

Archaeological Services & Consultancy Ltd

**WATCHING BRIEF:
THE HOMESTEAD
EYTHROPE PARK
WADDESDON**

NGR: SP 7703 1415

on behalf of Mary Keen and Pip Morrison Designed Landscapes



Jenny Richards BA PIFA

September 2008

ASC: 1089/ETH/2

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Site Data

<i>ASC project code:</i>	ETH	<i>ASC Project No:</i>	1089
<i>OASIS ref:</i>		<i>Accession no:</i>	2008.89
<i>County:</i>	Buckinghamshire		
<i>Village/Town:</i>	Eythrope		
<i>Civil Parish:</i>	Waddesdon		
<i>NGR (to 8 figs):</i>	SP 7703 1415		
<i>Extent of site:</i>	c.100m x c.50m		
<i>Present use:</i>	Pond and surrounding bank		
<i>Planning proposal:</i>	Extension of pond and creation of emergency overflow		
<i>Planning application ref/date:</i>	08/00296/APP		
<i>Local Planning Authority:</i>	Aylesbury Vale District Council		
<i>Date of fieldwork:</i>	7 th August – 4 th August 2008		
<i>Commissioned by:</i>	Mary Keen and Pip Morrison Designed Landscapes The Old Rectory Duntisbourne Rous Glos GL7 7AP		
<i>Contact name:</i>	Pip Morrison		

Internal Quality Check

<i>Primary Author:</i>	J Richards BA PIFA	<i>Date:</i>	11 th September 2008
<i>Revisions:</i>		<i>Date:</i>	
<i>Edited/Checked By:</i>		<i>Date:</i>	

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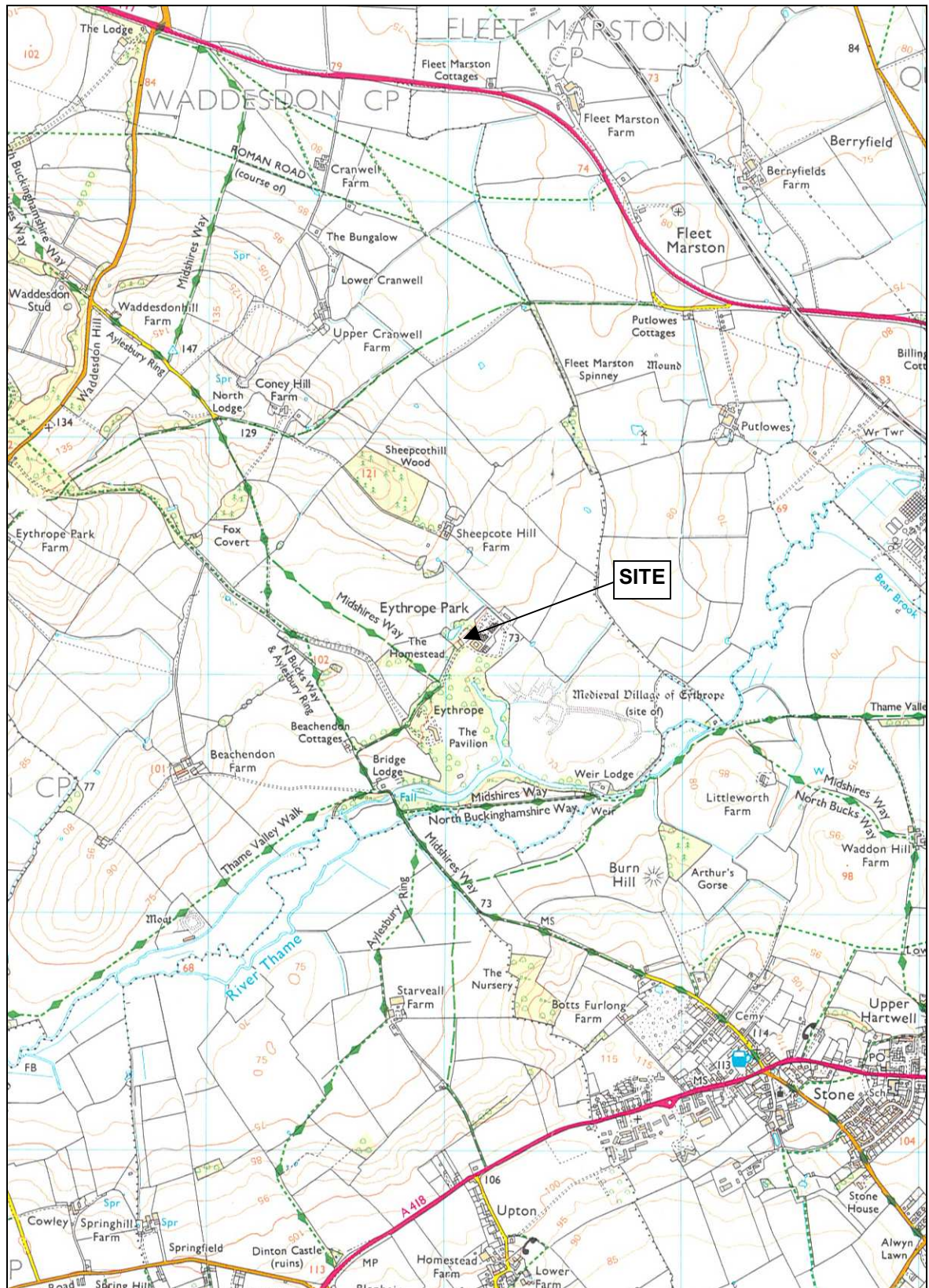


Figure 1: General location (scale 1:25,000)

Summary

In August and September 2008 ASC carried out an archaeological watching brief during alterations to a pond and garden at The Homestead, Eythrope, Buckinghamshire. The remains of a typical late 19th to early 20th century formal garden were recorded to the north of The Homestead, as well as a sunken garden to the south of the house. The pond embankment was found to have been constructed of re-deposited natural clay and the pond was lined with clay. No archaeological finds or features predating the late 19th century were observed during this watching brief.

1. Introduction

1.1 In August and September 2008 *Archaeological Services and Consultancy Ltd* (ASC) carried out a watching brief at The Homestead, Eythrope, Buckinghamshire. The project was commissioned by *Mary Keen and Pip Morrison Designed Landscapes*, and was carried out according to a brief (Radford 2008) prepared on behalf of the local planning authority (LPA), *Aylesbury Vale District Council*, by their archaeological advisor (AA), *Buckinghamshire County Archaeology Service*, and a project design prepared by ASC. The relevant planning application reference is 08/00296/APP.

1.2 *Planning Background*

This watching brief was required under the terms of *Planning Policy Guidance Note 16* (PPG16), as a condition of planning permission for the development of the site.

1.3 *Archaeological Services & Consultancy Ltd*

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 Archaeological Organisation* by the Institute of Field Archaeologists, in recognition of its high standards and working practices.

1.4 *Management*

The project was managed by Karin Semmelmann BA MA MIFA, and was carried out under the overall direction of Bob Zeepvat BA MIFA.

1.5 *The Site*

1.5.1 *Location & Description*

The site is located in the Buckinghamshire district of Aylesbury Vale, within the parish of Waddesdon. It is situated within Eythrope Park, a Grade II Registered Park and Garden, at NGR SP 7703 1415 (Fig. 1).

The pond itself is located to the west of the main complex of buildings at Eythrope Park, and is surrounded largely by trees to the north and west, with gardens to the east (Fig. 2).

1.5.2 *Geology & Topography*

The soils of the area are of the Denchworth Association, which are characterised 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, over Jurassic and Cretaceous clay (Soil Survey 1983, 712b).* The underlying geology comprises Quaternary Drift (BGS, Sheet 237).

1.5.3 *Development*

The development comprises the extension of the existing pond and the excavation of an emergency overflow channel, as well as the planting of a new orchard (Fig. 3).

