



Historic England

Sports and Recreation Buildings

Listing Selection Guide



Summary

Historic England's twenty listing selection guides help to define which historic buildings are likely to meet the relevant tests for national designation and be included on the National Heritage List for England. Listing has been in place since 1947 and operates under the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990. If a building is felt to meet the necessary standards, it is added to the List. This decision is taken by the Government's Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS). These selection guides were originally produced by English Heritage in 2011: slightly revised versions are now being published by its successor body, Historic England.

The DCMS' *Principles of Selection for Listing Buildings* set out the over-arching criteria of special architectural or historic interest required for listing and the guides provide more detail of relevant considerations for determining such interest for particular building types. See <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/principles-of-selection-for-listing-buildings>.

Each guide falls into two halves. The first defines the types of structures included in it, before going on to give a brisk overview of their characteristics and how these developed through time, with notice of the main architects and representative examples of buildings. The second half of the guide sets out the particular tests in terms of its architectural or historic interest a building has to meet if it is to be listed. A select bibliography gives suggestions for further reading.

This guide looks at buildings and other structures associated with the playing and watching of sports of all types from the Middle Ages to the twentieth century. Those associated with indoor sports include billiard halls, riding schools, skittle alleys, swimming pools and velodromes, while outdoors facilities include many kinds of pavilions and stands.

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Front cover

Diving platform, Coate Water, Swindon, Wilts. Designed in 1935 by J B L Thompson for 'fancy diving'. Listed Grade II.

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Introduction

Sport and recreation play a major role in modern life. Historic buildings in these categories can therefore elicit strong emotional and sentimental responses.

At their best, buildings for sport and recreation can be structures of architectural elegance, imbued with considerable interest for their social history. More commonly they are merely functional in appearance. Yet many of those that survive – and the losses have been considerable – transcend mere utility, and have a character all of their own. They range in architectural pretension from the simplest maypole (Fig 1) or skittle alley (Fig 2) to Joseph Emberton's modernist masterpiece, the Grade II*-listed Royal Corinthian Yacht Club at Burnham-on-Crouch (Essex) of 1931.

Examples of listing in this area are diverse and sometimes surprising, such as the pigeon loft, or 'cree', at Ryhope in Sunderland, designed for racing pigeons. They tell us much about social attitudes and notions of appropriateness: cottagey old-English styles for cricket pavilions, neo-Georgian club houses for golf, or smooth moderne for lidos.

Sports and recreation buildings are subject to enormous pressures, not only from changes in fashion and leisure patterns or changing attitudes towards comfort. Swimming pools have become obsolete or have required extensive alteration to meet the changing international requirements for competitive events. Legislation concerning spectator safety followed the fire at Bradford City's football ground in 1985, and a fatal crush on the terraces at Hillsborough, Sheffield Wednesday's ground, in 1989, which gave rise to the Taylor Report of 1991. Especially in field

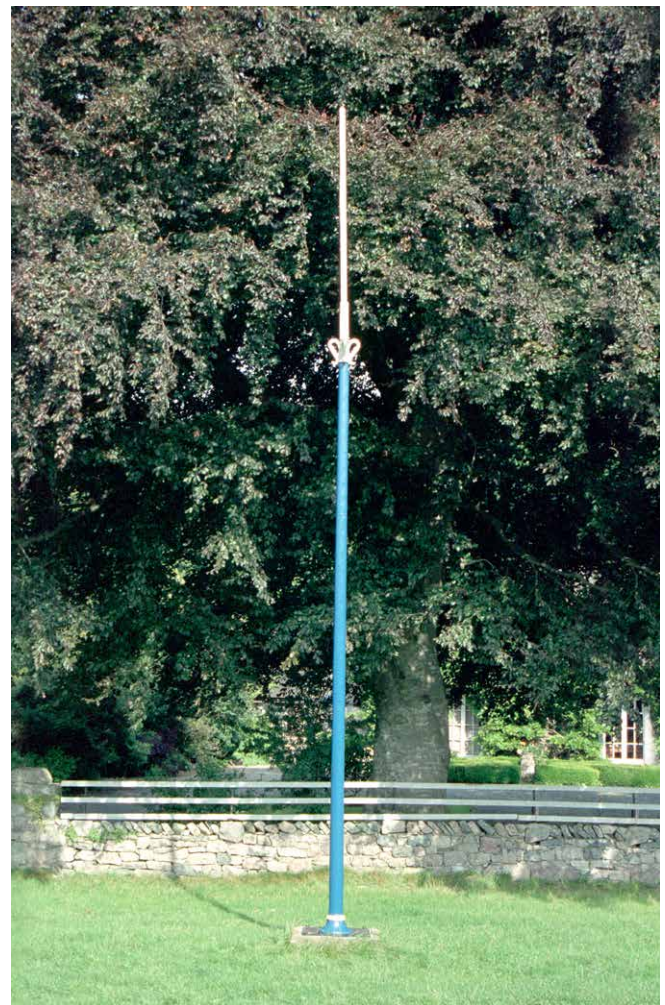


Figure 1

Maypole sites survive from as early as the fourteenth century, and poles are often found on top of the stone bases of medieval crosses. This unusual cast-iron one, in the Cumbrian village of Nether Wasdale, is 10 metres high and was built to commemorate the Diamond Jubilee of Queen Victoria in 1897. Listed Grade II.



Figure 2

This innocent-looking corrugated-iron shed in Shirwell, North Devon has an unexpected interior. Hidden beneath the cladding is a First Class railway carriage built by the Swindon Carriage Works in 1897 as part of

Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee train. Designed to convey some of her ladies-in-waiting, it was converted in 1932 to a skittle alley – a building type more usually purpose-designed. Listed Grade II.

sports such as rugby and football, many old grounds have either been demolished or wholly redeveloped and replaced by purpose-built stadiums. Preserving individual stands is therefore not always an option. An example of this was the demolition of the much admired (and listed) Twin Towers of 1923 at Wembley Stadium to make way for the new and much larger stadium on the same site. Conversely, and so far uniquely, the Arsenal Stadium at Highbury (London Borough of Islington) has been redeveloped into a residential complex, with two stands from 1931 and 1936 (the latter listed Grade II; Fig 3) partly retained in the new flats on their sites. With municipal sports and recreation buildings, the attrition rate has been high with demolitions to make way for new facilities, or due to the cost of maintenance.

As a result, certain types of historic sports buildings, most notably pre-1930s spectator stands at football and rugby grounds, are now few in number.

Even where sports buildings have otherwise been found to be adequate, many have been replaced because funding has been offered by various bodies to encourage the construction of new facilities that offer greater public participation.

At club level, there is also intense pressure to provide additional revenue-earning facilities – function rooms, bars, fitness suites, children's areas and so on – often at the cost of the architectural integrity of the original building.

This selection guide looks at individual buildings purpose-built for sport, such as real tennis courts and grandstands; mixed-use buildings such as sports halls; at complexes such as race courses; and at structures designed for more popular recreational activities such as boating, swimming, and golf. Buildings associated with field sports and hunting are also considered. Other sports and recreational activities have yet to leave their mark

through permanent structures of architectural note, and thus are not considered here.

