

ARCHAEOLOGICAL NOTES

The following notes on fieldwork carried out in the county in 2011 have been compiled from notes provided by commercial archaeological organisations and local societies, and lists of projects provided by the Milton Keynes and Buckinghamshire County Council's Historic Environment Records. The writer is grateful to those organisations and individuals for their assistance.

Nevertheless, the report is incomplete, since not all organisations appearing on the above lists have responded to requests for information. The regional journal *South Midlands Archaeology* should therefore also be consulted.

The reader is reminded that the Historic Environment Records (HERs) maintained by Buckinghamshire County Council and Milton Keynes Council are the primary sources for more detailed information on sites and finds. For non-commercial enquiries both HERs are available online via the national Heritage Gateway: www.heritagegateway.org.uk

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KEY

For the sake of brevity, and in order to avoid repetition, the names of some of the contributing organisations have been abbreviated as follows:

ASC	Archaeological Services & Consultancy
AS	Archaeological Solutions
CA	Cotswold Archaeology
JMHS	John Moore Heritage Services
NA	Northamptonshire Archaeology
OA	Oxford Archaeology
TVAS	Thames Valley Archaeological Services

PREHISTORIC

Aylesbury: Aylesbury High School, Walton
SP 8268 1333

Albion Archaeology undertook trial trenching in advance of a planning application for the construction of a new 6th-form block at Aylesbury High School in April. A single ditch, possibly a late Iron Age field boundary, was revealed. A possible continuation of the ditch was recorded on a watching brief during groundworks, although no further dating evidence was recovered.

Calverton & Shenley Church End: Milton Keynes Western Expansion Area
SP 1291 3745

Two phases of evaluation were conducted between March and June by North Pennines Archaeology Ltd in the proposed development area of the Milton Keynes Western Expansion. 86 trenches totalling 2580 metres in length were excavated. Of these trenches, 17 produced features of archaeological significance: the remaining 69 trenches contained only modern field drains and plough furrows. The recorded features, comprising ditches, gullies and pits were concentrated in three distinct clusters. No dating evidence was recovered from any of the excavated features: however, most of the features predated the medieval ridge and furrow and are very similar in nature to features that have been excavated in the general vicinity and dated to the mid/late Iron Age.

The second phase of evaluation consisted of 75 trenches totalling 2250 metres in length. Archaeological remains found comprised pits, post holes, gullies and ditches. The main concentration of features was in the north of the site. The features appeared to be either for drainage or part of field systems pre-dating the medieval ridge and furrow found in most of the fields in the area. Finds dating from the Iron Age, medieval and post medieval periods were recovered from the study area.

Ninety-eight sherds of Iron Age and two fragments of medieval pottery were recovered from ten different contexts during the evaluation. The Iron Age pottery was recovered almost exclusively from the north-eastern trenches, whereas no dating evidence was recovered from any of the excavated features to the west.

Denham: William King Flour Mill
TQ 0522 8487

Wessex Archaeology undertook works between March and June on the site of the former William King Flour Mill, Denham, as part of an ongoing development of the land including part development of the existing buildings and redevelopment to residential use. Site works consisted of watching briefs in areas of shallow impact, whilst deeper shuttered areas of 3m depth were carefully machine excavated under constant archaeological supervision. No archaeological finds or features were encountered during the excavations. However, potentially important palaeoenvironmental remains had been identified by a geoarchaeological borehole survey during an earlier phase of work, so this phase of the project was in large part designed to record and sample these deposits. Peat and humic clay of high palaeoenvironmental potential were recorded and sampled, and a number of subsamples taken for analysis and radiocarbon dating. Initial dating evidence suggests that the sequences may span the periods of occupation at the nearby Mesolithic sites, which are largely lacking in palaeoenvironmental context.

Haversham: Orchardway Wind Farm
SP 830 442 (centred)

NA carried out a geophysical survey in March and April on land proposed for the construction of a wind farm. A ring ditch and two sub-rectangular enclosures, ditches and a D-shaped enclosure were identified. Two pit groups and two probable ditches could be of Romano-British date, linked to the known habitation around Hill Farm to the south. Three probable industrial features, possibly lime kilns, were identified within a sub-rectangular enclosure which also contained a group of pits within one corner. A possible trackway connected to the enclosure on two sides. Ridge and furrow cultivation respected the major features, perhaps

suggesting a medieval or early post-medieval date. Possible ditches, a trench and several pits were also located and a post-medieval field boundary.

Haversham: Orchardway Wind Farm
SP 830 442 (centred)

An evaluation comprising 18 trenches was undertaken by CA during August and September on the site of the proposed Orchardway Wind Farm. Middle to Late Iron Age remains were found and included enclosures, two ring ditches and associated ditches and pits. A cremation burial, believed to be of Iron Age date, was also identified. Although no Roman features were present, the presence of Roman pottery within some Iron Age features is suggestive of activity of this date in the vicinity. Medieval, post-medieval or modern agricultural features were also found, as well as the remains of a possible medieval or post-medieval kiln.

Swanbourne: Mursley Road
SP 8070 2738

In May and June AS conducted an evaluation on land adjacent to 33 Mursley Road. The evaluation was carried out ahead of a proposed housing development. Four features were identified. Two pits both produced pottery of Bronze Age to early Iron Age date. Four fragments of Romano-British CBM were recovered from a ditch, in addition to medieval (12th – 14th century) pottery. The fourth feature, a gully, was undated.

Wolverton: Manor Farm, Old Wolverton
SP 807 423 (centred)

The 2011 fieldwork by Cambridge Archaeological Unit at Manor Farm quarry revealed a large, complex braided palaeochannel system, paralleling the present course of the Great Ouse.

Alluvial deposits associated with this channel system were seen to underlie *in situ* scatters of late Mesolithic flints, associated with a well-preserved burnt buried soil deposit. Numerous burnt stone pits and burnt stone scatters of presumed Bronze Age date were also seen to cut through the alluvium immediately overlying this buried soil.

A pit alignment comprising eighteen circular and oval pits was also excavated, but produced no

material culture. Located on the edge of the gravels and projecting across alluvial deposits sealing part of the palaeochannel system, the pits were aligned roughly north-south. A later channel phase was seen to truncate the alignment.

The vast majority of the channel deposits comprised coarse sands and gravels, indicative of dynamic, fast flowing channel activity. Where slow-forming silts were present, animal bones and organic remains had survived. A large quantity of worked and unworked red deer antler was recovered, and a single wooden bucket of Iron Age or Roman date was also found.

Occasionally sections of brushwood and limestone trackways had survived at the channel edges, presumably the remains of fording attempts. One trackway yielded a number of 11th-century horse-shoes, although its stratigraphic location in the alluvial sequence suggests it is later than a number of other trackway remnants.

