the valley but besides this is imprecisely located.

Aethelred II (979-1016) held council at Woodstock (UID 336666: SP 4392 1657), a claim which has led to the suggestion that a 10th century Royal Place once existed on the location of the later palace and manor house (VCH 1990, 430-1, 435-9). Though there is no physical evidence to confirm such claims there is also no clear indications to dismiss the claim. Such a palace if it did exist could have been on the location of the old palace or could be under the town of Woodstock or even at Bladon (the mother church to which Woodstock was attached), or even at Wootton where the large pre-Conquest estate of Wotton appears to be focused (VCH 1990, 435-9), including Bladon, Hensington, Woodstock and Handborough.

An early medieval pottery scatter has been located in Blenheim Park (PRN 16083: SP 44480 18040, WA18). The footings of an early boundary wall were uncovered in New Woodstock. The foundation cut truncated a pit containing 11th century pottery (UID 765791: SP 4438 1679).

A feature recognised as lying between the Icehouse Clump and Fishery Cottage has been described by the HER as a bank and ditch with terrace, a linear earthwork on a bluff overlooking Fishery Cottage, a boundary bank or park pale, and even a post-medieval trackway (1316-MOX1450: SP 4390 1719, WA35). The NMR notes this feature has the ditch and bank of an enclosure (UID 336660: SP 4388 1723), but other NMR records imply that it must be the remains of a park boundary bank that predates the expansion of the park by Henry I in 1111-1114. The names Old and Woodstock may have implications and ties to this feature. Historically the name of Woodstock has been recorded since c. 1000 as *Wudestoce* and in various later forms *Wodestoch* in 1086 and medieval *Woudestocham* (Gelling 1954, 292-3). The etymology given by Gelling is Old English **wudu stoc**, place in the woods. However, the vague concept of place is possibly misleading and it is possible that **stoc** may simply be a variant of Old English **stoc**, tree-stumps, and that the name refers to a stockade or palisade in the woods around the woods or made of wood; hence the pre-1111 boundary of a park or hunting ground (see below). The other part of the name Old implies that this area north of the River Glyme predates that south of the Glyme. The term Old is recognised as an Old English component of place-names to refer to features that from the early medieval period to the post-medieval period were considered to have anthropogenic features of an early date. These features are often Iron Age or Roman in date, if not earlier and often occurs in the forms Oldbury, Oldland, Oldtown and other variations. If this was the case then the site could be the remains of an Iron Age hill-fort that was slighted during the construction of the park.

The remains of Woodstock Royal Palace (**30**) or Manor House (D2563-MOX1454, UID 336666: SP 4392 1657, WA23) have been considered as the location of an early medieval palace or site (see above), but there is insufficient evidence to support this. The palace or manor house is known to have been in existence from the reign of Henry I and first documented in 1129. Historically the site has been referred to as Woodstock manor or Woodstock Castle. Henry III is known to have carried out extensive building work on the site and made it one of his most frequented palaces. The site was the birthplace of several royal children. Descriptions of the building in

1634 and c. 1670 state that this was the location of an aisled hall of 12th century origin, with round headed arches, an under-croft and crenulations (VCH 1990, 435-439). The house was in a state of disrepair in the 16th century and was restored in the 17th century. The residence was occupied by Vanbrugh while he built the present Blenheim Palace and demolished in 1720. The material from the old palace was used in the Grand Bridge and Causeway. The site is believed to have been a motte and bailey linked to Rosamund's Well.

A medieval chapel is reported as being part of the Royal Manorial complex, besides the chapel at Rosamund's Well. The chapel thus requires its own number as a distinct part of the religious complex (suggested SP 4380 1650). If the chapel lay between the Royal Palace and Rosamund's Well it could conceivably be located under part of the Causeway of the Grand Bridge or in the Lake. The Royal Chapel is mentioned in 1186 as being repaired, and again in c. 1233 (VCH 1990, 435-9). In 1599 this chapel is described as being round in shape. This structure is an important building that was considered to be an important part of the king's palace complex. Other important features that are mentioned in conjunction with the king's palace is the conduit built in 1498-9 (VCH 1990, 435-9). The conduit was a vaulted tunnel leading to the king's house, built of lead and wood and in some places stone piers were built to carry it across the valley. This conduit supplied a fountain in the king's court recorded 1593-5. There were royal baths, and an associated cistern house near Rosamund's Well. The conduit is said to have approached the palace from the southwest.

Fair Rosamund's Well or Bower (**31**) was recorded in 1165/6 as Everswell. It was built by King Henry II adjacent to the Royal Manor of Woodstock, for his mistress "fair" Rosamund de Clifford, as a bathing place in her bower (1318-MOX1451, UID 336661: SP 4365 1646, WA24).

The claimed location of the motte and bailey of the Adulterine Castle (**33**) at Ice Clump (2564-MOX1713: SP 4385 1730; UID 1440927: SP 4399 1734, WA21). The mound is covered in trees. The castle has little evidence of its existence from documentation; it is believed that if it is a castle that it dates from the Civil War period between Stephen and Matilda. The site has seen heavy quarrying and only 40% of the original site is believed to survive, the site is located on the edge of a possible early medieval or Iron Age enclosure.

Woodstock Deer Park was reputedly the first deer park to be enclosed with stone walls by Henry I variously dated 1111 or 1113/4 (11676-MOX1704: SP 433 158; UID 1031399: SP 4165 1710 to 4270 1770, WA19). The park was reputedly a menagerie with lions, leopards, lynxes, camels and porcupines. The exact circuit and extent of the walls of the park are not known, but Rous stated that the walls were 7 miles in circuit. It is also considered that the northern part of the park is old and that it is not part of Henry Lee's extension in 1570. Towards the western edge of the present park the area of the old park is separated by a high bank and ditch from the new park. The Bladon line is considered original by some and an extension of the 16th century by others. A number of medieval lodges are recorded (VCH 1990, 439-48); the Great Gate in 1260 (SP 44300 16750), the Bladon Gate in the 16th century, the Podde Gate in the 13th century, the Combe Gate of the 16th century (which probably replaced the earlier Cheyne Gate).

A number of boundary banks may date to phases of the high medieval parkland. This includes a linear boundary bank considered to be medieval (2559-MOX1453: SP 4212 1830; UID 336654: SP 4212 1830, WA20). This linear bank underlies a rectangular and diagonal cropmark. The Park Walls surrounding Blenheim are probably medieval in date with later alterations 1722-29 (UID 1031677: SP 4173 1755), this interpretation is problematic and the site appears to have been expanded on most sides.

A linear bank and ditch 230m long and orientated north to south survives to a width of 4m and is 0.3m high (WA10009: SP 43725 17084). This is associated with ridge and furrow, and may be a park boundary bank which the agriculture respects. There is evidence for ridge and furrow (WA10009: SP 43725 17084) on recent oblique aerial photographs and reported in the winter of 1981-2.

The liberate Rolls and the Close Rolls refer to several fishponds in the park (12760-MOX1574, UID 1031442: SP 441 166). The earliest account of repairs is in 1227 and again in 1238, 1241, 1251, 1301, and 1304. By 1252 there were three fishponds. The accounts refer to bays, dams, sluices and causeways. They were stocked with pike and eels, and there are also accounts of poaching. Two of the fishponds can be placed from the plan of the park of 1725 by the Vitruvius Britannicus. The fishpond called the King's Pool or Stew (SP 4405 1655) lay between two causeways in the Glyme Valley, known as the Upper and Lower Causeways. The original Queen's Pool fishpond is considered to be located near Fishery Cottage (SP 43900 17000). Aerial photographs of the Lake show two rectangular areas in the Mapleton Valley arm of the lake as if two causeways or dams were constructed across the valley prior to the flooding of the lake in c. 1765 (SP 43350 16475).

