Edlington Wood, Edlington

History
The woods formed the estate of Blow Hall Manor/Wood Hall and which was the home of Viscount Robert Molesworth in the late 17th century until the mid 18th century. Molesworth used Edlington as a country estate and planted large tracts of the existing woodland, the monument formed its centrepiece and commemorates the dog which is said to have saved his master from being shot by an intruder. Molesworth was probably influenced in designing the rides and cuts through the wood by Thomas Kirke’s Moseley Wood, Cookridge, Leeds. He met Kirke – probably through Ralph Thoresby, an antiquarian from Leeds.

Description
Edlington Wood is a 99.7 hectare site located at Grid Ref: SK 549980 an altitude of 45–80 metres some 4 km to the south west of Doncaster; this is the largest single unit of predominantly deciduous woodland on the magnesian limestone in South Yorkshire. It includes large areas of ancient woodland dating from Romano-British times and supports extremely rich plant and animal communities which reflect the site’s antiquity, history of forest management, diversity of soil types and moisture conditions. Edlington Wood was designated as a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIS) in 1979.

Yew was evidently one of the original forest tree colonists of what is now Edlington Wood, pollen studies showing it to have been a major coloniser of the open limestone grassland left after the period of the Roman occupation. Certainly Yew was a dominant tree here long before any ornamental or commercial species were introduced.

The venerable yews of Edlington Wood have long been remarked on. The earliest published reference dates from 1731 in the ‘Magna Britannia et Hibernia, Antiqua and Nova’. In 1828, the South Yorkshire historian Rev. Joseph Hunter refers to large yew trees obviously of considerable age growing by the ‘Dog Monument’. In 1840, Henry Baines, the leading Yorkshire botanist of the time was of the opinion the yews of Edlington Wood were "truly wild". The notable Yorkshire entomologist and traveller, George T. Porritt mentioned them in 1883 and special note was made of the "magnificent yews" during the Yorkshire Naturalists' Union survey of Edlington Wood in 1891.

Aerial photographs of the 1950s clearly show the impenetrable canopies of the massive yews and the amazing black area of pure ancient yew woodlands in the Blow Hall area of the wood. Sadly, although nationally very rare, the largest area to survive into modern times was felled between 1960 and 73.

In addition to what remains of the Blow Hall yews, some fine individual specimens are scattered through the wood, particularly near the crags. Of nine yews close to well used woodland ridings and measured in October 1998, girths ranged from 4ft 7in to a mighty 10ft with a mean of 7ft. (From website of Ancient Yew Group)
To the centre of the woods is a Grade II listed monument (dated 1714) to greyhound to centre.

Also contains group of scheduled monuments of a Roman settlement

**Significance**
The park is of historic interest as the former grounds of Wood Hall and incorporate significant landscape features including the listed monument and woodland plantations. It is therefore considered to be of sufficient significance to be a park and garden of local historic interest.

Ordnance Survey First Edition 1854
Elmfield Park, Doncaster

History
The site of Elmfield Park was part of the former grounds of Elmfield House. Elmfield House was built in 1803, on land known as Carr Fields, by Colonel Childers for his mother and is now Grade II listed. The house and its grounds was bought by Doncaster Corporation in 1920 to become Doncaster’s first public park, being adapted to the designs of one of the corporation’s young Estates Surveyors in 1922.

Elmfield House become separated from the park in 1931 when it was used by the Corporation’s Education Committee for unemployed boys and girls and is now used as Youth community Centre. In the 1980s the registry office was built in the corner of the park nearest South Parade

Description
The design of the park is centred on the former dolphin fountain (although the actual structure was erected slightly after the park was created in 1925) with four main paths radiating in straight lines away from it. This therefore divides the park into four areas.

The area nearest Elmfield House is formally designed with a rose garden to its middle. This part of the park is separated from Bennetthorpe/South Parade by a tall stone wall which is Grade II listed and which is believed to be contemporary with the house. Within it is a gateway which is considered to have been erected in 1840, at the same time as alterations were being carried out on the house (Doncaster Civic Trust).

Where one of the main radiating paths leads on to Bennetthorpe there are elaborate gates which were manufactured by Bayliss, Jones & Bayliss and with the town’s war memorial positioned just outside. Gates are plainer on the opposite pathway leading onto Chequer Road.

In the area of the park immediately adjacent to Roman Road, there are recreational facilities including bowling greens and tennis courts. In the other two areas, the main pathways are planted with avenues of trees. There are more meandering pathways with specimen planting within one of these (the north-western segment) as well as the remnants of the former nursery.

Significance
The park was the first public park in the main urban area of Doncaster and is therefore important as part of the social history of the area. Whilst it design is fairly simple it helps with the setting of Elmfield House and the adjoining Doncaster – Bennetthorpe Conservation Area and incorporates important garden features including central raised bed/former fountain, gates, walls and railings as well as formal and informal tree planting.

