

Understanding Historic Parks and Gardens in Buckinghamshire

The Buckinghamshire Gardens Trust Research & Recording Project



Nether Winchendon House

May 2019



Bucks Gardens Trust



The Stanley Smith
(UK) Horticultural
Trust





Nether (Lower) Winchendon: 2006 aerial photograph

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Scale: 1:4,393 at A4



Bucks Gardens Trust



INTRODUCTION

Background to the Project

This site dossier has been prepared as part of The Buckinghamshire Gardens Trust (BGT) Research and Recording Project, begun in 2014. This site is one of several hundred designed landscapes county-wide identified by Bucks County Council (BCC) in 1998 (including Milton Keynes District) as potentially retaining evidence of historic interest, as part of the Historic Parks and Gardens Register Review project carried out for English Heritage (now Historic England) (BCC Report No. 508). The list is not conclusive and further parks and gardens may be identified as research continues or further information comes to light.

Content

BGT has taken the Register Review list as a sound basis from which to select sites for appraisal as part of its Research and Recording Project for designed landscapes in the historic county of Bucks (pre-1974 boundaries). For each site a dossier is prepared by volunteers trained on behalf of BGT by experts in appraising designed landscapes who have worked extensively for English Heritage (now Historic England) on its Register Upgrade Project.

Each dossier includes the following for the site:

- A site boundary mapped on the current Ordnance Survey to indicate the extent of the main part of the surviving designed landscape, also a current aerial photograph.
- A statement of historic significance based on the four Interests outlined in the National Policy Planning Framework and including an overview.
- A written description, derived from documentary research and a site visit, based on the format of the English Heritage/ Historic England *Register of Parks & Gardens of special historic interest* 2nd edn.
- A map showing principal views and features.

The area within the site boundary represents the significant coherent remains of the designed landscape. It does not necessarily include all surviving elements of the historical landscape design, which may be fragmented. It takes no account of current ownership.

NOTE: Sites are not open to the public unless advertised elsewhere.

Supporters and Acknowledgements

The project was supported by The Gardens Trust (formerly the Association of Gardens Trusts and the Garden History Society) and funded by BGT with significant grants from the Stanley Smith Horticultural Trust and BCC. BCC generously provided current and historic mapping and access to the Historic Environment Record.

The Trust would like to thank the volunteers and owners who have participated in this project and given so much time and effort to complete this challenging and rewarding task.

Further information is available from: www.bucksgardenstrust.org.uk

COUNTY:	BUCKINGHAMSHIRE	NETHER WINCHENDON HOUSE BCC HER 0167303000
DISTRICT:	AYLESBURY VALE	
PARISH:	NETHER WINCHENDON	
OS REF:	SP 734 120	

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Overview

A late C18 and C19 garden and park, with garden phases in the mid-late C20, which survives intact. It is associated with a C15 and C16 manor house remodelled in Gothick style c.1800. The adjacent picturesque village makes a strong contribution to the approach and setting to the west as does the wider rural Vale of Aylesbury and River Thame setting including views south towards Cuddington and the Chiltern scarp beyond.

Archaeological interest

The potential exists for features related to the early phases of the house and its service buildings, also lost features of the garden, park and river. Evidence of lost garden features may include paths, walls, several greenhouses formerly in the kitchen garden, garden buildings and ornamental features evident on aerial photographs including beds south of the house. In the park the environs of the drive and stone bridge are of particular importance. Evidence may survive of former village features as well as agricultural practices, and features related to the River Thame and its former course including boathouses and mills. The detached Moat north of the road is an enigmatic water feature of uncertain origin incorporated within a wooded area of the pleasure ground.

Architectural interest

Nether Winchendon house is a fine example of a C15 timber-framed manor house partly remodelled in the mid-C16 and extended to its present form in in romantic Strawberry Hill Gothick style, 1798-1803 by Thomas Harris, a mason of nearby Ashenden. The Gothick-screened forecourt creates an impressive frame emulating a cloister from the main approach, although the other of the original two screens has gone. The attractive outbuildings include a stable block, garden towers and a rare brick apple store in the west park. Thomas Harris's stone bridge (c.1802) carrying the main, south drive over the Thame is the most important ornamental feature in the park, embellished with Coade stone plaques. It is similar to one of the 1750s at nearby Eythrope possibly by Isaac Ware. The garden walls north-east of the house survive largely intact with several notable gateways and iron gates.

