PROJECT PINEWOOD, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

An Archaeological Evaluation Report

Planning Application Number: Pre Application
National Grid Reference Number: TQ 0212 8453
Site Code: AYBCM:2009.191
AOC Project no: 30394
Date: October 2009









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PROJECT PINEWOOD, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

An Archaeological Evaluation Report

On Behalf of:	**The Pinewood Studios Group Pinewood Road Iver Heath Buckinghamshire SL0 0NH**
National Grid Reference (NGR):	**TQ 0212 8453**
AOC Project No:	**30394**
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This document has been prepared in accordance with AOC standard operating procedures.

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Non-Technical Summary

In September and October 2009 an archaeological evaluation was undertaken by AOC Archaeology Group on behalf of Pinewood Studios Group at Project Pinewood, Buckinghamshire (NGR TQ 0212 8453). Prior to the submission of a planning application, a programme of evaluation by trenching was decided upon to inform on the archaeological potential of the site.

The evaluation comprised twenty-three machine-excavated trenches. Natural clays were observed at a height between 67.25m OD and 56.41m OD, they were overlain by in many parts of the site by natural gravels and a sequence of subsoil and topsoil. No archaeological features were identified in any of the trenches. The only features recorded across the site were a series of modern plough scars in Trench 22.

No evidence of archaeological activity was observed across the site.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 This document is an archaeological evaluation report on the fieldwork conducted at Project Pinewood, Buckinghamshire (Figure 1).

1.2 The site was centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) TQ 0212 8453 and was within land bounded by fields and a small area of woodland (known as The Clump) to the north, the M25 to the east, housing and fields to the south and Pinewood Road to the west. The area subject to pre-determination evaluation comprised two fields; Field F9 and Field F10 (Figure 2). The fields were irregular in shape, measuring roughly 70,403sq m (F9) and 43,988sq m (F10).

1.3 The fields were largely flat consisted of long grass with areas of overgrowth.

1.4 The proposed development involved the development of the current studios with up to 1500 residential units, a school, community facilities and landscaping.

2. CIRCUMSTANCES OF FIELDWORK

2.1 The local planning authority is South Buckinghamshire District Council (SBDC). Archaeology advice to the council was provided by Sandy Kidd, of the Buckinghamshire County Archaeological Service.

2.2 In 2008 a watching brief was carried out on the excavation of a geotechnical pit no archaeological features were recorded (AOC 2008). In January 2009 a geophysical survey was carried out; it recorded moderate activity across the site (Stratascan 2009).

2.3 A cultural heritage impact assessment has been undertaken for the site as part of the environmental impact assessment for the proposed development (Environmental Statement *Project Pinewood* May 2009 Chapter 4). This cultural heritage assessment included an aerial photography assessment (Cox 2008); followed by the geophysical survey (Stratascan 2009) and the archaeological watching brief carried out during geotechnical test pits (AOC 2008). These reports were presented in the Environmental Statement, Volume 3 Appendix 4.2 aerial photography interpretation, Appendix 4.3 watching brief report and Appendix 4.4 geophysical survey).

2.4 In advance of submitting a planning application, an archaeological evaluation has been carried out to inform on the potential for archaeological remains to exist upon the site. It will also inform on any further archaeological work that may be required as a condition on any planning permission.

2.5 A written scheme of investigation (AOC 2009) was prepared prior to fieldwork setting out a method statement for the works.

3. GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

3.1 The underlying geology is London Clay (BGS, 2001). The drift geology is river terrace deposits (BGS. 1977).

3.2 During the geotechnical investigations the natural geology was recorded as “brownish grey clay”. Within one test pit, the clay was overlain by a layer of yellowish orange sandy gravel. The natural horizon was observed approximately between 0.25m and 0.40m below the present ground surface, except in one test pit located in Field F8, which indicated the presence of modern intrusions to a depth of 1.5m.

3.3 The site was situated on generally flat grassland.

4. ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

4.1 The below information has been extracted from the 'Brief for an Archaeological Field Evaluation' provided by the Buckinghamshire County Archaeological Service (BCAS, 2009).

4.2 Archaeological finds of prehistoric date were recorded in the vicinity of the site, including numerous discoveries of Neolithic and Bronze Age flint flakes found during construction of the M25 (Historic Environment Record Numbers 04870, 05492, 05489, 00822). Discoveries during mineral extraction in the valley floor to the east include Bronze Age and Roman sites and a nationally significant concentration of Late-Glacial and Post-Glacial hunter-gatherer settlements (HER 05053, 00842, 09528). Excavations recently carried out at All Soul's Quarry in Wexham, to the west of the proposed development area, have revealed extensive evidence of Roman settlement and land use, which was previously undetected by geophysical survey.

4.3 Thirteen medieval pottery kilns were excavated during construction of the M25 to the north of the site (HER 05241). Pinewood Studios borders Black Park to the west, which, along with Langley Park, was originally a medieval royal deer park and Tudor hunting park. In the 18th century the parks, in particular Langley Park, were redesigned and landscaped with Palladian villa-style houses, avenues, lakes and temples. Both parks are now in the ownership of Buckinghamshire County Council and Langley Park is a Grade II Registered Park and Garden.