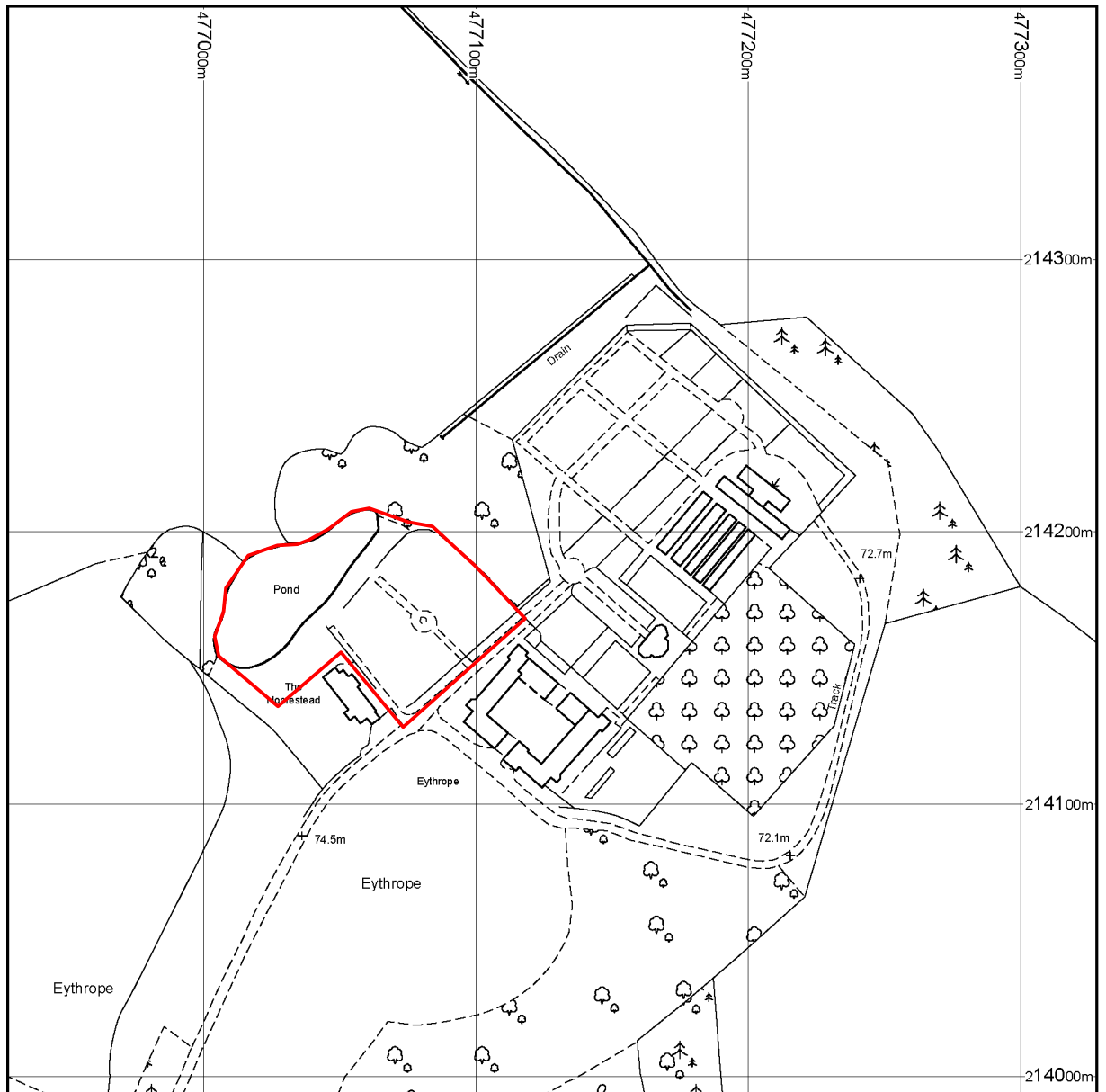


Figure 2: Site plan (scale 1:2500)

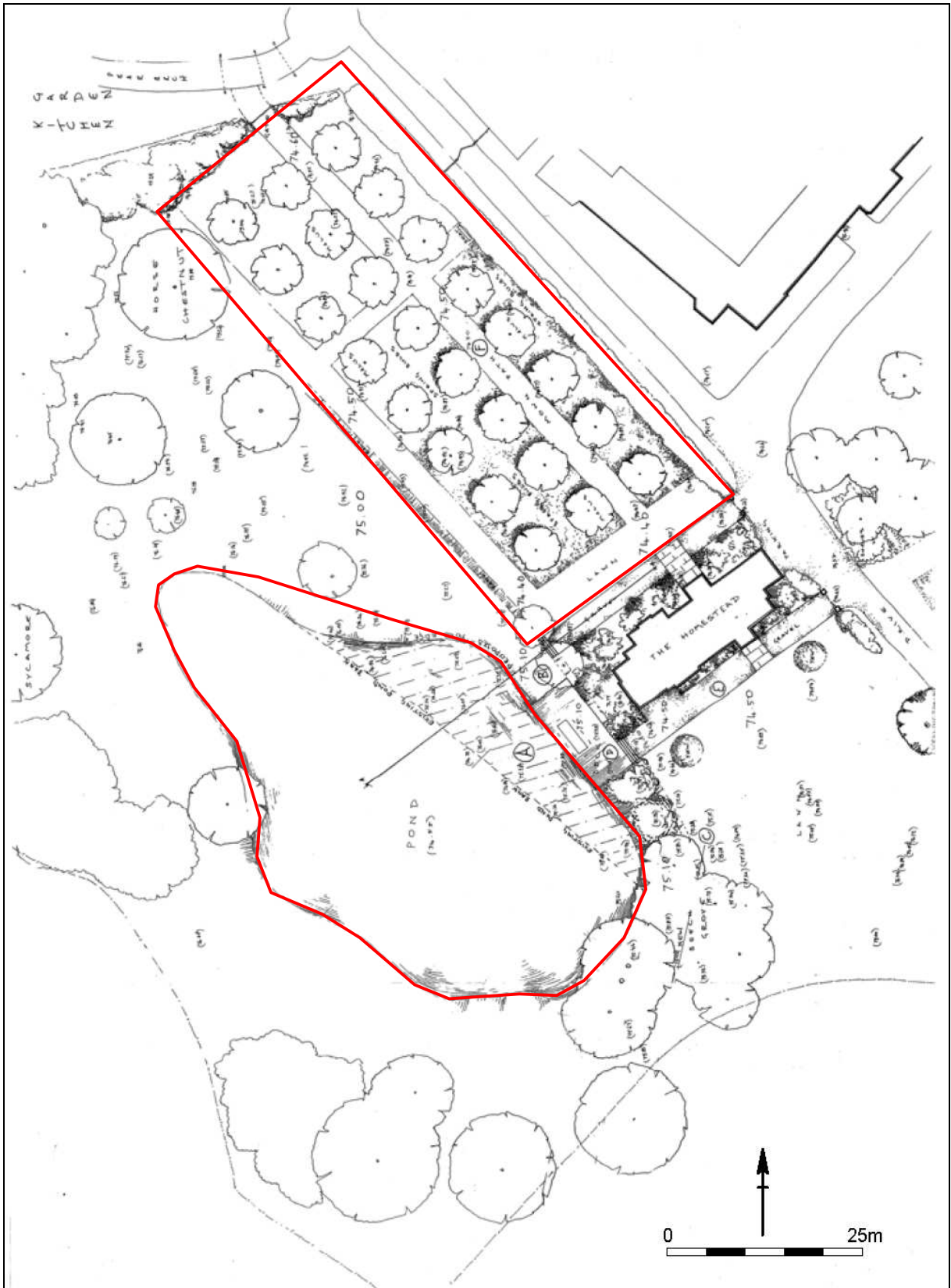


Figure 3: Development, new pond and orchard outlined in red (scale 1:750)

2. Aims & Methods

2.1 Aims

As described in the brief (Section 6), the aims of the watching brief were:

- To record the significant construction details of the pond revetment/bund and adjacent terrace and any related garden landscape design features exposed by groundworks
- To record any significant medieval or post medieval remains impacted by the construction of the overflow channel

2.2 Standards

The work conformed to the project design, to the relevant sections of the Institute of 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 brief (Section 8), which required:

- A detailed watching brief to be undertaken during groundworks for the enlargement of the pond, sufficient to record the construction details of the pond revetment/bund and adjacent terrace and any related garden landscape design detail
- A detailed watching brief to be undertaken during the excavation of the overflow channel.

2.4 Constraints

The new overflow channel reused the cut for the original overflow from the pond, and therefore did not impact on any archaeological features.

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.

This section has been compiled with information from Buckinghamshire Sites and Monuments Record (SMR), and other readily available sources.

VCH = Victoria County History

3.2 *Prehistoric* (before AD 43)

The SMR records a chance find of three Mesolithic flints at NGR SP 7557 1276, but this is almost 3km south east of the site. No other prehistoric sites are known from the Eythrope area, possibly because the seasonally waterlogged clay soils of the area were neglected for settlement in favour of more permeable geology on the hills (Kidd & Wise 2000).

3.3 *Roman* (AD43 - c.AD450)

The SMR records the existence of a minor Roman road c.500m to the north west of the site running parallel to the Fosse Way (SMR2035). In addition to this, a possible Roman glass bead was found during metal detecting in a field, c.800m to the northeast of the development site. There are no other instances of Roman activity recorded within the surrounding area, but this may be due to lack of archaeological work as opposed to lack of Roman activity.

