

Guidance for completing the Historic Parkland Prioritisation Assessment

A) SITE INFORMATION

(i) Site Name

Please record the name of the historic parkland site you are assessing.

(ii) Lead Adviser

Please record the name of the Lead Adviser who will act as the primary contact for this application.

(iii) Area

Please select your Area Team from the drop-down box.

B) SIGNIFICANCE

(i) Historic parkland designation	Grade I	8
	Grade II*	6
	Grade II	4
	Undesignated (priority)	2
	Undesignated (not priority)	0

Please select the correct designation from the drop-down box.

Using the 'Sites' layer on WebMap, use the 'Registered Parks and Gardens' layer to identify whether the historic parkland is nationally designated and its grade.

If the park is undesignated, use the 'historic parkland' layer to see if the parkland is identified here. If so, select 'priority undesignated parkland'.

(ii) Predominant parkland phase - if several phases, score as 'multi-phased' *	Medieval/post medieval deer park (1066 – c.1660)	8
	Formal park (c.1660 – 1750)	6
	The Landscape Park (1750 – 1820)	4
	Victorian and later (1820 – 1918)	2
	Modern (post-1918)	1
	Multi-phased	4

Please select from the options in the drop-down box.

Use the link below to access a guidance document, which will help you determine which phase is dominant at your historic parkland site:

[Summary of Parkland Development](#)

(iii) Archaeological designations	Scheduled Monument	6
	SHINE - High significance	3
	SHINE - Medium significance	2
	SHINE - Low significance	1

Please select the correct option from the drop-down box.

Using WebMap, identify the known archaeological sites in your historic parkland site and select the option that describes the highest scoring category of site *e.g. if your parkland contains two High significance SHINE sites and one Low significance SHINE site you should select 'SHINE - High Significance'.*

(iv) Architectural designations	>10 buildings	6
	1-9 buildings	3

Please select the correct option from the drop-down box.

Use the link below to access Historic England's National Heritage List for England in order to ascertain the number of listed buildings within your site.

[National Heritage List](#)

(v) Ecological designation	International/National designations:	
	Special Area of Conservation (SAC)	6
	Special Protection Area (SPA)	6
	Ramsar Site	6
	Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)	6
	National Nature Reserve (NNR)	6
	Local designations:	
	Local Nature Reserve (LNR)	2
	County Wildlife Site	2
	Local Wildlife Site	2

Please select the correct option from the drop-down box.

Use the WebMap 'Sites' Layer to identify these designations (except Local Wildlife Sites). If required, contact your local Biological Records Centre for Local Wildlife Sites. Select the option that describes the highest scoring designation at your site *e.g. if your parkland includes a SAC, a SSSI and a Local Nature Reserve you should select 'SAC' or 'SSSI' (for the purposes of this prioritisation, it doesn't matter which as either category scores a maximum priority rating).*

(vi) Landscape and amenity designations	Within a National Park (NPA)	3
	Within an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB)	3

Please select the correct option from the drop-down box.

Identify these designations by using the datasets included on the 'Sites' layer of WebMap.

(vii) Public access	>4km Public Rights of Way (PRoW)	6
	Presence of open access	6
	1km-4km Public Rights of Way	4
	Permissive rights of way	3
	Applicant would voluntarily provide permissive access	3

Please select the correct option from the drop-down box.

Use the 'Public Rights of Way' Layer in the 'Access To Nature' folder in WebMap to approximate the length of PRoWs, presence of permissive paths and/or open area access by using datasets included on WebMap. Through discussions with the applicant, you should also consider whether there is potential to enhance access (particularly permissive access) as a way of increasing the overall 'value for money' that a project offers.

(viii) Contribution of parkland features to Ecosystems Services	High (>60)	6
	Medium (31-49)	3
	Low (<30)	0

Using the table below, calculate the score for your historic parkland site. Score once for each category of parkland features present within your site, *e.g. a parkland site with six avenues should score '5', as should a parkland with just one avenue* (you are scoring the *diversity* of parkland features, rather than counting the *total* number of parkland features present).