4.4 Buckinghamshire Historic Landscape Characterisation Project identifies the southeastern part of the site as parliamentary enclosure, created when Iver Heath was enclosed in **c**. 1800. While parliamentary enclosure is relatively common to the north of the Chilterns, a local historic study of the Colne Valley Park has shown that they are, in fact, rare in this area with only large surviving areas existing at Iver. There is also an area of secondary woodland known as 'The Clump', which has a distinctive oval plan (now partially truncated by the M25). Seven Hills Road borders the periphery of an unregistered historic park and the Five Points Roundabout is located in another area of parliamentary enclosure fields.

4.5 The aerial photographic assessment did not identify any unknown archaeological sites in the study area, although the potential for buried sites to be concealed within the woodland was noted (Cox 2008). The watching brief report suggests that, as no subsoil was observed, a certain level of truncation may have occurred on the site (AOC 2008). However, this does not preclude the survival of any cut features that may exist on the site. The geophysical survey identified a number of anomalies in the two fields of interest; one field in the north-west corner of the site and two fields to the south of 'The Clump'. Some of the anomalies may be geological in origin but others appear to be archaeological.

4.6 The ditch separating Fields F9 and F10 contains mature deciduous trees and is therefore likely to be relatively old. It's proximity to 'The Clump' may suggest a contemporary date.

5. AIMS OF THE INVESTIGATION

5.1 The general aims of the evaluation were:

- to establish the presence/absence of any archaeological remains within the development site;
- to establish the ecofactual and environmental potential of any archaeological deposits and features and to establish the depositional sequence;

- to record and sample excavate any such archaeologically important material;
- to enable the archaeology advisor to make an informed decision as to the necessity for any further work should a planning application be approved.

5.2 The specific aim of the evaluation was to determine the presence of any prehistoric activity.

5.3 The final aim was to make public the results of the investigation, subject to any confidentiality restrictions

6 STRATEGY

6.1 The evaluation consisted of 23 trenches of varying length at base (as detailed in section 8). The trenches were spread over the two investigation fields (F9 to the east and F10 to the west) as demonstrated on Figures 3 and 4.

6.2 Fieldwork procedures followed the Museum of London's Archaeological Site Manual (MoL 1994).

6.3 The excavation, recording and reporting conformed with current best archaeological practice and local and national standards and guidelines:

- Council for British Archaeology – First Aid for Finds (Second Edition) (CBA 1987).
- English Heritage – Management of Archaeological Projects (EH 1991).
- English Heritage – Archaeological Assessment and Evaluation Reports (Guidelines) (EH 1992).
- English Heritage – Archaeological Guidance Paper 3: Standards and Practices in Archaeological Fieldwork (EH 1998a).
- English Heritage – Environmental Archaeology: A guide to the theory and practice of methods, from sampling and recovery to post-excavation (EH 2002).
- Institute for Archaeologists – Standards and Guidance and Guidelines for Finds Work (IFA 2008).
- Institute for Archaeologists – Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluations (IFA 2008).
- Institute for Archaeologists – Code of Conduct (IFA 2008).
- United Kingdom Institute for Conservation – Conservation Guidelines No.2 (UKIC 1983).
- United Kingdom Institute for Conservation – Guidance for Archaeological Conservation Practice (UKIC 1990).

6.4 The evaluation was conducted by two Project Supervisors, Catherine Edwards and Les Capon under the overall management of Andy Leonard and Melissa Melikian for AOC Archaeology. The work was monitored by Suzanna Pembroke for Arup (acting on behalf of Pinewood Studios) and Sandy Kidd for South Buckinghamshire District Council.

7 METHODOLOGY

7.1 For details of the methodology please refer to the WSI (AOC 2009). The evaluation comprised the excavation of 23 trenches (Figure 3 and 4), with selected hand excavation of archaeological features where present.

7.2 The entire site was visually inspected before the commencement of any machine excavation. All machining was carried out using JCB 3CX excavators and an eight tonne 360º tracked excavator

under the constant supervision of the Archaeological Project Supervisor. A 1.8m wide toothless ditching bucket was used, except where this was impractical. Undifferentiated topsoil or overburden of recent origin was removed in successive level spits down to the natural geology.

7.3 Excavated material was examined in order to retrieve artefacts to assist in the analysis of their spatial distribution.

7.4 On completion of machine excavation, all faces of the trench that required examination or recording were cleaned using appropriate hand tools. All archaeological features were investigated by hand, with cleaning, inspection, and recording both in plan and section.

7.5 The trenches were accurately located to the National Grid.

8 RESULTS

8.1 Trench 1

Level (m OD) of Top of Context	Depth (BGL)	Thickness	Context Number	Description
67.11 to 67.07	0.00m	0.25m	101	Topsoil. Firm mid brown sandy silt
66.86 to 66.80	0.25m	0.08m	102	Subsoil. Firm mid yellowish brown sandy silt
66.78 to 66.73	0.33m	0.10m	103	Natural. Loose brownish grey silty gravel
66.78 to 66.71	0.33m	0.10m	104	Natural. Very firm mid yellow clay

8.1.1 Trench 1 (Figures 3 and 5) was located in the northwest of Field F9, it was aligned approximately east-west and measured 30m x 2m. Natural clays (104) were observed in Trench 1 at a height of 66.78m OD, these were overlain by natural gravels (103) in three areas of the trench this deposit was not fully excavated. The natural deposits were sealed by a natural sequence of 0.08m thick subsoil (102) and 0.25m thick topsoil (101). No archaeological features were observed in this trench.

