

Annual Review 1996-97

Making sense of the
PAST

Oxford Archaeological Unit



Making sense of the
PAS

The Oxford Archaeological Unit is an independent organisation, and is one of the largest archaeological practices in the country. The OAU is a registered charity and limited company.



List of contents

About the OAU: introduction to the annual review	3
OAU clients 1996–97	4
Director's report	5
Environmental assessment and consultancy	7
National survey of bridges	9
Oxford Archaeological Advisory Service	10
Buildings archaeology	11
Evaluation and excavation	12
Channel Tunnel Rail Link evaluations	14
Abingdon West Central Redevelopment Area	15
The Swindon to Gloucester DBFO Roadscheme	16
Historic Royal Palaces: Tower of London	18
The Eton Rowing Lake Project	20
Ostia	23
Yarnton-Cassington Project	24
Maidenhead, Windsor and Eton Flood Alleviation Scheme	26
Château de Mayenne, France	28
Reading Oracle	30
Post-excavation and publication	31
Archives	32
Education	33
List of projects	34
List of lectures and broadcasts	36
List of publications	38
Trustees and Council	40

Oxford Archaeological Unit: Making Sense of the Past



OAU is one of the largest **archaeological** practices in Europe. Since its establishment in 1973 it has grown to provide a **comprehensive** range of **archaeological** and **historical services** spanning the full range of **heritage management** in both Britain and overseas.

These include:

- **Consultancy, environmental assessment and planning advice**
- **Field survey and evaluation**
- **Excavations and research**
- **Building survey and recording**
- **Post-excavation and publication**
- **Education and exhibitions**
- **Archives**
- **Church archaeology**



OAU is committed to providing a **client service** which is both **cost-effective** and of **high quality**, and has a reputation for **innovative** approaches.

In order to provide the full range of skills clients require, **OAU** employs a full time staff of over **80** people including field archaeologists, historic buildings and finds specialists, illustrators, computing, administrative and management personnel.



A selection of our clients

Abbey Developments Ltd

ARC Southern Ltd

Berkeley Homes Ltd

Bewley Homes Plc

BICC Ltd

Blue Circle Industries Plc

Bryant Homes South Ltd

British Telecom

CBA Consultants Ltd

Countryside Commission

Département de la Mayenne

Duchy of Lancaster

English Heritage

Environment Agency

Epcad Consultants

Eton College

European Regional Development Fund

Fairclough Homes Midland

Hammerson Plc

Historic Royal Palaces Agency

John Lewis Partnership

I M Properties Ltd

Laing Homes Ltd

La Ville de Mayenne

London Underground Ltd

Marks & Spencers Plc

Ministère de la Culture, France

National Trust

Network South East

New Sadlers Wells Ltd

Overseas Development Agency

Ove Arup and Partners

Oxford City Council

Oxfordshire County Council

Penspen Ltd

Persimmon Homes Ltd

Prudential Portfolio

Peter Fraenkel and Partners

Prestoplan Design and Build

Rail Link Engineering

Région des Pays de Loire

RMG Construction JV (Gloucester)

Seaboard Plc

Standard Life Assurance Company

Stanhope Properties Plc

Tesco Stores Ltd

Thames Water Utilities

Union Engineering Ltd

Unipart Group Ltd

Vale of White Horse District Council

Victoria & Albert Museum

W S Atkins

Director's report



This year has been something of a watershed in the history of OAU. Our business has doubled in size, we have moved to single new premises in Oxford, established an overseas office, and made some remarkable archaeological discoveries. And while we have lost one Chairman we have gained another.

Our efficiency and working practices have been much improved by the move from three buildings to single premises at Janus House, on Osney Mead. This building, previously the Olivetti Factory, is designed for ease of movement with a warehouse, labs and offices mostly on one level. The move has allowed us to install an integrated computer network so that communication is improved at a personal and electronic level. This is particularly important for the management of major projects and their efficient publication.

OAU, as one of the largest archaeological organisations in Britain, specialises in undertaking major projects. This year we have successfully handled, as archaeological contractors, what is probably the largest and certainly the most complex archaeological project in Britain, on the A417/A419 Swindon-to-Gloucester Road Scheme.



A team of 90 field staff excavated up to 10 sites at the same time, including a Roman village alongside Ermin Street at Birdlip, a prehistoric cemetery and part of a medieval village. This work was done on behalf of the Road Management Group for one of the first Design Build Finance and Operate (DBFO) projects. In view of concerns in the archaeological community about the implications of DBFO schemes, it is significant that the archaeological response to this road construction scheme was probably the most thorough and professionally organised that there has ever been in Britain. OAU has also gone-on to act as archaeological monitor on another DBFO road scheme, the A30/A35 Honiton to Exeter road.

Under DBFO projects and Private Finance Initiatives (PFIs) archaeologists are finding themselves in new roles and using new jargon. The initial reports from these schemes appear, however, to be very promising. Private Finance Initiatives are also closely associated with that other major new factor — the Lottery. Up to now archaeology has been a poor relation of the Lottery — falling between the cracks of its complex rules. This is scheduled to change in 1998, when funds specifically designated for archaeological projects should come on-stream. In acting as consultants to the Cambridge Rowing Trust, OAU clarified the implications of archaeological impacts with the Sports Lottery, English Heritage and the Department of National Heritage. In connection with a Lottery funded project OAU investigated the site of the new Sadlers Wells Opera and, as part of a Millennium proposal, the moat of the Tower of London. A major discovery at the Tower was a finely-built stone gate-foundation — probably the building whose collapse on 23rd April 1240 was described by the contemporary chronicler Matthew Paris. Dendrochronology on beech piles, which related to the building, confirmed that they were cut in 1240. An early timber phase was found beneath the Iron Gate Causeway in the western area of the Moat.



These timbers were felled in the summer of 1276.



This has been an exciting year for waterlogged timbers even if they are not the most obviously pre-pottery objects. In 1995 we found the earliest known timber bridge over the Thames while excavating in advance of Eton College's Rowing Lake. In 1996 in the same area another four timber bridges turned up, dating between 1300–300 BC along with the earliest wooden plough in Europe (strictly speaking an ard or scratch plough) dating to about 900BC. Nearby a rubbish dump of the early Neolithic contained over 120,000 artefacts, and one of the largest and earliest collections of domesticated animal bones in Britain. At OAU's other major Thames-side project, the Yarnton ARC gravel quarries, we found one of the earliest timber buildings in Britain dating to the 4th Millennium BC. At a time when the honey-pot sites like Stonehenge attract so much attention, it is worth remembering that new discoveries such as these add enormously to our knowledge of the people who built such monuments.



In recent years OAU has developed its overseas connections with projects in Greece, Italy, the West Indies, Oman and Ukraine. This year we continued to collaborate on a project in Ostia, the port of ancient Rome, with Reading University and the Italian authorities. We are also working with Zaha Hadid on the design competition for a new Museum of Islamic Art in Qatar. Our largest overseas project, however, is at the Château de Mayenne. Since winning this major contract from the French Ministry of Culture and the Mayenne local authorities we have established an office in Mayenne staffed by an Anglo-French team. Another recent overseas success has been the award of a contract by the Irish government to carry out a strategic study of the historic towns in Ireland. In Britain work has continued on a national survey of historic bridges, for English Heritage, as part of its Monuments Protection Programme.

For the past eight years our Trustees have been chaired with calm authority by Professor Peter Salway. He has now stood down and our new Chairman is Dr Margaret Ware. Everyone at OAU is extremely grateful to Professor Salway for all his help and for his continuing support as Chairman of our Academic Committee. We look forward to working with Dr Ware, who has been a long-term supporter of OAU and of local archaeology. In the past two years OAU's principal strategic aims have been to diversify our work and provide an effective service to our clients. The move to Janus House has helped with the latter; we have also started to implement our policy of improved staff training. OAU relies on its highly skilled and motivated work force, and while archaeology has never been one of the best paid professions in the world it is one of the most interesting. OAU exists to provide an effective service and to persuade people that the study of the past is relevant to everyone.



above: Tim Allen explaining Eton to clients and curators
left: Peter Salway (on left of picture) visiting DBFO Project

Consultancy, environmental assessment and planning advice



Desk studies for environmental assessments or ordinary planning applications have been undertaken for a wide range of projects: a major reservoir project in East Anglia; minerals schemes for clay in Oxfordshire and limestone in Nottinghamshire; supermarkets and commercial redevelopment schemes in Cheltenham, Reading, Solihull, Cambridge, Deal and the Bull Ring at Birmingham; gas pipelines in Lincolnshire and Birmingham; and more unusually a library for the College of Arms in London and a college sports pavillion in Oxford.

Private Finance Initiatives in their various guises have been one of the major new trends in British archaeology. In the last year **OAU** has provided consultancy advice in connection with the V&A Museum extension and has been particularly involved with two road schemes under Design Build Finance and Operate (DBFO) contracts. For the A417 and A419 Swindon-Gloucester scheme, being undertaken by RMG, we have taken the role of archaeological contractor with Chris Blandford Associates as the project archaeologists (see p16). For the A30/A35 Honiton to Exeter and Tolpuddle bypass scheme OAU has acted as project archaeologist for Connect, supervising Wessex Archaeology as the archaeological contractor. Both schemes are the amalgam of originally separate projects and have revealed the very considerable variation in standards and approach adopted in earlier stages of assessment and evaluation.

The National Lottery is another important area of new finance. **OAU** has been providing **consultancy advice** to the Cambridge Rowing Trust for a major rowing lake proposal to the National Sports Lottery. One of the most important aspects of this has been to establish the clear principle that archaeology necessitated by such projects is eligible for funding as part of the lottery contribution. During the year another lottery funded project, the major refurbishment and extension of Sadlers Wells Theatre moved from the consultancy and desk study phase to field evaluation and recording.

Historic properties in national care have formed the basis of three significant contracts undertaken this year. As archaeologists to the Historic Royal Palaces we were asked to compile the first full sites and monuments type record of all archaeological interventions at the Tower of London, an important contribution to the future management of the World Heritage Site (WHS). Early in 1997 we began a project contributing to the management of another WHS, working in collaboration with Chris Blandford Associates, to prepare a landscape assessment of the large prehistoric monument complex at Avebury for English Heritage. This will form an important contribution towards the Avebury WHS Management Plan being prepared by English Heritage. For the National Trust we carried out an assessment of Morden Hall, an 18th-century country estate, in south London, pulling together an assessment of the historic and archaeological interest of the property to assist in future management.





Industrial archaeology has been of increased prominence over the last year, and this trend looks set for continued growth in the foreseeable future. It has been an important aspect of several buildings projects, desk studies and consultancy projects. One of these was a first stage environmental assessment, done in collaboration with Ashdown Environmental for Railtrack, of the modernisation of the West Coast Main Line. Numerous historic railway structures were identified, which survived the major refurbishments that took place as part of the electrification of the 1960s. During the year significant progress was made on the first stage of **OAU's** national study of historic bridges being undertaken for English Heritage as part of the Monuments Protection Programme (see p9). Other projects with major industrial archaeological elements included assessments of: the former Tondy Iron Works in South Wales (right), inter-war reservoir structures at Abberton in Essex, 17th–19th-century waterworks structures at New River Head in London, and a 19th-century pumphouse at Maidstone in Kent (see previous page).



Our independent curatorial services continue to flourish. The Oxford Archaeological Advisory Service, which provides advice on the archaeological impacts of planning proposals for Oxford City Council, has had a particularly busy year (see p10). This has included drawing up and finalising proposals for the development of an Urban Archaeological Strategy under English Heritage's nationwide initiative. Oxford is one of the last major English historic towns to start such a project, but is thereby in a position to benefit from hard-won experience elsewhere.

OAU continues to provide curatorial advice on churches to Oxford Diocese.

OAU provide:

- Desk-top research and reports
- Environmental assessments
- Expert witnesses for public inquiries
- Consultancy on the full range of heritage management issues
- Curatorial services
- Professional education on cultural heritage and environmental assessment

National survey of bridges



English Heritage has commissioned **OAU** to undertake a national survey of bridges as part of their **Monument Protection Programme**; this follows from similar surveys **OAU** carried out on dovecotes and ice houses as part of the same programme.