Total the scores and then select the correct option from the drop-down box.

Open parkland		Access & Views	
Parkland trees	5	Approaches / Wider circulation	2
Tree clump	5	Designed views & vistas	1
Tree avenue	5		
Sward (grassland)	8	Park-related archaeology	
		Former park boundaries & features	2
Woodland		False antiquities	2
Designed woodland	8	Land use archaeology	2
Woodland belt	8	Pre-park funerary / settlement archaeology	2
		20th century archaeology	2
Waterbodies		Parkland architecture	
Canals	8	Lodges & entrance lodges	4
Lakes	9	Stables &/or Kennels	4
Streams	8	Bridge	4
Fish ponds	9	Ornamental parkland building	4
Duck decoys	8	Obelisk / Column	4
Water management structures	5	Farm Buildings	4
Boundaries		Cottage Orneé	4
Wall	3	Ice House	4
Timber Park Pale	1	Church	4
Ha-ha	3	Boat House	4
Iron railings	2	Ruins / Follies	4
Hedge	4	Grotto	4
		Dovecote	4
		Walled kitchen garden	6

(ix) Contribution to landscape character	Parkland makes significant contribution	2
--	---	---

Please select the correct option from the drop-down box.

Review relevant [NCA summary](#) or statement. Record as 'Significant contribution' if historic parklands are noted as a key feature of the area

C) VULNERABILITY

Status of the historic parkland site, and features within it, on the Historic England 'Heritage at Risk Register':

(i) Registered Parks & Gardens	Included at HIGH risk (At Risk)	10
	Included at LOW risk (Low/Not at Risk)	3
	Unknown Risk	0

Please select the correct option from the drop-down box.

Identify the risk status of the parkland using the 'Registered Parks/Gardens' layer (under the 'Sites' layer) on WebMap. All parklands have not yet been assessed for risk so this tends to only show High Risk. If you need further advice, please contact your regional Historic England 'Heritage At Risk' team.

(ii) Scheduled Monuments	Included at HIGH risk (At Risk)	4
	Included at MEDIUM risk (Vulnerable)	2
	Included at LOW risk (Low/Not at Risk)	1
	Unknown Risk	0

Please select the correct option from the drop-down box. Select the option that describes the highest scoring value for your site *e.g. if your parkland includes three SMs, one at 'HIGH' risk and two at 'LOW' risk, then your site should score 4.*

Identify the risk status for SMs by using the Scheduled Monument layer (under the 'Sites layer) on WebMap. If you need further advice, please contact your regional Historic England 'Heritage At Risk' team.

(iii) Listed Buildings	Included as 'Very Bad'	4
	Included as 'Poor'	2
	Included as 'Fair'	1
	Includes as 'Good'	0
	Unknown Risk	0

Please select the correct option from the drop-down box. Select the option that describes the highest scoring value at your site *e.g. if your parkland includes three listed buildings, one 'Very Bad' and two at 'Fair', then your site should score 4.*

Check the current Historic England [Regional Risk Register](#) to identify these sites. If you need further advice, please contact your regional Historic England 'Heritage At Risk' team. If you cannot ascertain the risk rating for listed buildings within your parkland site, please select 'none of the above' from the drop-down box.

(iv) - (x) Completeness of parkland features:

This part of the assessment should be completed by comparing the 1st Edition Ordnance Survey mapping (which is generally considered to represent a late 19th Century ‘snapshot’ of the UK), with modern day aerial photography and current OS mapping, in order to assess the approximate extent to which the stated parkland feature(s) categories survive within the park today. The 1st Edition Ordnance Survey maps are an extremely accurate depiction of the location of features around 140 years ago, which we can use with confidence to chart the survival, or indeed the demise, of individual parkland features.

The examples below demonstrate how historic completeness can be recorded using this method, as well as how to identify parkland features from maps.