8.2 Trench 2

Level (m OD) of Top of Context	Depth (BGL)	Thickness	Context Number	Description
67.10 to 66.75	0.00m	0.20m	201	Topsoil. Loose mid brown sandy silt
66.90 to 66.57	0.20m	0.12m	202	Subsoil. Firm mid orange brown sandy silt
66.81 to 66.48	0.32m	0.10m	203	Natural. Loose brownish grey silty gravel
66.81 to 66.46	0.32m	0.10m	204	Natural. Very firm mid greyish yellow clay

8.2.1 Trench 2 (Figures 3 and 5) was located in the west of Field F9; it was aligned north-south and measured 30m x 2m. Natural clays (204) were observed in Trench 2 at a height of 66.81m OD, these were overlain by natural gravels (203) in two areas of the trench, these deposits were not fully

excavated. The natural deposits were sealed by a natural sequence of 0.12m thick subsoil (202) and 0.20m thick topsoil (201). No archaeological features were observed in this trench.

8.3 Trench 3

Level (OD) of Top of Context	Depth (BGL)	Thickness	Context Number	Description
67.02 to 66.40	0.00m	0.23m	301	Topsoil. Loose mid grey sandy silt
66.80 to 66.17	0.23m	0.08m	302	Subsoil. Firm mid yellowish brown sandy silt
66.71 to 66.08	0.31m	0.10m	303	Natural. Loose brownish grey silty gravel

8.3.1 Trench 3 (Figures 3 and 5) was located in the west of Field F9, it was aligned northwest-southeast and measured 40m x 2m. Natural gravels (303) were observed in Trench 3 at a height of 66.71m OD, the natural deposit was sealed by a natural sequence of 0.08m thick subsoil (302) and 0.23m thick topsoil (301). No archaeological features were observed in this trench.

8.4 Trench 4

Level (OD) of Top of Context	Depth (BGL)	Thickness	Context Number	Description
66.33 to 65.86	0.00m	0.22m	401	Topsoil. Firm mid brown sandy silt
66.10 to 65.62	0.22m	0.10m	402	Subsoil. Firm mid yellowish brown sandy silt
66.00 to 65.53	0.32m	0.10m	403	Natural. Brownish grey silty gravel
66.00 to 65.53	0.32m	0.10m	404	Natural. Very firm orange brown clay

8.4.1 Trench 4 (Figures 3 and 5) was located in the southwest of Field F9, it was aligned northwest-southeast and measured 30m x 2m. Natural clays (404) were observed in Trench 4 at a height of 66.00m OD, these were overlain by natural gravels (403) in the east of the trench; these deposits were not fully excavated. The natural deposits were sealed by a natural sequence of 0.10m thick subsoil (402) and 0.22m thick topsoil (401). No archaeological features were observed in this trench.

8.5 Trench 5

Level (OD) of Top of Context	Depth (BGL)	Thickness	Context Number	Description
67.22 to 66.98	0.00m	0.20m	501	Topsoil. Loose mid brown sandy silt
67.01 to 66.78	0.20m	0.08m	502	Subsoil. Firm mid orange brown sandy silt

66.93 to 66.70	0.28m	0.07m	503	Natural. Loose brownish grey silty gravel
66.91 to 66.69	0.30m	0.05m	504	Natural. Very firm mid greyish yellow clay

8.5.1 Trench 5 (Figures 3 and 5) was located in the west of Field F9, it was aligned northeast-southwest and measured 25 x 2m. Natural clays (504) were observed in Trench 5 at a height of 66.91 m OD, these were overlain by natural gravels (503) in the centre of the trench; this deposit was not fully excavated. The natural deposits were sealed by a natural sequence of 0.08m thick subsoil (502) and 0.20m thick topsoil (501). No archaeological features were observed in this trench.

8.6 Trench 6

Level (OD) of Top of Context	Depth (BGL)	Thickness	Context Number	Description
67.17 to 66.97	0.00m	0.18m	601	Topsoil. Loose mid brown sandy silt
66.98 to 66.79	0.18m	0.04m	602	Subsoil. Firm mid orange brown sandy silt
66.94 to 66.70	0.23m	0.10m	603	Natural. Loose brownish grey silty gravel
66.86 to 66.69	0.24m	0.10m	604	Natural. Very firm mid greyish yellow clay

8.6.1 Trench 6 (Figures 3 and 5) was located in the west of Field F9; it was aligned north-south and measured 12m x 2m. Natural clays (604) were observed in Trench 6 at a height of 66.86 m OD, these were overlain by natural gravels (603) in the west of the trench, this deposit was not fully excavated. The natural deposits were sealed by a natural sequence of 0.05m thick subsoil (602) and 0.18m thick topsoil (601). No archaeological features were observed in this trench.

8.7 Trench 7

Level (OD) of Top of Context	Depth (BGL)	Thickness	Context Number	Description
66.81 to 66.56	0.00m	0.20m	701	Topsoil. Loose mid brown sandy silt
66.60 to 66.45	0.20m	0.12m	702	Subsoil. Firm mid orange brown sandy silt
66.48 to 66.32	0.32m	0.1m	703	Natural. Very firm mid greyish yellow clay

8.7.1 Trench 7 (Figures 3 and 5) was located in the centre of Field F9; it was aligned north-south and measured 13m x 2m. Natural clays (703) were observed in Trench 7 at a height of 66.86 m OD, the natural deposit was sealed by a natural sequence of 0.12m thick subsoil (702) and 0.20m thick topsoil (701). No archaeological features were observed in this trench..

