

Scheduled Monuments in Oxfordshire

Edited by D. B. HARDEN

THE Council for British Archaeology has recently issued the second edition of its *Memorandum on the Ancient Monuments Acts* of 1913, 1931 and 1953.¹ This pamphlet explains in brief terms the provisions of the Acts and the machinery instituted by the Ministry of Works for operating them. It contains also a list of local correspondents of the Ministry of Works, county by county, through whom reports and information about ancient monuments in the counties may be forwarded to the Ancient Monuments Department of the Ministry for action by the Chief Inspector of Ancient Monuments and his staff.

The information contained in the pamphlet is so important and so lucidly set out that the Committee has readily acceded to a request from the Council for British Archaeology that its substance should be reprinted here. It is hoped that all members of the Society will make themselves familiar with the facts it provides, and be ready to keep the necessary watch on ancient monuments in their area whether scheduled or not scheduled. Any actual or impending destruction or damage should be reported without delay either to the Chief Inspector of Ancient Monuments or to the Ministry's Local Correspondent in the county in which the monument lies. (A list of the correspondents for Oxfordshire and neighbouring counties is given in Appendix I.) Special watch should, of course, be kept on monuments already scheduled, which are, for the very reason that they are scheduled, to be presumed to be amongst the most important ancient remains in the district. A list and map (FIG. 15) of those in Oxfordshire is given in Appendix II. It has to be added, however, that there are numerous monuments in Oxfordshire, and indeed throughout the country, which are not yet scheduled, but fully deserve to be. Careful watch should also be kept on these, so that if threats to their safety arise speedy preventive action can be taken—if necessary, by inviting the Ministry to have them scheduled.

It is the hope and intention of the Chief Inspector and of his Correspondent for Oxfordshire that many additions to the Oxfordshire list of scheduled monuments can soon be made, and to this end members are invited to consult with the Ministry's Correspondent for Oxfordshire, Mr. D. B. Harden, Keeper of the

¹ Copies of the pamphlet are available, postage 1½d., on application to the Assistant Secretary, Council for British Archaeology, 10 Bolton Gardens, London, S.W.5.

D. B. HARDEN

Department of Antiquities in the Ashmolean Museum, or with one of the members of his departmental staff, should they have knowledge of a monument in their area which is not on the list and is, in their view, worthy of being included. It will be specially obvious from a glance at the map (FIG. 15) how far behind north Oxfordshire the southern half of the county is in the number of monuments scheduled. This disparity bears no relation to the numbers of suitable monuments available in each portion and it is particularly hoped that the blank spaces on the map in south Oxfordshire will soon be filled in. But north Oxfordshire can also produce further examples that are suitable for scheduling.

EXCERPT FROM THE PAMPHLET *MEMORANDUM ON THE ANCIENT MONUMENTS ACTS* ISSUED IN 1954 BY THE COUNCIL FOR BRITISH ARCHAEOLOGY

INTRODUCTION

As a result of the destruction of two scheduled earthworks in the West Country which came to light recently, the Executive of the Council for British Archaeology has been considering ways and means of strengthening the position. It is thought likely that there are throughout the country many people who would collaborate with the Ministry of Works in this difficult task of protecting antiquities; and the Committee has therefore decided to issue this Memorandum, which summarizes the essential provisions of the Acts of 1913, 1931 and 1953 and makes one or two suggestions as to ways in which archaeologists and others interested can be of assistance. The Executive is glad to acknowledge the help and advice of the Chief Inspector of Ancient Monuments in preparing this Memorandum.

THE ANCIENT MONUMENTS ACTS

Among the duties laid upon the Ministry of Works by the Ancient Monuments Acts of 1913, 1931 [and 1953] is that of preparing and issuing lists of ancient monuments which are subject to Sections 12 and 6 respectively of those Acts.² The ancient monuments contained in those lists are those which have been recommended for inclusion by the Ancient Monuments Boards for England, Scotland and Wales (as appropriate). The Ministry must include those so recommended. In cases of urgency it may add others to the schedule, as

² A list of all monuments scheduled down to 31 December 1952 may be obtained from H.M. Stationery Office, price 5s. (post free), or through any bookseller.