This study is concerned not only with standing bridges, from the medieval period to the present day, but also with those known from archaeological investigations. Therefore the project involves looking at a whole range of topics from the study of primitive bridge technology at the sites of early bridges, like the four later prehistoric bridges found at the Eton Rowing Lake site (see p20), to the Hodgkinson experiments of the 19th century, which examined the buckling of the top flanges of wrought iron girders used in bridge construction. The scope of the project is immense: there are approximately 40,000 masonry-arch road bridges and 33,000 masonry rail bridges in England to mention only two of the classes defined within the study. We shall also be looking at aqueducts, viaducts, footbridges and causeways.

The **first stage** of this three-stage project has just been completed. It has involved research into: the historical and

technological development of bridges; the sources, both national and regional, which contain information on bridges; the legislation which affects them; and the criteria which should be applied for their future protection and management. This has obviously involved a great deal of consultation with the many diverse specialist bodies and experts on the various aspects of the subject.

Stages 2 and 3 will involve collecting data on individual bridges, including further consultation and site visits to assess a bridge's importance. It is from this information, and the technical and historical information researched in Stage 1, that an assessment will be made as to each bridge's significance, legal status and how best it can be protected and managed. The final phase will be to produce recommendations to English Heritage as to which bridges are thought to be suitable for listing, scheduling other designated protection.





Oxford Archaeological Advisory Service

OAAS is an advisory service established by **OAU** to provide independent advice on planning applications within the city of Oxford. In the last year **OAAS** vetted **235** applications out of a total of **1928**, and gave advice on **85**, in all cases this is an increase on last year (196 vetted out of 1861, with advice on 40).

Much archaeological activity has continued to be concentrated on the prehistoric and Roman landscape on the south-eastern edge of the City's District at **Blackbird Leys** and **Minchery Farm**. Further evidence of late prehistoric settlement and land division has been recorded at **Grenoble Road**. Roman settlement is evident from the 1st and 2nd centuries AD onwards, and by the 3rd to 4th centuries was characterised by groups of rectangular enclosures; one group having a regular pattern with kilns in some enclosures and clay-working features in others.

Adrian Parker's pollen analysis of a peat column from the **Oxford United FC's** stadium complex suggests that the accumulation was broadly continuous from the last Ice Age through to the historic period. This should provide a valuable insight into the ecological development of this area, potentially including the environmental effects of the Roman pottery industry on woodland resources.

In the historic city, the major development at the **Oxford Railway Station** has required our attention. Potential damage by modern services or foundations to the scheduled ancient monument of the medieval **Rewley Abbey**, has been avoided with a policy of preservation supplemented by recording of the limited amount of deeper disturbance. Amongst numerous desk studies on City sites, consideration has been given to proposals for a replacement weir at the site of the **Castle Mill**; redevelopment of the corner of **Queen Street** and **St Ebbes**, potentially affecting Saxon deposits; and further development in **St Thomas' Street**. At **New College** a method has been devised to support the fragile outer city wall without disturbing the accumulation of archaeological deposits behind it.

This year **OAAS** has drafted the **City Council's** proposal for an urban archaeological strategy, as a contribution to **English Heritage's** national programme of conserving and managing the archaeological resources of key historic towns and cities. The end product will be an **archaeological database** and **strategic policy** which will provide an authoritative basis for planning advice, research and education. Work on the database will start in **June 1997**.

The past year has been a good one for publication of recent work in the city, with four articles in Volume 60 of **Oxoniensia**, on prehistoric and medieval sites. Of particular technical interest is the publication in **Archaeometry** of Christopher Meats' radar investigation at **All Souls College**. The clarity and accessibility of the vertical succession of plan view horizontal 'slices' through the site, like a series of archaeological phase plans, holds out new prospects for non-destructive investigation and assessment of urban archaeological deposits.

Buildings archaeology



Digital surveys have been initiated this year at both the **Mayenne** project in France and the **Tower of London**. The work at the top of the donjon in Mayenne is reported elsewhere (see p28), but is curiously similar to discoveries in the **White Tower**. In its capacity as archaeologist to the Historic Royal Palaces, OAU has recorded a system of 12th-century drainage gullies, below the floorboards on the top floor of the Tower, which has not been used since the topmost stage was added. This work is being combined with a **digitised survey** of the fabric and analysis to determine the sequence of building and roofing. This promises to rewrite the story of England's flagship monument, and one of Britain's 14 **World Heritage Sites**.

The Historic Royal Palaces have continued to reveal surprises. At **Kensington Palace** the discovery of an attic door and fireplace, give an unexpected history to the **Queen's Gallery**, revealing that it may date from an earlier phase in the 17th century. In **Hampton Court**, a survey of the Henrician roof of the **Watching Chamber** provided as much interest in unravelling the early 19th-century alterations. These included large softwood timbers covered in '**Baltic**' timber marks, indicating imported wood. These marks have recently been discovered in a number of our projects.

Detailed building recording and historical analysis provided the majority of work undertaken this year. At **Paisley House**, we investigated Oxford's strangest listed building. Railway historians have long known of the paper house built to cock-a-snook at **General Pasley**, the GWR Inspector, and delay the opening of the branch line to Oxford. Few suspected that the structure had survived, and its existence was only revealed by a storm-blown tree which caused terminal damage to the building. Built by a **radical paper-maker** in 1844 on the proposed route of the railway, the house of **tarred cardboard** and **sawdust** filling to a **timber frame** (complete with Baltic marks) was gradually extended and gentrified, up until 1875, as the owner advanced in business and society to achieve conservative respectability.



Photographic surveys and pre-planning investigations, have been numerous and continue to contribute worthwhile information. Joinery and floors have been investigated in a number of instances; recording the splendid medieval pews at **Woking Church**; lifting floorboards at the **Lamb Inn** in Norwich and the Gateway of **Reading Abbey**; and searching for the medieval origins of **Blenheim High Lodge** only to find **Capability Brown's**, 18th-century edge-pegged floorboards. Domestic buildings have ranged from the 15th-century **Schoolmaster's House** at Ewelme, with wall-paintings of the '**Oxford School**', to the 20th-century Lodge at **Tusmore Park**.

Industrial structures form an increasing proportion of our work, and surveys have ranged from a minor 19th-century pumphouse to a massive 20th century slipway built to accommodate the launch of the last iron battleship built at Chatham. Barn conversions always provide something of interest, if only the infinite varieties of roof carpentry at **Woodstock Manor Farm** (free tenons), **Nuneham Courtenay Lower Park Farm** (curved inner principals), **Balscote Manor Farm** (20th cent. freestyle), and **Tadmarton Preedys Farm** (softwood kingpost). This last brings us back to **Baltic** timber marks, those enigmatic cyrillic scribbles on imported timber. Recognising the two halves of some exotic name on adjacent trusses we excitedly rubbed the marks and rejoined the pieces, only to read the word: **MANCHESTER**.

OAU provide:

- Pre-planning (PPG15) advice and initial appraisal
- Rapid photographic, digital and measured survey
- Detailed recording and historical analysis of buildings
- Historical investigation of documentary history
- Assessment of setting and impact issues
- Industrial archaeology



Evaluation and excavation

OAU has been at the forefront of the recent trend towards assessments and evaluations of archaeological remains to enable more rational decisions to be taken about preservation, building design and excavation.



OAU has carried out assessments, surveys and excavations in most counties across southern and central England, and can ensure that project designs meet the requirements of the relevant County Archaeological Officer.



Our evaluations are often integrated into environmental assessments or planning applications and cover developments of all types and sizes from small building extensions to pipelines, roads and railways which can be many kilometres long.



OAU can provide expert advice on how to preserve archaeology *in situ*. This is the recommended solution according to government planning guidelines (**PPG16**), and can often be achieved through minor design adjustment.



Where preservation *in situ* is not viable **OAU** provides a comprehensive service of sound, cost effective advice to manage the full archaeological impact of a development.





Channel Tunnel Rail Link evaluations

Following **Royal Assent** for the **Channel Tunnel Rail Link Act** in December 1996, the main phase of evaluations has now commenced prior to the construction of the high-speed rail link through Kent. **OAU** had already been commissioned by **Union Railways Ltd** to undertake work at **Purfleet** and **Tollgate**, and over the last year large-scale evaluations have been completed at **Thurnham Roman villa**, in the **Ebbsfleet valley** and at **White Horse Stone**, and smaller evaluations near **Singlewell** and **Boxley villages**.



The Ebbsfleet valley is important for its Palaeolithic archaeology (up to 300,000 years old) and has long been associated with a type of Neolithic pottery (Ebbsfleet Ware), first identified in 1939 in the waterlogged deposits in the valley bottom. The CTRL evaluation focused on establishing the potential for the survival of Palaeolithic deposits, and verifying the location and extent of a substantial Roman villa first located in 1910. While deep test pits and core drilling revealed few Palaeolithic remains, an upstanding section, resulting from earlier chalk extraction, contained important Palaeolithic deposits. These may be all that remains of the 1911 Baker's Hole site, the most important Levallois site in Britain, and previously thought to have been totally destroyed. Some Neolithic material was found in the valley floor, though the survival of waterlogged peat deposits was confirmed. Since few site records from previous work on the Roman 'villa' exist, earlier trenches which had been left open were re-examined, and new evaluation trenches were excavated. This confirmed that a very substantial group of stone-founded Roman buildings survive, surrounded by later quarrying and landfill activity.

At Thurnham Roman villa, near Maidstone our evaluation is the third recorded examination of the villa site, first found in the 19th century. Although previous excavations had taken place in 1933 and 1958, the site's location in the middle of the rail link route required a more up-to-date assessment to inform any future mitigation strategy. Following surface collection and geophysical surveys, parts of the main villa building were exposed and an adjacent aisled building was also examined. The evaluation showed that much of the site is fairly well preserved, although no floors have survived agricultural activity. It also revealed a previously unrecorded pre-villa phase of occupation.

The White Horse Stone, near Maidstone is a large upright sarsen in a broad hedgerow next to the Pilgrim's Way. It is generally considered to be part of a tightly-knit group of Neolithic chambered tombs known as the Medway Megaliths, but this theory has never been tested. An evaluation in the field to the immediate west of the site, did not disturb the stone itself which lies outside the railway's route. A number of ditches and pits of mostly Iron Age date were found but there was no clear evidence for any associated Neolithic/Bronze Age features. An extensive spread of flints, in the adjacent dry valley, suspected at first to be the remains of a prehistoric mound associated with Smythe's Megalith, (another megalithic monument destroyed in 1823), is interpreted as a natural colluvial deposit.



Abingdon : West Central Redevelopment Area



The **Vale of White Horse District Council** recently acquired nearly 1 ha of land in Abingdon town centre, which has been evaluated by **OAU** prior to redevelopment.

Other excavations by **OAU** in Abingdon (at the Vineyard) have shown that before the Romans, Abingdon was already a riverside market centre surrounded by massive defensive ditches on the northern landward side. Finds suggested that its western limit lay within this site, so one of the main aims was to look for the defensive ditches. Medieval documents also mention 'town ditches' here, perhaps indicating that the medieval ditches were direct successors of the prehistoric ones.

As predicted, the excavation found the **prehistoric defensive ditches** running north-south through the site. Two ditches *c* 7 m wide and 2.5 m deep ran parallel 8 m apart. Another smaller and earlier ditch lay west of the main defences; this may have been the original boundary of the settlement in the **early Iron Age** (*c* 600 BC). The outer defensive ditch was probably infilled during the **Roman** period, but the inner ditch remained open until the medieval period, when it was used as the town's western boundary.



The prehistoric defences have now been confirmed on two sides of the town, surrounding at least 15 ha. More importantly, the western prehistoric defences still marked the limit of the town in the **medieval** period, and affected the development of the street plan which is still with us today.

In addition, **St Edmund's Lane**, which ran through the redevelopment area, has suggested to historians that the site included the chapel of St Edmund, the only archbishop of Canterbury to come from Abingdon. The chapel was built close to his birthplace in **1288**, and survived together with a burial ground until at least **1495**. A medieval stone building with massive walls was duly found; the east wall had been built into the side of the open town ditch, and was heavily buttressed. At the north-west corner a cellar survived to 1.75 m high, and the building was clearly high-status. This building was destroyed in the mid-17th century. Ten metres to the south a small cemetery of about 30 individuals was found, 21 of whom were examined *in situ*.