Parch-marks and earthworks exist on the west side of Blenheim Lake that show the remains of a large rectangular building and stone revetting (10923-MOX1563: SP 439 170; UID 336686 SP 4386 1694, WA26). This has been interpreted as part of a watermill, moat and fishery. The features are imprecisely dated but must predate the construction of the imperial lake. In the 14th century there is a textual source that states that in 1334 Edward III ordered the removal of a mill from Woodstock Park. A map of 1725 indicates that this is the location of a moat.

The remains of a medieval causeway to Woodstock (4891-MOX2925: SP 4408 1642), is mentioned in textual sources as being repaired 1248-9. Plot's print indicates the course of the causeway that includes Queen Elizabeth Island. This causeway is the Lower Causeway. The remains of a further medieval causeway are known to the north of the King's Pool or Stew (VCH 1990, 435-9). This causeway was called the Upper Causeway (SP 44100 16600).

The well at Mapleton Pond is considered to have a medieval or a post-medieval origin (1313-MOX1449: SP 4181 1740). The NMR describes this as medieval or later and being located near Stansfield Stile (UID 336659: SP 4181 1742). At the north end of the pond, where water bubbles up into the pond, it is presumed that this is the feeder spring. A circular pond is shown on the Blenheim Park map of 1705 (BPA 1705-23, Fig. 3), while no pond is apparent on the map of 1709 (BPA 1709 Bridgeman, Fig. 4). The 1705 map indicates that there was some feature here prior to 1705, which would support a medieval or an early post-medieval date. The shape of the pond can be seen to change from the map of 1705 to that of 1719 (BPA 1719 Vitruvius Brit, Fig. 5),

where the pond is a long elongated shape. This implies that the southern end of the present pond was initially damned or the site excavated 1705-19 (SP 41759 17400).

There is a round enclosure covering 4 acres believed to be medieval, but could be reused, with a central moat that has to be medieval and sections of bank and ditch (4296-MOX1465: SP 4303 1558; UID 336669: SP 4304 1554, WA25). The site is associated with that of the Foresters Lodge granted by King John to Thomas of Langele in 1230. John Wilmot, Earl of Rochester, resided at the lodge during the reign of Charles II. Observations have failed to locate any earlier evidence of the medieval lodge believed to lie in the area (EOX631: SP 4303 1557). One problem with some of this interpretation is that High Lodge is located in an area of the park called New Park, which was incorporated into the parkland c. 1570. Other medieval Lodges are known about (VCH 1990, 439-48) including the Gorrell Lodge of the 14th century (SP 42460 18370), and the New Lodge. The Hensgrove or Hengrave Lodge (SP44610 14536) was located in the Lower Park, previously called Hensgrove. Hensgrove was acquired by the Templars in the 12th century (VCH 1990, 439-48), and was separately enclosed.

The remains of ten pillow mounds and an associated enclosure c. 150m square of a medieval to post-medieval date (12517-MOX263, UID 1085332: SP 4233 1611, WA22), lying 300m northwest of Combe Lodge. The remains of the enclosure contain two linear ditches on the northeast and northwest sides. Two other warrens are recorded (VCH 1990, 439-48); Coneygarth Warren near the King's House in the 16th century, and a warren near Home Lodge in the 18th century, none are properly dated.

Medieval artefacts have been recovered at a number of sites across the park. Pottery dated from the 14th to the 16th centuries has been recovered from near Rosamund's Well (3798-MOX1460: SP 4366 1645, WA28). In 1990 a beech tree blew over, which uncovered medieval pottery, tile, animal bone and oyster shell (14387-MOX1586: SP 4420 1679, WA27). A medieval iron arrowhead was found in Blenheim Park (PRN 5192: undefined), there are no precise co-ordinates for this find.

The park is speculatively considered to be the site of a deserted medieval village (DMV) and there are recognised indications of some houses and stone pits (4872-MOX1475: SP 440 172). A 15th century tradition claimed that when the park was created that Henry I destroyed many villages and that the Old Woodstock settlement was moved out of the park.

A number of undated features occur in the park which must be pre-Imperial in date. The remains of an undated linear feature (1312-MOX1448: SP 4190 1741, WA52) have been noted to the east of Mapleton Pond. The NMR describes a feature in this location (possibly the same) as a cropmark with two linear cuts (UID 336658: SP 4191 1733). The feature is possibly marked on the Tithe Map of 1863 as a feature that crosses Mapleton Pond and emerges on the other side, thus implying that it predates the creation of the pond. A pre-late 18th century boundary bank (WA10000: SP 44842 15317). The bank is 10m wide, 0.3m high and runs for 200m downslope. The site is associated with a mound with a 5m diameter and 0.4m high. The site of a pre-late 18th century boundary (WA10001: SP 42518 16078). The park was extended in 1780. The site is located in woodland. The remains of four low linear mounds 0.5m high and 20m long bisected by a road (WA10002: SP 43407 17402). The remains of 4 to 5 amorphous low mounds in an area 25m square and 0.3m high (SP 42970 17802). A

hollow and mound (WA10004: SP 42645 18131). The hollow is 3m wide and 0.3m deep. The mound has a 4m diameter and is 0.4m high. The remains of an earthwork ditch 230m long and 40m wide (problematic) being 0.4m deep (WA10005: SP 42488 18665). In the feature is as ruinous narrow brick culvert possibly of the late 19th century, visible either side of the road. The ditch is visible only within the avenue. A linear ditch possibly contemporary with Akeman Street (WA10006: SP 42675 18317), running 40m to the south, being 8m wide and 0.4m deep. A bank and ditch running 125m being 3m wide and 0.5m deep (WA10007: SP 43090 16636). There is a curved field boundary. A series of unconnected low linear mounds 60m long and 0.3m high (WA10008: SP 44891 15511) located to the south of the Kitchen Garden wall. A watching brief along the line of a new gas pipeline noted earlier cultivation soils in the park (EOX1282: SP 442 162, WA54) and an earlier cobbled surface under the Kitchen Court (presumably of an 18th century date). The cultivation soils are presumably dated to pre-18th century or pre-Medieval in date, but would indicate that the land to the south east of the River Glyme in which the present palace now stands may not have been part of the original park, or if it was then it may have been enclosed agricultural plots inside the parkland.

Aerial photographs show the remains of a boundary bank in the northwest quarter of the park, which is considered to be an earlier boundary of the park (12741-MOX1572: SP 4178 1799, WA42), undated. This is a linear running northeast of Mapleton Pond and which then runs along the edge of the valley slope. The ditch has been associated with the Elizabethan enlargement of the park in 1576. A Deer Leap at Blenheim Park is located 200m east of the Gorrel Doors (12742-MOX1573: SP 4173 1830, WA38). This is also considered to be part of the medieval or post-medieval park.

