

ARCHAEOLOGICAL NOTES

The following notes on fieldwork in the county in 2004 have been compiled from information 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 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 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 in previous years, the precise location of certain discoveries, particularly those that 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:

AA	Albion Archaeology
AS	Archaeological Solutions
ASC	Archaeological Services & Consultancy
BA	Birmingham Archaeology
CA	Cotswold Archaeology
JMHS	John Moore Heritage Services
NA	Northamptonshire Archaeology
OA	Oxford Archaeology
Phoenix	Phoenix Consulting Archaeology
TVAS	Thames Valley Archaeological Services
WA	Wessex Archaeology

PREHISTORIC

Bierton with Broughton: 80 Aylesbury Road SP 8366 1542

An evaluation was carried out at Bierton House by JMHS, prior to the construction of a proposed new dwelling and garage. Apart from two rubbish pits of 19th or 20th-century date, the only feature of archaeological interest was a shallow ditch. This produced a small mixed-period assemblage comprising sherds of late Bronze Age and Roman pottery, as well as plain body sherds of Iron Age or Saxon date. Though the evidence is slight, the pottery may represent activity peripheral to the main focus of late prehistoric, Roman and Saxon settlement which is believed to lie to the south of the evaluation site.

Chesham: Chessvale Bowling Club SP 9604 0158

In January 2003 an evaluation was undertaken by BA in advance of a proposed residential development. The evaluation was informed by previous excavations at Stratford's Yard to the south of the site, where Mesolithic and Neolithic deposits had been recorded in the 1960s and 1980s (*Records* 31, 49–74). Three trenches were excavated, the first of which produced Middle Bronze Age ceramics, animal bone and flintwork from two pits. A subsequent area excavation recorded several pits clustering around a ring ditch situated at the northern limit of the excavation area. An early Bronze Age vessel was found in a pit, and a sherd of Peterborough Ware was also recovered from the site. The flintwork assemblage from the excavation was broadly datable to the Late Neolithic and Bronze Age. Some residual Mesolithic material was also recovered, although no associated buried soil horizons, such as those recorded at Stratford's Yard, were encountered. The lower western area of the site had been truncated by a number of large post-medieval features, while the higher ground to

the east showed evidence of having been truncated by terracing activity below the original level of natural chalk.

Denham: The Lea

TQ 0490 8600

A third phase of excavation was carried out by CA between May and July, in advance of gravel extraction. Palaeolithic, Mid to Late Bronze Age, Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age and Romano-British activity was recorded. A detailed account will be published in *South Midlands Archaeology* for 2004; a summary of the results is presented here.

A section of mammoth tusk was recovered by the quarry operators during gravel extraction. It was identified as the midsection of an adult tusk, probably of a male woolly mammoth (*Mammuthus primigenius*).

The previously identified double-ditched feature (*Records* 45, 217–218) was found to continue as a single ditch to the south-east and defined the south-western boundary of two contemporary rectangular fields extending to the north part of the extensive field system identified in previous work. Small quantities of coarse or fine calcined flint-tempered and organic-tempered pottery were recovered from these ditches. This pottery assemblage is comparable to that recovered from the earlier excavations, and belongs to the same middle to late Bronze Age Deverel-Rimbury tradition. Several features were found to contain thin-walled sherds in much finer flint- or quartz-tempered fabrics than the above. This is probably of a slightly later late Bronze Age or early Iron Age date. A cremation burial contained pottery of this type, as did a pit containing a large quantity of burnt daub with clear wattle impressions.

A further seven Romano-British bustum burials were identified during this phase of excavation. The bustum burials were all located in a discrete area to the north of those found during earlier excavations (*ibid.*). Eight inhumation burials were also identified, forming a distinct group slightly to the north of the focus of bustum burials. The bodies were extended and supine with the heads to the north-east. Sherds of late 3rd to 4th century pottery were recovered from one inhumation. Three cremation burials were identified to the north-west of the bustum burials and inhumations.

Haddenham: Scotsgrove Hill

SP 7080 0736

An evaluation was undertaken at Clacken Arches Farm by OA in advance of the construction of a new dwelling and associated access. No archaeological features were observed but a total of eight pieces of worked flint and three pieces of burnt unworked flint, broadly dated to the prehistoric period, were recovered from the modern plough-soil.

Little Marlow: Abbotsbrook, Bourne End

SU 8895 8785

An evaluation was carried out by JMHS in advance of development on land in The Avenue. The site is c.100m north of the entrance to the former Benedictine nunnery of St Mary. Several flints of late Neolithic to early Bronze Age date were found in one area. These probably represent one act of deposition, perhaps within a feature, scattered by subsequent ploughing. The lack of features or artefacts of this date elsewhere on the site suggests that the deposition was an isolated act. Considering the high proportion of used edges in conjunction with the absence of direct evidence for knapping it seems likely that this assemblage represents a small 'tool-kit' of flakes, selected from different reduction sequences and deposited as a group following use. A post-medieval ditch was also located in the southern part of the site.

Princes Risborough: Whiteleaf Hill

SP 822 041 (centre)

Archaeological investigations on Whiteleaf Hill led by Gill Hey for the Princes Risborough Countryside Group and OA continued in 2004/5. Test pitting of one-metre squares at 30m intervals across the site was completed and, although quantities of finds recovered were small, these included struck flints, probably of Bronze Age date, and sherds of Romano-British pottery, in addition to more recent material reflecting the popularity of this beauty spot throughout the 20th century. Two two-metre square test pits were also excavated, one of which yielded the smashed remains of a number of Roman pottery vessels laying in hollows in the natural ground surface. This test pit was opened in an area of anomalies picked up in geophysical survey

to the north-east of the Neolithic oval barrow. Another test pit to the north of the barrow revealed the continuation of a north-south ditch which had been examined in the 2003 excavations of the barrow (*Records* 44, 145) and was thought to be Romano-British in date. No finds were retrieved from the section dug in 2005.

Shenley Brook End: Kingsmead South

SP 824 339; SP 822 337; SP 823 337 (centres)

Following an initial evaluation, excavation of three areas was carried out by TVAS between September and January in advance of development. This revealed at least two phases of Iron Age settlement, consisting of at least seven and perhaps as many as fifteen round houses in what would appear to be two clusters; one enclosed, one not. It remains to be established if the clusters were contemporary, but there is clear evidence for replacement of structures within each cluster. Post-excavation analysis of a substantial finds assemblage is in its early stages but there do not appear to be any features from earlier or later periods.