ROMAN

Aston Clinton: College Road SP 8770 1350

Trial trench evaluation was undertaken on land at College Road, Aston Clinton by NA during September and October. A late Iron Age/Romano-British settlement, dating from the early/mid 1st century AD to the 4th century, occupied an area of c.1.5ha in the south-east part of the site. The settlement comprised a series of rectilinear ditched enclosures, as well as structural remains, pits and an inhumation burial. A further small focus of activity lay to the north-east. The eastern boundary of the settlement was possibly defined by a palaeochannel, although its course was not visible on the geophysical survey. A sinuous, low bank sealed the palaeochannel and may demarcate the parish boundary, although the date of its construction is unknown. Further to the north the parish boundary appeared to be marked by a broad, shallow ditch, also undated.

Aston Clinton: Land off Stablebridge Road SP 8890 1160

In February OA carried out an evaluation of land off Stablebridge Road, Aston Clinton. Nineteen trenches were excavated, revealing a number of

archaeological features, particularly in the north-western half of the site. The evidence suggests that a settlement of late Iron Age/early Roman date lies within or close to the site. Pottery recovered from a smaller number of features indicates that such activity continued into the Roman period, at least until the 2nd century AD. There was little evidence of activity of earlier or later periods, although a small quantity of residual worked flint was recovered from later features. In addition, two undated ditches in the south-western corner of the site may form part of a post-medieval recorded during an earlier watching brief at the site. The pottery assemblage dated largely from the late Iron Age to early Roman period. The earliest pottery dated from the late Iron Age to AD 43/70: the latest was recovered from a single feature, and dated to AD 120–200. of medieval date was recovered. Two fragments of bone hair pin were typologically dated to AD 50–200. One fragment of ceramic building material and a tile, both of medieval date, were also recovered.

Calverton & Shenley Church End: Milton Keynes Western Expansion Area SP 4813 2378

Between February and June, North Pennines Archaeology Ltd conducted excavations within the Milton Keynes Western Expansion Area. Three areas (A-C) were investigated in adjoining fields on the land off Watling Street, south-east of Stony Stratford.

Area A contained a series of Iron Age round-house gullies in the centre of the site with a series of boundary/enclosure ditches on its west and southeast sides. There were also a series of pits along the western side and in the northeast corner of the site. Iron Age pottery was found in several pits and in some of the ditches.

Area B contained several ditches and a possible watering hole in the northern end. The ditches appear to line up with similar features noted in Area C to the south east. Small groups of pits and some isolated pits were noted around the centre and southern end of the area, along with a large amount of tree boles. The remains of two more ditches were noted to the southwest, following similar alignments as the ditches at the north end. Iron Age and Roman pottery was excavated from some of the pits, ditches and tree boles.

Area C was the largest of the three areas excavated. The north end of the area was devoid of archaeological features, with the exception of two discrete pits. Two main phases of activity were noted in this area, the earliest being on the north-east side, consisted of a series of Iron Age ditches and pits. The second phase, to the southwest, consisted of a series of Romano-British enclosures. Five small rectangular enclosure ditches, along with pits and post holes were excavated, along with a medieval ditch which cut across the site. Iron Age and Roman pottery were recovered from the ditches and pits. To the south east of the small enclosures, a large square Romano-British enclosure was examined. It contained the truncated remains of a sub-rectangular house along with several ditches, pits, postholes and a possible watering hole/well. The entrance was located on the southeast side of the enclosure. Roman pottery was found, including some Samian ware and some tile fragments in the ditch. Some Iron Age pottery was also recovered. An iron spearhead and tang were found near the enclosure entrance along with two Romano-British copper coins. The enclosure entrance and ditch had been badly truncated by medieval ridge and furrow cultivation which covered the three excavated areas and adjoining fields.

Cuddington: Holywell Farm

SP 7565 1160

JMHS carried out an evaluation in November in advance of proposed development at Holywell Farm. Five trenches with a cumulative length of c.102m were excavated. The earliest features were Romano-British ditches and pits, extending across a relatively flat area on the immediate crest of a north-facing slope. The ditches probably once formed boundaries of a Romano-British farming complex which occupied this hilltop from the 2nd to the 4th century AD. Settlement evidence came from a series of postholes, a gully and waste pits set close to the boundary ditches of the farmstead.

All the ditches were broadly contemporary, with a mixture of both early and later Roman pottery within the fills. The ditches were generally deep with sharp concave sides, filled with sandy clay which looked like deliberate backfill rather than gradual silting over time. During a later phase of activity, a large (possibly defensive) ditch orien-

tated approximately north-east to south-west may have reinstated the boundaries of the farm during the 3rd/4th century. This ditch contained some Saxon and post-medieval pottery in its uppermost fill, which indicates the site was still probably occupied into the Saxon period and also shows that later farming activity, such as ploughing, has truncated and disturbed the surface of some features. Other features also contained Saxon pottery, a further indication of post-Roman settlement. The site was then abandoned and left as pasture until modern times.

Fleet Marston: Wayside Farm

SP 7797 1596

In early September 2011 OA South completed a metal detecting survey and test pit evaluation in advance of proposed residential development at Wayside Farm, Fleet Marston. The work consisted of two phases of controlled metal detecting survey, a series of excavated shovel test pits and a further series of excavated one-metre-square test pits. The results showed a concentration of material around the extant Church of St Mary, with the volume of finds decreasing significantly away from the church. The majority of dated finds from both phases of the metal detecting survey came from the later Roman period, including a range of copper alloy and silver coins. Some metalwork dating to the Saxon and medieval periods was also recovered. The test-pits contained a range of pottery dating from the Roman into the post-medieval period.

Quarrendon: Berryfields MDA

SP 787 160 (centred)

Excavation in 2011 by OA South for the Berryfields MDA Consortium to the north and south of Akeman Street uncovered evidence of Roman fields and enclosures, which were aligned with the road. Roundhouse gullies, dating from the mid and late Roman period (c. AD 150-400) were recorded, and pottery, animal bone, fired clay and other evidence of domestic occupation was collected.

The most spectacular finds were recovered from a large pit on the edge of the Roman road. The pit appears to have functioned as a sump or tank, possibly associated with crop processing or some other agricultural or craft-industrial process. The

pit was located in a naturally low-lying area, and as a result its lower fills were waterlogged. Among the many finds were worked and unworked timber, leather fragments, including pieces from shoes, over forty coins (currently suggesting a 2nd/3rd-century AD date), complete and near-complete pottery vessels (including a drinking beaker), and two articulated animal skeletons. Exceptionally, three complete eggs were also discovered. Unfortunately these were in an incredibly fragile condition and only one survived the excavation process intact. An equally rare and almost complete woven basket or tray was also recovered. The base appears to have been made of split birch, while the sides were formed from willow rods.

The Berryfields MDA continued to be used for farming after the Roman period. Medieval ridge-and-furrow extended across all areas of excavation. Some areas of ridge-and-furrow were aligned NW-SE, and others NE-SW.

