

ARCHAEOLOGICAL NOTES

The following notes on fieldwork carried out in the county in 2000 have been compiled mainly from notes provided by commercial archaeological organisations, and lists of projects provided by the Milton Keynes and Buckinghamshire County Council's Archaeological Officers. The writer is grateful to those organisations and individuals for their assistance.

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

The reader is reminded that the Sites and Monuments Records maintained by Buckinghamshire County Council and Milton Keynes Council are the primary sources for more detailed information on sites and finds. As previously, the precise location of certain discoveries, particularly those which might contain metal objects, has not been given in order to reduce the chance of looting.

Bob Zeepvat

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 Ltd
BCAS	Bedfordshire County Archaeological Service (now Albion Archaeology)
CAT	Cotswold Archaeological Trust
HAT	Hertfordshire Archaeological Trust
OAU	Oxford Archaeological Unit
TVAS	Thames Valley Archaeological Services Ltd
WAASW	Woodfield Architectural & Archaeological Services

PREHISTORIC

Ashley Green

SP 997 040

Geophysical survey carried out by John Gover of Reading University with assistance from CVAHS members resulted in the identification of a possible entrance causeway, inner ditch and possible round houses within the hillfort enclosure at Whelpley Hill.

Dorney: Eton Rowing Lake

SU 919 787 to SU 939 774

Excavations by the OAU on this extensive site continued in 2000. Over 3.5ha. was excavated to examine the Bronze Age rectilinear enclosure cropmark at the north-west end of the site, with a watching brief on adjacent areas. Smaller excavations were carried out in advance of the grading of the sides of the Rowing Lake, principally next to the Iron Age and Roman enclosure excavated in 1997.

An Early Mesolithic flint scatter was found in alluvium next to a palaeochannel, and a group of three Late Neolithic pits some 100m east of the cropmark triple ring ditch next to the Thames. The enclosure system produced only a few finds of Middle Bronze Age date. Two small enclosures each contained a single waterhole with Deverel-Rimbury pottery, and may have been domestic. Truncation by ploughing had clearly been severe. The only other waterhole was closely associated with a semicircular gully and two sub-rectangular pits full of burnt flint with possible clay linings, interpreted as a possible cooking place.

The enclosure system was cut by an east-west Roman ditch and possible attached enclosure. On the east side of Area 20 the ground was lower, and here the Bronze Age and Roman features were sealed by alluvium, itself cut by a curving ditch following the approximate limits of the flooded area. This ditch contained two horseshoes, one undated,

one of 13th-century type, possibly dating the alluviation to the Saxon and early Medieval periods.

The Watching Brief on areas 18 and 22 revealed a few Bronze Age features and finds.

Two strips along the southern edge of the Rowing Lake were dug, one in late 1999, the second in 2000 (Area 16C). Another strip was dug along the north edge of the Return Lane (Area 16D). A shallow oval pit in Area 16D contained sherds from five Late Neolithic Grooved Ware vessels. This area also contained a ditch with the disarticulated skeleton of a horse, and a substantial Late Iron Age ditch overlain by the flint-packed post pads of a timber building. The building, only two bays (4.5m) of which lay within the excavation, was 6m wide and had an internal partition of smaller postholes towards the west side. North of the building was a group of ovens built in the hollows left by earlier ditches, cut by a pit containing a complete inverted 2nd-century Roman jar. The ovens were also cut by an east-west ditch parallel to the building, which may therefore have been contemporary. This ditch was visible as a crop-mark, and a probable continuation was found towards the west end of Area 16C. Just south of this a large Roman pit or well with a wattle lining was cut into the silted Thames palaeochannel. This was not bottomed. Many Roman bricks and roof tiles were found, possibly indicating production on a nearby site.

Gayhurst: Gayhurst Quarry

SP 853 446

An intensive watching brief was carried out in 1999 and 2000 by Northamptonshire Archaeology on behalf of GFX Hartigan Ltd during soil stripping on the areas between the barrows excavated in 1998 (*South Midlands Archaeology* 1999, 29, 17-20). This work located a further two un-urned cremation deposits and a previously unknown pit alignment. Fieldwork was completed in 2000 with the final phase of the watching brief and the excavation of a length of pit alignment. A radiocarbon date of 800-520calBC has been obtained for charcoal from the final filling of the pit alignment, placing it within the early Iron Age.

Great Missenden: Bury Farm

SP 906 020

A desk based assessment and trench evaluation were undertaken by Network Archaeology in advance of the conversion of two barns for residential use, and redevelopment of the grounds of an assumed medieval homestead moated site. The discovery of a Late Bronze Age/ Early Iron Age post pit and prehistoric worked flints at the site, in conjunction with nearby prehistoric sites, suggests that the area was favoured for settlement and exploitation in the prehistoric period. Two parallel linear ditches, a possible track and a layer were evidence of 12th to 17th-century land division and agriculture. A wall, a possible beam slot, a chalk floor, a possible clay floor and a layer of rubble may be evidence for at least three 12th to 17th-century buildings, two of which were associated with existing barns. Structural evidence, in the form of old floors and stake holes, was found for division and use of one of the barns.