Shenley Brook End: Oxley Park (West)

SP 817 351 (centre)

Archaeological Investigations Ltd undertook trial trenching and excavation between July and October on an area adjacent to Shenley Common Farm North, prior to housing development. Excavations revealed a large circular enclosure associated with an alignment of roundhouse drip gullies. Pottery recovered from the enclosure ditch has been dated to the middle Iron Age. Although evidence for four roundhouses was recorded it seems that only one or two were occupied at one time. The site appears to represent a small farmstead, possibly rearing cattle or sheep that grazed in an open area to the east of the settlement and were kept overnight in a large circular stock enclosure. Additional features, including a large square enclosure, were uncovered to the south-west of the stock enclosure, but their date and relationship to the features already excavated are not known at this point. Further excavations are planned.

Shenley Brook End: Tattenhoe Park

SP 824 332 (centre)

An evaluation was carried out by NA on land at Tattenhoe Park in advance of proposed development. The work comprised geophysical survey (magnetic susceptibility and gradiometer survey) followed by trial trenching. Two principal areas of archaeological activity were identified, an Iron Age site and a post-medieval farmstead. Elsewhere, there was evidence for sporadic Iron Age and Roman activity and medieval and post-medieval ridge and furrow.

Shenley Church End: Shenley Dens to Oakhill Water Main

SP 8038 3690 – SP 8181 3626

In April a watching brief was maintained by ASC on the construction of a water main from Shenley Grounds Farm south-eastwards to the west end of H5 Portway. Two parallel ditches containing Iron Age pottery were found to the east of Shenley Dens Farm, orientated northwest to southeast.

Stowe: Stowe House Grounds

SP 6770 3710

Cores were taken through peat deposits found lying below the artificial lakes within the grounds of Stowe House by Archaeoscape, Royal Holloway College, as part of a larger commission by the Whittlewood Project. These produced valuable evidence for the local environment from the late Iron Age through to the twelfth century. The resulting pollen diagram indicates a reduction of tree cover between the two dated deposits, and by the later period a local domination of grass over arable or woodland.

Taplow: Taplow Source to Hitcham Lane Pipeline

SU 9185 8105 – SU 9098 8325

A watching brief was undertaken by CA along the route of a new water pipeline between Taplow Source and Hitcham Lane, a distance of c. 2.5km. Following desk-based assessment and geophysical survey, fieldwork was carried out between December 2003 and May 2004. Site 1 (NGR 9142 8255) was an area of late Bronze Age to middle Iron Age settlement activity comprising postholes

and storage pits enclosed by a large contemporary ditch. The remains of a Romano-British field system were also identified. At Site 2 (NGR 9115 8135) a more extensive area of largely Romano-British activity comprising a trackway and a number of pits and ditches was found. A small number of very large steep-sided and very deep pits were identified.

Taplow: Cliveden Road

SU 907 824 (centre)

An evaluation was carried out at Taplow Court by OA, in advance of Phase 2 of the development, to investigate two alternative locations for a proposed accommodation block. The site environs had previously been subject to an evaluation by Wessex Archaeology (*Records* 40, 109), and an excavation and subsequent watching brief carried out by OA (*Records* 42, 149) in advance of the construction of a *Butsuma* (Phase 1). The latter revealed evidence for a defensive ditch with late Bronze Age and Iron Age phases.

The northernmost evaluation trench revealed a very large defensive ditch, relating to the previously identified late Bronze Age/Iron Age hillfort complex. This had a broad 'V'-shaped profile and was in excess of 12m wide and 3.9m deep from the current ground surface. The primary fills of the ditch were relatively sterile gravels, producing some worked flints and a single late Bronze Age sherd. A dark charcoal rich deposit halfway up the ditch profile produced fragments of daub, fired clay, a quern fragment and sherds of early/middle Saxon pottery. A sherd of amphora/flagon from the deposit appears to be an imported vessel, possibly from the Eastern Mediterranean.

The deposit was also sampled for environmental remains and produced a varied assemblage of charred cereals and plants including short free-threshing grains of *Triticum* sp. (rivet or bread wheat), hulled *Hordeum* sp. (hulled barley) and *Avena* sp. (oats) along with a small quantity of *Secale cereale* (rye). A date of cal AD 670–870 (95% confidence Poz-12532 1255 ±30 BP) was obtained on a *Triticum* sp. grain. The Saxon domestic refuse deposited within this ditch, and the Iron Age hillfort ditch in previous phase of investigation, demonstrate the survival of the hillfort as a substantive earthwork into the Saxon period. The Saxon deposits may indicate domestic activity in or

around these earthworks, at a time broadly contemporary with the burial in the Taplow Mound. Moreover, the presence of a sherd of imported amphora/flagon in the deposit tentatively indicates high-status activity. The upper fills of the ditch attest to the intentional levelling of the earthworks at some point in the medieval or post-medieval periods, possibly during landscaping for the grounds of Taplow Court.

The northern trench also revealed a late Bronze Age pit west of the ditch, and a later shallow ditch that cut both the upper fills of the defensive ditch and the pit. Three trenches dug further south contained one possibly Saxon tree-throw hole, but no other archaeological features, possibly due to truncation prior to the construction of industrial units in the 1950s.

ROMAN

Cuddington: Aylesbury Road

SP 7545 1173

An evaluation carried out in advance of development at Cowley's Farm by JMHS found the site to partly overlie an infilled valley caused by spring sapping. The only archaeological feature present was the butt end of a ditch located on the extreme south edge of the area. This ditch is considered to be a field boundary relating to the known Roman occupation to the south. Prehistoric finds were retrieved from colluvial deposits and appear to represent general activity on the area between Dinton Castle and Cowley Farm at that time.

Haversham: Hill Farm

SP 8370 4370

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by NA during the conversion of agricultural buildings into residential accommodation at Hill Farm. This followed a small excavation by NA in 2003 (*Records* 44, 146). During the course of the watching brief a number of features of Romano-British date were identified and sherds of Romano-British pottery were recovered. An undated stone-lined well was also recorded.

Leckhampstead: Mount Mill Farm

SP 7350 3650

As part of the Whittlewood Project a 37-hectare field, a regular target for metal detectors, was systematically fieldwalked. This produced a significant scatter of prehistoric worked flint, a small scatter of later prehistoric pottery, and two major concentrations of Romano-British pottery and ceramic building material. The latter may represent the site of an important settlement complex of fairly elevated status. Early medieval handmade wares dated to the period 400–850 were found in association with these concentrations. Low-density scatters of medieval pottery indicate that this area had been incorporated into the open-fields of Leckhampstead by 1100 at the latest.