Data can be found at www.old-maps.co.uk, or advisers can access them by using their existing log in details at the [SHINE portal](#).

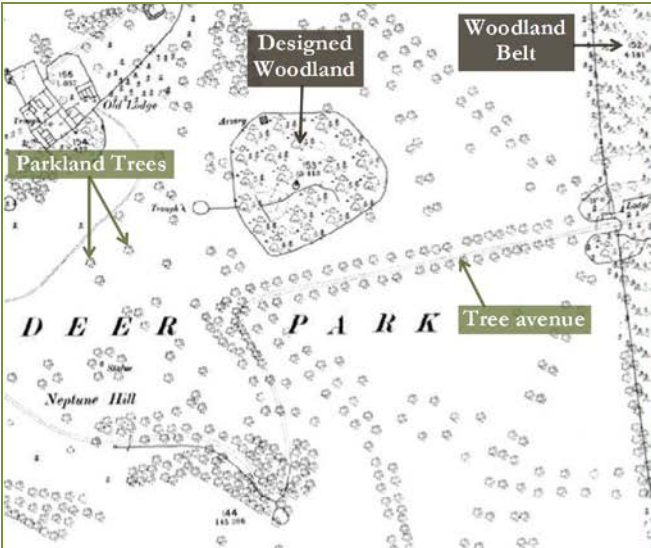
Follow instructions in the 'Read Me' file at this location. Also, WebMap for modern aerial photography and OS mapping may be useful sources.

(iv) Completeness of coverage of scattered parkland trees	Highly fragmented	4
	Partially intact	2
	Intact	0

Please select the correct option from the drop-down box. Use the examples included below to help you determine the completeness of this type of parkland feature within your site.

In the example below, the scattered parkland trees would be scored as ‘intact’, as the parkland trees and tree avenues remain mostly complete in their historical layout.

First Edition Ordnance Survey map (c.1880):

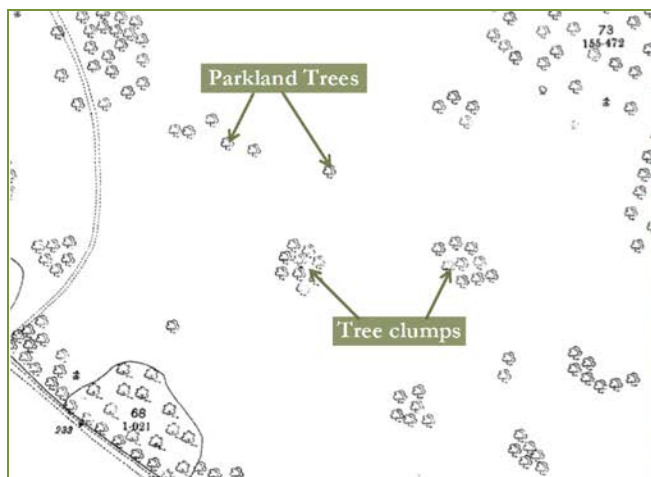


Modern aerial photograph:

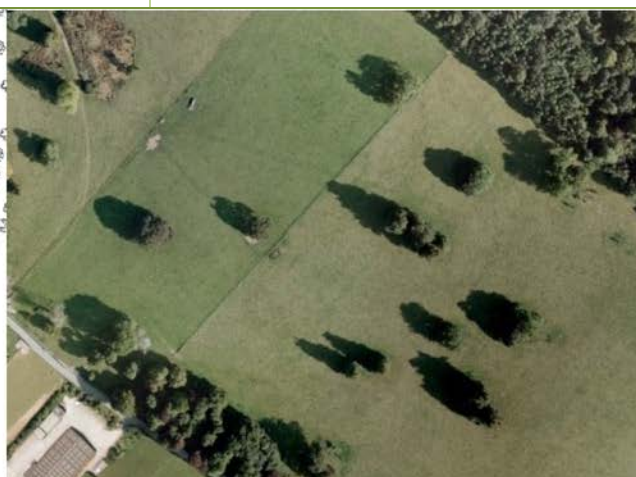


In the example below, the scattered parkland trees remain in part, but are missing some elements, and thus these would be scored as ‘partially intact’.

