

T H A M E S V A L L E Y

ARCHAEOLOGICAL

S E R V I C E S

**Land North of School Road,
Arborfield Cross, Berkshire**

Archaeological Evaluation

by Sophie Peng

Site Code: SAC25/172

(SU7659 6711)

Land North of School Road, Arborfield Cross, Berkshire

**An Archaeological Evaluation
for Croudace Homes Limited**

by Sophie Peng

Thames Valley Archaeological Services Ltd

Site Code SAC25/172

October 2025

Summary

Site name: Land North of School Road, Arborfield Cross, Berkshire

Grid reference: SU7659 6711

Site activity: Evaluation

Date and duration of project: 22nd September – 3rd October 2025

Project coordinator: David Sanchez

Site supervisor: Sophie Peng

Site code: SAC25/172

Area of site: 5.52ha

Summary of results: The evaluation was successfully carried out with all the trenches opened as intended. Of the 55 trenches, 19 had potential archaeological features. The features in the west were mainly sterile shallow gullies, with most, if not all, thought to be land drains of relatively modern date.

To the east, however, several prehistoric features were recorded across separate trenches. One pit produced sherds of Late Neolithic Grooved Ware pottery and a second produced sherds of Late Bronze Age / Early Iron Age pottery. Between the trenches with these pits lay a spread of burnt flint- a ‘burnt mound’ typically of Bronze Age date and considered to be a communal cooking place. Therefore, this zone of the site is deemed to have archaeological potential whereas the rest of the site has low potential.

Location and reference of archive: The archive is presently held at Thames Valley Archaeological Services, Reading and will be deposited at an appropriate designated museum in due course and a digital copy of the records will be deposited with the Archaeology Data Service.

*This report may be copied for bona fide research or planning purposes without the explicit permission of the copyright holder. All TVAS unpublished fieldwork reports are available on our website:
www.tvas.co.uk/reports/reports.asp.*

Report edited/checked by:	Steve Ford✓ 20.10.25 Steve Preston✓ 17.10.25
---------------------------	---

Land North of School Road, Arborfield Cross, Berkshire An Archaeological Evaluation

by Sophie Peng

Report 25/172

Introduction

This report documents the results of an archaeological field evaluation carried out at Land north of School Road, Arborfield Cross, Berkshire RG41 4TS (SU766 6711) (Fig. 1). The work was commissioned by Ms Sarah Howell of Croudace Homes Ltd Croudace House, Caterham, Surrey CR3 6XQ.

Planning permission (250735) is being sought from Wokingham Borough Council for the development of up to 70 dwellings with associated access, landscaping, open space and associated works at land north of School Road, Arborfield Cross, Shinfield, Berkshire. Due to the potential disturbance of below-ground archaeological features, an archaeological evaluation (trenching) has been requested to inform the planning decision. This is in accordance with the *National Planning Policy Framework* (NPPF 2025), and the Borough Council's policies on archaeology. The field investigation was carried out to a specification approved by Ms Linden Ellicott, Archaeological Officer for Berkshire Archaeology, the archaeological advisers to Wokingham Borough Council. The fieldwork was undertaken by Sophie Peng assisted by Camila Carvalho, Luke O'Callaghan, Richard Dewhurst, Moly Larkby, Erin Loat and Harriet Wright between 22nd September and 3rd October 2025 and the site code is SAC25/172.

The archive is presently held at Thames Valley Archaeological Services, Reading and will be deposited at an appropriate designated museum in due course and a digital copy of the records will be deposited with the Archaeology Data Service.

Location, topography and geology

The site is located on the north eastern edge of Arborfield Cross in the fields north of The Coombes C of E primary school. It is c.2km south east of the River Loddon (Fig. 1). The site is an irregular shape and comprises one complete field and the western corner of a second field to the south east, both of which are in arable use. The highest point of site (60m above Ordnance Datum (aOD)) is to the south, sloping down to the north (48m aOD). The underlying geology is mapped as London Clay Formation – Clay, silt and sand with no superficial deposits (BGS 2000), which was observed on site as well the occasional gravel patch.

Archaeological background

A series of archaeological finds and deposits have been recorded in the local area summarized in a heritage impact assessment (Marrons 2025). The earliest activity in the area relates to Mesolithic, Neolithic and Bronze Age struck flint identified during field walking (Ford 1987; 1997). The first cut features in the area comprise of a series of Bronze Age features and two Bronze Age burial urns 860m to the south and 900m to the south-west of the site respectively. A Late Bronze Age 'burnt mound' (cooking place) lies 1.5km to the south east (Torrance and Ford 2003). Iron Age and Roman activity has previously been documented in the area, with a small early/middle Iron Age farmstead at Baird Road, a late Iron Age to mid Roman farmstead at Whitehall Brick and Tile works and an Iron Age to Roman agricultural site identified during the Arborfield relief road works with all three sites showed evidence of iron production (Hammond 2011; Pine 2003; Lichtenstein and Daniel 2025). While the settlement at Arborfield was not recorded in the Domesday Book, the name derives from Old English and so an early medieval date has been suggested for the village. Evidence for medieval activity in the area is highlighted by a medieval trackway immediately to the north west of the site and a small number of 11th-12th century pits and ditches at Arborfield Garrison.