3.3 *Saxon & Medieval* (c.450-1500)

A manor is known at Eythrope since the 12th century, when it was held by William Darches (VCH); it descended through the Darches family until the 15th century when it passed by marriage to the Dynham family. A watermill belonging to the manor is noted c.700m south of the development site (SMR4112), and a dovecote and fishery were attached to the manor of Eythrope in the early 14th century (VCH).

A second watermill is recorded c.700m to the southeast of the development site (SMR0855), this was held by Wallingford Priory from 1291 until the Dissolution. The lord of Eythrope Manor was the tenant of two-thirds of this mill in the early 14th century (VCH). It was last referred to in 1640 when it was held as a parcel of Eythrope Manor by Robert, Earl of Carnarvon (Moreton 1929; VCH).

The Deserted Medieval Village (DMV) of Eythrope (SMR0185) is located c.500m to the southeast of the development site. It can be seen in the form of irregular patterns of connecting trackways and streets, and is surrounded by ridge and furrow. The date at which this village was abandoned is unknown, although the Black Death may have been the reason.

3.4 **Post-Medieval & Modern** (1500-present)

Eythrope Manor was sold in 1532 to Richard Sparre who conveyed it to Sir Thomas More, who immediately transferred it to Sir Francis Bryon. It then passed through several hands until Alice, sister of Baron Ferdinand de Rothschild, who owned the neighbouring Waddesdon Manor, acquired it in the late 19th century. Eythrope became separated from Waddesdon Manor in 1957 when the Rothschild family bequeathed Waddesdon to the National Trust (www.nationaltrust.org.uk).

Eythrope Park was created by Sir William Stanhope in 1750, although the first licence for a park was granted to Robert Lord Dormer in 1616 (VCH). The park was redesigned when The Pavilion (Fig. 1) was built as a day retreat for Alice de Rothschild in 1883. Most of the 18th century parkland is now under arable (www.buckscc.gov.uk).

Located c.400m to the south of the development site, close to The Pavilion, is the site of the previous Eythrope Manor, shown on the Jeffreys 1788 Map of Buckinghamshire as the seat of the Earl of Chesterfield (SMR2162). This was demolished prior to the construction of The Pavilion (VCH) and is not shown on Bryant's map of 1825.

The SMR also records the existence of a chantry chapel, belonging to Eythrope Manor, close to the site of The Pavilion (SMR2181). This was founded in 1490 by the will of Roger Dynham, but was demolished in 1738.

The current Eythrope House was Eythrope Farm in 1881 (Appendix 3, fig. 3); both it and the adjacent Homestead were also built for Alice de Rothschild at the same time as The Pavilion (Radford 2008).

The Ordnance Survey maps (Figs. 4-6) show that the north part of the site was a small formal garden attached to The Homestead from at least 1900. These maps also show a central axis footpath, still extant at the time of this development, and a second footpath encircling the garden, which was not. No gardens are shown on the 1st edition OS map of 1881 (Appendix 3), but the pond is visible.

Eythrope was not a celebrated garden, and was overshadowed by the neighbouring Waddesdon estate. However, the park is one of five distinctive late Victorian landscapes created by the Rothschild family in Buckinghamshire, and has been awarded Grade II status by English Heritage.

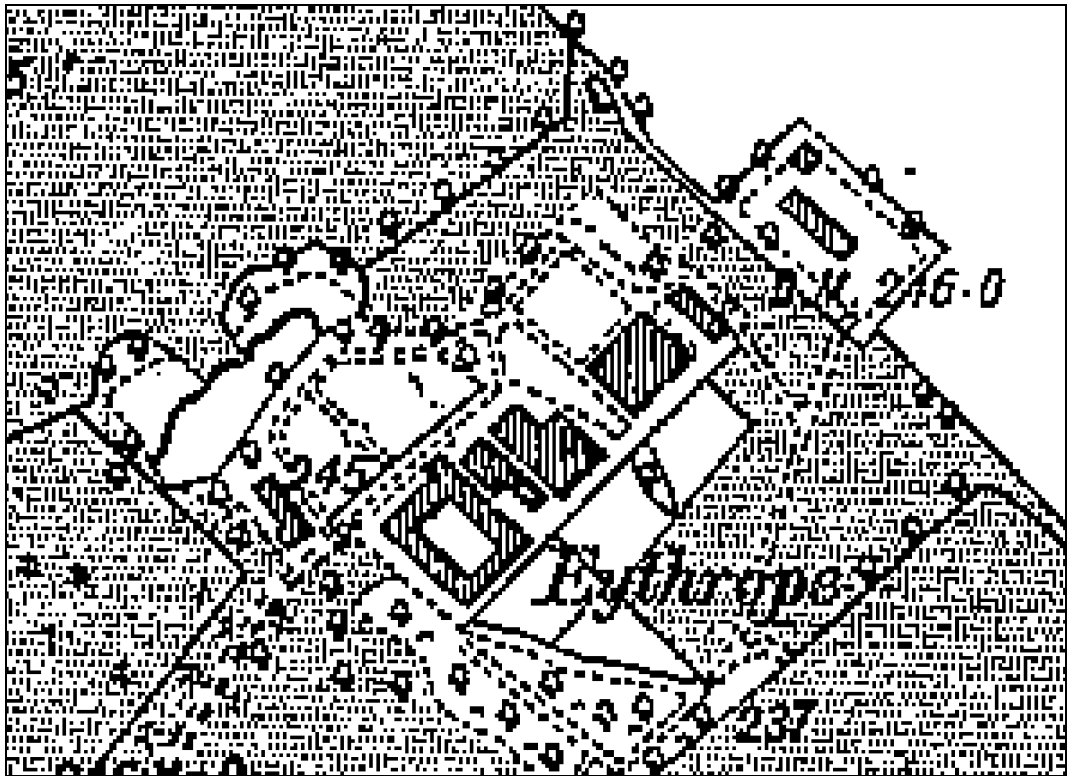


Figure 4: Ordnance Survey Map 1900 (6" to 1 mile)

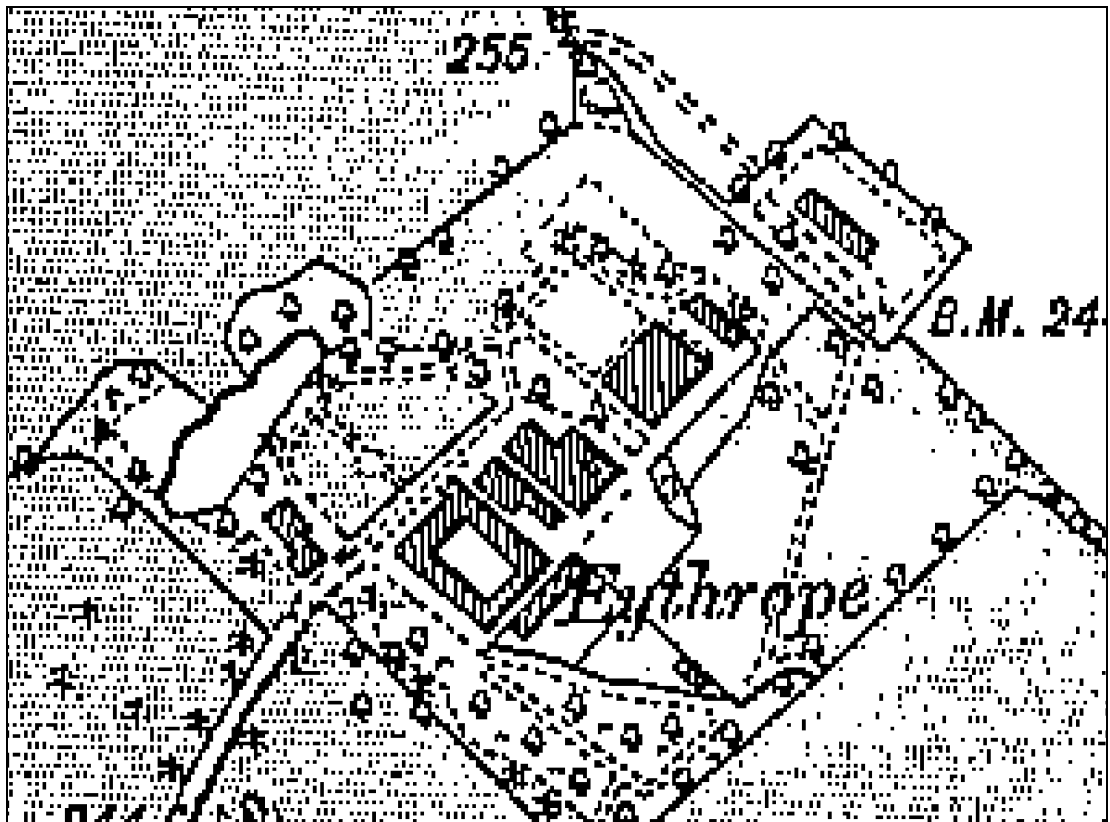


Figure 5: Ordnance Survey Map 1926 (6" to 1 mile)

