was constructed in 1796–7 and based on the Roman tomb of Cestius, not on anything Egyptian.

The park has its origins in the early C18, occupying an acreage considerably reduced during the latter half of the previous century. Four avenues of trees were laid out to the w and the stream to the nw of the hall dammed to create a smaller version of the present lake, beneath an artificial hill created to its n, the Mount. When the second earl succeeded in 1756 he bought more land and altered his father’s landscape to a more informal aspect; this during the 1760s when Capability Brown was doing the same thing at Holkham and Kimberley. The lake was enlarged in 1762. Further w, on land newly acquired, or re-acquired, a racecourse was made and a grandstand constructed in 1773 (⅓ m. w along the Aylsham Road – now called the Tower House), attributed to William and Thomas Ivory. It is of red brick and is dominated by a circular seven-storey tower with commodious apartments and windows facing the running. One- and two-storey blocks provide for services. It was converted to domestic use in 1857.

Outside the gates the Buckinghamshire Arms, built for, and probably by, the estate bricklayer, Joseph Balls, in 1693. The three N bays are the original, the remaining three added c. 1740 when the building became an alehouse and was used to accommodate the servants of visitors to the Hall. All the windows are C19. The barn immediately w is more remarkable. It was built as a stables ‘for the servants and horses of gentlemen that visited Lord Buckingham’, and, like the alehouse extension, is of c. 1740, so its big shaped gables to the N and S are among the latest in the county, in contrast to those of the Hall. Showy E front in six bays, of Flemish-bond brick on an English-bond plinth course. Honeycomb ventilation panels and hollow- and ovolo-moulded eaves cornice. The S room retains feeding troughs and hay-racks for the horses.

Further on, between the kitchen garden walls and the pub, a cluster of picturesque C18 and C19 cottages at Park Gates.

BLOFIELD

St Andrew and St Peter. The largest church in the immediate neighbourhood. It has a big, tall w tower which looks later C14, with flushwork panelling, spandrels with shields, a four-light w window, a lofty arch to the nave, sound-holes with a grid of reticulated panel units, and pinnacles in the form of figures. But there is a string of bequests for its construction between 1427 and 1438. W door with carved Saints in the spandrels. Later C14 the five-bay arcades inside. They have quatrefoil piers with polygonal capitals. In the arch a hollow chamfer and a wave. The clerestory was probably built at the same time, and this too has reticulated windows. The aisle windows are all new, but all Perp in style. Two-storeyed N porch with wave-moulded entrance jambs and a cusped ogee