Despite this, no archaeological finds have been collected from the proposed development site. A modern field boundary and an uncertain linear feature were identified by geophysical survey (Pre-Construct Geophysics 2024) though the London Clay geology is noted for its very poor response to geophysical survey.

Objectives and methodology

The purpose of the evaluation was to determine the presence/absence, extent, condition, character, quality and date of any archaeological or palaeoenvironmental deposits within the area of development. The specific research aims of this project are to:

- a) Determine if archaeologically significant levels have survived on this site;
- b) Determine whether any archaeological deposits of any period are present;
- c) Inform a strategy for mitigation if required.

It was proposed to dig 55 trenches, each 25m long and 1.8-2m wide. All trenches were dug with a 13-tonne tracked 360°-type excavator fitted with a toothless grading bucket under constant archaeological supervision. All spoil heaps were monitored for finds. Any probable or certain archaeological features were to be investigated by hand and sufficiently sampled to satisfy the aims outline above, without compromising the integrity of

archaeological features or deposits which warrant preservation *in situ*, or might be better excavated under conditions pertaining to full excavation.

The potential and significance of any such deposits located will be assessed according to the research priorities such as set out in Historic England Research Agenda (HE 2017) or any more local or thematic research priorities such as identified in the Solent Thames Research Agenda (Hey and Hind 2014) as necessary.

The evaluation was carried out according to Chartered Institute of Archaeologists' standards and guidance (CIfA 2023a and b) and where appropriate and relevant, the recommendations in the 'Berkshire Archaeology general standards for archaeological fieldwork projects (April 2021)' were followed.

Results

All trenches were dug as intended (Fig. 2) and ranged in length from between 24m to 26m, and in depth between 0.33m and 0.95m. All were 1.80m wide. Subsoil was observed throughout, consisting of mostly a light yellow brown silty sand or orange brown clayey sand, overlying the natural geology which was mostly an orange brown silty clay with varying flint gravel and/or manganese inclusions. A slight variation in natural consisted of a light yellow brown sandy clay with variable flint gravel and/or manganese inclusions.

A complete list of trenches giving lengths, breadths, depths and a description of sections and geology is given in Appendix 1.

Of the 55 trenches excavated, 19 contained potential archaeological features. The excavated features, with dating evidence, are summarized in Appendix 2.

Trenches that contained no archaeological finds or features are described briefly below, grouped by their stratigraphy and natural geology. Part of the modern field boundary highlighted in the heritage impact statement (Marrons 2025) and marked as geophysical anomalies was observed as well as land drains were noted in a number of trenches. Trenches with archaeological (or potential archaeological) features or finds are then discussed individually in more detail.

Trenches containing archaeological features or finds

Trench 32 (Figs 3, 5 and 8; Pl. 16)

Trench 32 was aligned NW - SE and was 25.3m long and 0.5m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.35m of topsoil and 0.1m subsoil overlying an orange brown silty clay natural geology. Pit 27 (Pl. 16) was recorded at 16.2m from the SW end of the trench and was 0.35m and 0.3m deep. It was filled with a compact light brown

white silty clay with few gravel inclusions (fill 85), from which 10 sherds of Late Neolithic Grooved ware was recovered. Pit 28 was recorded at 16.9m from the SW end of the trench and was 0.4m wide and 0.1m deep. It was filled with a compact brown grey silty clay with few gravel inclusions (fill 86). No finds were recovered from this feature, but its close proximity to Late Neolithic pit 27 maybe indicative of its date.

Trench 40 (Figs 2, 5 and 8; Pls 17 and 18)

Trench 40 was aligned NW - SE and was 25m long and 0.52m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.36m of topsoil and 0.16m subsoil overlying a light yellow brown silty clay natural geology. Between 3m and 6.5m, a gully (21) was recorded cutting the subsoil and burnt flint deposits 77 and 79. It was 0.19m wide and 0.27m deep and was filled with a compact grey brown silty clay (fill 76).

The probable burnt mound consisted of three deposits (77-79). Primary deposit 79 consisted of a light grey orange sandy clay, likely heat affected natural, and was 3.79m long and 0.13m deep. Secondary deposit 78 was a loose dark grey black silty clay with frequent burnt flint inclusions and was 0.13m deep and 3.1m long. Tertiary fill 77 was a loose light grey black silty clay with frequent burnt flint inclusions and was 5.8m long and 0.15m deep. Other than a large quantity of burnt flint no other finds were recovered.