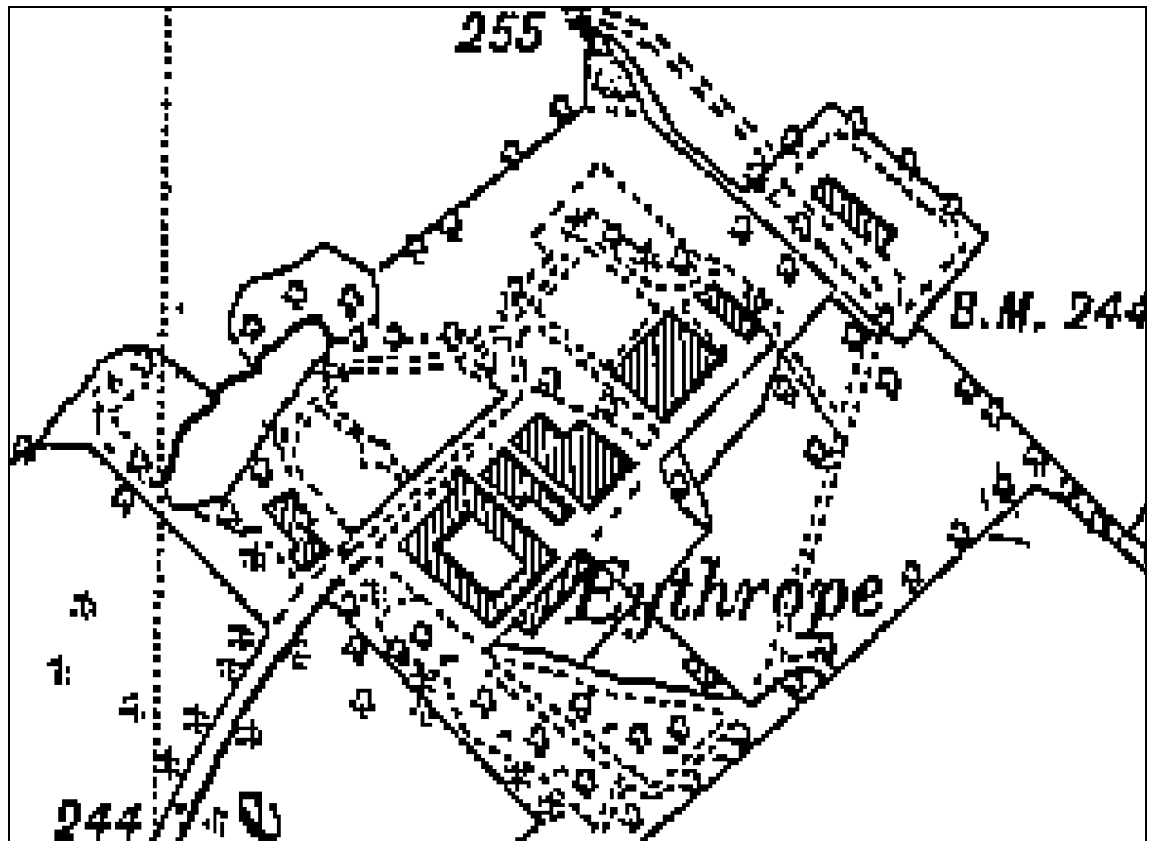


Figure 6: Ordnance Survey Map 1950 (6" to 1 mile)

4. Results

- 4.1 Between 7th August and 4th September 2008, a total of ten archaeological monitoring visits were made during the extension to the pond and associated groundwork and ground reduction for a new orchard.
- 4.2 Dark brown silty clay topsoil 0.20m thick overlay mid brown silty clay subsoil 0.10m thick across the site. The natural stratum was mid yellowish orange clay, and was observed at a depth of 0.30m below existing ground surface in the area of the proposed new orchard.
- 4.3 The remains of garden paths and planting areas were observed to the north of the Homestead (Fig. 7, Plates 1 & 2). These were examined by a historic gardens expert and interpreted as typical of a late Victorian or Edwardian formal garden. The footpaths were likely to be formed of hoggins, and the central area of the axial footpath would have held either a statue or fountain; several small shrubs were removed during the ground reduction in this area, but any decorative feature that may have stood here had already been removed. These footpaths are shown on the second edition 6" to 1 mile Ordnance Survey map of 1900, and were still present in 1950 (Figs. 4 & 5); but only the axial path remained prior to this development.
- 4.4 The southeastern edge of the pond had been raised to form a terrace and walkway, accessed via steps to the south of The Homestead (Plate 3). Small fragments of bricks and other rubble were observed within the topsoil during the reduction of this embankment, but no retaining wall was present. The embankment was formed of mid brownish orange clay with occasional small chalk fragments, below topsoil 0.30m thick (Plate 4).
- 4.5 The banks of the pond were covered with vegetation, which concealed concrete steps set into the northern bank. The base of the pond was formed of light yellow clay below a deposit of dark blue-black silt comprising decayed plant matter (Plate 5).
- 4.6 An area of paddock to the south of The Homestead, and immediately southeast of a large arable field, was stripped of topsoil so that the clay removed from the pond could be stored (Plate 6). No archaeological features were observed in this area, but a few small, abraded fragments of tile were noted within the subsoil. A second area to the north of the pond was also stripped of topsoil (Fig. 7), but no archaeological finds or features were observed in this area.