Surprisingly, however, this appears not to be the chapel of St Edmund. The building appears to have been built 50–100 years too early, and the cemetery was not medieval but of **Civil War** date. Documentary research shows that this is the vicarage of **St Helen's Church**, given by the Abbot of Abingdon in the 13th century, recorded in a survey of the town by



Amyce for **King Henry VIII**, and destroyed by soldiers in the Civil War, as the churchwardens' records make clear in **1666**. The cemetery was probably making use of the garden after the house had been demolished, as mortality was very high during the Civil War and space for burial in the churchyard was too limited. The chapel of **St. Edmund** remains elusive.



The Swindon to Gloucester DBFO Roadscheme

OAU's largest project in 1996–7 was the series of archaeological investigations in advance of the **DBFO Trunk Road Improvement** of the **A 419/417** between Swindon and Gloucester. The work was undertaken on behalf of **Road Management Group (RMG) Construction JV-Gloucester**, and commissioned through **Chris Blandford Associates (CBA)**, RMG's environmental consultants

Over 5000 person-days were expended on the project, which entailed the 'excavation' of thirty-five separate sites of varying types and periods. A range of mitigation strategies, ranging from full excavations to selective sample excavations, were carried out in accordance with Written Schemes of Investigation (WSI) prepared by OAU and approved by the Highways Agency. In addition, a major watching brief was undertaken over a two-month period of topsoil stripping along the 25 km length of the new road. At any one stage OAU were excavating up to ten sites simultaneously, employing over 90 field staff.



From the outset the work programme was carefully planned in conjunction with RMG to allow sufficient time for the archaeological works to be completed and to facilitate access for road construction activity. The spirit of close cooperation that developed enabled the additional archaeology that was discovered to be dealt with to the satisfaction of both the relevant archaeological authorities and the client, and the enormous fieldwork programme was completed within schedule.

A number of sites produced evidence for early **prehistoric** activity. A group of pits from **Duntisbourne Grove** contained flints and pottery dating to the **Neolithic** period (3500–2000 BC), while a second group of pits from **Trinity Farm** produced finds dating to the succeeding **Early Bronze Age** period (2000–1800 BC). Two conjoined Bronze Age burial barrows, represented by ring-ditches, were discovered at **St. Augustine's Farm South**, associated with a series of segmented ditches and a number of pits. One of the ring-ditches still contained the remains of a central cremation. In addition, a possible Bronze Age burial was discovered above the **Churn valley** at **Lynches Trackway**.





One of the most significant results of the recent fieldwork was the information that was recovered relating to the later **prehistoric** period (800 BC–AD 43). A number of important **Iron Age** enclosure sites were investigated at Highgate House, Middle Duntisbourne, Duntisbourne Grove, Preston Enclosure and Ermin Farm.

The importance of Cirencester (**Corinium Dobunorum**) in the Roman period (AD 43–410) has long been realised, and given that the route bypassed the city, it is therefore no surprise that many of the sites produced archaeological features and/or finds from this period. The most important of these was **Birdlip Quarry**, where a substantial roadside settlement was discovered adjacent to the major Roman road (**Ermin Street**) running between



Cirencester and Gloucester. The excavated features included three wells, a corndrier and a possible metalworking area. The most significant discovery, however, was a sequence of buildings which showed a development from earlier timber post structures to later stone buildings.

Many sites produced evidence for medieval and post-medieval activity. In particular, work at **Latton Street Farm** revealed a series of superimposed stone buildings which should provide an insight into the developmental history of Latton village.

For much of their lengths, the A 417 and A 419 roads are presumed to run on the alignment of **Roman Ermin Street**. Numerous sections across or close to the A 417 and A 419 identified the Roman road and a number of related local trackways leading off to nearby sites. In addition, many sites produced evidence for medieval and early post-medieval hollow ways and rutting on or near the Roman road surfaces. In most cases, this post-Roman activity was sealed by subsequent 18th-century turnpike road and/or modern road construction.

Post-excavation analysis of the archaeology on the roadscheme is currently underway. This will entail a programme of work involving over **40 staff** over a period of three years, taking over 3000 person days in total.



Historic Royal Palaces: Tower of London

OAU has a five-year contract as archaeologist to the **Historic Royal Palaces Agency** and this year has seen a major expansion of our work at the **Tower of London**. We reported last year on the early stages of the **moat evaluation** and some of the remarkable discoveries we made in 1995. During 1996–7 we carried out almost **60** new **excavations** in and around the moat, including these small test pits to the west of **St Thomas' Tower**. Every pit and trench has contained something of interest and in some cases the results have been truly spectacular.

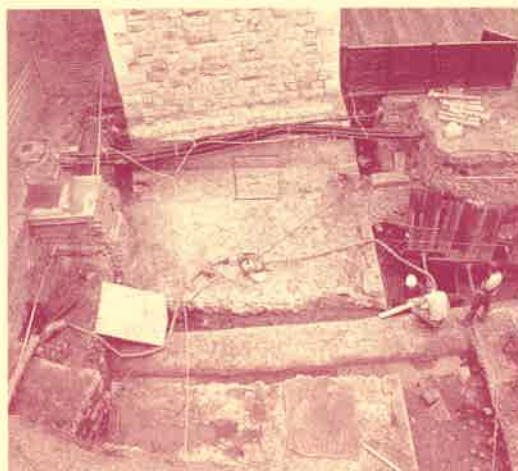


Undoubtedly the most important discoveries have been made in the west moat. The main trench (seen here with the river Thames in the background) is probably the largest single archaeological excavation ever undertaken at the Tower, made necessary by the unexpected discovery of masonry in one of our 1995 trenches.





The new trench revealed all of the masonry, and confirmed many of our first impressions about it. Beech piles which had been driven in against the east side of the structure have been dated to the winter of 1240 by dendrochronology, and the need for piled shoring is obvious in this photograph: the building slants alarmingly from west to east. Further dates from a series of oak and beech timbers associated with the stonework should tell us when it was built, but the dates from the piles tie in remarkably well with the Great Chronicle of Matthew Paris. This 13th-century chronicler described the collapse of Henry III's new gateway to the Tower in April 1240, its subsequent reconstruction, and a further collapse in 1241.



It is rare for historical and archaeological evidence to coincide quite so well as they did in the west moat. We had a similar success, however, in another large trench at the south-east corner of the moat. Here we were looking at a secondary entrance into the Tower, the Iron Gate causeway. This was demolished in 1680 because it hindered water from flowing around the moat. The stone causeway was reduced to the level seen here, and suffered further damage when the Royal Engineers drove a brick drain through its middle in 1843.

Excavation down the north face of the causeway not only revealed that the stone facing was of very fine quality, but also exposed an earlier timber phase. Again, beech piles were found, but this time we also found a beech beam, with evidence for uprights. As at the West Moat dendrochronology provided accurate dates for the piles; they had been felled in the summer of 1276 (the dates are so accurate as there is still bark on the wood, confirming the presence of all of the tree-rings). The beam is contemporary with the piles, being felled after 1266. Contemporary documents confirm that 660 beech trees were brought in for the construction of a dam and mill at this location in 1276, and the beam is doubtless the base of the mill. The dam was rebuilt as the stone causeway in the late 13th or early 14th century.





The Eton Rowing Lake Project

Eton College funded a second season of excavation of this **150 ha** site on the north bank of the river Thames, between July and September 1996. It involved a team **80–90** strong, mostly volunteers from **universities, schools** and local **archaeological societies**. Seven different areas were excavated and the extraction of 400 m of the prehistoric channel of the Thames (now completely silted) was monitored.



The most exciting discoveries complemented those made in the previous year. In the prehistoric Thames channel another **four timber bridges** were found, making this the largest complex of such structures in Britain. These are interpreted as successive bridges using a favoured crossing point over **1000 years** (c 1300–300 BC). One of the bridges had carefully laid **wattle hurdles** running the length of the structure between the two lines of uprights. They were clearly much later than the bridge and are interpreted as a **trackway** laid as a ford across the shallow channel, reusing the bridge timbers for added stability.



Parts of two human skeletons and large numbers of animal bones were found adjacent to the bridges, but the most convincing evidence of deliberate offerings came from Area 1, where three upright posts had been driven into the channel around a sandbank. The bank contained **human** and **animal bones**, and adjacent to one of the posts a complete late **Bronze Age pottery vessel** (800 BC) was found *in situ*, and another only 2 m from a second post.



Other finds from the prehistoric Thames included a 2 m long **mallet** or pile-driver, a morticed **plank** with a **human skull**, a Bronze Age **amber bead** and the head of a **wooden plough**. The plough has been radiocarbon-dated to **900–760BC**, the earliest example known in Britain. Two complete **Roman querns** show that offerings to the river carried on into the Roman period (AD 100–400).





The second major discovery was of two early **Neolithic middens** composed of flints, broken pots and animal bones in the top of a Glacial channel crossing the gravel terraces. This is the time of the first farmers in Britain (c 3500–3000 BC), but evidence of their



settlements is usually scarce. Here, however, over **16000 finds** came from only a **7%** sample of one of the middens, including nearly complete vessels, arrowheads, axe fragments and quernstones. There were **4500 finds** from a sample of the other midden. The scale of these deposits is unique in Britain, and suggests either a large settled farming community very close by, or large occasional gatherings of people at this location. Together with the *in situ* knapping areas on the floodplain the evidence from this period is very impressive.

At the south-east end of the site the ring-ditches of **four Bronze Age barrows** were excavated, with a cluster of surrounding crouched **inhumation burials** and **cremations**. One burial included a highly decorated middle Bronze Age globular vessel (1500–1200 BC). Several of these rare vessels have been found at the site, suggesting the high social status of the inhabitants.



This summer (**1997**) excavations will continue with the examination of a **Roman farmstead**, more of the **Neolithic midden**, part of the **Bronze Age enclosure system** and two areas of **prehistoric floodplain**.

Ostia



The Insula of the Paintings at the Roman city of **Ostia, Italy**, with the museum in the background. **Ostia** was the major port which supplied ancient **Rome**, and a research project on the insula (city block) is being undertaken together with the **University of Reading** and the **Soprintendenza Archeologica di Ostia**. We are particularly grateful for the help and support provided by the **Soprintendente, Dott.ssa Zevi**.



Excavations in the garden of the **Insula of the Paintings, Ostia, Italy**. The standing walls of the **Hadrianic insula** (AD 117–138) are visible at the top of the picture. The trench has revealed both pre-Hadrianic structures (bottom left) and crudely-built walls of the 4th to 5th centuries.



Yarnton-Cassington Project

The Yarnton-Cassington Project began in 1990, investigating **140 ha** of the **Upper Thames valley**, approximately five miles to the north-west of Oxford. **Excavations** will carry on until **1998** and it is anticipated that analysis of the results will continue until **2002**. The project is funded by **English Heritage** with the close cooperation of **ARC** who are undertaking the **gravel extraction** which is affecting the site.

Ceremonial and burial sites of **Neolithic** and **Bronze Age** date are quite common in the Upper Thames valley, but areas used for domestic activity have seldom been investigated in Britain. This is probably because their remains are so scattered and ephemeral that they are hard to locate. **Evaluation** on the Yarnton floodplain in 1993, undertaken in advance of gravel extraction, detected an area of earlier **prehistoric pits** and **postholes** containing domestic material, which appeared to lie away from funerary and ritual activity. Three hectares of this site were excavated in the summer of 1996.



The most exciting discovery of this very rewarding excavation was that of a **Neolithic building**. This structure was approximately **20 x 10 m**, and it was aligned east-west. The perimeter, defined by small post and stakeholes, was **trapezoidal**, bearing an interesting resemblance to Neolithic long barrows. Substantial postholes lay within the building in a more rectilinear arrangement, and these may have supported a roof. The structure seemed to have

been divided into two roughly square compartments, and a hearth and numerous small post and stakeholes lay in the western segment. Such buildings are rare in Britain (only eight good examples are known in England), and are mainly confined to highland zones; the closest parallels, such as that at **Lismore Fields** in Derbyshire, are early Neolithic in date. The presence in the hearth of, earlier, **Peterborough Ware** pottery and the recovery of, later, **Grooved Ware** pottery from a pit in the eastern part of the building might suggest that the site was used over perhaps a 1000 years. Two **radiocarbon** results have just been obtained from postholes of the building, one of which supports an early Neolithic date (between 4000-3650 BC) and the other which is around 1,000 years later, perhaps associated with the Peterborough Ware activity.