Many of the buildings in this guide have an affinity with considerations in the selection guides for [Garden and Park Structures](#) (such as hunting

lodges, boathouses and bowling greens), [Culture and Entertainment Buildings](#) and [Commerce and Exchange Buildings](#) (particularly recreations associated with the pub such as boxing, skittles, and rifle shooting).



Figure 3

The popularity of football and improved standards of safety and comfort have created a climate where few football stadiums have survived in anything like their original condition. Arsenal Football Club's 1936 East

Stand at the Highbury Stadium, Islington, only partly survives in a residential conversion of 2006-9 when the club moved to a new ground. Listed Grade II.

1 Historical Summary

1.1 Buildings for indoor sports and recreation

Real tennis, rackets and squash

A precursor of lawn tennis (which evolved in the mid to late nineteenth century, and which is covered below), Real or Royal Tennis is thought to have originated in French and Italian monasteries during the eleventh century. England has the second oldest real tennis court in the world, at Hampton Court (1625, remodelled in 1661; listed Grade I) and there are fragmentary remains of other early courts elsewhere. All those that have been identified are listed, such as the 1777 example off Julian Road, Bath (now the Museum of Bath at Work). The sport enjoyed a revival during the second half of the nineteenth century, and is undergoing a second revival now, with 44 courts world-wide, 26 of them in Britain (operated by 23 clubs). Examples include Leamington Real Tennis Club, Warwickshire (1846, by J G Jackson, to which a club room and reading room was added in 1848) from the start of this revival, and the Manchester Tennis Court and Racquet Club (Salford, 1880, by G T Redmayne), both listed Grade II*. Courts were also built at country houses, sometimes on the site of an historic court, as at Easton Neston (Northamptonshire; listed Grade II) or in association with a new house, as at Jesmond Dene, Newcastle (1894 by F W Rich; listed Grade II) which included a two-storey apartment for a professional player).

Derivatives of real tennis include rackets (or racquets), for which there are courts at the Leamington and Manchester clubs mentioned above and at a number of country houses, such as the Grade II listed Copped Hall, Epping, Essex (1896, by C E Kempe). Other examples survive at public schools and in military buildings (for instance, Fulwood Garrison, Preston, Lancashire,

1842-8). Squash evolved from rackets by using a soft ball and smaller court, and the first purpose-built courts appeared at Harrow School (London Borough of Harrow) in the 1860s. It remained the preserve of schools and colleges until the early twentieth century, when it began to be played in clubs and by the armed forces. Squash courts began to be incorporated into English country houses in the early twentieth century: an example from 1911 is to be found at the Grade I listed Ickworth House, Suffolk, while Rivercourt House, in the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham, has a fine Grade II listed example of the early 1930s incorporating a summerhouse. Differentiating between historic squash courts and rackets courts can be difficult for those not familiar with the games.

Structures relating to lawn tennis are treated below under Outdoor sports and recreation.

Fives

A derivative of medieval real tennis, fives is played with gloved hands rather than rackets. An early form of fives, sometimes also known as handball and occasionally linked to the Spanish game of *pelota*, was played against church walls (evidence of which can be found in shuttering to protect windows or, as at the Grade I listed All Saints', Martock, in Somerset, in notches used for scoring). In the south-west there are a number of 'fives towers' or 'fives walls', consisting of free-standing walls with buttresses, ranging from 4-12m tall. These were used for a popular form of handball and were mostly located next to public houses; examples from the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries are at the Lethbridge Arms Inn in Bishop's Lydeard and at the Lord Poulett Arms, Hinton St George, both in Somerset (and both listed Grade II). Later Victorian versions, known as Eton, Winchester or Rugby Fives, are

played mainly in public schools, in covered, three-sided courts. Examples of these form part of a pavilion and gymnasium building at Cheltenham College, Gloucestershire (1864 by F H Lockwood; listed Grade II).

Riding schools and equestrian buildings

These constitute some of the earliest bespoke buildings for recreational use. Covered spaces for equestrian exercise date from the mid-seventeenth century, when continental approaches to the schooling of horses (*haute école*) became fashionable in court circles. The Grade I riding school at Bolsover Castle, Derbyshire, built for the Duke of Newcastle just before the Civil War, is an early example; that

of about 1820 at Syon House (London Borough of Hounslow; listed Grade II), with its broad roof of cast iron trusses, showed how new technologies were being applied to this well-established building type, which required a considerable span, unencumbered by columns, across the dressage floor. The most prominent buildings associated with racing are grandstands, considered below; stable complexes and specific buildings developed at Newmarket and elsewhere as training racehorses became ever more specialised. Notable stable complexes built expressly for hunting occasionally include exercise rings, as at Belvoir Castle, Leicestershire (ring listed Grade II*), of 1819.



Figure 4
The Florence Institute of 1899 (known affectionately as 'The Florrie') in Liverpool's Toxteth, was one of the first institutions designed specifically as a youth

club for boys. The impressive building housed a hall, library, and gym. Following a fire in 1999 work on its restoration began in 2010. Listed Grade II.

Gymnasia

Growing government concern at the poor physical condition of British troops led in 1862 to the mandatory provision of a gymnasium and special instructors at all barracks. Pioneer examples are normally listed, for instance the gym at Brompton Barracks, Gillingham, Kent, (1872-4, by Archibald Maclaren; listed Grade II*) and the old and new gyms at the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst, Surrey, of 1863 (listed Grade II*) and 1910 (listed Grade II), the latter by Harry B. Measures, Director of Barrack Construction, whose work was widely imitated by members of the Royal Engineers. Generally these are robust red brick buildings and often form strong groups with other military buildings. Gymnasia were encouraged in the civilian sphere as at Woolwich Polytechnic (Royal Borough of Greenwich) and a number of early examples survive in public schools (see the [Education Buildings](#) selection guide). The Gymnasium Society (founded 1859) moved into neo-Grecian premises in Brighton, East Sussex (1864), and continental practices were imported, for instance at the German Gymnasium, St Pancras, in the London Borough of Camden (1864, Edward Grüning; listed Grade II). Gymnasia remained popular and later examples include St Alban's Court, Nonington, Dover, Kent (1938, Joyce Adburgham for the English Gymnastic Society; listed Grade II).

Drill Halls, which in many ways are allied to gymnasia, are treated in the selection guide on [Military Structures](#).

Lads' and girls' clubs

By the 1870s there were many improving institutions attempting to keep men and older youths out of the public house and away from crime, but few for younger boys. The lads' (and subsequently girls') clubs were an attempt to fill this gap. The first opened in Kennington (London Borough of Lambeth) in 1872. The largest purpose-built clubs, for example the Florence Institute, Dingle, Liverpool (1889 by C Sherlock and H W Keef; listed Grade II; Fig 4), offered a range of indoor sports, including gymnastics, boxing and billiards and were located in the midst of areas of great deprivation. Three Grade II

listed clubs were built as part of new estate developments: the former Handbridge Working Men's Institute (now Chester Youth Club) built in 1895 for the first Duke of Westminster; the Girls' Club (now Residents' Club) at Port Sunlight, Wirral (1913, J Lomax Simpson); and Salford Lads' Club, Greater Manchester (1904, Henry Lord), which included a large sports hall with a concert hall above it, surrounded by smaller rooms for dedicated activities such as boxing and fives.