SCHEDULED MONUMENTS IN OXFORDSHIRE

these lists are termed, without reference to the Ancient Monuments Board. No building for the time being used for ecclesiastical purposes or as a residence by more than a caretaker may be included in the schedule.³

Before the inclusion of any ancient monument in a published schedule a notice is served on the owner thereof, acquainting him of the proposed inclusion. The owner has not the right of appeal against inclusion. A notice is also served on the tenant, and the fact of scheduling is a charge on the land in question in the appropriate part of the Land Register, which is kept by the Clerk of the local authority in whose area the land lies. Change of ownership or tenant does not alter the fact that the ancient monument is scheduled under the Act, and all wise persons nowadays who intend purchasing property take the precaution of searching the Land Register in case there is any charge upon that which they intend to buy. Not all persons are wise, and some will be found who deny all knowledge of the fact that they own a scheduled ancient monument; but ignorance of the law is no defence.

The owner of a scheduled ancient monument or any other person legally entitled to do work to it is under the obligation of giving to the Ministry three months' notice of his intention to alter it in any way. If he does alter it without giving such notice or within the three months but without the Ministry's permission, he renders himself liable to prosecution. The maximum penalty is £100 fine or three months imprisonment or both. A threat of prosecution has been known to have a useful effect.

Upon receipt of the statutory three months' notice the Ministry has to decide upon its course of action. If it cannot dissuade the owner from his purpose and the case seems to merit it, the Ministry may ask the advice of the appropriate Ancient Monuments Board. If the Board so recommends, or if, in cases of urgency, the Minister deems it advisable without reference to the Board, he may issue an Interim Preservation Notice. The effect of this is that no alterations or additions of any kind may be made to the monument without the Minister's consent within a period of 21 months after the serving of the notice. Compensation may be paid to any interested person who may be injuriously affected by the notice. An Interim Preservation Notice may be followed by a Preservation Order, which has the same effect as the former, but remains in force for as long as the Minister directs. Objections lodged against Preservation Orders may involve public local enquiries or special parliamentary procedure. Compensation is payable in appropriate cases.

³ Buildings of architectural or historic interest, whether in use or not but not already scheduled as ancient monuments, are listed by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government in three categories with a view to the guidance of Planning Authorities in the performance of their duties under the Town and Country Planning Acts. Owners and occupiers of those properties appearing in the first two categories are obliged to notify the local Planning Authority of any proposal to demolish or alter their character.

D. B. HARDEN

On the other hand it may seem to the Ministry that in all the circumstances preservation of the ancient monument for all time would be unreasonable, e.g. unduly repressive. It may then arrange for an adequate record to be made before the ancient monument or a part of it is destroyed. In the case of an earthwork or the like this means scientific excavation, in order to preserve the information therein instead of the actual site. Such an excavation is normally carried out by the Ministry. Where the monument is a building or a ruin the case can sometimes be met by the provision of an adequate survey (drawn or photographic) and a description for publication.

THE MACHINERY FOR OPERATING THE ACTS

The Ancient Monuments Acts like other laws may be infringed through ignorance or alleged ignorance; and although, as already stated, ignorance is no defence, damage once done to an Ancient Monument is normally irreparable. Furthermore, it is a fact that for a prosecution under the Ancient Monuments Acts to be valid it is necessary for proceedings to be begun within twelve months of the committing of the offence. It follows that the greatest need of the Ministry in connexion with this part of its duties in the sphere of preservation of ancient monuments is speedy information. It needs news of damage or expected damage to scheduled (and unscheduled) ancient monuments as quickly as possible.

For this and for other purposes the Ministry has a system of correspondents. Normally in England there is a Chief Correspondent in each county, who is asked to help by obtaining information by any means available and passing it on to the Chief Inspector of Ancient Monuments (Ministry of Works, Lambeth Bridge House, S.E.1).