Plate 1: Planting area to north of The Homestead



Plate 2: Stripped area showing footpath



Plate 3: Detail of steps to terrace



Plate 4: East facing section of pond embankment during groundwork



Plate 5: Cleaning northern end of pond



Plate 6: Stripped area of paddock

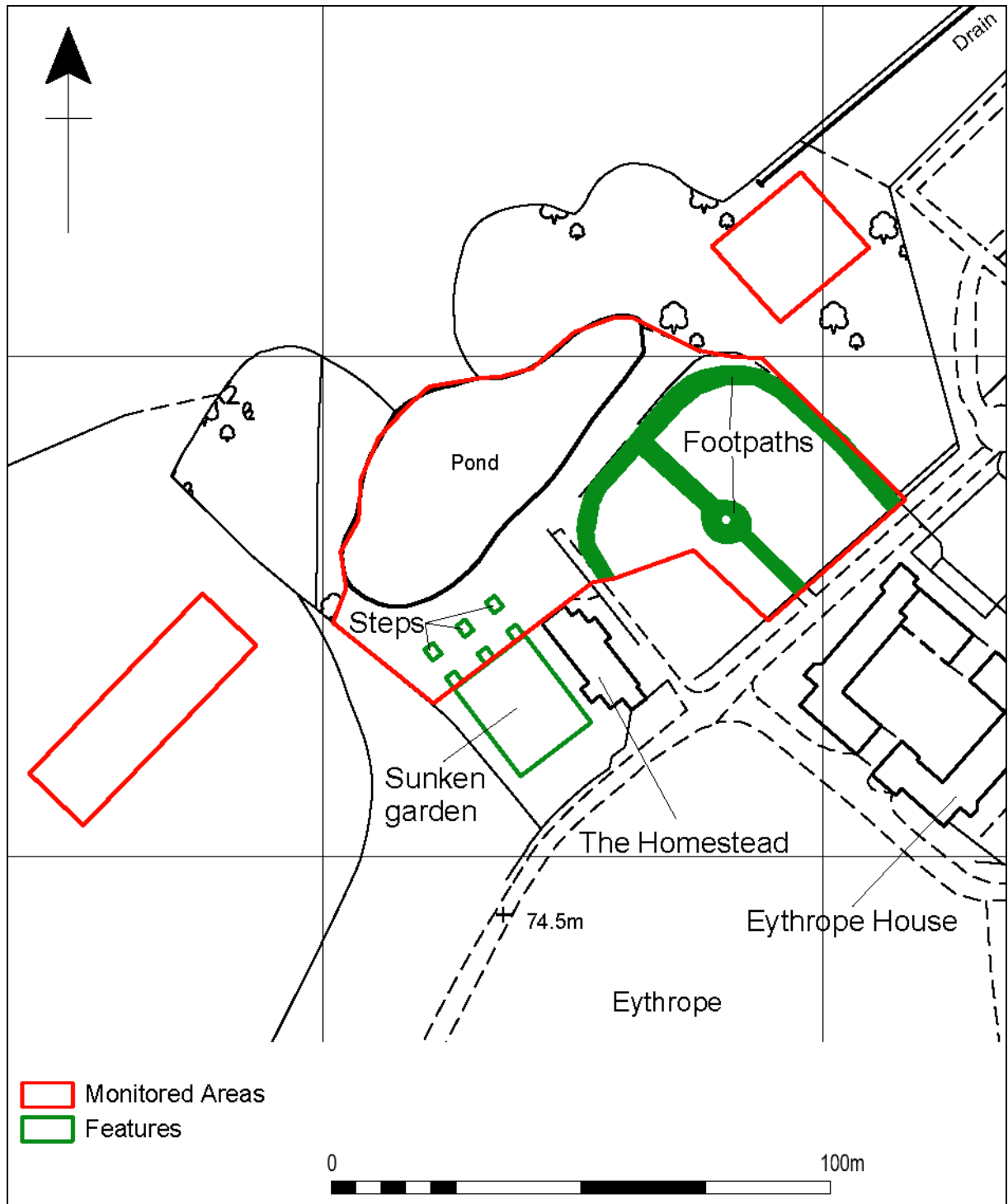


Figure 7: Site plan showing monitored areas and features observed during watching brief
(Scale 1:1250)

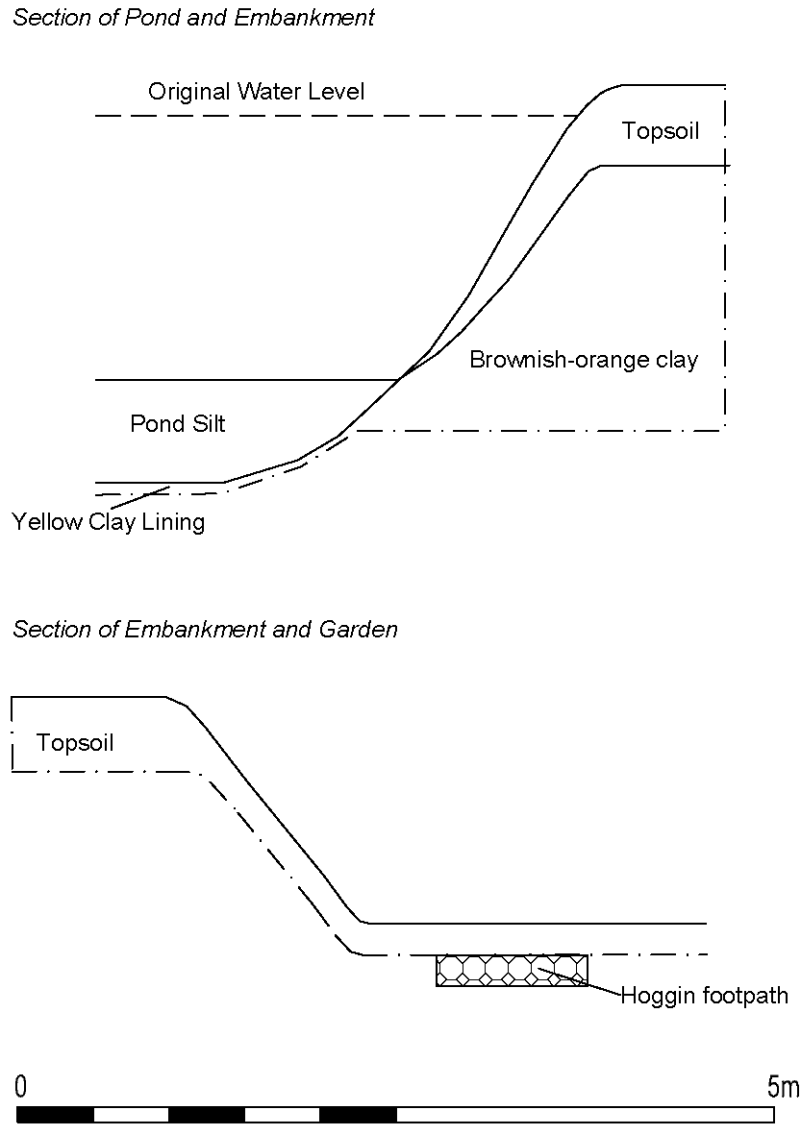


Figure 8: Sample Sections (*Scale 1:50*)

5. Conclusions

- 5.1 No significant archaeological finds or features predating the late 19th century were observed during this watching brief. The impact of the development is therefore considered to be low.
- 5.2 The garden features exposed during the works have been identified as typical of late Victorian and Edwardian formal gardens, but had been neglected and fallen into disrepair in the recent past.
- 5.3 The pond appears to have been a field pond fed from land drains from the fields on the higher ground to the northwest. The embankment indicates that the pond was enlarged when it was incorporated into the formal gardens.
- 5.4 No archaeological features were observed in the paddock area, however occasional small, abraded fragments tile of probable post-medieval date were observed within the subsoil. These are likely to represent small-scale rubbish disposal or manuring and this paddock may have previously formed part of the large arable field immediately to the northwest.
- 5.4 *Confidence Rating*
A high confidence rating is attached to the results of this watching brief, which took place in relatively good weather conditions. Full co-operation was received from the clients and other contractors.

6. Acknowledgements

The evaluation was commissioned by *Mary Keen and Pip Morrison Designed Landscapes*. The writer is grateful to Pip Morrison for his assistance. The project was monitored by David Radford on behalf of the local planning authority. Thanks are also due to *Miles Waterscapes* for their assistance and co-operation. The involvement of Kate Horwood, 19th century garden specialist, is also gratefully acknowledged.

The project was managed for ASC by Karin Semmelmann MA MIFA. Fieldwork was carried out by Jenny Richards BA PIFA. The report was prepared by Jenny Richards 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. Clients site plans
5. Site Monitoring Sheets
6. List of photographs
7. B/W prints & negatives
8. Original specialist reports and supporting information
9. CDROM with copies of all digital files.

7.2 The archive will be deposited with *Buckinghamshire County Museum*, under accession number 2008.89.

8. References

Standards & Specifications

- EH 1991 *The Management of Archaeological Projects*, 2nd edition. English Heritage (London).
- IFA 2000a Institute of Field Archaeologists' *Code of Conduct*.
- IFA 2000b Institute of Field Archaeologists' *Code of Approved Practice for the Regulation of Contractual Arrangements in Field Archaeology*.
- IFA 2001 Institute of Field Archaeologists' *Standard & Guidance documents (Desk-Based Assessments, Watching Briefs, Evaluations, Excavations, Investigation and Recording of Standing Buildings, Finds)*.
- Radford, D. 2008 *Brief for an Archaeological Watching Brief at The Homestead, Eythrope Park, Waddesdon* Buckinghamshire County Archaeological Service
- Rouse, C. 2008 *Project Design for Archaeological Watching Brief at The Homestead, Eythrope Park, Waddesdon* ASC Report 1089/ETH/1

Secondary Sources

- BGS *British Geological Survey 1:50,000 Series, Solid & Drift Geology*.
- Bryant, A. 1824 *Map of Buckinghamshire*
- Jeffreys, T. 1770 *Map of Buckinghamshire*
- Kidd, A. and Wise, J. 2000 *A Future for Our Past: Buckinghamshire Archaeological Management Plan* Buckinghamshire County Council
- Moreton, C. O. 1929 *Waddesdon and Over Winchendon*
- Page, W. 1927 *A History of the County of Buckingham: Volume 4*
- Soil Survey 1983 *1:250,000 Soil Map of England and Wales, and accompanying legend* (Harpenden).
- <http://www.buckscc.gov.uk/bcc/get/assets/docs/archaeology/Part%207.pdf>
- <http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/main/w-waddesdonmanor>

