

Archaeological Services & Consultancy Ltd

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION: PROPOSED MINIBUS ROUTE WADDESDON MANOR BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

NGR: SP 7380 1690

on behalf of the Alice Trust



David Kaye BA AIFA

September 2011

ASC: 1428/WMR/2



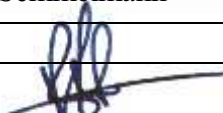
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Site Data

<i>ASC site code:</i>	WMR	<i>Project no:</i>	1428
<i>OASIS ref:</i>	Archaeol2-109211	<i>Event/Accession no:</i>	tbc
<i>County:</i>	Buckinghamshire		
<i>Village/Town:</i>	Waddesdon		
<i>Civil Parish:</i>	Waddesdon		
<i>NGR (to 8 figs):</i>	SP 738 169 (centre)		
<i>Extent of site:</i>	c.450 sq m		
<i>Present land use:</i>	Wooded area		
<i>Planning proposal:</i>	Construction of minibus route		
<i>Planning application ref/date:</i>	Pre-planning		
<i>Local Planning Authority:</i>	Aylesbury Vale District Council		
<i>Date of fieldwork:</i>	20 th -22 nd July 2011		
<i>Client:</i>	The Alice Trust Waddesdon Manor Waddesdon Aylesbury Buckinghamshire HP18 0JH		
<i>Contact name:</i>	Edward Parsons (Estate Manager)		

Internal Quality Check

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<i>Edited/Checked By:</i>		<i>Date:</i>	21 st October 2011

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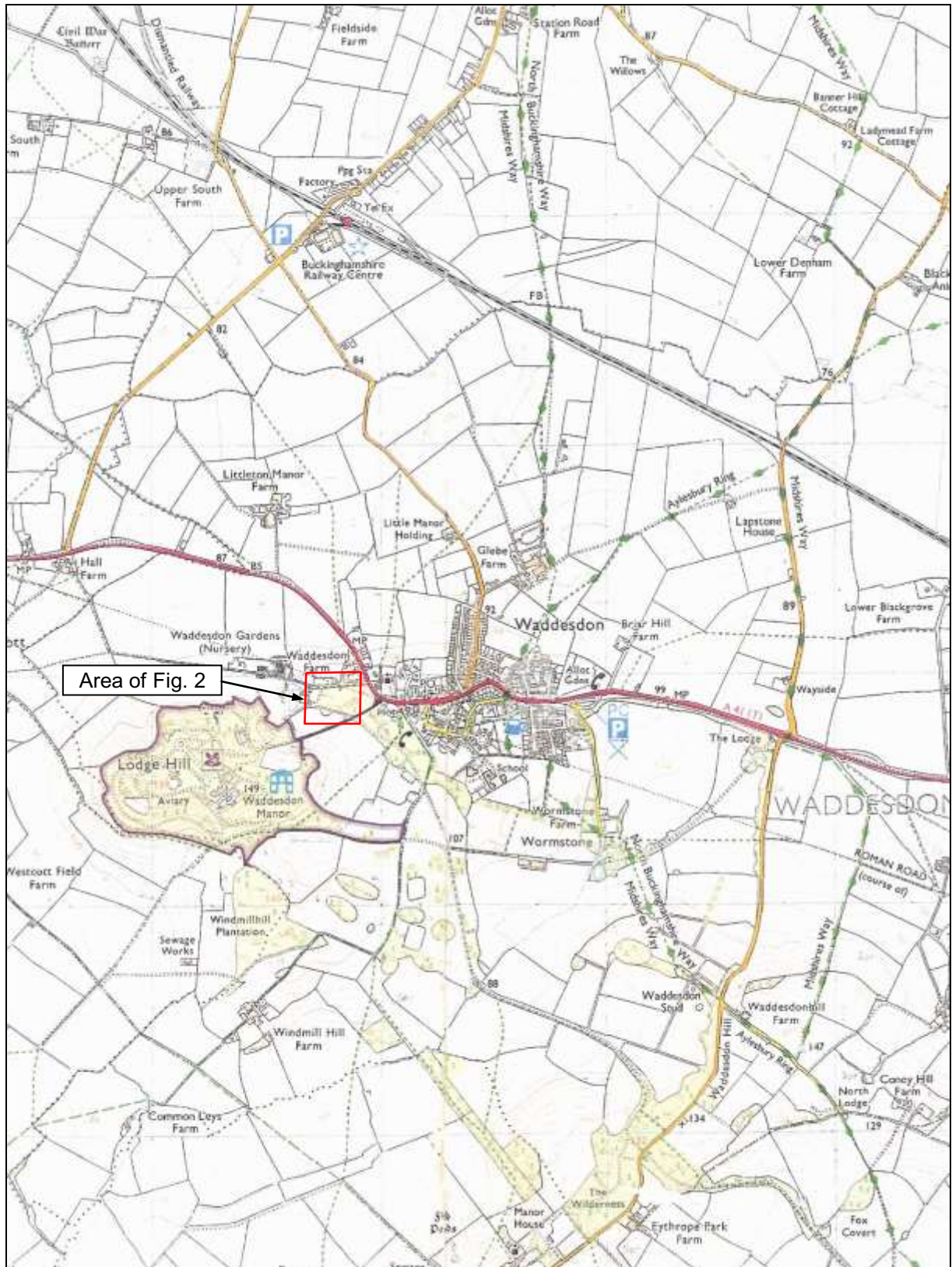


Figure 1: General location (scale 1:25,000)

Summary

In June 2011 an archaeological evaluation was undertaken on the Waddesdon Estate, on a corridor of land within woodland, in advance of the construction of a minibus route. Seven trenches were excavated: archaeological cut features were present in three of them. One trench contained three intercutting ditches of Roman date, the functions of which were not determined. Two other trenches revealed silted ditches of post-medieval date. One of these had a later land drain cut into its fill: the other had a later ceramic land drain overlying it. It appears that drainage was an ongoing problem in this area in the post-medieval period at least.

In five of the trenches a layer of redeposited clay, 0.3-0.5m deep, similar to the underlying natural clay, was present beneath topsoil and sealing most of the cut features. This contained post-medieval pottery sherds as well as residual fragments of Roman, Saxon and medieval pottery. It is likely that this material was deposited during the creation of the park, possibly to build up an area that with ongoing drainage problems. The source of the redeposited material is not known.

1. Introduction

1.1 In June 2011 *Archaeological Services and Consultancy Ltd* (ASC) carried out a pre-determination archaeological evaluation at Waddesdon Manor Estate, Waddesdon, Buckinghamshire. The project was commissioned by *The Alice Trust*, and was carried out according to a generic brief issued by *Buckinghamshire County Archaeological Service*, archaeological advisors (AA) to the local planning authority (LPA), *Aylesbury Vale District Council*, and a project design prepared by ASC (Zeepvat 2011).