The work of the correspondents is entirely voluntary and is much appreciated by all concerned. But with the varied threats in modern conditions that may assail ancient monuments a small body of already heavily pressed officers cannot hope to cover the whole field; and much must therefore depend on the creation of an efficient system of liaison between the Ministry on the one hand and local archaeologists on the other.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Executive Committee believes that the C.B.A. can materially assist the Ministry in this important branch of its work. The obvious requirement is that local archaeologists who are in a position to learn quickly about developments in their areas should report at once any threat to an antiquity, whether scheduled

SCHEDULED MONUMENTS IN OXFORDSHIRE

or not. At best the result of such action might be top event or arrest damage; at worst it might be possible to take action against those responsible and thus provide a salutary warning to others. It must be emphasized that prompt action is essential if any result is to be achieved, and that while this Memorandum is the outcome of damage to scheduled sites, reports on sites at present unscheduled are also sought. Information may be sent either directly or through the Local Correspondent to the Ministry.

APPENDIX I

List of Local Correspondents of the Ministry of Works in Oxfordshire and neighbouring Counties:

Berkshire	P. S. Spokes, Esq., B.Sc., M.A., F.S.A., 59 Five Mile Drive, Oxford.
Buckinghamshire	J. F. Head, Esq., F.S.A., Redcot, Gerrards Cross, Bucks.
Gloucestershire	T. Overbury, Esq., F.R.I.B.A., F.S.A., Watercombe, Brimsfield, Gloucester.
Hampshire	F. Cottrill, Esq., M.A., City Museum, Winchester.
Northamptonshire	Sir Gyles Isham, Bt., M.A., F.S.A., Northamptonshire Record Society, Lamport Hall, Northampton.
Oxfordshire	D. B. Harden, Esq., M.A., F.S.A., Ashmolean Museum, Oxford.
Warwick	P. B. Chatwin, Esq., F.S.A., 26 Binswood Avenue, Leamington.
Wiltshire	H. C. Brentnall, Esq., F.S.A., Granham West, Marlborough.
Worcestershire	Matley Moore, Esq., F.S.A., Greyfriars, Friar Street, Worcester.

APPENDIX II

LIST OF SCHEDULED ANCIENT MONUMENTS IN OXFORDSHIRE

This list includes all existing monuments scheduled before 31 December 1952. The numbers prefixed to each entry are the Ministry's serial numbers by which the monuments can be identified in their records.

The list covers nos. 1-97, with the exception of nos. 10, 11, 26, 32, 56, 65,⁴ 69,⁴ 82 and 89, which are no longer allocated to existing scheduled monuments.

An asterisk * indicates monuments in the charge of the Minister (under the provisions of the Acts).

The sign § indicates that the monument has been removed, and the sign ¶ indicates monuments revealed or rediscovered by air-photography.

⁴ No. 65 (High Lodge moated house, Wychwood) and No. 69 (Roustage round barrows, Langley) cannot at present be scheduled as the former is a dwelling and the latter is Crown Property.