Shenley Brook End: 23 Church End Road

SP 4835 2358

A watching brief was carried out by Archaeologica during development. Two ditches and a spread or shallow ditch associated with a small posthole were identified, all of 3rd to 4th-century date. Pottery and roof tile suggest the presence of a Roman building in the vicinity.

Shenley Church End: Hazeley

SP 814 363 (centre)

During July, ASC carried out an evaluation on the proposed site of Hazeley Secondary School. Following a geophysical survey, twenty-four trenches were excavated across the site. The only area of potentially significant archaeology was located towards the south-east corner of the site, where a small concentration of 2nd and 3rd century Roman pottery and rubble was found. No evidence of associated features was discovered. These findings were confirmed by a watching brief carried out on this area during construction of the school.

Wexham: All Souls Farm Quarry

SU 9950 8190

Evaluation trenching by TVAS in November, in advance of gravel extraction, revealed a modest density of pits, ditches and post holes of early and late Roman dates. Some Middle and Late Bronze Age pottery, all unstratified or residual, was also

recovered. A number of undated ditches are probably fairly recent.

SAXON & MEDIEVAL**Akeley: Willows Farm**

SP 7129 3005

As part of the Whittlewood Project a trial trench was excavated at Willows Farm transversely across a medieval headland to determine the antiquity of this feature and any evidence for an antecedent framework on which the later medieval field system may have been based. This produced a small quantity of pottery dated to the period 1100–1400 indicating both ploughing and light manuring throughout this period. The lower deposits produced a mix of medieval and Roman pottery suggesting disturbance of earlier ploughsoils, although no features of this earlier period were identified.

Akeley, Leckhampstead, Lillingstone Dayrell, Lillingstone Lovell & Stowe

A survey of all the surviving and demolished churches of the Whittlewood Project area was undertaken by Paul Barnwell of English Heritage. This survey confirmed the survival of the earliest ecclesiastical fabric in the area at St Nicolas' Church, Lillingstone Dayrell. Possible evidence for a northern *porticus* at St Mary's, Lillingstone Lovell may indicate that this church once have had an importance beyond its current parochial status. In general, however, the survival of early evidence is poor in this part of the county, and few of the churches had been subject to major late medieval renovation.

Amersham: 15 Market Square

SU 9576 9733

A watching brief was carried out by TVAS to the rear of this 15th-century house, during alterations and extensions. An L-shaped trench was excavated for the construction of an extension abutting the external walls of the kitchen and store. The construction cut for the foundation of the store was revealed. In addition, a number of sherds of 15th century pottery were recovered from a deposit cut by the foundation. A single residual early medieval sherd was also found.

Aylesbury: Kingsbury Square

SP 8185 1386

In the spring and early summer ASC undertook a watching brief on the refurbishment of Kingsbury Square in Aylesbury. Although much of the refurbishment work was superficial in character, the construction of a water feature required a greater depth of excavation. The northern part of this system was observed, revealing the presence to two ash- and cess-filled pits. Neither of these pits contained dating evidence though their presence is likely to pre-date the development of the square in the medieval period.

Bledlow-cum-Saunderton: West Lane

SP 7738 0265

Evaluation trenching by TVAS in November in anticipation of housing development revealed a large pit or ditch, and a stone-lined pit, probably a well, both dated only broadly to the medieval period.

Brill, 28 Temple Street

SP 6553 1401

A watching brief carried out by TVAS during October and November on building extension works encountered three pits. Two of these were 19th century or later, but one may be dated to the 17th century by a large sherd of red earthenware, although it also contained several sherds of Brill/Boarstall ware. This latter pit cut through a levelling layer, which also contained Brill/Boarstall ware and thus could be medieval. Similar sherds were also recovered from unstratified locations. The presence of this material is not surprising as the area contains a notable concentration of medieval and post-medieval kilns (*Records* 30, 123–155). However, nothing suggests this site was involved in the industry directly.

Broughton: Broughton Farm

SP 9040 4030

An intermittent archaeological watching brief was maintained by R.J. Ivens between May 2003 and June 2004 during the removal of topsoil prior to the construction of a bund. The entire development site proved to be covered with the remains of ridge-and-

furrow cultivation. No other pre-modern archaeological features or artefacts were observed.

Castlethorpe: 7b North Street

SP 7983 4447

A watching brief was carried out by NA during the groundworks for an extension on the western side of *Laverock*, 7b North Street. The site is located within the outer bailey of Castlethorpe Castle, a scheduled ancient monument. The groundworks exposed a section of the infilled castle moat running at an oblique angle. The pottery from the fill of the moat indicates that the feature was filling up in the 19th century when the site was occupied by allotments, and in the 20th century when the ground was landscaped for the construction of the present house in 1961.

Dorton: Ashfold School

SP 6784 1390

An evaluation was carried out by JMHS in response to a planning application for the construction of a single storey preparatory school. The site is immediately south-west of the Church of St John the Baptist. Most of the area had been truncated by landscaping. Remnants of ridge and furrow are present in an adjacent field. Pottery recovered from a trench in this area indicates manuring of the field from the later medieval period through to around the 16th century.

Ellesborough: Risborough Road

SP 8385 0840

JMHS undertook a watching brief at Terrick House during groundworks for a new garage. Deposits recorded in the foundation trenches comprised a rich garden soil adjacent to a modern drainage ditch that had been cut into a silted-up pond forming part of a possible series of ponds. The primary silts encountered within the pond contained sherds of medieval pottery. The upper levels of the pond appear to have been sealed by a levelling layer of charcoal and in some areas by a harder layer of pebbly sand. These deposits represent post-medieval or modern backfill and landscaping over a pond feature that had been open and active in the medieval period.

Additional topsoil stripping for the creation of a

driveway was also observed. Deposits encountered in this area indicate horticultural activity in the form of linear gullies and evidence of agricultural practices from the remains of a ploughsoil. Water/drainage management was represented by the possible remains of a leat or channel shown on the early edition Ordnance Survey maps, and there was further evidence of a sequence of fishponds, subject to silting up and backfill over time.

Lavendon: 18 Castle Road

SP 9172 5381

A watching brief was carried out by Archeologica during development. A 13th to 15th century ditch was identified along the northern edge of the site. Two medieval pits were also uncovered. Three broad linear stone structures, probably paths, crossed the site. There was also a narrower linear stone structure, possibly a wall. The possible paths contained medieval pottery and animal bones in their matrix, as well as occasional fragments of post-medieval pottery, and overlay the earlier ditch and one of the pits.