Billiard halls

Billiards achieved great popularity in the nineteenth century, until it was eclipsed by snooker in the 1930s. Billiard rooms were built at country houses from about 1800 and are a distinctive feature of Victorian country houses and some, like Dean House, Kilmeston, near Winchester, Hampshire (listed Grade II), have a free-standing ballroom and billiard room separate from the rest of the house so late-night games would cause least disturbance. The earliest public billiards halls are at resorts: The Montpellier Rotunda (listed Grade I), Cheltenham, included a billiard hall in 1817, while Brighton had four by 1824, and Burnley (Lancashire) boasted a two-storey hall (listed Grade II) built for a local billiard table manufacturer in 1910. Other examples either formed part of a larger complex (Lytham St Anne's, Lancashire, 1878, with a lecture room and billiard hall; listed Grade II) or were purpose built (Paignton, Devon, 1881; listed Grade II); some others were attached to village halls. The most distinctive billiard halls were built by the Temperance Billiard Hall Company, first in Manchester and then in London. The company's architects, Norman Evans and T R Somerford, deliberately used ornate and exuberant detailing – a busy mix of cupolas, colonnades, jaunty Queen Anne styling and art nouveau stained glass – to attract players away from licensed premises. Emphasis was placed on natural lighting to provide a welcoming atmosphere. Among the best examples still open to the public are the Sedge Lynn, Chorlton, Manchester, ironically now a public house (1907; listed Grade II; Fig 5), and Riley's Snooker Hall, on Lewisham High Street, London (1910; listed Grade II).



Figure 5
Former Temperance Billiard Hall, Manchester Road, Chorlton, Manchester. One of a series of billiard halls up and down the country designed to offer healthy, non-alcoholic, recreation to working men.

An interesting example of adaptive re-use, its Art Nouveau detailing remains an attractive part of its new use as a pub. Listed Grade II.

Snooker

Invented by British officers in Jubbulpore, India, in 1875, snooker became exceedingly popular in the 1930s, but as the game was played on billiard tables, in practice most existing billiard halls simply became snooker halls. Montague Burton's tailoring stores deliberately incorporated snooker halls, usually on the first floor, to entice men inside to buy suits.

Skittle alleys

Skittles is essentially a form of target bowls and is thought to have been imported from mainland Europe by around the thirteenth century. Two main versions are still played, on alleys, and on table tops. Of the alley variety, there are further sub-categories, using differently-sized pins and balls. Western skittles, the most common,

is played in the south-west and South Wales. Long Alley is concentrated in Leicestershire, Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire. Old English or London skittles has all but died out, with only one alley, at the Freemasons Arms, Hampstead (London Borough of Camden), remaining in use into the twenty-first century.

Skittle alleys are usually either integrated within the main body of a public house or social club, or accommodated in out-buildings. Unusual examples include an alley housed in an early nineteenth-century thatched building at the Shave Cross Inn, Marshwood, Dorset, and one in a converted stable block to the rear of The Talbot Hotel, Tetbury, Gloucestershire. Most unusual is an alley created in a converted railway carriage built to form part of Queen Victoria's Diamond



Figure 6
This heavy iron ring of sixteenth-, or seventeenth-, century origin in Brading on the Isle of Wight is a gruesome reminder of the now illegal sport of bull baiting. Listed Grade II.

Jubilee train of 1897 but now sited on the edge of a field in Shirewell, Devon (Fig 2). All three are listed Grade II.

Goddards (listed Grade II*), a grand rest home of 1899 designed in the Arts and Crafts style by Edwin Lutyens in Abinger Common, Surrey, contains a purpose-designed skittle alley.

Cock-fighting

Banned following legislation in 1835, cock-fighting was for many centuries popular in both rural and urban communities. As with skittles, the sport was often associated with pubs and gambling, but in order to escape the attentions of local magistrates it did not always take place in purpose-built structures. Often it was confined to cellars and lofts, or to secluded fields. Moreover, despite many

a pub, or round structure, or even simply a round depression in the ground being traditionally linked with cock-fighting over the generations, firm evidence is often hard to find (a rare example is the Moor Hall cockpit in Sutton Coldfield; listed Grade II). As a result, the identification of former cockpits is not always clear-cut.

Amongst the best of the confirmed purpose-designed examples are Woolavington, Somerset (listed Grade II), of the seventeenth century, and Bisley-with-Lypiatt, Gloucestershire (Grade II*) where, not unusually, the building is a combined cockpit and dovecote. Often galleried to accommodate spectators, purpose-built cockpits tended to be circular, single- or double-storey vernacular buildings with thatched roofs, as at Woolavington, mentioned above. Otley Hall, Suffolk (listed Grade I), incorporated a skittle alley which doubled for cock-fighting. Coops for rearing the birds survive at The Old Shop, High Street, Whitchurch, Shropshire (listed Grade II*).

Bull-baiting

Also banned in 1835 was bull- and bear-baiting, the former commoner because of the cost of bears. A heavy iron tethering ring (listed Grade II; Fig 6) at Brading, on the Isle of Wight, is rare physical evidence.

Roller-skating, ice rinks and skateparks

Roller-skating has enjoyed two short-lived boom periods; first during the 1870s, thanks to the invention of the guidable, wheeled skate, and again after 1909, following an improvement in skate design. By 1876 in London alone there were fifty rinks (a 'rink' being the Scottish term for a curling pitch). Most were little more than functional halls with iron lattice roofs and asphalt floors, and these rarely remained in business for more than a few years. The best example from the first bout of 'rincomania' is on Bethel Street, Norwich (1876, now a carpet emporium), which has a fine arched brace open timber roof. From the Edwardian period the Grade II* Coronation Hall roller skating rink in Worthing, West Sussex (1911, by T A Allen) has been in use as the Dome Cinema since 1921. Occasionally country houses built skating ponds such as the

stone-lined Grade II listed example of about 1900 at Beningborough Hall, North Yorkshire.

Skating on artificial ice also emerged during the 1870s thanks to developments in refrigeration technology. None of the early rinks survived for more than a few years, however. For example, the Brighton Rink, in Brighton, East Sussex, opened in 1897, was converted into a theatre in 1901, and it is the building's later additions that have earned its Grade II* designation. England's oldest extant rink is the unlisted Manchester Ice Palace (1910, by Everard Leeson), now a warehouse. During the 1920s advances to the technology saw nearly thirty ice rinks built around Britain. Of the survivors none are listed. The oldest remaining in use is the Queen's Ice Skating Club in Bayswater, in the City of Westminster (1930), which has few original details. The Streatham Ice Rink, London (1931), remained largely intact with some Art-Deco detailing until its demolition in 2007.