8.8 Trench 8

Level (OD) of Top of Context	Depth (BGL)	Thickness	Context Number	Description
67.52 to 67.42	0.00m	0.14m	801	Topsoil. Loose mid brown sandy silt
67.35 to 66.26	0.14m	0.10m	802	Subsoil. Firm mid orange brown sandy silt
67.25 to 67.17	0.24m	0.10m	803	Natural. Very firm mid greyish yellow clay

8.8.1 Trench 8 (Figures 3 and 5) was located in the north of Field F9, it was aligned east-west and measured 40m x 2m. Natural clays (803) were observed in Trench 8 at a height of 67.25m OD, the natural deposit was sealed by a natural sequence of 0.10m thick subsoil (802) and 0.14m thick topsoil (801). No archaeological features were observed in this trench.

8.9 Trench 9

Level (OD) of Top of Context	Depth (BGL)	Thickness	Context Number	Description
66.82 to 66.00	0.00m	0.12m	901	Topsoil. Loose mid brown sandy silt
66.70 to 65.82	0.12m	0.12m	902	Subsoil. Firm mid orange brown sandy silt
66.57 to 65.75	0.24m	0.08m	903	Natural. Very firm mid greyish yellow clay

8.9.1 Trench 9 (Figures 3 and 5) was located in the centre of Field F9; it was aligned northwest southeast and measured 40m x 2m. Natural clays (903) were observed in Trench 9 at a height of 66.57m OD, the natural deposit was sealed by a natural sequence of 0.12m thick subsoil (902) and 0.12m thick topsoil (901). No archaeological features were observed in this trench.

8.10 Trench 10

Level (OD) of Top of Context	Depth (BGL)	Thickness	Context Number	Description
66.11 to 66.00	0.00m	0.10m	1001	Topsoil. Loose mid brown sandy silt
66.01 to 65.90	0.10m	0.10m	1002	Subsoil. Firm mid orange brown sandy silt
65.91 to 65.80	0.20m	0.10m	1003	Natural. Loose brownish grey silty gravel
65.81 to 65.70	0.30m	0.06m	1004	Natural. Very firm mid greyish yellow clay

8.10.1 Trench 10 (Figures 3 and 5) was located in the south of Field F9; it was aligned east-west and measured 10m x 2m. Natural clays (1004) were observed in Trench 10 at a height of 65.81m OD; these were overlain by 0.10m thick natural gravels (1003). The natural deposits were sealed by a

natural sequence of 0.10m thick subsoil (1002) and 0.10m thick topsoil (1001). No archaeological features were observed in this trench.

8.11 Trench 11

Level (OD) of Top of Context	Depth (BGL)	Thickness	Context Number	Description
65.73 to 65.69	0.00m	0.12m	1101	Topsoil. Loose mid brown sandy silt
66.70 to 65.82	0.12m	0.16m	1102	Subsoil. Firm mid orange brown sandy silt
65.46 to 65.45	0.28m	0.05m	1103	Natural. Very firm mid greyish yellow clay

8.11.1 Trench 11 (Figures 3 and 5) was located in the south of Field F9 it was L-shaped, it measured 20m x 2m northwest-southeast and 17m x 2m southwest-northeast. Natural clays (1103) were observed in Trench 11 at a height of 65.46m OD, the natural deposit was sealed by a natural sequence of 0.16m thick subsoil (1102) and 0.12m thick topsoil (1101). No archaeological features were observed in this trench.

8.12 Trench 12

Level (OD) of Top of Context	Depth (BGL)	Thickness	Context Number	Description
65.70 to 65.31	0.00m	0.10m	1201	Topsoil. Loose mid brown sandy silt
65.60 to 65.20	0.10m	0.08m	1202	Subsoil. Firm mid orange brown sandy silt
65.13	0.18m	0.12m	1203	Natural. Loose brownish grey silty gravel
65.47	0.23m	0.08m	1204	Natural. Very firm mid greyish yellow clay

8.12.1 Trench 12 (Figures 3 and 5) was located in the south of Field F9, it was aligned east-west and measured 30m x 2m. The central part of the trench was left unexcavated due to the presence of shrubs. Natural clays (1204) were observed in the east of Trench 12 at a height of 65.47 m OD, natural gravels (1203) were observed in the west of the trench at a height of 65.13m OD. The natural deposits were sealed by a natural sequence of 0.08m thick subsoil (1202), and 0.10m thick topsoil (1201). No archaeological features were observed in this trench.

8.13 Trench 13

Level (OD) of Top of Context	Depth (BGL)	Thickness	Context Number	Description
66.70 to 66.66	0.00m	0.10m	1301	Topsoil. Loose mid brown sandy silt
66.60 to 66.56	0.10m	0.13m	1302	Subsoil. Firm mid orange brown sandy silt

66.47 to 66.43	0.23m	0.11m	1303	Natural. Very firm mid greyish yellow clay

8.13.1 Trench 13 (Figures 3 and 5) was located in the north of Field F9; it measured 10m x 2m and was aligned southwest-northeast. Natural clays (1303) were observed in Trench 13 at a height of 66.47m OD, the natural deposit was sealed by a natural sequence of 0.13m thick subsoil (1302) and 0.10m thick topsoil (1301). No archaeological features were observed in this trench.