The contrast between this substantial structure and later **Neolithic settlement** remains is dramatic. Although there is good evidence of persistent use of the area from **c 3000 BC** until the late **Beaker period (2000 BC)**, the scattered postholes and pits suggest short-term occupation and no building plans have yet been recognised. Nevertheless, large groups of finds have been recovered from the pits and the assemblage of Peterborough Ware pottery is particularly varied and impressive.

Not until the early **Bronze Age (1800 BC)** were house sites visible once more, and at least seven small circular buildings believed to be of this date were found, five of which lay in a small group with associated fencelines and pits.



This year Yarnton not only produced significant research results, it also provided **school children** with the opportunity to appreciate and experience their past at first-hand, with the provision by English Heritage of an **education officer**, and a series of on-site visits and follow-up sessions (see p33). Oxfordshire residents also had the chance to see the archaeology; when an open day attracted about **1500** people.





Maidenhead, Windsor and Eton Flood Alleviation Scheme

In order to alleviate flooding in the **Middle Thames valley** the **Environment Agency** is creating an artificial branch of the river Thames, as wide as the present river, which is designed to be as natural in character as possible. It is the largest inland project of its kind in Britain and the first season of work, involving the **excavation of eight archaeological sites** along the proposed course of the channel has already provided a unique insight into the poorly understood development of the landscape of the Middle Thames valley. A second season of work involves a flexible approach to potential archaeology, with **OAU** operating a call-out system undertaking work ranging from **watching-briefs** to full-scale **area excavations**.

Part of the route of the flood relief channel corresponds to a **palaeochannel**, an old, silted up channel of the Thames. Analysis of the peat deposits within the channel showed that they began to accumulate between **13,000 BC** and **10,000 BC**. The peat was first colonised by **fen pasture** and subsequently by **fen woodland**, consisting predominantly of **alder** and **aspen**. By the middle **Bronze Age**, c1000 BC, this woodland had been cleared by man and replaced by **grassland**.



The season's excavations show that **prehistoric** people were active over the whole of the landscape examined. A light scattering of pits and ditches containing prehistoric pottery and flint were common to all of the eight sites. At one site, two **burial barrows**, previously identified on aerial photographs, were excavated. In both cases the mounds had been destroyed and only the ring-ditches were preserved. One, an oval ring-ditch, was dated to the earlier **Neolithic** (c 3000 BC); the other, dated to the early **Bronze Age** (c 1800 BC), contained a central cremation within a partially complete collared urn.

These **ritual monuments** constructed nearly 2000 years apart demonstrate the continued importance of the Middle Thames landscape in the prehistoric period. Two other cremations and a single inhumation, all thought to be prehistoric, were also found during the season.

The scheme has provided little direct evidence for prehistoric settlement sites. However, the results gained from the scheme can be integrated with those of **OAU's** other large project in the Middle Thames region, the Eton Rowing Lake (p20), where prehistoric settlement evidence is abundant. Together these projects will provide an unparalleled insight into human exploitation of the region's prehistoric resources.



Little evidence was found for the Iron Age or Roman periods. This suggests that the area was subjected to regular flooding, hence making permanent settlement impractical. After the late Bronze Age/early Iron Age it is not until the middle Saxon period that there is significant evidence of occupation. Numerous **Saxon** pits were found at two of the sites (**Lot's Hole** and **Lake End Road**), which contained decorated bone combs, loom-weights and an iron knife, along with domestic debris such as pottery and bone. The **environmental** evidence recovered from the Saxon pits suggests that the same sort of crops were being grown as in the Neolithic: wheat predominated, while **flax** provided fibre and oil. Chaff was also found in both prehistoric and Saxon contexts indicating grain was processed on-site in both periods.

At present it is unclear if there was continuity between the Saxon use of Lot's Hole and Lake End Road and the medieval occupation of both sites. However, an almost comprehensive picture of life for an early **medieval** peasant can be reconstructed from the evidence found at **Lot's Hole**. Ten possible post-built structures were excavated. One appeared to have been a **grain store** that caught fire and was then rebuilt. Others were probably barns and simple houses constructed from wooden frames with **wattle** and **daub** walls, fragments of which were preserved. The medieval buildings were found in association with a large, **130 m long enclosure**, probably constructed to contain animals, possibly pigs given the great quantity of pig bones at the site.



The activity at **Lake End Road** continued for a longer duration than Lot's Hole and it was of a slightly different character. It is hoped that a significant comparison can be made between the two sites, following the second season's excavations, to contrast conditions in these two early medieval settlements.



After the abandonment of the settlement at Lot's Hole at the end of the 13th century, a rectilinear enclosure system was constructed. This is still visible on the 1812 estate map held by Eton College. Thus the stages in the evolution of the modern landscape can be elucidated from the archaeology.



Château de Mayenne, France

The French Ministry of Culture selected **OAU**, in collaboration with the University of Maine, to undertake a major programme of investigations at the Château de Mayenne in the Pays de la Loire.



The project began in November 1996 and is funded from five sources: the **Ministry of Culture**, the **European Regional Development Fund**, the **Region of the Pays de la Loire**, the **Department of Mayenne** and the town of **Mayenne**.

Internationally the project is of considerable significance, as radiocarbon dating undertaken previously has suggested that parts of the **château** may date from the **9th century AD**. If this can be demonstrated conclusively it would establish the château as an extremely rare and important structure in the history of European architecture. At the local level, the project is part of a redevelopment of the château grounds as a cultural centre to incorporate the old theatre, the subterranean museum and an exhibition centre. The main thrust of the project is therefore to understand the origins and development of the château.

Three principal strands of evidence are being used to address these issues: archaeological excavation and building recording, by **OAU**, and documentary research by the **University of Maine**.

Historical research will build on known documentation by focusing on primary sources in both France and England. To date, the earliest known reference to the château dates from **1014**. Fifty years later the English connection with Mayenne is established; the château was besieged and taken by **William le Bâtard**, later known more famously as **William the Conqueror, King of England**.



During the **Hundred Years War** the château was seized and occupied twice by the English, most notably by the **Duke of Salisbury** in **1425**. The Château de Mayenne returned to the French in **1448** and an extensive programme of both rebuilding and refortification began. In the 17th century **Cardinal Mazarin** described the town and château as in part ruined by the religious and league wars, and as a result a new château was built close by. The old Château de Mayenne became a crowded prison, so dilapidated that during the **French Revolution** prisoners were able to escape. In **1935** the prison closed and was handed over to the town, briefly providing accommodation for refugees from the **Spanish Civil War**. The current title holder of the **Duchy de Mayenne** is **Prince Rainier of Monaco**.





Our archaeological investigation has begun with an **evaluation** of the **inner courtyard** and **northern room**, and building recording in advance of renovation work. Initially a ground



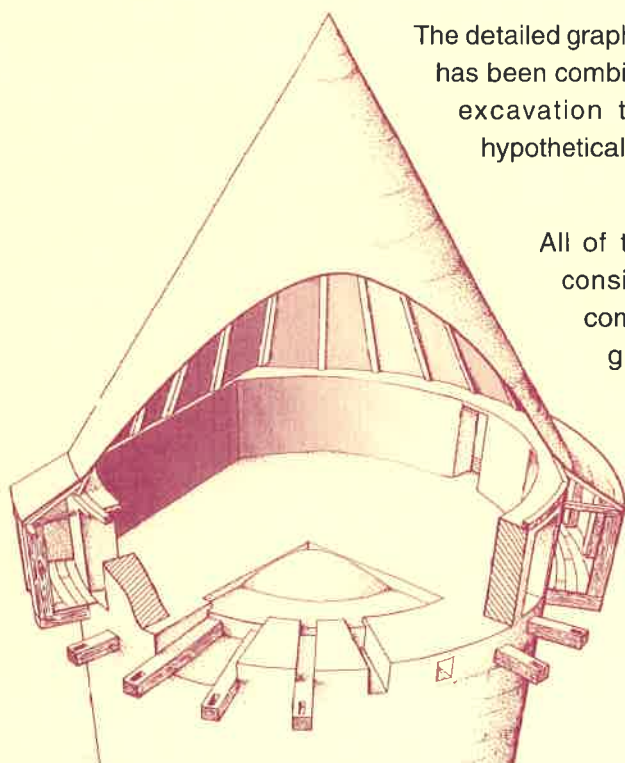
probing **radar survey** was carried out, to inform the placement of evaluation trenches within the inner courtyard. **Time-slice** plots taken at successive depths showed archaeological anomalies present from near the surface and up to a depth of 3 m. In the north-eastern corner of the inner courtyard strong evidence for a substantial structure was identified, respecting the alignment of the north room and present entrance, which are believed from previous

research to be part of the first building phase. Shallower anomalies identified in the western corner of the courtyard, correspond to a range of buildings marked on 19th-century plans of the prison phase of the château.

Work on the second floor of the **donjon** has been undertaken to define both its original form and its phases of development. Within the masonry of the primary wall exposed in 1993, a series of five blocked, complete or implied openings are visible, suggesting that an external **hourd** (gallery) once existed. These were common for both towers and curtain walls from the 12–15th centuries. Excavation of the donjon floor revealed three **beamslots** which would originally have housed a timber superstructure for the support of the gallery.



The detailed graphic recording of the standing structure has been combined with the data recovered from the excavation to generate a three-dimensional hypothetical reconstruction of the primary phase.



All of this work has obviously generated considerable interest amongst the local community and in addition to guided tours given to a wide range of interested parties, **OAU** have developed an educational programme which will be working very closely with local schools in the region, with a series of site visits which reflect the needs of the **French National Curriculum**.



Reading Oracle

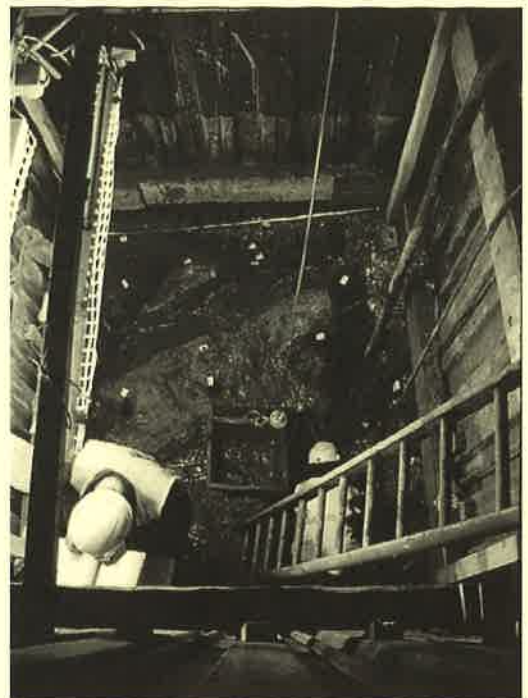


The Oracle project, Reading. David Wilkinson of the **OAU** on the site of the Yield Hall with John Emery of Hammersons PLC, who are funding the archaeological work, and Councillor Jane Griffiths of Reading Borough Council (now MP for Reading East).



The brick foundations of the 17th-century Yield Hall, now known to overlie the walls of a large 16th-century timber-framed building. The Yield Hall is one of several sites being investigated by the **OAU** during the development of the Oracle site as a £200 million shopping and leisure complex.

Small test-pits are being used at the Oracle to investigate possible medieval and post-medieval timber structures at depths of up to 4 metres.





Post-excavation and publication

58 projects have been worked on over the past year and nine excavation reports have been published, with subjects ranging from Bronze Age barrows in Oxford, to medieval and later occupation at the Tower of London.

Two major post-excavation assessments were completed over the winter: that on the **Environment Agency's flood alleviation channel** (see p26) involved the assessment of eight separate sites, while the **Swindon-Gloucester DBFO roadscheme** (see p16) required the assessment of 35 different sites. In both instances the assessments have received approval of both clients and curators, and the analytical stages of these projects are now well underway.

Amongst the largest archaeological investigations ever undertaken in the country, some of **OAU's** projects have post-excavation programmes extending over 3-4 years. As a result while progress over the last year has been considerable, tangible results are often limited as projects are still in their analytical stages. The extensive programmes on **Eynsham** and **Yarnton** have continued on schedule, and on both projects the

increased use of **computing** software is substantially enhancing the analytical process. The use of **GIS** packages, like **Gsys**, on large rural sites such as **Yarnton** enables rapid assessment of finds distributions and other forms of **spatial analysis**, while on the **Eynsham** project **Autocad** is being used to draft **3D reconstructions** of the abbey, which only survived to foundation level when **OAU** excavated part of the site in **1990-92**.