Ellesborough: Risborough Road, Terrick
SP 8357 0909

In May an evaluation was carried out by ASC at the former BOCM works, Terrick, in advance of the erection of a two-storey care home with associated access, parking, cycle store and landscaping. The evaluation uncovered a possible prehistoric ditch, Roman ditches, pits and a human cremation, and several undated features. It is likely that the Roman features form part of a more extensive agricultural landscape related to the Roman villa c.600m south-east of the site.

SAXON & MEDIEVAL

Haddenham: High Street
SP7366 0850

Evaluation trenching by TVAS in advance of a proposed residential development during May revealed a ditch and gully of early medieval date (11th-12th century) and a residual sherd of probable Bronze Age pottery.

Haddenham: Fort End, Fern Lane
SP 7408 0888

JMHS excavated five trenches in June within a proposed development area. Medieval ditches,

dating from the 12th and 13th centuries as well as at least one medieval quarry pit, and undated post-holes for a possible building were investigated.

Haddenham: Townsend Green
SP 7414 0912

Excavation by TVAS during June and July in advance of a housing development revealed Saxon pits, a series of medieval plot boundary ditches, gullies and pits, and late post-medieval drainage features and pits. The fieldwork sheds light on the development of the Saxon and medieval village, and seems to indicate a period of abandonment in the late medieval period. Residual finds of Neolithic to Bronze Age flints and Iron Age and Roman pottery indicate sporadic use of the site or its environs in those periods. A publication report is in preparation.

Long Crendon: Courthouse, High Street
SP 6978 0908

The National Trust wish to undertake a phase of modernisation and upgrading of the Courthouse before re-letting the ground floor and commissioned a survey by NA to provide a greater understanding of the historic resource. The survey took place in April.

The Courthouse is a rectangular structure of five bays and two storeys. The whole building is constructed of an oak timber frame with the panels infilled by brick or wattle and daub with repairs carried out by Caroe and Partners in 1985, and then a further stage of repair when woodwool panels to the upper floor were substituted for the brickwork in 1987. These appear to be restricted to the south side of the upper floor where they are present above the jetty and were introduced to reduce weight. It is possible that some of the other plastered panels may retain original, or at least historic, wattle and daub. The whole frame rests on a raised plinth of stone, with some brick repairs. The exterior is painted with a white lime wash on the west, south and eastern elevations: the north elevation is not painted and the various infills can be clearly seen. The roof is covered with red clay peg tiles, an early 20th-century replacement. Internally all the ground floor wall surfaces comprise either plaster infill or stud and matchboard panelling, all painted. There are modern kitchen and bathroom fittings and elec-

tric storage heaters throughout. Apart from the hall and a small part of the kitchen where a brick floor can be seen the floor surfaces are covered by fitted carpet or vinyl. The first floor is of oak or pine boards. The underside of the roof is also plastered and painted. All windows are modern replacements or insertions: indeed, all early photographs show no windows at all on the ground floor.

Loughton: Pitcher Lane

SP 8380 3780

In October an evaluation was carried out by ASC in advance of an extension to the graveyard at All Saints Church. Two trenches were excavated and two post holes were present in one of these. One contained a single medieval pot sherd and a lump of fired clay, the other was undated. No other archaeological features or finds were located on the site.

Princes Risborough: St Mary's Church

SP 8060 0349

A watching brief was maintained by JMHS between February and April at St Mary's Church during the removal of the Victorian floor and its replacement with a new limestone floor with drainage ducts inserted below. The work retrieved finds of earlier periods and also identified a number of earlier structural features, which has enabled reinterpretation of the phasing of the development of the church. Previous interpretations had suggested a simple nave and chancel structure that pre-dated the 13th century, implying that the nave had been lengthened in the 14th century.

This sequence of events can now be corrected. Limited archaeological evidence survives for an early, but as yet poorly dated phase of the church. The walls of this structure were probably robbed out. The phase 2 structure, over which the present nave sits, was initially considerably longer, measuring at least 21.9m in length. The west wall of the nave was detected in the drainage channels dug below the impact layer under the present tower.

Investigation of the service cuts to the west of the church confirmed that there was a further wall beyond the present tower which indicated that rather than a square tower the building had a rectangular porch more in line with late Anglo-

Saxon churches of the 9th to 11th centuries (for example Cirencester, Gloucestershire). In the 13th century the aisles were added on the north and south side, and the arcades inserted. These were longer, like the nave, than previously thought, as indicated by the line of a blocked door at the west end of the south aisle. In the 14th century the west end of the church probably collapsed, leading to the insertion of new arches and the shortening of the nave. Further phases of the church can be detected internally from the later 16th to the early 19th century through posts for gallery steps and pulpits where protestant views reconfigured how the church should be used. The Victorian reworking of the church was also apparent from 1867-8, as were later repairs.

Wavendon: St Mary's Church

SP 9115 3720

A watching brief was conducted by JMHS between April and June at St Mary's Church, during the excavation of the floor in the west tower and associated external drainage. Twenty-two burials (16 in the west tower, 6 in the drainage trench) and one crypt were uncovered. The burials from within the west tower were all juvenile, dating from the 13th century and pre-dating the tower's construction. The burials uncovered in the drainage trench were undated.

Winslow: Vicarage Road

SP 7679 2765

During March and April a trial trench evaluation was undertaken by ASC prior to housing development at The Old Vicarage, Vicarage Road. Desk-based assessment undertaken some years earlier had determined that the site had been occupied since at least the 18th century. The site of the earlier house survived as a slight platform in the rear garden of the present house, which had been built in the mid 19th century.

The evaluation revealed that the site had been built up by almost one metre in places, probably since the late post-medieval period. Beneath the build-up, a single shallow feature of probable Roman date was identified to the north of the present house. In the rear garden two intercutting medieval ditches, one of them recut, were located, as well as a number of undated and post-medieval

pits, and a possible robbed-out structure of post-medieval date.

Wotton Underwood: South Pavilion
SP 6856 1608

A watching brief was conducted by JMHS between January and April during the construction of a swimming pool in the gardens of the house. As a consequence the works for the pool construction revealed pits with a date range from the 11th to 14th centuries, which accords with the date-range of features identified during the previous evaluation (*Records* 49, 261). The earlier features contained Oxford ware, Cotswold-type ware and Newbury A/B ware. The assemblages increase in size in later features with the addition of early Brill/Boarstall ware and Pottersbury ware.

Deposits dating from the mid 13th to 14th centuries onwards were present beneath a stone cill which was investigated during the watching brief. The cill represents part of a building. As the building extended beyond the edges of the excavation, it is not clear whether it represented the north gable end of a building measuring 4m wide and of unknown length, or the north side of building extending for 8m, some of the cill having been removed in antiquity.

To the west, within the walled garden, the earlier evaluation had located a gully and possible pit, which cannot be tied to the recent work. To the east of the watching brief, an evaluation trench located part of the green way illustrated on an estate map of 1649 as well as the edge of a medieval pond. To the north of the medieval activity was a low wall, parallel with the garden wall of the walled garden. The whole was sealed by dumps of clay associated with the creation of the formal lake within the grounds of Wotton House, undertaken by Capability Brown in the mid 18th century.