First Edition Ordnance Survey map (c.1880):



Modern aerial photograph:



In the example below, only a small number of scattered parkland trees remain, and thus these would be scored as 'highly fragmented'.

First Edition Ordnance Survey map (c.1880):



Modern aerial photograph:

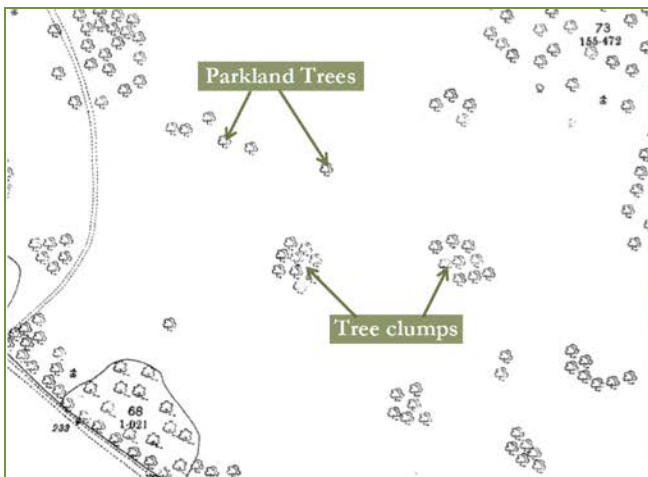


(v) Completeness of tree clumps	Highly fragmented	4
	Partially intact	2
	Intact	0

Please select the correct option from the drop-down box. Use the examples included below to help you determine the completeness of this type of parkland feature within your site.

In the example below, the parkland clumps remain in part, but are missing some elements, and thus these would be scored as 'partially intact'.

First Edition Ordnance Survey map (c.1880):



Modern aerial photograph:

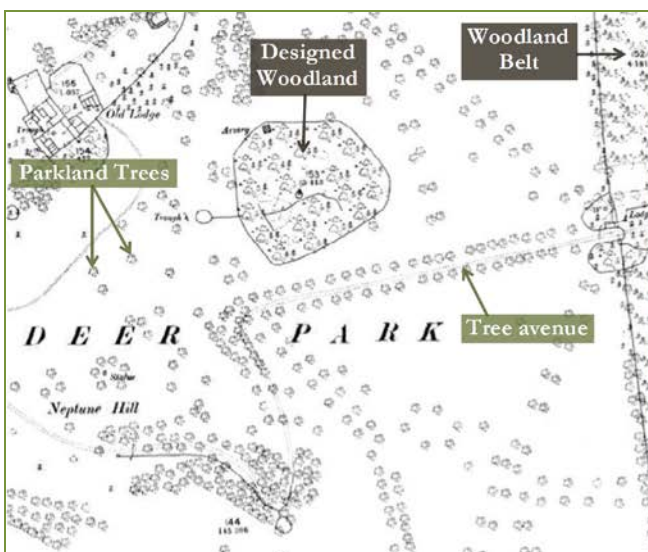


(vi) Completeness of tree avenues	Highly fragmented	4
	Partially intact	2
	Intact	0

Please select the correct option from the drop-down box. Use the examples included below to help you determine the completeness of this type of parkland feature within your site.

In the example below, the parkland tree avenues remain mostly complete in their historical layout, and would thus be scored as 'intact'.