8.14 Trench 14

Level (OD) of Top of Context	Depth (BGL)	Thickness	Context Number	Description
66.09 to 65.81	0.00m	0.10m	1401	Topsoil. Loose mid brown sandy silt
65.98 to 65.71	0.10m	0.10m	1402	Subsoil. Firm mid orange brown sandy silt
65.88 to 65.61	0.20m	0.10m	1403	Natural. Loose brownish orange sandy gravel

8.14.1 Trench 14 (Figures 3 and 5) was located in the northeast of F9; it measured 10m x 2m and was aligned southeast-northwest. Natural gravels (1403) were observed in Trench 14 at a height of 65.88m OD, the natural deposit was sealed by a natural sequence of 0.10m thick subsoil (1402) and 0.10m thick topsoil (1401). No archaeological features were observed in this trench.

8.15 Trench 15

Level (OD) of Top of Context	Depth (BGL)	Thickness	Context Number	Description
65.69 to 65.33	0.00m	0.10m	1501	Topsoil. Loose mid brown sandy silt
65.58 to 65.23	0.10m	0.15m	1502	Subsoil. Firm mid orange brown sandy silt
65.42 to 65.08	0.25m	0.10m	1503	Natural. Loose brownish orange sandy gravel

8.15.1 Trench 15 (Figures 3 and 5) was located in the east of F9, it was T-shaped and measured 20m x 2m southwest–northeast and 14m x 2m northwest-southeast. Natural gravels (1503) were observed in Trench 15 at a height of 65.42m OD, the natural deposit was sealed by a natural sequence of 0.15m thick subsoil (1502) and 0.10m thick topsoil (1501). No archaeological features were observed in this trench.

8.16 Trench 16

Level (OD) of Top of Context	Depth (BGL)	Thickness	Context Number	Description
64.80 to 64.24	0.00m	0.10m	1601	Topsoil. Loose mid brown sandy silt

64.70 to 64.15	0.10m	0.10m	1602	Subsoil. Firm mid orange brown sandy silt
64.60 to 64.04	0.20m	0.10m	1603	Natural. Very firm mid greyish yellow clay

8.16.1 Trench 16 (Figures 3 and 5) was located in the southeast of F9; it was aligned east-west and measured 40m x 2m the trench was divided into three parts due to footpaths cutting across the trench. Natural clays (1603) were observed in Trench 16 at a height of 64.60m OD, the natural deposit was sealed by a natural sequence of 0.10m thick subsoil (1602) and 0.10m thick topsoil (1601). No archaeological features were observed in this trench.

8.17 Trench 17

Level (OD) of Top of Context	Depth (BGL)	Thickness	Context Number	Description
64.36 to 63.32	0.00m	0.10m	1701	Topsoil. Loose mid brown sandy silt
64.25 to 63.22	0.10m	0.14m	1702	Subsoil. Firm mid orange brown sandy silt
64.09 to 63.08	0.24m	0.10m	1703	Natural. Very firm mid greyish yellow clay

8.17.1 Trench 17 (Figures 3 and 5) was located in the east of F9; it measured 40m x 2m and was aligned north-south. Natural clays (1703) were observed in Trench 17 at a height of 64.09m OD, the natural deposit was sealed by a natural sequence of 0.14m thick subsoil (1702) and 0.10m thick topsoil (1701). No archaeological features were observed in this trench.

8.18 Trench 18

Level (OD) of Top of Context	Depth (BGL)	Thickness	Context Number	Description
60.33 to 59.68	0.00m	0.24m	1801	Topsoil. Loose mid brown sandy silt
60.08 to 59.44	0.24m	0.16m	1802	Subsoil. Firm mid orange brown sandy silt
59.92 to 59.29	0.40m	0.10m	1803	Natural. Very firm mid greyish orange clay

8.18.1 Trench 18 (Figures 4 and 5) was located in the north of Field F10; it measured 31m x 2m and was aligned north-south. Natural clays (1803) were observed in Trench 18 at a height of 59.92m OD, the natural deposit was sealed by a natural sequence of 0.16m thick subsoil (1802) and 0.24m thick topsoil (1801). No archaeological features were observed in this trench.

8.19 Trench 19

Level (OD) of Top of Context	Depth (BGL)	Thickness	Context Number	Description

59.19 to 59.06	0.00m	0.16m	1901	Topsoil. Loose mid brown sandy silt
59.03 to 58.90	0.16m	0.06m	1902	Subsoil. Firm mid orange brown sandy silt
58.97 to 58.84	0.22m	0.1m	1903	Natural. Very firm mid greyish orange clay

8.19.1 Trench 19 (Figures 4 and 5) was located in the south of Field F10; it measured 30m x 2m and was aligned northeast-southwest. Natural clays (1903) were observed in Trench 19 at a height of 59.19m OD, the natural deposit was sealed by a natural sequence of 0.06m thick subsoil (1902) and 0.16m thick topsoil (1901). No archaeological features were observed in this trench.