FIG. 15
KEY-MAP OF SCHEDULED MONUMENTS IN OXFORDSHIRE

SCHEDULED MONUMENTS IN OXFORDSHIRE

A. PREHISTORIC BURIAL MOUNDS AND MEGALITHIC MONUMENTS

70. Asthall, Leigh Hale Plain, round barrows. Nat. Grid 292131.
45. Chadlington, Barter's Hill round barrow. Nat. Grid 304191.
47. Churchill, Besbury Lane round barrow. Nat. Grid 296251.
64. Cornbury Park, round barrow 200 yds. NW. of Park Farm. Nat. Grid 358181.
52. Cornbury Park, round barrow NW. of North Lodge. Nat. Grid 353187.
2. Enstone, Hoar Stone. Nat. Grid 377237.
55. Enstone, Round Clump round barrow, Ditchley Park. Nat. Grid 395212.
51. Enstone, round barrow in Round Hill field, $\frac{1}{2}$ mile SW. of Lidstone. Nat. Grid 353242.
33. Fifield, long barrow. Nat. Grid 217187.
24. Kiddington-with-Asterleigh, round barrow 150 yds. ENE. of Arthur's Lodge. Nat. Grid 404201.
59. Kiddington-with-Asterleigh, Wood Farm round barrow. Nat. Grid 409201.
21. Leafield, round barrow. Nat. Grid 316155.
16. Lyneham, long barrow and standing stone. Nat. Grid 297211.
39. Over Norton, round barrow, Over Norton Park. Nat. Grid 326284.
67. Ramsden, round barrow $\frac{1}{4}$ mile E. of Gospel Oak. Nat. Grid 338157.
- *1. Rollright (Little), The Rollright Stones, including the Whispering Knights and the King's Stone.⁵ Nat. Grid 300310 and environs.
44. Sarsden, Skew Plantation round barrow. Nat. Grid 304227.
31. Sarsden, Squire's Clump round barrow. Nat. Grid 297234.
61. Shipton-under-Wychwood, Shipton Barrow (two round barrows and earthwork). Nat. Grid 269156.
3. Spelsbury, Hawk Stone. Nat. Grid 339235.
49. Spelsbury, round barrow 90 yards SE. of Spelsburydown Farm. Nat. Grid 349236.
50. Spelsbury, round barrow 300 yds. E. of Spelsbury Farm. Nat. Grid 352237.
4. Spelsbury, Taston standing stone. Nat. Grid 359221.
5. Stanton Harcourt, The Devil's Quoits. Nat. Grid 409049.
71. Swinbrook and Widford, Pain's Farm round barrow. Nat. Grid 281133.
42. Worton, round barrow, Over Worton. Nat. Grid 430292.
66. Wychwood, round barrows 400 yds. NW. of High Lodge. Nat. Grid 318176.
62. Wychwood, Slatepits Copse long barrow. Nat. Grid 329165.
68. Wychwood, Waterman's Lodge round barrow. Nat. Grid 333181.

B. CAMPS, SETTLEMENTS AND ENCLOSURES (MAINLY PRE-ROMAN)

30. Chadlington, Knoll Bury Camp. Nat. Grid 316230.
29. Chastleton, Camp. Nat. Grid 258283.
53. Cornbury Park, Camp at N. corner of the Park. Nat. Grid 352189.
17. Dorchester, Dyke Hills. Nat. Grid 575937.
43. Idbury, Camp. Nat. Grid 228196.
88. Kiddington-with-Asterleigh, earthwork in Hill Wood, near Glympton. Nat. Grid 413214.

⁵ The King's Stone though it is in Long Compton parish, Warwickshire, is scheduled under Oxfordshire for ease of reference.

D. B. HARDEN

- 20. Lyneham, Camp, The Roundabout. Nat. Grid 299214.
- 36a. Swalcliffe, Madmarston Hill Camp (for 36b, see under Tadmarton). Nat. Grid 387388.
- 35. Tadmarton Camp. Nat. Grid 388357.
- 36b. Tadmarton Camp (remains of), NE. of village. Nat. Grid 398387.

C. VILLAS, VILLAGES AND ENCLOSURES (ROMAN)

- ¶48. Chadlington, Lowland Barn rectangular enclosure. Nat. Grid 323243.
- ¶27. Charlbury, Lee's Rest earthwork. Nat. Grid 377194.
- ¶22. Enstone, Roman Villa S. of Ditchley Park. Nat. Grid 399201.
- 73. Fawler, Roman Villa. Nat. Grid 372169.
- ¶72. Fawler, rectangular enclosure at Oatlands (or Oaklands) Farm. Nat. Grid 380165.
- 96. Great Tew, Roman Villa at Beaconsfield Farm. Nat. Grid 406275.
- ¶74. Hensington Without, rectangular earthwork. Nat. Grid 455179.
- ¶57. Kiddington-with-Asterleigh, Pump Copse earthwork. Nat. Grid 403218.
- ¶77. Lew, enclosures 1,110 yds. NW. of Mount Owen Farm. Nat. Grid 317057.
- *75. North Leigh, Roman Villa. Nat. Grid 397154.
- ¶23. Stonesfield, Callow Hill Roman Villa and earthwork. Nat. Grid 410195.
- 25. Stonesfield, Roman Villa. Nat. Grid 399169.
- 18. Wendlebury, Alcester Roman site. Nat. Grid 573203.
- ¶60. Wootton, rectangular enclosure near New Inn. Nat. Grid 432191.