First Edition Ordnance Survey map (c.1880):



Modern aerial photograph:

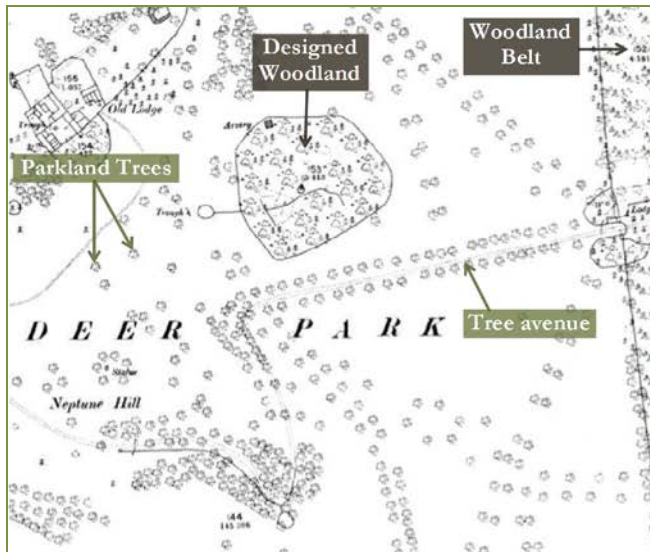


(vii) Completeness of sward (grassland)	Highly fragmented	4
	Partially intact	2
	Intact	0

Please select the correct option from the drop-down box. Use the examples included below to help you determine the completeness of this type of parkland feature within your site.

Although grassland cannot be 'seen' on the 1st Edition Ordnance Survey, in most cases it is reasonable to assume that the main land cover within a park (where not woodland or water) would have comprised grassland; thus where grass remains the predominant land cover on the modern aerial photograph, as in the example below, the sward can be scored 'intact'.

First Edition Ordnance Survey map (c.1880):

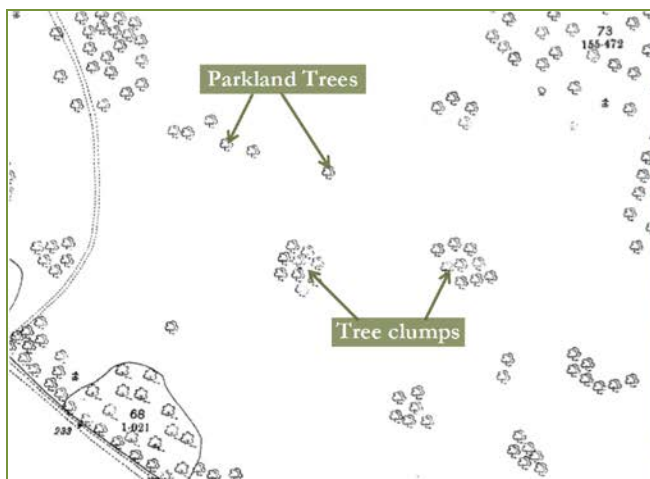


Modern aerial photograph:

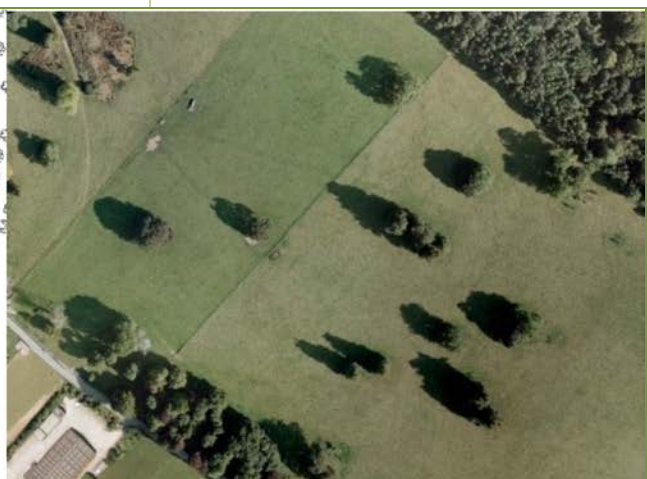


In the example below, grass remains the predominant land cover, and is thus 'intact'.

First Edition Ordnance Survey map (c.1880):



Modern aerial photograph:



In the example below, the historic completeness of sward (grassland) is ‘highly fragmented’ due to the large area of arable fields.