Trench 43 (Figs 2, 5 and 7; Pl. 19)

Trench 43 was aligned NNE - SSW and was 25m long and 0.45m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.25m of topsoil and 0.15m subsoil overlying natural geology (brown orange silty clay). A pit (25, pl. 19) was recorded between 13.4m and 14.3m from the south end of the trench. It was 0.9m wide and 0.09m deep and contained a firm light grey orange silty clay fill (83), from which 42 sherds of Late Bronze Age / Early Iron Age pottery were recovered alongside a small amount of burnt flint.

Trench 46 (Figs 2, 5 and 7; Pl. 20)

Trench 46 was aligned NE - SW and was 24.8m long and 0.5m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.3m of topsoil and 0.16m subsoil overlying natural geology (brown orange silty-clay). A gully (26, Pl. 20) was recorded between 8.5m and 12.8m from the NE end of the trench. It was 0.5m wide and 0.04m deep and contained a firm light grey brown silty clay with few flint gravel inclusions (fill 84). The NE extent of gully 26 appears to fade away with no clear-cut terminal end. Seventeen sherds of Late Bronze Age / Early Iron Age pottery were recovered from the gully.

Trenches containing no archaeological features or finds

Trenches 3, 6, 8, 10, 30, 31, 53, 55 (Fig 2; Pls 3 and 8)

These trenches varied in length between 24.6m and 25.1m and in depth between 0.4m and 0.6m. The stratigraphy observed consisted of topsoil above subsoil overlying an orange brown silty clay or sandy silt natural geology. No archaeological finds or features were observed.

Trenches 14, 21-29, 33, 34, 37-39, 41, 42, 44, 45, 47-50, 52, 54 (Fig 3; Pls 4-7)

These trenches varied in length between 24.7m and 26m and in depth between 0.35m and 0.95m. The stratigraphy observed consisted of topsoil above subsoil overlying an orange brown silty clay natural geology with few to frequent flint gravel inclusions. No archaeological finds or features were observed.

Trenches containing a recent field boundary

Trench 17 (Fig. 2; Pl. 22)

Trench 17 was aligned NNW - SSE and was 24.5m long and 0.64m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.31m of topsoil and 0.25m subsoil overlying natural geology (a light yellow brown silty sand with few manganese inclusions). At 8m from the SSE end of the trench, a land drain (aligned NW – SE) was recorded which was 2m wide. At 11.9m from the SSE end another land drain (aligned NE-SW, pl. 22) was recorded which was 0.9m wide and at least 0.4m deep. This drain consisted of two parallel rows of modern bricks. It also aligns with the modern boundary geophysical anomaly. Both were cutting the subsoil. Other than the bricks used to form the drain, no other finds were recovered.

Trench 18 (Fig. 2)

Trench 18 was aligned NW - SE and was 24.1m long and 0.53m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.3m of topsoil and 0.2m subsoil overlying natural geology (a light yellow brown silty sand with few manganese inclusions). At 14m from the SE end of the trench, the same modern land drain observed in trench 17 was observed. It was also 0.9m wide and aligned NE – SW with the same bricks seen on the surface. It also aligns with the modern boundary geophysical anomaly. The drain was seen cutting the subsoil and left unexcavated. Other than the brick noted on the surface no finds were retained from this feature.

Trench 36 (Fig. 2)

Trench 36 was aligned NW - SE and was 25m long and 0.42m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.22m of topsoil and 0.1m subsoil overlying natural geology. At 9.5m from the SE end of the trench, the same modern land drain observed in trench 17 and 18 was observed. It was also 0.9m and aligned NE – SW with the same bricks seen on the surface. It also aligns with the modern boundary geophysical anomaly and was seen cutting the subsoil. The drain was left unexcavated. Other than the brick noted on the surface no finds were retained from this feature.

Trenches containing land drains or features of doubtful archaeological interest

Trench 1 (Figs 3, 4 and 7; Pl. 9)

Trench 1 was aligned SSW - NNE and was 24.7m long and 0.53m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.28m of topsoil and 0.12m subsoil overlying natural geology (light yellow brown sandy clay). At 9m from the SSW end of the trench, a gully (1, Pl. 9) was recorded which was 0.48m wide and 0.1m deep and filled with a compact light brown grey clayey silt fill (52). A single piece of tile, possibly medieval to early post-medieval in date was recovered from the gully. At 11.8m from the SSW end of the trench, a gully (2) was recorded which was 0.59m wide and 0.15m deep and filled with a compact light brown grey clayey silt fill (53). No finds were recovered from gully 2.