8.20 Trench 20

Level (OD) of Top of Context	Depth (BGL)	Thickness	Context Number	Description
57.91 to 57.02	0.00m	0.33m	2001	Topsoil. Loose mid brown sandy silt
57.58 to 56.69	0.33m	0.07m	2002	Subsoil. Firm mid orange brown sandy silt
57.54 to 56.65	0.40m	0.10m	2003	Natural. Very firm mid greyish orange clay

8.20.1 Trench 20 (Figures 4 and 5) was located in the east of Field F10; it measured 30m x 2m and was aligned east-west. Natural clays (2003) were observed in Trench 20 at a height of 57.91m OD, the natural deposit was sealed by a natural sequence of 0.07m thick subsoil (2002) and 0.33m thick topsoil (2001). No archaeological features were observed in this trench.

8.21 Trench 21

Level (OD) of Top of Context	Depth (BGL)	Thickness	Context Number	Description
57.17 to 57.06	0.00m	0.19m	2101	Topsoil. Loose mid brown sandy silt
56.98 to 56.87	0.19m	0.10m	2102	Subsoil. Firm mid orange brown sandy silt
56.88 to 56.75	0.29m	0.10m	2103	Natural. Very firm mid greyish orange clay

8.21.1 Trench 21 (Figures 4 and 5) was located in the northeast of Field F10; it measured 30m x 2m and was aligned northeast-southwest. Natural clays (2103) were observed in Trench 21 at a height of 56.88m OD, the natural deposit was sealed by a natural sequence of 0.10m thick subsoil (2102) and 0.19m thick topsoil (2101). No archaeological features were observed in this trench.

8.22 Trench 22

Level (OD) of Top of Context	Depth (BGL)	Thickness	Context Number	Description

57.53 to 56.65	0.00m	0.16	2201	Topsoil. Loose mid greyish brown sandy silt
57.36 to 56.49	0.16m	0.08m	2202	Subsoil. Firm mid yellow brown sandy silt
57.29 to 56.41	0.24m	0.10m	2209	Natural. Firm mid greyish yellow gravely silty clay

8.22.1 Trench 22 (Figures 4 and 5) was located in the southeast of Field F10; it measured 30m x 2m and was aligned east-west. Natural clays (2209) were observed in Trench 22 at a height of 57.29m OD; these were sealed by 0.08m thick natural subsoil (2202). The subsoil was cut by three plough scars [2204], [2206] and [2208], they were linear and were all aligned northwest-southeast and were situated in the centre of the trench. The plough scars [2204], [2206] and [2208] were all 0.1m wide, they measured 0.64m, 0.83m and 1.70m long. They contained greyish brown clayey silt fills (2203), (2205) (2207); these features were not excavated but modern slate tile and brick were observed in fill (2207). The plough marks were sealed by a 0.16m thick deposit of topsoil (2201). No archaeological features were observed in this trench.

8.23 Trench 23

Level (OD) of Top of Context	Depth (BGL)	Thickness	Context Number	Description
62.39 to 61.55	0.00m	0.22m	2301	Topsoil. Loose mid brown clayey silt
62.16 to 61.32	0.22m	0.08m	2302	Subsoil. Firm mid brown silty clay
62.09 to 61.24	0.30m	0.10m	2303	Natural. Very firm mid greyish orange clay

8.23.1 Trench 23 (Figures 4 and 5) was located in the northwest of Field F10, it measured 30m x 2m and was aligned east-west, this trench was divided into two parts due to a footpath bisecting it. Natural clays (2303) were observed in Trench 23 at a height of 62.09m OD, the natural deposit was sealed by a natural sequence of 0.08m thick subsoil (2302) and 0.22m thick topsoil (23.01). No archaeological features were observed in this trench.

9 FINDS

9.1 Post-medieval pottery and a horseshoe were recovered from the topsoil and subsoil but were not retained. No environmental samples were taken. During the fieldwork a local resident brought forward a pair of flint tools, the first appeared to be a Neolithic axe head found in a field to the north of F9, the second was a flint tool possibly dating to the Palaeolithic era and was found within 'The Clump'.

10 CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

10.1 The archaeological evaluation met its primary aim; to determine the presence or absence of archaeological remains.

10.2 The natural geology presents a gradual slope southwards and eastwards from a high point of 67.2mOD at Trench 8 in Field F9, to 65.4mOD in the south and 56.7mOD in the east of Field F10, a gentle slope of less than 1 in 40. The boundary between the fields runs downhill southwards from 'The Clump'.

10.3 No remains of archaeological significance were recorded within any of the trenches. A natural sequence of subsoil and topsoil were recorded across the site with only very limited evidence of ploughing in Trench 22; three parallel ploughscars of post-medieval date.

10.4 It is AOC's recommendation that no further work is required. However, any requirement for further work will be decided by Sandy Kidd of Buckinghamshire County Archaeological Service

10.5 Given the lack of significant archaeological results, publication of the evaluation will be through the online ADS OASIS website (Appendix B) and a summary in the CBA South Midlands Region annual round-up.

10.6 The archive will be prepared following local guidance documents and deposited with the Buckinghamshire County Museum Resource Centre, Aylesbury.