First Edition Ordnance Survey map (c.1880):



Modern aerial photograph:



(viii) Completeness of designed woodland

Highly fragmented

4

Partially intact

2

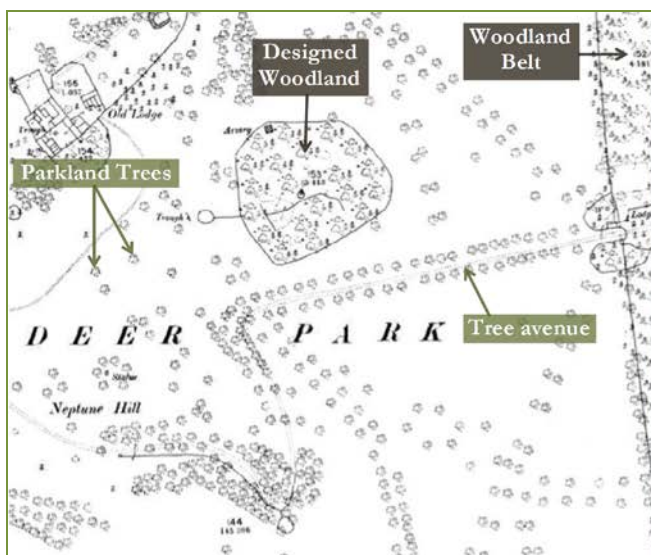
Intact

0

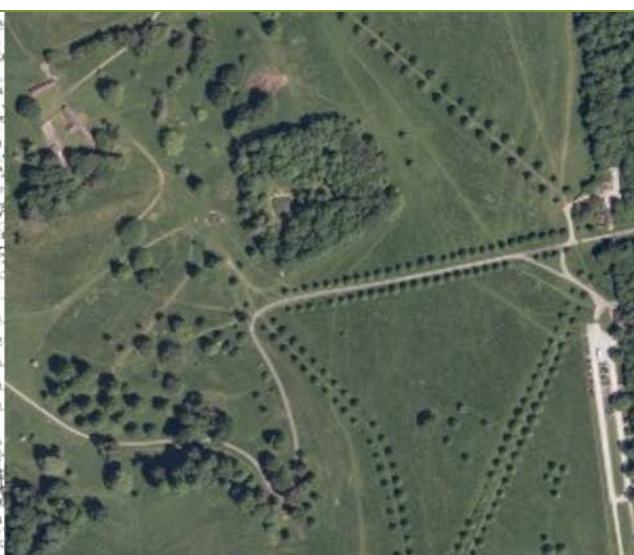
Please select the correct option from the drop-down box. Use the example included below to help you determine the completeness of this type of parkland feature within your site.

Where the historic footprint of designed woodland remains the same, as in the example below, it should be scored as ‘intact’.

First Edition Ordnance Survey map (c.1880):



Modern aerial photograph:



(ix) Completeness of waterbodies

Highly fragmented

4

Partially intact

2

Intact

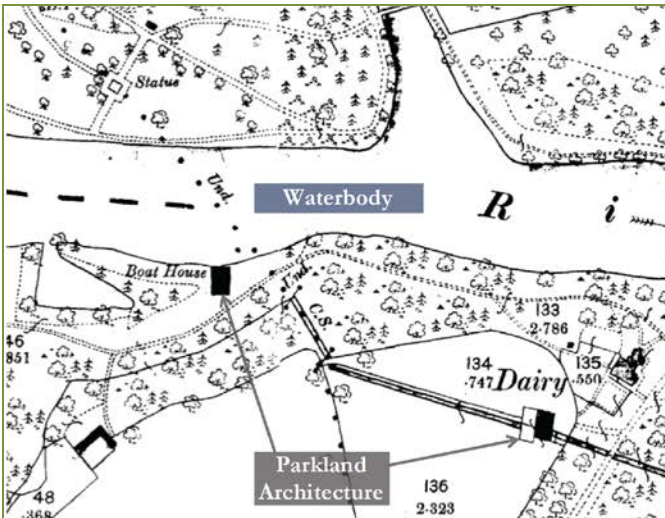
0

Please select the correct option from the drop-down box. Use the example included below to help you determine the completeness of this type of parkland feature within your site.