POST-MEDIEVAL AND UNDATED

Akeley: The Old Rectory
SP 7066 3747

During May a watching brief was undertaken by ASC at the Old Rectory, Akeley, during groundworks for an extension to the east of the existing building. A limestone and brick footing for the south wall of a recently demolished outbuilding,

contemporary with the Old Rectory, was revealed. A cast iron drainage pipe was also observed during the watching brief. No further significant finds or features were observed.

Aylesbury: Walton Road
SP 8246 1328

A strip, map and sample excavation was carried out by NA from November 2011 to January 2012 during groundworks connected with the construction of a new single storey extension and car-park extension at The Grove. Modern disturbance was noted throughout the investigation area and a single post-medieval well was recorded. No earlier archaeological deposits or artefacts were present.

Aylesbury: Temple Square
SP 8182 1379

JMHS carried out historic building recording in July on the chimney of the Queen's Head public house. This was part of a process of renovation work being carried out at the listed building, which involved the dismantling and reconstruction of the existing chimney over the smaller and older part of the building. The chimneystack is of a possible 16th-century construction with 18th-century additions.

Aylesbury: Waterside
SP8215 1350

In March, TVAS conducted an evaluation in advance of a planning application for development of the site for educational use. Three trenches revealed foundations of 19th and 20th-century buildings already well documented on maps. Underlying deep alluvial deposits presumably represent overbank flooding of the 17th to 19th centuries (the site is on the bank of the Grand Union Canal). There was no evidence of water management features or palaeochannels.

Bletchley: Buckingham Road
SP 8545 3325

In August a programme of historic building recording and heritage impact assessment was completed by ASC for 170 Buckingham Road. The site comprises an early 20th-century farmhouse and

a Grade II listed timber-framed outhouse with adjoining brick-built stores. A detailed record was prepared of the outhouse, formerly a cottage, which dates from the late 16th or early 17th century. It has retained many early features such as plank and batten doors, an 18th-century spring latch and a 19th-century iron fireplace. The cottage was refurbished in the 19th century when it was still used as a dwelling, and re-roofed in the late 20th century following a fire. Cartographic and structural evidence suggests that the adjoining buildings are 20th-century brick replacements of earlier buildings on the same site. The site was part of Bengal Farm, which operated a retail dairy until bought by the present owners.

Despite its location on the Roman road from Watling Street to Thornborough, in an area of Romano-British farmsteads, there is little archaeological evidence for pre-medieval activity on or close to the site. Medieval and post-medieval activity was largely of a rural nature until the 20th century, when the site was subject to various rebuilding initiatives.

Bletchley: Slad Farm, Water Eaton

SP 8695 3150

Historic building recording of a Victorian model farm was undertaken by CA prior to demolition. Fabric analysis and map regression allowed the original form of the farm to be established. The farm was a complex of mid 19th-century brick buildings, with a farmhouse and attached work-rooms and farm buildings arranged around a central courtyard. The barn on the north range was quite small and of unusual design. Other buildings were tool and vehicle sheds, shelter-sheds, pigsties and possible veal pens. Despite alteration, much of the original fabric, but none of the fittings, survived.

Buckingham: Tingewick Road

SP 687 335

A magnetometer survey was conducted by NA on land off Tingewick Road during October and November. The site, c.16ha in extent, lay immediately adjacent to St Rumbold's Well, a Scheduled Monument (29442). The survey identified a ditched enclosure of uncertain date and a number of other ditches and pits. The majority of these

features were overlain by medieval or later ridge and furrow.

Charndon: Calvert

SP 695 227 – SP 704 223

Archaeological Project Services undertook a programme of investigation in August and September in advance of a proposed incinerator. Geophysical survey identified few potential archaeological remains. A trackway and infilled ponds were recorded but are known from early OS mapping. Magnetic anomalies thought to mark the lines of former field boundaries were also recorded. Subsequent trial trench evaluation identified a number of ditches and a trackway, all evident on 19th-century maps of the area. A cluster of ditch, gully and posthole features indicated a localised area of 15th-17th-century settlement.

Cheddington: Mentmore Road

SP 9200 1758

Following a historic building assessment, between April and December a watching brief was carried out by ASC at 22 Mentmore Road during ground-works for an extension to the existing house. The watching brief revealed some post-medieval pottery fragments, some of the foundations for the recently demolished 20th-century garage and some disturbance to the north of the building, which is likely to have been related to the modern building works. No further archaeological finds or features were observed.

Coleshill: Magpie Lane

SU 9440 9534

In November historic building recording was undertaken by ASC at Bowers Farm, Magpie Lane, at the owner's request. Bowers Farm is a Grade II listed timber-framed house of four and half bays encompassing two storeys and attics. The first three bays were constructed around 1615 followed by a carriageway in 1686, creating a fourth bay at the eastern end of the building. There are several extensions to the house, the earliest of which is possibly late 17th or early 18th century and comprises the core of the northern addition to the house. This was further extended in the 19th and 20th centuries. A brick-built extension to the west

of the house appears to be of 19th-century date and links the house with former farm buildings to the southwest. In the late 20th century Bowers was extended at the east end and the interior layout was subject to alteration.

The house is one of several in the hamlet dating from before 1650 and is clearly of architectural significance in that the upper floor was designed specifically to allow the owner greater privacy. The house was divided into cottages in the late 18th century but reinstated in the early 19th century, after which it was part of a working farm until the early 20th century. The last use of the buildings for agricultural purposes was in 1964, when the barn that had been rented out to a local farmer burnt down.

Denham: Buckinghamshire Golf Club

TQ 051 870

In March OA South undertook an evaluation at Buckinghamshire Golf Club, Denham, in advance of a proposed office building. One T-shaped evaluation trench was located within the confines of the proposed building footprint. This was expected to encounter to a pond (possibly originally part of a medieval moat) shown on historic maps dating back to the late 16th century. It also had the potential to encounter archaeological remains buried by alluvial deposits associated with the adjacent river Colne.

A raised gravel bank was identified which appeared to mark the eastern edge of the pond/moat. A tree line (which partly survives in the present garden) appears to have been planted along the bank, which therefore seems most likely to be an artificial landscaped feature associated with the gardens of Denham Court. The date of construction of the bank is unclear, although it clearly overlay the Holocene alluvial sequence and was an extent garden feature until the late 20th century.

The soil sequence in Trench 1 was different on either side of the gravel bank. On the western side the sequence consisted of modern demolition debris at least 1.2m deep, which was apparently used to infill the pond/moat. The pond is believed to have been infilled during a refurbishment of Denham Court in the 1980s. To the east of the bank the sequence comprised garden soils to a depth of 0.8m below ground level, below which alluvium was encountered. The base of the alluvium was not encountered within the evaluation trench, although a test pit was dug at the southern end to a depth of

2.5m. The alluvium contained significant quantities of preserved organic material, including tree branches and twigs, in peaty lenses, although the only artefact recovered was a single undiagnostic flint flake found close to the top of the sequence.

