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The Oxon Recorder is the newsletter of Oxfordshire Buildings Record and is published four times a year. OBR aims to advance education and promote research on the buildings of Oxfordshire by encouraging the recording of buildings and to create and manage a publicly accessible repository of records relating to such buildings. The Oxon Recorder is also available in the members' section of our website: www.obr.org.uk

OBR News

- **OBR Presentation Day** will be on Sunday 25 November in Oxford. See attached flyer for application details.
- Dan Miles will give the next **OBR Annual lecture** at Rewley House on Tuesday, November 27 at 5.30pm. The title is “Three decades of dendro-dating in Oxfordshire”
- Members who know Chalgrove Manor will be saddened to hear of the death in August of **Paul Jacques**, who with his wife Rachel was responsible, back in the early 1980s, for re-discovering the extraordinary 15th-century timber-framed house that is Chalgrove Manor, previously hidden behind a cladding of unprepossessing render and modern windows. Over the following decades Paul and Rachel embarked on a model restoration, working with expert conservationists and craftsmen, researching and publishing the building’s complex history, and welcoming a seemingly endless stream of groups and visitors. Few who have crawled through the narrow roof space from the cross wing to witness the roof of the former open hall at close quarters will forget the experience! Paul was also a leading light of the Chalgrove Local History Group, with a keen interest in the area’s wider history. More recently he helped (with Rachel) to facilitate an extended programme of OBR recording in the village, which has yielded important results. His enthusiastic presence will be sorely missed.

A memorial service for Paul will be held in Chalgrove church on Saturday 13 October at 2.30 p.m.



Chalgrove Manor © Simon Townley

- **House histories online.** With support from the VAG, the house histories which back up the building reports in Nat Alcock and Dan Miles' book on the Medieval Peasant House in Midland England (Oxbow, 2013) are now available online. Go to the Archaeology Data Service library at <http://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/library/browse/issue.xhtml?recordId=1137002&recordType=Monograph> and you will find a list of files to download. If you scroll down to the foot of the page you will find the names of the buildings. 37 of them are in Oxfordshire, at Aston Tirrold (1), Shiplake (1), Didcot (1) East Hagbourne (1), East Hendred (3), Fringford (1), Harwell (6). Long Wittenham (3), Mapledurham (3), Moulsoford (1), Radley (2), Steventon (13) and Sutton Courtenay (1). You can then download the file you are interested in. OBR were associated with the work on some of these buildings, especially those in Steventon, and it is great to see these now freely available for all to see.



One of the houses featured in the archive - STE-D 71 The Causeway, Steventon.

- **Training in recording buildings.** There are certain skills in observing and recording historic buildings that can be taught. Two active groups interested in sharing these skills are currently organising training events. OBR recently held its first training recording in Oxford, and our national sister organisation Vernacular Architecture Group (VAG) held their first training weekend in Gloucestershire towards end of September. The OBR training took the form of two visits to a cottage in Cowley, Oxford, the first one to learn observational skills and take notes and measurements of allocated areas of the building,

the second to talk over findings and discuss outstanding questions. At least, that was the plan; in the event, several of the students were so keen they arranged extra interim visits to the cottage. The full report on the cottage is in preparation, and you should hear more about it at OPR Presentations Day on Sunday 25 November 2018.

VAG is a much bigger organisation, and their training weekend has the opportunity to show students a range of buildings of different ages and construction methods. The outcome should be a much broader base of experience. OBR recently introduced a bursary to OBR members applying for buildings-related conferences or training courses, and our first award is for member David Wheeler to attend the VAG training weekend. In addition, two of the students on the OBR training course were inspired to apply to attend the course, although as numbers were over-subscribed, only one of these two obtained a place. Hopefully, we will hear about the weekend in next *Oxon Recorder*.

First deposit of OBR reports to the Oxford History Centre

David Clark and I (Donna Thynne) visited Mark Priddey, Archives Manager, at the Oxford History Centre in September with the first batch of 51 OBR reports for their shelves. These are to be deposited in the Local Studies collection and hopefully will be displayed on the shelves in the reading room, depending on space. Mark will let us know when the reports will be accessible, as his staff are cataloguing them before they go into the collection. In the meantime the reports are available to view on the members' only pages of the OBR website <http://obr.org.uk/>. The OHC catalogue is accessible on-line via Heritage Search and Solo, the University Library's search engine.



This first batch of reports encompasses a great variety of buildings: farms and farm buildings, a police station, inns, a funeral parlour, cottages, manor houses, garages, town houses and a dovecote. The variety of researched buildings continues, and we are now working on the next batch of 20 report clearances.

It is rewarding to know that some of our work will soon be accessible to the public and adding to the general study of vernacular architecture.

How to find reports in the Oxfordshire History Centre:

1. Go to SOLO (<http://solo.ouls.ox.ac.uk/>)
2. search for 'Oxfordshire Buildings Record'. The first item should be that for the 51 reports we have already delivered. (You will also see a few individually labelled reports which seem to have got into the system separately)
3. Click on 'Find and Request' and you will see the full list of the 51 reports.

Donna Thynne, OBR Archivist

Discovering Chipping Norton Castle



Figure 1. Chipping Norton Castle with the town up the hill, medieval church between the two and the site of fish ponds below © Oxfordshire History Centre

In 2018 Chipping Norton Buildings Record commissioned a geophysical survey of the town's Castle (today just a bumpy field) to try to understand how it may have affected the layout of the town as well as to encourage more research into the site. The results of the survey, published in June 2018 and acclaimed a great success, are published below.

Chipping Norton was established as a market town in the late twelfth century by the Fitzalans, then occupiers of the castle. The town's plan, burgage plots surrounding a triangular market place, is typical of a twelfth-century planned market town¹.

The castle is located just to the north west of the town, unusually lower down the hill. The medieval church, a magnificent 'wool' church, is also below the town, between the market and the castle. The unusual configuration of these two important buildings, lower than the town, was inevitably a decision by the castle owners. The site of the Saxon settlement which predated all three remains unknown.