Furzy Ground is considered to be an addition to the park in 1660. The extension contained a dozen pillow mounds (UID 1031444: SP 4372 1742 to SP 4390 1725). Gelling has noted in her studies in Warwickshire that the word furze occurs on Iron Age hill-forts and other earthworks. There are two other isolated pillow mounds in the area. The remains of a possible pillow mound of a rectangular shape overlooking Fishery Cottage (12737-MOX1569: SP 4381 1727, WA37). The monument measures approximately 6.5m long by 2m wide and 1.5m high. There is a further possible pillow mound on sloping ground to the west of the Icehouse (12738-MOX1570: SP 4372 1736, catalogued as WA2). These could be medieval or post-medieval in date.

The remains of an earthwork enclosure interpreted as a tree ring (12739-MOX15711: SP 4343 1636, WA33) have been noted 240m west-southwest of Rosamund's Well. The circular enclosure has a narrow ditch outside the bank and is considered to be post-medieval in date. The site is located in an area now used for pasture.

Blenheim Park (PRN 15006-MOX1717: SP 42 17; UID 336705: SP 43490 16655) is an extensive area of parkland dating from the 18th century, but with later 19th and 20th century alterations. The park has a number of development phases: 1705-22 by Henry Wise and Sir John Vanburgh, 1764 by Lancelot Brown, 1908-30 formal gardens by Achelle Duchene. The site is a registered park and garden grade I. The main structure is the Palace by John Vanbrugh and Nicholas Hawksmoor dated 1706-19 (PRN 15007-MOX1718: SP 441 160; UID 336672: SP 44084 16119), a grade I listed building. The palace is mentioned here just too briefly give context to the other archaeological (manmade objects) in the park. The palace and park are named after the Battle of Blenheim, an event which marked a pivotal point in Europe's past, and

heralded a British age of Imperialism. The imperial features to the southeast of the River Glyme have not been recorded.

An Icehouse is catalogued at Blenheim (321-MOX3785: SP 4505 1633). The construction of this Icehouse at Blenheim can be dated by two letters the first dated 1707 when the Duke wrote home from a European Grand Tour (Buxbaum 1992: 4), thus providing a date for construction 1707-10. The probable location of another Icehouse not dated but generally classed as post-medieval or 18th century (4220-MOX1712: SP 438 173, WA41) has been discussed. The site is considered to be located in a large quarry on top of a bluff. The Grand Bridge was designed by Vanbrugh in 1706-12 (4909-MOX1489: SP 4390 1642; UID 336702: SP 439 164). It is an ashlar limestone bridge with a semi-circular archway flanked by projecting bays, a grade I structure.

The North Lodge or the Gamekeepers Lodge was marked on a plan of 1710 and labelled *Brigadr Cadogan's Seat* (4921-MOX1501: SP 4246 1837). The walls of outbuildings have been uncovered by excavation (EOX1791).

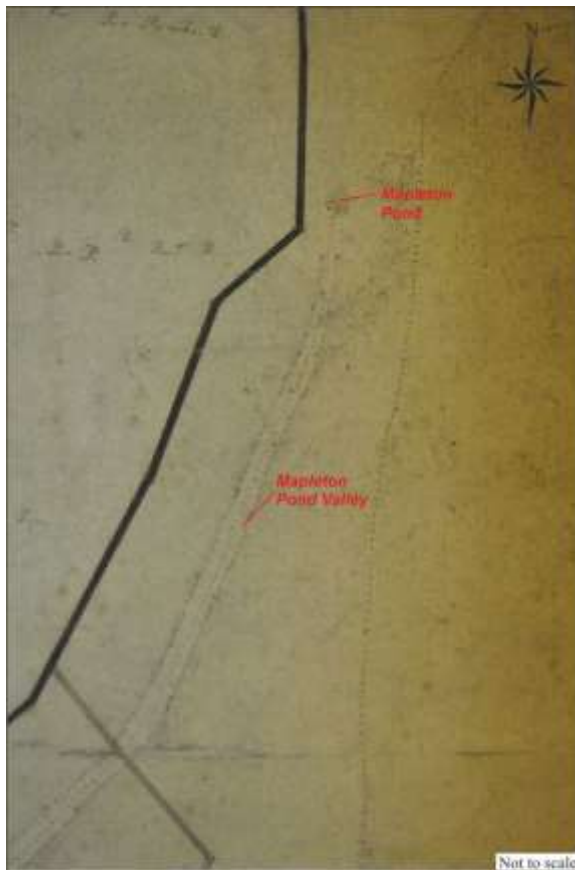


Figure 3, Map of 1705 (Blenheim Archive)

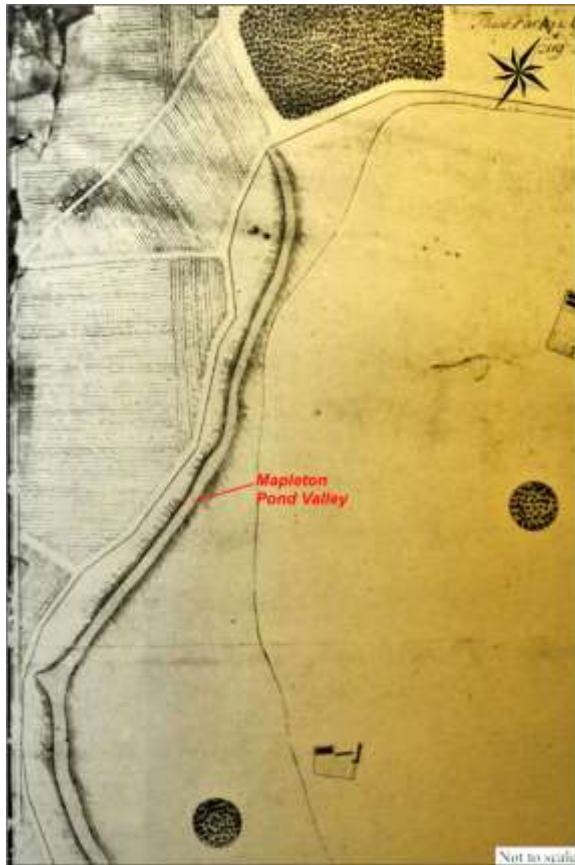


Figure 4, Bridgeman Map of 1709 (Blenheim Archive)

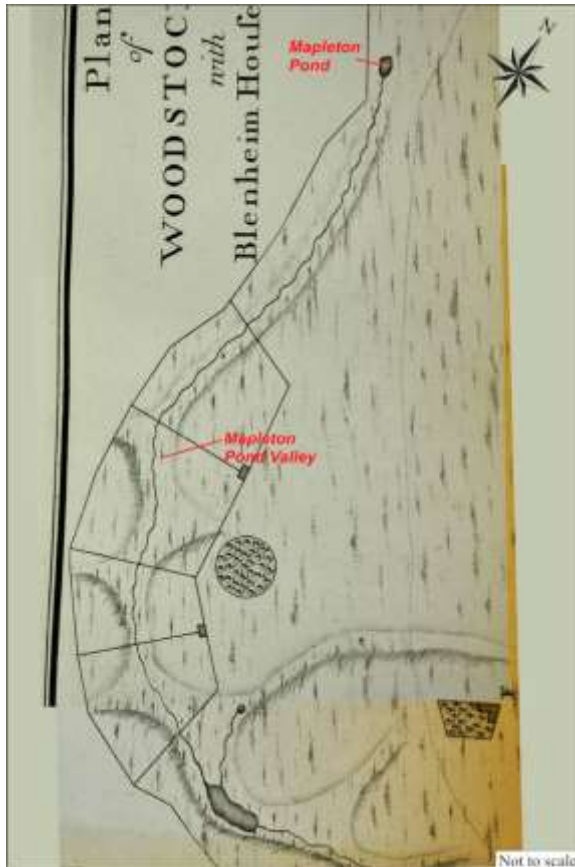


Figure 5, Vitruvius Britannicus map of 1719 (Blenheim Archive)

Though Mapleton Pond is on the map of 1705 (BPA 1705-23, Fig. 3), the pond can be seen to take on a distinctively different shape at some date between the map of 1705 (BPA 1709 Bridgeman, Fig. 4) and the map of 1719 (BPA 1719 Vitruvius Brit, Fig. 5). In the latter the pond is elongated and one has to presume that a dam was built across the stream at the end of the pond or that the pond was excavated 1705-19 (SP 41759 17400). Mapleton Pond is also shown on maps date 1772 (Fig. 6) 1789, 1806 (Fig. 7), and 1863 (Fig. 8).