Leckhampstead: Weatherhead Farm

SP 7340 3750

As part of the Whittlewood Project, eight one-metre square test-pits were sunk through an important multi-period concentration of pottery identified during fieldwalking in 2002, and thought to represent an abandoned part of the dispersed medieval settlement pattern of Leckhampstead. The test pits produced significant quantities of pottery from the period 400–1400, suggestive of continuity, if not continuous, occupation of this part of the parish between these date brackets. Test-pitting also produced a proportionally larger amount of Iron Age pottery than might be predicted from the surface scatter, indicating that wares of this period may be under-represented in the fieldwalking record.

Lillingstone Lovell: Hall Farm

SP 7135 4030

For the Whittlewood Project, a trial trench was excavated transversely across a medieval headland at Hall Farm to determine the antiquity of the feature and any evidence for an antecedent framework

on which the later medieval field system may have been based. This produced quantities of pottery dated to the period 1100–1400 indicating both ploughing and heavy manuring throughout this period. Sealed below the headland was a small circular pit cut into the underlying limestone containing a small assemblage of Iron Age pottery.

Long Crendon: 25 High Street

SP 6961 0888

JMHS carried out a programme of test-pitting on land to the rear of 25 High Street in advance of development. Three pits were excavated by hand across the proposed development area. Two possibly late medieval pits were found cut directly into natural deposits and two post-medieval pits were seen to cut into a truncated layer of subsoil. A further undated pit was also noted. These features were concentrated in the southern half of the site, close to the frontage with Burts Lane. All were heavily truncated by subsequent horticultural activity or by activity associated with the construction and demolition of a small cottage fronting Burts Lane, the remains of which can still be seen today.

Ludgershall: Wotton End

SP 6654 1716

An evaluation was carried out at Brooklands Farm by JMHS in advance of proposed residential development. The site is considered to lie within the envelope of the medieval village of Ludgershall. The evaluation comprised the excavation of two trenches; one within the present paddock and the other in the field to the south where an access track is proposed. A quantity of medieval pottery of probable 13th–14th-century date was found within the paddock. Aerial photographs indicate ploughed-out ridge-and-furrow in the paddock although no traces were found. The trench in the field to the south sectioned the extant ridge and furrow and found an underlying earlier layout of strips.

Medmenham: Ferry Nab, Ferry Lane

SP 8062 8381

TVAS carried out a watching brief between January and August during extensions to the existing house, located within the precinct of

Medmenham Abbey. A chalk-built wall or foundation was located: this has not been dated, but could plausibly belong to an ancillary Abbey building. Previous watching briefs have revealed similarly tantalising glimpses, but the 13th-century Abbey complex remains poorly understood.

Mentmore: Crafton Stud Farm
SP 8900 1970

In December AA undertook a watching brief during the machine excavation of a cable trench at Crafton Stud Farm. The site is immediately south of Crafton Chapel and approximately 1.5km west of Mentmore village, and the trench was located adjacent to known medieval earthworks. Only post-medieval ditches, a pit and a wall were investigated and recorded.

Nash: Wood End
SP 7841 3385

Historic building recording work was undertaken by AS in May in advance of plans to dismantle, refurbish and re-assemble Wood End House, a Grade II listed structure. The building appears to date to the 15th-16th century and surviving elements consist of the heavy timber framing. The building appears to have extended to the west and had internal cruck framing, now removed. In the earlier 17th century the floor was added in the east part of the building, resting on the elm joists now seen. These may have been colourwashed red and the higher quality of construction may indicate that this end of the building took on a domestic character at this time. The walls may also have been covered in mud and straw plaster at this time. By the early 19th century, cartographic evidence shows that the building had already been truncated to the west, when it appears to have been used as a Quaker meeting house.

Princes Risborough: St Dunstan's Church, Monks Risborough
SP 8126 0440

In June OA carried out an evaluation at St Dunstan's Church in response to proposals for the extension of the existing graveyard. The evaluation revealed a number of boundary ditches dating from the 10th century, possibly forming part of an area

of late Saxon occupation. No structural remains of this date were discovered within the trenches, though Roman building materials from these features suggest either a substantial building of that date in the vicinity or the reuse of a local resource in the late Saxon period.

North Marston: Land adjacent to the Vicarage
SP 4777 2226

An evaluation was carried out by JMHS in advance of residential development. Early medieval pottery recovered from colluvial deposits attests to medieval activity in the vicinity: not surprising, given the proximity of the medieval village immediately upslope from the site. A single fragment of Roman *tegula* is interesting but, on its own, is of little use other than implying Roman activity somewhere in the vicinity of the site.

Olney: Church Street
SP 8906 5090

In September, Phoenix undertook a watching brief during the excavation of footing trenches for a conservatory to the rear of Mill Close, Church Street. Across the site were various post-medieval levelling horizons, beneath which part of a possible medieval pit was identified in the extreme south-western corner of the trench. It was cut into a possible early buried garden soil horizon and the underlying natural gravels. Excavation of the accessible part of this feature recovered a significant assemblage of pottery sherds, consisting of shelly coarsewares, St Neots wares and sandy coarsewares. In addition, there is a single rouletted shelly coarseware sherd. It appears that the feature in which this group of pottery was deposited almost certainly dates from the 12th century.

Padbury: Manor Farm
SP 7217 3086

In November ASC undertook an evaluation of the yards at Manor Farm, in response to proposed residential development. The site is located immediately south of the 13th century church. Three ditches were located toward the centre of the site and appeared to predate the extant 19th century and later farm buildings. It was not possible to date these ditches securely, though the presence of a sim-

gle medieval sherd in the primary fill of one ditch indicated that it could have been in use between the 11th-15th centuries.

Penn: Church Road

SU 9078 9351

Evaluation trenching by TVAS in October in advance of an extension to *Glenmore* located a shallow ditch or gully containing two sherds of medieval pottery. Aligned parallel to the street, this may be the rear boundary of a property fronting Church Road.

Penn: Horse and Groom, Elm Road

SU 9060 9402

An evaluation was conducted by OA in respect of a planning application for redevelopment of the former *Horse and Groom* public house as a doctor's surgery. The evaluation revealed evidence for ridge-and-furrow agriculture together with 19th-century domestic occupation, but no evidence for earlier activity or for tile making on the site.

Stoke Goldington: 68 High Street

SP 8370 4893

Archaeologica undertook a watching brief during alterations to Mobb Cottage. Two cesspits and a 19th century rubbish pit were identified. One of the cesspits was undated: the other appears to be of mid 15th-century date.