Two series of auger samples were subsequently undertaken to establish the full depth and character of the alluvial sediments. These were sampled at 0.1m intervals and were assessed by an environmental archaeologist. They contained no evidence for human activity, but clearly show that the alluvial sequence has potential for palaeoenvironmental reconstruction and radiocarbon dating.

Dinton: Water Lane, Ford

SP 7889 0954

JMHS conducted a watching brief at Moreton Barn in March during the soil strip to foundation level for a new all-weather riding arena. Over much of the area this was too shallow to impact upon archaeological layers; the only feature recorded was an undated ditch.

Ellesborough: Nash Lee Road, Terrick

SP 8514 0817

An evaluation conducted in April by JMHS at The Chiltern Brewery comprising two trenches revealed a buried soil layer containing 11th to 13th-century pottery and prehistoric flint work. The abraded Sandy and Shelly Ware recovered may indicate that the area was ploughed during the late 11th century, but this had ceased by the 12th century when there was deposition of the later pottery types, which were in far better condition.

Great Missenden: Road Farm Barns

SP 8852 0283

JMHS carried out building recording in October of two barns at Road Farm, Great Missenden. These are to be renovated to return them to agricultural use. The barns form one side of a courtyard and are dated to the 18th century.

Haddenham: White Hart House

SP 7414 0825

JMHS carried out building recording work in September at White Hart House, Haddenham. This

confirmed certain beliefs about the date of the building, suggested phasing of the property and provided drawings of the chimney to be wholly or partially removed. The historic background research also suggested that the present building may lie on the location of a far older building dating from the late 14th century.

Hedgerley: Little Orchard Field
SU 875 969 and SU 872 969

A small geophysical survey employing resistivity and magnetic susceptibility was undertaken by Chiltern Archaeology for the Hedgerley Historical Society to determine the nature of features visible in the landscape and the potential for a kiln site in the immediate area. Some levelling for a small structure was evident (potentially a medieval barn or similar size building), but no kiln evidence, except for wasters in one area investigated (SU 872 969).

Hedsor: Hedsor Wharf
SU 9039 8605

OA South dug a test pit and carried out a watching brief between January and April during the construction of a new boathouse on the north bank of the Thames. The watching brief revealed evidence for stabilisation of the river's edge in the 19th and 20th century. This sealed a probable 19th century topsoil. No evidence for any earlier activity was encountered.

Kingswood: Bicester Road
SP 6845 1955

JMHS carried out historic building recording prior to the demolition of two northern extensions at Sharps Hill Farm in October. Three phases of building were recognised. The extensions appeared to have been used as a butchery, cold store and larder.

Lavendon: Castle Farm
SP 9170 5434

Between January 2009 and February 2011 a watching brief was carried out at Castle Farm by ASC during the residential conversion of farm buildings, the construction of a house and three

detached garages, and the provision of associated services and landscaping. Castle Farm stands on the site of Lavendon Castle, founded by the Bidun family before 1232, and is a scheduled ancient monument. The watching brief uncovered a limestone wall, part of a possible gateway, and wooden beams forming part of a fence or structure, all thought to be of recent date and deemed to be of little archaeological significance.

Ludgershall: Church of St Mary the Virgin
SP 6605 1725

In March 2010 the lead from the roof of the church was stolen. Subsequently, in order to facilitate a repair programme it became necessary to review the damage that piecemeal patching of the lead over the decades had caused. The timbers were examined and the drawings of the roof annotated with the repair points by JMHS in September 2011.

Marlow: Land at Riley Road
SU 8479 8659

Trial trenching by Albion Archaeology in March on the site of a proposed supermarket extension revealed two post-medieval and one modern pit. The larger post-medieval pit produced peg tile, ceramic building material, animal bone and an abraded residual sherd of possible Roman pottery. The post-medieval pits may be related to the use of this land as the gardens or back-plots of houses and shops on West Street, as shown on the 1843 Great Marlow Tithe map.

Middle Claydon: Claydon House
SP 7193 2531

A watching brief was conducted at Claydon House by NA in November and December, during the excavation of a trench for the installation of a new central heating oil pipe on the south side of the house. The trench led from a small enclosed yard to the south-east of the house, across the south lawn and then bifurcated before entering the building through two separate openings in the south facade. It revealed truncated brick wall footings, a culvert and an unidentified tile and stone feature.

Mursley: Cooks Lane

SP 8521 2971

In March a watching brief was maintained by ASC at Salden Manor, Cooks Lane, during the construction of a tennis court. A banked area was present along the western side of the site. Upon excavation the bank comprised made-up ground containing significant quantities of dumped orange bricks and tile. A number of large limestone blocks were also uncovered which may derive from the 17th-century mansion of Sir John Fortescue, formerly located immediately north of the site.

Nether Winchendon: Manor Farm House

SP 7321 1226

A watching brief was conducted by JMHS in June during the construction of a new conservatory onto Manor House Farm a grade II* listed building. The trenches uncovered a number of features, of which the major one was the remains of a probable kitchen of probable 16th-century date. The remains of a possible earlier limestone structure were also noted, but this was of an unknown date.

Newport Pagnell: Union Street

SP 8763 4402

In February a programme of historic building recording was carried out on 12 Union Street by ASC in advance of conversion and extension for residential use. The site comprises two adjoining buildings, constructed of brick with slate roofs, located at the north end of the yard to the rear of the Cannon public house.

The two-storey western building is the larger of the two, and was probably originally used as stables. Cartographic and structural evidence points to it being the earlier structure, probably built in the early 19th century and therefore predating the Cannon brewery, which was established on the site in 1860. This building was in a particularly poor state of preservation at the time of the survey.

The eastern building is a small single-storey, two-roomed structure. The rooms originally appear to have had independent access, and could have been offices, for example for a yard foreman or gatekeeper. From the available evidence this building was constructed between 1882 and 1900,

on the site of an earlier, smaller structure.

A section of limestone wall on the north side of Building 2 may be a survival from this earlier structure.

Olney: Bridge Street

SP 8890 5111

Building assessment and historic map consultation by NA in March has shown that 13 Bridge Street, a Grade II listed building, has been in existence on virtually the same footprint since at least 1810. A two bay, two-storey building built of coursed limestone with occasional brick dressings, architecturally its form is typical of early 19th-century domestic building although it has been significantly altered both internally and externally during the 20th century.

Olney: Market Place

SP 8887 5134

An evaluation of land adjacent to Sutcliff Baptist Church was carried out by NA during August in advance of the construction of an extension to the existing buildings. The evaluation revealed the remains of several brick vaults and burials dating from the late 18th to early-mid 19th-centuries. There are two phases, those buried before the raising of the churchyard and those buried afterward. The earlier burials were sealed by layers of made up ground through which the later brick vaults and burials were cut. The raising of the level of the churchyard possibly corresponds to the Burial Act of 1857, though the tomb of John Sutcliff (1818) is level with the modern, raised ground surface. It is possible that the tomb was also raised at the same time, in order to avoid partially burying it as it is the eponymous chapel.