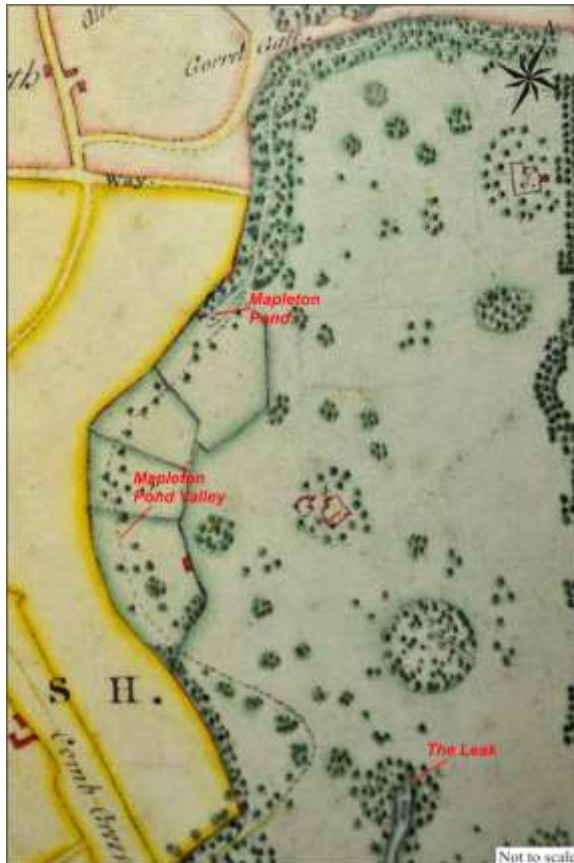


Figure 6, Map of 1772 (Blenheim Archive)

The map of 1719 (BPA 1719 Vitruvius Brit) shows a number of other features in the vicinity of the Mapleton Valley. There is a lake located in the valley to the north of New Park (SP 4225 1650), with a pond in the small valet heading north towards Park Farm (SP 4225 1685). There is a further pond located outside the parkland (SP 4160 1695) on later Ordnance Survey maps.

Two buildings are located on the map of 1719 (BPA 1719 Vitruvius Brit) on the plateau area between Park Farm and the Mapleton Valley in an area of the park that was fenced off and called the Paddocks. The Paddocks are shown on later maps. On the map of 1789 (BPA 1789 Thos Price) one building has disappeared and the other has become a group of three buildings called the Paddocks. All these buildings are substantially different to the shape of the building shown on earlier maps.



Figure 7, Pride's Map of 1806 (Blenheim Archive)

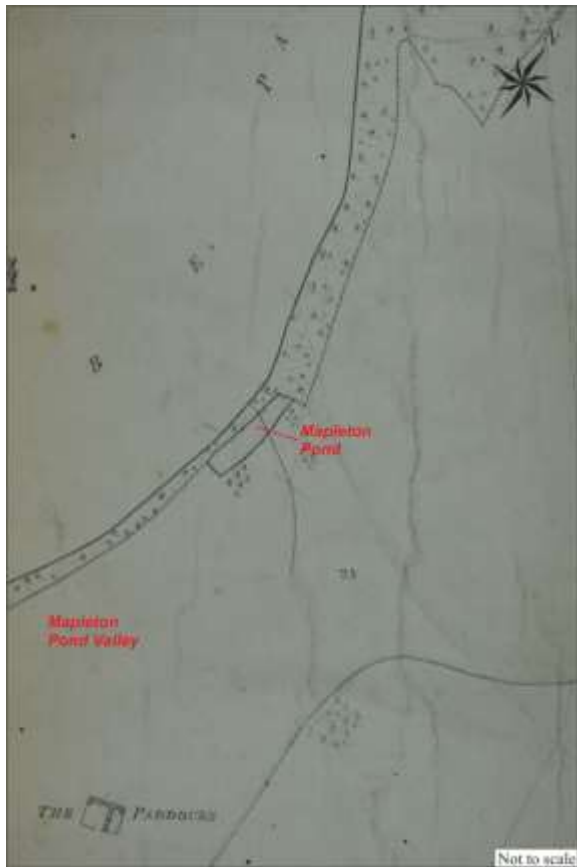


Figure 8, Map of 1863 (Blenheim Archive)

The formal or ornamental canal scheme of c. 1744 (10995-MOX1565, UID 1031426: SP 435 162, WA32) by Colonel Armstrong survives as images of three canals and other features under the later Lake surface. The river Glyme was split into three canals. The main canal which ran under the Grand Bridge with side canals that fed Aldersea's water engine. A further canal has been identified running southeast from the Round Pond. They formed a symmetrical arrangement that echoed the design and layout of the palace. The canal appears in engravings in 1752. The canals were in-filled or rather flooded c. 1765.

The Column of Victory was constructed 1727-30 and was designed by N Hawksmoor (8780-MOX1549: SP 4351 1699); it is a fluted Doric column 134ft (40.84m) high. The statue is that of John Churchill, first duke of Marlborough, and the masons Townsend and Peisley. A grade I structure.

The Fishery Cottage House is of the mid to late 18th century (24721-MOX21314: SP 43866 17088; UID 1031475: SP 4388 1709). The building is of coursed limestone rubble with a three unit plan, two storeys and attic, with a three window range; a grade II structure.

The High Lodge and attached walls were a hunting lodge and now house dated c. 1750-1768 by Capability Brown (4297-MOX1466, UID 336669: SP 4304 1554). The site was the residence of rangers of Woodstock Park Crown estate and is thus considered the location of a medieval lodge.

The Lake and Queen's Pool were a creation of the landscape garden of Capability Brown in c. 1765. That the water level was raised is apparent from descriptions of earlier drowned landscape features in the Lake base, such as the medieval causeway and canals. This implies that the water level has been artificially raised and that there has to be a dam near to the south end of the lake or that the ground level around here has been significantly altered to create this affect (SP 437 152). There is presumably a dam or further ground alterations at the end of the smaller Lower Lake near Lince Bridge to raise the water level here (SP 4417 1440).

Further landscaping of c. 1765 is possible in the Mapleton Valley in the west of the park. The 1719 map (BPA 1719 Vitruvius Brit) shows a stream in this valley but this feature and the accompanying lakes and ponds below Mapleton Pond are gone by the map of 1789 (BPA 1789 Thos Price), which implies that the natural stream has probably been placed in a culvert.