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Figure 1

Figure 2

Figure 3

Figure 4

Figure 5

Appendices

Appendix A – Context Register

Context Register						
Context No.	**Context Description**	**Length**	**Width**	**Depth**	**Plan No.**	**Section No.**
101	Topsoil. Firm mid brown sandy silt	30.00m	2.00m	0.25m	1	1
102	Subsoil. Firm mid yellowish brown sandy silt	30.00m	2.00m	0.08m	1	1
103	Natural. Loose brownish grey silty gravel	30.00m	2.00m	0.10m	1	1
104	Natural. Very firm mid yellow clay	30.00m	2.00m	0.10m	1	1
201	Topsoil. Loose mid brown sandy silt	30.00m	2.00m	0.20m	2	2
202	Subsoil. Firm mid orange brown sandy silt	30.00m	2.00m	0.12m	2	2
203	Natural. Loose brownish grey silty gravel	30.00m	2.00m	0.10m	2	2
204	Natural. Very firm mid greyish yellow clay	30.00m	2.00m	0.10m	2	2
301	Topsoil. Loose mid grey sandy silt	40.00m	2.00m	0.23m	3	3
302	Subsoil. Firm mid yellowish brown sandy silt	40.00m	2.00m	0.08m	3	3
303	Natural. Loose brownish grey silty gravel	40.00m	2.00m	0.10m	3	3
401	Topsoil. Firm mid brown sandy silt	30.00m	2.00m	0.22m	4	4
402	Subsoil. Firm mid yellowish brown sandy silt	30.00m	2.00m	0.10m	4	4
403	Natural. Brownish grey silty gravel	30.00m	2.00m	0.10m	4	4
404	Natural. Very firm orange brown clay	30.00m	2.00m	0.10m	4	4
501	Topsoil. Loose mid brown sandy silt	25.00m	2.00m	0.20m	5	5
502	Subsoil. Firm mid orange brown sandy silt	25.00m	2.00m	0.08m	5	5
503	Natural. Loose brownish grey silty gravel	25.00m	2.00m	0.07m	5	5
504	Natural. Very firm mid greyish yellow clay	25.00m	2.00m	0.05m	5	5

601	Topsoil. Loose mid brown sandy silt	12.00m	2.00m	0.18m	6	6
602	Subsoil. Firm mid orange brown sandy silt	12.00m	2.00m	0.04m	6	6
603	Natural. Loose brownish grey silty gravel	12.00m	2.00m	0.10m	6	6
604	Natural. Very firm mid greyish yellow clay	12.00m	2.00m	0.10m	6	6
701	Topsoil. Loose mid brown sandy silt	13.00m	2.00m	0.20m	7	7
702	Subsoil. Firm mid orange brown sandy silt	13.00m	2.00m	0.12m	7	7
703	Natural. Very firm mid greyish yellow clay	13.00m	2.00m	0.10m	7	7
			2.00m			
801	Topsoil. Loose mid brown sandy silt	40.00m	2.00m	0.14m	8	8
802	Subsoil. Firm mid orange brown sandy silt	40.00m	2.00m	0.10m	8	8
803	Natural. Very firm mid greyish yellow clay	40.00m	2.00m	0.10m	8	8
901	Topsoil. Loose mid brown sandy silt	40.00m	2.00m	0.12m	9	9
902	Subsoil. Firm mid orange brown sandy silt	40.00m	2.00m	0.12m	9	9
903	Natural. Very firm mid greyish yellow clay	40.00m	2.00m	0.08m	9	9
1001	Topsoil. Loose mid brown sandy silt	10.00m	2.00m	0.10m	10	10
1002	Subsoil. Firm mid orange brown sandy silt	10.00m	2.00m	0.10m	10	10
1003	Natural. Loose brownish grey silty gravel	10.00m	2.00m	0.10m	10	10
1004	Natural. Very firm mid greyish yellow clay	10.00m	2.00m	0.06m	10	10
1101	Topsoil. Loose mid brown sandy silt	37.00m	2.00m	0.12m	11	11
1102	Subsoil. Firm mid orange brown sandy silt	37.00m	2.00m	0.16m	11	11
1103	Natural. Very firm mid greyish yellow clay	37.00m	2.00m	0.05m	11	11
1201	Topsoil. Loose mid brown sandy silt	30.00m	2.00m	0.10m	12	12
1202	Subsoil. Firm mid orange brown sandy silt	30.00m	2.00m	0.08m	12	12
1203	Natural. Loose brownish grey silty gravel	30.00m	2.00m	0.12m	12	12
1204	Natural. Very firm mid greyish yellow clay	30.00m	2.00m	0.08m	12	12

1301	Topsoil. Loose mid brown sandy silt	10.00m	2.00m	0.10m	13	13
1302	Subsoil. Firm mid orange brown sandy silt	10.00m	2.00m	0.13m	13	13
1303	Natural. Very firm mid greyish yellow clay	10.00m	2.00m	0.11m	13	13
1401	Topsoil. Loose mid brown sandy silt	10.00m	2.00m	0.10m	14	14
1402	Subsoil. Firm mid orange brown sandy silt	10.00m	2.00m	0.10m	14	14
1403	Natural. Loose brownish orange sandy gravel	10.00m	2.00m	0.10m	14	14
			2.00m			
1501	Topsoil. Loose mid brown sandy silt	34.00m	2.00m	0.10m	15	15
1502	Subsoil. Firm mid orange brown sandy silt	34.00m	2.00m	0.15m	15	15
1503	Natural. Loose brownish orange sandy gravel	34.00m	2.00m	0.10m	15	15
1601	Topsoil. Loose mid brown sandy silt	40.00m	2.00m	0.10m	16	16
1602	Subsoil. Firm mid orange brown sandy silt	40.00m	2.00m	0.10m	16	16
1603	Natural. Very firm mid greyish yellow clay	40.00m	2.00m	0.10m	16	16
1701	Topsoil. Loose mid brown sandy silt	40.00m	2.00m	0.10m	17	17
1702	Subsoil. Firm mid orange brown sandy silt	40.00m	2.00m	0.14m	17	17
1703	Natural. Very firm mid greyish yellow clay	40.00m	2.00m	0.10m	17	17
1801	Topsoil. Loose mid brown sandy silt	31.00m	2.00m	0.24m	18	18
1802	Subsoil. Firm mid orange brown sandy silt	31.00m	2.00m	0.16m	18	18
1803	Natural. Very firm mid greyish orange clay	31.00m	2.00m	0.10m	18	18
1901	Topsoil. Loose mid brown sandy silt	30.00m	2.00m	0.16m	19	19
1902	Subsoil. Firm mid orange brown sandy silt	30.00m	2.00m	0.06m	19	19
1903	Natural. Very firm mid greyish orange clay	30.00m	2.00m	0.10m	19	19
2001	Topsoil. Loose mid brown sandy silt	30.00m	2.00m	0.33m	20	20
2002	Subsoil. Firm mid orange brown sandy silt	30.00m	2.00m	0.07m	20	20