Hambleden

SU 783 881 (approx)

A perforated, quartzite pebble macehead, found about 30 years ago was reported by Jeanne Keene and donated to the County Museum.

Ivinghoe

SP 9616

A Bronze Age sword of Wilburton type was discovered by a metal detectorist whilst detecting illegally on Ivinghoe Beacon, a scheduled ancient monument. Subsequent excavation of the find spot by National Trust archaeologists recovered late Bronze Age pottery sherds and animal bone.

Ivinghoe

SP 960 168

A geophysical survey carried out by John Gover of Reading University with assistance from CVAHS members, resulted in the tentative identification of a possible cursus, a d-shaped enclosure, a barrow and other anomalies within the hillfort enclosure.

Pitstone, Vicarage Road

SP 9390 1503

An area of 4.5ha to the south-west of Vicarage Road was subject to trial trenching by BCAS on behalf of Wilcon Homes. Limited evidence for early-middle Iron Age occupation was recovered. A series of re-cut north-south ditches, interpreted as field boundaries, produced abraded Roman pottery. No physical evidence for a Roman road, postulated to cross the area, was found.

Stone

SP 784125

Further finds of Mesolithic to early Neolithic flints and a sherd of possible Iron Age pottery were recovered from a previously identified prehistoric site by George Lamb.

Swanbourne, Mursley, Drayton Parslow, Stewkley, Wing

SP 7944 2752 to SP 8748 2158

Between January 2000 and July 2001, ASC carried out a watching brief and investigations for Anglian Water Services Ltd during the construction of the Winslow Zone Main Trunk Renewal pipeline. The pipeline route runs from Swanbourne, via Mursley and Stewkley, to Wing. Initial desk-based research had shown that little archaeological information was available for the area. Geophysical survey along the route revealed a few potentially archaeologically sensitive areas, which were stripped under archaeological supervision and investigated. One area near Richmond Lodge, Mursley, was found to contain features of Iron Age and medieval date. The location in the survey of extensive archaeological features of possible late prehistoric or Roman date adjacent to Wing airfield led to the re-routing of this part of the water main and the use of alternative construction methods to reduce damage to the archaeology. The watching brief located two areas of archaeological features that were not detected by the geophysical survey. One, near Mursley Hall Farm, produced a small amount of prehistoric pottery. The other, south of the Richmond Lodge site, contained pits of undetermined date.

Taplow: Taplow Hillfort

SU 907 823

The main excavation was completed in 1999. A subsequent watching brief around the west side carried out by the OAU for SGI (UK) revealed better preservation, including 0.25m of the gravel rampart and a black occupation layer, from which a saddle quern, Bronze Age pottery and part of an Ewart Park bracelet, provisionally dated to the 10th century BC, were recovered. At the south end the Bronze Age palisade trench and the Late Bronze Age ditch were turning westwards, showing that this was the southern limit of the hilltop enclosure in this phase.

A watching brief east of the main excavation revealed a curving ditch, probably a hornwork, just outside the entrance to the hillfort. A third ditch more than seven metres wide was located some 60m to the east, but this remains undated.

Wendover

SP 8508

A silver stater of Tasciovanus was found by Martin Weselby whilst metal detecting.

Weston Turville

SP 8444 1073

A gold stater found whilst gardening was reported to the County Museum by Mrs Mancha.

ROMANO-BRITISH**Aston Clinton, Buckland: A41 Aston Clinton Bypass**

SP 88 13 (area)

An evaluation was conducted by RPS Consultants along the proposed route of the A41 Aston Clinton Bypass. The work was commissioned by Owen Williams Ltd on behalf of the Highways Agency. Four areas along the proposed route corridor were examined by trenching. Trenches were positioned with regard to areas of archaeological potential, highlighted by previous stages of desk based study and geophysical survey.

Site A was located adjacent to the scheduled medieval moated site at Vatches Farm. No archae-

ological features or finds which might be associated with the moated site or any other periods were encountered within the trenches.

Site B comprised the excavation of trenches either side of the B489 road. Fieldwalking on the west side of the road had produced evidence for Roman and possibly Iron Age settlement, and geophysical survey demonstrated the existence of linear features and other anomalies of potential interest. The results demonstrated the existence of late Iron Age ditches containing both domestic finds and evidence of iron smelting to the west of and parallel with the existing road. Other trenches produced Roman finds and features, including pits and ditches. However, assessment of the pottery has concluded that most of these pits also contained sherds of early Saxon pottery, indicating that this small-scale late Iron Age and Roman occupation site, probably a farmstead, was also occupied in the Saxon period. No significant finds or features were located in the trenches to the east of the B489.

Site C, to the east of Site B, comprised a single trench intended to test a geophysical anomaly. The feature was found to be a hollow of relatively recent date.