Princes Risborough: High Street

SP 8088 0335

Historic building recording of 1 High Street was undertaken in May by ASC prior to conversion of the building to offices and residential units. The property, a 3-storey double fronted house and a 2-storey wing with a curved front elevation, is listed Grade II, and was erected in the later 18th or early 19th century. In the early 19th century the building was owned by Thomas Winslow and consisted of

the rooms on the street frontage. By the later 19th century both parts of the building had been extended southwards, the eastern extension comprising a 2-storey section with a single-storey addition to the rear. The eastern extension was extensively remodelled in the 20th century when the single-storey section was demolished, the pitched roof replaced by a flat roof and the single-storey addition built on the east side to provide access to an internal staircase. For much of the 19th and early 20th century it belonged to the Benning family. Henry Benning was a poulterer, butter merchant and corn and hay dealer between 1853 and 1883, and his widow lived in the house until the early 1920s.

Slapton: Church of the Holy Cross
SP 9372 2069

JMHS conducted a watching brief in November during drainage works at the Church of the Holy Cross. The trenches uncovered a series of broader foundations around the church, and also noted the apparent profile of a ditch through the churchyard. Surprisingly no burials were noted in the graveyard, thus potentially indicating the probability of a low level of interment on the site over the years.

Soulbury: Butlers Cottage
SP 88831 26017

A trial trench evaluation was undertaken by NA in November on land at Butlers Cottage in advance of the construction of a new dwelling to replace the existing house. A modern ditch cut through a small pit from which a quantity of medieval pottery and a single sherd of Roman pottery were recovered.

Stokenchurch: Wormsley Park
SP 73950 94420

A watching brief was conducted by JMHS between December 2010 and February 2011 during the excavation of footings and grading of the land during the construction of the new auditorium for Garsington Opera on the estate. Grading below the new ha-ha identified the remains of a probable field boundary, while grading activity elsewhere failed to penetrate the subsoil. Excavations above the ha-ha wall uncovered the remains of a probable building constructed of timber and brick on a chalk

platform, a possible Tudor conduit, and an earlier ha-ha bank of the early 19th century. The excavations for the concrete pads below the ha-ha produced evidence for a small area of medieval ridge and furrow in what was formerly a field called Home Field, a significant boundary marked on a map of 1759 (but which again could be significantly older) and also a series of undated features from an area formerly called Haw Field.

Stone: Bugle Horn Public House
SP 7955 1207

Historic building recording by CA of the pub car park boundary wall demonstrated that it was erected at the same time as the main estate wall of nearby Hartwell House (1855), to which the ground enclosed once belonged, and shared its characteristic of the inclusion of geological specimens. The north wall of the car park and the eastern return were recorded graphically and photographically, prior to demolition and rebuilding.

Stony Stratford: High Street
SP 7867 4068

An evaluation was carried out by ASC in May on land to the rear of 'Tower House', 96 High Street, to inform proposals for the construction of a detached dwelling. One trench was excavated within the area of the proposed development, revealing three ditches and two pits. One ditch contained six sherds of medieval pottery with a broad date range from the 13th -17th centuries, as well as a quantity of animal bone. One pit was modern: the remaining features were undated.

Stowe: Hawkwell Field, Landscape Gardens
SP 6788 3715

A watching brief was conducted by NA in June and November during the excavation of a series of trial trenches across the historic line of paths to the north side of the Octagon Lake within the Hawkwell Field. A gravel surfaced path was located between the Palladian and Chinese bridges, but related to a later period path layout. The line of the earlier lakeside path was not found and it is thought that at the date for which a path is depicted was most likely grass and not surfaced. Further trenches between the Palladian Bridge and

Lamport Gardens, the Palladian Bridge and Gothic Temple and Gothic Temple and the Elysian Fields all revealed historic gravel paths.

Earthwork features close to the Gothic Temple were also recorded. A shallow undulation appears to relate to the former Ha-Ha which approached the building from the south with a westward projecting semi-circular bastion. On the west side of the Gothic Temple is a flat, broad platform which is thought to be the grassed-over gravel terrace which would have afforded views westwards towards the main house. A series of zigzag slit trenches to the north of the path which leads from the Gothic Temple to the Elysian Fields are thought to be modern, and related to the school rifle range located in the bottom of the valley immediately to the north. The date of their construction or infilling is uncertain, although it is thought that they probably date to the 1950s.

Taplow: Cliveden House

SP 760 588

In January NA carried out monitoring of 23 geotechnical test pits and hand dug pits within the grounds of Cliveden House, a Grade I registered park and garden, designed landscape surrounding the Grade I listed building, currently run as a hotel. The test pits were a requirement as part of the construction of a new sewer system, and provided the opportunity to assess the formation of the garden landscape. The evaluation has demonstrated potential evidence of grading and levelling at the north end of the parterre, but little else within those areas monitored. A brick culvert of probable modern date was revealed within the base of the Rushy Valley.

The Lee: Earthwork Enclosure

SP 8975 0440

During October Chess Valley Archaeological and Historical Society undertook excavation at The Lee earthwork enclosure which surrounds two churches, Church Farm and other buildings. The purpose of this work was to look for evidence of settlement, in particular a house platform associated with a moat/hollow-way, in the field north and adjacent to the Old Church. This possibility had been proposed from previous walk-over surveys and historical document records.

Three of seven evaluation trenches placed in the field adjacent to the church revealed evidence of human activity dating between the 17th and 19th centuries. Two of these trenches contained significant quantities of iron working slag, although there was no evidence for associated furnace structures either here or elsewhere. The slag has all the characteristics of being worked in a bloomery furnace; chemical analyses of samples are in progress. The third trench contained a large heap of clunch blocks which appeared to have been shaped *in situ*. It is relevant to note that clunch blocks are present in the walls of the Old Church, 60m to the south-west. Beneath the clunch, pieces of pottery ranging from 15th century to early modern date were recovered.

One of two further evaluation trenches opened across the enclosure ditch found only relatively modern fencing nails. A trench opened on the edge of the orchard, opposite Church Farm and within the enclosure, uncovered a well constructed in the 17th - 18th century, and a brick feature which appeared to be the base of a gate post or wall. Large quantities of post-medieval brick with vitrified surfaces and tiles with peg holes were found in this area, along with post-medieval and early modern pot sherds. Amongst the pot were several fragments dating to 15th to 17th centuries. Most of the animal bone (sheep and cow) was also recovered from this area.

Throughout the remainder of the excavated area a random scatter of pot sherds, roofing tile, brick and glass were recovered alongside occasional broken clay-pipe and nails. The pot sherds were generally small and abraded and were thoroughly mixed. These were all found in sub-turf deposits above the natural clay in the field adjacent to the Old Church.

