SUMMER EXAMINATIONS 2005

Subject ARCHAEOLOGY

Title of Paper AR3008 THE ARCHAEOLOGY OF IMPROVEMENT:
BRITAIN 1750-1850

Time Allowed TWO HOURS

Instructions to candidates

Candidates should answer any TWO questions. Support your answers with specific examples and case studies as appropriate.

1. To what extent were agricultural improvements of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries motivated by a desire for profit? How might the archaeological study of the landscape itself help us to answer this question?

2. How might archaeological science contribute to our understanding of the changes traditionally associated with the 'agricultural revolution'?

3. How did parliamentary enclosure relate to the contemporary ethic of Improvement?

4. In what ways did the design of EITHER prisons OR workhouses in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries contribute to the reformation of deviant individuals?

5. How far did housing reform of the eighteenth to nineteenth centuries improve the quality of life for working class households?

6. With reference to one particular place (a building, or a landscape) identify ways in which the ethic of Improvement shaped the physical world between 1750 and 1850.

7. In what aspects of eighteenth and nineteenth century artefacts is the spirit of Improvement evident? Does it go beyond efficiency of production?

8. The social processes of this period are often analysed in terms of the switch from a collective to an individualistic ethic of social organisation. With reference to specific developments in rural and/or urban landscapes, do you think this an accurate characterisation?