A recent listing, at Grade II, is the Rom Skatepark, at Hornchurch, in the London Borough of Havering. Skateboarding originated in California in the 1950s, taking off as a craze in the UK in the summer of 1977. *The Rom* was built in 1978 to a design by the leading skatepark designer of the day, Adrian Rolt of G-Force, and was designated as a good, early example of the type.

Sports centres

Now more commonly called Leisure Centres, these are a relatively modern building type, having come into being as a result of the 1960 Wolfenden Report on Sport and the Community. Typically they provide for both wet and dry sports; that is, pools for swimming and diving operate alongside halls for such indoor sports as badminton, basketball, volleyball and five-a-side football. Many centres also incorporate squash courts, gymnasiums and outdoor sports facilities.

The first to open, with dry sports only, was in Harlow, Essex, in 1964. Also from 1964, but more ambitious, was the National Recreation Centre at Crystal Palace, Sydenham (London Borough of Bromley; listed Grade II*), which had a 165-foot pool (now 50m), separate pools for diving and

teaching, and an adjoining athletics stadium, later expanded to 16,500 seats. Universities built many of the most advanced sports centres of the mid 1960s, such as the 1963-5 example at Hull, in the East Riding of Yorkshire, by Peter Womersley.

However, local authorities were not far behind, resulting in a number of prestigious, if often experimental centres. Newcastle City Council's Lightfoot Centre, opened in 1965, was an early dome-style centre, with a 61m span laminated timber roof clad in pioneering prefabricated fibreglass panels. In County Durham, the Billingham Forum, opened in 1968, was dubbed by Pevsner as 'the grandfather of leisure centres'. This includes an ice rink, swimming pool, indoor bowls centre and sports hall, as well as a separately listed theatre. By the end of the decade, some counties such as Nottinghamshire were experimenting with building sports and recreational facilities in conjunction with secondary schools

1.2 Buildings for swimming

Outdoor pools and lidos

For centuries all recreational swimming was outdoors, in rivers, lakes, ponds and later canals, while from the late seventeenth century until the mid-nineteenth most baths establishments offered bathing for reasons of hygiene, relaxation or medicinal purposes.

One of the earliest attempts to create a purpose-built outdoor pool for recreational swimming was the Cleveland Baths, Bathwick, just outside Bath (Bath and North-East Somerset), where a pool fed by the adjacent River Avon was constructed in 1815. Facing the pool was a block of changing rooms set out in a crescent. Listed Grade II*, the Cleveland Baths is of exceptional importance as an early example of an outdoor swimming facility, albeit for private subscribers use only.

For the use of the general public, the late nineteenth century saw the appropriation of ponds in public parks for swimming – Highgate Ponds on Hampstead Heath (London Borough of

Camden) and the lake at Victoria Park (Hackney, now for boating) are the principal survivors. More developed, in the sense that it was walled in, with a lined pool tank, was the Pells Pool, Lewes, East Sussex, built in 1860 for both private and public users, and now run by a community association. Margate (Kent) had long been in the forefront of sea bathing, and in 1937 constructed the expansive concrete-walled Walpole Bay Tidal Pool at Cliftonville which allowed hundreds of bathers to enjoy the waters at once.

During the 1920s and 1930s, increasing concern with water purity and safety saw the construction of more outdoor pools with concreted and tiled tanks and water filtration systems.

As many of these new pools also had prominent entrance and changing blocks, cafés and sunbathing areas, some, particularly in the south of England, became known as ‘lidos’ (from the Italian word for beach). In most cases it is the lido’s ancillary buildings that provide the architectural interest, such as the fountain-like aerator at Ilkley, West Yorkshire (1936; listed Grade II). Tall diving boards were also once prominent, but most have been dismantled for health and safety reasons. Only three outdoor inter-war concrete diving platforms are known to survive and two have been listed at Grade II: Coate Water Diving Platform, Swindon (Wiltshire) and the Diving Stage at the former Purley Way Lido (London Borough of Croydon), now part of a garden centre. Some of the best examples of lidos are found in coastal locations. Those at Plymouth, Devon, and Penzance, Cornwall, (both listed Grade II) combine modernist design in a dramatic setting, and are among the most representative building types of their day, embodying the inter-war cult of fresh air, fitness and mass leisure. Saltdean Lido (1936; listed Grade II*), outside Brighton, East Sussex, reflects Art Deco’s embrace of nautical imagery. There has recently been a spate of lido refurbishments. A notable example is the Grade II listed Uxbridge Lido, in the London Borough of Hillingdon (1935), closed in 1998 and reopened in 2010. Among its listed structures by G Percy Trentham is a freestanding reinforced concrete grandstand.

Beach chalets

Permanent beach chalets were pioneered in Scarborough in 1911, and Cromer followed suit in building some in 1912 (examples in both places listed Grade II). Otherwise few early examples are known to survive.

Indoor swimming pools

England’s first genuinely public baths were built as a result of the 1846 Baths and Wash-houses Act. These concentrated on providing laundries, slipper baths (for individual bathing) and, for the lowest admission fee, small plunge pools for communal bathing. Such was the popularity of the plunge pools, however, for swimming as much as for bathing, that as the nineteenth century wore on local authorities provided ever larger and more sophisticated swimming pools to help subsidise the loss-making slipper bath and laundry facilities. An 1878 amendment to the Act recognised this trend, and, furthermore, to save fuel costs, allowed local authorities to close the pools during the winter and use the pool halls for dry sports and communal events. By 1914 municipal baths had evolved into sophisticated and elaborate complexes. There were often first and second class pools for men, and a separate, usually smaller, pool for women, although T W Aldwinckle’s St Pancras Baths of 1901 in Kentish Town, London Borough of Camden (listed Grade II) had first and second class pools for women also. Some gala pools that were fitted out to serve as public halls in wintertime also had their own entrances, circulation areas and sometimes even stages and proscenium arches.

From the Edwardian period, the most elaborate and celebrated examples are the Victoria Baths, Hathersage Road, Manchester (1906, but closed to swimming in 1993), and Moseley Road Baths, Birmingham (1907), which has one pool operating and an almost intact suite of slipper baths. Both buildings are listed Grade II*. Notable Grade II listed examples from the inter-war period are Marshall Street Baths (1931, reopened 2010) and Seymour Place Baths (1937), both in the City of Westminster, London; the Empire Pool, Wembley, London Borough of Brent (1934; Fig 7); Mounts Baths, Northampton (1935-6); and Smethwick Baths, West Midlands (1933). From the 1960s, a



Figure 7

The Empire Pool, Wembley, is a tour-de-force of concrete construction designed by the engineer Sir E Owen Williams for the 1934 British Empire exhibition. The striking concrete buttresses act as a counter-balance to the portal frames which created a span of

73 metres – the largest in the world at the time. Originally used for swimming and ice-skating, it was converted to more general concert and convention use in 2000. Listed Grade II.

period of further experimentation, Coventry's Central Baths and Richmond Baths, Richmond-upon-Thames, (both opened in 1966 and listed Grade II) illustrate the more ambitious use of glazed curtain walling and the post-war emphasis on providing large banks of spectator seating. In the private sector, the 1934 Empire Pool, Wembley, in the London Borough of Brent, by Owen Williams (listed Grade II), is the outstanding example of reinforced-concrete cantilevered engineering, now used for dry sports and concerts, and a model for the banks of seating.