In summary, geophysical surveys and excavation revealed no evidence of house platforms, building foundations or other evidence of settlement. The feature identified as a “moat” or “hollow-way”, shows no characteristics e.g. organic silts/mud, consistent shape/width etc; which identify such structures, and is more likely to be a drainage channel to protect adjacent buildings and probably no older than 17th century. The distribution of broken roof tile, bricks and pot is consistent with surface dumping and distribution by ploughing. The clunch dump points to some local responsibilities for maintenance of the Old Church. The iron bloomery slag indicates smelting on a local

industry scale. The enclosed area at the Lee is a probably a “home close” which would have contained the church, a farm (possibly on the site of the existing Church Farm), associated farm buildings and several ponds, much as it is seen today.

Waddesdon: Waddesdon Estate

Visitor Car Park

SP 7731 1729

In March a heritage impact assessment was prepared by ASC for three fields and an area of woodland on the Waddesdon Estate, to inform proposals for the site, including a car park with visitor reception facilities, a minibus route towards the house, and the creation of a woodland area. The three fields, known as Thorns Close, Yearling Paddock and Old Park, are located along the northern boundary of the estate adjacent to the A41. The setting of all these proposals is the Grade I listed Historic Park and Garden of the Waddesdon Estate and the Grade II listed buildings comprising the Dairy Complex, clearly significant heritage assets themselves. Aside from this, the main heritage considerations were Akeman Street Roman road and the medieval deer park, which formerly included at least part of the three fields. Additionally, the proposed mini-bus route traverses the site of the medieval Rasings or Moton’s manor, which is also of at least local significance. It was noted that the creation of the parkland and the construction of Waddesdon House required the removal of vast quantities of soil. Spoil management and drainage/landslide problems resulting from the extensive groundworks are likely to have had an effect on any surviving archaeological remains. Whether this has caused disturbance and/or destruction or deposited additional overburden which is now protecting earlier remains is yet to be ascertained.

Proposed Minibus Route

SP 7380 1690

In June a trial trench evaluation was undertaken by ASC on the route of the proposed minibus route, through an area of woodland south of the Dairy Complex. Seven trenches were excavated: archaeological cut features were present in three of them. One contained three intercutting ditches of Roman

date: two revealed silted ditches of post-medieval date. One of these had a later land drain cut into its fill: the other had a later ceramic land drain overlying it.

In five trenches a layer of redeposited clay, similar to the underlying natural clay, was present beneath topsoil and sealing most of the cut features. This contained post-medieval pottery sherds as well as residual fragments of Roman, Saxon and medieval pottery. It is likely that this material was deposited during the creation of the park. The source of the redeposited material is not known.

Old Park

SP 7306 1731

In August a geophysical (detailed magnetometer) survey was undertaken by ASC at Old Park, to determine whether Akeman Street could be identified where its route is thought to cross the estate. The survey results show that recent agricultural use of Old Park has been intensive, and the Roman road could not be definitively located. Magnetic anomalies perhaps caused by archaeological features are present near the suggested location of the road but they are weak and amorphous, and may be caused by relatively recent human activity or the presence of geological features.

Wendover: Wendover House School

SP 8720 0725

In June a heritage impact assessment was undertaken of Wendover House School by ASC to inform development proposals for the site. The school is on the site of Wendover manor house, immediately south of the 14th-century church.

Wendover is located on the crossroads of two ancient route ways and between two significant prehistoric landscapes, a Neolithic/early Bronze Age ritual landscape to the west and a late Bronze Age/early Iron Age hillfort to the east. Evidence of Roman and early Saxon activity has been found on and close to the site, which became part of a multiple estate in the middle Saxon period, only to fragment in the 12th century when the manor was given to Hugh de Gurnay.

The development of the manorial site and indeed the church is unclear, as there is little archaeolog-

ical or historical evidence for pre-medieval origins at the present location. Local lore tells of the church being moved by the Devil during construction and archaeological evidence suggests the area to the north of the site could be the focus for the Anglo-Saxon and early medieval settlement. The establishment of the borough in the early 13th century led to a new street plan, which not only isolated the church and manor from the commercial centre but also emphasised the socio-political divide between Wendover Borough and Wendover Forrens.

Wendover House School was established within the grounds of the Grade II listed manor house rebuilt by Devey in the late 19th century. The oldest parts of the building are the stable block, which bears the date 1735, and part of the main building, which could be 17th century. Several purpose built school buildings were added from the 1960s in a variety of architectural styles. Archaeological remains uncovered during construction works include a female skeleton to the east of the site and medieval and post-medieval features in the Grade II listed walled garden to the northwest. Roman coins and medieval pottery have also been found in the grounds. The earliest occupation evidence recovered from the school grounds and the churchyard so far is 12th century.

Wexham: George Green

SU 996 808

During August OA South carried out an evaluation comprising thirty-two trenches in an area of proposed mineral extraction. The investigation revealed a potential later prehistoric trackway, along with sparse evidence for prehistoric activity in the northern half of the site. The precise date and character of this activity was unclear. In addition, some evidence for early Roman activity was found in the form of occasional sherds of pottery but, again, the nature of the activity was unclear. For both periods, the paucity of artefactual material recovered suggests that the activity was not related to settlement on the site itself. Evidence for medieval ridge and furrow cultivation was found across much of the site and a field boundary ditch shown on the 1809 enclosure map was located. Early medieval pottery recovered from this feature is probably residual in nature.

Whitchurch: Church Headland Lane

SU 8035 2095

A three-trench evaluation was conducted in July by JMHS on land at Kempston Cottage. Quarry pits dating from 18th or 19th centuries were present.

Whitchurch: White Horse Lane

SP 802 207

OA South carried out an evaluation in December within the grounds of the vicarage and the neighbouring church hall to inform a planning application for re-development. The evaluation consisted of three trial trenches and a single test pit. A hearth base constructed from fragments of unworked limestone was found but no associated structures or features survived. Fragments of tile recovered from the hearth and the overlying deposit dated from the 14th-16th centuries. Pottery dating from the 17-18th centuries was recovered from an associated demolition/levelling layer. A ditch that contained fragments of late medieval pottery and some residual Anglo-Saxon pottery was also recorded.

NEGATIVE

Akeley: Chapel Lane

SP7094 3785

During excavation of footings for extensions to Rose Cottage in May TVAS conducted a watching brief. Modern made ground directly overlay the natural geology. Two sherds of early post-medieval pottery were mixed with large quantities of modern rubbish in the made ground.

Aylesbury: Mill Street

SP 8237 1404

OA South carried out an evaluation in March on land off Mill Street, in advance of residential development. Due to severe contamination and considerable truncation caused by the previous use of the site as a car dealership/garage, very little archaeological evidence was discovered.

The only discovery of note was the single sherd of pottery of later prehistoric or Roman date. This may suggest activity of that date in the vicinity of the site, but equally may be a stray find of no significance. No evidence of the projected line of

Akeman Street was found. This is either because the feature did not pass along its projected alignment at this point, or because later activity at the site has removed evidence for it.