¹ Catchpole, Antonia, An analysis of the plan and development of Chipping Norton, Oxfordshire. June 2015, also available on the OBR website

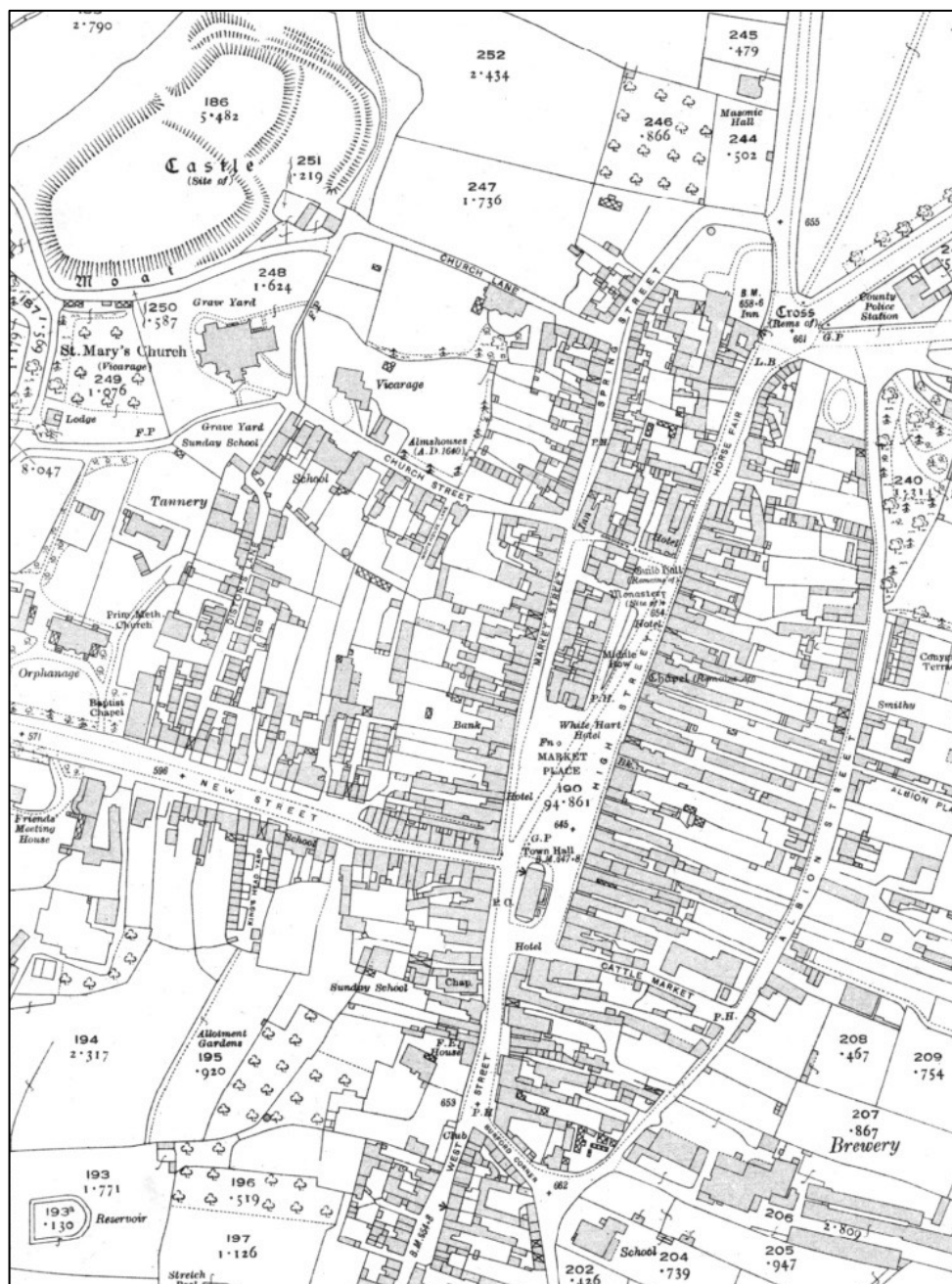


Figure 2. Chipping Norton and Castle top left. Were the streets between castle and market once lined with houses? OS 1:2500 1922 edition (Reproduced with the permission of the National Library of Scotland) <http://maps.nls.uk/>

The town's layout and early history was therefore greatly influenced by the castle. However, despite its acknowledged importance as a Scheduled Monument the site has never been studied in detail. It is only speculation which has suggested its structure as Norman motte and bailey and there is no certainty where any of its entrances may have been. There is even speculation that the site may once have been an Iron Age fort.

The CNBR's research into the early town inevitably led to questions on how the castle affected the plan of the town, in particular the routes between the two and the buildings which may have once lined them. So it was decided to see if we could learn more about the castle's plan and perhaps where the entrances may have been. As it was a Scheduled Monument we needed the permission and cooperation of Historic England to do this.

With grants from the OBR, the OAHS, the landowners Mr. and Mrs. Caws and the Mick Aston Archaeology Fund we commissioned Abingdon Archaeological Geophysics to conduct two surveys of the site. An HE license was obtained and a magnetometry survey was carried out. This suggested a more detailed earth resistance survey would be worthwhile.



Figure 3. Part of the castle site below Chipping Norton church



Figure 4. The earth resistivity survey gets under way

Results were exceptionally good with a large amount of features suggesting walls, pits and ditches survived below the grass. In the words of our HE contact the result “confirms the huge archaeological potential of this site.”

Roger Ainslie, the author of the geophysical reports, provides his interpretation of the features in the combined report on both surveys. A detailed interpretation of the features can be read on pages 7 – 9 of the combined report.