1.2 *Planning Background*

This evaluation was required under the terms of *Planning Policy Statement 5* (PPS5), in order to inform proposals for the development of the site.

1.3 *Archaeological Services & Consultancy Ltd*

ASC is an independent archaeological practice providing a full range of archaeological services including consultancy, field evaluation, mitigation and post-excavation studies, historic building recording and analysis. ASC is recognised as a *Registered Organisation* by the Institute for Archaeologists and is also accredited ISO 9001, in recognition of its high standards and working practices.

1.4 *The Site*

1.4.1 *Location & Description*

The development area is located within the Grade I listed registered park belonging to Waddesdon Manor. The Waddesdon Estate is in the civil parish of Waddesdon and the administrative district of Aylesbury Vale (Fig. 1). The site affected by the proposed development comprises an area of woodland south of Queen Street, east of the Dairy, centred on NGR SP 738 169 (Fig. 2).

1.4.2 *Topography & Geology*

The site is heavily wooded, and is located on a shallow northeast-facing slope, at a mean elevation of 105m AOD. The drift geology belongs to the Denchworth Association, described as *slowly permeable seasonally waterlogged clayey soils with similar fine loamy over clayey soils. Some fine loamy over clayey soils with only slight seasonal waterlogging and some slowly permeable calcareous clayey soils. Landslips and associated irregular terrain locally* (Soil Survey 1983, 712b). The underlying solid geology comprises Ampthill clay (BGS, Sheet 237).

1.4.3 *Proposed Development*

This comprises construction of a minibus route south-westwards from Queen Street (Fig. 2).

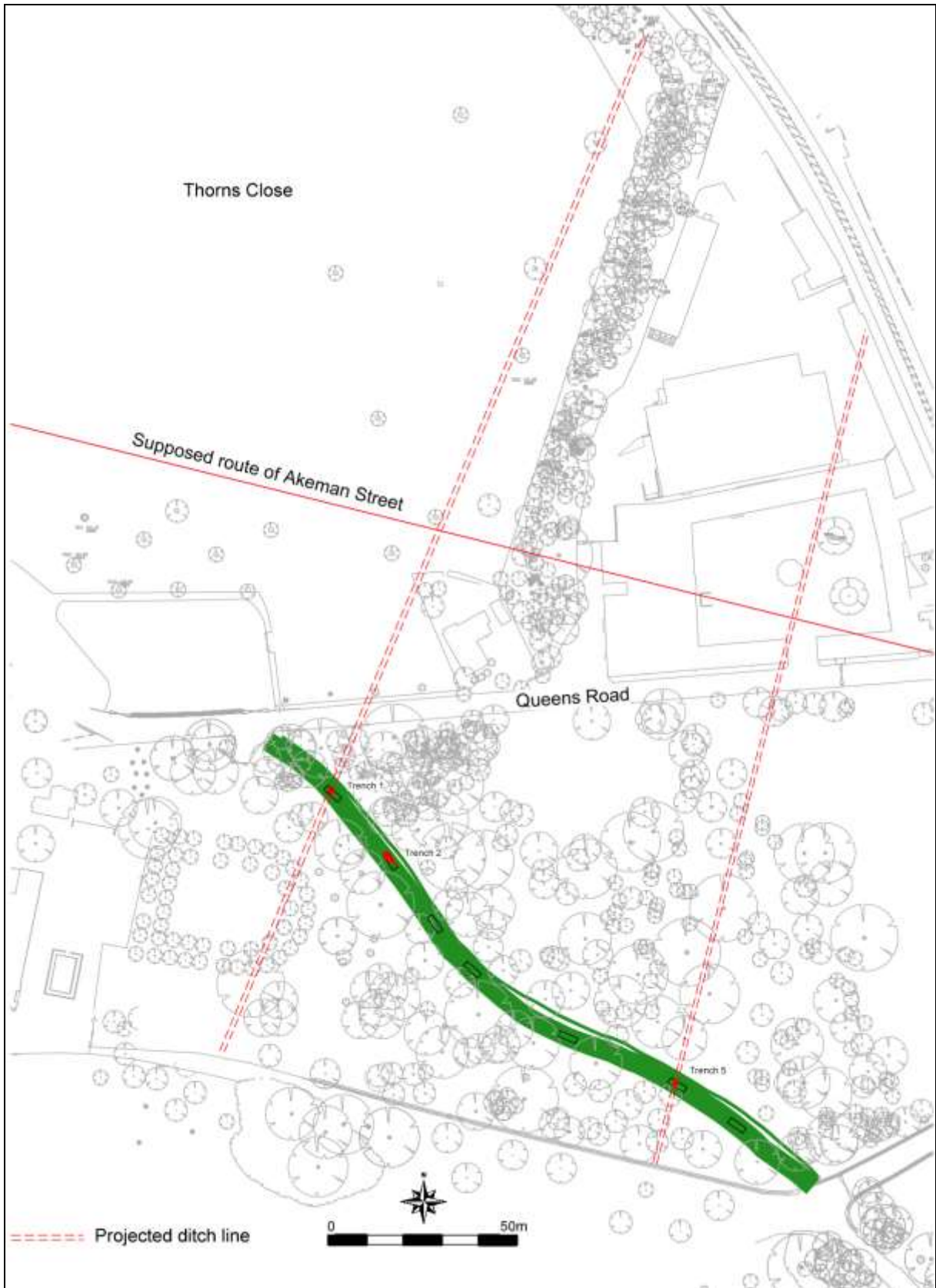


Figure 2: Site plan, showing proposed minibus route and trench locations (scale 1:1250)

2. Aims & Methods

2.1 *Aims*

As described in the project design (Section 3.1), the aims of the evaluation were:

- To determine the location, extent, nature and date of any archaeological features or deposits that may be present
- To determine the integrity and state of preservation of any archaeological features or deposits that may be present

2.2 *Standards*

The work conformed to the project design, to the relevant sections of the Institute for Archaeologists' *Code of Conduct* (IFA 2000) and *Standard & Guidance Notes* (IFA 2001), and to the relevant sections of ASC's own *Operations Manual*.

2.3 *Methods*

The work was carried out according to the project design (Section 3.3), which required:

- Excavation of six 5 × 1.6m trial trenches along the proposed minibus route. Subsequent to the submission of the project design, the AA requested the excavation of a seventh trench between Trenches 2 and 3, if time permitted.

2.4 *Constraints*

Due to the nature of the terrain and the distance to the nearest benchmark, all levels were taken from a topographical survey supplied by the client. Consequently they are all near approximations of the actual values. There was insufficient detail to calculate levels at both ends of all the trenches.