Bletchley: Bletchley Park

SP 6572 1380

In January a borehole survey was conducted on behalf of Archaeologica on a substantial earth mound on land east of Block G, Bletchley Park in order to ascertain the presence or absence of tunnels/bunkers on the site prior to residential development. Eleven boreholes drilled to a nominal depth of 15m. The work followed a microgravity survey, which had indicated a potential air-filled horizontal void at c.15m below ground level. The borehole positions were arranged in transects to cut across the low gravity anomalies. The borehole logs showed made ground making up the mound, below which lay a layer of topsoil considered to represent the probable original ground, and underneath it glacial till and Oxford clay. No evidence of concrete or voids was recorded in any of the boreholes.

Brill: The Green

SP 6565 1374

JMHS conducted a watching brief in October during groundworks at Stable House, The Green. The excavations were generally very shallow and limited due to the construction methodology employed. No archaeological features or deposits were encountered. Limited post-medieval pottery and tile was recovered from topsoil stripping.

Burnham: Church Walk

SU 9273 8241

A single evaluation trench was excavated in March by TVAS at 7 Church Walk within the footprint of a new house. No deposits or finds of archaeological interest were identified.

Burnham: Burnham Abbey

SU 6381 9670

JMHS conducted a watching brief in September during alterations at Burnham Abbey. These included changes to the sewerage and drainage systems, relocation of a fire escape and the cutting

of a foundation for a lift shaft. In all locations any medieval archaeology that had previously existed on the site would appear to be destroyed. The only significant deposits were post-medieval destruction layers.

Castlethorpe: The Chequers

SP 7968 4436

A watching brief was carried out by NA from May to June during work to expand and refurbish a play area within the earthworks of a Scheduled Monument (19080) known as 'The Fish Ponds' in Castlethorpe. The groundworks did not encounter any archaeological features. Remedial work to repair erosion to the earthworks and damage caused by animals was also carried out.

Chartridge: Bellingdon Brickworks

SP 9380 0616

A programme of geoarchaeological recording was undertaken by ASC at Bellingdon Brickworks between July 2007 and May 2011. This comprised observation of the removal of topsoil and overburden, and the subsequent monitoring of each extraction pit. After an initial machine-cut trench was made across the first deposit of brickearth a series of site visits were made to observe and record the individual extraction pits. No significant geo-archaeological deposits or features were observed.

Colehill: Barrack Hill

SU 9450 9505

In January AS conducted a programme of archaeological monitoring and recording at Littlelands, Barrack Hill. The monitoring was conducted ahead of proposals to construct a single-storey garage and a workshop/office. The monitoring revealed no archaeological finds or features.

Haversham: High Street

SP 8307 4312

A watching brief was undertaken by NA during the installation of a new drainage system on land at The Grange in July. A disturbed stratigraphy was recorded throughout the area of investigation. No archaeological deposits or artefacts were present.

Ludgershall: Tetchwick Farm
SP6790 1885

Nothing of archaeological interest was recorded during a strip, map and sample excavation conducted by TVAS during May in advance of construction of a new house.

Luffield Abbey: Silverstone Motor Racing Circuit
SP 6750 4200

A programme of detailed magnetometer survey was carried out on 42.2ha at Silverstone Motor Racing Circuit by NA from August to September. The survey located anomalies relating to recent structures and deposits, roads and tracks, reburied hard standing, service pipelines and ferrous debris. Two possible archaeological anomalies were identified in one area, putatively ditches, but equally feasibly ephemeral modern features, such as drainage channels or beaten paths. Despite the extensive disturbance on the site, sufficient open areas were surveyed to demonstrate that little significant archaeological activity was present.

Marlow: Lower Pound Lane
SU 8454 8595

A watching brief was undertaken by JMHS between May and June during ground reduction in advance of a new artificial turf area with landscaping, floodlighting, fencing and car parking at Marlow Sports Club. The surface of the natural geology was seen across the centre of the field and no archaeological features or finds were present.

Newton Longville: St Faith's Close
SP 8469 3134

Between August and October a watching brief was carried out by ASC at 3 St Faith's Close, during the construction of a two-storey side extension to the existing house. The works revealed that the site had undergone much disturbance with services and made-ground deposits overlying buried topsoil. No significant archaeological finds, features or deposits were observed.

Olney: West Street
SP 8884 5174

A trial trench evaluation was carried out by NA in December on land to the north of 40 West Street, in advance of the construction of a new house. No archaeological deposits or artefacts were encountered during the course of the evaluation.

Penn: Elm Road
SU 9074 9368

In September a watching brief was undertaken by ASC at 1 Red Lion Cottages, Elm Road, during groundworks for an extension to the existing building. An aim of the project was to recover and record any evidence of the medieval and post-medieval tile industry in Penn. Excavation of the footings was observed but no archaeology was revealed.

Princes Risborough: Picts Lane
SP 8008 0274

In August a pre-determination trial trench evaluation was carried out by ASC on the former Whiteleaf Furniture factory site in Picts Lane to inform proposals for residential redevelopment of the site. The site lies to the south of the town, adjacent to the railway station. An initial desk-based assessment indicated that the site had moderate potential for the presence and survival of archaeological remains.

Ten trenches were opened across the site. No features or artefacts of archaeological significance were revealed. The soil profiles encountered suggested that some truncation had taken place during the construction of the factory and/or its demolition. It is thought unlikely that undisturbed archaeological features might survive on the site away from the trial trenches, and the impact of the proposed redevelopment of the site on buried heritage assets was assessed to be low.

Stoke Hammond: Stoke Road
SP 8828 3144

In August, a trial trench evaluation was carried out by ASC at Willowbridge Marina, Stoke Road, prior to the construction of an extension to the present marina. Six trenches were excavated within the

new marina site. East-west aligned ridge-and-furrow earthworks were present in five of the trenches, but not in the north-eastern corner of the site. Truncation during the construction of the canal or the present marina may have caused this. No archaeological finds or features were observed in any of the trenches.

Weedon: Chestnuts Farm
SP 8161 1805

In April a watching brief was undertaken by ASC at Chestnuts Farm during ground reduction for the construction of a tennis court. No significant archaeological features or artefacts were observed. The gardens around the farm showed significant signs of landscaping which could go some way to explain the absence of archaeology on this site.

Woodham: A41/Creighton Road
SP 707 180

Archaeological Project Services undertook a programme of trial trenching in October alongside

the A41 at Woodham in advance of an access road and roundabout for a proposed incinerator. Although on the line of Roman Akeman Street the investigation did not reveal any archaeological remains.

REPORTS NOT RECEIVED

Fieldwork is also understood to have been undertaken at the following locations:

Akeley: Church Hill – Trial trench evaluation
Biddlesden: Henwood Farm - Trial trench evaluation
Buckingham: Bourton Road – Trial trench evaluation
Stowe: Stowe School – Geophysical Survey