The Park Farm or Model Farm and Cottages were built in c. 1768 by Lancelot Brown (4919-MOX1499: SP 4247 1703; UID 1031691: SP 42453 17021), constructed as a menagerie for the fourth duke. Further buildings were constructed and the Park Farm remodelled c. 1858. The other buildings include a granary, carthorse stables, cart sheds and carter's house. A map of 1789 (BPA 1789 Thos Price) shows Park Farm surrounded by a circular feature that is labelled the Menagerie.

The Ditchley Gate was constructed 1781 by John Yenn, with limestone piers and a wrought iron gates (UID 1031463: SP 4230 1886), a grade II listed structure. Hawksmoor designed the originals but they were never constructed.

Ditchley Lodge is also of c. 1860 but with later alterations (24713-MOX20560: SP 42331 18840; UID 1031474: SP 4233 1884). The structure is of limestone ashlar with Welsh slate roof, set in a one storey three window range, and is a grade II building.

2 AIMS OF THE INVESTIGATION

The aims of the investigation as were as follows:

- To provide an assessment and survey of land in the Mapleton Valley.

In particular:

- To identify the line of a culvert that from map evidence must be located in the valley.

3 STRATEGY

3.1 Research Design

John Moore Heritage Services carried out the work to a proposed research design agreed with the Estate Management Team and Natural England.

The recording was carried out in accordance with the standards specified by the Institute for Archaeologists (1994).

3.2 Methodology

Nine evaluation trenches were located across the valley at various points along the course of the valley.

Standard John Moore Heritage Services techniques were employed throughout, involving the completion of a written record for each deposit encountered, with scale plans and section drawings compiled where appropriate. A photographic record was also produced.

4 RESULTS (Figure 2)

The natural in Trenches 3, 4, 6 and 7 was layers (3/5), (4/5), (6/5) and (7/6) a highly compact white grey marl clay. The natural in Trenches 2, 5, 8 and 9 were layers (2/7), (5/3), (8/3) and (9/7) that was a compact brown grey marl clay. The deposits were undoubtedly all part of the same layer, but there was slight variation in the colour noted, possibly through weather conditions or during deposition.

Phase 1: Probably pre-Imperial

In Trench 8 the remains of two pits were identified (Fig. 10). Cut 8/7 was a circular or oval pit for which only half of the size of the pit was probably revealed. This would mean that the feature had a radius of about 1.3m. The fill (8/8) was a compact mid dark brown silt clay. Cut 8/9 was a circular or oval pit, for which limited scraping determined that this had steep sides. The fill (8/10) was a compact grey black silt clay