Trench 2 (Figs 3, 4 and 7)

Trench 2 was aligned NNW - SSW and was 26m long and 0.5m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.4m of topsoil and 0.16m subsoil overlying natural geology (brown yellow sandy clay). At 22.8m from the NNW end of the trench, a gully (3) was recorded which was 0.23m wide and 0.05m deep and filled with a firm light brown grey sandy silt fill (54). Two pieces of post-medieval CBM were recovered from the gully.

Trench 4 (Figs 3, 4 and 7; Pl. 1)

Trench 4 was aligned N - S and was 24m long and 0.56m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.35m of topsoil and 0.14m subsoil overlying natural geology (light brown yellow sandy clay with frequent manganese inclusions). At between 11.66m and 22.10m from the south end of the trench, a gully (5) was recorded which was 0.18m wide and 0.17m deep and filled with a firm brown grey silty clay fill (56). Four pieces of CBM was recovered, but could not be suitably dated. At between 3.42m and 7.28m from the south end of the trench, gully (6) was recorded. It was 0.16m wide and 0.04m deep and filled with a compact brown grey sandy silt fill (57). No finds were recovered from this feature. At between 0m and 1.56m from the south end of the trench, a ditch

(7) was recorded and was 0.44m wide and 0.11m. It contained a single compact brown grey sandy silt fill (58) and Four pieces of CBM were recovered, probably of post-medieval date.

Trench 5 (Figs 2, 3 and 6; Pl. 10)

Trench 5 was aligned WNW - ESE and was 26m long and 0.46m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.28m of topsoil and 0.12m subsoil overlying a yellow brown silty clay natural geology. Between 0m and 2.22m from the west end of the trench, a gully (4, Pl. 10) was recorded which was 0.33m wide and 0.05m deep and filled with 55 a compact light orange grey silty sand. No finds were recovered.

Trench 7 (Figs 2, 3 and 6; Pl. 11)

Trench 7 was aligned E - W and was 26.7m long and 0.7m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.29m of topsoil and 0.36m subsoil overlying a light orange brown silty clay natural geology. Between 16.4m and 20.9m from the west end of the trench, a NW – SE aligned ditch (8, Pl. 11) was recorded which was 1.1m wide and 0.37m deep and filled with a compact light yellow brown silty clay (59). Seven pieces of medieval to early post-medieval tile as well as a piece of a post-medieval wine bottle was recovered from the ditch.

Trench 9 (Figs 2, 3 and 6; Pls 2 and 13)

Trench 9 was aligned E - W and was 25m long and 0.57m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.32m of topsoil and 0.15m subsoil overlying natural geology (light orange brown clayey silt). Between 7.44m and 8.72m from the ESE end of the trench, a ditch (10, pl. 13) was recorded which was 0.93m wide and 11m deep and filled with 61, a compact light grey brown silty clay. Between 0m and 1.2m from the ESE end, a gully (11) was recorded with a width of 0.20 and depth of 0.06m It contained a single compact light grey brown silty clay fill (62). No finds were recovered.

Trench 11 (Figs 2, 3 and 6)

Trench 11 was aligned NNE - SSW and was 24.5m long and 0.5m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.26m of topsoil and 0.12m subsoil overlying an orange brown sandy clay natural geology with frequent flint gravel inclusions. Between 0m and 5.3m from the south end of the trench, gully (12) was recorded with a width of 0.25m and depth of 0.09m and filled with 63, a firm grey brown silty clay with frequent gravel inclusions. Between 18.2m and 24.5m from the south end of the trench, another gully (13) was recorded with a width of

0.34m and depth of 0.14m and contained a single compact grey brown silty clay with frequent gravel inclusions fill (64). No finds were recovered from either feature.

Trench 12 (Figs 4 and 6; Pl. 12)

Trench 12 was aligned WNW - ESE and was 25m long and 0.46m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.29m of topsoil and 0.15m subsoil overlying an orange brown sandy clay natural geology with frequent gravel inclusions. Between 2m and 3.6m from the west end of the trench, a possible ditch terminus or pit (9, pl. 12) was recorded which was 1m wide and 0.13m deep and filled with a compact brown grey silty clay (60). No finds were recovered.

Trench 13 (Figs 2, 3 and 6)

Trench 13 was aligned NW - SE and was 25.2m long and 0.42m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.26m of topsoil and 0.11m subsoil overlying natural geology (orange brown silty clay). At 10.2m from the NW end of the trench, a pit (14) was recorded which was 1.06m wide and 0.29m deep and filled with 65, a compact light brown grey clayey silt with few gravel inclusions. A single piece of modern non-ferrous wire was recovered but not retained.