D. LINEAR EARTHWORKS

- 87. Blenheim Park, earthwork SE. of North Lodge. Nat. Grid 427184.
- 91. Charlbury, Enstone, Fawler, Glympton, Kiddington-with-Asterleigh, Grim's Ditch (N. Oxon.), sections A-E. Nat. Grid A: 380208, B: 414207, C: 423195, D: 423193, E: 359184.
- 92. Cornbury Park, earthwork at S. end of the Park. Nat. Grid 357181.

E. ECCLESIASTICAL BUILDINGS

- 19. Great Haseley, Rycote Chapel. Nat. Grid 667046.
- 81. Oxford, Godstow Abbey. Nat. Grid 484091.
- 79. Oxford, Osney Abbey. Nat. Grid 504059.
- 80. Oxford, Rewley Abbey. Nat. Grid 507064.

F. CROSSES

- 37. Enstone, Gagingwell Cross. Nat. Grid 407251.
- 6. Witney, Butter Cross. Nat. Grid 356097.
- 38. Woodeaton, Village Cross. Nat. Grid 535119.
- 97. Garsington, Cross. Nat. Grid 580024.

G. SECULAR BUILDINGS INCLUDING CASTLES

- 84. Ardley, moated site in Ardley Wood. Nat. Grid 539274.
- 40. Chipping Norton, Castle. Nat. Grid 312275.
- 46. Churchill, The Mount. Nat. Grid 280237.

SCHEDULED MONUMENTS IN OXFORDSHIRE

- 63. Cornbury Park, earthwork 400 yds. N. of Park Farm. Nat. Grid 357183.
- *83. Deddington, Castle. Nat. Grid 473316.
- 85. Enstone, Barn at Rectory Farm, Church Enstone. Nat. Grid 378251.
- 90. Kiddington-with-Asterleigh, site of medieval village and church. Nat. Grid 398223.
- *8. Minster Lovell, Hall. Nat. Grid 325114.
- 94. Minster Lovell, Dovecote. Nat. Grid 325115.
- 54. Nuneham Courtenay, Carfax Conduit, Nuneham Park. Nat. Grid 538977.
- 95. Oxford, Castle. Nat. Grid 509062.
- 28. Rotherfield Greys, Greys Court, castle walls, towers and well-house. Nat. Grid 725834.
- 34. Stanton Harcourt, great kitchen of Manor House. Nat. Grid 417056.
- 78. Swalcliffe, Tithe Barn. Nat. Grid 377379.
- 41. Swerford, Castle. Nat. Grid 373312.
- 93. Upper Heyford, Tithe Barn. Nat. Grid 495258.
- 14. Watlington, Market House. Nat. Grid 690945.
- 86. Witney, Town Hall. Nat. Grid 356097.

H. BRIDGES⁶

- 9. Chiselhampton, Bridge. Nat. Grid 594987.
- 13. Culham, Bridge. Nat. Grid 502958.
- 7. Grafton and Radcot, Radcot Bridge. Nat. Grid 285994.

J. MISCELLANEOUS MONUMENTS

- 15. Asthall, Barrow (Saxon). Nat. Grid 290102.
- 76. Handborough, ring-ditch near Long Handborough. Nat. Grid 424149.
- 58. Spelsbury, earthwork 400 yds. SW. of Lodge Farm. Nat. Grid 391197.

NOTE

Of the monuments listed above nos. 9 (Chiselhampton Bridge), 13 (Culham Bridge), 14 (Watlington Market House), 17 (Dorchester, Dyke Hills), 28 (Rotherfield Greys, Greys Court), and 54 (Nuneham Courtenay, Carfax Conduit) are on Nat. Grid sheet 41; the remainder are on Nat. Grid sheet 42.

Abingdon Bridge is scheduled under Berkshire, no. 19.