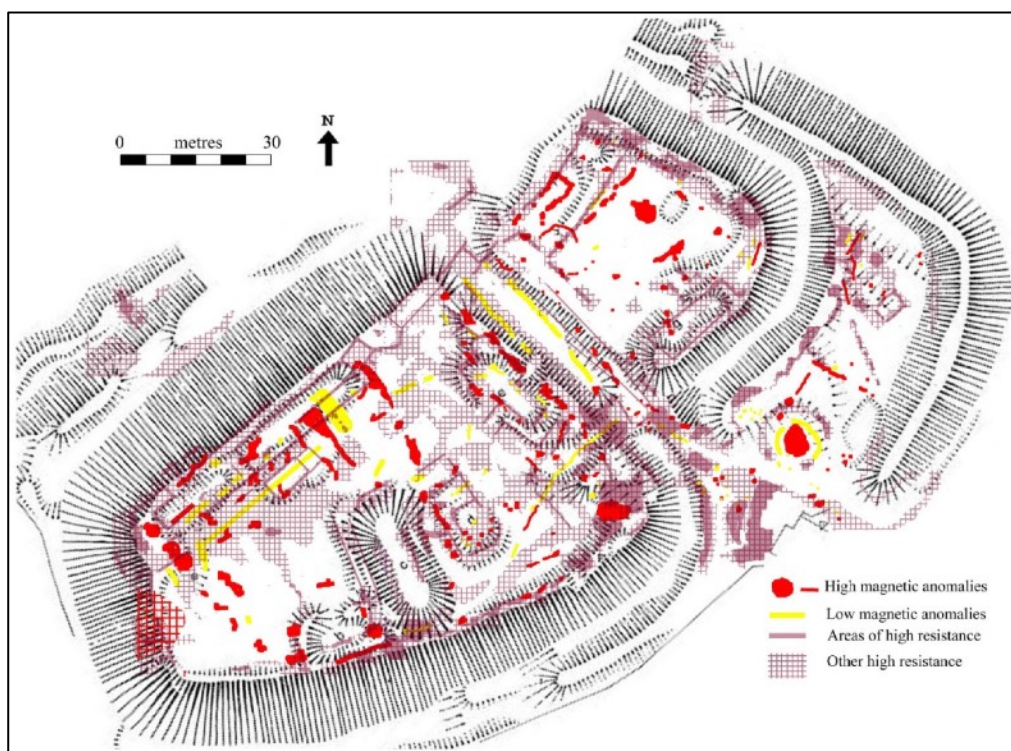


Figure 5. Image combining results from both surveys superimposed on a hachure plan supplied by Mark Bowden of Historic England *

R. Ainslie, Abingdon Archaeological Geophysics, Report 2018-05, (2018), P.28

The following is an edited extract from the report's conclusions. The Combined Report should be referenced for the more accurate interpretation.

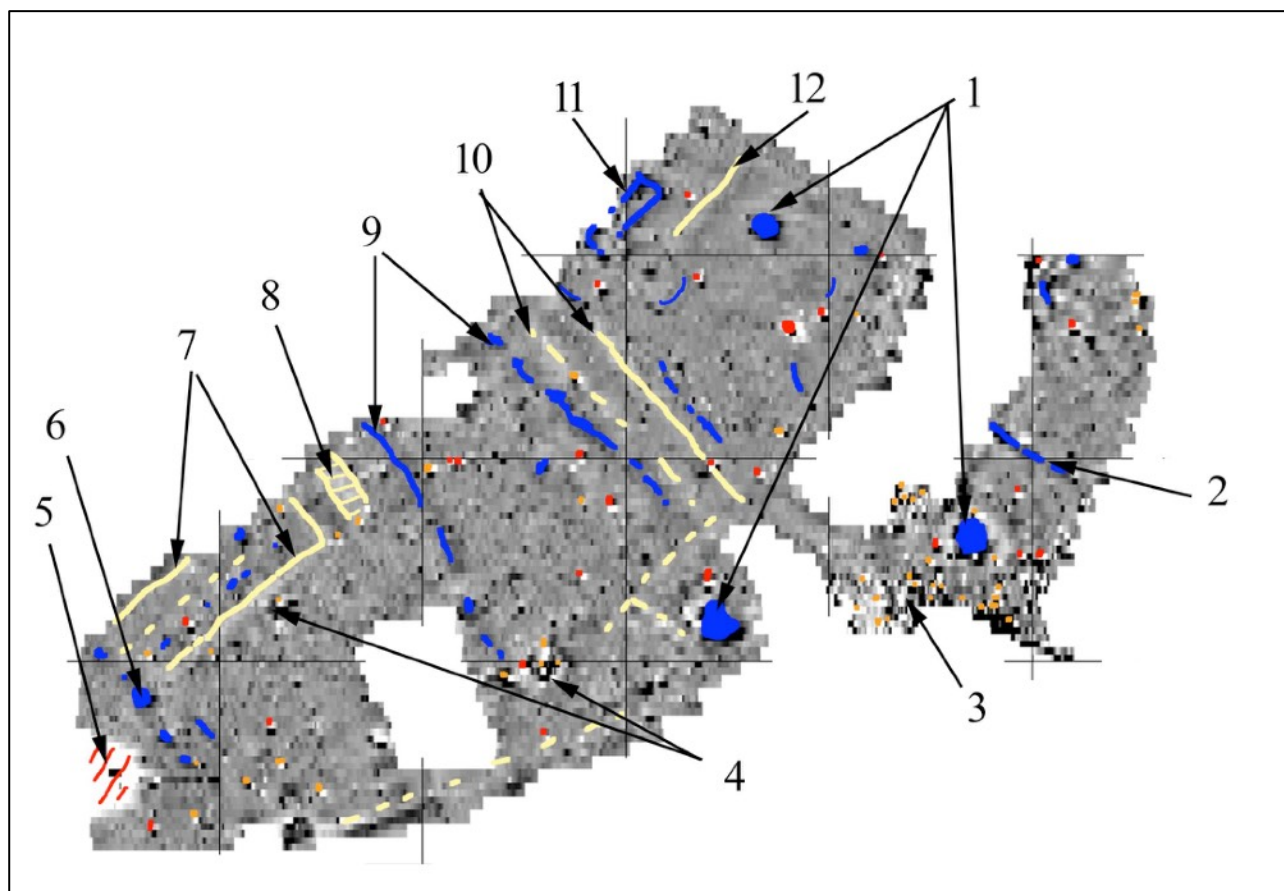


Figure 6. Magnetometry interpretation. R. Ainslie, Abingdon Archaeological Geophysics, Report 2018-05, (2018), P.17

Magnetometry Results [see fig 6] These were able to reveal anomalies which had not been expected. They may relate to possible prehistoric activities, not just castle related ones.

1. These could be large pits or areas where there have been bonfires. I suspect that the northern one stands the greatest chance of being a pit.
2. Probably a ditch.
3. Possibly where brick rubble has been dumped to improve vehicular access. There are similar anomalies across the survey area.
4. These could be rubbish or cellar pits.
5. Anomaly caused by an electricity pole and its stay together with iron (shown as red dots) and iron or brick or similar (shown as brown dots).
6. Possibly an intermittent ditch but the interference from the electricity pole obscures its southern end.
7. Possibly walls or paths. The south eastern one is continuous, whilst the others are not.
8. Possibly rubble or a surfaced area.
9. Possibly ditches. The western one is clearer but the eastern one appears to be on the slope of the bank of earth in that area. It is likely that the earth here is more magnetic than the surrounding earth.
10. These could be some road surfacing or similar, although they don't appear to line up with the present track. It is possible that the area between them could have been a ditch. If it was it must have been backfilled with very clean material.