1.3 Outdoor sports and recreation

Small pavilions

These pavilions survive from the seventeenth century onwards for a wide variety of sports

including shooting (Fig 8), falconry, fishing, archery, croquet, tennis, bowls and cricket. They are to be found at public and private sports grounds, in public parks, in schools and universities, on country estates, in military establishments, and in the grounds of hospitals (where games formed part of the therapy). The term 'pavilion' covers a wide range of buildings in terms of design and materials. The small stone shooting box at Roseberry Topping, Great Ayton, (North Yorkshire; listed Grade II), intended to provide shelter for the local gentry, is a rare late eighteenth-century example of this type of building. Smaller in scale, Sir John Burnet and Partners designed two neo-classical, iron-framed and brick pavilions with colonnades (both listed Grade II) in 1924 on Ramsgate's Esplanade, in Kent, overlooking the adjoining bowls and croquet lawns. A charming later twentieth-



Figure 8
A shooting box of the late eighteenth century gave welcome rest, and cover, on this isolated spot in at Roseberry Topping in Great Ayton, North Yorkshire. Listed Grade II.

century example is Raymond Erith's 1964 croquet shed at Aynho (Northamptonshire; listed Grade II), modelled on William Kent's pavilions at Badminton House (Gloucestershire).

Football, rugby and other grandstands

The Football League was formed in 1888 and most professional football clubs moved into permanent grounds between 1889 and 1910. For large crowds, grandstands were essential.

Unlike their counterparts in county cricket, professional football clubs proved reluctant to appoint architects, preferring to put up utilitarian stands. Only one designer of note emerged, from 1901 onwards, and that was Archibald Leitch (1865-1939), who significantly described himself as a factory architect and engineer. The standard Leitch design, repeated at nearly twenty grounds,

was for a single covered stand, either of two tiers or of a 'double-decker design' (that is, with one tier raised over the lower one). In the former category is the Grade-II listed Stevenage Road Stand at Fulham FC's ground, Craven Cottage (London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham), opened in 1905. This has an ornate brick facade with stone facings on the street side, to blend in with the surrounding terraced houses, but is otherwise a basic iron-framed structure with metal cladding on the pitch side. Its timber seating on the upper tier is thought to be the original. Adjoining the stand in the south east corner is a free-standing pavilion in vernacular style, with a balcony overlooking the pitch. Once a common feature at senior grounds, this corner pavilion is now the only survivor.

Of Leitch's double-decker stands, all of which bore his trademark criss-cross steel balcony detail, one survives at Goodison Park, Liverpool, and one, in Glasgow, is listed. The oldest grandstand still in use is a relatively small brick and timber stand at the Wellesley Road Recreation Ground in Great Yarmouth, Norfolk (1897 by J W Cockrill). Listed Grade II (as are a ticket office and tennis pavilion on the same site), the stand has a pedimented central roof gable, a feature that Leitch himself used extensively and which can also be seen at Craven Cottage. During the inter-war period most football clubs persisted with their conservative, utilitarian approach. One exception was Arsenal, where Highbury Stadium (London Borough of Islington) set a new standard in the 1930s. But even Arsenal proved unwilling to invest in column-free grandstands, now made possible by the use of reinforced concrete cantilevered roof members.

For technical innovation one has to look instead beyond professional football. What is believed to be the earliest stand in the country with a reinforced concrete cantilever roof dates from 1930 and was erected on Summers Lane by Finchley Urban District Council (London Borough of Barnet). It was designed for multiple sports and has terracing on two sides; it is listed at Grade II. Two other listed survivors from the 1930s, both in the London Borough of Hounslow, are at the former Centaurs Rugby Ground, Spring

Grove, Isleworth (1935) and at the Polytechnic Stadium, Chiswick (1937) by Joseph Addison. From the 1950s an example of column-free, cantilevered stands, is at the Richmond Athletic Ground (1958). More impressive is the single-tier North Stand, a steel-framed cantilever stand holding 9,882 seats at Hillsborough, Sheffield, South Yorkshire (1961, by Husband and Co.) which remains in use and has the distinction of being the only football-related structure other than Wembley mentioned by Pevsner in his original 'Buildings of England' series.

Cricket

The game of cricket was the first field sport to build substantial grounds. Part of cricket's character is its sense of place, the views of the outfield and pavilion and the views from the ground enjoyed over the eight hours or so spent in a day watching a game. Public schools and universities invested in cricket pavilions: Rugby (Warwickshire, 1860 and timber framed), Haileybury (Hertfordshire, 1884-5, by Reginald Blomfield) and, perhaps the best, at the Parks,

Oxford (1881, by T G Jackson). Cricket grounds and pavilions were also provided in municipal parks, and a notable early example of such a pavilion is that of 1860 at Birkenhead Park, Liverpool (Grade II). As more clubs were formed in expanding urban areas, pavilions became larger. Typically they were timber-framed on brick plinths, with half-timbered detailing (Fig 9). By the 1890s many appear to have been modelled on the Indian bungalow, with verandas, awnings and raised viewing platforms. Vernacular styling was invariably preferred, indicative of the conservatism of the club's membership, and the often suburban location in which they stood.

Educational establishments and private companies showed a similar reserve with their own pavilions. Manchester Grammar School's pavilion, built on Lower Broughton Road in 1899 by James Murgatroyd (listed Grade II), now used for Salford schools, is an especially well-preserved pavilion in vernacular Arts and Crafts style, mainly in red brick with a deep overhanging red tiled roof. At their headquarters in Bournville, Birmingham, the



Figure 9

A quintessential image of English national identity, cricket pavilions can be found in various shapes, sizes and locations, and from Birmingham to Bangalore. This particularly picturesque example of 1904 was built

for a commercial company, Bamfords, in Uttoxeter, Staffordshire. Before the First World War the ground witnessed games against Australia, the West Indies and South Africa. Listed Grade II.

Cadbury company's Men's Pavilion on Bournville Lane of 1902, by J Bedford Tyler and listed Grade II is a substantial three-storey, half-timbered, structure with full-width viewing galleries, a gymnasium, extensive changing rooms and an octagonal corner turret facing the cricket and football pitches. After the First World War this penchant for domesticity resulted in an especially magical cricket pavilion at Stanway in Gloucestershire (listed Grade II). Funded in 1925 by the author James Barrie it is another timber-framed, cottage-style pavilion, but clad entirely in larch poles and with a thatched roof.