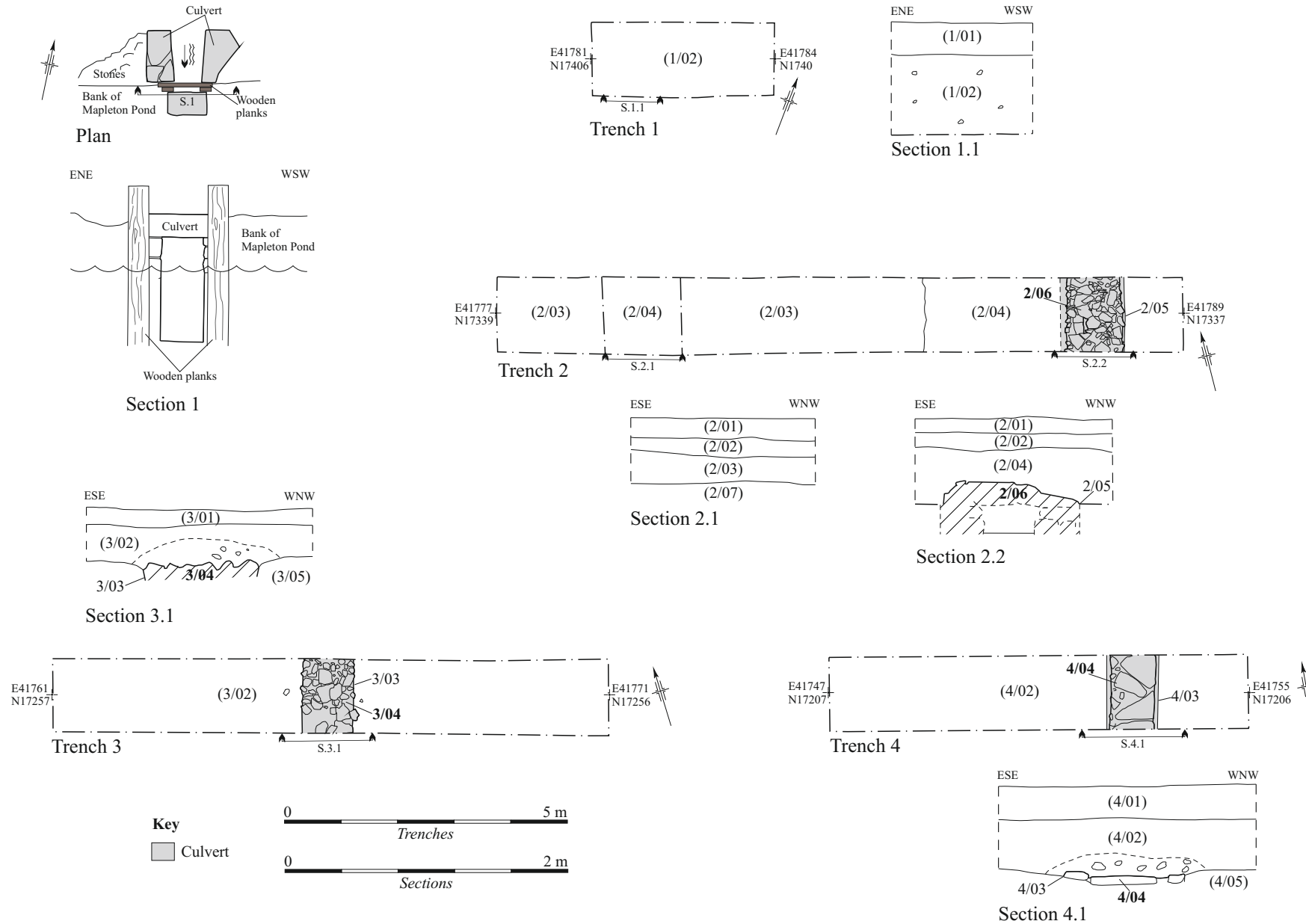


Figure 9. Plans and sections

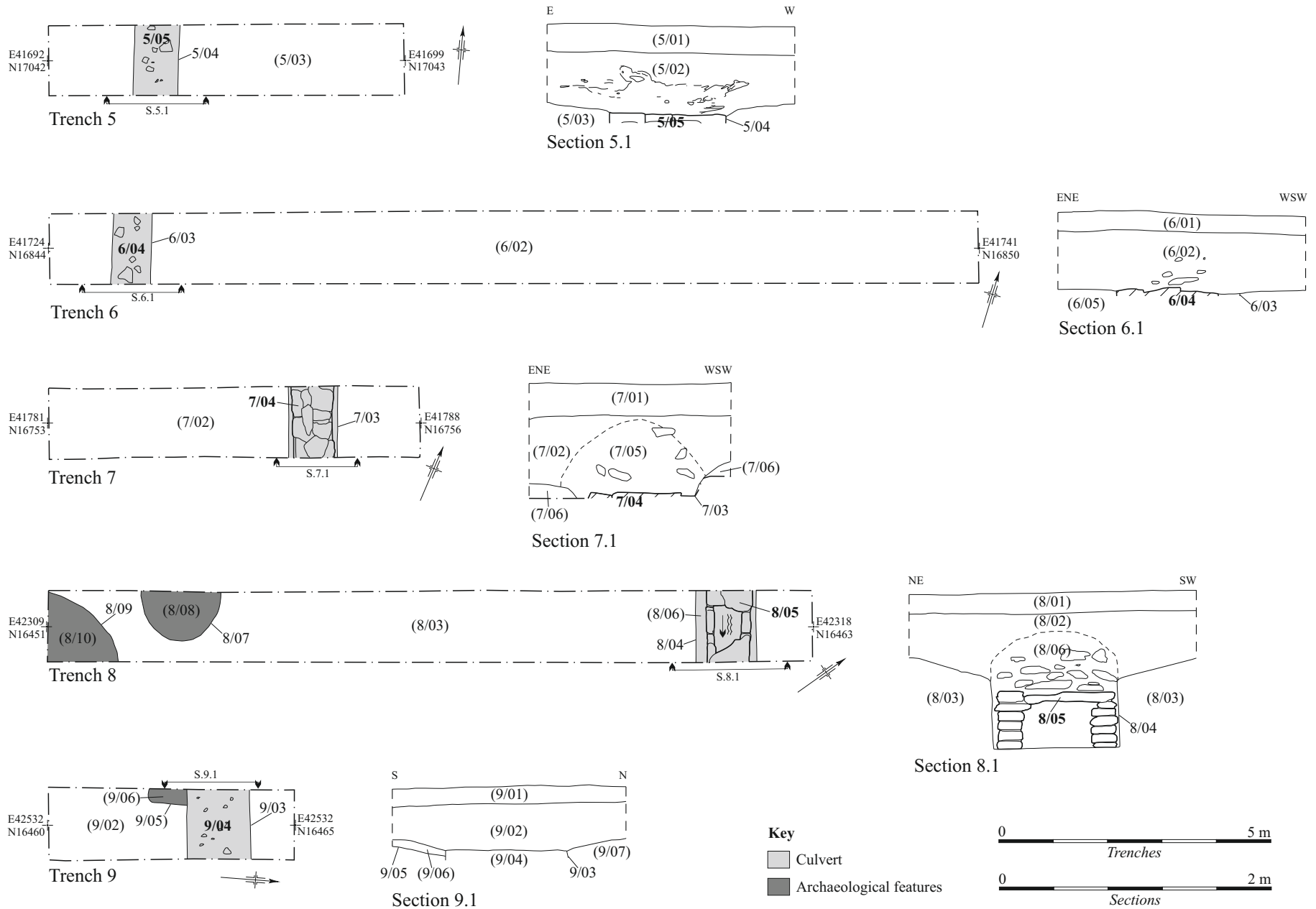


Figure 10. Plans and sections

with frequent charcoal inclusions and red lenses on the edge of the pit. The deposit was the result of intensive burning.

In Trench 9 (Fig. 10) there were the remains of a cut 9/5 that was sub-rectangular in shape that survived in an area 0.7m x 0.3m, which extended into the baulk and was truncated by the later cut of the culvert. The fill (9/6) was a compact brown white limestone in a sand silt matrix. The feature was not excavated as it lay beyond the scope of this investigation.



Plate 1, Trench 8 pits

These features are certainly pre-Imperial in date, but due to the nature of the medieval deer park, could be pre-medieval in date.

4.2 Phase 2: c. 1765 and later

Adjacent to Trench 1 was the head of a limestone culvert (Fig. 9, not numbered), with well worked stones and part of a wooden sluice. A small sondage, Trench 1, was placed near the visible stonework of the culvert (Fig. 9). This detected two contexts. The remains of the culvert were not reached. The lowest deposit (1/2) was a compact to highly compact light grey brown clay with frequent stone inclusions 100-150mm across. The deposit was 0.6m deep. This was treated as one clay deposit, a bank to retain the water in Mapleton Pond. Excavations stopped at this depth because water was starting to fill the sondage. This deposit was sealed by layer (1/1) a moderately compact dark grey brown silt clay 0.21m deep, which was a topsoil.

The other trenches were all successful in identifying the line of the culvert. The individual deposits have been discussed below due to variation in size and context type, but it is possible to simplify the general pattern. Only in two trenches were earlier soils detected, definitely in Trench 1 and possibly in Trench 7. The earlier soils were stripped in a band along the line of the culvert, before the linear of the culvert was cut. The culvert was constructed in the cut with side walls and capping stones with roughly shaped limestone blocks laid over the capping stones. Soil was then dumped over the line of the culvert.

The natural (2/7) in Trench 2 (Fig. 9) was overlain by deposit (2/3) and truncated by cut 2/5. Layer (2/3) was a compact mid red brown silt clay with frequent limestone nodules 50-200mm across; with a depth of 0.21m and a noted width of over 7.5m. Linear cut 2/5 was 0.9-1m wide and 0.3m deep with vertical sides and a flat base. The limestone culvert 2/6 was built of roughly shaped mostly flat stones; no water was noted as running in this part of the culvert. Sealing the culvert and overlying part of deposit (2/3) was deposit (2/4) a compact light brown silt sand 0.35m deep. The subsoil (2/2) was a moderately compact mid brown silt clay 0.1m deep. The topsoil (2/1) was a moderately compact dark grey brown silt clay 0.12m deep.



Plate 2, Trench 2 culvert

Trench 3 (Fig. 9) had a linear cut 3/3, truncating the natural, which was 0.9m across with an unknown depth and vertical sides. The fill was a limestone culvert 3/4 made of roughly shaped stones most of which had a flat profile. Layer (3/2) was a compact light red brown silt sand with minimal limestone inclusions 0.27m deep. Above the line of the culvert (as indicated by the dashed line) there was an area of rough limestone blocks dumped on the line of the culvert, around which layer (3/2) had settled. Layer (3/1) was a moderately compact dark brown silt clay 0.1m deep.



Plate 3, Trench 3 culvert



Plate 4, Trench 4 culvert

Truncating the natural in Trench 4 (Fig. 9) was linear cut 4/3 which was 0.8m wide with presumed vertical sides. Inside the cut was masonry culvert 4/4 a limestone

structure made of roughly shaped flat stones. Layer (4/2) was a compact mid-brown silt sand with frequent stone inclusions 0.37m deep. Like Trench 3 there was a deposit of stones above the culvert that formed part of the construction around which the sub-soil had settled. Layer (4/1) was a moderately compact dark grey brown silt clay 0.25m deep.

Trench 5 (Fig. 10) contained linear cut (5/4) which was 0.8m wide with presumed vertical sides, which truncated the natural. The culvert 5/5 was only partially uncovered and from what was seen this was constructed of flat roughly shaped limestone. There was less rubble here and a gap was seen through the top of the culvert, noting dry-stone walls and running water. Layer (5/2) was a moderately compact mid brown silt clay with small limestone fragments 0.6m deep. Layer (5/1) was a moderately compact dark grey brown silt clay 0.2m deep.