11. *It could be a building As stone is usually less magnetic than topsoil where there has been habitation, then these are either narrow ditches or are where burnt material has accumulated.*
12. *Possible linear feature. It could be a slight ditch.*

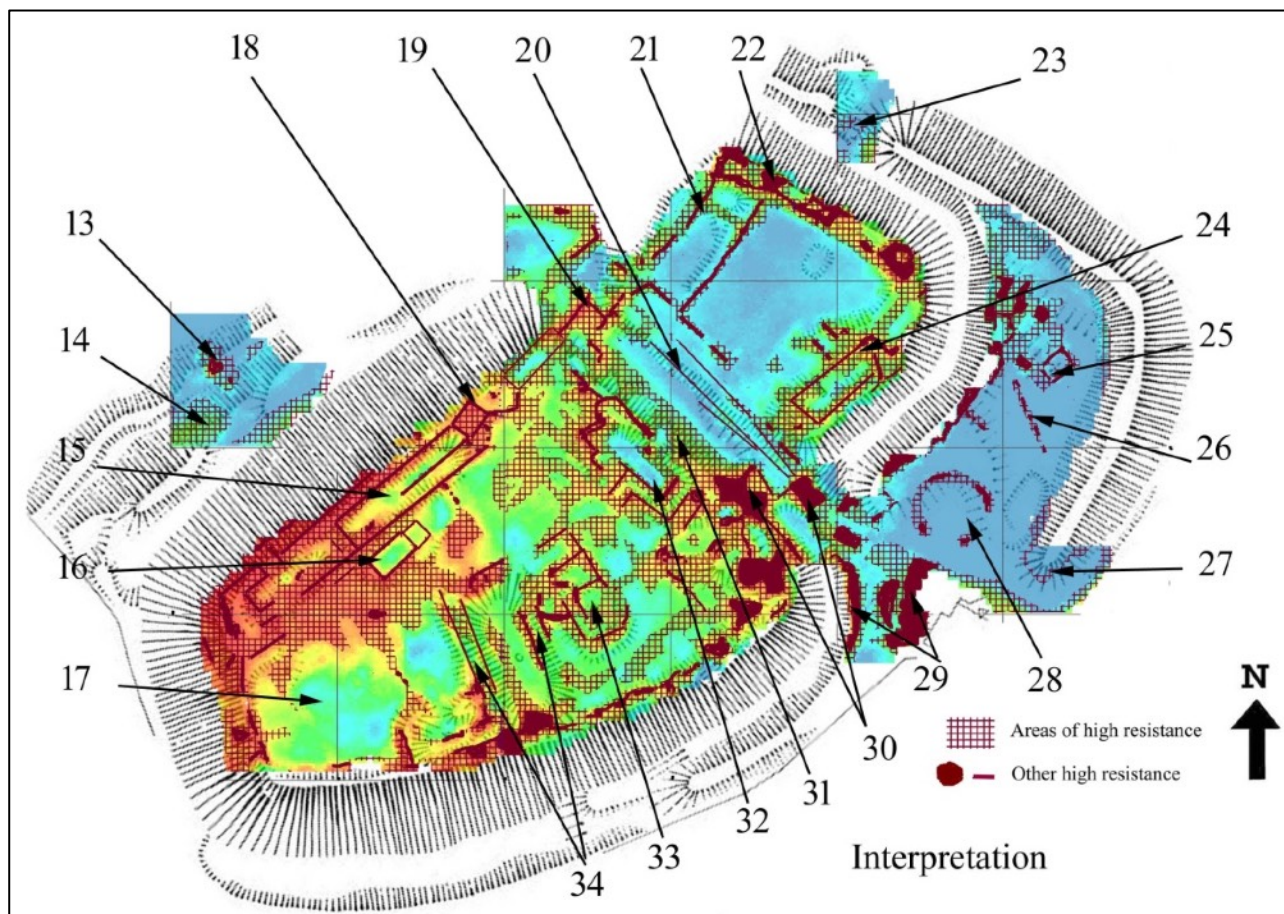


Figure 7. Image combining results from both surveys superimposed on a hachure plan supplied by Mark Bowden of HE*.

R. Ainslie, Abingdon Archaeological Geophysics, Report 2018-05, (2018), P.27

Earth Resistance Results (see fig 7) *The earth resistance appears to support the earlier topographical survey, although it has been able to clarify the features which had been identified and has located several others. Some features were located using magnetometry, some by earth resistance. Some showed up on both methods and others will no doubt have been undetected by both methods.*

13. *High resistance anomaly Purpose unknown.*
14. *Area of higher resistance over bank.*
15. *Long rectangular building-like anomalies*
16. *Building-like anomalies The low resistance inside the building could indicate that rainwater has pooled up on a floor surface.*
17. *Area with little detectable in it.*
18. *Small rectangular building-like pattern of anomalies.*
19. *Building-like pattern of high anomalies.*
20. *Long narrow high anomalies. Purpose unknown. As they run in the area between the track to the town and the supposed west gate of the castle, they may be track related. The low resistance band to their west could be a continuation of the castle ditch, or it could possibly be caused by the north east side of bank (31) not drying in the sun and, being damper, producing low readings.*

21. *Rectilinear wall-like high resistance linear anomalies. This could be an enclosure of some sort as it is probably too large to be a building.*
22. *A line of wall-like high anomalies along the top of the slope. If there are castle walls preserved here, this may be the most likely area.*
23. *Gap in earth bank.*
24. *High resistance anomalies which could be buildings.*
25. *A rectangular building-like pattern of anomalies. There are other features in this vicinity which are less clear.*
26. *A wall-like anomaly. Possibly a field wall.*
27. *A possible square end to a possible broad wall in the bank.*
28. *Circular high resistance feature Purpose unknown*
29. *High resistance probably caused by farmyard paving and proximity to the edge of the ditch.*
30. *Areas of high resistance. These could be collapsed buildings and, if the ditch continued to its north, could be the best candidate for a gateway. They could however turn out just to be where someone put piles of rubble.*
31. *Bank*
32. *Rectangular building-like pattern of high anomalies. The low readings in the middle could be a floor retaining groundwater.*
33. *Building-like pattern of high anomalies.*
34. *Two pairs of parallel high anomalies, one on each side of a large depression in the field.*

Some wall - like anomalies (34) appear to respect the large hollow in the survey area. This may indicate that the hollow is not just a later quarry. [The hollow had been previously interpreted as a later quarry].