Lords, the home of Marylebone Cricket Club – the MCC – and Middlesex Cricket Club in St John's Wood (City of Westminster), possesses a sequence of notable buildings from different epochs which make it one of the most important complexes of sporting architecture in the country. The oldest and most prominent structure is the Grade II* listed pavilion (1890, by Thomas and Frank Verity) with its famous Long Room, twin pavilion towers and distinctive terracotta facings. Also listed at

the ground are the Grace Gates (1923, by Herbert Baker) and an inspiring bas-relief sculpture (1934 by Gilbert Bayes), entitled 'Play up, play up, and play the game'. Lord's also offers the contrast of a museum, a real tennis court and some charming gardens and arched-brick concourses, with the stark modernity of grandstands by Michael Hopkins (1987) and Nicholas Grimshaw (1999), and, perched over one stand, a streamlined, aluminium semi-monocoque media centre by Future Systems (1999). Other excellent modern examples of buildings for cricket are the finely articulated concrete, steel and glass pavilion built by lecturer Gerald Beech for Liverpool University in 1961, and in Oxford, Merton College's Sports Pavilion of 1966, an equally elegant structure in boardmarked concrete, grey brick and wood (Fig 10). Both are listed at Grade II.

Bowls

This is one of the oldest of English sports and some early structures survive. The 'bowles house' at Swarkestone (Derbyshire; listed Grade I) is believed to date from 1630-2, and Pembroke



Figure 10
Merton College Sports Pavilion, Oxford. Of 1966 by Michael G D Dixey in association with Richard Sudell and Partners, this was carefully designed

to blend in with the contemporary and now Grade I listed) St Catherine's College. Listed Grade II.

College, Cambridge, retains bowling green walls and pavilions from 1700. Other examples are at Hampton Court (London Borough of Richmond, where the pavilion is listed Grade II*), Wrest Park (Bedfordshire; pavilion Grade II*) and Chatsworth (Derbyshire; pavilion Grade I) and, on a more modest scale, Wells-next-the-Sea (Norfolk; green wall, Grade II) and Whitehaven (Cumbria; Bowling House and green wall Grade II), dating from the eighteenth century. From the same period the bowling green at Great Torrington, Devon, is served by a similarly small, octagonal gazebo, hardly more than a shelter (listed Grade II with the green's walls).

Early greens could be of any shape or size, were seldom level and were often located next to public houses. This started to change during the nineteenth century, when advances in turf technology allowed the Scottish to introduce level greens. The Scots also started to manufacture bowls to agreed standards of bias (so that their curved trajectory on the green was more regulated), thus giving rise to a new code called 'flat' or 'lawn' bowling, played up and down the green in alleys, or rinks. This code, which deliberately sought to free the game from the influence of pubs and betting, was taken up enthusiastically in most parts of England by around 1905. But in Lancashire, Yorkshire and parts of the midlands a different code evolved, called 'crown green' bowling, closer to earlier forms in that the greens were not level, and play could take place on any part of the green, in any direction or angle. Betting was also tolerated.

Not surprisingly, few flat greens are still to be found next to public houses, whereas in the areas where crown green was favoured the tradition has been maintained.

Two Grade II listed examples of 'Reformed' public houses still with bowling greens are in Birmingham; the Tudoresque Black Horse in Northfield, Birmingham (1929, by Francis Goldsborough) and the Three Magpies in Hall Green (1935 by E F Reynolds), which has a rare moderne bowls pavilion. Also Grade II are two Arts and Crafts inspired pubs with greens, both built as part of the

Carlisle and District Management Scheme of the inter war period. They are the Magpie Inn (1933) and the Redfern (1940), named after the architect of both developments, Harry Redfern.

Golf

The sport specifically called 'Golf' is first recorded in Scotland in the fifteenth century; the first English course was at Blackheath, London, in 1766. Many clubhouses are re-used country houses – their parks providing the course – notably, Wentworth (Surrey), a Gothic house of about 1830, adapted in 1924 and subsequently extended, and Hugh May's Eltham Lodge of 1664 (Royal Borough of Greenwich; listed Grade I), itself a key example of Restoration architecture. The first English links course – that is, a course laid out among coastal sand dunes – opened in 1864 at Westward Ho!, Devon, and by the 1890s superior resorts were all building them. That at Frinton-on-Sea (Essex), for example, dates from 1896, whilst Sir Edwin Lutyens designed that at Knebworth (Hertfordshire) in 1908 (Grade II). Many more courses opened in the 1930s, but only a handful of purpose-designed clubhouses from this period survive, such as the Royal Birkdale Golf Club, Southport, Merseyside (1935) and Childwall Golf Club, near Liverpool (1938).

Lawn tennis

This game evolved from experiments carried out by two rackets players using air-filled rubber balls on a croquet lawn in the back garden of 8, Ampton Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham, between 1859 and 1865. In 1872 these men and two friends established the world's first lawn tennis club in Leamington Spa (Warwickshire). The All England Croquet Club, based in Wimbledon, then took up the game in 1875, and two years later staged the first national championships. Within a decade 'lawn tennis' had spread around the world, forcing players of the much older indoor game to adopt the name 'real tennis'. Listings are confined to pavilions and related structures (such as retaining walls), rather than to courts as such.

Lawn tennis is one of several sports whose clubs and governing bodies have upgraded their facilities so consistently and comprehensively that few original buildings of note have survived.



Figure 11

A mock-timber tennis club house of 1923 built for the workers of New Eagley Mills, Bolton, complete with a decorative entablature and cupola with weather vane.

Part of the model village of Bank Top, it was extended in 1935. Listed Grade II.

The grass courts at the Edgbaston Archery and Lawn Tennis Society on Westbourne Road, Birmingham, are almost certainly the oldest to have remained in use (since 1873). But the club's pavilion is otherwise modern. The current Wimbledon was inaugurated in 1922 and has also been significantly redeveloped. One historic tennis club where the original pavilion does survive is the Queen's Club, Palliser Road, Barons Court (London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham) whose grand, but much altered and unlisted, pavilion of 1886 is adjoined by two real tennis courts. A pavilion built for mill workers at Bank Top, Bolton (Lancashire), in 1923 is listed at Grade II (Fig 11), as are the Summer Pavilion of 1896 at Beckenham (London Borough of Bromley) and the Tennis Club House of 1912 at Scarborough (North Yorkshire) by Sir Edwin

Cooper. The unlisted clubhouse at Westcliff-on-Sea, Essex, of 1934, now in use as a stage school and nursery, is a rare example of an English pavilion in the International Modern style. Private examples are probably commoner, as tennis was enthusiastically adopted by the country house set, as seen at Hascombe Court, Waverley, Surrey (late 1920s; pavilion listed Grade II), and at Stanford Hall, Rushcliffe, Nottinghamshire, home of Julius Cahn, an entrepreneur, philanthropist and cricket enthusiast. It was where in the 1930s he built cricket and tennis pavilions, a swimming pool and sea lion and penguin pools (several structures including pavilion were listed Grade II, but not all survive).