A considerable number of **OAU's** reports are now in their final editorial stages and their completion can be expected within the next financial year. The report on **Asthall**, a Roman small town, will be published as a monograph in June 1997, while **English Heritage** approval has now been received for the first volume on the Anglo-Saxon cemetery at **Lechlade**, **Butler's Field**, Gloucestershire and a monograph on the Anglo-Saxon and earlier medieval evidence for **Oxford**. Our contributions to local journals also continues, most notably with six reports on smaller excavations in the county journal for Oxfordshire, *Oxoniensia*, and other contributions being presented to the *Transactions of London and Middlesex Archaeological Society* and *East Anglian Archaeology*.

OAU provide:

- MAP2 post-excavation assessments (the professional standard established by English Heritage) of either our own work or other organisation's backlog material
- Reports for regional and national journals
- Produce monographs on large excavations, which are produced in association with the Oxford University Committee of Archaeology
- Displays and exhibitions of archaeological work
- Popular publications relating to archaeological and heritage projects



Archives

A dedicated archive store has been created this year with the move to our new premises at **Janus House**. The new archive room was selected to provide enhanced security features, and has independent, controlled access and exit points. We are expanding to incorporate the **OAU's** substantial map and slide collections in an integrated **resource centre**.

The establishment of new archiving systems for **OAU's** project at Mayenne, France has been one of our greatest challenges this year, involving the creation of new recording proformas and digitised archiving systems in French, to meet the specifications of the Service Régionale de l'Archéologie of the Pays de la Loire. In order to supervise this ongoing archival and finds work in France we have appointed additional French staff.

The archives of the Historic Royal Palaces Agency have also been the subject of a major project this year. OAU has reboxed and catalogued all of the archival material from excavations at the Tower of London and we are now undertaking a similar project for material excavated at Hampton Court Palace.

The security microfilming programme has been maintained, and we continue to operate to the preservation standards set by the RCHME, who curate the master copies of our microfilmed archives at the National Monuments Record Centre at Swindon. Over the last 12 months our microfilming programme has included major current projects such as the DBFO Roadscheme, Eton Rowing Lake 1995 and 1996 seasons, Higham Ferrers King's Lane Meadow, the Environment Agency's

Maidenhead Flood Alleviation Scheme, Reading Business Park 1995 and Yarnton's 1995 season.

Museum deposition has continued with over fifty project archives, together with their finds, being deposited with 15 different museums. Twenty-four of these were deposited with the Museum of London, and the bulk of the remainder with Oxfordshire County Museum Service. Half of these archives were for site work undertaken during 1995 and 1996, so we are now achieving a better than specification turnaround on new small projects, with only an average of 12 months from site work to deposition in a museum.

New initiatives for the next financial year include safeguarding the increasing quantities of computerised archival material we are creating in the course of our major post-excavation programmes. We will be seeking ways to guarantee that databases, text files and digitised drawings can be kept on-line and accessible to the wider research community and we have already entered into preliminary discussions with the new Archaeology Data Service housed at the University of York.

OAU provides:

- Negotiation and liaison with museums
- Preparation, indexing and packaging of records to archival standards
- Security and preservation copying of primary records
- Advice on archival procedures and, if requested, designing in-house archives for clients
- Archiving building survey records, to standards set by PPG15 and RCHME

Education



As an educational charity **OAU** pursues an active policy to provide **educational services**. One of the major achievements of the past year has been the success of the **Yarnton** education project funded by **English Heritage**. The appointment of an **education officer** at **Yarnton**, a research excavation investigating the 140 ha of the Thames valley with activity from the Neolithic through to the Anglo-Saxon period (see p24), enabled us to run a **schools programme** for two weeks in September. This included **on-site visits**, where children could participate in a **'mock'-excavation**, and a series of **follow-up sessions** in schools. An English Heritage education service booklet on the Yarnton excavations was provided. **ARC Southern**, the company extracting the gravel at the site, and **Worton Farms Ltd**, the landowners, funded a popular publication. The response to this programme was very positive and all of the programme was fully booked. The project will run again this year during the fieldwork season in September, and the response to our initial notice has been excellent and suggests that once again all places will be taken up.



In the coming year, **OAU** will build on the experience and expertise acquired through the Yarnton project in two ways. First, through the preparation of a selection of materials and packs for use by schools. These can be supplied for teachers' use or as part of a lesson provided by the **OAU**. Secondly, through the development of materials and packs specific to another of the **OAU's** major projects, the Eton Rowing Lake development at Dorney. For this site the developer, Eton College, has agreed to provide funds for the creation of educational materials relating to the discoveries made during fieldwork. Wherever possible, it is planned that the educational potential of other large fieldwork projects should be developed, through the creation of information packs and other resources for schools.

At the Eton Rowing Lake, **OAU** has also provided educational services of a different character, in that this large-scale excavation (see p20) has given us the opportunity to train a considerable number of archaeology students and interested amateurs in modern excavation techniques. Last year over 200 people joined the excavations which extended over a nine-week period, while this year a similar number of people will participate in the seven-week field season.

At both the Eton and Yarnton excavations, open days held last year attracted large numbers of visitors: approximately 1,500 people were shown around Yarnton on National Archaeology Day in September, and 800 people visited the Eton excavations on Bank Holiday Monday in August.

OAU continues to be actively involved in the teaching of the Diploma for Field Archaeology for Oxford University's Department for Continuing Education, while at a less formal level, individual members of staff continue to make a personal contribution, either by talking to school children in the classroom, or by giving lectures to local societies. During the past year a number of staff have visited schools to teach both primary and secondary school children on topics ranging from the Anglo-Saxons to the Tudors. A member of **OAU** staff also attended a careers evening to provide advice to sixth formers on careers in archaeology.

OAU provides:

- Exhibitions and displays
- Popular reports and booklets
- Support for educational providers by preparing and supplying resources
- Class room lessons on subjects within the national curriculum
- Conferences, day schools and professional training sessions.

List of projects

Written reports of all fieldwork (watching briefs, evaluations and excavations) and consultancy projects are compiled for clients regardless of scale. In addition summaries are contributed to the relevant regional and national journals (eg *London Archaeologist*, *Britannia*) and to County Sites and Monuments Records.

- † More detailed report in this annual review
- ‡ Report submitted to *CBA Newsletter (Wessex)*
- § Report submitted to *CBA Newsletter (West Midlands)*
- ¶ Report submitted to *South Midlands Archaeology*

International Projects

- Mayenne, France - Château de Mayenne, excavation and survey of the castle †
- Ostia, Italy - excavation and survey; Roman insula †

National Projects

- Pottery Survey - later prehistoric ceramics survey
- Bridges Survey - cultural heritage assessment for English Heritage (Monuments Protection Programme) †

Regional Projects

- Swindon to Gloucester A417/A419 Roadscheme - excavation: 35 separate sites along the route of the Swindon to Gloucester road revealing multi-period activity from the Neolithic to the post-medieval period † ‡
- West Coast Main Line - environmental assessment of the London-Liverpool/Manchester corridor for the West Coast Main Line

Berkshire

- Beenham, St Marys Church - watching brief: 18th to 19th-century burial vaults †
- Bisham Abbey - watching brief: on-going, nothing of archaeological significance ‡
- Bray Wick Pumping Station - watching brief: nothing of archaeological significance
- Burghfield Moore Farm - consultancy: monitoring of boreholes, nothing of archaeological significance
- Brimpton, Larkwhistle Farm - post-excavation analysis: middle Iron Age settlement
- Finchampstead, St James's Church - watching brief: Victorian drains †
- Hurley, St Mary's Church - evaluation: evidence for Hurley medieval priory and for Ladye Place Mansion †
- Pippins School, Colnbrook - watching brief: on-going, nothing of archaeological significance
- Reading Business Park - watching brief and post-excavation assessment: extensive late Bronze Age settlement and associated activity
- Reading Abbey Gate - building survey: floor timbers of the medieval gate ‡
- Reading, Market Way - desk-top: retail development in central Reading, with possible medieval deposits
- Reading, The Oracle development - excavation: 17th-century Yield Hall and underlying ?16th century building. Also excavation of early 17th-century workhouse † ‡
- Roundmoor Ditch - excavation and post-excavation assessment: Mesolithic, Neolithic and Bronze Age activity † ‡
- Shinfield development - environmental assessment: new Reading University building
- Slough - watching brief: part of the Environment Agency project, nothing of archaeological significance
- Windsor Sewage Project - desk-top assessment/watching brief: new sewer at Old Windsor crossing an Scheduled Ancient Monument

Buckinghamshire

- Ashendon Church - watching brief: Victorian rebuild of church tower
- Penn, Puttenham Farm - watching brief: medieval hearth found in medieval hall
- Dorney, Eton Rowing Lake - 2nd season of excavation: prehistoric timber bridges, Neolithic middens, Bronze Age barrows, and Iron Age settlement † ¶
- Dorney, Lake End Road - excavation and post-excavation assessment: part of the Environment Agency project, Saxon to post-medieval activity †
- Dorney, Lot's Hole - excavation and post-excavation assessment: part of the Environment Agency project, Bronze Age to post-medieval activity; major medieval settlement †
- Eton, Wallbank Grove - watching brief: one Bronze Age ditch
- Hedsor, St Nicholas Church - watching brief: nothing of archaeological significance ¶
- Taplow, Amerden Lane - excavation and post-excavation assessment: part of the Environment Agency project Neolithic, Bronze Age and Iron Age activity †
- Taplow, Marsh Lane Sites 1 and 2 - excavation and post-excavation assessment: part of the Environment Agency project; two ring-ditches, middle and late Bronze Age ditches with domestic dumping †
- Taplow, Mill Sites 1 and 2 - excavations: part of the Environment Agency project; Peterborough Ware pit and Neolithic activity †

Cambridgeshire

- Cambridge, Fulbourn Hospital - consultancy, excavation and post-excavation analysis: late Bronze Age enclosures
- Cambridge Rowing Lake - designing mitigation strategy

Dorset

- A30/A35 - consultancy: for DBFO roadscheme
- Long Bredy, Barn Farm - environmental assessment

East Sussex

- Camber Castle - post-excavation analysis: medieval and post-medieval Henrician coastal defence castle

Gloucestershire

- Cheltenham, St James's Station - watching brief: on boreholes, on-going
- Cheltenham, Waitrose - desk-top for new supermarket and leisure centre
- Fairford, Thornhill Farm - post-excavation analysis: late Iron Age to Roman pastoral site
- Horcott - evaluation: ditches and enclosures
- Lechlade Butler's Field - editing report on Anglo-Saxon cemetery
- Lydney Dairy Farm - excavation: medieval ditches, post-medieval trackway and features
- Stow YMCA - appraisal of listed building for lottery bid

Glamorgan

- Tondu Ironwork - building survey: archaeological assessment of 18th- and 19th-century iron works

Gwent

- Undy - post-excavation analysis: medieval buildings and associated enclosure

Hampshire

- Morlimer West End, Burnt Common and Budds Firs - watching brief: nothing of archaeological significance ‡

Hertfordshire

- Broadway - evaluation: post-medieval rubble and pottery, nothing earlier §
- Hitchen, Foxholes Nursing Home - evaluation: nothing of archaeological significance §

Kent

- Canterbury, St Augustines - watching brief: late medieval cemetery
- Dartford, Victoria and Bull Inn - building survey: 18th-century inn
- Deal - desk-top for Sainsburys development
- Ebbsfleet - evaluation: Palaeolithic site, later prehistoric and Roman remains †
- Maidstone, Pump House - building survey: 19th-century water pump house
- Snodland, Hollingbourne - fieldwalking and auger survey: Bronze Age and Iron Age pottery, with some post-medieval material
- Northfleet, Springhead - post-excavation analysis: pipe trench through Roman 'small town'
- Thurnham, Roman villa - evaluation: Roman villa of the 1st and 2nd century AD †
- Swanscombe, A2 - desk-top for widening of A2 carriageway through Springhead Roman town
- White Horse Stone - evaluation: possible burial mound deposits and prehistoric features †

Lincolnshire

- Spalding gas pipeline - environmental assessment

London (including Greater London)