Site D comprised three trenches on higher, well drained ground, at the south eastern end of the bypass corridor. A slight trace of a linear feature identified by the geophysical survey was located within Trench 12. The ditch was heavily truncated but contained a complete, though crushed, late Iron Age pot.

Aylesbury: High School
SP 8248 1325

A watching brief was carried out by the Babcie Group on behalf of Buckinghamshire County Council during a series of developments including the construction of a new Music Centre, a classroom extension and sports facilities. A range of structural and occupation features and artefacts of Roman date were recorded, along with residual Iron Age sherds and some medieval pottery.

Aylesbury: Weedon Hill
SP 813 159

Fieldwalking and metal detecting surveys carried out by Network Archaeology on land proposed for residential development, found a significant con-

centration of late 2nd to late 4th-century Roman material. This coincided with potential settlement remains and ancient field systems identified previously by geophysical survey. Medieval and post-medieval artefacts found at the site are probably the result of activities associated with the adjacent scheduled remains of Quarrendon deserted medieval village, a medieval or post-medieval moated site and a post-medieval Civil War battery.

Broughton: Broughton Barn Quarry
SP 9076 4056

Monitoring of soil stripping at the gravel quarry has continued, led by Andy Chapman for Northamptonshire Archaeology on behalf of GFX Hartigan Ltd (*South Midlands Archaeology* 2000, 30, 21). Linear and curvilinear ditch systems of Iron Age and Roman date have been located, but the main concentration of features is still to be exposed.

Buckingham: Verney Park
SP 7004 3344

An evaluation by N. Crank for HAT revealed a few features, principally enclosure or field ditches of probable Romano-British date. The site extends the known Romano-British distribution of occupation into this part of Buckingham.

Denham: The Lea
TQ 0490 8600

CAT carried out an evaluation of land to the west of The Lea, Denham. Elements of a field system dating to the later prehistoric and Romano-British periods were identified across the study area. Domestic settlement was indicated by the presence of pits dating to the same periods, and also by palaeoenvironmental evidence. At the eastern side of the site a shallow sub-rectangular pit containing burnt human bone, charcoal, and burnt clay was identified as a probable pyre site with associated stakeholes possibly representing a windbreak. Adjacent to this feature was a ditch from which pottery dating to the late Bronze Age/early Iron Age was recovered.

Haddenham
SP 7508

A rectangular cropmark enclosure with possible entrance, probably Romano-British, was reported by Alan Rose.

High Wycombe: The Rye Environmental Centre
SU 8740 9238

K. Walsh for the OAU carried out an evaluation at the Holywell Mead Swimming Pool Complex at the Rye, High Wycombe, on behalf of Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire Wildlife Trust. The pool complex lies on the site of the Rye Roman Villa, which has been excavated on several previous occasions. The evaluation showed that Roman walls and other deposits still survive, at least in places, at a depth of 0.9m beneath recent made ground.

Leckhampstead
SP 7338

Fieldwalking for the Whittlewood Project identified pottery from a possible Romano-British settlement site in the vicinity.

Leckhampstead
SP 7338

Fieldwalking for the Whittlewood Project identified pottery from a further possible Romano-British farmstead site.

Lillingstone Lovell
SP 7040

Fieldwalking for the Whittlewood Project identified pottery from a possible Romano-British settlement site.

Lillingstone Lovell
SP 7040

Fieldwalking for the Whittlewood Project identified pottery from a further possible Romano-British farmstead site.

Milton Keynes: Monkston Park
SP 88 38

Following a significant Bronze Age discovery by a metal detectorist during infrastructure works at Monkston Park, a watching brief was undertaken by Nicola King of ASC for English Partnerships during subsequent topsoil stripping, to determine the presence or absence of related features or evidence of activity of any other period. No further archaeological features were revealed, but a metal detector survey of topsoil heaps in the area revealed a number of Roman finds.

Mursley
SP 8229

'Significant quantities' of second-century Romano-British tile were found by metal detectorists and reported by Charmian Woodfield.

Stoke Mandeville
SP 8310

Finds of Romano-British pottery, five Roman coins and a brooch fragment were reported to the County Archaeological Service by Jim Croxford.

Wendover
SP 85 07

Following its discovery by Martin Parker, a Roman cremation burial was excavated by David Fell and Nigel Wilson of ASC on behalf of the Buckinghamshire County Archaeology Service. The cremation comprised a single burial, interred in a wooden box. The ashes had been placed within a flagon and were accompanied by a number of grave goods, including an adze hammer, a lead lampholder and a number of ceramic vessels, some of which may have contained offerings. A report on the discovery is in preparation for *Records of Buckinghamshire*.

SAXON AND MEDIEVAL

Amersham: The Kings Arms
SU 9566 9730

Building recording and evaluation trenching were undertaken by TVAS. The building recording pro-

vided details of the chronology of changes to the fabric of this 15th-century hall house, through to the 18th century. Two trenches were dug for the evaluation, revealing five pits, one medieval and four post-medieval.