3. Archaeological & Historical Background

- 3.1 The following section provides a summary of the readily available archaeological and historical background to the development site and its environs. The site lies within an area of archaeological and historical interest, and has the potential to reveal evidence of a range of periods.
- 3.2 A desk-based archaeological impact assessment was recently prepared by ASC for this and other associated developments at Waddesdon Manor (Semmelmann 2011). The assessment noted that the projected route of the Roman road known as *Akeman Street* passes to the immediate north of the site, and that the stretch of the road through Waddesdon was persistently flooded until it was replaced by the Aylesbury to Bicester Turnpike Road in 1770. During the medieval period, the assessment records that the area traversed by the proposed minibus route formed part of Rasings or Motons Manor (HER 0218300000), one of three manors comprising the land holdings of the medieval rectory at Waddesdon. This manor, named after Eustace Moton, the second rector, had 5 houses along with the manor house and 2½ acres of land. In 1874 the estate was purchased by Baron de Rothschild, who commissioned monumental remodelling of the estate to create parkland fit for his new mansion, built between 1874 and 1883. The assessment notes:

The creation of the parkland and the building particularly of the manor required the removal of vast quantities of soil. Both spoil management and drainage/landslide problems resulting from the extensive groundworks are likely to have had an effect on any surviving archaeological remains. Whether this has caused disturbance and/or destruction or deposited additional overburden that is now protecting earlier remains is yet to be ascertained.

4 Results

4.1 General

Seven evaluation trenches were excavated using a wheeled excavator fitted with a 1.5m toothless bucket. Archaeological cut features were present in Trenches 1, 2 & 5 (Fig. 3). Detailed information regarding the trial trenches and their contents appears in Appendix 1.

The site's general stratigraphy consisted of a humic topsoil overlying made ground at the northern end of the site. The underlying natural geology was clay, which varied from a consistent, plastic, mid grey, to a hard mottled, yellow and orange, with frequent chalk flecks.

4.2 Trench 1 (Figs 2, 3, & 4: Plates 1 & 2)

Trench 1 was located at the northern end of the proposed road route, orientated NW-SE (Fig. 2). Its stratigraphy consisted of 0.3m of humic topsoil (101), overlying 0.4m of made ground (102) (Plate 1). The underlying natural deposit was a consistent, mid grey, slightly plastic clay (103).

A single NE-SW ditch [104], 1.2m wide, was cut into the clay (Figs 3 & 4, Plate 2). Its profile suggested it had been re-cut, and deepened to 0.48m.

The ditch contained two fills (105) and (106), both of which were the result of an extended period of silting-up, though the upper fill (105) was a browner hue, which was probably the due to an accumulation of leaf litter (Fig. 5). Both fills yielded a few post-medieval pottery sherds, and animal bone fragments. The pottery from (105) is of 18th to 19th-century date, and the single sherd recovered from (106) dates to between the 16th and 19th centuries.

Cut into the NW edge of the ditch was an 8" ceramic drain pipe. Its cut [107] had been backfilled with redeposited natural clay, so its precise width could not be ascertained.

4.3 Trench 2 (Figs 2, 3 & 4: Plate 3)

Trench 2 was located approximately 42m from the northern end of the proposed road, and orientated NNW-SSE (Fig. 2). The stratigraphy revealed in it was the same as in Trench 1, though the natural clay was more yellow, with some grey banding. The made ground (202) contained predominantly Roman and medieval pottery sherds. A few Saxon and Saxon/medieval fragments were recovered, as were three post-medieval 15th to 17th-century sherds.

Three intercutting linear features of varying depths were present (Figs 3 & 4, Plate 3). The earliest was [206], which was at least 0.91m wide, and orientated NE-SW. It contained two fills (207) and (214). Primary fill (207) was naturally deposited grey silty clay. The secondary fill (214) was only recorded in section as it was very indistinct during the machining of the trench (Fig. 4).

This ditch was cut by [204], which appeared to be either a gully or the base of another ditch. Orientated approximately E-W, it was 0.9m wide and 0.19m deep, containing dark greyish brown silty clay backfill (205).

The most recent ditch [208] was orientated NW-SE, and cut [204], though the interface between these features was partially truncated by a tree bole [212]. It contained three fills (209), (210), and (211) with a combined depth of 0.43m. The lower two fills were derived from natural silting of the ditch, but the upper fill (211) was deliberate backfill.

Ditch fill (207) yielded Roman pottery, possibly dating from the 1st to 3rd centuries. All three fills of Ditch [208] contained mid to late Roman pottery. No artefactual dating evidence was recovered from ditch [204], but as it cut one Roman ditch, and was cut by another, it must be of Roman date.

4.4 **Trench 3** (Figs 2 & 3, Plate 4)

Trench 3 contained no archaeological cut features. However, the stratigraphy contained an additional layer to those present in Trenches 1 & 2 (Plate 4). Between the made ground and the natural clay was a layer of redeposited natural clay (303), similar to that found in Trench 1, up to 0.2m thick.

No artefactual dating material was recovered from this trench.

4.5 **Trench 4** (Figs 2 & 3)

Trench 4 contained no archaeological cut features, but did contain the same redeposited clay layer that was noted in Trench 3. However, it was noticeably thinner at 0.1m thick. A tree bole [404] was also noted, and two sherds of medieval were recovered from its fill.

4.6 **Trench 5** (Figs 2, 3, & 4: Plates 5 & 6)

Trench 5 was located towards the southern end of the proposed road route, orientated NW-SE (Fig. 2). Its stratigraphy consisted of 0.3m of humic topsoil overlying natural yellow and grey clay with frequent chalk and limestone inclusions (Plate 5). Traces of made ground were noted in the NW end of the trench.

A single NE-SW ditch [503], 1m wide, was cut into the clay (Figs 3 & 4). Its single fill (504) was mid brownish grey soil, formed probably through a combination of silting and accumulation of leaf litter (Plate 6). An 8" ceramic drain pipe followed the same alignment as the ditch, along its SW edge.

No artefactual dating material was recovered from this trench.

4.7 **Trench 6** (Figs. 2 & 3)

The stratigraphy present in Trench 6 consisted of 0.25m of humic topsoil overlying soft yellowish grey natural clay. No archaeological features were present.

No artefactual dating material was recovered from this trench.

4.8 **Trench 7** (Figs. 2 & 3)

Trench 7 was excavated between Trenches 2 and 3 at the request of the AA, subsequent to approval of the project design. The layer of redeposited clay present in Trench 3 extended at least as far as the northwestern end of the trench. Both Roman and medieval pottery was present in this layer, together with CBM, animal bone, and a

barb-spring padlock key which could have originated from either period. It is likely that the deposit is post-medieval in date. No archaeological cut features were present in this trench.