- Balham High Road, Wandsworth - desk-top and evaluation nothing of archaeological significance
- Chigwell Road, Woodford Bridge - watching brief: nothing of archaeological significance
- College of Arms Library - desk-top for construction of new library building: possible Roman and medieval remains
- Croydon Tramlink - consultancy and evaluation: prehistoric to post-medieval sites
- Edgware, Hale Lane, Sydmar Lodge - evaluation: nothing of archaeological significance
- Eitham Palace - evaluation: prehistoric ditch and several post-medieval features
- Feltham, Green Lane - evaluation: nothing of archaeological significance
- Hendon - desk-top: report on site on former RAF base
- Honourable Society of the Middle Temple Library - watching brief: bomb damaged plaster
- Jewish Chronicle Building - desk-top: of construction of new Jewish Chronicle Building
- Kensington Palace - on-going building survey/watching brief of Kensington Palace.
- Kew, Queen Charlotte Cottage - building survey
- Morden Hall Historic research - estate survey for the National Trust
- New River Head, Islington - desk-top: report and consultancy on 17th-century waterworks
- Pinner, Ingle Close - evaluation: nothing of archaeological significance
- Royal Chelsea Hospital - watching brief: possible remains of earlier college and drainage systems of the quads
- Saddlers Wells, Islington - consultancy, evaluation, excavation and building recording: 17th to 19th-century theatre structures and associated buildings
- Tower Bridge Road - watching brief: part of early 19th-century tannery
- Tower of London 17 - Large scale evaluation of the tower moat, examining 13th-century curtain wall; 17th-century revetment wall; Iron Gate Causeway revealing 13th-century beech piling and mill foundations; a 13th-century stone tower in the west moat; the western causeway; the south moat and area around the Lion Tower †
- Tower of London 50 - Excavation in East Mint Street of 17th-19th-century barrack blocks
- Tower of London 61 - Large scale geophysical survey of tower moat
- Tower of London 63 - Watching brief in the New Armouries building revealing a post-medieval foundation
- Tower of London 65 & 66 - Watching briefs in and around White Tower exposing possible Roman foundation and medieval deposits
- Uxbridge, Harefield Road - final editing: Bronze Age enclosure

Norfolk

- Feltwell Reservoir** - environmental assessment
Norwich, Lamb Inn - building survey: appraisal of historic fabric
Brettenham, Melford Meadows - final editing of report on Roman and Saxon occupation

Northamptonshire

- Higham Ferrers** - mitigation strategy
Higham Ferrers - evaluation: Iron Age pits and ditches
Higham Ferrers, Kings Meadow Lane - post-excavation assessment: Iron Age and Anglo-Saxon occupation
Higham Ferrers, Walnut Service Station - watching brief: medieval soil and limestone wall
Naseby, Nutcote - post-excavation analysis: report completed on late Saxon ditches
Northampton, Derngate - excavation: medieval earthbank defences, quarries, pits and possible buildings. Soil horizon of 16th century and Victorian and 20th-century rubbish tip
Stanwick, Redlands Farm - post-excavation analysis: Prehistoric remains and Roman villa and associated features
Sulgrave Manor - evaluation: medieval ditches
Wellingborough, Nlort Way - fieldwalking: scatters of burnt and worked flint and some post-medieval pottery ¶

Nottinghamshire

- Nottingham, Shirebrook** - desk top of proposed quarry

Oxfordshire

- A421** - post-excavation analysis: northern suburbs of the Roman town of Alchester
Abingdon, Abbey Gate - building survey: survey of masonry
Abingdon, Ock Street - post-excavation analysis: medieval buildings, report complete
Abingdon, Regal Cinema - evaluation: late Iron Age defensive ditches of the town and a large medieval building probably the Vicarage of St Helens †
Abingdon, Vineyard - post-excavation analysis: Iron Age to post-medieval occupation
Abingdon, 4-5 Vineyard - building survey: photographic survey prior to development
Abingdon, Vineyard 6 - watching brief: during repairs of country house
Appleford, Carpenters Arms - watching brief: nothing of archaeological significance
Ascott-under-Wychwood, 21 High Street - watching brief: medieval and post-medieval pottery ¶
Asthall, Orchard House - watching brief: Roman pits on the edge of Roman settlement ¶
Asthall, Thames Water pipeline - post-excavation analysis: excavations in the Roman 'small town', report complete
Bampton, Lime House - watching brief: nothing of archaeological significance ¶
Balscote Manor Farm - building survey: photographic survey prior to restoration
Blenheim High Lodge - building survey: observation during refurbishment
Bletchington Park House - watching brief: during repairs of country house
Bloxham, Old School House - watching brief: nothing of archaeological significance
Chipping Warden, Blackgrounds Farm - watching brief: Roman activity
Chalgrove, Hardings Field - post-excavation analysis: editing report on medieval manor house
Charlbury, Church - post-excavation analysis: Norman foundations and earlier remains
Drayton/Lechlade cursuses - post-excavation analysis: on-going analysis of excavations on Neolithic monuments
Ducklington, Gill Mill - consultancy: mitigation strategy
Enstone, Church - watching brief: during restoration work
Ewelme Schoolhouse - building survey: survey of 15th-century schoolhouse
Eynsham Abbey - post-excavation analysis: Bronze Age features, Anglo-Saxon and medieval ecclesiastical complex
Fringford Paddock - consultancy: letter for planning inspector
Glympton Park - post-excavation analysis: middle Iron Age activity and medieval settlement, report completed
Hampton Poyle, Church Lane - watching brief: early medieval feature and medieval pottery ¶
Hardwick, Brackley Gate - building survey: photographic and written survey of Lodge
Henley, Bell Street - post-excavation analysis: Roman and medieval activity
Henley, Phyllis Court Club - watching brief: nothing of archaeological significance ¶
Kidlington, Lock Crescent - post-excavation analysis: ?Neolithic enclosure and related ditches ¶
Kidlington, Church Street - evaluation: undated ditches ¶
Kingston Bagpuize, St John's Church - evaluation: nothing of archaeological significance ¶
Merton, Borrow Pit - post-excavation analysis: Bronze Age ring-ditches
Nuneham Courtney, Lower Farm - watching brief: nothing of archaeological significance ¶
Nuneham Courtney, Lower Farm - building survey: photographic survey of barn before refurbishment
Radley, Barrow Hills - final editing of report on Neolithic and Bronze Age monument complex, and Roman and Saxon occupation
Standlake, Rose Villa - evaluation: medieval ditches
Stanton Harcourt, Gravelly Guy - post-excavation analysis: Iron Age and Roman settlement
Steeple Aston, off Heyford Road - evaluation/excavation: Romano-British farmstead
Sunningwell, Church floor - desk-top study prior to development
Tadmerton, Predy's Farm - building survey: photographic survey prior to restoration
Thame, St Mary's Church - watching brief: nothing of archaeological significance
Uffington - desk-top study
Wallingford, Bullcroft Park - watching brief: medieval flint wall and tiles
Wallingford Bypass - post-excavation analysis: late Bronze Age sites along route of bypass
Wallingford, 50 Croft Road - watching brief: medieval pits
Wallingford Lower School - watching brief: nothing of archaeological significance ¶
Warborough Church - watching brief: nothing of archaeological significance
Waterperry House - watching brief: during rebuilding of church

- West Oxfordshire Sewer Project** - watching brief: on-going, nothing of archaeological significance
Witney, Mount House - post-excavation analysis: medieval moated bishop's palace
Witney, Cogges Manor Farm - post-excavation analysis: Anglo-Saxon sunken-featured building, report complete
Witney, Cogges Museum - watching brief: during removal of concrete courtyard, nothing of archaeological significance
Woodstock, Manor Farm - building survey/watching brief: report on historic farm building prior to conversion
Woodstock, Sansoms Farm - evaluation: Roman ditch and south side of Roman road (Akeman Street) ¶
Yarnton, Cresswell Field - post-excavation analysis: Iron Age to Anglo-Saxon activity † ¶
Yarnton, Flood Plain B - excavation and post-excavation assessment: Neolithic and Bronze Age settlement † ¶
Yarnton popular publication - pamphlet produced
Yarnton, recycling plant - evaluation/excavation: Iron Age and Romano-British features ¶
Yarnton Worton Rectory Farm - post-excavation analysis: Iron Age to Anglo-Saxon occupation † ¶
Yelford Manor - building survey: appraisal of historic setting

City of Oxford

- Abingdon Road, Palsley House** - building survey: house made of tarred paper on softwood stud frame
Blackbird Leys C2 - excavation: Iron Age occupation
Blackbird Leys, zone C - salvage excavation: Roman pottery industry
British Home Store, Queen Street - desk-top study
Castle Mill Weir - desk-top study: replacement of weir at Castle Mill, possible remains of Saxon mill timber
Christ Church, Tom Quad - watching brief: 16th-century levelling ¶
Ebor House, Blue Boar Street - post-excavation analysis: report completed on medieval and post-medieval 'back yard' deposits from the Oxford Jewry.
Exeter College - building survey: survey of screens passage in hall
Frewin Hall - watching brief: on-going, medieval cellar
Holywell Manor - desk-top study and evaluation: medieval features ¶
Jesus College Pavilion - desk-top study for new pavilion
Littlemore Lawn Upton School - watching brief: nothing of archaeological significance ¶
Littlemore Park Hospital - watching brief: medieval and post-medieval ploughsoil ¶
Magdalen College, Longwall Quad - post-excavation analysis: medieval building
New College Slype - watching brief: outer defensive wall and post-medieval infilling of defensive ditch ¶
Oxford Monograph - completion of editing of report on series of excavations in city centre
Rewley Abbey - watching brief/consultancy - during construction work north of abbey precinct, post-medieval land-use and listed building advice on LMS station
Rover Paint Shop - watching brief: nothing of archaeological significance ¶
Rover VQ building - post-excavation analysis: prehistoric feature, and Roman and medieval ploughsoils
Salter Brothers Boatyard - desk-top study on folly bridge development
South Parks Road (6-8) - evaluation: nothing of archaeological significance ¶
St Andrews, Headington - watching brief: Victorian buttress and church's north wall
St Giles Church - watching brief: medieval and post-medieval pottery and decorated medieval floor tiles, Victorian pit with disarticulated human remains ¶

Shropshire

- Bridgenorth** - watching brief: nothing of archaeological significance §

Somerset

- Elworthy Barrow** - small evaluation on site of hillfort: nothing of archaeological significance
Wellington, Tesco - evaluation: possible Roman kiln site

Surrey

- Motorway Services M25** - desk-top study for service area
Woking, church pew - building survey: medieval church pews

Warwickshire

- Alcester, Stratford Road** - post-excavation assessment and analysis: Roman suburban activity
Fenny Compton - watching brief: nothing of archaeological significance §
Hardwick, Hill Farm - watching brief: nothing of archaeological significance
Napton, Windmill Business Park - excavation: Roman rural settlement of the 2nd century AD §
Stratford-Upon-Avon, Banbury Road - watching brief: nothing of archaeological significance §
Warwick, Mercla Way - evaluation: nothing of archaeological significance §

West Midlands

- Birmingham, Bullring** - desk-top study of redevelopment of the Bullring Centre
Birmingham, Fort Dunlop - desk-top study of new gas pipeline at Fort Dunlop
Solihull, Marks and Spencers - consultancy: appraisal of study area

West Sussex

- Chichester, Royal West Sussex Hospital** - building survey: report on significance of unlisted catalogue building for planning commission English Heritage

Wiltshire

- Avebury, World Heritage Site** - consultancy: landscape assessment for management plan
Bulkington, Lawn Farm - post-excavation analysis: medieval settlement, report complete

Lectures and broadcasts, 1996-7

Leigh Allen

- 05/10/96 Two groups of Young Archaeologists Club (YAC) handling and processing session-OAU

Tim Allen

- 12/04/96 Abingdon, oldest town in Britain-BBC Thames Valley FM.
12/04/96 The archaeology of the Eton Rowing Lake site-Middle Thames Archaeology and History Society.
01/05/96 The archaeology of the Eton Rowing Lake site-South Buckinghamshire Metal Detecting Club.
26/08/96 Open Day-Eton Rowing Lake excavations.
04/09/96 Tour of the archaeology of the Eton Rowing Lake site-Maidenhead Archaeological Society.
15/09/96 The buried archaeology of Abingdon-National Civic Heritage Day.
18/09/96 Excavations and discoveries in the Vineyard, Abingdon-Faringdon and District Historical and Archaeological Society.
02/10/96 The archaeology of the Eton Rowing Lake site-Buckinghamshire Archaeological Society.
11/10/96 The archaeology at the Eton Rowing Lake site-Channel 4 television news.
18/11/96 The archaeology of the Eton Rowing Lake site-Manshead Archaeological Society.
21/01/97 Excavations in Abingdon-The Marcham Society.
08/03/97 Excavations at the Eton Rowing Lake 1996-Berkshire Archaeological Day School.