Appendix 1: Monitoring Sheets

A.S.C. LTD		ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD MONITORING RECORD				
Project: EYTHROPE HOUSE: THE HOMESTEAD.		Project No/Code: 1089 16TH		Sheet: 1 of		
Client/Developer MARY KEOU AND PIP MORRISON DESIGNED LANDSCAPES.		Date of visit: 7/08/08				
Contact: PIP MORRISON		Phone: 07877 786360				
Duration of Visit (inc. travel):	Start: 8:15	Finish: 16:00				
Completed by: JR						
Development Type:						
Footings	Services	Roads	Levelling ✓	Quarrying	Pipelines	Other (specify):
Site & weather conditions: DRY AT TIMES, RAINING AT OTHERS. GARDEN.						
Observations: REMOVAL OF TOPSOIL FROM SITE. TWO TEST PITS EXCAVATED ON HIGHER GROUND WITHIN PROPOSED NEW ORCHARD TO DETERMINE STRAT IN THIS AREA AS WILL NOT BE STRIPPED. - 25CM DARK BLACK GRAVEL SURFACE OVERLYING YELLOW ORANGE CLAY NATURAL PHOTOGRAPHED SITE PRIOR TO STRIPPING. EMBANKMENT APPEARS TO CONSIST OF TOPSOIL (0.10M) OVER ^{LARGE} GRAVEL LAYER, OVER SUBSOIL MADE WITH VARIOUS RUBBLE (CONCRETE, STONE + GRAVEL). FOOTPATH OF CRUSHED STONE + BRICK FOLLOWS BASE OF EMBANKMENT (UNDER 0.05M TOPSOIL) & CONCRETE SLABS OBSERVED TO SURROUND POND AT TOP OF EMBANKMENT. CERAMIC OVERFLOW DRAIN FROM POND RUNS BENEATH EMBANKMENT						
Comments: FURTHER VISITS NEEDED. ARRANGE VISIT BY C19 GARDENS EXPERT						



A.S.C. LTD

ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD MONITORING RECORD

Project: EYTHROPE PARK, THE HOMESTEAD		Project No/Code: 1089 1ETH.	Sheet: 2 of
		Date of visit: 8/08/08.	
Client/Developer MARY KEEN AND P.P. MORRISON DESIGNED LANDSCAPES.			
Contact: P.P. MORRISON		Phone: 07817 736360.	
Duration of Visit (inc. travel):	Start: 8:15	Finish: 16:15	
Completed by: JR			
Development Type:			
Footings	Services	Roads	Levelling <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
			Quarrying
			Pipelines
			Other (specify): EXTENDING POND
Site & weather conditions: DAMP, GARDEN.			
Observations: GRAVEL PATH ACROSS SITE (SHOWN ON MAPS) HAS BASE OF CRUSHED STONE + BRICK - SAME AS PATHWAY ROUND BASE OF EMBANKMENT. PART OF POND EMBANKMENT HAS BEEN REMOVED TO FORM DAM IN ORDER TO DRAIN THE POND, REVEALS STRAT TO BE 0.05M TOPSOIL OVER 0.20M SUBSOIL OVER YELLOW ORANGE CLAY, 0.50M AND BRICK + LIMESTONE RUBBLE DEPOSIT. OVER MOTTLED BLUE-ORANGE CLAY. NO APPARENT LINING TO POND			
Comments: KATE HORWOOD TO VISIT TOMORROW. STRIPPING WILL CONTINUE, FURTHER VISITS NEEDED FROM MONDAY.			



A.S.C. LTD

ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD MONITORING RECORD

Project: THE HOMESTEAD, EYTHROPE		Project No/Code: 1089 1 ETH.	Sheet: 3 of
Client/Developer MARKEEN AND PIP MORRISON DESIGNED LANDSCAPES.		Date of visit: 11/08/08.	
Contact: PIP MORRISON.		Phone: 07817 736360	
Duration of Visit (inc. travel):	Start: 8:45.	Finish: 12:15.	
Completed by: SR			
Development Type:			
Footings	Services	Roads	Levelling <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
			Quarrying
			Pipelines
			Other (specify): EXTENSION TO POND
Site & weather conditions: DRY, SUNNY.			
Observations: TOPSOIL STRIP OF EMBANKMENT NOW COMPLETE KATE VISITED SATURDAY MORNING AND MADE OBSERVATIONS OF GARDEN FEATURES (SEE EMAIL TO KARIN AND OTHER CORRESPONDENCE) POND EXTENSION WILL BE MARKED OUT TOMORROW POND STILL NEEDS DRAINING BEFORE WORK CAN COMMENCE.			
Comments: FURTHER VISITS NEEDED.			



A.S.C. LTD

ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD MONITORING RECORD

Project: THE HOMESTEAD, EYTHROPE.		Project No/Code: 1089 1 ETH.		Sheet: 4 of	
		Date of visit: 12/08/08.			
Client/Developer MARY KEEN + PIP MORRISON DESIGNED LANDSCAPES.					
Contact: PIP MORRISON.				Phone: 07817 736360.	
Duration of Visit (inc. travel):		Start: 12:15		Finish: 17:00	
Completed by: JR					
Development Type:					
Footings	Services	Roads	Levelling ✓	Quarrying	Pipelines
Other (specify): POND EXTENSION					
Site & weather conditions: RAINED OVERNIGHT, NOW BRIGHT + SUNNY.					
Observations: ORIGINAL EMBANKMENT HAS NOW HAD TOPSOIL REMOVED, POND BEING DRAINED AND MARKED OUT, SOME SOIL REMOVED FROM BANK TO FORM BUND IN ORDER FOR POND TO BE DRAINED FULLY AND FISH KEPT SAFE. NORTH WEST CORNER STANDPIPE BROKEN DURING TOPSOIL STRIP, FLOODED SITE. SUMP EXCAVATED IN NORTHEAST CORNER - NO ARCHAEOLOGY OBSERVED.					
Comments: MORE VISITS NEEDED					



A.S.C. LTD

ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD MONITORING RECORD

Project: <i>THE HOMESTEAD, EYTHROPE</i>		Project No/Code: <i>1089.1EM</i>	Sheet: <i>5</i> of <i>5</i>
Date of visit: <i>13/08/08</i>			
Client/Developer <i>MARY KEEN + PIP MORRISON DESIGNED LANDSCAPES</i>			
Contact: <i>PIP MORRISON</i>		Phone: <i>07877736360</i>	
Duration of Visit (inc. travel):	Start: <i>8:30</i>	Finish: <i>15:00</i>	
Completed by: <i>JR</i>			
Development Type:			
Footings	Services	Roads	Levelling <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
			Quarrying
			Pipelines
			Other (specify): <i>POND EXTENSION</i>
Site & weather conditions: <i>RAINING AT TIMES, SUNNY AT OTHERS.</i>			
Observations: <i>NORTHERN SECTION OF POND HAS BEEN DRAINED AND CLEANED OUT. VEGETATION GROWING IN C. 0.30M "TOPSOIL" (WATER LOGGED IN PLACES) OVER ORANGE CLAY (NATURAL). EMBANKMENT FORMED OF CLAY AND SUBSOIL APPEARS TO BE REINFORCEMENT AND ENLARGEMENT OF NATURAL BANK? CUT AWAY AT OTHER SIDE TO FORM TERRACE FOR HOMESTEAD AND GARDENS. POND = CLAY TO BASE BUT NOT LINING.</i>			
Comments: <i>FURTHER VISITS NEEDED</i>			



A.S.C. LTD

ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD MONITORING RECORD

Project: THE HOMESTEAD, EYTHROPE		Project No/Code: 1089 1 ETH	Sheet: 6. of			
		Date of visit: 14/08/08				
Client/Developer MARY KEEN + PIP MORRISON DESIGNED LANDSCAPES						
Contact: PIP MORRISON		Phone: 07817 736360.				
Duration of Visit (inc. travel):	Start: 9:40	Finish: 14:40.				
Completed by: JR						
Development Type:						
Footings	Services	Roads	Levelling	Quarrying	Pipelines	Other (specify): POND EXTENSION
Site & weather conditions: DRY, SUNNY.						
Observations: EXTENSION TO POND						
NO ARCHAEOLOGY OBSERVED						
Comments: MORE VISITS NEGOT.						



A.S.C. LTD

ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD MONITORING RECORD

Project: THE HOMESTEAD, EYTHROPE		Project No/Code: 1089/ETH.		Sheet: 7 of	
			Date of visit: 28/08/08		
Client/Developer MARY KEEN + PIP MORRISON DESIGNED LANDSCAPES					
Contact: PIP MORRISON.			Phone: 07817 736360		
Duration of Visit (inc. travel):		Start: 11:20		Finish: 12:40	
Completed by: JR					
Development Type:					
Footings	Services	Roads	Levelling	Quarrying	Pipelines
					Other (specify): POND EXTENSION.
Site & weather conditions: DRY, SUNNY					
Observations: POND ENLARGED TO NORTH WEST - PHOTOGRAPHED AND WORK BEGUN TO SOUTH EAST SIDE - PHOTO'S EXISTING DRAIN IS BEING REMOVED AND REPLACED BY NEW OVERFLOW NO ARCHAEOLOGY OBSERVED.					
Comments: FURTHER VISITS NEEDED FROM NEXT MONDAY TO MONITOR POND.					