Artistic interest

The grounds are typical of a Bucks manor house, reflecting the fashionable tastes of a late C18/early C19 owner of some wealth and survive intact. They are based on a considerable phase of remodelling when the house was remodelled c.1800, including a new drive from Cuddington across the Thame which divides the park from the garden, embellished with a fine bridge. The gardens and park are largely laid out in the informal late C18 and early C19 style but the walled gardens north-east of the house may be older, into which gardens of the mid-late C20 are fitted along with terraces around the house. Mature trees survive throughout, including part of a former avenue running south across the park, with further C20 planting including the Dawn Redwood avenue (1950) along the north drive, an early planting of this Far Eastern deciduous conifer in England.

Historic interest

The site is a typical mid-Bucks manor with associations since the medieval period with various notable local families.

HISTORIC DEVELOPMENT

First mentioned as part of the estates of the monastery of St Frideswide at Oxford by King Ethelred II in 1060, Nether Winchendon is mentioned in the Domesday Book (1086). In 1162 it was granted by Walter Gifford to the newly founded monastery at Notley, 3km to the south-west. It was probably used by the monks as a grange. It remained in monastic ownership for 350 years, and was latterly leased to tenants. The last was Sir John Daunce, Surveyor General of Crown Lands to Henry VIII. Daunce, who leased the house in 1535 (Lipscomb) found it in a dilapidated state and undertook major renovation, encasing the timber framed house with stone (Pevsner), much of which remains today. In 1547 the capital message was given by Edward V1 to John, Lord Russell of Chenies who became the 1st Earl of Bedford (VCH). During the reign of Queen Mary I the estate was granted to four trustees on behalf of the church but in 1559, the Earl of Bedford sold the estate to William Goodwyn, of London who owned the nearby manors of Over Winchendon, Waddesdon and Westcote (VCH).

For the next 200 years the manor was home to a branch of the Tyringham family from North Bucks. In 1655 Thomas Tyringham executed a document declaring his brother, Francis his successor. The description included a reference to 'Howses, edifices, buildings, Tofts, Crofts, Barnes stables cottages Mills Dovehouses Orchards Gardens ... Woods Underwoods...fishing ponds ... and courtyards and hopgrounds'. Dovehouse Close was to the west beyond the formal gardens and orchard and beyond was The Grove. All but the stables, coach-house, workshop and a small granary had gone by 1903 (Napier Higgins). In the 1740s Mary Tyringham wrote to her cousin, Jane Beresford who inherited the property in 1745, entreating her to hasten to Nether Winchendon 'for even if the Jacobites marched to London they would never find her amid the thick woods that surrounded Winchendon' (Napier Higgins).

Mrs Jane Beresford, the owner in 1768 (Jefferys), last of the Tyringhams, left the house to her cousin Francis Bernard. The River Thame flowed closer to the house than now. Francis Bernard was Governor of New Jersey and then Massachusetts in the USA. He was created baronet in 1769 and died in 1779 having lived most of the time in the USA. The title was inherited by his eldest son John (d. 1810) and then his second son Thomas (d. 1818). His younger son, Scrope Bernard (1758-1830, 4th Baronet in 1818), then made Nether Winchendon his home.

In 1798 Scrope embellished the house, to his own design, in the Strawberry Hill Gothic style and bought furniture from both adjacent Eythrope (which was demolished in 1810) and Tyringham in north Bucks (Pevsner). He planted several thousand trees and extended the views beyond the farmstead (Napier Higgins). He built the bridge across the River Thame, diverting the river southwards in order to do so. The site was known as Winchendon Priory (still named as such on early C20 OS maps). In 1812 the site extended from Home Farm 300m to the west of the house, south to the river and then east for 400m. The northerly boundary was the road /bridleway (1812 map). The park is in the same position by 1820 (Bryant). However c.1794 Scrope had leased Chequers and although he paid several visits to Nether Winchendon, he had established himself at Kimble in The Rectory by 1813 (*Country Life*). His wife died in 1822 and subsequently his son Thomas resided at Nether Winchendon. By 1862 'the lawn (was) diversified with trees, and an avenue of limes of considerable age, form(ed) the approach to the village (Sheahan). In 1883 Sir Scrope Bernard's daughter, Sophia Napier Higgins inherited the estate.