Aylesbury: Granville Place/Buckingham Street
SP 8183 1398

An evaluation undertaken by Sutton Archaeological Services showed the site to be heavily disturbed. A possible medieval pit was revealed. No further information is available.

Aylesbury: St Mary's School
SP 8152 1372

An evaluation was undertaken by P. Boyer for HAT on land at the former St. Mary's School, Friarage Road. An area towards the centre of the site appeared to have been affected by quarrying activity; elsewhere features were found extending across the site. Most were ditches, although a smaller number of pits and post holes were also present. Iron Age pottery was recovered from a post hole in the north-western part of the site, which cut other undated features. In contrast, most other features appear to represent activity between the 12th and 15th centuries. Two post-medieval pits were identified towards the eastern end of the site. The nature and density of the features implies peripheral occupation, with no evidence of tenement boundaries or street frontages.

Buckingham
SP 6953 3378

A site visit by Sandy Kidd identified two fragments of gothic masonry built into modern garden walls at Well Street. The owner reported revealing a stone wall 'some years ago' whilst terracing a rear garden into the slope of the mound of Buckingham Castle.

Chalfont St Peter: St Peter's Church
TQ 0005 9089

An evaluation was carried out by TVAS, comprising two trenches. These revealed a robber trench, apparently marking the north wall of the nave of

the medieval church, and nine burials, of which one may have been medieval, while the rest appeared to be post-medieval. A single sherd of Roman pottery, probably redeposited, was recovered from a layer through which four of the graves were cut. Two pieces of worked stone (one chalk block, one flint nodule) from the robber trench may have derived from the medieval church.

Fingest
(no NGR)

A bronze fitting with debased Ringerike-style decoration probably of early 11th century date found by a metal detectorist, was reported to the County Museum

Great Missenden
SP 8971 0113

A medieval voussoir with dogtooth moulding in clunch, and two Penn tiles were identified at Abbey Farm by Michael Davis.

Ivinghoe
SP 94 16 (approx)

A decorated Saxon copper-alloy strap end was found by Jim Croxford and reported to the County Museum.

Lillingstone Dayrell
SP 7039

Fieldwalking for the Whittlewood Project recovered sherds of middle and late Saxon pottery and large quantities of medieval pottery from a known shrunken medieval village site. The ploughed-out remains of possible house platforms were also identified.

Lillingstone Lovell
SP 7140

Fieldwalking for the Whittlewood Project recovered a large range of medieval pottery from a known settlement site.

Ludgershall: Duck Lane

SP 6640 1778

Following an evaluation which identified quantities of late medieval pottery and tile which appeared to be kiln wasters, TVAS excavated an area of c.600 sq m on this site. The excavation revealed metallised surfaces and a wall foundation, and a further large assemblage of pottery and tile, most of which comprises kiln wasters. However, no kiln, nor any cut feature, was found. The pottery is an important group of Brill/Boarstall type wares, indicating a new source for this material, and is the first evidence for manufacture of this ware as late as the later 15th century. It is anticipated that a full report will appear in *Medieval Ceramics*.

Medmenham, Medmenham Abbey

SU 806 838

During 2000 a watching brief by Michael Farley Archaeology continued at the Abbey during the excavation of pipe trenches around the south and east of the house and in the driveway to the north. Further skeletal material was observed together with some evidence for walls of clunch and a rammed chalk floor. Most of the material evidence was located east of the house. The whole is thought to reinforce the belief (SMA 1999) that an earlier reconstruction plan of the abbey by Plaisted, which placed the abbey adjacent to the river, may need substantial revision. A full report has been deposited with the SMR.

Newport Pagnell: Tickford Abbey

SP 883 440

Investigations were undertaken by the North Bucks Archaeological Society, involving the excavation of two trenches. Trench 1 revealed a robber trench running ENE-WSW, seemingly the remains of a wall of the church of the former Priory. It cut an earlier thin loamy surface and pit/trench of unknown date. The artefacts recovered from the fill of the robber trench consisted of ceramic roof tiles and a single fragment of window glass. Trench 2 revealed a deep cut feature, the bottom of which was not reached in the trench. The lower deposits consisted of soft grey silty-clay, overlain with deposits of very early 20th-century refuse, including ash and many bottles and pottery fragments.

Maps of 19th-century date show a long linear pond orientated NNW-SSE and leading north towards the Ouse in this area.

Shenley Brook End: Long Meadow School

SP 8278 3537

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken for Milton Keynes Council by Bob Zeepvat and Nigel Wilson of ASC on the proposed site for this new combined school. The site lies to the south-west of the deserted village of Westbury-by-Shenley, adjacent to areas of known Roman and Saxon activity. Twenty-three trenches were excavated. Apart from signs of recent activity, the only archaeological features exposed were traces of medieval ridge-and-furrow ploughing.

Stowe

SP 6837

Fieldwalking for the Whittlewood Project recovered medieval pottery adjacent to a known DMV site.

