

Landscape character and strategy

Underlying geology, location and historic development have created the landscape character we see today:

south and south western areas are lower lying, more fertile and better drained resulting in open park and farm land
north and north eastern areas occupy higher ground with poorer soils and drainage and are predominantly wooded

The estate is divided into landscape character areas

Area	Character	Strategy
Langley Park - woods and glades	Predominantly dense 'natural' deciduous woodland of varying age cut by streams, drainage ditches, paths and areas of open grassland.	Maintain and restore the historic footprint of woodland canopy, woodland species and open grassy spaces.
Langley Park - rhododendron garden	Overgrown but clearly defined garden dominated by rhododendrons, with serpentine paths and vista to Windsor Castle.	Restore maintaining integrity of period rhododendron collection layout and vista.
Langley Park - arboretum	Exotic and ornamental tree collection in enclosed space surrounding walled gardens. Scale and unusual characteristics of some mature trees within a relatively small space give a unique quality.	Encourage wider appreciation and consider ways to continue the collection.
Langley Park - house, stables and walled garden	Building group forming the visual centre of Langley Park, previously the Estate hub.	Restore views of the house from the parkland.
Langley Park - parkland	Open land used for grazing and crops with distinctive tree groups, specimen trees and boundary tree belts. Included are old boundaries to the original deer park, 18th century lodges, lines of drives to the house and an ornamental lake.	For improved historic context and future health and sustainability, seek increased grassland and manage the trees and lake.

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Langley Park - southern parkland	Open land used for grazing and crops, punctuated by tree groups and bounded by a southerly mature tree belt.	Manage to maintain the balance of trees and open space.
Black Park - woodland	Largely single species coniferous plantations with evenly spaced and aged trees, regular in shape and divided by rides of varying width and character. Smaller areas of mixed deciduous trees, open grass and heathland.	Further integrate recreational and woodland management and encourage wider use of existing rides.
Black Park Lake recreation area	Large lake surrounded by trees including some magnificent pines. The water provides a focus for people and activities and the trees provide setting and define spaces for picnics, play and parking.	Continue and enhance as the centre for recreational and visitor facilities.
Rowley Farm - woods and fields	Patchwork of open fields and mixed woodland blocks occupying higher ground with longer southerly views.	Sustain the landscape pattern and enable limited public access.
Rowley Farm - farmland	Network of fields enclosed by pine dominated southern tree belt and woodlands to the north. Characterised by coniferous copses and a few deciduous tree groups. Visually appears as an extension of parkland at Langley, adding to the perception of extensive green space gained from within the project area and from the A412.	Manage to sustain the copses, tree groups, tree belt and visual links.

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