Stony Stratford: 75 High Street

SP 7860 4047

An evaluation was carried out by R.J. Ivens in March in advance of a new development. The evaluation showed that the site has been subjected to considerable 19th century and later disturbance. The presence of re-deposited medieval roof tile and pottery and a few late 17th-century sherds, some re-deposited, suggest medieval and early post-medieval activity in the vicinity. The heavily robbed remains of an undated, possible property boundary wall was identified.

Stowe: New Inn Farm

SP 6830 3740

A detailed earthworks survey of the deserted village of Lamport was undertaken by Graham Brown of English Heritage on behalf of the Whittlewood Project. This revealed a complex palimpsest of earthwork features, providing a greater understanding of the development and morphology of the medieval settlement. Set along a north-south central 'street', with house platforms and crofts laid out regularly on either side of this axis, the earthworks extend over a distance of 500m. The etymology of the place-name *Lamport* has been taken to mean 'Long Market-place'. Despite later developments, the current disposition of earthwork may thus follow earlier arrangements from which the village took its name.

Wendover: Land off Little Hampden Close

SP 8668 0764

An evaluation was conducted by OA on this site in respect of a planning application for a new house. Extensive deposits of post-medieval garden soil were revealed, along with a layer of possible early medieval ploughsoil and a 13th- to 14th-century field or property boundary ditch.

Wolverton: Wolverton Mill

SP 802 409 (centre)

An excavation was carried out by NA on land adjacent to the former Post Office Training Establishment, in advance of housing development. Evidence for prehistoric settlement comprised a small Neolithic/Bronze Age flint assemblage. A small quantity of Roman coinage, pottery and tile may originate from manure scatters.

Two early to middle Saxon sunken-featured buildings were superseded by a large ditched enclosure, which was remodelled several times. Two associated field systems and other isolated early to middle Saxon features included several potential structures and cesspits. In the late Saxon or Saxo-Norman period a series of boundary ditches enclosing small plots were established. Some plots contained small post-built timber buildings and there were also associated pits, a well, cesspits and a malting or drying oven. One pit contained a smith's hoard of iron spears, nails and some slag, as

well as remains of three lava querns and two bone combs. These plots appear to have lain at the margin of the settlement, and the coincidence of the boundaries spanning the late Saxon to post-medieval periods along the southern side of the track that bisects the site shows that the late Saxon plots lay at the origin of the layout of a village plan that has partially survived to the present day.

During the 13th to 14th centuries the major boundary systems continued in use, although the minor sub-divisions were modified. Several large rubbish pits presumably relate to the occupation of buildings within the medieval village, now deserted, which lies to the north of the site.

In the post-medieval period a series of boundary ditches were dug, close to the current boundary and footpath between the main site and northern field, marking the continuity of the footpath. Some quarrying took place in the north field in the 17th-19th century.

POST-MEDIEVAL AND UNDATED

Akeley, Leckhampstead, Lillingstone Dayrell, Lillingstone Lovell and Stowe

A survey of all buildings in the above villages containing fabric dated to before 1700 was undertaken by a team commissioned by English Heritage on behalf of the Whittlewood Project. This has revealed a greater survival of later medieval building elements than had previously been suspected. Of note are the number of cruck-framed buildings, found for example in Akeley and Leckhampstead, which have survived to be incorporated within later stone-clad houses.

Aston Clinton: Buckland Wharf Pipeline SP 887 117 – SP 897 113

A watching brief was conducted by JMHS during stripping of the easement for the construction of approximately 1km of water main. Five ditches were found in the area north of the Wendover Arm of the Grand Union Canal. At least four of the features are considered to be of post-medieval date while the other may be of Iron Age origins. Residual sherds of Romano-British pottery were also recovered.

Bledlow cum Saunderton: Manor Farm Barns SP 7766 0216

A watching brief was maintained by JMHS during conversion works at Manor Farm Barns. The groundworks observed comprised new drainage and manholes, and a degree of ground reduction in the farmyard. A number of undated ditches were located in the yard and also within the drainage ditch sections, together with the remains of a narrow wall of chalk construction. Adjacent to the farmhouse, the remains of a substantial backfilled quarry pit were also observed. All features on the site were subject to a high degree of truncation associated with the farm development over time.

Bledlow cum Saunderton: Cherrymead, Bledlow Road SP 7985 0222

A watching brief by JMHS during work for an extension to *Cherrymead* found an undated pit and ditch.

Bletchley: Bletchley Park SP 4867 2339

A ground penetrating radar survey of an area in the south-east part of Bletchley Park was carried out by Archaeologica to ascertain the presence of underground services or tunnels. None were found. A standing building survey was also carried out of the Local Defence Office, Motorised Transport Command Hut and a storage and office block and boiler house, all belonging to the World War II complex.

Bourne End to Handy Cross Pipeline SU 8919 8818 to SU 8569 9059

A watching brief was undertaken by CA during groundworks associated with the stripping of the pipeline easement. No archaeological features or deposits, except an undated ditch, were observed, and no artefactual material predating the modern period was recovered.

Calverton: Watling Street Reinforcement Main SP 8029 3916 – SP 8098 3866

In August and September the construction of a water main to the west of Kiln Farm was subject to

a watching brief by ASC. The only features revealed were a number of 19th or 20th century field drains and a modern service trench.

Ellesborough: Grove Farm, Terrick
SP 8360 0810

An evaluation and watching brief were conducted by OA in respect of a planning application for a two-storey extension to the side of the house. The evaluation revealed a single ditch dating from the late medieval/post-medieval period and is probably part of a small boundary or an enclosure within the area of this moated site.

Ellesborough: Risborough Road, Terrick
SP 8370 0822

An evaluation was carried out by JMHS in advance of development immediately to the north-east of the medieval moated site found the north-west extension to the north-eastern arm of the moat shown on the 1805 Ellesborough inclosure map. However no dating was obtained from any of the early deposits within this feature. In addition, post-medieval drainage ditches were found further to the east.

Emberton: 16 Olney Road
SP 8680 9320

In November ASC carried out a watching brief at 16 Olney Road. A topsoil strip and excavation for the footings of a detached double garage were observed. A metalled pathway, a wall and two pits were discovered. Artefactual evidence indicated that these features were constructed during the 19th and 20th centuries, although an earlier date for the structural wall and one of the pits cannot be discounted.

Great Linford: Coopers Wharf
SP 8550 4250

Between December 2003 and November 2004 a watching brief was maintained by ASC on the conversion for residential use of the former canal warehouse at Cooper's Wharf, on the Grand Union Canal. The stone-built warehouse, which is of early 19th century date, was recorded to a basic level in order to place the watching brief findings in con-

text. During the watching brief the substantial stone footings for the warehouse were observed in all four footing trenches. The backfill of the adjoining former canal basin was observed in a footing trench on the east side of the warehouse. Observation of footing trenches for a garage to the west of the warehouse did not reveal anything of archaeological significance.

