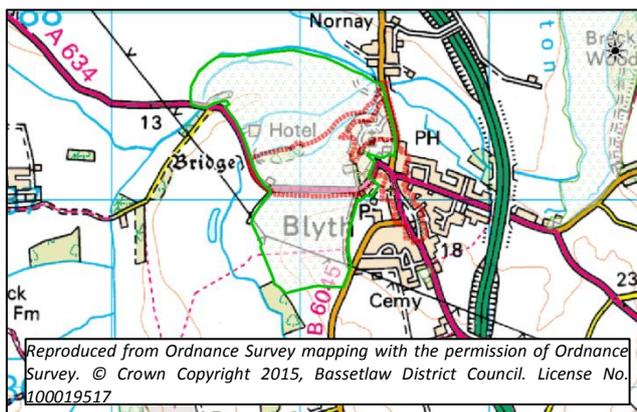


Unregistered Park & Garden:
Blyth Hall

NCC/BDC Ref:
UPG05

Date(s):
Medieval, C16, C17, 1770s, 1840, 1861



Description & historic information:

Primarily 17th and 18th century landscaped park with 19th century alterations, formerly associated with Blyth Hall (demolished 1973). Originally the land was part of Blyth Priory (the remains of which are a Scheduled Ancient Monument and St Mary & St Martin's Church, once part of the Priory, is Grade I listed). The Priory was dissolved in the 1530sⁱ, although part of the former Priory cloisters was retained and remodelled as a private house (the Hall)ⁱⁱ, with the first landscaped park probably being laid out for Edward Mellish in 1684-6 when the Hall was rebuiltⁱⁱⁱ - that park had 2 formal canals and tree-lined avenues (see 1758 Map).



1758 – A Plan of Mr Mellish' House and ground adjoining at Blythe in the County of Nottingham (Source: Nottinghamshire Archives)



1782 – Map of Part of the Parish of Blyth (Source: [Map Sp7] Manuscripts and Special Collections, University of Nottingham)

The park was extensively remodelled (and the Hall was again mostly rebuilt) for William Mellish in the 1770s^{iv}, with some work carried out by John Carr, possibly including Blyth New Bridge (Grade I & SAM); an entrance gateway, a stable range, a kitchen garden with large curtain wall and an ice house, in addition to other large boundary walls. Landscape changes by William Mellish also included the damming of the River Ryton and creation of a wide serpentine lake, the creation of a large open field with specimen trees to the west of the hall and a diversion of the road from the west creating a new tree-lined avenue (now Sheffield Road). 19th century alterations include the creation of a footway through the western field and the addition of lodges (in 1840 and 1861) on Sheffield Road^v.

Features of significance:

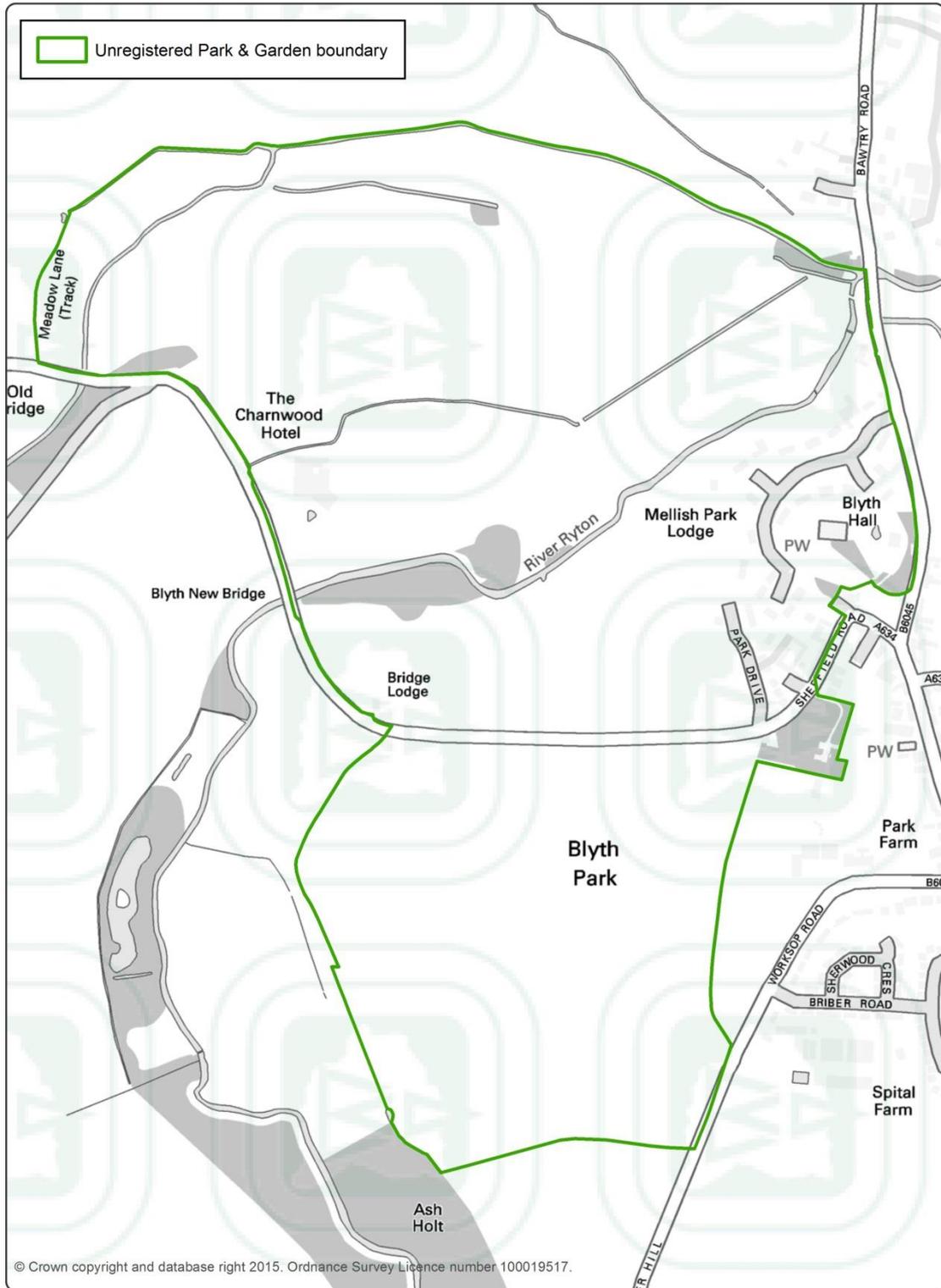
At the centre of the park is the site of Blyth Priory, a Scheduled Ancient Monument, with the Grade I listed St Mary & St Martin's Church adjacent. Surviving elements of the 17th century park include the tree-lined driveway (now 'Park Drive') and various groups of trees. Most of the surviving park is from the 1770s remodelling, with significant features include Blyth New Bridge (Grade I and SAM), Nornay South Bridge (Grade II), ice house (grade II), the large grassed field north of Sheffield Road (containing a number of specimen trees and important views), the tree-lined avenue of Sheffield

Road, the tree-lined avenue between Sheffield Road and Worksop Road, Blyth Hall Stables, the former Kitchen Garden, the large walls off Bawtry Road and the numerous specimen trees throughout that part of the park. Of the 19th century elements, Park Lodge (1840) and Bridge Lodge (1861) are the most significant, with various other walls and walkways.



Listed Buildings:	St Mary & St Martin's Church (grade I); Church gate piers (grade II), Memorial to Joseph Dymond (grade II), Blyth New Bridge (grade I); Entrance gateway to Blyth Hall (grade II); Ice House (grade II); Nornay South Bridge (grade II)
Scheduled Ancient Monuments:	Blyth Priory; Blyth New Bridge
Conservation Area:	Blyth Conservation Area (last designated 17 th October 2012) – All relevant unlisted buildings and structures within the Conservation Area are regarded as 'positive buildings'
Local Interest Buildings:	n/a

Blyth Hall



References:

- ⁱ Cornelius Brown; *A History of Nottinghamshire*; 1896.
- ⁱⁱ W. E. Doubleday, *Notts villages: Blyth (in The Nottinghamshire Guardian)*; 1943.
- ⁱⁱⁱ University of Nottingham website:
<https://www.nottingham.ac.uk/manuscriptsandspecialcollections/collectionsindepth/family/mellish/mellishfamilyhistory.aspx>
- ^{iv} Reverend John Raine; *The History and Antiquities of the Parish of Blyth*; 1860.
- ^v Bassetlaw District Council; *Blyth Conservation Area Appraisal & Management Plan*; 7th November 2012.