Waterbodies, such as lakes, ponds and rivers can usually be identified from aerial photography, and their

footprint can be compared with the 1st Edition OS to assess historic completeness. In the example below, the river is only ‘partially intact’, since it has reduced in size between the 1st Edition OS map and the modern aerial photograph.

First Edition Ordnance Survey map (c.1880):



Modern aerial photograph:



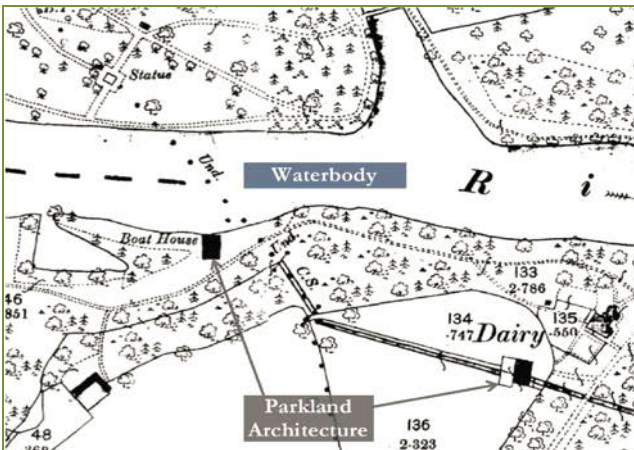
(x) Completeness of parkland architecture	Highly fragmented	4
	Partially intact	2
	Intact	0

Please select the correct option from the drop-down box. Use the example included below to help you determine the completeness of this type of parkland feature within your site.

Parkland buildings or structures of note are usually named on the 1st Edition OS, and these can then be compared with the aerial photograph or a modern OS map which, although does not show names, will show the footprint of buildings that survive. Although only a rough guide, this will highlight key buildings that have been lost or had their footprint altered significantly.

In the example below we see that the Boat House footprint remains, although the Dairy has been lost, thus a score of ‘Partially intact’ would be appropriate.

First Edition Ordnance Survey map (c.1880):



Modern aerial photograph:



Modern Ordnance Survey map:



In the example below, built parkland features such as the haha and circulation routes can be identified from 1st Edition Ordnance Survey maps, but it is difficult to assess their historic completeness without a site visit. In cases such as this, advisers may like to make a note of this ‘knowledge gap’ in the Comments field of the Parkland Assessment Sheet, in order to prompt confirmation should a site visit be warranted at a later date.

First Edition Ordnance Survey maps (c.1880):



(xi) SSSI condition	In unfavourable declining condition	6
	In unfavourable no change condition	3
	In unfavourable recovering condition	1
	In favourable condition	0

Please select the correct option from the drop-down box.

Where your parkland site includes SSSI designation(s), complete this section using the ‘SSSI site unit condition’ layer on WebMap (in the Sites layer).

(xii) Multiple ownership & tenancies	More than one landowner	4
	Multiple tenancies	3
	Single landowner / tenancy	0

Please select the correct option from the drop-down box.

This should be completed through discussions with the applicant, supplemented where necessary by Holdings Assessment Toolkit or RLR datasets included in WebMap.

D) BUDGETARY CONSIDERATIONS

(i) Does the historic parkland require restoration, or just maintenance?

Please select the correct option from the drop-down box.

Consider whether your parkland site requires options (both revenue and capital options) tailored to the maintenance of the site as it currently exists, or whether elements of the proposed scheme involve any options that seek to restore, improve, alter or change the park.

(ii a) If the historic parkland requires restoration, does the site already have a Parkland Management Plan (or other suitable survey) in place?

Please select the correct option from the drop-down box.