Hanslope: Stocking Green Farm
SP 8014 4725

During August ASC undertook a watching brief during the excavation of the footings on a plot off Long Street, Hanslope, prior to infill residential development. The shallow brick footings of a 19th-century barn were observed. No evidence for earlier occupation of the site was identified.

High Wycombe: Loudwater Mill
SP 9014 9078

In June, AS carried out historic building recording of Loudwater Mill, in advance of plans to redevelop the site. There appears to have been a mill on or near the site since the Domesday Survey. Records state that it was repaired in 1708 and burnt down in 1717. It was again rebuilt in 1815 and damaged during riots in 1830. Cartographic evidence shows the mill underwent small-scale alterations in the late 19th century and was expanded in the earlier 20th century. In the mid or later 20th century it was further altered and expanded. Documentary evidence suggests the oldest buildings on the site were timber framed and thatched, but by the 1880s they were mostly brick and slate. The mill was powered by a breast-shot wheel, supplemented by steam power by the 1880s. The present mill buildings appear to date to the mid to late 19th century and the late 19th to earlier 20th century. The site was extensively altered and industrialised in the 20th century, and a programme of demolition has recently taken place. In 1989 the mill was one of twenty-seven (possibly twenty-nine) mills located on the river Wye. Of these only twelve, including Loudwater Mill, are still present. Nine have been industrialized, including at least four paper mills, two have been converted for residential use and one is being used as a garage store.

Hughenden: Hughenden Manor

SU 8612 9532

A trench was cut by machine along the base of the east and south walls of the house for the purpose of installing drainage pipes and a water pipe for irrigating the flower beds. The works were monitored internally by the National Trust. They revealed the brick footings for the Victorian pergola which ran along the south front, and is shown on several engravings and photographs dating from the early part of the 20th century. The pergola consisted of a series of colonnades carrying climbing flowering shrubs. The National Trust hopes one day to restore the pergola; the archaeological evidence will prove valuable to this process. Very little disturbance was caused to the footings and they have therefore been reburied.

Little Horwood: 1 Wood End

SP 7924 3064

NA undertook an evaluation to the south of Pond Farm in response to proposed residential development. The only features encountered were the former property boundary bank and a small 19th century pit. No features or deposits of earlier date were found during this evaluation.

Little Horwood: 2 Wood End

SP 7928 3061

In September a record was made by ASC of the cottage at 2 Wood End, prior to its demolition and replacement by a detached house. Its two-storey nucleus appeared to be of late 18th or 19th century origin, with 20th-century extensions at its north and south ends. The south extension probably replaced an earlier structure, also incorporating a substantial chimney breast at its south end. In November, following demolition of the cottage, a watching brief was maintained on groundworks for the construction of the new house. It demonstrated that the earlier parts of the cottage had been built on insubstantial footings, but did not reveal any features or finds of archaeological significance.

Long Crendon, Game Keep, High Street

SP 6988 0897

A watching brief was maintained by JMHS during groundworks for a new garage. A stone-built wall

foundation was partly exposed and probably relates to a short stretch of wall seen during the construction of *Game Keep*. The lack of finds and surfaces suggests that the footprint of the new garage is external to a building that must be mostly situated under the present house. This building may well be the structure shown on the 1880 Ordnance Survey map.

Medmenham: Wittington House

SU 8190 8430

Archaeology in Marlow investigated a hitherto unrecorded underground structure that had been discovered in the grounds of Wittington House, in order to determine its plan, function and date. The programme of work included research into the local history of Medmenham and Wittington House, and taking detailed measurements of the structure and its location. A small trench was excavated adjacent to the structure to ascertain its shape, and some of the infill was removed from inside the structure. Artefacts were collected from these excavations for further identification. It was originally thought that the structure may have been an ice-house, but is considered now to have been constructed as a water storage tank, some time after Wittington House was built in 1898. The tank is constructed using reddish bricks, is completely underground and is egg-shaped and is approximately 3.8m in diameter and at least 3m in depth. There is a single square opening in the top of the structure. The artefacts all date from the early 20th century apart from one piece of worked flint, which is probably associated with the Iron Age hillfort situated a few metres from the structure.

Newport Pagnell: 98 High Street

SP 8733 4385

During May and June, AA undertook an evaluation at 98 High Street, in response to proposed redevelopment. The site lies in the historic core of Newport Pagnell, and was thought to contain evidence for the town's Civil War defences, which had been tentatively identified on a neighbouring site (*Records* 43, 228). Evidence for both post-medieval and modern activity was recovered. Civil War period artefacts included a coin produced between 1635 and 1644, a musket ball, fragments of clay pipe and pottery sherds. It is possible that

the western part of the site preserves the truncated physical remains of ditches associated with the town's defences. Traces of the post-medieval street frontage were identified in the southern part of the site suggesting that the northern edge of the High Street is now four metres south of its post-medieval location. Several relatively large areas of modern disturbance were identified as quarry pits. These were located in the southern and western parts of the site.

Newport Pagnell: Ironbridge Works
SP 8782 4377

In September ASC carried out a watching brief on a the former Ironbridge Works site in Tickford Street, adjacent to the Iron Bridge. The watching brief was conducted during excavations for a diversion of the mains sewer. No archaeological features were observed during the course of the watching brief. The area observed appeared to have been subject to considerable levelling as 19th/20th century made ground was observed to a depth of 1.5m overlying natural river terrace deposits. The natural strata observed appeared undisturbed by later intrusions.

Ironbridge Works had earlier been the subject of a historic building survey, previously unreported in *Records*. This determined that the earliest structures on the site were probably of 18th century date, and related to fellmongering. The site had continued and developed in this use until 1931, after which it had housed a range of light industrial and commercial activities. The building retained its upper floor for drying hides, with characteristic louvred side walls, until its demolition at the start of the development.

Newport Pagnell: London Road Allotments
SP 8846 4318

In June AS carried out an evaluation of the above site in advance of residential development. Beneath the topsoil of the former allotments was a mixed subsoil containing modern brick and tile fragments, which sealed all features. Later post-medieval and modern ditches and small pits were recorded, in addition to a single undated pit. Terracing or levelling was recorded in two trenches, possibly an easement for the construction of the main sewer that crosses the centre of the site.