Alistair Barclay

- 11/05/96 Cups, dishes and a flask: orphans and cousins of the Peterborough Ware tradition-Prehistoric Ceramic Research Group AGM held at OAU
10/03/97 Peterborough Ware: assemblage variation-Neolithic Studies Group at the Society of Antiquaries, London

Christopher Bell

- 15-16/09/96 Guided tours of Yarnton excavations-Open Day
12/03/97 Excavations at Yarnton f the Oxford Research and Detector Society Paul Booth
25/04/96 Urbanisation: its origins, development and function-Roman Option of the Undergraduate Certificate in British Archaeology, Oxford University Department for Continuing Education
16/05/96 Pottery in Roman Britain: the industries and their products-Roman Option of the Undergraduate Certificate in British Archaeology, Oxford University Department for Continuing Education
26/09/96 Late Roman Britain: Saxon shore and other military matters-Roman Option of the Undergraduate Certificate in British Archaeology, Oxford University Department for Continuing Education
03/10/96 Late Roman Britain: the towns-Roman Option of the Undergraduate Certificate in British Archaeology, Oxford University Department for Continuing Education
09/01/97 The Oxford Roman pottery industry-Wooton Local History Society.

Paul Blinkhorn

- 10/12/96 Ceramics and the survival of paganism-OAU seminar series, Janus House
16/3/97 Ceramics and the survival of paganism-From paganism to christianity; St Augustine Anniversary Conference, Oxford University Department for Continuing Education

Angela Boyle

- 14/06/96 St Chad: his cult and relics-public lecture at St Chad's Roman Catholic Cathedral, Birmingham
18/06/96 The analysis of the bones of St Chad-BBC Thames Valley FM
04/10/96 St Chad: Anglo-Saxon bishop and saint-OAU seminar series, Janus House.
18/10/96 The analysis of the bones of St Chad-Oscott House Catholic Seminary, Sutton Colefield

- 26/10/96 The history and analysis of the relics of St Chad-The Society for Church Archaeology, Oxford
29/10/96 The problem of human remains-Churches, archaeology, conservation and the law, Day school/Practical and Professional Archaeology Course, Oxford University Department for Continuing Education
16-17/11/96 The human skeleton in archaeology-Rewley House, Oxford, Oxford University Department for Continuing Education
14/01/97 Human bones (1)-Diploma in Applied Archaeology, Oxford University Department for Continuing Education
21/01/97 Human bones (2)-Diploma in Applied Archaeology, Oxford University Department for Continuing Education.
02/04/97 The human skeleton in archaeology-Didcot and District Archaeological and Historical Society.

Pippa Bradley

- 12/04/97 The lithics of the Walton Basin, Radnorshire-A joint meeting of the Lithic Studies Society and the Cardiff Archaeological Society.

Anne Dodd

- 31/10/96 Museums, archaeology and the law: the field unit perspective-IFA/SMA training seminar, University of Leicester Department of Museum Studies
14/01/97 Archiving in an archaeological unit-Oxford University Department for Continuing Education course Beyond PPG-16: what is preservation?
27/02/97 The archaeology of Abingdon-St Helen's Brownies Abingdon
19/03/97 Anglo-Saxon archaeology-Thomas Reade CP School Abingdon

Tess Durden

- 12/10/96 The production of specialised lithics on the Yorkshire Wolds-OAU seminar series, Janus House

Brian Durham

- 30/10/96 Witney Palace-Bampton Environmental Watch Group
04/11/96 Witney Palace-Minster Lovell Historical Society
19/11/96 Parish and hospital in medieval Oxford-Rewley House

Gill Hey

- 20/04/96 Settlement at Yarnton in the Bronze Age-Bronze Age in Britain Conference, Oxford University Department for Continuing Education
09/09/96 Yarnton project-Radio Oxford
13/09/96 Yarnton project-Central News
23/09/96 Yarnton project-Radio Oxford
11/10/96 Excavations at Yarnton-Wantage and District Field Club.
18/11/96 Excavations at Yarnton-The Wallingford Historical and Archaeological Society.
03/12/96 From wildwood to hay meadow: the development of the landscape at Yarnton-Ashmolean Natural History Society.
05/12/96 Excavating a floodplain landscape at Yarnton-Institute of Archaeology, University of Oxford, Graduates Seminar.
18/02/97 Recent excavations at Yarnton-Yarnton with Begbroke Historical Society.
03/03/97 Excavations at Yarnton-Minster Lovell Historical Society.
10/03/97 The context of Peterborough Ware at Yarnton-Neolithic Studies Group.

David Jennings

- 21/01/97 Post-excavation at the OAU-University of Reading, archaeology students

Graham Keevill

- 20/8/96 Tower of London evaluations-Channel One News
20/8/96 Tower of London-site tour for Historic Royal Palaces/Tower Environs Scheme trustees
22/8/96 Tower of London - site tour CAS
28/8/96 Tower of London - site tour MoLAS personnel and Tower Hamlets councillor
29/8/96 Tower of London - site tour Windsor Castle fire damage survey team
11/10/96 Tower of London - site tour Institute of Archaeology (UCL)

- 30/10/96 Tower of London - presentation and site tour Ancient Monuments Advisory Committee
- 7/11/96 Tower of London - presentation and site tour Tower Environs Scheme Academic Advisory Group
- 13/11/96 Tower of London - site tour CAS
- 21/11/96 Tower of London - site tour Geoff Wainwright, English Heritage
- 22/10/96 Monastic presence and influence - Rewley House, Oxford, Medieval Oxford lecture series
- 29/11/96 Landscape with gardens: aerial, topographical and geophysical survey at Hamstead Marshall, Berkshire - RCHM(E)/Garden History Society, London
- /10-12/96 The archaeology of medieval England - 10 evening classes Wallingford
- /1-3/97 Medieval archaeology - Option 6 of Undergraduate Certificate in British Archaeology, Oxford University for Continuing Education
- 5/2/97 Archaeologists sent to the Tower - Didcot Archaeological and Historical Society

George Lambrick

- 3/4/96 Approaches to historic landscape assessment - Conference on Landscape Perception, Recognition and Management, Landscape Conservation Forum, Sheffield Hallam University
- 18/4/96 Evaluation of a Palaeolithic site at Purfleet, Essex - Lithics Research Group conference
- 1/5/96 Archaeology and hydrology of the Upper Thames valley - Chartered Institute of Water and Environment Managers
- 9/9/96 The Rollright Stones - Chipping Norton Local History Society
- 13/11/96 Land, people, water and environment - Day course for Brazilian Water Engineers on behalf of Thames Water and Scott Wilson Kirkpatrick
- 8/2/97 The Upper Thames valley in later prehistory - Conference on Iron Age Britain, Oxford University Department of Continuing Education

David Miles

- 23/04/96 St George and the White Horse - Central TV
- 25/04/96 Roman Britain - Kirtlington Historical Society
- 09/05/96 The White Horse Project - ITV
- 20/05/96 The White Horse - Abingdon Rotary Club
- 09/06/96 Roman Britain - Duke University Alumni
- 11/06/96 The invaders of Britain - Duke University Alumni
- 19/06/96 St Patrick - Duke University Alumni
- 21/06/96 Trip to the White Horse Hill - Andover Historical Society
- 25/6-9/96 Smithsonian Institute Summer School
- 07/09/96 The White Horse Project - Gloucester and District Archaeological Research Group
- 10/09/96 Church archaeology - IFA Conference, University of Manchester
- 17/09/96 The organisation of archaeology in Britain - University of Berlin
- 19/09/96 Roman Britain - Philips Exeter Academy, New Hampshire
- 26/09/96 The organisation of archaeology in Britain - National Museum of Kenya, Nairobi
- 09/10/96 The White Horse Project - Oxford Metal Detecting Club
- 26/10/96 Archaeology in the Oxford Diocese - Society for Church Archaeology
- 12/11/96 The White Horse Project - The Wychwood Society
- 13/11/96 The White Horse Project - Oxford University, Geography Society
- 18/11/96 The White Horse Project - Lechlade Archaeological Society
- 13/01/97 Beyond PPG 16 - Oxford University Department for Continuing Education
- 21/01/97 The work of the OAU - University of Reading, archaeology students
- 06/02/97 In pursuit of the past - East Oxford Metal Detecting Club
- 04/03/97 Archaeology in the city of Oxford - Oxford 41 Club
- 14-16/03/97 Organiser of St Augustine Anniversary Conference: From paganism to christianity; and lecture on Ancestral burial grounds - Oxford University Department for Continuing Education
- 26/03/97 Romans in the Oxford Region - Dorchester Historical Society.

Julian Munby

- 02/04/96 Understanding timber-framed buildings - RICS Conservation course
- 01/05/96 PPG 15: the contractor's view - Rewley House, Oxford University Department for Continuing Education
- 09/05/96 Health and safety in building archaeology - Rewley House, Oxford University Department for Continuing Education
- 13/05/96 Documentary sources for building history - Oxford Brookes University
- 13/05/95 Oxford City walls - SPAB conducted tour
- 14-20/07/96 Oxford Colleges' course - Oxford Experience Summer School
- 11/09/96 Investigating Old Buildings - Oxford Detectors' Club
- 14/09/96 Oxford High Street: from Chaucer to Ruskin - OAHs conducted tour
- 19/09/96 26 East St Helen's - Abingdon Archaeological Society
- 03/10/96 Oxford Castle - Museum of Oxford
- 12/10/96 A painted room in Darford - British Archaeological Society
- 26/10/96 350 years of church archaeology - Society for Church Archaeology
- 05/11/96 The medieval buildings of All Souls College - Rewley House, Oxford University Department for Continuing Education
- 12/11/96 Medieval inns, halls and houses of medieval Oxford - Rewley House, Oxford University Department for Continuing Education
- 04/12/96 The origins of the coach - British Archaeological Association
- 07/01/97 The origins of the coach - Henley Archaeological & Historical Society
- 13/01/97 Impact assessment and preservation - Rewley House, Oxford University Department for Continuing Education
- 15/02/97 The Oxford Guildhall and Town Halls - Rewley House Civic Centenary
- 06/03/97 Medieval building techniques - Rewley House, Oxford University Department for Continuing Education, Undergraduate Certificate
- 07/03/97 Archaeology and planning: PPG 16 and EAs - University of Greenwich
- 13/03/97 Vernacular architecture - Rewley House, Oxford University Department for Continuing Education, Undergraduate Certificate
- 17/03/97 The Archaeology of the house - Oxford Rotary Club
- 17/03/97 Medieval Oxford, A new view - Marston Branch OPT

Ian Scott

- 08/04/96 The Roman Army and its equipment - South Oxfordshire Archaeological Group
- 09/04/96 The Tudors - All Saints Primary School, Didcot
- 20/03/97 Camber Castle, an Henrician artillery fort - Abingdon Archaeological Society

Klara Spandl

- 04/12/96 Excavations on the Domestic Site at Axum, Ethiopia - Ethiopian National Television

Dave Wilkinson

- 4/11/96 The archaeology of Sadler's Wells Theatre - London Today TV
- 10-12/11/96 (with Janet DeLaine) Insula dei Dipinti, scavi e studi, Ostia International Colloquium, German Archaeological Institute and British School, Rome
- 25/11/96 The town and the river - medieval Oxford lecture series, Oxford University Department for Continuing Education
- 17/1/97 Excavations at the Insula dei Dipinti, Ostia - OAU seminar series, Janus House
- 8/3/97 Archaeology at the Oracle development, Reading - Berkshire Archaeological Society Day School
- 22/4/97 The Yield Hall site, Reading Oracle - BBC Look South and Meridian TV
- 30/5-1/6/97 Health and Safety in Field Archaeology (with J. Allen) - Oxford University Department for Continuing Education

Bob Williams

- 17/9/96 Swindon-Gloucester DBFO Roadscheme - Cricklade Historical Society
- 30/11/96 Swindon-Gloucester DBFO Roadscheme - Committee for Archaeology in Gloucestershire, Annual Symposium 1996
- 13/3/97 Swindon-Gloucester DBFO Roadscheme - Cirencester College
- 17/4/97 Swindon-Gloucester DBFO Roadscheme - Road Management Group