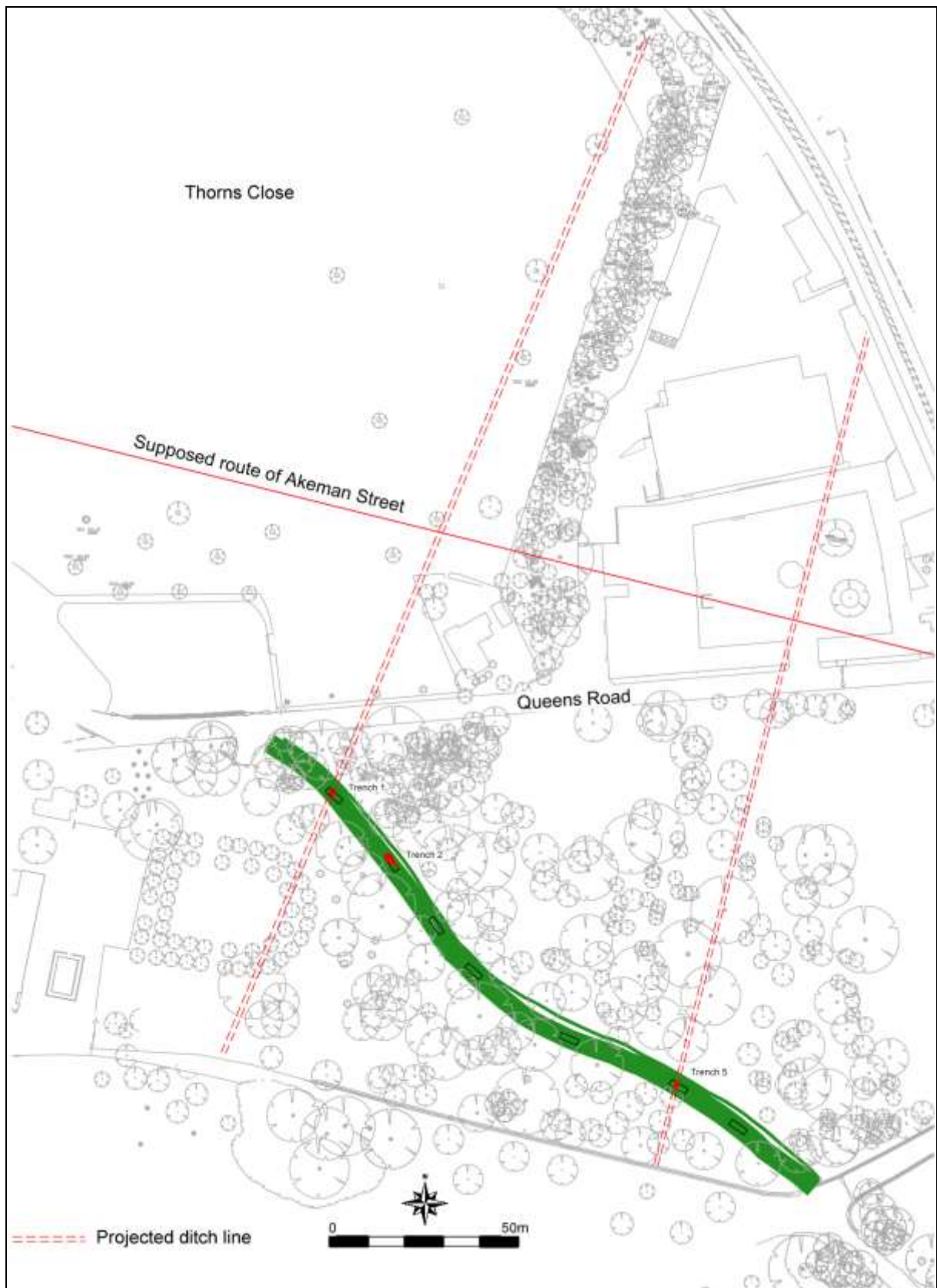


Figure 3: Archaeological features in the landscape (scale 1:750)