Boating

There are various listed boat houses in the grounds of country houses, used for private rowing and angling purposes, such as the castellated late eighteenth-century example at Tabley Hall, Cheshire (listed Grade II), or the exceptional Robert Adam-designed boathouse at Kedleston Hall, Derbyshire (listed Grade I), designed for the Curzons in 1769. Such buildings often played key roles in designed landscapes, as well as providing useful facilities for polite leisure. Rarer are purpose-built club houses for competitive teams. These comprise a club room, viewing terrace and changing rooms set above a boat store as at the Pengwern Boat Club, Shrewsbury, Shropshire (listed Grade II), and they gain immeasurably in interest where they form a group, as at Oxford and Cambridge, Eton (Berkshire), or Henley-on-Thames (Oxfordshire): five late nineteenth- and early twentieth-century boat houses are listed at the last mentioned. The sleek example on the Cam at Cambridge, designed

by David Roberts for Corpus Christi, Girton and Sidney Sussex colleges in 1958 (listed Grade II), continues the tradition into more recent times. At Henley, a listed nineteenth-century grandstand at the Phyllis Court Club accommodates visitors to the rowing regatta.

Sailing

Club buildings first tended to adapt existing buildings such as at West Cowes Castle on the Isle of Wight, where the headquarters of the Royal Yacht Squadron (listed Grade II*) was adapted from one of Henry VIII's forts into club premises in the 1850s by the country house architect Anthony Salvin. Where they are purpose-built, however, yacht club houses can be among the most impressive of all sporting buildings. The Torbay Yacht Club, Devon (1840; listed Grade II), is an early example, and two others epitomise the architectural styles of the early twentieth century: the Arts and Crafts Royal Norfolk and Suffolk Yacht Club, Lowestoft, Suffolk (1902-3, by G and F Skipper; Fig 12) and the Modern



Figure 12

As an island nation, boathouses and yacht clubs hold a particular resonance. This magnificent example, for the Royal Norfolk and Suffolk Yacht Club at Lowestoft (Suffolk), was designed by the appropriately named

local architectural practice of G and F Skipper in 1902. It is listed Grade II* due to its architectural interest and the quality of its interior.

Movement Royal Corinthian Yacht Club, Burnham-on-Crouch, Essex (from 1931, by Joseph Emberton; listed Grade II*) which was England's only contribution to the International Style exhibition held in New York in 1932.

Horse racing

The earliest permanent grandstands were at race courses. That of 1755 by John Carr at York (listed Grade II*) is among the earliest, and contains echoes of the once-legion hunting stands and lodges built in country parks for spectators of the chase. A few small nineteenth-century stands are listed for their venerability and long association with major sporting events. Warwick racecourse has a complex of three stands (listed Grade II) dating back to 1809. Brick and stone slowly gave way to timber and cast iron, as stands became larger to accommodate ever-greater numbers (Fig 13). Lincoln racecourse has a Grade II listed stand of about 1897 with cast iron columns. The first cantilevered stands recorded in Britain



Figure 13
The County Stand at Aintree Racecourse built in 1885 and modified to meet later needs. The Grand National began here as the Grand Liverpool Steeple Chase in 1839. Listed Grade II.

were at Northolt Racecourse (London Borough of Ealing) by Oscar Faber in 1929 (demolished in the mid 1950s).

Among other notable listed structures at racecourses is the Grade II listed Indicator Board of 1922 at York (Fig 14).

Greyhound racing

Racing in its current form, with the dogs chasing a mechanical hare around an oval track, was invented in the United States during the early twentieth century. It was first tried in England at the Belle Vue Stadium, Manchester, in July 1926. By the end of that year thirty tracks were in operation, and by 1939 there were over a hundred. However, in 2016 only 24 tracks remained licensed.

Because investment in the sport was largely seen as speculative, and there were many failures, little money was spent on the architecture. Indeed some were even more basic than football



Figure 14
The Indicator Board, York racecourse, York. A large three-storey steel-framed structure of 1922 given some elegance by the incorporation of a clock tower to the attic and classical columns to the ground floor. Listed Grade II.

grounds in the lower divisions. (Speedway tracks, introduced from Australia in 1927, were similarly basic.) Nevertheless, some tracks had impressive Totalisator boards, for example, at Catford Stadium in the London Borough of Lewisham, closed in 2003, and Walthamstow Stadium, in the London Borough of Waltham Forest (erected in 1932 and listed Grade II) closed in 2008 (and now demolished). Walthamstow also featured an iconic neon sign, clearly visible to millions of motorists driving past on the North Circular Road, which is now listed at Grade II along with ancillary buildings and its 1930s kennels.

Velodromes

These are cycle tracks with banked sides for speed racing and started to appear in the 1890s. Very few from that era remains, one of them at Herne Hill (London Boroughs of Southwark and Lambeth), where racing commenced in 1892. This is the only venue from the 1948 Olympics that remains in use for the purpose for which it was designed. Another, at Preston Park, Brighton, East Sussex, which remains in use was already operative by about 1894 and is claimed by some to date from 1877. There are no grandstands or ancillary buildings of note, and in fact no cycle-related tracks are listed.

Motor racing

Motor racing has become an important business as well as a popular spectator sport in Britain. Originating in France in the 1890s, the landmark development in England was the construction of Brooklands, near Weybridge in Surrey, the world's first purpose-built motor-racing circuit. A surviving section of its steeply banked track has been scheduled, the only designation, besides the Grade II* listed 1907 clubhouse at Brooklands, relating to motor sport. Some tracks, such as Silverstone (Northamptonshire), Thruxton (Hampshire) and Snetterton (Norfolk), used Second World War aerodromes; others were laid out within existing race courses, as at Aintree (Merseyside), while some were constructed on virgin sites, as at Brands Hatch (Kent). Motor racing's infrastructure has generally been utilitarian: only in recent years has investment been made in purpose-built structures aspiring to

any architectural distinction, although the former Cooper Car Company workshop and showroom in Surbiton, London Borough of Kingston upon Thames, dating from the late 1950s, is listed at Grade II.

Gliding

This originated in Germany in the early years of the twentieth century, and grew in popularity in England between the wars. Many gliding clubs occupy fairly modest premises; one exception to this was the refined Modern Movement clubhouse designed in 1935 by Kit Nicholson for the Dunstable Gliding Club at Dunstable, in Bedfordshire (listed Grade II*).

Flying

Flying had also increased as a recreation sport between the wars, and some clubhouses were designed in a modern idiom to match the novelty and excitement of the aeroplane: Brooklands also possesses a Grade II listed flying clubhouse.

Maypoles

The maypole is one of the emblems of English village life with a history obscured by folklore and symbolic interpretations. Recorded examples date back into the fourteenth century and may relate to the medieval right to gather wood from the forests. Usually temporary wooden structures some acquired a more permanent status as part of a revival of folk traditions in the last two hundred years. Listed examples, usually sited on village greens, survive in stone (at Wetheral, Cumbria), cast-iron (Nether Wasdale, Cumbria) and wood (Welford-on-Avon, Warwickshire). Often reaching extreme heights of between 18 and 24 metres, the pole is sometimes surmounted by a weathervane.