A.S.C. LTD

ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD MONITORING RECORD

Project: THE HOMESTEAD, EYTHROPE.		Project No/Code: 1089 1ETH.	Sheet: 8 of			
Date of visit: 2/9/08						
Client/Developer MARY KEEN + PIP MORRISON DESIGNED LANDSCAPES						
Contact: PIP MORRISON			Phone: 07817 736360			
Duration of Visit (inc. travel):	Start: 12:00	Finish: 2:00				
Completed by: JR						
Development Type:						
Footings	Services	Roads	Levelling <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Quarrying	Pipelines	Other (specify): POND EXTENSION
Site & weather conditions: DRY, SUNNY,						
Observations: SECTION THROUGH POND EMBANKMENT PHOTO'D. WILL BE REMOVING TOPSOIL IN Paddock TO SOUTH OF POND FOR CLAY STORAGE TOMORROW NO ARCHAEOLOGY OBSERVED POND BANK FORMED OF MID BROWNISH ORANGE CLAY WITH OCC. CHALK FLECKS						
Comments: FURTHER VISITS NECESSARY						



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ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD MONITORING RECORD

Project: THE HOMESTEAD, EYTHROPE		Project No/Code: 10891ETH.	Sheet: 9. of
		Date of visit: 3/9/08	
Client/Developer MARY KEENE + PIP MORRISON DESIGNED LANDSCAPES			
Contact: PIP MORRISON		Phone: 07817 736360	
Duration of Visit (inc. travel):	Start: 2:00	Finish: 4:00	
Completed by: JR			
Development Type:			
Footings	Services	Roads	Levelling <input checked="checked" type="checkbox"/>
			Quarrying
			Pipelines
			Other (specify):
Site & weather conditions: DRY SUNNY, WITH SHOWERS.			
Observations:			
STRIPPING OF AREA IN Paddock. NO ARCHAEOLOGY OBSERVED			
TOPSOIL >200mm THICK - DARK BROWN SILTY CLAY			
OVERLIES SUBSOIL - MID BROWN SILTY CLAY			
Comments:			
CONTINUING TOMORROW, FURTHER VISIT NEEDED			



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ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD MONITORING RECORD

Project: THE HOMESTEAD, EYTHROPE		Project No/Code: 1089/ETH	Sheet: 10 of			
Client/Developer MARY KEENE + PIP MORRISON DESIGNED LANDSCAPES		Date of visit: 4/9/08				
Contact: PIP MORRISON		Phone: 07817 786360				
Duration of Visit (inc. travel):	Start: 2:30	Finish: 4:00				
Completed by: JR						
Development Type:						
Footings	Services	Roads	Levelling	Quarrying	Pipelines	Other (specify):
			✓			
Site & weather conditions: WET,						
Observations: TOPSOIL STRIPPING IN Paddock NO ARCHAEOLOGY OBSERVED						
Comments: NO FURTHER VISITS NEEDED.						

Appendix 2: List of Photographs

SITE NAME: The Homestead, Eythrope			SITE NO/CODE: 1089/ETH
Shot	B&W	Digital	Subject
1	✓	✓	View of terrace from south
2	✓	✓	View of steps from southeast
3	✓	✓	Detail of steps
4	✓	✓	View along terrace from southwest
5	✓	✓	View of pond from east
6	✓	✓	View along terrace from northeast
7	✓	✓	Test pit 1
8	✓	✓	Test pit 2
9	✓	✓	View of gardens from north
10	✓	✓	View of gardens during stripping from northwest
11	✓	✓	View of gardens during stripping from northeast
12	✓	✓	View of gardens before stripping from east
13	✓	✓	View of house and gardens from northwest
14	✓	✓	View of stripped area from northwest
15		✓	Dragon roof decoration for The Homestead
16	✓	✓	Northwest facing section of pond embankment
17	✓	✓	Northeast facing section of pond embankment
18	✓	✓	Embankment during stripping from southwest
19	✓	✓	Stripped area from west
20	✓	✓	Planting areas to east of garden
21	✓	✓	View along cross path from southeast
22	✓	✓	Stripped area from southwest showing footpaths
23	✓	✓	View along cross path showing central area
24	✓	✓	Southern corner of pond embankment
25	✓	✓	Stripped area from southsouthwest
26	✓	✓	Stripped area from south
27		✓	Burst watermain
28	✓	✓	Channel from burst main to sump
29	✓	✓	Northern corner of pond from south
30	✓	✓	Northwest bank of pond showing clay and vegetation
31	✓	✓	Pond from northeast
32	✓	✓	Stripped area at north of site from east
33	✓	✓	Enlarging pond from east
34	✓	✓	Steps from north
35	✓	✓	Shot length of wall in north bank of pond
36	✓	✓	North bank of pond from east
37	✓	✓	Cleaning pond from north
38	✓	✓	Northern part of west bank of pond
39	✓	✓	Pond from south showing bund at northern end
40		✓	Section of pond embankment
41		✓	Stripped area to south of pond
42		✓	Stripped area to south of pond
43		✓	Stripped area to south of pond
43	✓	✓	Stripped area to south of pond
44	✓	✓	Stripped area to south of pond
45		✓	Paddock stripped
46		✓	Paddock stripped

Appendix 3: Report of a Visit made to the Gardens

Kate Horwood

The visit was made in response to a request from Archaeological Services and Consultancy Ltd prior to a new garden being laid out. At the date of the visit the topsoil and some tree roots had been removed from the northeastern formal garden. The garden comprises three parts: a pleasure garden, a formal garden and the pond.

1. The pleasure garden to the southwest of The Homestead.

This had the remains of a shallow sunken garden 27.70m on the SE-NW axis by 19m on the SW-NE axis. This was laid to rough grass with three outgrown golden yew topiary cones (Fig 1).



Fig. 1: View from NW corner across sunken garden to The Homestead.

Northwest from this garden were two terraces of approx. 2.80m width running along the whole of the NW side and reached from the garden by three flights of steps at equal intervals (of 7.70m). These steps were 1.10m wide and in flights of four from the garden to first terrace and three from first to second terrace (Fig 2). Information from the digger driver confirmed that these terraces had run long the NW side of the house and the formal garden.



Fig. 2: View from SW end of terrace.

The tops of the steps were flanked with small pedestals 12cm square covered in some cases with four terracotta tiles. Fragments of tiles were found on some of the treads and risers of the steps.

Tree stumps dotted the edge of the terrace, possibly an outgrown hedge or topiary.

The garden appears to be an example of formal late Victorian/Edwardian style, now much degraded and with no planting (except the three golden yews) left. A small hedge has been planted along the southwest perimeter of this garden but is not flourishing.

2. The formal garden to the northeast of The Homestead

This appears to have been a formal partly walled garden with perimeter paths and one cross path from the Site Plan in the project design (Rouse 2008: Figure 2, page 6). No garden is shown on the 1st Edition Ordnance Survey Map of 1881 (Fig 3) where the area appears to be part of Eythrope Farm.

