2019 update Fusion Central Section HERDS Report

- Progress update
- Recent discoveries and investigations
  - Archaeology and historic landscape/built heritage
- Look ahead Jul–Dec 2019
- Contribution to HERDS objectives
- Key themes /patterns emerging
- Community, sector, and academic engagement
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stage 1</th>
<th>Geophysics Routewide</th>
<th>Scope to go</th>
<th>Progress</th>
<th>Stage 1 intrusive surveys</th>
<th>Progress</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GLA/ Herts</td>
<td>Completed earlier</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>359/401 interventions- 10 site areas in progress- MHI</td>
<td>89%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bucks</td>
<td>693ha – 67 locations</td>
<td>133ha</td>
<td>93%</td>
<td>1080/1197 interventions -25 site areas in progress - Infra/LP Archaeology/Connect</td>
<td>90%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N’Hants</td>
<td>396ha - 30 locations</td>
<td>45ha</td>
<td>87%</td>
<td>231/685 interventions -13 site areas in progress MHI and Connect</td>
<td>33%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oxon</td>
<td>65ha -15 locations</td>
<td>0ha</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>45 interventions – 2 site areas complete -Connect</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warks</td>
<td>205 ha – 10 locations</td>
<td>17ha</td>
<td>95%</td>
<td>91/119 interventions – 2 site areas- Connect</td>
<td>76%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>1359 ha</strong></td>
<td><strong>195ha</strong></td>
<td><strong>94%</strong></td>
<td><strong>1806/2447 interventions - 52 sites</strong></td>
<td><strong>73%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Stage 2 archaeology– commencing August 2019

- Stage 2 intrusive surveys derived from geophysical results at 32 new sites across central section covering 666ha
- Trial trench project plans – no. 28 - completed
- and Routewide project plans (not started) for:

  - Palaeoenvironment (further evaluation of Pleistocene and Holocene sequences at 13 locations – derived from GDBA and latest HS2 GI data)
  - Parish boundary and important hedgerow survey (classification and investigation form and date of 11 key township boundaries to support open field development research)
  - Ancient Woodland survey (woodland survey and test pits at 6 locations to investigate origins and pre woodland land-use)
  - Topsoil sampling strategy (site selection for further test pits to sample topsoil finds distribution for early prehistoric and late roman to early medieval material)
Stage 1 Built Heritage/landscape

• 6 setting recordings completed for designated and non-designated sites
• 4 building recordings complete

Stage 2 Built Heritage/landscape

• 17 project plans for further building recording completed comprising:
  • 5 setting/historic landscape recording
  • 12 building recording
20th century conflict

SOE transmitter Portway Farm

Calves Close Spinney, RAF Dispersed site

Wireless transmitting Station RAF Greatworth Park
Report on 2019 mitigation works C1/C2

- Dews Farm
- South Portal (West Hyde)
- North Portal (Great Missenden)
- Planned later 2019:
  - Wellwick Farm, Wendover
  - Doddershall DMV and RB farmstead
Area A
MED-PMED quarry

Area B
2 quarry features. Poorly dated PRE-ROM period

Area C
Largely empty – confirming the results of the eval

Area D
Dominated by PMED lynchet field system

Area E
EMED settlement
Evidence for around 5 post built structures

North Portal
Area E - Early (prehistoric), low level, use of the site for quarrying flint and possible transient occupation. Roman period quarrying. Significant Anglo Saxon occupation of the area – long houses etc. Use of the site not clear but likely to be related to quarrying.
Area E - Early (prehistoric), low level, use of the site for quarrying flint and possible transient occupation. Roman period quarrying. Significant Anglo Saxon occupation of the area – long houses and pitting. Poor finds and environmental assemblages.

North Portal
Area E – discovered archaeology versus evaluation results
+ CHALFONT LANE NEO-BA-IA-ROM PITS

POST MED TRACKWAYS

ROM ENCLOSED SETTLEMENT C²ND -3RD

LATER C³RD EXTENSION

MIA DISPERSED FEATURES

19TH C QUARRYING

West Hyde-South Portal
West Hyde

C 2ND-3RD TIMBER BUILDING

Late 3RD post built structures

Late 3RD post built palisade/stock enclosure

Poor preservation of animal bone

Moderate ceramic assemblage

Occasional coin and CU alloy adornments

Moderate CBM

Moderate quern stone fragments
Worked flint recovery from topsoil samples
c.1500 individual worked flint artefacts (white dots) including blades, cores, scrapers and hammer stones dated to the LME-ENEO
Edgcote

- C31028 Late Prehistoric
- Romano-British Settlement –
- Trial Trenching planned
Provisional significant evidence at 54 sites

Landscape zones
Medieval period

Provisional significant evidence
Prehistoric

Provisional significant evidence
Emerging themes

- Expected site distribution playing out e.g. EPRE Colne Valley
- The “blank middle”- soils/geology/long lived primary woodland?
- Impact of millennia of ploughing
- Assemblages generally material poor
- LBA to ROM – clear evidence accumulating for landscape organisation
- EMED evidence typically low level – some settlement and possibly burial sites
Key opportunities Stage 2

• Digital archives and updating HERs
• Digital excavation data: the opportunity
• Pottery type series
• Compare Lidar versus magnetometry coverage for Ridge and Furrow
• Map headlands and open field structure
• Can we date development of open field system?
• What evidence for 5-9th century settlement?
• Trace EPRE activity in other river valleys
Community, sector, and academic engagement

- 17 events completed 2018
- 7 events 2019 so far...
- St Mary’s volunteer programme and open days
- Continuing voluntary talks across route
- Regular attendance at community drop in sessions
- 2\textsuperscript{nd} Bucks Archaeology conference planned for 2019
- Plan to collaborate with Durham University on dating earthworks
- 1 no. work experience placement with Fusion team now