Tattenhoe: Portishead

SP 8302 3357 to SP 8280 3398

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Nigel Wilson of ASC for Bellcross Homes during the construction of a road adjacent to the Tattenhoe deserted medieval village. The only features of archaeological interest were medieval plough furrows. A number of sherds of Roman pottery were recovered from the area to the west of the DMV.

POST-MEDIEVAL AND UNDATED**Biddlesden, Leckhampstead & Lillingstone Lovell**SP 6500 4040, SP 7300 4100 &
SP 7370 3825

A rapid survey of earthworks in Briary Wood, Wicken Wood and Wicken Park Wood was carried out by David Hall for Forest Enterprise.

Bierton: St Osyth's Well
SP 83591521

A watching brief was carried out for Bierton PCC and the Countryside Agency by Michael Farley Archaeology, during restoration of St Osyth's or Uptown Well, Bierton. The well lies within the village and is adjacent to a known Belgic-period settlement site. The surviving well-house, which encloses a spring, was constructed in limestone, and is itself probably a rebuild of the early Victorian period. It was later substantially repaired and refaced in brick, probably in the later nineteenth-century. In the course of the current restoration work some associated nineteenth and twentieth-century features were identified, including a separate cistern constructed in 1900 to which the well was connected and from which water was drawn through a freestanding cart-pump. No features certainly of pre-nineteenth century date were identified.

Attention is drawn to the possible significance of an adjacent house, apparently of seventeenth-century or earlier date, now demolished, shown on the Inclosure Map of 1780 and in later photographs. Earthworks in an adjacent field include the route of a trackway, but there are also some landscape features here probably associated with the former house.

Brill: Sun Hotel
SP 6540 1410

An evaluation at land to the rear of the Sun Hotel by D. Hounsell for HAT produced significant evidence for post-medieval pottery production, with large quantities of kiln wasters and structures associated with the preparation of clay. No evidence of actual kiln structures was identified but dumps of clay, in conjunction with a stone platform, possibly for a water barrel, and a large clay bedding may suggest the presence of a kiln and potting sheds in the vicinity. An assemblage of 667 sherds weighing over 30kg was collected, including examples of tin-glazed wares and Brill post-medieval redwares, and providing further evidence that Brill was producing black-glazed red earthenware.

Broughton: Broughton Site 2
SP 8930 3948

An evaluation was carried out by Gary Edmondson and Erlend Hindemarch of Northamptonshire Archaeology for English Partnerships. Aerial photographs of an area north of Tongwell Street had located a possible rectangular enclosure, with two parallel linear cropmarks possibly defining an oblique trackway to the south. No traces of these features were identified during a geophysical survey or the subsequent trial excavation. A single undated pit was recorded.

Broughton: Broughton Site 3
SP 8971 3889

An evaluation was carried out by Gary Edmondson and Erlend Hindemarch of Northamptonshire Archaeology for English Partnerships. Aerial photographs had identified a small rectangular feature, possibly a small enclosure or building, lying north of the roundabout at the junction of Tongwell Street and Chaffron Way. A geophysical survey identified no archaeological activity. Trial trenching revealed a series of closely spaced, wide but shallow linear features, probably cultivation furrows. The cropmark appears to correspond to one of these features.

Buckingham, 28 Mitre Street
SP 6921 3332

J Hiller for the OAU undertook an evaluation of this site, prior to development. The site lies within an area known historically as 'Prebend End'. A single trench was excavated to a maximum depth of 2.0m. Layers of clay and gravel were present to this depth, all containing finds of 19th-century or later date. It seems likely that these deposits represent infilling of a hollow or of a large pit, possibly associated with a known marl pit on the site, which was also the location of a brick works in the mid-late Victorian period. This activity appears to have removed the original ground level of this part of the site, and with it any traces of the medieval street frontage depicted on Speed's map of Buckingham.

Buckingham: St Rumbold's Well

SP 688 355

A study of St Rumbold's Well and its environ was carried out for the St Rumbold's Well Management Group by Michael Farley Archaeology. The well and earthworks in its vicinity were surveyed. The 'well' (in fact an enclosed spring) has recently been scheduled as an ancient monument. The surviving remains are the footings of a conduit house built in 1623 on the site of St Rumbold's Well, the latter being depicted on Speed's map of 1611. The conduit house was connected to Castle House in Buckingham by lead pipes. A sale catalogue of 1903 includes a description of the conduit house and a map showing the course of the pipes which had to cross the Ouse in order to reach Castle House. When the Banbury, Buckingham and Blechley Railway was built in 1850 the water supply appear to have been reconstructed over the line. The whole suggests at least 250 years of continuous use. It was noted that the Buckingham parish boundary diverts to incorporate the spring (well) site, hinting at Saxon antecedents. There is well-preserved ridge-and-furrow in the field, which is being considered for development. Unfortunately no illustration of the conduit house when standing has survived.

Chalfont St Giles

SU 9595

Earthworks of a possible barrow or mill mound in Pollards Wood, were reported by John Morris.