By 1885 (OS) the park extended a further 200m south and west and was bounded by a stream flowing into the River Thame. The garden including the kitchen garden lay to the north-east and east of the house, with the pleasure grounds to the south, south-east and north east and a boat house on the west boundary on the river. By 1900 (OS) the park extended south of the river by 450m. Sophie's son, Colonel Francis Bernard, commissioned the noted architect Philip Tilden to carry out repairs and alterations to the house. He died in 1935 leaving the site to his cousin John Spencer who took the additional name of Bernard. The gardens were redeveloped in the 1950s (pamphlet), and specimen trees were planted in the pleasure grounds. A tennis court, rose garden and small semi-circular garden were installed in the former walled kitchen garden east of the avenue to the village. A further walled garden west of

the former kitchen garden became the kitchen garden and orchard and to the south an arboretum was planted. South-west of the house, balancing the arboretum to the east, trees and shrubs were planted (*Country Life*). The parkland reduced to the area east of the bridleway that runs from Scrope's bridge to Cuddington.

The site remains in private ownership.

SITE DESCRIPTION

LOCATION, AREA, LANDFORM SETTING

The 26ha. site lies near the west Bucks boundary with Oxfordshire, on the south edge of the village of Nether Winchendon (also known as Lower Winchendon), 7km north-east of Thame in Oxfordshire and 8km west-south-west of Aylesbury. The village of Cuddington lies on a slope to the south across the park. It is closely connected with the village which contains many picturesque C16 and C17 timber-framed and often thatched houses and farmsteads. It is and always has been remote, being in the River Thame valley 2km north of the nearest major road, the A418, the former turnpike road between Aylesbury and Thame/Shillingford (Gulland), adjacent to the River Thame which floods after heavy rain. The soil is limestone and clay on a subsoil of Kimmeridge Clay and Portland Beds.

The site extends 500m south of the Thame, which flows west from Aylesbury, via Thame, to the River Thames at Dorchester on Thames. To the east it is bounded by a hedge/tree line and to the north by a wall (for 60m and then a further 25m of timber palings) adjacent to a bridleway from Nether Winchendon to a former paper mill (Bryant 1825). The planting south of this wall is primarily of conifers. To the north-west and west is a minor road from Cannons Hill to the village. Traditional park railings line a section from Church Cottage to Home Close. The south-west is marked initially by a field hedge, then a short section of the river and finally an old field boundary which meets the bridleway running north from Cuddington.

The site is set in the valley of the River Thame in the Vale of Aylesbury, with a ridge of low hills immediately to the north-west and the Chiltern scarp 12km to the south-east. The views are primarily to the south towards Cuddington and the Chiltern scarp at Kimble and Chequers. The meandering river, water meadows and weeping willows make a major contribution to the setting.

ENTRANCES AND APPROACHES

The main entrance to the site is from the village street, 100m north of the house. The square stone gate piers, set in flanking brick walls, are topped with chained bear figures which feature in the family coat of arms (a visual punning or 'canting' motif that represents the bearer's name). The gates (date unknown) are ornate metal work decorated with spikes. West of the drive is a brick building, the former stables, and other ancillary buildings. The straight drive is lined with an avenue of *Metasequoia glyptostroboides* (Dawn Redwood), planted in the early 1950s (a very early example of its use after its introduction), which replaced an avenue of lime trees which had existed since at least the late C18 (painting by Mary Ann Spencer, *Country Life* 28/4/60). The drive leads to an early C19 stone Gothic screen (described below) across the entrance to the forecourt, c.17m from the front door.

Nether Winchendon was a remote place. The approach road from Aylesbury to the east passed through Hartwell, Stone, ran north of Dinton and then to Cuddington. From Cuddington it continued north-west into the valley to cross the Thame at Cuddington Bridge. 500m north of the bridge a road to the east led to the village street and the main north entrance. The turnpike road between Aylesbury and Thame was established in 1770 and took the route now taken by the A418. The turnpike road took a course south of Cuddington (Gulland).