The double walled features in (32) and (33) are unusual. They could be double narrow walls or the facings of very broad walls with earth and rubble infill. They could also be where a broad wall has been robbed out and the unwanted stone piled on each side of the robber trench. These will need further investigation.

The pond-like feature (28) has many possibilities These range from a mini-henge as at Dorchester on Thames, to a dew pond to a threshing floor. A dovecote could be another guess, although at approx. 12m diameter, it seems a bit large.

The survey of the bank nearest the town (27) indicates that, rather than being a bank, it could be a very broad wall which has collapsed. No evidence of a gateway to the town was found.

The bank (31) across the site between the track to tile town and the putative west gate appears to be not an earth bank, but a collapsed building. The possibility of there being a ditch on the north eastern side of this, running alongside the southern side of the track across the site could warrant further investigation.

We were less successful in locating any wall around the site. The best section is that on the northern side. It probably exists in other areas but high resistance caused by the well-drained top edge of the surrounding ditches could be similar to the high resistance caused by there being wall rubble there.

The geophysical findings will need to be considered in the light of other researches into this area as there is always the possibility that some of the features identified could be relatively modern.

The Combined Report is accompanied by supporting data which, together with the Magnetometry Report and the Earth Resistance Report, may be viewed by members on the OBR's website at <http://www.obr.org.uk/membersarea/Groups/Chipping-Norton/chipping-norton-geophys.html>

We owe thanks to Mr and Mrs Caws for allowing us access to the Castle site for the purpose of this survey, and for cutting the grass when needed.

* We thank Mark Bowden for allowing us to use the hachure plan which was made as part of an English Heritage training exercise.

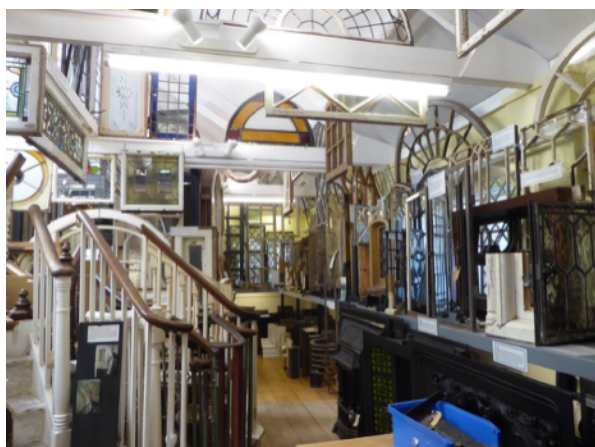
Please note the Castle site is private property and not open for public access.

Paul Clark

The Brooking National Architectural Museum

Recently I (Heather Horner) had the opportunity to visit the Brooking Collection of architectural artefacts, based at Cranleigh in Surrey. It describes itself as a national museum, with intimate hands-on contact with the exhibits, which range widely over five centuries of fixtures and fittings rescued from demolished or refurbished buildings. There are fire grates, rainwater goods, chimneypots, staircases, doors, and above all, windows. And that means *whole* windows, many complete with their sash boxes so that the details of the inner workings can be examined.

The collection is a treasure trove of datable fragments from vernacular buildings as well as architect-designed grand edifices. The craftsmanship demonstrated is superb, from the beautifully intricate castings of fire surrounds and rainwater hoppers, through ornate stair risers and handrails, to finely balanced pivoted windows and gates. One aspect I found most useful was that small sample portions of many artefacts have been stripped of their multiple layers of obscuring paint, revealing the detail of the original workmanship. In places, careful sections have been cut to demonstrate the evolution of construction and joinery.



But there is a downside; none of the material is catalogued. Collector and curator Charles Brooking knows the provenance and date of every single one of the thousands of items, and is delighted to describe the history of each piece. Representative samples of various categories are crammed into a small two-bay barn-like building, the rest of the collection is in a storage barn off site. So although one can get up close to every item to compare and contrast, you have to ask Charles if you want to know more. There are plans afoot to get an

archivist/cataloguer in, though of course that takes money, so grants will have to be applied for. And it would benefit from more space to sort and display items, but that would need funding, too. As it stands, it is a remarkable collection, but it would be so much more valuable if it could be searched, and individual items located for questioning.

I am sure that many OBR members would be really interested in seeing the Brooking Collection, even in its present crowded space. However, it is not feasible as a group outing as only 6 – 8 people would squeeze into the venue, 10 at most. Don't let that stop you approaching Charles for a booked appointment time to visit if you get the chance. There is a fee of around £15 per person, seemed to be negotiable. Contact details are www.thebrookingcollection.org; admin@thebrookingcollection.org; tel.01483 274203.

My grateful thanks to Buffy McClelland for organising a very informative trip.

Heather Horner

East Hendred; treasure trove of Catholic chapels

In June, I (David Clark) joined an excursion to East Hendred organised by Tony Hadland, chair of the Oxfordshire Local History Association, and noted author of books on the history of Catholicism in the Thames Valley. The focus was unsurprisingly on the places of Catholic worship in the village – of which there are four!

We met at Hendred House, the seat of the Eyston family, related to the family of the same name at Mapledurham. The oldest part of the house is the chapel, of around 1255 and probably therefore built by one John de Turberville. A wing, dated 1335-6, belongs to the period of William de Arches, M.P. for Berkshire. The present hall is 15th century, and the service wing from 1535-6, so the house has been subject to more than one phase of alternate rebuilding. The hall is of four bays, with an arch-braced roof and a hammerbeam truss to the central bay.



Hendred House

The Chapel is one of only three in England where the Catholic Mass has been celebrated uninterruptedly since before the Reformation - one of the others is at Stonor. It is probably the only chapel in England dedicated to St Amand, Bishop of Maastricht, founder of the city of Ghent and a Flemish missionary (c.584-675 AD) - the patron saint of brewers, innkeepers, bartenders, vine growers, vintners and wine merchants. The chapel has some early Flemish glass, from Bere Court, near Pangbourne.