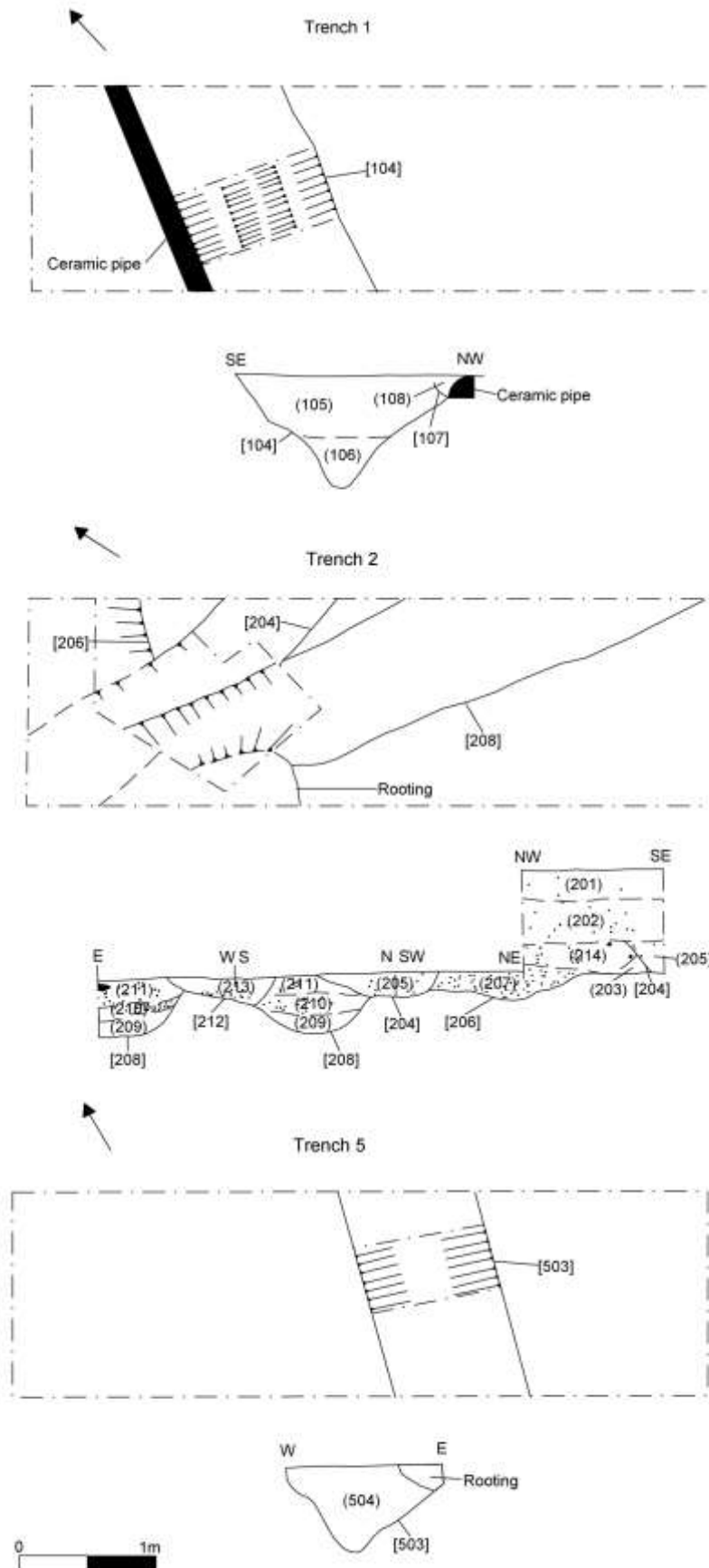


Figure 4: Plans and sections of archaeological features (scale 1:50)



Plate 1: Stratigraphy in Trench 1 (1m scale)



Plate 2: Northeast facing section of ditch cut [104] (1m scale)



Plate 3: Northeast facing section of ditch cuts [204] & [208] (1m scale)



Plate 4: Stratigraphy in Trench 3 (1m scale)



Plate 5: Stratigraphy in Trench 5 (1m scale)



Plate 6: Northeast facing section of ditch cut [503] (1m scale)

5. Conclusions

- 5.1 The evaluation revealed archaeological cut features in three of the seven trenches opened, representing activity of Roman and post-medieval date. The three inter-cutting ditches present in Trench 2 are probably representative of Roman land management schemes throughout much of the Roman period. It is possible that they were drainage ditches associated with Akeman Street, which probably traverses the north end of the evaluation site. Their alignments bore no apparent relationship to any of the existing boundaries in the immediate vicinity of the site.
- 5.2 Post-medieval ditches were present in Trenches 1 and 5. Both followed similar SW-NE alignments, as far as can be determined from such short exposed sections, to that of the hedge line in the adjacent field, Thorns Close, to the north of Queens Road (Fig. 5). It is clear from the 1874 estate plan and the 1885 Ordnance Survey 1st Edition 6" sheet (Semmelmann 2011, figs 7 & 8 respectively) that these two ditches marked the boundaries of enclosures to the south of Queens Road, that had fallen out of use by 1899, when the present woodland was in place (*ibid*, fig. 9). Drainage was evidently still a problem in this part of the park, and the alignment of one of the ditches was followed by a later ceramic drain.
- 5.3 The site profile had been heavily affected by 19th-century landscaping, and its level falls by 3.25m from its highest point at Trench 7, to its lowest beyond Trench 6. Up to 0.6m of this is attributable to the redeposited material on the site, present in Trenches 1, 2, 3, 4 and 7, and in the northwest end of Trench 5 (Fig. 6). This layer contained pottery, CBM and other building material from the medieval and post-medieval periods. A more localised layer of redeposited natural clay present in Trench 7 contained Roman, medieval and post-medieval artefacts. As no medieval deposits were present on the evaluation site, it is likely that both deposits originated from another part of the estate where evidence for activity in these periods was present.
- 5.4 **Confidence Rating**
- Conditions throughout the excavation were good, so a high confidence rating is attached to these findings.



Figure 5: Projected ditch lines (scale 1:1500)

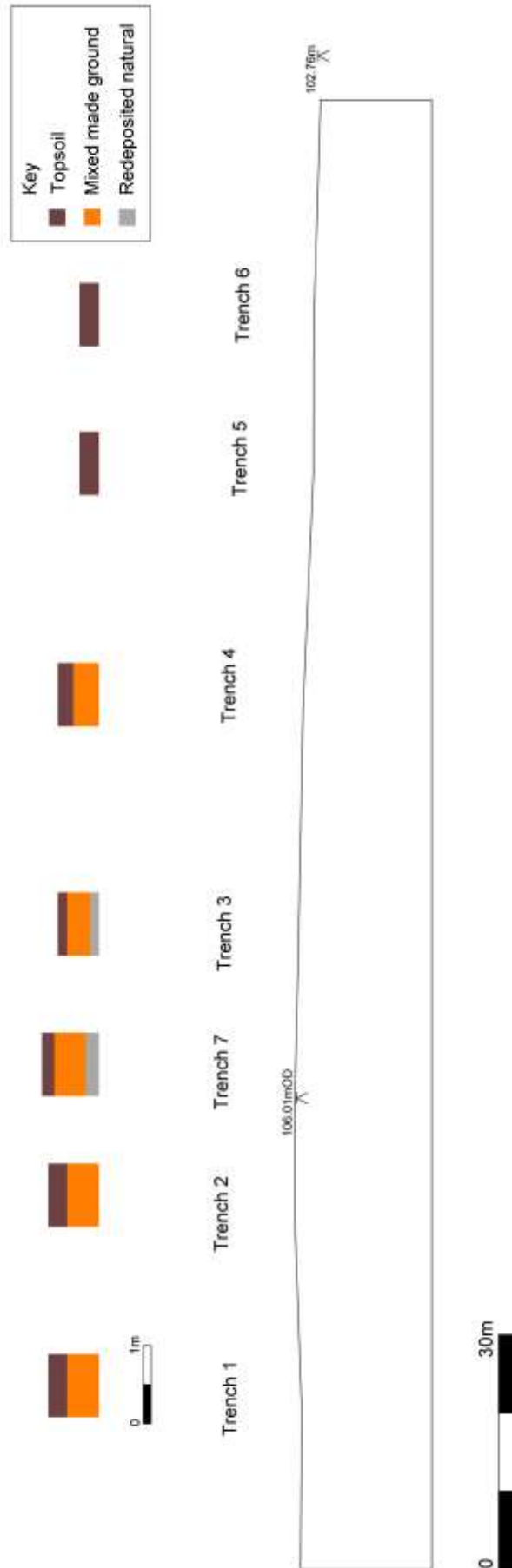


Figure 6. Site stratigraphy and profile – constructed from topographical survey data (scales as shown)

6. Acknowledgements

The evaluation was commissioned by Edward Pearce on behalf of The Alice Trust. The project was monitored by Eliza Alquassar of the County Archaeology Service, on behalf of the local planning authority. Thanks are also due to Dick Hopkins for excavating the trenches.

The project was managed for ASC by Karin Semmelmann MA MIFA. Fieldwork was carried out by David Kaye BA AIFA and Pete James. The report was prepared by David Kaye and edited by Bob Zeepvat BA MIFA.