It is therefore considered to be of sufficient significance to be a park and garden of local historic interest.
Frickley Park, Frickley

History
The Vasasor family held Frickley until the time of Henry III, when it passed to the line of Wallis, who had connections to Burghwallis (Hunter 1828). The manor of Frickley then came into the family of Anne, whose main seat was at Burghwallis, by virtue of the marriage of Sir William Anne to Alice Haringel in the 14th century (Klemperer 2010).

The Anne family remained at Frickley until c. 1770, when George Anne, Esq. of Burghwallis sold it to Anthony Wharton of Carr-House, Doncaster, who built the present hall. It passed to William Payne in 1786 who had considerable skill in agriculture and was a zealous improver ‘feeding’, and breeding, ‘large cattle’ (Marshall 1818/Klemperer 2010).

Frickley was part of the manor of Hooton, which was owned by St. Andrew, esq. The estate was sold to William Aldam of Warmsworth. The estate is still the residence of the Warde-Aldams, the Aldams descendants (Roberts 1995/Klemperer 2010).

Description
The present Frickley Hall is a 19th century rebuilding of the 18th century house built for Anthony Wharton, and lies some 30m northwest of the moated site. The ‘new’ hall is constructed of dressed sandstone with a slate roof, and some Doric detailing, including a glazed porch (Pevsner 1974/Klemperer 2010). It was built as a country house, which it still remains and is a Grade II listed building.

The mansion is set in a large expanse of parkland 49 ha (160 acres) and has an elevation of 40-55m. It has an easterly aspect.

To the southeast of the hall lies the pleasure grounds with a terraced lawn leads towards the wider parkland, which is beyond a ha-ha of limestone rubble. The wider landscape consisted from the 18th century onwards of a series of paddocks, the three to the north of the hall surrounded by belts of ornamental planting. To the south and west, the parkland takes on a more traditional character with loose clumps of trees in a more open ‘English Landscape’ style, with shelter belts encompassing the parkland (Klemperer 2010).

To the east lies Park Farm. Here there are the remains of a 17th century mansion which was destroyed by a mid 18th century fire and incorporated into farm buildings, which are Grade II listed, and lie about 30m to the northeast of Park Farmhouse.

Nearby is the site of an earlier residence which existed from the 14th century and was a moated manor house, rectangular in form, surrounded by a water filled moat. Of this only the moat with its stone lining and a stone arch causeway leading to a square shaped island now remain (Le Patorel 1973).
This moat was radically enlarged to the south in the 19\textsuperscript{th} century to produce an elongated lake and the whole site is now a scheduled monument. It has an island with planting and is itself surrounded by decorative planting. On the west shore of this lake lies a 19\textsuperscript{th} century boathouse and on the east an icehouse. This icehouse is a feature of the earlier Frickley Hall that was destroyed by fire c. 1750 (Klemperer 2010).

On the northwest side the garden is formal with gravelled footpaths and specimen trees. A brick walled kitchen garden was built in the 19\textsuperscript{th} century with Italianate styled entrance gate with an attached Garden Cottage, coach-house and stable-block which are Grade II listed. The kitchen garden was divided into four quarters, with a central pond and glasshouses, however, it is now grassed over.

There was a small orchard to the west of the kitchen garden and a rock feature called The Grotto – with pump to the south of the kitchen garden in the pleasure grounds. To the far north of the site lies Whin Covert Plantation, a fairly extensive area of mixed 19\textsuperscript{th} woodland with rides, used for timber and shooting (Klemperer 2010).

**Significance**

The grounds make up the setting of Frickley Hall and incorporates important garden features including the hall itself and its parkland, ha-ha, walled kitchen garden, park farm, listed auxiliary buildings, scheduled moated site which has been adapted to be a landscape/water feature, individual trees, clumps and woodlands.

It is therefore considered to be of sufficient significance to be a park and garden of local historic interest.

*Please note that the owners have expressly requested that it be made clear that the Park and House are private property and are not open to the public. There is no access by the public except for on the public rights of way footpaths.*
Hesley Park, Rossington

History
There has been a building on the site of Hesley Hall since the 1760s. This previous building was built and owned by Francis Willoughby Esq. brother of Lord Middleton and appears to have been a farmhouse. Its situation was described as 'low laying', but with ‘fine lawns’ (Miller 1804/Klemperer 2010).

In 1884 the house was inherited by Bernard Ingham Whittaker who ‘demolished the Georgian mansion and rebuilt the present house on the same site’ (Cumberpatch 2001). The hall was a country house but is now a residential autistic school (Hesley Group).

The site also seems to have been previously occupied deserted medieval village of Hesley.