Newport Pagnell: Moat Cottage, Caldecote
SP 8828 4234

During March ASC undertook an evaluation at Moat Cottage in advance of an extension to the property. The site is located within a moated enclosure, possibly a medieval manor, and the evaluation trench cut across the north-western arm of the moat. The earliest fill of the moat contained Victorian material, suggesting that this segment of the moat had been kept clean until this period. No other features were encountered.

Olney: 18 High Street South
SP 8882 5120

A watching brief was undertaken by Archaeologica in advance of development. A boundary wall was dated to the 18th century and two narrow walls and a post-hole were identified but no dating evidence was associated with them.

Princes Risborough: St Mary's Church
SU 8059 0350

An archaeological evaluation was carried out by JMHS at St Mary's Church in the area of a proposed new extension. Eight undated inhumations and graves were located at a depth of between 0.77m and 1.05m below modern ground level.

Simpson: Poplars Farm
SP 8811 3627

In May ASC carried out an evaluation of land adjacent to Poplars Farmhouse, in advance of proposed housing development. A single post-medieval ditch was found. This may have been a drainage ditch associated with post-medieval settlement in the vicinity of the site. Alternatively, as the ditch is parallel to the Grand Union Canal, which lies beyond the western site boundary, it may have been a drainage ditch along the eastern base of the canal embankment.

Stowe: Stowe Landscape Gardens
SP 674 383 (centre)

Work has been carried out at Stowe by NA on behalf of the National Trust, as part of their ongoing programme to restore and repair the monuments and landscape.

Buckingham Lodges: excavation at two 19th century classical lodges at the southern end of the Grand Avenue revealed traces of a former cobbled surface in addition to traces of two gravel paths. Two of the three features are detailed on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map of 1881, to the north and south of the lodges. The trenches to the north of the lodges also revealed evidence for later landscaping, in which major levelling resulted in the truncation of the original ground surface and the loss of the upper surfaces of both construction trenches.

Corinthian Arch: excavation at the 18th century Corinthian Arch revealed evidence for a road surface, formerly the Queen's Drive, to the north and south of the arch, as shown on the 1881 Ordnance Survey map. The former ground surface either side of two 19th century wing walls was also revealed. However, no evidence was uncovered for a former path on the east side of the arch, which also appears on the 1881 map.

Eleven Acre and Octagon Lake: a watching brief was carried out while National Trust garden staff excavated shallow trenches across the lines of historic paths to the south of the Eleven Acre and Octagon lakes linking them to the 1731 Hermitage. The uncovered paths varied in construction. Those to the south of the Eleven Acre Lake comprised carefully constructed sub-bases with a limestone and cobble edging and a rubble infill topped by gravel. Slightly sunken, probably grass, paths were also identified by the garden staff and were found to relate to layouts depicted on maps of the estate. To the south of the Octagon Lake the paths were simply gravel with no discernible sub-base or edging.

Grotto: a survey and excavation was carried out at the Grotto, built in the 1730s, to investigate the surviving components of the hydrological system supplying water to the interior of the building. The interior rear (north) wall was recorded, along with the basin and culvert that held and then dispersed the water into the head of the Alder River. This part of the system was linked to a previously unrecorded lead pipe that was uncovered by excavation behind the structure, and this in turn was linked to a topographic survey that recorded the profile of the southern section of the Grecian val-

ley. The water source for the Grotto has still not been identified.

Wolfe's Obelisk: prior to the restoration of the upper section of Wolfe's Obelisk in 1784, trenches were excavated for the erection of a large scaffold tower around the structure. The trenches revealed that the low mound on which the obelisk appeared to sit had in fact been created by mounding soil against the foundations of the structure, almost certainly after it was finished. During the removal of the upper part of the obelisk a quantity of reused stonework was discovered. Before its reinstatement a drawn record of the stonework was prepared. The stonework is likely to have come from former buildings located in the grounds, but it is unclear from which monuments they derive, apart from two rusticated pieces that may have been part of the Guglio located in the Octagon Lake.

Waddesdon: Beachendon Farm
SP 7589 1358

ASC undertook a watching brief on the removal of the floor of a 19th century barn at Beachendon Farm during conversion for residential use. This revealed two undated linear features, which probably predated the barn.

Waddesdon: Waddesdon Manor
SP 7353 1645

An evaluation was carried out by NA for the National Trust on the gardens at Waddesdon Manor, a Grade I listed Renaissance-style chateau constructed between 1874 and 1889 for Baron Ferdinand de Rothschild. The work on the site of the Frog Fountain was to characterise the late 19th-century archaeological potential of garden features. The excavation uncovered a series of concrete features, brick wall, piers and made ground overlying the natural chalk in the area encompassed by the lower garden terrace. Some of the features possibly relate to the 1886-87 designs of the French architect Gabriel-Hippolyte Destailleur.

Wing: Church Street
SP 8813 2258

ASC undertook an enhanced watching brief on land to the rear of the former Mill Motors in

Church Street. About half the site area was stripped of topsoil and overburden under archaeological supervision. The only feature observed, apart from two modern waste dumps, was a post-medieval boundary slot. No artefacts were identified predating the 19th century.

NEGATIVE

Bletchley: Stoke Road, Water Eaton SP 8808 3242

In October ASC undertook an evaluation on land adjacent to Stoke Road, on the site of a proposed new footbridge spanning the Grand Union Canal. No archaeological features or artefacts were located.

Cholesbury: Moat House SP 9290 0711

ASC undertook an enhanced watching brief on an extension to the Moat House, Cholesbury. Nothing of archaeological significance was observed.

Cholesbury: Overburnts SP 9309 0719

During September ASC carried out a watching brief during excavations for the foundations of an extension to an existing stable block. No archaeological features were observed during the watching brief. However, an area of disturbed ground probably related to archaeological excavations conducted in 1932 was identified.

Hanslope: 12 High Street SP 8025 4693

A continuous watching brief was maintained by R.J. Ivens in February during groundworks for a new house and garage. Two probable pits, a ditch and a spread of stone rubble were noted. No pre-modern artefacts were observed and the recorded features may not be of any great antiquity.

High Wycombe: Castle Mount SU 8670 9320

A watching brief was carried out by TVAS in July during work to replace two gate posts at the

entrance to High Wycombe Museum and a set of steps on the side of the mount, which is believed to be a Norman motte. The replacement of the posts revealed nothing of interest. The work on the side of the mount penetrated only 0.15m and the deposits disturbed contained no material earlier than the 17th century. It is therefore clear that at least the present outer skin of the mount must be a late landscaping, but no conclusions can be reached about the core of the feature.