Hendred House Chapel from the north-east

From the chapel it was a short walk down the garden to the Catholic church for East Hendred, St Mary's, built in 1863 by Charles Alban Buckler (1825-1905) in a 'pure and accomplished Dec style' (Pevsner). We were met and given an introduction to the church by the present (Catholic) parish priest, the Revd. Monsignor Andrew Burnham. Readers may recall that Burnham became Anglican Bishop of Ebbsfleet in 2000, a notional diocese for those parishes which refused to accept the ordination of women as priests in the Church of England. In 2011 he was received into the Roman Catholic church, having failed to achieve an accommodation with the Anglicans over the ordination of women as bishops.



**Chancel and screen
in St Mary's**

The third Catholic element was the south chapel of the Anglican church of St Augustine, which 'belongs' to the Eystons of Hendred House, and remains Catholic despite the separate RC church (and their own private chapel in the house). A number of family members are buried there.

Finally, the tiny Champs Chapel on a small triangular green in the heart of the village. This was built after 1415 by the Carthusian monks of Sheen Priory (Surrey), who were lords of King's Manor in East Hendred. It is supposed to have been a pilgrimage chapel - but I can find no justification for this.



Champs Chapel

It is now a museum following restoration by the Thomas Rayson Partnership in 1977. It has a two-bay 'nave' with an arch-braced open central truss, clasped purlins (chamfered and stopped), one tier of windbraces, no ridge, ashlar pieces to wall-plate - including moulded extensions of central arch braces, 4 common rafters per bay in nave, six in chancel. Partition staves (no infill) at first floor level between nave and chancel but they seem to be replacements (reused, many holes, chase mortices). This is not an easy building to understand, as the chancel 'screen' seems wrong, unless there was always a floor in the nave.



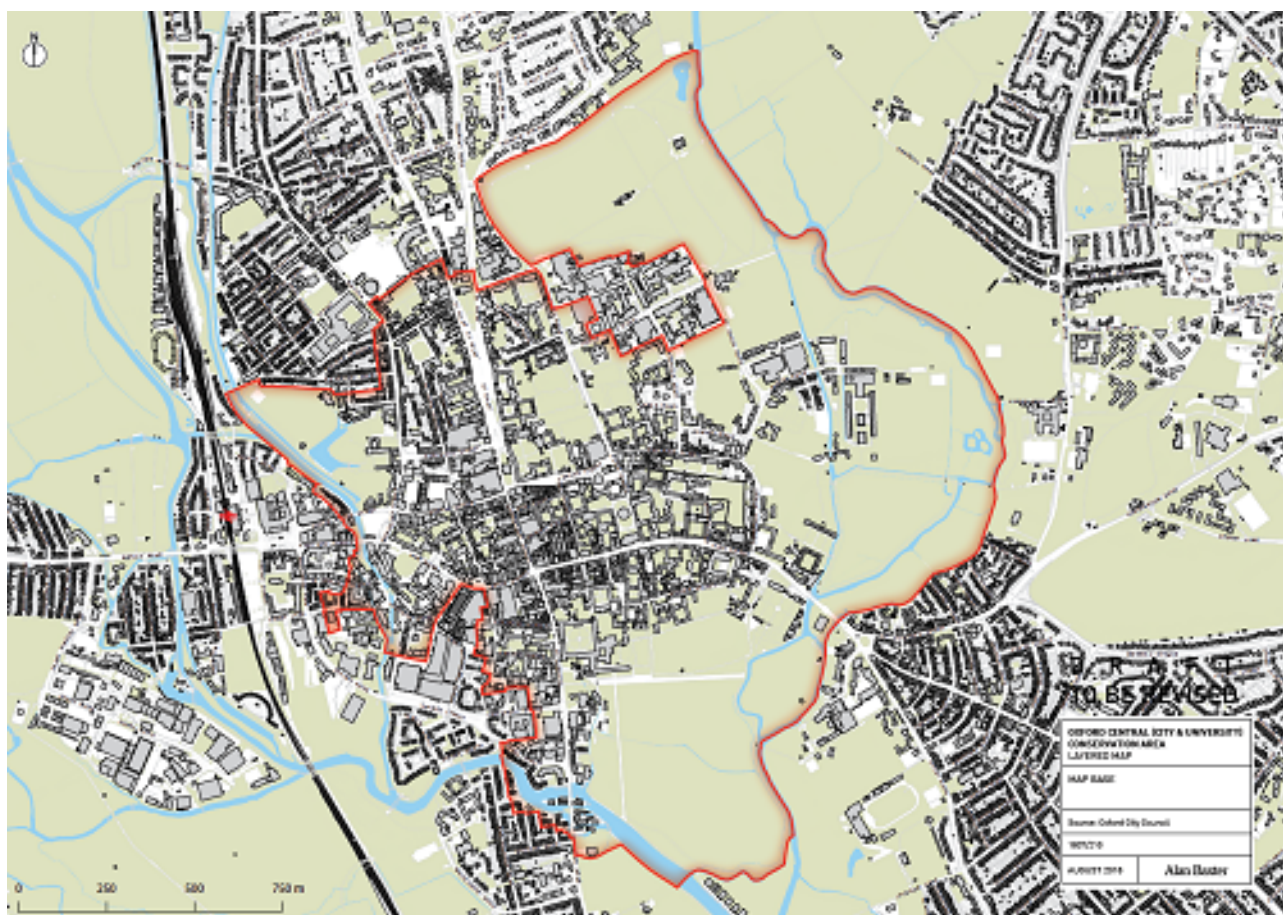
Champs Chapel roof structure

David Clark (Photos © David Clark)

Call for comment on the draft Oxford Central Conservation area appraisal

Oxford City Council is undertaking the first appraisal of the Central (City and University) Conservation Area since its designation in 1971. This area covers the historic central core of the city. The aim is to better understand the character and significance of the area and to establish a strong basis for future management and decision making.

The Council would like to hear from anyone with an interest in the area, both for their views, but also to share some of the work undertaken so far and seek your feedback on it. To that end the Council has launched a short online consultation questionnaire (see <https://us11.campaign-archive.com/?e=&u=22a1ad1c2d349f44f2416a5da&id=c27b304386>) Hard copies of the draft appraisal document will be available to view at the council offices and local libraries, along with copies of the feedback forms. The project team will also be available to discuss the project and answer questions at the Town Hall on Saturday 20 October, 10 am to 2 pm.