Description
Hesley Hall is a Victorian Mansion with a large decorative water tower and an extension to the side entrance were added c.1887 (Klemperer 2010). In 1891 a family chapel was built onto the hall. Whilst the hall is not listed the chapel is Grade II listed.

The grounds in the 19th century included areas of parkland (c.19.5 ha (48 acres)) to the north and east, planted with loose ‘groups’ of trees and these still remain. Extending southeast across the main parkland is the entrance drive to Hesley Lodge, which is confined within a deciduous formal avenue. The parkland has strategically placed woods and shelter belts – such as Bog, Broomhills and Park Woods, and Coneyborough Plantation – both to provide shelter for game and to screen views of the house. The grounds closer to the hall consist of a walled kitchen garden and orchard to the west, and to the south, east and north a mix of lawns and shrubberies turning into a small arboreta/pineta to the northeast (Klemperer 2010).

The gardens surrounding the hall in the 19th century were highly formal in character with clipped hedging, formal bedding, gravel walks, statues, and to the rear, in the pleasure grounds, a central fountain. Also within these gardens, attached to the rear of the hall, was a large conservatory complex ‘wherein bunches of bananas and grapes thrive and grow to perfection in the tropical heat’ (Tuffrey 2000). In 1923, the Doncaster Gazette described the ‘terraced garden’ at the foot of which was an ‘ornamental fishpond spanned by a rustic bridge and famous for its goldfish which swim lazily beneath water lilies’. The hall’s farm is adjacent to the northwest and to the west of that is a small ‘L’ shaped lake (Klemperer 2010). Within the walled gardens and the farmyard area there are now modern developments.

Significance
The grounds make up the setting of Hesley Hall and incorporates important parkland features including the lodge, drive and arboretum, specimen trees, plantations and woodlands. The layout of the 19th century landscape to
Hesley Hall remains largely intact. It is therefore considered to be of sufficient significance to be a park and garden of local historic interest.
High Melton Hall Park, High Melton

History
In the 14th century the manor was a joint lordship having connections with both the Haringels of Frickley and the Cressi families. The ownership became even more complex in the 16th century but was bought by Dr Berrie in the mid 17th century and past in to Fountayne family by the marriage of his heir (great niece) in 1666. Later John Fountayne inherited the estate; he was made Dean of York in 1747 (Miller 1804). He married three times in his 54 years at Melton, and as a result amassed a considerable wealthy estate. His third wife was Ann Montagu whose family was incredibly wealthy (Klemperer 2010).

His great grandson Andrew Fountayne Wilson inherited the estate as well as much other property and in 1827 took the name Montagu by Royal License and became the wealthiest commoner in England. He had links to the Tory party and financed their leader Benjamin Disraeli by buying up his debts (Barber 1997/Klemperer 2010).

The Montagu family derived considerable income from their industrial interest, such as coal mining and the Aire and Calder Navigation Company. The family sold the estate in 1927 to Messrs GW Meanley and Sons, building contractors, as part of a package for £200,000 and it was converted to a college in 1948 -1949 (Tuffrey 2000/Klemperer 2010).

Description
High Melton Hall is a Grade II listed building. The Hall itself dates from 1757 with additions of 1878 and major alterations of 1948-49. There is a suggestion that the central tower dates from the medieval period. The 1757 building was built for the Fountayne family and is attributed to James Paine and is U-shaped which has later been extended to the rear to form an H-shaped. It is in dressed sandstone with a slate roof. The building was originally a country house but in the mid 20th century was extended and converted in to a training facility which it still remains.

Close to the house are the auxiliary buildings including a former stable block of ashlar sandstone which is now a conference facility and a relatively modern lodge building onto the main Doncaster Road which splits the estate. There is also the kitchen garden which lies to the north; and to the west and north, gardens and pleasure grounds ornament the rear of the hall and include a decorative building which is thought to be potentially a ‘fernery’ or ‘aviary’.

The wider parkland was originally 100 acres (40ha) in area. It has an elevation of 45-90m and a SW aspect and is set on the edge of the magnesian limestone escarpment, and is surrounded by woods and shelter belts. It was landscaped in the ‘natural style’ to accompany the new Hall in the mid 18th century.

The southwest front of the hall faces an open lawn looking south down the scarp slope, which has a ha-ha between it and the main park that once contained deer. These are noted in the Victoria History of the counties of
England (1913) as being a park of ‘200 acres, and is stocked with about fifty fallow deer; it is well wooded’ (Page 1913/Klemperer 2010).

The wider estate is similarly well wooded, and by the 1840s, the landscape was dissected with a series of walks and rides, southwards towards Wildthorpe Cliff, west through Melton Warren, and across Barnburgh Cliff towards Hickleton. There are the remains of abutment of a former bridge that once crossed the main road to connect with the pleasure grounds to the northwest of the hall. To the north, Melton Wood, which covered nearly 300 acres, was similarly intersected with rides and paths. These areas were used as part of the decorative circuit, and, as to confirm this Melton Warren has a decorative folly, called imaginatively ‘The Temple’ and which still remains as a ruin (Klemperer 2010).