In Trench 6 (Fig. 10) the natural was truncated by linear cut 6/3 which was at least 0.6m wide and presumably had vertical sides. The culvert 6/4 was of limestone but the slabs on the top were not fully uncovered, only the rubble deposits on top of the culvert were. Layer (6/2) was a moderately compact mid brown silt clay 0.4m deep. Layer (6/1) was a moderately compact dark grey brown silt clay 0.15m deep.



Plate 5, Trench 5 culvert

Trench 7 (Fig. 10) contained a possible relic sub-soil that could predate the laying of the culvert. Layer (7/2) was a compact light brown silt sand 0.51m deep near the edge of the trench. The linear cut 7/3 was 0.9m wide with vertical sides and presumably a flat base. The culvert 7/4 was built of flat but roughly shaped limestone slabs with a dry-stone construction, 0.55m across. Deposit (7/5) was a compact mid brown silt clay with frequent stone inclusions above the culvert with a depth of 0.56m, which

could have spread out to a layer either side of the cut. This was sealed by (7/1) a moderately compact dark grey brown silt clay 0.27m.



Plate 6, Trench 7 culvert



Plate 7, Trench 8 culvert

The remains of the stone lined culvert was uncovered in Trench 8 (Fig. 10). The linear cut 8/4 is 0.9m wide and 0.35m deep with vertical sides, which are rounded and sloping in at the top, and flat on the base. Masonry structure 8/5 sits in the cut and is a limestone culvert constructed of flat and roughly shaped stone of various sizes. There

is soil bonding some of the stones, which probably were originally dry-stone. The culvert is 0.35m deep from top of capstones to the base. The stone culvert was covered in a deposit (8/6) a moderately compact mid brown silt clay with frequent stone inclusions. The soil matrix of deposit (8/6) is identical to that of layer (8/2) a moderately compact mid brown silt clay in places 0.4m deep. This was sealed by layer (8/1) a moderately compact dark red brown silt clay that formed the topsoil.

The line of the culvert was detected in Trench 9 (Fig. 10). The linear cut 9/3 was 0.9m wide and of an unascertained depth. The sides were presumed to be vertical. The fill (9/4) in the upper part of the trench was a compact light brown grey clay sand with limestone inclusions. The limestone culvert was not reached here because of the nature of its construction revealed in the previous trench and a wish to not disturb the culvert further and block the water flow. The culvert was sealed by deposit (9/2) a moderately compact light red brown silt sand 0.33m deep. The topsoil (9/1) was a moderately compact dark brown silt clay 0.12m deep.

The end of the culvert was detected at the Lake. It is this culvert that maintains the dry valley appearance in the Mapleton Valley and thus retains the character in this part of the park. In the lower part of the valley (probably in Trenches 6, 7, 8 and 9) the water was probably still flowing. This is probably because they were being fed by a pond just outside the park. Where seen in Trenches 2, 3 and 4 the culvert was definitely dry, the situation in Trench 5 was not fully ascertained as this was below the badger sett but above the probable feeder from a side lake although there was running water seen.

5 FINDS

5.1 Pottery

A piece of white on blue porcelain (probably a form of Willow Pattern) was noted in the topsoil (5/1) of Trench 5. The valley is isolated and has been so since its redesign by Lancelot Brown, and even though the design has been in fashion for over 200 years the piece may be a fragment of later 18th century ware, which would tie in with the redesign of the park c. 1765.

6 DISCUSSION

Human activity has been noted in Blenheim Park from Mesolithic and Neolithic finds in the form of small finds. From the Bronze Age it is possible to recognise the remains of structures, such as the bowl barrow. The remains of a linear Iron Age work known as the Grim's Ditch is also apparent, as are the remains of a Roman road and the location of a probable Roman temple. The Grim's Ditch as defining feature of the location of a large Iron Age hunting enclosure had a major influence on how the land was later used and even perceived. These cities of trees were sacred landscapes sacred to the Dobunni-Hwicce and lesser peoples identified amongst them called the Heningas, before they took on the mantle of Christianity.

The remains of undated human activity have been noted in the area of the lower part of the Mapleton Valley or at Combe Bottom. Here two undated pits were located in Trench 8, which are almost certainly pre-Imperial, but quite likely pre-medieval in date. One of them contained evidence of extensive burnt deposits. Into which period

this human activity can be located is at present unknown, as is the sub-rectangular feature also probably of a similar date located in Trench 9. These features could be part of the same settlement in this part of the valley, which had at the time they were created an open stream and possibly a small lake. Pits and hardcore rammed surfaces are generally features associated with Neolithic to post-medieval activity, but during the high medieval period and possibly earlier the area may well have been located in a royal hunting reserve. The VCH (1990) mentions the remains of a significant undated cemetery, which was identified in the 18th century, and loosely described as being located on the northeast bluff above Combe Bottom. Such a substantial cemetery one would expect to be located adjacent to or satellite to a settlement (large or longlived) or a religious site (Roman temple or perhaps the line of the Grim's Dyke or a temple or shrine along its course).

The design of the park must have been altered over time, with its extensions, and alterations to forested areas or grass areas. The possible insertion of new boundary banks and other features, such as palaces or manors, bowers and lodges all took place. These trends continued from the high medieval period to the Civil War.

In the 18th century the wars of the Spanish Succession arose with a change in Britain's Status and cultural ideas. The New Place was erected and in the later part of the 18th century, normally placed c. 1765, the gardens around this palace were reworked as a landscape garden under the direction of Lancelot 'Capability' Brown. The Vitruvius Britannicus map of Blenheim in 1719 shows Mapleton Pond as rectangular, but with a stream flowing from it. In the map of 1772 the stream has disappeared from the map, and it is within this period 1719 to 1772 that the stream was culverted. The pottery from Trench 5 could have been an early form of Willow Pattern.

The research also had to consider the state of the culvert; the culvert was still functioning in the lower part of the valley, possibly in Trenches 6, 7, 8 and 9. In the upper part of the valley in those Trenches to the south of the pond (2, 3 and 4), the flow of water has been disrupted and the culvert is dry. This may have occurred for two reasons, one that the line of the dam or bank has been eroded, thus allowing the outflow to drop below the level required to leave the pond through the culvert. If this is the case this would leave the upper culvert dry and rely on water seeping back into the culvert at a lower point in the valley, saturating the ground and taking longer to do so. Though there are some large regularly cut-stones in this outflow, there appears to be no structure at present just a series of randomly placed stones, perhaps trying to stop the dam from eroding or part of a stone lined overflow, which was originally set above the level of the culvert outflow. The other alternative, which is also possible, is that on the dam the growth of self seeding trees with their root growth have caused collapse in the culvert, which has caused blockage in the culvert and thus restricted the flow. Once the culvert is dry it is then prone to be destroyed by badgers, which has happened in certain places. The reason it is not working may be a combination of these events.

A number of solutions can be carried out to resolve some of these problems, to bring the culvert back into working order, which is part of a park with a national grade I listing, and also an important part of the World Heritage Site (maintaining the water flow in the northwest part of the park). The dam requires a rebuild where it now drains out before it soaks away into the valley creating boggy conditions. Any tree along the line of the culvert is a potential risk of the culvert collapsing, in theory these

should be removed to stop direct tap root penetration. Tree clearance may also have to occur where the dam should be repaired. To ascertain the levels on the dam it may be essential to carry out a measured survey of the dam (once some of the undergrowth is cleared), so that problems between the culvert outlet and the overflow outlet can be determined. Once these initial activities have been carried out it may then be a case of determining how or if the water does flow down the culvert and where any blockages are. This may mean opening up further test pits along the line of the culvert to determine where this feature has been damaged. At present the two areas where this damage is most likely are from tree roots under the line of the dam. A further test pit at the base of the dam during repairs is essential simply to ascertain if the water flows along the line of the culvert.