Trench 15 (Figs 2, 3 and 7)

Trench 15 was aligned NE - SW and was 24.5m long and 0.56m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.28m of topsoil and 0.20m subsoil overlying a light yellow brown sandy silt natural geology with few manganese inclusions. Between 1.18m and 3.6m from the NE end of the trench, a gully (18) was recorded with a single firm grey brown silty clay fill (71) and measured 0.21m wide and 0.2m deep. Another gully (19) was recorded between 8.12m and 10.6m from the NE end of the trench. It contained fill 72, a firm light brown grey clayey silt, and fill 73, a firm grey brown silty clay. Gully 19 measured 0.32m wide and 0.33m deep. Between 15.16m and 17.9m from the NE end, another gully (20) was recorded with a width of 0.27m and depth of 0.16m. It contained primary fill 75, a compact brown grey clayey silt, and secondary fill 74, a compact light brown grey clayey silt. No finds were recovered.

Trench 16 (Figs 2, 4 and 6; Pl. 14)

Trench 16 was aligned NNE - SSW and was 25m long and 0.6m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.27m of topsoil and 0.25m subsoil overlying natural geology (light yellow brown sandy silt with few manganese

inclusions). Between 0.8m and 3.2m from the south end of the trench, a gully (16, Pl. 14) was recorded which was 0.25m wide and 0.17m deep and contained fills 67 and 68. Fill 67 was a firm white grey with orange patches sandy silt with few gravel inclusions (redeposited natural) and fill 68 was a firm light grey brown silty clay with few gravel inclusions. Between 18.2m and 20.7m from the south end of the trench, another gully (17) was observed with a width of 0.24m and depth of 0.19m and contained two fills (69 and 70). Primary fill 70 was a compact light grey silty clay with few flint gravel inclusions. Secondary fill 69 was a compact white grey with brown patches sandy silt with few flint gravels (redeposited natural). No finds were recovered either of the features.

Trench 19 (Figs 3, 5 and 7)

Trench 19 was aligned E - W and was 24.7m long and 0.44m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.23m of topsoil and 0.15m subsoil overlying an orange brown sandy silt with frequent flint gravels natural geology. Between 0.14m and 2.6m from the east end of the trench, a gully (15) was recorded which was 0.25m wide and 0.08m deep and filled with a firm dark grey brown silty clay with few gravel inclusions (fill 66). No finds were recovered.

Trench 20 (Figs 3, 5 and 8; Pl. 15)

Trench 20 was aligned NE - SW and was 24.9m long and 0.53m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.25m of topsoil and 0.1m subsoil overlying natural geology (orange brown silty clay with few gravel inclusions). Between 4.2m and 9.2m from the SSW end of the trench, a ditch (22, Pl. 15) was recorded with a width of 0.41m and depth of 0.3m and contained a single compact orange grey clayey silt fill (80). No finds were recovered.

Trench 35 (Figs 3, 5 and 8)

Trench 35 was aligned E - W and was 25m long and 0.47m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.35m of topsoil and 0.05m subsoil overlying natural geology (orange brown silty clay with frequent gravel inclusions). Two intercutting gullies were observed between 6.78m and 9.72m from the west end of the trench. Gully 23 appears to be terminating and cutting ditch 24 and was 0.24m wide and 0.12m deep. Gully 23 contained fill 81, a compact light white brown silty clay. Ditch 24 was 0.44m wide and 0.11m deep and contained a single white brown silty clay fill (82). No finds were recovered.

Trench 51 (Figs 2, 5 and 7; Pl. 21)

Trench 51 was aligned NW - SE and was 25.3m long and 0.33m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.18m of topsoil and 0.06m subsoil overlying natural geology (orange brown silty clay with few gravel inclusions). At 23.4m from the SE end of the trench, a pit (29, pl. 21) was recorded which was 0.72m wide and 0.17m deep and filled with a compact mid-light brown grey silty sand with frequent manganese inclusions (fill 87). No finds were recovered.

Finds

Pottery by Cristina Mateos Leal

The assemblage consists of 69 body sherds of pottery, weighing 113g. The assemblage dates to Late Neolithic and Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age period (Appendix 3).

The pottery was recorded using the recommendations outlined in Pottery Standard (HE 2016). To this end it was examined macroscopically and sorted into one fabric based on inclusions present, the frequency and grade of the inclusions and the firing colour. Fabrics contained more than one dominant inclusion; therefore, more than one letter is used. In term of condition the material is poorly preserved and only body sherds have been recorded.

Description of fabrics and forms (Table 1)

SaCa (fine), soft calcareous sandy ware. Oxidised fabric with abundant ill-sorted sand quartz (0.5mm), sparse, ill-sorted grog (0.5mm), sparse, ill-sorted voids plate-like (1mm), rare, ill-sorted irregular voids (1mm) and sparse, ill-sorted white mica (0.25mm). No featured sherds, but grooved cordon impressions decoration identified.