The later 19th century landscape sprouted considerably more planting in the parkland, including Nelson’s Clump (to commemorate Trafalgar), an icehouse (which is now a scheduled monument), an enlargement of the pleasure grounds to the northwest and three large decorative avenues. The first the ‘Deans Walk’ to Melton Cliff Wood walk, the second westwards past the bath house, and the last, and perhaps most impressive, stretches in a ‘hockey stick’ shape from south of the hall northeast to join Cadeby Lane. These latter features are not shown on the 1854 OS map, and were probably therefore executed in the 1870s at a similar time to the (1878) alterations to the hall (Roberts 1995). It is also notable that an avenue of Wellingtonia, *Sequoiadendron giganteum* (intro. 1853) was planted to the north of the house, which compares to others in the locality – such as Sprotbrough (Klemperer 2010). Further modifications of the landscape were carried out when the hall was converted into a college in 1948-49 and parts of the grounds are now a golf course.

Also within the estate is the Grade II* Church of St. James. There was a medieval village around the church, which was destroyed by the ‘process of landscaping, rebuilding and road altering…since the mid eighteenth century’ (Magilton 1977).

Several buildings in the village are connected with the main house such as estate cottages, farm buildings and former village hall and the whole help to form High Melton Conservation Area.

Now isolated from the main parkland and also from the conservation area but still of historic significance are the bath house and ponds that once were part of the wider estate, which are from the mid 18th century. These ponds are to the west of the hall, having a separate carriageway, and are surrounded by ornamental planting. The area is complex, appearing to have two sets of bath houses, two round ponds and a further pond to the south divided into three.

**Significance**
The grounds make up the setting of High Melton Hall (now college) and incorporates important garden features including the scheduled icehouse,
avenues, woodlands and remnants of footbridge. The grounds also help to create a green backdrop for the conservation area.

It is therefore considered to be of sufficient significance to be a park and garden of local historic interest.
Howell Wood, Clayton

History
Dating back to the 1700s the wood was planted mainly as a game reserve by William Marsden of Burntwood Nook (also known as Burntwood Hall and Grade II listed in Barnsley MBC), a small stone mansion on the hilltop 1 mile away. The underlying rock was mined for coal and by the late 1800s the wood had been acquired by the Dymonds, a local family whose wealth centred on coal mining. It is now a Country Park.

Description
Howell Wood and West Haigh Wood were landscaped as the grounds of the hall and as a game reserve, as was the open space of the old Burntwood. It is possible that there was once a hunting lodge located within Howell Woods though any visible trace of this is long gone.

Artificial lakes were set in Howell Wood and West Haigh Wood, the one in Howell Wood being the only one surviving today and used as a fishing lake. Next to the lake in Howell Woods are the remains of a 18th century ice house.

Significance
The park is of historic interest as the former hunting grounds of Burntwood Hall and incorporate significant landscape features including the ponds, ice house and woodland plantations.

It is therefore considered to be of sufficient significance to be a park and garden of local historic interest.
Hyde Park Cemetery, Doncaster

History
Hyde Park Cemetery (also known as Carr Grange Cemetery) was opened in 1856 and followed on from an Act of Parliament in 1853 which allowed local authorities to provide new, non-denominational, cemeteries and was one of the first to open in the UK outside of London. Within the eastern part of the cemetery lies the Grade II listed mortuary chapels by Johnson of Newcastle c.1855. The site was previously a gravel pit and fields. As the town expanded in the 19th century additional graves were necessary as the graveyards of St. George’s and Christ Church became proving insufficient. In 1872 the cemetery was extended to the size it still occupies.

Description
The cemetery is irregular shaped and has a narrow north-south than it east-west axis and is of 15 acres. The northern boundary is slightly concaved and reflects the former line of Green Dyke Lane that has been supplanted by the ‘modern’ dual carriageway of Carr House Road.

The main entrance to the cemetery lies at its north-eastern corner through an archway with an attached lodge building. Close to the entrance is the chapel which is reached by winding paths that continue past the chapel before becoming more regimented to the western and southern parts of the cemetery. The chapels are linked with an archway which is surmounted by a steeple and is a prominent feature in the cemetery and the immediate vicinity.

The cemetery was built on a gently sloping site overlooking Doncaster Carr. Whilst the cemetery is heavily treed around its edges, trees are sparse used within the site, mostly on the approach to the chapel and close by. Monuments memorials and gravestones are of course a noticeable feature.

Significance
The cemetery is important in the social history of Doncaster and makes up the immediate setting of the listed chapel and incorporates important features including the monuments, grave stones and trees.

It is therefore considered to be of sufficient significance to be a park and garden of local historic interest.