Closely associated with maypoles is the Grade II listed Giant's Stride, installed as playground equipment for the boys at Townfield School, Hunstanworth (County Durham), in 1866.

2 Specific Considerations

For many, it is the sport which counts and not its setting: however, identifying and protecting the best of our sporting buildings adds to the overall experience of recreation, and reflects the growing appreciation of this important aspect of our nation's history.

Due to the massive changes in recent years (touched on above in the Introduction), the greatest care needs to be taken to establish authenticity as well as significance. Sports and recreation buildings are only now receiving the study they deserve through enterprises such as Historic England's *Played in Britain* series, and our enhanced understanding comes sometimes too late in the day to save some buildings. Building types such as swimming pools, lidos and spectator stands, are reasonably well researched and there are enough listed examples to help determine benchmarks. Other types, for instance ice rinks, are less well understood and there are some important sports that have not encouraged the building of bespoke premises at all; other leading sports (like motor racing) have used short-life structures that undergo constant change or replacement.

Many sports and recreation buildings are modest and unadorned, but some were designed as architectural statements that projected a private institution's prestige or a public authority's commitment to health and welfare. Normal architectural considerations are thus important in assessing this category, but there may be specialist considerations as well which can endow a plain-seeming structure with extra significance.

Individual buildings must be assessed on their own merits. However, it is important to consider the wider context and where a building forms part of a functional group with one or more listed (or listable) structures this is likely to add to its own interest. Key considerations are the relative dates of the structures, and the degree to which they were functionally inter-dependent when in their original uses.

2.1 Historical association

Designation is intended to encourage appropriate management of buildings and structures. Some sites of sporting renown may nonetheless be unsuitable for designation as the relevant buildings and fabric have gone: the site of a sporting triumph may be 'hallowed ground' to some, but if the actual structures which witnessed these events have gone, then extra control through the planning system is not really appropriate. Therefore, historical associations can only be accorded so much consideration when it comes to designation. Some celebrated sporting buildings will combine rarity, structural interest, early date and other factors, together with claims to sporting historical significance. Examples of this include the stand at Aintree, Liverpool (from

1885, Fig 13), which is listed in part because of Aintree's importance as the home of the Grand National, and that by Thomas Verity (1889-90) at Lord's Cricket Ground in St John's Wood, London, the special interest of which lies in no small part through Lord's being the 'home' of cricket.

Associations with notable sportsmen and women or with teams – and there are many – should be taken on board only if a building or structure has some architectural or engineering merit in itself, or is preserved in a form that directly illustrates and confirms its historic associations. Inscriptions and club badges – as incorporated on the now-converted Arsenal east stand of 1936 at their former Highbury ground – can help cement this link between sporting renown and recognition through listing.

2.2 Specific building types

Swimming pools

Swimming pools comprise the largest number of listed buildings constructed for sport and recreation. Their outward form was often impressive, and they can form significant additions to the public realm. Therefore their relationship to other civic buildings is a consideration. The level of degree of survival is also an important factor. The larger establishments contained first and second class (male) pools and a separate ladies' pool, slipper baths for both sexes, a laundry and perhaps a board room, and would also have had their own boilers and chimney. Not all these features will necessarily always be present, but any service spaces will add interest alongside a striking main pool hall (perhaps with a gallery and integral changing cubicles) and a bold façade. For the inter-war period, only the larger swimming bath complexes are generally of special interest, and will be judged on architectural and decorative interest, degree of survival, structural innovation and group value. Many continued to have a large pool that was covered over in winter and the hall used for concerts and dances. Where the flooring has been left down the pool may well survive beneath. Prominent features include the

roof structure over the large main pool – some like Poplar Baths (1934 by Harley Heckford in the London Borough of Tower Hamlets) are listed for their innovative use of hyperbolic arches that permitted clearstory glazing to give natural light and ventilation to the pool. A very lavish architectural or engineering display is required for post-war pools. The best will display innovative planning, structural ambition and a mix of two pools or a pool and space for dry sports, to justify listing. The juxtaposition of two large spaces makes for more interesting architectural and technical solutions.

A handful of open-air lidos date from the late nineteenth century, but most have been altered and extended so many times that they have lost their special interest. Degree of survival, and the quality of the later buildings, are key considerations. For early- to mid-twentieth century examples, it is the ancillary buildings that normally give a lido its special quality: changing rooms, perhaps a grandstand and a café, diving boards and Art Deco aerators rather than the pool itself. In the case of seaside lidos, however, the pool can be an imaginative response to a headland or bay, assuming an unusual shape, with elegant surrounding buildings. They often occupy dramatic cliff-side sites, as at the 1935 Tinside Lido, Plymouth (listed Grade II).

Boat houses

Some boat houses, as noted above, are strong on architectural display. They are especially impressive where a number of clubs have built similar facilities in a row – as with the boat houses in Oxford and Cambridge or on the Thames around Chiswick Bridge.

Pavilions and stands

Early pavilions and stands dating from before 1914 are sufficiently rare to be worth consideration if intact. The old pavilions on the major county cricket grounds such as Trent Bridge at Nottingham (not listed) have sufficient symbolic and sentimental value to ensure their appreciation and appropriate management, especially when grounds are redeveloped. Others are modest but contribute

to designed landscapes such as public parks, and can have claims to social significance, besides those of architecture and group value: the 1902 Grade II listed example at Bournville, discussed above, for instance, stands testament to the Cadbury company's concern to provide healthy leisure facilities for its employees.

Stands are a particular challenge for designation since most have been demolished or undergone massive alteration. Some retain their technological or structural interest, such as the use of cantilevered roofs, and may be eligible on engineering grounds.

Surfaces

Surfaces, such as running tracks, are not eligible for listing: this protection is reserved for buildings and structures, although some street surfaces have been listed where they can be shown to be raised or excavated structures. The sole sporting structure of this sort to be designated is the impressive section of banked track from the Brooklands motor-racing circuit, in Surrey (1907, reconstructed in 1933) which, exceptionally, has been scheduled. Neither are open spaces, such as playing fields, eligible for designation, although some form part of municipal parks on the Register of Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest, as discussed in the selection

guide on [Urban Landscapes](#). Pavilions and other related buildings can play a key part in the character of such areas, and complimentary designation, with listings alongside landscape registration, is an appropriate way of recognising this and providing for appropriate management.

2.3 Extent of listing

Amendment to the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 provides two potential ways to be more precise about what is listed.

The empowerments, found in section 1 (5A) (a) and (b) of the 1990 Act, allow the List entry to say definitively whether attached or curtilage structures are protected; and/or to exclude from the listing specified objects fixed to the building, features or parts of the structure. These changes do not apply retrospectively, but New listings and substantial amendments from 2013 will provide this clarification when appropriate.

Clarification on the extent of listing for older lists may be obtained through the Local Planning Authority or through the Historic England's Enhanced Advisory Service, see www.HistoricEngland.org.uk/EAS.

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