

Waddesdon Manor Oxford Internship 2025



In association with the Department of History of Art, Waddesdon Manor is offering an internship to one student completing their course (BA or MSt) in Trinity Term 2025 from the Department of History of Art, Faculty of History, Faculty of Medieval and Modern Languages or Faculty of Classics whose area of study is or has been art-historically orientated. The internship offers a range of valuable experience within the Collection Department, including research and documentation, and a number of Waddesdon alumni have gone on to careers in the arts, for example at the V&A, National Maritime Museum, Hepworth Wakefield and the Holburne Museum. The intern will work on a project proposed by the programme coordinators (see below). The successful candidate

will take up their place in or around September 2025. This placement is part of Waddesdon's Studentship and Bursary programme and if offered for a period of a 3 to 6 months. It is paid at living wage level and includes accommodation on site for a nominal charge.

Waddesdon Manor is a late 19th-century Renaissance-style chateau in Buckinghamshire. Created by Baron Ferdinand de Rothschild and completed in 1889, it is one of the last remaining examples of 'le style Rothschild'. As well as housing one of the finest collections of French 18th-century decorative arts in the world, Waddesdon's diverse collections include important portraits by Gainsborough and Reynolds and works by Dutch and Flemish Masters of the 17th century. For more information please see www.waddesdon.org.uk



Candidates should apply by email to Penelope Lane, History of Art Manager and Internship Coordinator: manager@hoa.ox.ac.uk no later than **Thursday 1 May**. Applications must include:

- Applicant's name, college and date of matriculation.
- Summary of academic career since matriculation, and any relevant attainments, qualifications, or interests.
- Evidence of any foreign language reading ability (this is not a requirement for application).
- An essay (300-500 words) describing the applicant's reasons for applying and their interest in Waddesdon. They may choose to specify one of the current projects at the house (see below), although it should be noted that the successful applicant may in the event work on different projects.
- The names of two referees, who should be tutors or others in a position to judge the applicant's ability to profit from the programme proposed. Referees should be asked to write to the Internship Coordinator at the above address no later than the closing date for applications.

Interview dates tbc.

2025 Waddesdon Manor Oxford Internship: possible projects

Interpretation Project: The Family Room

An interpretation project to refresh the information available to visitors about the history of the Rothschild Family, and Waddesdon Manor. The Oxford intern would assist with research into members of the family, using archival materials, published sources and photographs, with the eventual idea to create a digital display to tell the various stories for 2026.

Exhibition project: Red Chalk Drawings

An exhibition about red-chalk drawings, including works from Waddesdon's collection and loans from public and private collections, is planned for 2027. Support from the Oxford Intern may include research on individual drawings and may include practical and educational activities around materials and processes of drawing, counter-proofing and printmaking, particularly red-chalk-manner prints developed in 18th-century France. As well as research and documentation, there may be the opportunity to liaise with other institutions in preparation of the exhibition and related events.

Exhibition project: Contemporary Sculptor

A solo exhibition is planned in collaboration with a contemporary sculptor in the Coach House Gallery at Waddesdon Manor, for 2026. The Oxford Intern will assist with label-writing, exhibition planning, and liaison with the artist and her gallery.