Discussion with the applicant should inform this answer. Useful survey data needn't necessarily be presented in the form of a conservation management plan, and may include surveys that specifically focus on particular species, habitats, built features, archaeological remains or access arrangements.

You should also ask if the parkland site is entered into the Inheritance Tax Exemption Scheme, which is operated by HMRC. If it is, you will need to consult with the relevant specialists (either within NE or Historic England), and it is likely that some form of conservation management plan will have been undertaken (albeit that it might require updating) and there may be exclusions on what can be funded through CS.

An adjacent cell in the Historic Parkland Assessment spreadsheet will populate itself should you need to consider undertaking a PA2 Feasibility Study in advance of drawing up an application at your historic parkland site.

(ii b) If 'yes', is this Parkland Management Plan (or other survey) of sufficient detail/quality to fully inform the CS Application?

Please select the correct option from the drop-down box.

If you need further information, please consult the section of the Historic Parkland Handbook titled 'Deciding whether to undertake a PMP'.

An adjacent cell in the Historic Parkland Assessment spreadsheet will populate itself should you need to consider undertaking a PA2 Feasibility Study in advance of drawing up an application at your historic parkland site.

(iii) Likely scale of costs of Revenue items, based on the Vulnerability assessment:

No action is required – this field will populate itself based upon your previous answers in the 'Vulnerability' section of the assessment and is intended only as a rough guide, to help inform general discussions between advisers, team leaders and budget managers.

Please note that 'maintenance' codes do not apply here, as this assessment category relates only to potential parkland restoration, since it is assessing completeness of various parkland features, rather than their condition.

(iv) Likely scale of costs of Standard Capital items, based on the Vulnerability assessment;

No action is required – this field will populate itself based upon your previous answers in the ‘Vulnerability’ section of the assessment and is intended only as a rough guide, to help inform general discussions between advisers, team leaders and budget managers.

Please note that ‘maintenance’ codes do not apply here, as this assessment category relates only to potential parkland restoration, since it is assessing completeness of various parkland features, rather than their condition.

(v) Likely scale of costs of Bespoke Capital items, based on the Vulnerability assessment:

No action is required – this field will populate itself based upon your previous answers in the ‘Vulnerability’ section of the assessment and is intended only as a rough guide, to help inform general discussions between advisers, team leaders and budget managers.

Please note that ‘maintenance’ codes do not apply here, as this assessment category relates only to potential parkland restoration, since it is assessing completeness of various parkland features, rather than their condition.

(E) MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

(i) Is there NE officer availability?

Consider the amount of time needed for delivering the restoration of the parkland. This needs to include time for developing an application for PA2 as well as assuming that there will be a CS agreement in due course, with time needed to deliver it. If necessary, discuss this with your team leader before proceeding.

An adjacent cell in the Historic Parkland Assessment spreadsheet will populate itself should you need to consider seeking manager/specialist input in advance of drawing up an application at your historic parkland site.

(ii) Is there sufficient interest from the applicant and the likelihood of a good level of commitment?

It is essential that an applicant has considered the level of work and effort that can be involved in an agreement to restore a historic parkland site. Before responding to this question you should discuss the process with them – from the PA2 through to delivery - as well as the likely cost implications for them.

An adjacent cell in the Historic Parkland Assessment spreadsheet will populate itself should you need to consider seeking manager/specialist input in advance of drawing up an application at your historic parkland site.

(iii) Is there sufficient budget available?

Discuss this with your team leader and area budget manager before proceeding. Where large scale capital projects – such as HE1 – are likely you should review the matrix contained within the HE1 scheme guidance and consult the appropriate HE specialist where necessary.

An adjacent cell in the Historic Parkland Assessment spreadsheet will populate itself should you need to consider seeking manager/specialist input in advance of drawing up an application at your historic parkland site.

Significance Subtotal		
Vulnerability Subtotal		
TOTAL SCORE	-	

The cells above will be automatically calculated in the digital version of this assessment.