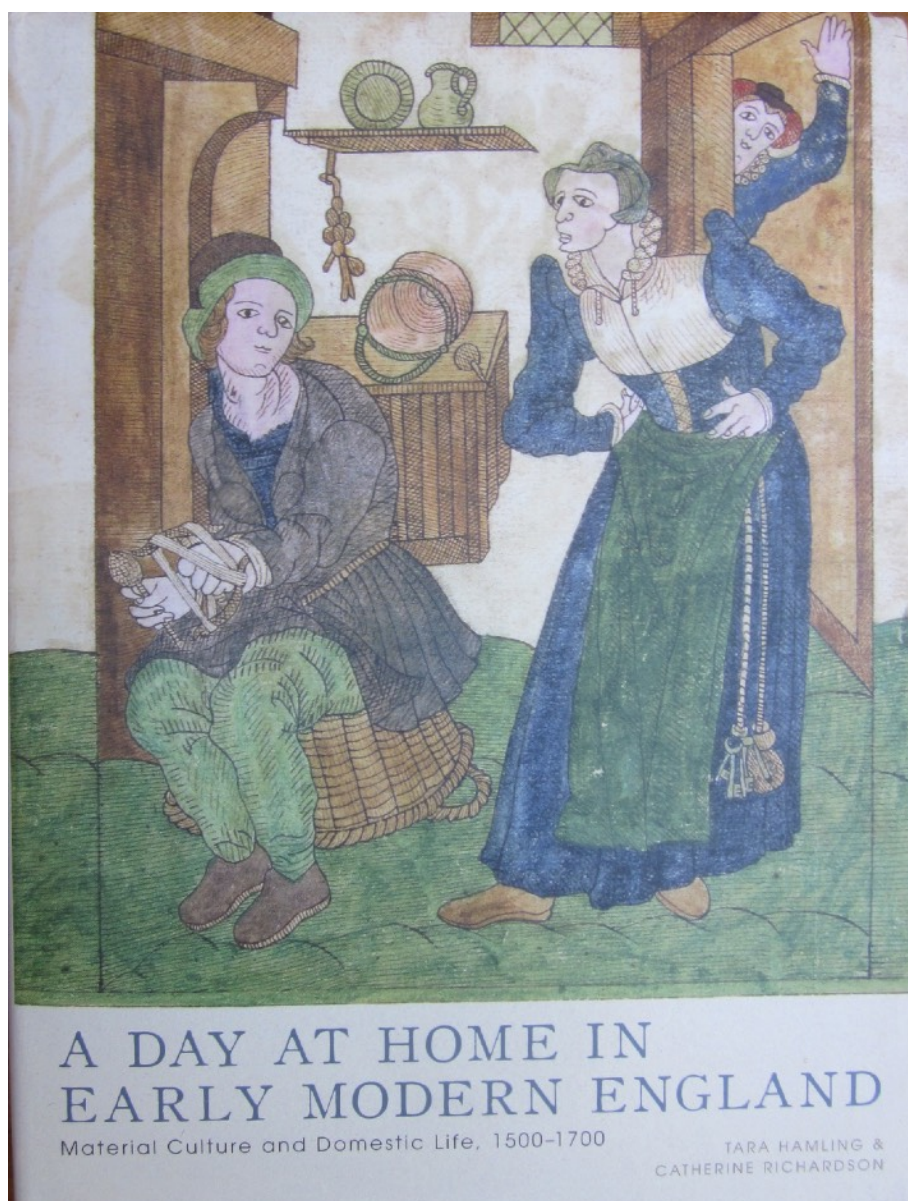
Oxford Central Conservation Area

Book review: A Day at Home in Early Modern England: material Culture and Domestic Life 1500 – 1700 by Tara Hamling and Catherine Richardson. New Haven and London, Yale University Press 2017. ISBN 978-0-300-19501-9, £40.

This admirable book starts with the statement “Scholarly work stressed the activity of building...as opposed to the activity of living in a house.” Here we are as concerned with people and how they furnished and plenished their rooms as with their dwellings. In their analysis the structure is based “on the ideal pattern of the day as set out in a group of Protestant devotional guides”. The human subject matter is limited to ‘the homes of the middling sort’ but occasionally strays beyond to the houses of the gentry.

The day starts as people wake up. There are only few beds which have survived but using probate inventories and wills the houses described are furnished. The crucial significance of hierarchy within the house is stressed by beginning with the four poster and tester bed of the master and his wife, and diminishing down to the truckle beds shared with apprentices and servants. Getting up is followed by the putting on of clothes. Each action was accompanied

by texts painted on the walls to remind the occupants of early morning devotions. An interesting point is the porosity of timber-framed buildings. People could hear what was being said in the backsides of neighbouring houses which led to frequent court cases for slander. This, however doesn't apply to stone built dwellings in the north and west.



Vernacular building specialists may find an over reliance in the book on rebuilt houses at, for instance, the Weald and Downland museum. Moreover the arguments based on schematic diagrams of buildings rather than actual surveyed examples seem unwise. A significant aspect of the environment of these houses were scents and smells although I wonder whether 'the middling sort' were so sensitive to smells as 21st century social historians! However it does account for the banishing to basements of smoky and overheated kitchens such as occurred in 17th century great houses. An interesting contrast is drawn between 'mundane' and 'hospitable' meals. Each required a different set of dishes and eating utensils. The comment that domestic scent gained pace as its ecclesiastical equivalent was diminishing is enlightening.



A Protestant family during dinner (1583)

When discussing Hoskins' thesis of the Great Rebuilding the authors state that reshaping the middling house was piecemeal and took maybe generations. Also the hall seems to have been retained for its symbolic function. A brief incursion into the upper attic spaces of the house leads to the observation that reapers and other labourers were accommodated under the roof.

An intriguing discussion about goods adorning the dining space communicating messages symbolising the hospitality expected of a good household, leads onto an analysis of three types of shops. Shops and offices were equipped with chests increasingly housing drawers. Such chests of drawers had been used in cathedral and collegiate archives for sorting and making documents accessible since the late or high middle ages (Steane, 2001 ch. 8).

While some provincial households such as those in Canterbury and Worcester traded with London to buy goods from mercers, salters and pewterers, others relied on inheriting items of furniture or textiles which were handed down from one generation to another. The furnishing of parlours thus responded to a desire for greater comfort and privacy while advertising wealth and status through the display of impressive material goods. These, incidentally, could be seen from the street through the enlarged and more frequent glass windows.

This period 1540-1640 saw embroidery developed as a cure for elite idleness. For middling women it also became a contributor to the family finances together with "making and mending".