The south approach was created when in c.1802-03 Scrope Bernard diverted the river to the south and created the park entrance 550m south of the house leading north across the park to a new, elegant single arched stone bridge (unlisted) to span the Thames. The bridge (Thomas Harris c.1802) stands 120m south-west of the house. It has on the south side a signed Coade stone plaque comprising a quatrefoil and arms, flanked by Coade stone shields (depicting a ragged saltire) on the outer piers facing the approaches. On the other, north side it has, a central bear plaque (representing the family coat of arms) flanked by quatrefoils at the outer ends. The arch was reconstructed by John Burgiss, 1807-12 (Pevsner) and the bridge has been recently restored.

A similar bridge spans the Thames 2.5 miles upstream in the next-door estate, Eythrope, carrying a drive. It is of dressed stone, mid-C18, possibly by Isaac Ware (listed grade II), spanning the river with a wide single arch, but without parapet or piers (these have possibly been lost). The segmental arch has rusticated voussoirs and a carved stone mask head to the key block. Bernard perhaps used this as his model, shortly before Eythrope house was demolished in 1810.

A spur from this bridge linked to a bridleway which ran from Home Farm (on the west edge of the site) east, then south where it crossed the river towards the west edge of Cuddington, meeting the road 100m west of the centre of the village. This became the new approach to the site and continued as such until the early C20. Having crossed Scrope's bridge the drive (now disused) continues north-north-east through the pleasure grounds passing 50m west of the house before turning north-west to meet the north drive 50m north of the house. The course of the south approach from Cuddington is now a public bridleway.

PRINCIPAL BUILDING

Nether Winchendon house (listed Grade I) stands in the north half of the site within the level gardens and pleasure grounds in the Thames flood plain. It is built of timber encased in stone and brick. It was decorated in the Strawberry Hill Gothick style by Scrope Bernard in the 1790s who was his own architect and employed local builders. The whole is ornamented with battlements and the south-east face rendered. The principal, south range, running west to east including the Great Hall, is probably of the C15. An entrance hall and ancillary rooms on the north side of the principal range (added 1799 by Scrope Bernard) overlook the forecourt to the north, enclosed by a masonry screen pierced by Gothick arches where the north drive enters. In 1912 a morning room was added to the east end of range including the entrance hall and a square porch to the north of the entrance hall. (*Country Life* 1960)

The west, service wing stands at right angles to this range running north from the west end, with a series of small courtyards along most of its outer length including outhouses.

The outer, north side of the forecourt to the north is now partly closed by the Gothic-arched screen (1798). It may formerly have been enclosed by a wall with entrance gateway (Pevsner). The screen was perhaps inspired by Wyatt's at Bishop Auckland, Co. Durham. In 1802 another screen running north-south from this screen to the Great Hall was built, but demolished in 1956. Two square rubble stone towers with turrets (1790) stand at the east end of the principal range. The 1812 map records a three sided building on the site, the northern side being missing. The group of two screens and towers was meant to be taken as a cloister framing the approach to the house.

The forecourt is cobbled: squares or triangles of stone slabs are infilled with smaller stones between. This paving continues around the east and south sides of the house. A stone garden tower (1812) replaces an C18 pavilion (Pevsner) at the junction of the two screens in the north-east corner of the forecourt.

The main entrance is the entrance porch on the north front of the main wing. There are garden doors on other aspects of the house. On the east front a partly glazed door leads out from the morning room and to the south a small door leads out from the Great Hall to the terrace. In 1880 a porch for this door led to the pleasure grounds.

GARDENS AND PLEASURE GROUNDS

The gardens and pleasure grounds lie south, west and east of the house. The garden to the east which extends for 75m is walled to the north and east, in both cases sharing a wall with the adjacent kitchen garden. The walls are made of small, early bricks. This area of the gardens consists primarily of lawn bordered to the north and east by flower beds containing mixed planting since 2006. (OS map)

By 1880 (OS) the main garden access was through the east screen of the house. A path encircled a lawn set with both deciduous trees and conifers. Two planted beds lay within the path parallel to the northern section. A branch of the path continued through a gate in the north east corner of the garden to pleasure grounds beyond. To the south another branch led south through the pleasure grounds towards the river and then east to the house. By 1900 both branches into the pleasure grounds had gone (OS). The current south side is a yew hedge of more recent origin.