7. Archive

7.1 The project archive will comprise:

1. Brief
2. Project Design
3. Initial Report
4. Site records
5. Finds records
6. Finds
7. Site record drawings
8. List of photographs
9. B/W prints & negatives
10. Original specialist reports and supporting information
11. CDROM with copies of all digital files.

7.2 The archive will be deposited with the Buckinghamshire County Museum.

8. References

Standards & Specifications

EH 1991 *The Management of Archaeological Projects*, 2nd edition. English Heritage (London).

IFA 2000a Institute for Archaeologists' *Code of Conduct*.

IFA 2001 Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard & Guidance documents (Desk-Based Assessments, Watching Briefs, Evaluations, Excavations, Investigation and Recording of Standing Buildings, Finds)*.

Zeepvat, B 2011 *Project Design for Archaeological Evaluation, Waddesdon Manor, Buckinghamshire*. ASC ref. 1428/WMR/1.

Secondary Sources

BGS *British Geological Survey 1:50,000 Series, Solid & Drift Geology*.


Mynard, DC & Zeepvat, RJ 1992 *Great Linford*. Buckinghamshire Archaeol. Soc. Monog. Ser. 3 (Aylesbury).


Semmelmann, K 2011 *Archaeological Impact Assessment: Visitor Car Park, Waddesdon Manor, Buckinghamshire*. ASC ref. 1394/WCP/1.


Soil Survey 1983 *1:250,000 Soil Map of England and Wales, and accompanying legend* (Harpenden).


Williams, RJ & Zeepvat, RJ 1994 *Bancroft: a late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age settlement, Roman villa and temple-mausoleum* (2 vols). Buckinghamshire Archaeol. Soc. Monog. Ser. 7 (Aylesbury).


Appendix 1: Trench Summary Tables


Trench 1						
	Max Dimensions (m)					
	Length	4.7m	Width	1.5m	Depth	0.9m
	Levels					
	Trench top NW end			105.36m OD		
	Trench base NW end			104.49m OD		
	Trench top SE end			N/A		
	Trench base SE end			N/A		
	NGR Co-ordinates					
	NW	SP 73751, 16929		SE	SP 73755, 16926	
	Orientation			NW-SE		
Reason for Trench			Archaeological evaluation			
Context	Type	Description and Interpretation	Width (max: mm)	Length (max: mm)	Depth (Max: mm)	
101	Layer	Topsoil	>1500	>4700	300	
102	Layer	Made ground	>1500	>4700	500	
103	Layer	Natural clay	>1500	>4700	-	
104	Cut	Ditch cut	1200	>1750	480	
105	Fill	Secondary fill of [104]	930	>1750	320	
106	Fill	Primary fill of [104]	300	>500	160	
107	Cut	Pipe cut	>200	>1750	100	
108	Fill	Sole fill Of [107]	>200	>1750	100	


Trench 2						
	Max Dimensions (m)					
	Length	5m	Width	1.5m	Depth	0.86m
	Levels					
	Trench top NNW end			106.10m OD		
	Trench base NNW end			105.24m OD		
	Trench top SSE end			N/A		
	Trench base SSE end			N/A		
	NGR Co-ordinates					
	NNW	SP 73767, 16912		SSE	SP 73770, 16907	
	Orientation			NNW-SSE		
Reason for Trench			Archaeological evaluation			
Context	Type	Description and Interpretation	Width (max: mm)	Length (max: mm)	Depth (Max: mm)	
201	Layer	Topsoil	>1500	>5000	240	
202	Layer	Made ground	>1500	>5000	400	
203	Layer	Natural clay	>1500	>5000	-	
204	Cut	Ditch cut	900	>2580	190	
205	Fill	Sole fill of [204]	900	>2580	190	
206	Cut	Ditch cut	>920	>1010	210	
207	Fill	Sole fill of [206]	>920	>1010	210	
208	Cut	Ditch cut	900	>4000	420	
209	Fill	Primary fill of [208]	740	>1000	140	
210	Fill	Secondary fill of [208]	860	>1000	170	
211	Fill	Tertiary fill of [208]	690	>3200	140	
212	Cut	Ditch cut	800	>560	190	
213	Fill	Sole fill of [212]	800	>560	190	
214	Fill	Secondary fill of [204]	>830	U/K	>240	

Trench 3						
	Max Dimensions (m)					
	Length	5m	Width	1.5m	Depth	0.75m
	Levels					
	Trench top NNW end			105.74m OD		
	Trench base NNW end			104.99m OD		
	Trench top SSE end			N/A		
	Trench base SSE end			N/A		
	NGR Co-ordinates					
	NNW	SP 73788, 16882		SSE	SP 73792, 16879	
	Orientation			NNW-SSE		
Reason for Trench			Archaeological evaluation			
Context	Type	Description and Interpretation	Width (max: mm)	Length (max: mm)	Depth (Max: mm)	
301	Layer	Topsoil	>1500	>5000	200	
302	Layer	Made ground	>1500	>5000	500	
303	Layer	Made ground, redeposited natural clay	>1500	>5000	200	
304	Layer	Natural clay	>1500	>5000	-	

Trench 4						
	Max Dimensions (m)					
	Length	5m	Width	1.5m	Depth	0.7m
	Levels					
	Trench top NW end			104.72m OD		
	Trench base NW end			104.02m OD		
	Trench top SE end			N/A		
	Trench base SE end			N/A		
	NGR Co-ordinates					
	NW	SP 73813, 16864		SE	SP 73818, 16862	
	Orientation			NW-SE		
Reason for Trench			Archaeological evaluation			
Context	Type	Description and Interpretation	Width (max: mm)	Length (max: mm)	Depth (Max: mm)	
401	Layer	Topsoil	>1500	>5000	250	
402	Layer	Made ground	>1500	>5000	400	
403	Layer	Natural clay	>1500	>5000	-	
404	Cut	Tree bole	>1300	>2000	300	
405	Fill	Sole fill of [404]	>1300	>2000	300	

Trench 5						
	Max Dimensions (m)					
	Length	5m	Width	1.5m	Depth	0.62m
	Levels					
	Trench top NW end			103.67m OD		
	Trench base NW end			103.05m OD		
	Trench top SE end			N/A		
	Trench base SE end			N/A		
	NGR Co-ordinates					
	NW	SP 73843, 16852		SE	SP 73847, 16849	
	Orientation			NW-SE		
Reason for Trench			Archaeological evaluation			
Context	Type	Description and Interpretation		Width (max: mm)	Length (max: mm)	Depth (Max: mm)
501	Layer	Topsoil		>1500	>5000	240
502	Layer	Natural clay		>1500	>5000	-
503	Cut	Ditch cut		970	>1560	640
504	Fill	Sole fill of [503]		970	>1560	640