Since the culvert has run dry the line of the culvert between Trenches 3 and 4 has been damaged by a badger sett; who have probably gained access to certain parts of the culvert and used the stone built tunnel as part of their underground run. This means that a policy is required here if the culvert is to be refurbished.

7 ARCHIVE

Archive Contents

The archive consists of the following:

Paper record

The project brief
Written scheme of investigation
The project report
The primary site record

Physical record

Finds

The archive currently is maintained by John Moore Heritage Services and will be transferred to the Blenheim Estate's archive.

8 BIBLIOGRAPHY

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Cartographic Sources

- 1705 Map of Blenheim Park
- 1709 Bridgeman Map of Blenheim Park
- 1719 Map of Blenheim from Vitruvius Britannicus
- 1772 Plan of Manor of Woodstock, by Thomas Pride
- 1789 Plan of the Manor of Woodstock, by Thomas Pride
- 1863 Tithe Map of Blenheim Park

9 GAZATTEER - INVENTORY OF CONTEXTS

ID	Type	Description	Depth	Width	Length	Finds	Interpretation	Date
Trench 1								
1/1	Deposit	Moderately compact dark grey brown silt clay	0.21m	-	-		Topsoil	
1/2	Deposit	Compact light grey brown clay with frequent stone inclusions	0.6m +	-	-		Clay bank of dam	

Trench 2								
2/1	Deposit	Moderately compact dark grey brown silt clay		0.12m			Topsoil	
2/2	Deposit	Moderately compact mid brown silt clay		0.1m			Subsoil	
2/3	Deposit	Compact mid red brown silt clay with frequent limestone inclusions		0.21m	7.5m +		Colluvial	
2/4	Deposit	Compact light brown silt sand		0.35m				
2/5	Cut	Linear cut with vertical sides and a flat base		0.9m			Cut for culvert	c. 1765
2/6	Masonry	Limestone culvert of flat roughly shaped stones		0.9m			Limestone culvert	c. 1765
2/7	Deposit	Highly compact light brown marl clay					Natural	

Trench 3								
3/1	Deposit	Moderately compact dark brown silt clay		0.1m			Topsoil	
3/2	Deposit	Compact light red brown silt sand with minimal limestone fragments		0.27m			Subsoil	
3/3	Deposit	Linear cut with vertical sides and a flat base		0.9m			Cut for culvert	c. 1765
3/4	Masonry	Limestone culvert built of flat roughly shaped stones		0.9m			Limestone culvert	c. 1765
3/5	Deposit	Highly compact light grey marl clay					Natural	

ID	Type	Description	Depth	Width	Length	Finds	Interpretation	Date
Trench 4								
4/1	Deposit	Moderately compact dark grey brown silt clay		0.25m			Topsoil	
4/2	Deposit	Compact mid brown silt sand with frequent stone inclusions		0.37m			Subsoil	
4/3	Cut	Linear cut with vertical sides		0.8m			Cut for culvert	c. 1765
4/4	Masonry	Limestone culvert built of large flat, but roughly shaped, stones		0.8m			Culvert	c. 1765
4/5	Deposit	Highly compact light grey marl clay					Natural	

Trench 5								
5/1	Deposit	Moderately compact dark grey brown silt clay		0.2m			Topsoil	
5/2	Deposit	Moderately compact mid brown silt clay with small limestone fragments		0.6m			Subsoil	
5/3	Deposit	Highly compact brown grey marl clay					Natural	
5/4	Cut	Linear cut with vertical sides		0.8m			Cut for culvert	c. 1765
5/5	Masonry	Limestone culvert with flat roughly shaped stones, dry-stone walls		0.8m			Limestone culvert	c. 1765

Trench 6								
6/1	Deposit	Moderately compact dark grey brown silt clay	0.15m				Topsoil	
6/2	Deposit	Moderately compact mid brown silt clay	0.4m				Subsoil	
6/3	Cut	Linear cut with vertical sides and a flat base		0.6m ?			Cut of Limestone culvert	c. 1765
6/4	Masonry	Limestone culvert constructed of flay limestone blocks roughly shaped and rubble over the top		0.6m ?			Limestone Culvert	c. 1765
6/5	Deposit	Highly compact light grey marl clay					Natural	

ID	Type	Description	Depth	Width	Length	Finds	Interpretation	Date
Trench 7								
7/1	Deposit	Moderately compact dark grey brown silt clay	0.27m				Topsoil	
7/2	Deposit	Compact light brown silt sand	0.51m				Subsoil	
7/3	Cut	Linear cut with vertical sides and a flat base		0.9m				c. 1765
7/4	Masonry	Limestone culvert with roughly shaped narrow slabs forming dry-stone walls now bonded with silted mud.		0.9m				c. 1765
7/5	Deposit	Compact mid brown silt clay frequent stone inclusions	0.56m					c. 1765
7/6	Deposit	Highly compact white grey marl clay					Natural	

Trench 8								
8/1	Deposit	Moderately compact dark red brown silt clay	0.15m				Topsoil	
8/2	Deposit	Moderately compact mid brown silt clay	0.4m				Subsoil	
8/3	Deposit	Highly compact light brown grey marl clay					Natural	
8/4	Cut	Linear feature with vertical sides and a flat base. The sides are rounded / sloping at the top.	0.35m	0.9m			Cut of culvert	c. 1765
8/5	Masonry	Limestone culvert built of flat roughly shaped stones, dry-stone wall with later soil bonding	0.35m	0.9m			Limestone culvert	c. 1765
8/6	Deposit	Moderately compact mid brown silt clay with frequent stone inclusions	0.3m	0.9m			Layer above top of stone culvert	c. 1765
8/7	Cut	Circular or oval feature		1.5m	1.5m		Pit	
8/8	Deposit	Compact mid dark brown silt clay		1.5m	1.5m		Fill of a pit	Pre-Imperial
8/9	Cut	Circular or oval cut of an unknown size					Pit	Pre-Imperial
8/10	Deposit	Compact grey black silt clay with frequent charcoal inclusions. Red lenses in the edge of the fill.					Fill of a pit	Pre-Imperial

ID	Type	Description	Depth	Width	Length	Finds	Interpretation	Date
Trench 9								
09/01	Deposit	Moderately compact dark brown silt clay	0.12m				Topsoil	
9/2	Deposit	Moderately compact light red brown silt sand	0.33m				Subsoil	
09/03	Cut	Linear cut with vertical sides	0.9				Cut for culvert	c. 1765
9/4	Deposit	Compact light brown grey clay sand with limestone inclusions. This deposit overlies a limestone culvert which was not totally uncovered and left undisturbed.	0.9m				Backfill in cut above a culvert.	c. 1765
9/5	Cut	Sub-rectangular feature, with vertical sides, and partially truncated	0.3m +	0.7m +			Cut for rammed surface	
9/6	Deposit	Compact brown white sand silt with rammed limestone	0.3m +	0.7m +	-		Rammed surface in a cut	
9/7	Deposit	Compact brown grey marl clay					Natural	