The entrance to the area to the east of the house is via one of four gates. Adjacent to the watch tower is a small metal gate, each strut is topped by a spear finial, and the piers are topped by small finials. The gate stands near the garden tower and the stone wall rises to 2m to meet an abutted stone column. The stone wall continues on the other side of the gate to join the primary kitchen garden wall in its south-west corner. (The gate in the north kitchen wall is described in the kitchen garden section). In the east wall a pair of decorative scroll ironwork gates is set in the middle of the wall 1.8m high, flanked by imposing red brick pillars (2.5m) topped with stone pediments and stone baskets of fruit. Each pillar has a shield whose decoration has been severely weathered (dates unclear on all of these). The fourth gate is in the south-west corner abutting the house, consisting of a break in the hedge with topiary hemispheres atop each side.

The garden south of the house is laid to lawn planted with specimen trees, some of which were planted by Scrope Bernard in the 1790s. Adjacent to the south of the house is the 6m wide terrace (first noted in 1946- aerial photo) the surface of much of which is laid with cobbles similar to those found in the main courtyard, and large stone slabs. At the east end is a small fenced pool with a statue, surrounded on two sides by a yew hedge, cut to mirror the battlements on the house behind. The door from the Great Hall opens to two steps down to the lawn, flanked at the top on the terrace by two basketwork urns. This area enjoys a view south over the adjacent lawn and pleasure gardens to the river, and water meadows.

The informal lawned pleasure grounds east and south of the garden are enclosed to the west by the drive and to the south by the river. The trees, mostly planted in the later C20 include variegated sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus f. variegatum*), Indian bean tree (*Catalpa bignonioides*), larch (*Larix decidua*) and cercis (*Cercis canadensis*).

Between 1948 and 1966 most of the mature trees within the gardens and pleasure grounds were felled (aerial photo) but significant planting to the south of the house had begun before 1985.

The pleasure grounds enclosed the gardens to the east, south and west. Since at least 1880 they included the area of the second kitchen garden to the immediate east of the kitchen garden. A detached wooded area called The Moat lies north of the second kitchen garden across the village street/bridleway to the north. Its origin and purpose is unclear but it contains an informal pond and measures c.300m north-south by 60-70m across. An area encircling the gardens and house to the south is bordered by the river and to the west by the entrance drive and is c.75m wide.

By 1880 a path or carriage way enclosed the whole pleasure ground. One end started at the garden door on the south facade of the house, proceeded west, then south west along the boundary with the park, then on meeting the river, turned east to the Boathouse, then north along the boundary and finally to the south east corner of the kitchen garden. A spur from this point, proceeded north across the bridleway between the village and the mill to an

area of conifers, The Moat, which it encircled (OS 1880). The path was constructed in a similar style to the courtyard and some areas of the terrace. Parts remain particularly in the south west area of the pleasure grounds.

The area east of the garden was planted with deciduous trees and conifers, including on the boundaries and along the southern way from the garden southwards. A few of these remain.

South of the south lawn is a footbridge over the river Thame which has recently been restored. This may replace an earlier footbridge as stone supports for an earlier bridge can be seen at the southern end of the footbridge. This provides access to the water meadows.

PARK

The park lies west of the house, 400m west of the junction in the village and the western area is bounded to the south by the River Thame. The park extends south of the river, overlooked by the house, bordered to the west by the bridleway from Cuddington. At its southernmost point it is 500m south of Scrope's Bridge. From this point on the bridleway it turns east for 200m, then north-west for 300m, east for 350m, finally going directly north to meet the river again 150m east of the confluence of Winchendon Mill race and the River Thame (since 1880).

In 1812 the park extended to the west only as far south as the river Thame. By 1880 the west park extended south along Winchendon Lane past Home Farm for some 700m from the junction in the village, the western boundary ran north-south south east, and it was bounded to the south by the river. It had expanded further by 1900 (OS) to include an area south of the river towards Cuddington.

This area, since 1880, has included three avenues of oak trees aligned north-south. Two lined the approach from the south and are aligned on the house but not its outlook, which is south-east, and one to the east also north-south aligned on the confluence of the mill race and the river.