Publications, 1996-7

Leigh Allen

- 1996 Small finds, in A tenement of Roger of Cumnor and other archaeological investigations in medieval North Osney, Oxford (M Roberts), *Oxoniensia*, **61**, 209–20
- 1996 Small finds, in Archaeological investigations on the site of a medieval and post-medieval watermill at Holywell Ford, Magdalen College, Oxford (C Bell), *Oxoniensia*, **61**, 287–88
- 1996 Small finds, in Archaeological excavations at 54-55 St Thomas Street, Oxford (A Hardy), *Oxoniensia*, **61**, 251–58
- 1997 (with Fiona Roe) Small finds, in Archaeological excavations at Lawn Farm, Bulkington, 1994 (C Bell and B Durham), *Wiltshire Archaeological and Natural History Magazine*, **90**, 77–90
- 1997 Small finds, in The excavation of two Bronze Age barrows, Oxford (A Parkinson, P McKeague and A Barclay), *Oxoniensia*, **61**, 56
- 1997 Small finds, in The excavation of a Roman road and a medieval causeway at Ditchford Pit, Wellingborough, Northamptonshire (G D Keevill and R J Williams), *Northamptonshire Archaeology*, **28**, 68–9

Alistair Barclay

- 1996 (with R Bradley, G Hey, and G Lambrick) The earlier prehistory of the Oxford region in the light of recent research, *Oxoniensia*, **61**, 1–20
- 1996 The pottery, in A newly discovered ring-ditch and two late Bronze Age pits on East Ilsley All Weather Gallop, near Churn, Berkshire, 1994 (L Howell and S Ford), *Oxoniensia*, **61**, 29–33
- 1996 (with A Parkinson and P McKeague) The Excavation of two Bronze Age Barrows, Oxford, *Oxoniensia*, **61**, 41–64
- 1997 The pottery, in Excavations at the former Jewsons Yard, Harefield Road, Uxbridge, Middlesex (A Boyle, P Bradley and M Roberts), *Transactions of the London and Middlesex Archaeological Society*, **46**

Christopher Bell

- 1996/7 Archaeological Investigations on the site of a medieval and post-medieval watermill, at Holywell Ford, Magdalen College, Oxford, *Oxoniensia*, **61**, 275–95
- 1997 (with B Durham) Archaeological excavations at Lawn Farm, Bulkington, 1994, *Wiltshire Archaeological and Natural History Magazine*, **90**, 77–90

Paul Booth

- 1996 (with K M Clark and A Powell) The dog skin from Asthall, *International Journal of Osteoarchaeology*, **6**, 382–87
- 1996 Iron Age and Roman pottery, in The excavation of two Bronze Age barrows, Oxford (A Parkinson, P McKeague and A Barclay), *Oxoniensia*, **61**, 51–4
- 1996 Pottery and other ceramic finds, in An archaeological excavation at Oxford Road, Bicester, Oxfordshire (C Mould), *Oxoniensia*, **61**, 75–89

- 1996 Roman pottery and Roman coins, in The excavation of a Roman road and a medieval causeway at Ditchford Pit, Wellingborough, Northamptonshire (G D Keevill and R J Williams), *Northamptonshire Archaeology*, **28**, 58
- 1996 Warwickshire in the Roman period: a review of recent work, *Transactions of the Birmingham and Warwickshire archaeological Society*, **100**, 25–57

Angela Boyle

- 1996 Excavations at the former Jewson's Yard, Harefield Road, Uxbridge (A Barclay, P Bradley and M Roberts), *Transactions of the London and Middlesex Archaeological Society*, **46**
- 1996 Report on the bones kept in St Chad's Cathedral, Birmingham, in *St Chad of Lichfield and Birmingham* (M Greenslade), Archdiocese of Birmingham Historical Commission **10**, 25–6, Stafford
- 1996 The human bone, in The excavation of two Bronze Age barrows, Oxford (A Parkinson, P McKeague and A Barclay), *Oxoniensia*, **61**, 49
- 1996 (with R Tyler) Excavations and observations during building work in Cogges Manor Farm, Witney, Oxfordshire, in *Cogges Manor Farm Witney, Oxfordshire: the excavations from 1986–1994 and the historic building analysis* (eds T Rowley and M Steiner), 121–33, Oxford

Pippa Bradley

- 1996 Worked flint, in The excavation of two Bronze Age barrows, Oxford (A Parkinson, P McKeague and A Barclay), *Oxoniensia*, **61**, 55
- 1996 The flint, in Cogges Manor Farm, Witney, Oxfordshire, in *Cogges Manor Farm Witney, Oxfordshire: the excavations from 1986–1994 and the historic building analysis* (eds T Rowley and M Steiner), 96, 129, Oxford
- 1997 Flint finds, in Archaeological excavations at Lawn Farm, Bulkington, 1994 (C Bell and B Durham), *Wiltshire Archaeological and Natural History Magazine*, **90**, 87
- 1997 Struck flint, in The excavation of a Roman road and a medieval causeway at Ditchford Pit, Wellingborough, Northamptonshire (G D Keevill and R J Williams). *Northamptonshire Archaeology*, **28**, 59
- 1997 (with A Barclay, A Boyle and M Roberts) Excavations at the former Jewsons Yard, Harefield Road, Uxbridge, *Transactions of the London and Middlesex Archaeological Society*, **46**

Tess Durden

- 1996 (with L Howell) A Grooved Ware pit on the Seven Barrows All Weather Gallop, Sparsholt, Oxfordshire, *Oxoniensia*, **61** 21–34
- 1996 The flint, in A newly discovered ring-ditch and two late Bronze Age pits on East Ilsley All Weather Gallop, near Churn, Berkshire, 1994 (L Howell and S Ford), *Oxoniensia*, **61**, 28–9
- 1996 Lithics in the North of England: production and consumption on the Yorkshire Wolds, in *Neolithic Studies in No Man's Land: Papers on the Neolithic of Northern England from the Trent to the Tweed* (ed. P Frodsham), Northern Archaeology Special Edition, 79–86.

- 1996 Towards an agenda for the Neolithic of Northern England, in *Neolithic Studies in No Man's Land: Papers on the Neolithic of Northern England from the Trent to the Tweed* (ed. P. Frodsham), Northern Archaeology Special Edition, 189–201
- 1996 (with L Howell) Conclusion, in The excavation of a Bronze Age ditch at the Field Test Centre at Castrol Technology Centre, Pangbourne, Berkshire (L Howell), *Oxoniensia*, **61**, 37–9
- Brian Durham**
- 1997 (with C Bell) Archaeological excavations at Lawn Farm, Bulkington, 1994, *The Wiltshire Archaeological and Natural History Magazine*, **90**, 77–90
- Alan Hardy**
- 1996 Archaeological excavations at 54–55 St Thomas Street, Oxford, *Oxoniensia*, **61**, 225–73
- Gill Hey**
- 1996 (with R Bradley, A Barclay and G Lambrick) The earlier prehistory of the Oxford region in the light of recent research, *Oxoniensia*, **61**, 1–20
- Jonathan Hiller**
- 1996 (with G Keevill) Recent archaeological work at the Tower of London, *Transactions of the London and Middlesex Archaeological Society*, **45**, 147–181
- Graham Keevill**
- 1996 (with R J Williams) The excavation of a Roman road and a medieval causeway at Ditchford Pit, Wellingborough, Northamptonshire, *Northamptonshire Archaeology*, **28**, 47–77
- 1996 (with J Hiller) Recent Archaeological Work at the Tower of London, *Transactions of the London and Middlesex Archaeological Society*, **45**, 147–81
- Rob Kinchin-Smith**
- 1997 (with B Ancel, C Marconnet, and L Granger) La mine d'argent du Fournel (L'Argentière-La Bessée Hautes-Alpes), *La publication archéologique sur CD-ROM*
- George Lambrick**
- 1996 (with A Barclay, R Bradley and G Hey) The earlier prehistory of the Oxford region in the light of recent research, *Oxoniensia*, **61**, 1–20
- Andy Mudd**
- 1996 Late Saxon Ditches At Brookfield, Nutcote, Naseby, *Northamptonshire Archaeology*, **28**, 149–52
- Julian Munby**
- 1996 Cathedral carpentry, in *The Archaeology of Cathedrals* (eds T Tatton-Brown and J T Munby), Oxford University Committee for Archaeology Monograph, **42**, 165–82, Oxford
- 1996 Historical background, in A tenement of Roger of Cumnor and other archaeological investigations in medieval north Oseney, Oxford (M Roberts), *Oxoniensia*, **61**, 183–90
- 1996 Historical and archaeological background, in Archaeological excavations at 54–55 St Thomas's Street, Oxford (A Hardy), *Oxoniensia*, **61**, 224–27
- 1996 Signor Verrio and Monsieur Beaumont, gardeners to King James II, *Journal British Archaeological Association*, **149**, 55–71
- 1996 *Great Coxwell Barn*, National Trust Pamphlet Guide
- Andy Parkinson**
- 1996 (with A Barclay and P McKeague) The excavation of two Bronze Age barrows, Oxford, *Oxoniensia*, **61**, 1–20
- Mark Roberts**
- 1996 A tenement of Roger of Cumnor and other archaeological investigations in Medieval North Oseney, Oxford, *Oxoniensia*, **61**, 181–224
- 1997 (with A Boyle and P Bradley) Excavations at the former Jewsons Yard, Harefield Road, Uxbridge, Middlesex, *Transactions of the London and Middlesex Archaeological Society*, **46**
- Ian Scott**
- 1996 Romsey Abbey, report on the excavation, 1973–1991, *Hampshire Field Club Monograph*, **8**
- 1996 Ironwork, in Excavations at Cowbridge, 1977–1988 (J Parkhouse and E Evans), British Archaeological Reports, British Series, **245**, Oxford
- Nicola Scott**
- 1996 Animal bone, in The excavation of two Bronze Age barrows, Oxford (A Parkinson, A Barclay and P McKeague), *Oxoniensia*, **61**, 57–59
- 1996 Animal bone, in Archaeological investigations on the site of a medieval and post-medieval watermill at Holywell Ford, Magdalen college, Oxford (C Bell), *Oxoniensia*, **61**, 286
- Ric Tyler**
- 1996 (with A Boyle) Excavations and observations during building work in Cogges Manor Farm, Witney, Oxfordshire, in *Cogges Manor Farm Witney, Oxfordshire: the excavations from 1986–1994 and the historic building analysis* (eds T Rowley and M Steiner), 121–133, Oxford
- Dave Wilkinson**
- 1997 (with Janet DeLaine) *Survey and excavation at Regio I, Insula IV, Ostia: interim report on the 1996 season*, University of Reading/Soprintendenza Archeologica di Ostia
- Bob Williams**
- 1996 The excavation of a Roman road and a medieval causeway at Ditchford Pit, Wellingborough, Northamptonshire, *Northamptonshire Archaeology*, **28**, 47–77

OAU Trustees

Dr Margaret Ware (Chair)
Mr Gordon Charlesworth
Dr Chris Cheetham
Major John Howard
Mr Roger Kendal
Mr John Waltham (Secretary)
Mr Frank Ware

Academic Committee

Professor Peter Salway (Chair)
Mrs Louise Armstrong
Ms Jean Bagnell-Smith
Dr John Blair
Ms Jean Cook
Dr Chris Gosden
Dr Helena Hamerow
Dr Gary Lock
Mr Kenneth Painter
Mr John Steane
Dr Margaret Ware

Unit Council

Ms Louise Armstrong
Ms Jean Bagnell-Smith
Dr John Blair
Mr Gordon Charlesworth
Dr Chris Cheetham
Ms Jean Cook
Major John Howard
Dr Chris Gosden
Professor Andrew Goudie
Mr Arthur MacGregor
Mr R Marriner
Professor Peter Salway
Professor R R Smith
Mr John Steane
Professor Margaret Steinby
Professor Mike Tite
Mr Frank Ware

Head Office:

Oxford Archaeological Unit
Janus House
Osney Mead
Oxford
OX2 0ES

Tel: 01865 263800

Fax: 01865 793496

email: ou-oxford.demon.co.uk

French Office:

Oxford Archaeological Unit
Collège Sévigné
Rue du Cardinal Suhard
53100 Mayenne
France

Tel/Fax: 00 33 2 43 00 28 80

ISSN 0966-6141