Trench 6						
	Max Dimensions (m)					
	Length	5m	Width	1.5m	Depth	0.4m
	Levels					
	Trench top NW end			103.42m OD		
	Trench base NW end			103.02m OD		
	Trench top SE end			N/A		
	Trench base SE end			N/A		
	NGR Co-ordinates					
	NW	SP 73859, 16840		SE	SP 73863, 16838	
	Orientation			NW-SE		
Reason for Trench			Archaeological evaluation			
Context	Type	Description and Interpretation		Width (max: mm)	Length (max: mm)	Depth (Max: mm)
601	Layer	Topsoil		>1500	>5000	250
602	Layer	Natural clay		>1500	>5000	-

Trench 7						
	Max Dimensions (m)					
	Length	5m	Width	m	Depth	0.78m
	Levels					
	Trench top NW end			106.01m OD		
	Trench base NW end			105.23m OD		
	Trench top SE end			N/A		
	Trench base SE end			N/A		
	NGR Co-ordinates					
	NW	SP 73779, 16895		SE	SP 73782, 16891	
	Orientation			NW-SE		
Reason for Trench			Archaeological evaluation			
Context	Type	Description and Interpretation		Width (max: mm)	Length (max: mm)	Depth (Max: mm)
701	Layer	Topsoil		>1500	>5000	150
702	Layer	Made ground		>1500	>5000	300
703	Layer	Made ground redeposited natural clay		>1500	>5000	200
704	Layer	Natural		>1500	>5000	-

Appendix 2: List of Photographs

SITE NAME: Minibus Route, Waddesdon Estate, Buckinghamshire			SITE NO/CODE:1428/WMR
Shot	B&W	Digital	Subject
1	√	√	Trench 1, facing NW
2	√	√	Trench 2, facing NW
3	√	√	Trench 3, facing NW
4	√	√	Trench 4, facing NW
5	√	√	Trench 5, facing NW
6	√	√	Trench 6, facing NW
7	√	√	Trench 7, facing NW
8	√	√	NE facing section of ditch cut [104]
9	√	√	Trench 1 stratigraphy, facing NE
10	√	√	Trench 2 stratigraphy, facing NE
11	√	√	SW facing section of Layer (703)
12	√	√	SE facing section of Layer (703)
13	√	√	Trench 7 stratigraphy, facing SW
14	√	√	SE facing section of Layer (303)
15	√	√	Trench 3 stratigraphy, facing W
16	√	√	SE facing section of ditch cuts [204] & [206]
17	√	√	NE facing section of ditch cuts [204] & [208]
18	√	√	N facing section of ditch cuts [212] & [208]
19	√	√	Trench 2 features, facing SE
20	√	√	Trench 2 features, facing NW
21	√	√	S facing section of tree bole [404]
22	√	√	Trench 4 stratigraphy, facing SW
23	√	√	NE facing section of drain cut [503]
24	√	√	Trench 5 stratigraphy, facing SW
25	√	√	General view facing SE
26	√	√	General view facing SE

Appendix 3: Finds Concordance

Context	Pottery		Bone		CBM		Shell	Other Finds	
	(no)	(g)	(no)	(g)	(no)	(g)	(g)	Type	(no)
105	2	93			6	830			
106	1	10							
202	44	586	2	9					
207	5	59	4	43					
209	8	92	3	341					
210	4	50							
211	8	51	2	12					
213	5	26							
405	2	16							
703	11	156	4	84	3	306	35	FE barb-spring padlock key	1
TOTALS	79	1139	11	489	9	1136	35		

Appendix 4: Specialist Reports

A. The Pottery

Andy Fawcett

A1 Introduction

A total of eighty-six sherds with a combined weight of 1034g were recovered from ten different contexts in three trenches. The pottery as a whole may be described as between abraded and slightly abraded, with a poor diagnostic element (rims and bases). The report contains a brief methodology followed by a discussion of the pottery by period and a final overview of the entire assemblage.

A2 Methodology

All the sherds were subjected to a rapid scan using a x20 microscope and thereafter divided by period. This has been followed by a further fabric division within the period itself. No detailed fabric analysis or comparison with assemblages from other sites of a similar nature has been undertaken. A full list of fabric codes can be seen in Appendix 4a and a full contextual breakdown of the pottery forms part of the site archive.

A3 The Assemblage

Five time periods are represented by the pottery assemblage. A breakdown of these can be seen in Table 1.

Ceramic period	Sherd No	Weight (g)
Roman	50	376
Saxon	1	13
Late Saxon/early medieval	13	283
Medieval	18	253
Post-medieval	4	109
Total	83	1034

Table 1: Pottery by period

A3.1 Roman

The largest group of pottery is dated to the Roman period (Table 1). The larger part of this assemblage was recorded in Trench 2 distributed between, made ground layer 202 (17 sherds @ 131g), ditch 206 (4 sherds @ 54g) and ditch 208 (24 sherds @ 157). Thereafter a small quantity was noted in Trench 7 in made ground layer 703 (5 fragments @ 34g).

The Roman pottery assemblage is made up entirely of coarsewares and the vast majority of these are long-lived unsourced fabrics. The most frequent of these are sandy grey wares (GRS), thereafter a small number of oxidised wares (UNS OX), white wares (UNS WH) and shell tempered fabrics (UNS SH) are the other principle fabrics. Only one regional import was recorded, Verulamium white ware (VER WH). Two sherds of this fabric were noted, one each in contexts 202 and 209.

A very small number of jar rims were recorded. However, these were too small to be identified beyond their general class.

Due to the poor quality of the assemblage it cannot be considered well dated. However within the made ground layer 202 there are certainly elements that are dated around the

2nd century as well to the later Roman period. Within the cut features in Trench 2 there are hints again at 2nd century activity and the presence of HAR SH in fill 211 indicates also that 3rd to 4th century material is present here too.

A3.2 *Early Saxon*

A single organic tempered body sherd (13g) representing this period was recorded in the made ground layer 202 (ESO). The sherd occurs alongside larger Roman and medieval pottery assemblages within the same context.

A3.3 *Late Saxon/early medieval*

All of the sherds dated to this period were noted in the made ground layer 202 (13 sherds @ 283g). The sherds are St Neots type ware (SXNO), which is dated from the 10th to 12th century. Apart from one dish sherd the remainder of the SXNO collection only displays slight abrasion. Three base sherds are present as well as two dish fragments. One of the dishes is similar to McCarthy and Brooks No 299 (1988). This context also contained Roman and other medieval pottery.

A3.4 *Medieval*

Two contexts contained medieval pottery, made ground layers 202 and 703.