The park west of the house is planted with mature lime trees, probably by Scrope Bernard in the early C19 (Napier Higgins). Within the open park the Apple House stands 80m north-west of the house. It is an C18 building designed for storing apples through the winter months until spring. The square building is c.4m high with ventilated openings on three sides, a door on the other and a tiled pyramidal roof. It stands on brick piers about 30cm off the ground to provide airflow to maintain a cool temperature.

KITCHEN GARDENS & ORCHARD

The primarily walled trapezoidal kitchen garden, now screened from the drive by a beech hedge, lies east of the north approach from the village. It is no longer in use as a kitchen garden. In the north-west corner is a small raised area reached by 7 steps (in place by 1966 aerial photo). A tennis court (abandoned) occupies a north-south axis in the south-west quadrant. In the east quadrant south of the greenhouse a formal lawn is surrounded by a low row of roses and conifers. This was created in the late C20 and at that time had a formal pool in the centre flanked at the four corners by conifers, some of which remain. The pool had gone by 2003 (aerial photo).

In the south east corner is a sunken garden containing shrubs, small conifers, tree peonies and a wisteria created between 1955 and 1966 (aerial photos).

Of two surviving greenhouses, the older, in the north east corner of the walled area, has a corrugated roof, gothic panes and cold frames along the south side. This is a Messenger & Co (Loughborough) product. They were famous as manufacturers of greenhouses and similar garden items in the late C19 and early C20.

Abutting this greenhouse to the south is a cultivated area which by 1981 (*Bucks Herald*) had been planted with shrubs. The other greenhouse on the north wall is more recent. Gardener's sheds/ workshops (c.1890) stand in the west section of the north wall. Half of these lie outside the hedge line on the west side.

In 1880 there were two greenhouses, a small one abutting the north wall 20m from the west boundary, and a larger one immediately to the south and east of the small one. The kitchen garden had paths around its perimeter and one running east-west bisecting the area which lay to the south and west of the larger greenhouse (OS). By 1899 (OS) additional green houses/buildings stood further east against the north wall, including one in the east corner. The west (approach) boundary may have always been a hedge although its line may have moved 6 m to the east. By 1900 a single path in the kitchen garden led from the south-west corner north to the larger of the two west greenhouses. Between 1899 and 1946 the greenhouses were demolished save for the one in the north-east corner.

The kitchen garden has 4 access points. In the south-west corner nearest to the house are a pair of low wrought iron gates leading to the now disused tennis court. In the beech hedge on the west side is an arch, filled with a tall wrought iron gate. 140m from the south-west corner in the south wall (1.8m high) is a wrought iron gate flanked by stone pillars topped with stone urns. In the north-east corner in the east wall adjacent to the old green house is a small brick arch with a wooden gate which provides access to the second kitchen garden.

The second kitchen garden was established as a kitchen garden between 1948 and 1966 having previously been part of the pleasure grounds. Part of it remains in use as such. The east wall of the first kitchen garden was extended south to enclose the formal garden and the north wall extended south-east for 60m. The west wall was lined with cold frames and incorporated at least two more doors to the first kitchen garden which are now bricked up. This garden is a triangular shape and bounded on the third side by a line of trees. In cultivation in 1966 both as a vegetable and fruit garden/ orchard, some of the south part is now overgrown.

The orchard, planted between 1999 and 2003 lies west of the former approach from Cuddington, south of the offices.