FQ (coarse), soft flint and quartz-tempered ware. Reduce fabric with brown/orange outer surface. Common, ill-sorted burnt flint (up to 3mm), common, ill-sorted sub-angular quartz (up to 2mm), spare, ill-sorted sand quartz (0.25mm) visible in the outer surface, rare, ill-sorted white mica (0.25mm) and common, ill-sorted leached out of calcareous inclusions (up to 4mm). No featured sherds.

Table 1 Pottery fabrics

<i>Fabric</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>No %</i>	<i>Wt</i>	<i>Wt %</i>
Prehistoric wares					
SaCa	Calcareous sandy ware	10	14.49	3	2.65
FQ	Coarse flint and quartz-tempered ware	59	85.51	110	97.35
Total		69	100.00	113	100.00

The quartzite and flint-tempered ware (FQ) is the largest in the assemblage accounting for 85.5%. The use of flint and quartzite as tempered was common in the Late Bronze Age in the Thames Valley (Lambrick, 2009, 198), but the use of sand in the fabrics could point to a Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age period (Barclay 2010, 170). This pottery is concentrated in trenches 43 and 46.

The calcareous sandy ware (SaCa) has been identified as a Late Neolithic Grooved ware. The decoration seems to be a vertical decoration flanked by horizontally oriented bands. It is very rare to find this tradition in the Berkshire area. Other Grooved ware sites in the Upper Thames valley relatively close to Arborfield Cross are Seven Barrows All Weather Gallop, Sparholt (Howell and Durden 1996, 21-22), Tower Hill, Ashbury (Miles *et al.* 2003, 154) or Church Farm Thame (Raymond 2012, 169). This finding is very important to increase the knowledge of the later Neolithic in the area.

The characteristics of the pottery date the assemblage likely to the Late Neolithic and Late Bronze Age / Early Iron Age.

Ceramic Building Material by Danielle Milbank

A total of 16 pieces (176g) of ceramic building material were recovered in the course of the evaluation, from five contexts. These were all hand-collected and were examined under x10 magnification, categorised by form and fabric, and are summarised in Appendix 4. All but a subsample of the fragments recovered are recommended for discard after recording and completion of any further fieldwork, in line with the recipient museum's policy.

Small fragments (typically 20mm to 40mm) were recovered from a range of contexts. These are not readily datable (representing a broad medieval to modern date range), and include fragments from gully slot 5 (56), and ditch slot 7 (58).

Piece of tile with a medieval to early post-medieval date include:

Gully 1 (52): a piece of tile in a medium hard, dense fabric with frequent poorly sorted rounded quartz sand inclusions and a light orange red colour (T1), 15mm thick and fairly well finished. Ditch slot 8 (59) contained a piece of tile in a weak, slightly silty fabric with sparse poorly sorted sand and a light orange red core and red surface colour and thickness of 12mm.

Pieces with characteristics suggestive of a post-medieval date were recovered from gully slot 3 (56) in a hard, dense, fabric (T2) with fine sand inclusions and red colour and a thickness of 15mm.

Overall, the small quantity of ceramic building material is relatively uninformative, with medieval and later roof tile represented.

Glass by Danielle Milbank

Glass was recovered from one context, comprising one piece (310g) recovered from ditch slot 8 (59). The piece represents the base of a wine bottle, in a green glass, with a thin layer of iridescent surface decay overall, and

thicker layer of light brown decay within the broad, conical kick. The curvature of the sides are suggestive of an 'onion' type bottle, with a likely 17th century date.

The fragment is suitable for deselection, in line with the recipient museum's policy.

Burnt Flint by Molly Larkby

A total of 2,954g of burnt flint was recorded from samples found throughout two deposits from the site (Appendix 5). The largest amount came from the 32L sample take from the burnt flint deposit (77) with 2395g. The remaining flint came from an 8L sample of pit 25(83) weighing to 559g.

Macrobotanical Remains by Molly Larkby

Six samples were processed from the deposits encountered during the evaluation (Appendix 6), the samples amounting to 72 litres of soil were wet sieved using a 0.25mm sieve and air dried. The flots were then examined under magnifications between x30 and x60. One sample (4) has been omitted due to being taken from a modern pit.

All samples had evidence of charcoal. The burnt flint deposit (77), sample 5, had a significant amount of charcoal, yet, was too small for identification. Sample 6 (pit 25, 83) also had a significant amount of charcoal, although less than the burnt flint deposit. Taxa was only found in sample 3 (ditch 10, deposit 61), and has been labelled as indeterminate seeds, too charred for proper identification. In sample 4 the seeds appear to be modern intrusions and therefore not relevant.