The largest assemblage was noted in context 202 (13 sherds @ 230g) and all these sherds displayed only slight abrasion. Five fabrics have been identified: MCW (general medieval coarse ware), UPG (unprovenanced medieval glazed ware), BRIL (Brill/Boarstall ware), LYST (Lyveden-Stanion ware) and LMT (later medieval transitional ware). Most of the fabrics are dated between the mid/late 12th to 14th century. The assemblages mostly comprise body sherds, though a small number of bases and rims are also present. Of note is a BRIL cooking pot rim with an applied thumbed strip; it has a flat and hooked rim. An almost identical type can be seen in the McCarthy and Brooks catalogue (1988; no. 1055). Several sherds in this collection display sooted surfaces. Apart from a small number of green glazed sherds the only other type of decoration is rouletting which occurs on an LYST sherd. A similar style can be seen in the McCarthy and Brooks catalogue (1988, no. 1024).

A3.5 *Post-medieval*

The post-medieval pottery assemblage is very small and was recovered from two contexts, ditch fill 105 (3 sherds @ 103g) and made ground layer 202 (1 sherd @ 6g). The former contained single sherds of LSRW, LPME and GRE, whereas only a single sherd of LPEM was noted in 202. The only diagnostic sherd is an LPME plant pot rim in fill 105, dated to the 18th to 20th century.

A4 Conclusion

The pottery assemblage has mainly been recovered from Trench 2 and in particular from the made ground layer, which contained pottery from different periods. This layer clearly demonstrates significant Roman and medieval activity within the immediate area of the current excavation. It is interesting to note that within layer 202 the medieval pottery only displays slight abrasion whereas the Roman assemblage is generally abraded.

The Roman pottery from Trench 2 (and Trench 7) does not present a clear dating sequence and appears to indicate a fairly low status. Although the assemblage is generally poor, there was certainly 2nd century activity on the site, but it is not possible to say if this was continuous into the later Roman period.

Much of the medieval pottery is likely to be dated around the mid/late 12th and into the 13th century, if the shell tempered pottery is contemporary with the sandy medieval sherds. There is little evidence for consistent activity after the high medieval period in this area of the estate.

A5 Bibliography

McCarthy, M.R. & Brookes, C.M. 1988 *Medieval pottery in Britain AD900-1600*. Leicester University Press.

A6 Pottery Fabric Codes

Roman

UNS WS	Un sourced White Slipped Ware
VER WH	Verulamium Region White Ware
UNS WH	Un sourced White Wares
UNS BU	Un sourced buff wares
UNS OX	Un sourced Oxidised Wares
GRS	Un sourced Sandy Greywares
STOR	Miscellaneous storage jar fabrics
PNK GT	Pink grog-tempered ware
HAR SH	'Harrold' Shell Tempered Ware
UNS SH	Un sourced shell tempered ware

Saxon

ESO	Early Saxon Organic Tempered Ware
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Late Saxon/Medieval

STNE	St Neot's Type Ware
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Medieval

MCW	Medieval Coarse Wares (General)
BRIL	Brill/Boarstall Ware
LYST	Lyveden-Stanion Wares
UPG	Un provenanced Glazed Ware
LMT	Late Medieval and Transitional Ware

Post medieval

LEPM	Local Early Post Medieval Wares
GRE	Glazed Red Earthenware
LPME	Late Post Medieval earthenwares (plantpots etc)
LSRW	Late Slipped Redware

B. Iron Objects

Bob Zeepvat

A single iron object, a barrel padlock key (Plate 7), was recovered from (703). It measures 170mm overall in length, with a shaft 8mm dia, flattened to a leaf-shaped handle terminating in a suspension loop. The wards are partly missing, so the arrangement of spines in the padlock cannot be determined.

Barrel padlocks occur in both Roman and medieval contexts: the author has previously published examples from the Roman villa at Bancroft (Williams & Zeepvat 1994, 326 & fig. 157) and the medieval village of Great Linford (Mynard & Zeepvat 1992, 194 & fig. 99), both in Milton Keynes. This particular example is elaborately made, in comparison.



Plate 7: Barrel padlock key, context 703 (*scale = 10cm*)

Appendix 5: ASC OASIS Form

PROJECT DETAILS			
Project Name:	Minibus Route, Waddesdon Estate	OASIS reference:	Archaeol2-109211
Short Description:	<p>In June 2011 an archaeological evaluation was undertaken on the Waddesdon Estate, on a corridor of land within woodland, in advance of the construction of a minibus route. Seven trenches were excavated: archaeological cut features were present in three of them. One trench contained three intercutting ditches of Roman date, the functions of which were not determined. Two other trenches revealed silted ditches of post-medieval date. One of these had a later land drain cut into its fill: the other had a later ceramic land drain overlying it. It appears that drainage was an ongoing problem in this area in the post-medieval period at least.</p> <p>In five of the trenches a layer of redeposited clay, 0.3-0.5m deep, similar to the underlying natural clay, was present beneath topsoil and sealing most of the cut features. This contained post-medieval pottery sherds as well as residual fragments of Roman, Saxon and medieval pottery. It is likely that this material was deposited during the creation of the park, possibly to build up an area that with ongoing drainage problems. The source of the redeposited material is not known.</p>		
Project Type:	Evaluation		
Previous work:	Yes (Archaeological Impact Assessment)	Site status:	Grade 1 listed
Current land use:	Woodland	Future work:	Unknown
Monument type:	Ditches	Monument period:	Roman & post-medieval
Significant finds:	Pottery		
PROJECT LOCATION			
County:	Buckinghamshire	OS reference: (8 figs min)	7380 1690
Site address:	Waddesdon Manor, nr Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire, HP18 0JH		
Study area:	c.950 sq.m	Height OD: (metres)	c.105mOD
PROJECT CREATORS			
Organisation:	Archaeological Services & Consultancy Ltd		
Project brief originator:	Bucks CC	Project design originator:	Bob Zeepvat
Project Manager:	Karin Semmelmann	Director/Supervisor:	David Kaye
Sponsor / funding body:	The Alice Trust		
PROJECT DATE			
Start date:	20.6.11	End date:	22.6.11
PROJECT ARCHIVES			
	Location (Accession no.)	Content (eg. pottery, animal bone, files/sheets)	
Physical:	Buckinghamshire County Museum	Pottery, CBM, Animal bone, non fe object	
Paper:		Site records, drawings	
Digital:		CD Rom	
BIBLIOGRAPHY			
Title:	Archaeological Evaluation: Proposed Minibus Route Waddesdon Manor, Buckinghamshire		
Serial title & volume:	ASC Ltd Report ref. 1428/WMR/2		
Author(s):	David Kaye BA AIFA		
Page nos	30	Date:	19.8.11