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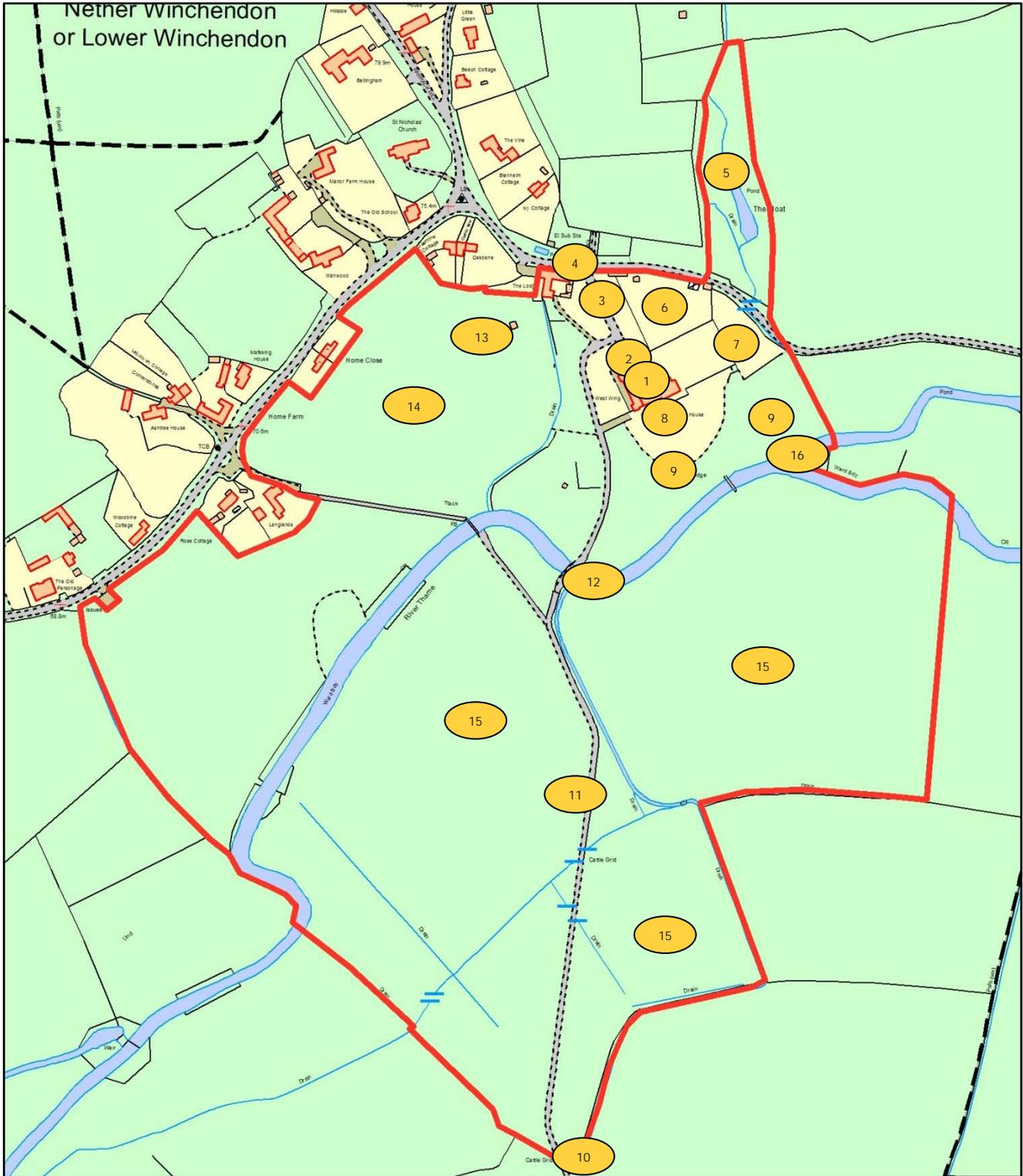
Images

Black and white aerial photographs 1946 (RAF),1948 (RAF),1966, 1985
Bucks Herald (12 Feb. 1981) 'Lower Winchendon From the Air'