Chearsley, St Nicholas Church

SP 7203 1031

A small investigation was undertaken beneath the brick floor of the fifteenth-century tower of St Nicholas Church, Chearsley, Buckinghamshire for the PCC by Michael Farley Archaeology. The excavation located a probable early ground-surface and an apparent cut-feature containing an in-situ deposit of lime mortar-mixing. It is possible that the latter might be associated with the tower's construction or it could lie within another feature such as a vault. A single find of a plain, glazed, late medieval floor-tile could indicate the former existence of a tiled floor.

Chenies: Chenies Manor Old Nursery

TQ 9830 0145

Historic building recording of this Grade I listed structure was conducted by L. Prosser for HAT. The recording revealed that the core of the house was roughly contemporary with the main Tudor mansion, constructed c.1528. It was two-storeys with attic bedrooms, and a second phase was identified, dating from the later 16th century. Excavation of the cellar revealed a remarkably well preserved brick floor, with a series of unusual niches around the walls which may have held skeps, or straw hives for hibernating bees.

Dinton: Dinton Hall

SP 7660 1100

An archaeological assessment of Dinton Hall was carried out by Bob Zeepvat of ASC during refurbishment and improvement works. A desk-based study confirmed the 16th-century origin of the present house, and that an earlier house had stood on the same site, but its remains had probably been obliterated by the later building. It also showed that the present house and its landscaped gardens had been subject to significant changes throughout the 18th and 19th centuries. A subsequent examination of the grounds and the fabric of the house in the light of construction works revealed that no significant archaeological remains were likely to have been disturbed, or to be present in areas not yet affected by those works.

Great Brickhill: St Mary's Church

SP 901 307

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by David Fell and Nigel Wilson of ASC in advance of the construction of a new church annexe. Two trenches were excavated, one against a blocked door in the north wall of the church and the other in the churchyard. No structural remains were present at the north door, although articulated burials were found in the trench. A number of post-medieval/modern burials were found in the second trench. A survey of memorial headstones in the area affected by the development was also undertaken.

Great Missenden: The Warren, Potter Row
SP 9033 0257

A watching brief was carried out for Mr and Mrs Weatherly by Michael Farley Archaeology, during construction of a single-storey building adjacent to The Warren, Potter Row. Some years previously a quantity of seventeenth-century pottery, including wasters, had been discovered in the garden of the house and medieval pottery wasters collected from a field nearby. The watching brief produced a small amount of seventeenth-century pottery with clear similarities to that previously recovered, but only one waster. No further examples of the distinctive stamped-ware characteristic of the site were recovered. One piece of heavily overfired brick/tile and a partially glazed brick, which may have originated from the structure of a kiln, were recorded.

The absence of pottery pre-dating the seventeenth century at The Warren suggests that the Potter Row industry is of two distinct phases, medieval and seventeenth century and that there may have been no continuity between them. Nearly all of the finds came from the infill of a shallow feature which may have been a clay pit. Only the northern edge of this feature was seen, but it appeared to mark the limit of the site since beyond it lay undisturbed ground. The seventeenth-century site may therefore have fronted the existing road with clay pits behind.

Hanslope: Manor House
SP 8041 4663

An evaluation and watching brief was undertaken by WAAS. No further information is available.

Hartwell: The Church of the Assumption of Our Lady
SP 7950 1250

A watching brief was undertaken by BCAS on behalf of architects Rodney Melville and Partners, during the excavation of four new drains and two new soakaways, part of extensive renovation works at the church.

Two drains and one soakaway were excavated on the southern side of the church. Within the soakaway a probable east-west aligned grave cut was observed. Retrieved from the grave fill were a number of nails, which may denote the presence of

a coffin. Three further inhumations were observed within the drain trenches. All remains were left in situ. A deposit of mixed limestone fragments and tile overlay these graves.

Two drains and one soakaway were excavated on the northern side of the church down to natural gravels or bedrock. At the northern end of the western pipe trench a small quantity of disarticulated bone was observed. This comprised animal, adult human and juvenile human long-bone and rib fragments.

Hedgerley: Burtley Wood
SU 952 887

An evaluation comprising a geophysical survey supplemented by shovel test-pitting across the site and field walking was carried out by D Poore for the OAU, on behalf of Gifford and Partners. There was little indication of archaeological activity, and the results from the test pitting were largely negative. No features were identified and the distribution of recovered finds appears to indicate only occasional low level post-medieval activity within the evaluation area.

Ludgershall: Five Bells
SP 660 174

J Hillier for the OAU carried out a small-scale evaluation on land adjacent to the Five Bells. A single pit containing post-medieval pottery may have been associated with an earlier building on the site. A brick-rubble spread in the north part of the trench appears to have derived from a demolished outbuilding, probably that illustrated on the 1920 OS map.

Ludgershall: Kya House
SP 657 179

J Hillier for the OAU carried out a test-pit evaluation of land adjacent to Kya House. Pottery of 18th-19th century date within layers above the natural might suggest relatively recent disturbance. The remains of a structure found in one of the test pits probably belong to a demolished outbuilding, depicted on the 1880 1st edition OS map.