2003	Natural. Very firm mid greyish orange clay	30.00m	2.00m	0.10m	20	20
2101	Topsoil. Loose mid brown sandy silt	30.00m	2.00m	0.19m	21	21
2102	Subsoil. Firm mid orange brown sandy silt	30.00m	2.00m	0.10m	21	21
2103	Natural. Very firm mid greyish orange clay	30.00m	2.00m	0.10m	21	21
2201	Topsoil. Loose mid greyish brown sandy silt	30.00m	2.00m	0.16m	22	22
2202	Subsoil. Firm mid yellow brown sandy silt	30.00m	2.00m	0.08m	22	22
2203	Plough scar fill. Mid greyish brown silty clay	0.64m	0.10m	-	22	22
2204	Plough scar	0.64m	0.10m	-	22	22
2205	Plough scar fill. Mid greyish brown silty clay	0.83m	0.10m	-	22	22
2206	Plough scar	0.83m	0.10m	-	22	22
2207	Plough scar fill. Mid greyish brown silty clay	1.70m	0.10m	-	22	22
2208	Plough scar	1.70m	0.10m	-	22	22
2209	Natural. Firm mid greyish yellow gravely silty clay	30.00m	2.00m	0.10m	22	22
2301	Topsoil. Loose mid brown clayey silt	30.00m	2.00m	0.22m	23	23
2302	Subsoil. Firm mid brown silty clay	30.00m	2.00m	0.08m	23	23
2303	Natural. Very firm mid greyish orange clay	30.00m	2.00m	0.10m	23	23

Appendix B – OASIS Form

OASIS ID: aocarcha1-65258

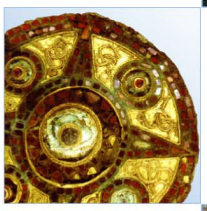
Project details	
Project name	Project Pinewood
Short description of the project	An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by AOC Archaeology Group at Project Pinewood, Buckinghamshire An evaluation by trenching was decided upon in advance of planning application submission to inform on the archaeological potential of the site. Natural clays were overlain by in many parts of the site by natural gravels and a sequence of subsoil and topsoil. No archaeological features were identified in any of the trenches. The only features recorded across the site were a series of modern plough scars.
Project dates	Start: 21-09-2009 End: 02-10-2009
Previous/future work	Yes / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	30394 - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	AYBCM:2009.191 - Sitecode
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Grassland Heathland 2 - Undisturbed Grassland
Monument type	PLOUGH SCARS Modern
Significant Finds	NONE None
Methods & techniques	'Targeted Trenches'
Development type	Rural residential

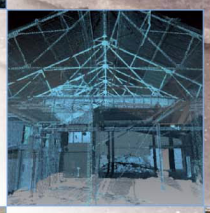
Prompt	Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPG16
Position in the planning process	Pre-application
Project location	
Country	England
Site location	BUCKINGHAMSHIRE SOUTH BUCKS IVER Project Pinewood, Iver Heath, Buckinghamshire
Postcode	SL0 0QH
Study area	104391.00 Square metres
Site coordinates	TQ 0212 8453 51.5499238479 -0.527012164285 51 32 59 N 000 31 37 W Point
Lat/Long Datum	Unknown
Height OD / Depth	Min: 56.41m Max: 67.25m
Project creators	
Name of Organisation	AOC Archaeology
Project brief originator	Buckinghamshire County Archaeological Service
Project design originator	AOC Archaeology
Project director/manager	Andy Leonard
Project supervisor	Catherine Edwards
Project supervisor	Les Capon

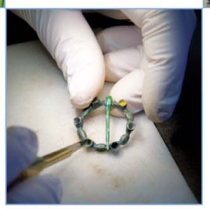
Project supervisor	Ian Hogg
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer
Name of sponsor/funding body	Pinewood studios

Project archives

Physical Archive Exists?	No
Digital Archive recipient	Buckinghamshire County Museum
Digital Contents	'Stratigraphic'
Digital Media available	'Images raster / digital photography'
Paper Archive recipient	Buckinghamshire County Museum
Paper Contents	'none'
Paper Media available	'Context sheet','Plan','Report','Section'
Entered by	Ian Hogg (ian.hogg@aocarchaeology.com)
Entered on	6 October 2009







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