S Tricks

Edited SR April/May 2019

KEY HISTORIC FEATURES

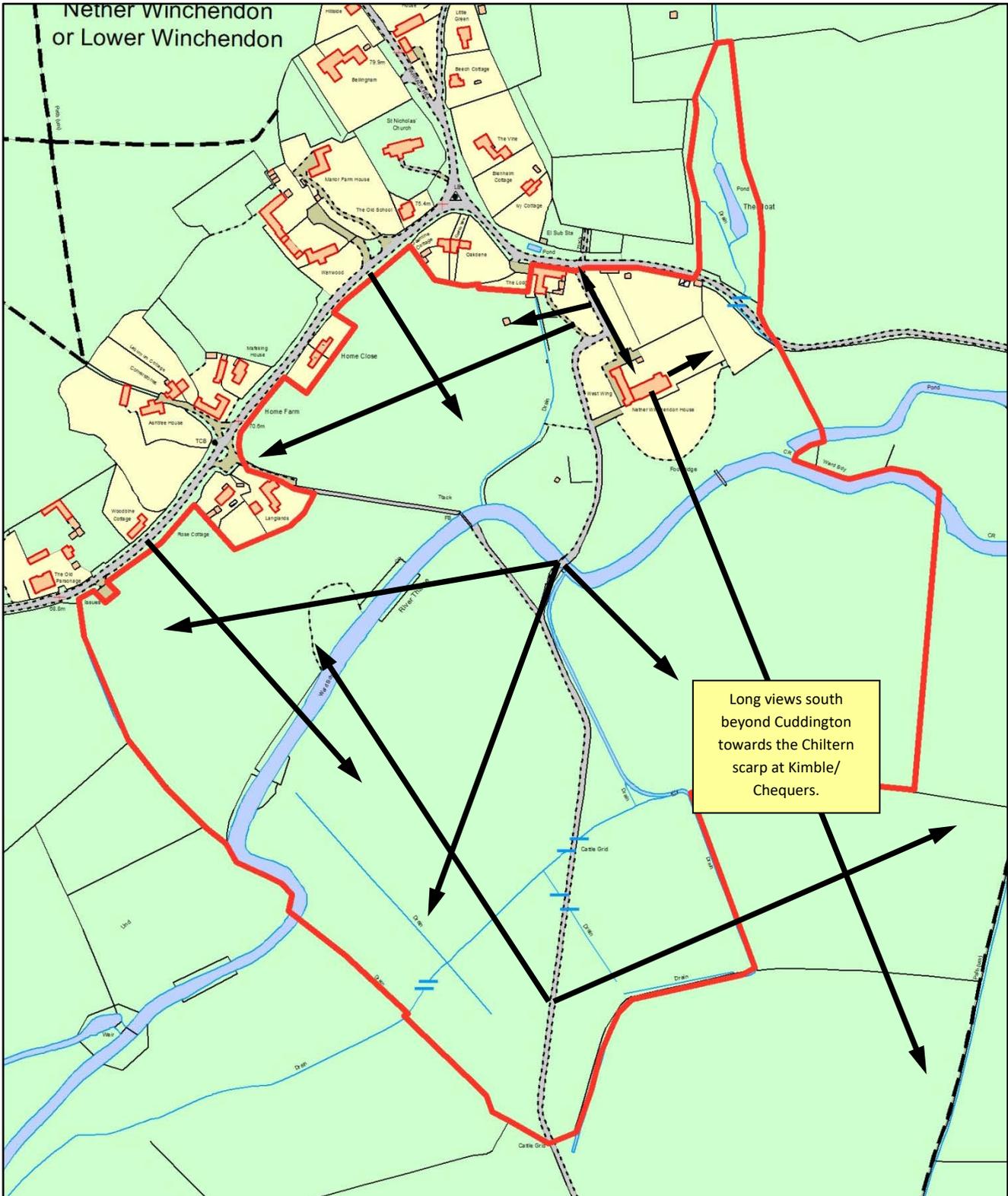


Key to numbered features

1. Nether Winchendon House	2. Forecourt & Gothic screen
3. North Drive and Dawn Redwood Avenue	4. North gateway off village street & stables to west
5. The Moat northern pleasure ground	6. Former kitchen garden
7. Current kitchen garden	8. South terrace

9. South pleasure ground	10. South entrance from Cuddington
11. South Drive with avenue of trees	12. Scrope's Bridge
13. Apple store	14. West Park
15. South Park	16. Site of boat house

HISTORIC VIEWS



CURRENT IMAGES



North Drive and Dawn Redwood avenue, views south and north



Garden workshops (left); Gothic screen to forecourt and avenue (centre); forecourt & north front of house (right)



House: north front and forecourt (left); west front (centre); stables and coach house (right)



House: south front and terrace, including view from south park across river (right)



Gardens to north and east



Kitchen garden and glasshouses – the one with gothic windows is by Messenger and Co.



View south from house across Thame and park (left); garden path (centre); south drive bridge (right).



Bridge over south drive (north-west side) and detail of plaques on north-west side, bear at centre



Bridge: detail of bear (left); south-east parapet and Coade shield on south end (centre left); apple store in west park (centre right & right)