Newport Pagnell: High Street

SP 4873 2437 to 4878 2442

A watching brief was undertaken by Archaeologica during the installation of a fibre-optic cable along the northern edge of the High Street, between North Bridge and Station Road. The cable trench was severely affected by modern service trenches throughout its length. At the east end of the High Street, cellars of mostly 19th century buildings destroyed as part of a road widening scheme were identified. Opposite 38-42 High Street the truncated limestone foundations of a substantial building were identified, along with an associated external gravel surface. From 17th-century cartographic evidence these foundations seem to relate to the shambles which stood in the middle of the High Street. Near the Cedars Way junction, a section of undated sunken way running NE-SW was visible. West of this point, a series of undated road surfaces were visible below the present road surface. Opposite the police station the fill of the trench was heavily disturbed, possibly by activities related to the construction of the Newport Pagnell canal (1815) and railway (1838). The brick-built town well which stood near the Post Office into the early 20th century was also identified.

Olney: Bridge House, Lime Street

SP 8887 5102

A watching brief was undertaken by Archaeology & Heritage. No further information is available.

Olney: 5 Market Place

SP4887 2514

A watching brief was undertaken by Archaeologica during the construction of an extension. Most of the deposits observed consisted of modern terraced make-up: the trench only reached the top of archaeological deposits. Features revealed included the corner of a 17th-century building, now destroyed, and a stone-lined square latrine of unknown date, associated with a gravel path.

Princes Risborough: Manor Park Avenue

SP 8040 0341

A desk-based study and field evaluation were undertaken by RPS Consultants on land adjacent to

99 Manor Park Avenue. The development is adjacent to a scheduled moated medieval manorial site known as 'The Mount'. Three trenches were excavated. One revealed that the surrounding area had been disturbed by a wide modern cut for a concrete culvert, which probably followed the line of the medieval moat ditch and had destroyed all trace of it. The others revealed only garden soils and old ploughsoil levels.

Princes Risborough: Whiteleaf

SP 822 040

A preliminary management study of Whiteleaf was carried out for Environmental Services, Buckinghamshire County Council by Michael Farley Archaeology in preparation for a Heritage Lottery Fund bid focussing on restoration of Whiteleaf Cross. The study area included various earthworks amongst which is the Whiteleaf Neolithic barrow and some First World War practice-trenches. The study drew attention *inter alia* to an impressive sequence of holloways, a roadway stopped up at the time of enclosure, and a previously unrecorded arc of interrupted-trenches on the side of the hill (discovered by Julia Carey) and probably of First World War date.

Stewkley, Littlecote Farmhouse

SP 8318 2428

A watching brief was carried out for A. Frost Architects by Michael Farley Archaeology whilst pipe trenches and footings for a conservatory were being dug at Littlecote Farm. The farm lies adjacent to the site of Littlecote village, a scheduled ancient monument and itself incorporates part of an seventeenth or eighteenth-century stable block. No features or finds certainly earlier than the eighteenth-century were recorded, but a densely packed layer of cobbles may indicate the route of an 'ancient private road' shown on a map of 1814.

Stoke Goldington: High Street

SP 4834 2494 to 4839 2485

A watching brief was undertaken by Archaeologica during the installation of a fibre-optic cable, between Church Lane and Butlers Close. The cable trench ran along the eastern edge of the road, except at its southernmost end. Throughout its

length, severe disturbance by modern service trenches was encountered. At the south end of the village a sunken road was found running north-south underneath the modern road. Pottery from its fill was of 17th and early 18th-century date. This feature represents an earlier course of the Newport Pagnell to Northampton Road, prior to its turnpiking. A limestone boundary wall (SP 48385 24853) was identified on the eastern edge of the road in an area where the High Street has been widened.

Stony Stratford: 81 High Street
SP 7860 4056

A watching brief was undertaken by BCAS and WAAS. No further information is available.

Walton: The Open University
SP 8876 3678

A watching brief was maintained by Bob Zeepvat of ASC during groundworks for the construction of new offices for The Open University business school. The site was the subject of evaluations in 1990 and 1999, when an area of well-preserved Roman occupation features was located its southern half and its extent plotted. Observation of the development, in the north half of the field, revealed modern land drains and a scatter of medieval and post-medieval pottery in topsoil, but no earlier features or finds.

Wolverton: Manor Farm
SP 8072 4176

An historic building survey was carried out by Bob Zeepvat and Nicola King of ASC for the Milton Keynes Parks Trust of the house and farm buildings at Manor Farm, Old Wolverton, in advance of proposals to refurbish the existing structures for residential and commercial use. The farmhouse dates originally from the late 17th or early 18th century, with extensive additions in the 18th and early 19th century, and has a largely Victorian interior. The earliest farm buildings are of 18th-century date, but were significantly altered and adapted to new uses in the 19th century, when the farm was turned over wholly to cattle. A geophysical survey for a new access route to the site, carried out by Oxford Archaeotechnics, revealed a single possible pit.