Conclusion

The evaluation was successfully carried out with all trenches opened as intended. Of the 55 trenches, 19 trenches contained certain or possible archaeological features. However, the main feature type encountered was shallow gullies with next to no finds recovered and most if not all, are considered to be land drains or relating to some other form of fairly modern agricultural activity. A more substantial post-medieval ditch and another ditch and pit are thought to be related.

The small number of trenches with deposits of certain archaeological interest lie to the east of the site centred on trenches 32, 40, 43 and 46. Notably one feature was likely to be of Late Neolithic date and contained Grooved Ware pottery, which has rarely, if ever, been recorded for the London Clay geology in this region. The other features of later Bronze Age date, are more common, though again rare for this geology. The deposit of burnt flint, is considered to be a 'burnt mound' of Bronze Age date. A number of these types of monument are

now recorded in southern England yet their numbers pale into insignificance compared to those recorded in the Highland zone and Ireland (Hawkes, 2018). Some 20 or so sites are recorded for the Middle Thames Valley region, most of which have a radiocarbon date-base chronology (Ford 2017). With one such monument recorded at Barkham 500m to the east (Torrance and Ford 2003).

Overall, the site as a whole can be deemed to have some archaeological potential with the highest potential focused around trenches 32, 40, 43 and 46. The rest of the site is deemed to have low potential.

References

- Barclay, A, 2010, 'Pottery', in J. Martin Prehistoric settlement at Southlea Farm, Datchet, *Berkshire Archaeol J* **79**, 16-20
- BA, 2021, 'General standards for Historic Environments Projects', Berkshire Archaeology, Reading
- BGS, 2000, *British Geological Survey*, 1:50,000, Sheet 268, Solid and Drift Edition, Keyworth
- CIfA, 2023a, *Standard archaeological field evaluation*, Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, Reading
- CIfA, 2023b, *Universal guidance for archaeological field evaluation*, Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, Reading
- Ford, S, 1987, *East Berkshire Archaeological Survey*, Berkshire County Council Dept Highways and Planning Occas Pap **1**, Reading
- Ford, S, 1997, 'Loddon Valley Survey, Berkshire', *Berkshire Archaeol J* **75** 11-34
- Ford, S, 2017, 'A Late Bronze Age burnt mound, Bronze Age occupation and Roman enclosure at Ridgeway School, Whitley, Reading', in T Dawson, S Ford and A Taylor, *Archaeological Excavations on Bronze Age, Iron Age, Roman and Medieval Sites in Reading and Wokingham, Berkshire*, TVAS Occas Pap **21**, Reading, 1-33
- Hammond, S, 2011, 'An Iron Age iron smelting site at Baird Road, Arborfield Garrison, Berkshire, 2002', in S Preston (ed), *Archaeological Investigations in the Silchester hinterland: Exploring landscape use around the Roman town*, TVAS Monograph **9**, Reading, 33-42
- Hawkes, A, 2018, *The Archaeology of Prehistoric Burnt Mounds in Ireland*, Oxford
- HE 2016, *A standard for pottery studies in archaeology*, Historic England, PCRG/SGRP/MPRG, London
- HE 2017, *Research Agenda*, Historic England, London
- Hey, G and Hind, J, 2014, *Solent-Thames Research Framework for the Historic Environment: Resource Assessments and Research Agendas*, Oxford Wessex Monogr **6**, Oxford
- Howell, L, and Durden, T, 1996, A Grooved Ware pit on The Seven Barrows All Weather Gallop, Sparsholt, Oxfordshire., *Oxoniensia* **61**, 169-183
- Lambrick, G, 2009, 'Chapter 6- Making a living production and exchange', in G. Lambrick, M Robinson and T Allen, *The Thames through Time: the Archaeology of the Gravel Terraces of the Upper and Middle Thames Later Prehistory: 1500BC-AD50*, Oxford Archaeol Thames Valley Landscapes Monogr **29**, Oxford, 179-236
- Lichtenstein, L and Daniel, P, 2025, Late Iron Age Settlement and a Roman pottery group at Swallowfield Road, Arborfield Cross, *Berkshire Archaeol J*, **87**, 69-94
- Marrons, 2025, 'Land North of School Road, Arborfield Cross, Wokingham: Heritage impact assessment' Marrons planning ltd unpubl rep **2522477.2** Birmingham
- Miles, D, Campbell, G, and Cromarty, A.M, 2003, Tower Hill, Ashbury, in D. Miles, S. Palmer, G. Lock, C. Gosden, and A.M. Cromarty, *Uffington White Horse And Its Landscape: Investigations At White Horse Hill, Uffington, 1989-95 And Tower Hill, Ashbury, 1993-4*, Oxford Archaeology Thames Valley Landscapes Monograph **18**, 137-58
- NPPF, 2025, *National Planning Policy Framework* (revised), Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, London
- Pine, J, 2003, 'The excavation of a late Iron Age/Roman settlement and iron production site at the Whitehall Brick and Tile Works, Arborfield Garrison, Berkshire', *Berkshire Archaeol J* **76** (for 1998-2003), 37-67
- Pre-Construct Geophysics, 2024, 'Geophysical (Gradiometer) Survey: Land at Arborfield Cross, West Berkshire', Pre-Construct Geophysics unpubl rep, Lincoln
- Raymond, F, 2012, Prehistoric pottery, in A. Taylor *Excavation of Late-Neolithic Pits, an Early Bronze-Age Ring Ditch and an Early Iron-Age Pit Alignment at Church Farm, Thame*, *Oxoniensia* **77**, 21-5
- Torrance, L and Ford, S, 2003, 'A late Bronze Age burnt mound at Barkham Square, Wokingham, 1992', in S Preston (ed), *Prehistoric, Roman and Saxon sites in Eastern Berkshire*, TVAS Monograph **2**, Reading, 87-97