High Wycombe: London Road SU 8813 9264

A further phase of works to uncover a strip on the eastern side of site for potential excavation was undertaken by AOC on the former Ercol factory site in March (*cf Records* 44, 152–153). No features were defined in what turned out to be a heavily truncated area and it was decided that the rest of the area will be subject to a watching brief in 2005.

Long Crendon: Notley Abbey SU 7152 0920

An evaluation was conducted by OA in respect of a planning application for subsurface works at ground floor level within the former abbot's guest-house and west range at Notley Abbey. Eight small test pits were excavated to ascertain the presence of occupation levels relating to the medieval construction and subsequent development of the property. Four pits revealed possible compacted earth floors sealed by late 19th and 20th century rubble. The remaining pits revealed only 19th and 20th century made-ground and rubble to the maximum excavated depth.

Ellesborough: Coombe Hill SP 8487 0673

The excavation of a grave-sized pit, required as part of a media project due to be filmed on Coombe Hill, was excavated by NA on behalf of the National Trust. The pit was excavated down to the level of the natural chalk through a grey/brown silty loam with numerous chalk and flint fragments, along with small fragments of modern corroded iron and glass sherds. No pre-modern archaeological deposits were encountered and no artefacts were present.

Fingest: Chequers Public House

SU 7770 9109

A field evaluation was conducted by OA in respect of a planning application for the construction of a single storey extension, demolition of existing out-buildings and erection of a detached annexe at the *Chequers*. The evaluation revealed extensive colluvial deposits and garden soils, but post-medieval activity had truncated any potential archaeological deposits adjacent to the building itself.

Great Kimble: Manor Farm

SP 8215 0606

In June, a watching brief by TVAS during construction of a new *menage* revealed nothing of archaeological interest.

Haversham: Hill Farm House, Haversham

SP 8362 4367

In March an intensive watching brief was undertaken by ASC during groundworks for an extension at Hill Farm House. The soil profiles had been extensively disturbed, probably during the construction of the house and its 19th century extension. Nothing of archaeological significance was observed.

Haversham: St Mary's Church

SP 8275 4274

In January and February a watching brief was undertaken by ASC during the installation of a kitchen, vestry and disabled toilet. Works in the churchyard did not reveal significant archaeological remains. Parts of the footings of the tower and north wall were recorded. Disturbance within the church was minimal and provided an opportunity to record the base of the tower walls and a pilaster at the west end of the north aisle.

High Wycombe: Wycombe Marsh

SU 8860 9200

A watching brief carried out by NA between October 2003 and February 2004, following an earlier evaluation (*Records* 44, 146) in advance of a mixed redevelopment, produced no archaeological finds or features.

Hughenden Manor: Church of St Michael and All Angels

SU 8644 9553

A watching brief was undertaken by NA on behalf of the National Trust during extensions and improvements to the church car park. No archaeological deposits were present and no artefacts were recovered.

Lavendon: 35 Castle Road

SP 9167 5385

During September and October a watching brief was undertaken by ASC during the excavation of footing trenches for the construction of a house and garage. No archaeologically significant features or deposits were identified.

Lavendon: 15 High Street

SP 9168 5361

A watching brief was carried out by R. J. Ivens in September during the excavation of foundation trenches for a new extension. No pre-modern archaeological deposits or artefacts were identified.

Lavendon: 50 High Street

SP 9194 5347

In October a watching brief was undertaken by ASC during the levelling of the site in preparation for the construction of a new garage, greenhouse and workshop. No significant features or deposits were identified.

Little Brickhill: Willow House

SP 9083 3264

During May ASC undertook a watching brief at Willow House, during the construction of an extension to the south-east end of the house. No archaeological features or artefacts were observed.

Long Crendon: The Manor, High Street

SP 6987 0902

A watching brief was conducted by JMHS during the construction of a conservatory. Nothing of significance was observed.

Newport Pagnell: Caldecote Farm Cottage
SP 8805 4239

In October ASC carried out a watching brief during the excavation of foundations for a kitchen extension and conservatory. No archaeological remains were observed.

Newport Pagnell: 93 High Street
SP 8740 4380

Phoenix undertook a watching brief during groundworks for an extension to the rear of 93 High Street. A number of post-medieval levelling horizons and garden soils were found overlying natural yellow-brown clays. The earliest artefacts were fragments of glass from a wide-mouthed black utility bottle of c.1740. No features or finds of archaeological significance were encountered.

Olney: 20 Bridge Street
SP 8893 5106

A watching brief was maintained by R.J. Ivens in April during the groundworks for a small extension. The property is a part of the former *Bell Inn*, reputedly founded c.1670. The site proved to have been much disturbed in recent times and no pre-modern contexts or artefacts were identified.

Olney: 28 West Street
SP 8884 5164

In September an archaeological watching brief was undertaken by ASC, during the excavation of footing trenches for an extension. No archaeological remains were observed. The area had been extensively disturbed, probably during the construction of the present house.

Penn: Chepping Cottage, Rays Lane
SP 9055 9400

JMHS carried out an evaluation prior to development at Chepping Cottage. Nothing of significance was revealed.

Penn: Rayners Cottage
SU 9078 9338

In August a watching brief was undertaken by ASC during groundworks for an extension to Rayners Cottage. No significant archaeological remains or artefacts were observed.

Penn: Potters Cross Waste Water Pumping Station
SP 4905 1942

A watching brief was carried out by JMHS during groundworks. It was apparent that the land has been severely landscaped in the post-medieval period destroying any potential archaeological deposits.

Princes Risborough: Stocken Farm, Lacey Green
SP 8255 0015

An evaluation in June by TVAS in advance of building works revealed nothing of archaeological interest.

Shenley Brook End: Site C, Snelshall West
SP 8295 3290

In March ASC undertook a 'strip and record' excavation on this site in advance of industrial development. The removal of the topsoil revealed a uniform horizon of olive-brown clay. There was no evidence for the presence of ridge and furrow and only two small, undated features were noted on the extreme eastern edge of the development area. Apart from broken fragments of drainage tiles, no artefacts were noted.

Sherington: Mercer's Farm
SP 8895 4632

A limited archaeological watching brief was carried out by R.J. Ivens in July, during the excavation of foundation trenches for an extension to the farmhouse. No significant pre-modern archaeological deposits were identified.

Simpson: Denbigh North
SP 872 350 (centre)

NA carried out an evaluation at Denbigh North in advance of a major retail development. No archaeological activity was revealed.

REPORTS NOT RECEIVED

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

Aylesbury High School, Walton
Bradenham: RAF High Wycombe
Denham: Sanderson site
High Wycombe: Phoenix Project
Hillesden: Jubilee Farm
Princes Risborough Upper School