NEGATIVE FIELDWORK

Bourne End: Priory Ford
SU 8900 8765

Nothing of archaeological interest was observed during a watching brief carried out by TVAS.

Buckingham: 6 Station Terrace
SP 694 333

A watching brief was undertaken by David Fell of ASC on land adjacent to 6 Station Terrace, during groundworks for a new house. No archaeological remains were present on the site.

Burnham: Land at Redwood
SU 9250 8350

Evaluation by TVAS of 2.4ha of land revealed nothing of archaeological interest.

Castlethorpe: Sustrans Cycleway
SP 4810 2425

A watching brief was undertaken by Nigel Wilson of ASC during drainage works on the route of the new Sustrans Cycleway (Castlethorpe to Haversham section), where it passed over the flood plain of the river Great Ouse. No archaeological features or finds were observed.

Chenies: Chenies Golf Course
TQ 020 971

Foundations Archaeology was contracted by Aerlink Leisure to undertake a programme of archaeological works at the site of a proposed new golf course at Green Street. These works were carried out subsequent to a desk-based assessment undertaken by Michael Farley (1999). A geophysical survey carried out by GeoQuest identified a number of anomalies, but no convincing archaeological features. A watching brief was thereafter undertaken on two areas of the site which included the most promising geophysical anomalies. No archaeological finds or deposits were present within the observed areas.

Fenny Stratford: 20-26 Watling Street
SP 8829 3411

A watching brief carried out by WAAS revealed only 18th-century and later activity overlying natural. No further information is available.

Flaunden, St Mary Magdalene Church
TQ 0085 9866

A watching brief was carried out during the excavation of six post-holes for a new fence enclosing the site of St Mary Magdalene church, Flaunden, a scheduled ancient monument, for Bucks County Council by Michael Farley Archaeology. No archaeological features were recorded. A small amount of roof-tile was present. The shallowness of the soil-deposit overlying undisturbed flint gravel was noted. Whether or not the church was associated with medieval settlement remains an unresolved issue.

Gerrards Cross: Hedgerley Lane
SU 9929 8735

An evaluation was carried out by N. Crank of HAT in advance of housing redevelopment. An earlier geophysical survey had produced anomalies suggesting that Roman kilns found in the vicinity might extend onto the site. These anomalies were examined, and found to have been produced by modern garden activities and builder's waste.

Ledburn: Water Main
SP 910 220

A desk-based assessment and watching brief were undertaken by ASC on behalf of Anglian Water Services Ltd on the route of a new water main from Ledburn to Grove, a distance of some 1.1km. As the main was laid by drilling, observation was limited to series of small drill access pits at roughly 100m intervals. No archaeological deposits or artefacts were observed.

Newport Pagnell: Mill House Stable
SP 8754 4414

An archaeological evaluation was carried out by N. Crank for HAT. No archaeological features or finds were revealed, and the presence of brick rubble and

redeposited natural implied that the area may have been scoured and levelled.

Newport Pagnell: The Old Fire Station
SP 8875 4394

A watching brief was carried out by R.J. Ivens during the excavation of several small service trenches and a pit for a manhole in the yard of the Old Fire Station. Ground disturbance was confined within topsoil, cut by an existing soak-away and several modern service trenches, all sealed by a modern concrete slab paving. No archaeological deposits or finds were revealed.

Pitstone: Water Main
SP 9472 1580 to 9360 1524

A watching brief was undertaken by Jonathan Hunn and Nigel Wilson of ASC for Anglian Water Services Ltd during topsoil stripping along the water main route, which extended from Lower Icknield Way to Vicarage Road, passing close to the listed 17th-century post mill. No archaeological features or finds were observed.

Shenley Church End: Aldwycks Close
SP 828 368

P. Boyer undertook a watching brief for HAT during housing development on Plot 6, Aldwycks Close. No archaeological features or finds were revealed.

Stone: 77 Bishopstone
SP 8057 1023

A watching brief was undertaken by David Fell of ASC during the construction of a house on land adjacent to 77 Bishopstone. No archaeological features or finds were revealed.

Stowe: Lamport House
SP 6835 3750

J Hiller for the OAU undertook a watching brief on this site during groundworks for an extension. No archaeological deposits were revealed.

Tattenhoe: Howe Park First School

SP 8397 3441

A watching brief was maintained by ASC on the groundworks for this school for Milton Keynes Council. No archaeological features or artefacts were identified.

Tattenhoe: Rosemullion Avenue

SP 8299 3352

A watching brief was carried out for Bellcross

Homes by Bob Zeevat of ASC during the construction of this road. No archaeological features or finds were present.

Wolverton: Milton Keynes College

SP 8092 4105

An evaluation was undertaken by David Fell and Nigel Wilson of ASC in the grounds of Milton Keynes College, Wolverton. The site is adjacent to a probable Saxon cemetery. No archaeological features or finds were present.