Two aspects are not dealt with adequately in the book. These are witches and steps taken to keep them out of houses by means of apotropaic marks. And, secondly the use of magic in an attempt to protect property from fire by means of burn marks (Page et alia 2018).

To sum up, this book provides a lively, entertaining and informative guide to the ways in which middling folk used their houses and in the ways in which their lives were shaped by them.

References

Sophie Page et alia. Spellbound, Magic, Ritual and Witchcraft. Ashmolean Museum, 2018.
Steane, John. The Archaeology of Power, Tempus, 2001.

John Steane

Update on Oxfordshire Probate Group findings

Back in the Spring edition of Oxon Recorder (No73) I (Heather Horner) highlighted the 1622 inventory of Richard Applebee, yeoman of Whitchurch, in which 200ft of boards is listed. I postulated that a floor was being inserted into the hall. Inventories for two of the testator's sons survive, and I had hoped there would be evidence for further development of the house. Although it is not possible to prove that either of them continued to inhabit their father's house, from the layout described in son Richard's inventory of 1663, it sounds like the same building, though the names of the rooms have changed. Cooking is still done in the hall, as a generation earlier, there is still a loft over the hall, but no indication of anything other than use as a storage loft. The only indication that the buildings are evolving is mention of 'the Olde House', though even that is full of lumber. So no evidence for using the boards, after all. The other son John and his family seem to be living in a dwelling with one main room, the hall, probably open to the roof, and possibly without a chimney. I can send copies of all the transcriptions to any member who would like to examine the evidence for themselves.

Below is another example of the kind of information that can be gleaned from Probate documents; here is an abstract from the 1639 will of Thomas Lewis, husbandman of Whitchurch [ref LEWIS Thomas WH107 1639 OHC MS Wills Oxon 41/3/44]. I have missed out the line spacing of the original, but retained the spelling. See what you make of the way the house and lands are being subdivided between sons Thomas and William. Elsewhere in the document it is made clear that their mother gets everything unless/until she remarries:

"Item I give to my sonne Thomas one half Acre in Bosden felde at Stephen Croft ende I give more unto him the lower half of Davis Hill peece, and half the home close and halfe the Orchard lying on that side next to the close of John Wells, I give to him my said son Thomas alsoe the upper part of my Barne, and halfe my stable and halfe my heyhouse, and I give unto the sayd my sonne Thomas all the Hall unto the south coyne of the chimney and the chamber without a chimney unto the north coyne of the chimney westward.

Item I give unto my sonne William one halfe Acre in Blackmore feilde and the upper half of the peece on Davis Hill and that other halfe of my Orchard and other halfe of my home close next unto the pathe Hill and the lower part of my Barne and the other part of my stable and the Heyhouse and my chamber that hath the chimney and my lower roome behinde the chimney together with the doore and portall and that directly above the portal to the intent that the sayd William may make there a stayercase up in to his chamber above sayd"

Oxfordshire Probate Group transcribe original documents into modern typeface so that the contents are more readily available to researchers, initially for Victoria County History. We have recently moved our focus from South Oxfordshire, where the research for Volume XX is nearly complete, up to Hook Norton in support of Volume XXI. Should you know of anyone interested in looking closely at old documents, please direct them towards Probate Group, we are always glad to meet new potential volunteers.

Heather Horner

Forthcoming Events

OBR Presentation Day

Sunday, 25 November in Oxford. More details and application form attached.

OBR annual lecture

Dan Miles: "Three decades of dendro-dating in Oxfordshire" at Rewley House, Oxford at 5.30pm on Tuesday 27 November.

Wiltshire Building Record Study Day

'Heart of Oak' - timber framed houses; materials; construction; external appearance and interior decoration. Saturday 20 October at Melksham Assembly Hall. See <http://www.wiltshirebuildingsrecord.org.uk> for further details and booking form.

Finally: For sale

New copy of *Traditional Buildings of the Oxford Region 1300–1840* by John Steane at £35. Sue Richards somehow managed to duplicate her book order and ended up with two copies of John's wonderful book. Contact her on 01993 830122 or suerichards@phonecoop.coop if you are interested.

OBR Contact details

Membership – Paul Clark (membership@obr.org.uk)

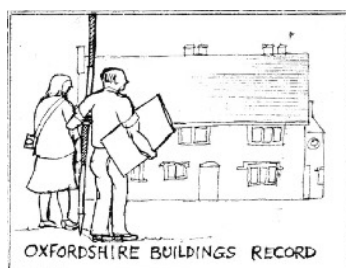
General – David Clark (secretary@obr.org.uk)

Newsletter - Richard Farrant (newsletter@obr.org.uk)

Webmaster – Tim Peacock (admin@obr.org.uk)

Website: www.obr.org.uk

Next copy date for contributions is 1 December. Please send any contributions or comments to Richard Farrant at newsletter@obr.org.uk Contributions need to be Word or Pages documents and photographs in jpg format.



OXFORDSHIRE BUILDINGS RECORD

PRESENTATION DAY 2018 – SUNDAY 25 NOVEMBER

This year's presentation day will be in Oxford. It will follow the usual format with a walkabout in the morning, a buffet lunch, and talks in the afternoon. This is a chance for members to meet up and hear about the various recording projects which have taken place over the past year.



Our base will be the Key Learning Centre at Oxford Castle. The walk will be led by Vic Allison, former Deputy Surveyor to the University and will start at about 11am – exact time to be confirmed – to look at some of the buildings in Oxford that he was involved with.

Lunch will be a finger buffet (with vegetarian options) provided by the venue, from 12.45pm to 1.30pm, where we shall stay for a round-up of recording activities during the year – whether 'official' OBR events or not – and to discuss experiences, pose questions and (maybe) find answers. Please share your findings with others in the group. If you would like to make a presentation, display drawings or photographs please say so on the form.

If you intend to come, please complete and send in the form below.

A programme and further details will be sent about a week before the day to those attending.

✂.....

I should like to come to the presentation day on Sunday 25 November.

Name.....

e-mail address.....

I should like to book lunch and enclose a cheque for £forpeople at £7.95 each, made out to Oxfordshire Buildings Record.

I have the following dietary requirement (please specify).....

I should like to say something about.....for.....minutes.

Please return to David Clark, 21 Walton Street, Oxford OX1 2HQ, Tel. 01865 516414, or e-mail secretary@obr.org.uk by Friday 16 November.