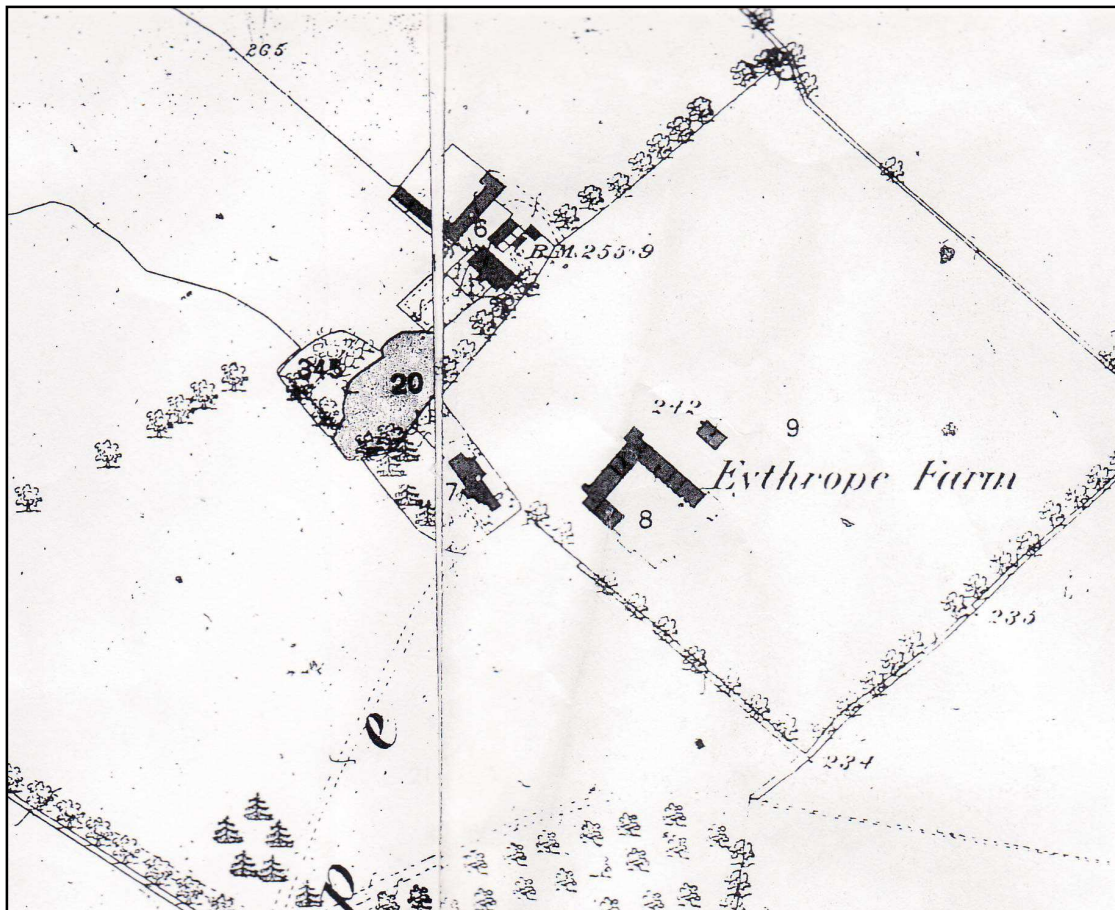


Fig. 3: Ordnance Survey Map Sheet 28.13 and 28.14 showing The Homestead at 7, and pond at 20. Scale 25''' : 1 mile, 1881

At the time of the visit the topsoil had been removed but the paths were visible a lighter coloured material running along the central NW-SE axis, along the NE side and along the NW side (Fig 4). It was not possible to determine the material these were formed from but hoggin is a possibility. The annular pattern of the path in centre of the footpath was visible and may have enclosed a pond, fountain or statue.

It was not possible to estimate the size of this garden due to earthworks but would appear to have been about 50m square. No perimeter walls remain, the SE side now having a hedge and the rest being open.

Little planting remained in this area but a Mulberry and a Walnut tree were noted (See Fig 5).



Fig. 4: View of paths in formal garden from W corner of garden.

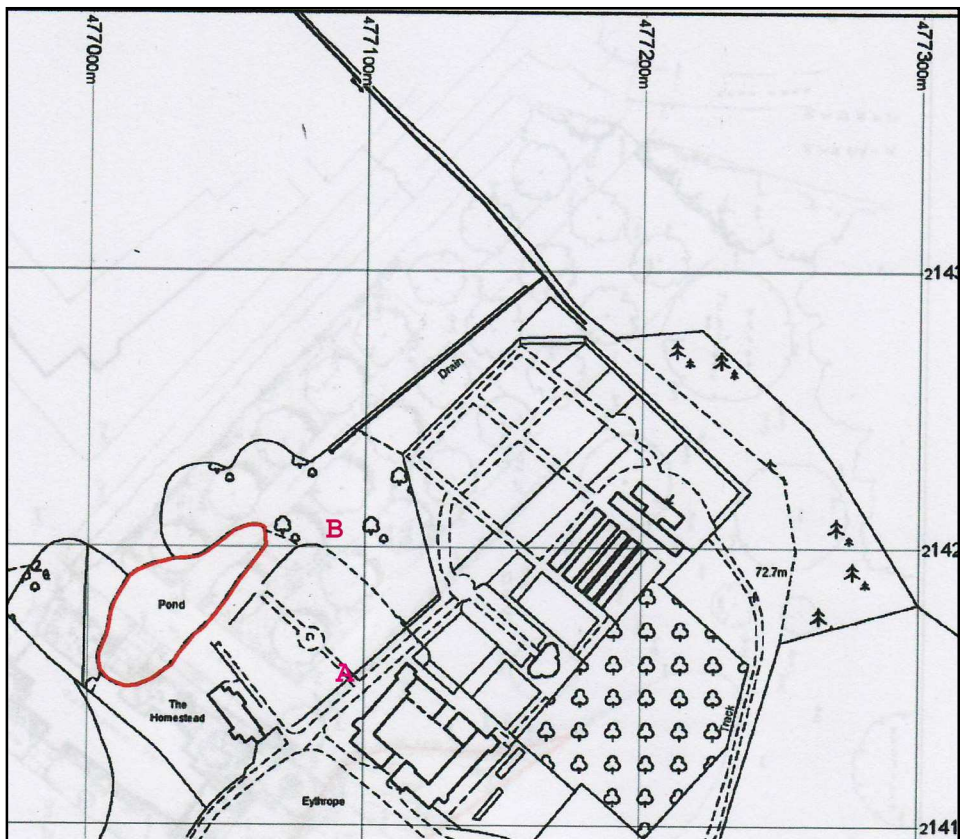


Fig. 5: From ASC Brief, Fig 2. A =Mulberry Tree, B=Walnut Tree

3. The pond

This lies to the NW of the Homestead, sunken garden and walled garden. It appears to have been a field pond and is fed by a pipe, probably from land drains from the fields on the rising ground to the NW. At some point the SE edge has been raised to form the terrace, which continued the whole length of this side. No masonry work or brick revetments or other construction materials were observed in the walls of the pond, and although fragments of bricks and other debris had been uncovered during the earthmoving, these did not appear to be part of a retaining wall.

Stumps of trees on the SE corner were observed and mixed native trees on the NW side flanked the vista across the pond to the NW.

Conclusion

The garden of The Homestead was of two major parts, an ornamental sunk garden lying between the house and the Eythrope Park with the redwood avenues, and a garden laid out with perimeter and cross-paths which may have been a productive kitchen garden, or another ornamental garden with fruit trees etc. A field pond has been annexed to the gardens and a terrace walk provided to take advantage of the view over the park to the northwest, across the pond.

All of this is much degraded and the original design and planting are completely lost. Eythrope was not a garden celebrated in print, being overshadowed by nearby Waddesdon Manor and little information is obtainable on The Homestead, highlighting its origins as the gardener's house. The house and Sunken Garden are visible across the park from the entrance drive to the Pavilion and would have been a picturesque point in the landscape.

Appendix 4: ASC OASIS Form

PROJECT DETAILS			
Project Name:	The Homestead, Eythrope		
Short Description:	In August and September 2008 ASC carried out an archaeological watching brief during alterations to a pond and garden at The Homestead, Eythrope, Buckinghamshire. The remains of a typical late 19 th to early 20 th century formal garden were recorded to the north of The Homestead, as well as a sunken garden to the south of the house. The pond embankment was found to have been constructed of re-deposited natural clay and the pond was lined with clay. No archaeological finds or features predating the late 19 th century were observed during this watching brief.		
Project Type: (indicate all that apply)	Watching Brief		
Site status: (eg. none, SAM, Listed)	Registered Park, grade II	Previous work: (eg. SMR refs)	CAS0185, CAS216209
Current land use:	Garden and pond	Future work: (yes / no / unknown)	Unknown
Monument type:	Park	Monument period:	Victorian
Significant finds: (artefact type & period)	None		
PROJECT LOCATION			
County:	Buckinghamshire	OS reference: (8 figs min)	SP 7703 1415
District:	Aylesbury Vale	Parish:	Waddesdon
Site address: (with postcode if known)	The Homestead, Eythrope Park, Waddesden		
Study area: (sq. m. or ha)	unknown	Height OD: (metres)	c. 75
PROJECT CREATORS			
Organisation:	Archaeological Services & Consultancy Ltd		
Project brief originator:	D Radford	Project design originator:	C Rouse
Project Manager:	K Semmelmann	Director/Supervisor:	J Richards
Sponsor / funding body:	Mary Keen and Pip Morrison Designed Landscapes		
PROJECT DATE			
Start date:	7 th August 2008	End date:	4 th September 2008
PROJECT ARCHIVES			
	Location (Accession no.)	Content (eg. pottery, animal bone, files/sheets)	
Physical:	N/A	N/A	
Paper:	Buckinghamshire Museum (2008.89)	Project Design, Report, Site Records, B&W photos and negatives	
Digital:	Buckinghamshire Museum (2008.89)	CD Rom with copies of all digital files including photographs	
BIBLIOGRAPHY (Journal/monograph, published or forthcoming, or unpublished client report)			
Title:	Archaeological Watching Brief at The Homestead, Eythrope Park, Waddesden		
Serial title & volume:	ASC Ltd Report ref. 1089/ETH/2		
Author(s):	J Richards BA PIFA		
Page nos	35	Date:	11 th September 2008