APPENDIX 1: Trench details

<i>Trench</i>	<i>Length (m)</i>	<i>Breadth (m)</i>	<i>Depth (m)</i>	<i>Comment</i>
1	24.7	1.80	0.53	0-0.28m topsoil; 0.28-0.4m subsoil; 0.4m+ light yellow brown sandy silt. Gully 1 and 2. [Pl. 9]
2	26	1.80	0.5	0-0.4m topsoil; 0.4-0.5m subsoil; 0.5m+ light yellow brown silty clay. Gully 3.
3	24.8	1.80	0.6	0-0.4 topsoil; 0.4-0.5m subsoil; 0.5m+ orange brown silty clay.
4	24	1.80	0.56	0-0.35m topsoil; 0.35-0.49m subsoil; 0.49m+ light brown yellow sandy clay with frequent manganese inclusions. Gully 5, 6 and 7. [Pl. 1]
5	26	1.80	0.46	0-0.28m topsoil; 0.28-0.4m subsoil; 0.4m+ yellow brown silty clay. Gully 4. [Pl. 10]
6	25.1	1.80	0.42-0.58	SE end:0-0.28m topsoil; 0.28-0.36m subsoil; 0.36m+ orange brown silty clay. NW end:0-0.28 topsoil; 0.28-0.53m subsoil; 0.53m+ orange brown silty clay.
7	26.7	1.80	0.7	0-0.29m topsoil; 0.29-0.65m subsoil; 0.65m+ orange brown silty clay. Ditch 8. [Pl. 11]
8	25.1	1.80	0.55	0-0.33 topsoil; 0.33-0.47m subsoil; 0.47m+ orange brown silty clay.
9	25	1.80	0.57	0-0.32m topsoil; 0.32-0.47m subsoil; 0.47m+ orange brown silty clay. Ditch 10 and gully 11. [Pls 2 and 13]
10	25	1.80	0.47	0-0.25m topsoil; 0.25-0.45m subsoil; 0.45m+ orange brown sandy silt. [Pl. 3]
11	24.5	1.80	0.5	0-0.26m topsoil; 0.26m-0.38m subsoil; 0.38m+ orange brown sandy clay with frequent gravel inclusions. Gully 12 and 13.
12	25	1.80	0.46	0-0.29m topsoil; 0.29-0.44m subsoil; 0.44m+ orange brown sandy clay with frequent gravel inclusions. Possible ditch terminus or pit 9. [Pl. 12]
13	25.2	1.80	0.42	0-0.26m topsoil; 0.26-0.37m subsoil; 0.37m+ orange brown silty clay. Pit 14.
14	25	1.80	0.4	0-0.25m topsoil; 0.25-0.34m subsoil; 0.34m+ orange brown silty clay with few gravel inclusions.
15	24.5	1.80	0.56	0-0.28m topsoil; 0.28-0.48m subsoil; 0.48m+ light yellow brown sandy silt with few manganese inclusions. Gully 18, 19 and 20.
16	25	1.80	0.6	0-0.27m topsoil; 0.27-0.52m subsoil; 0.52m+ light yellow brown sandy silt with few manganese inclusions. Gully 16 and 17. [Pl. 15]
17	24.5	1.80	0.64	0-0.31m topsoil; 0.31-0.56m subsoil; 0.56m+ light yellow brown sandy silt with few manganese inclusions. [Pl. 22]
18	24.1	1.80	0.53	0-0.3m topsoil; 0.3-0.5m subsoil; 0.5m+ light yellow brown sandy silt with few manganese inclusions.
19	24.7	1.80	0.44	0-0.23m topsoil; 0.23-0.38m subsoil; 0.38m+ orange brown sandy silt with few flint gravel inclusions. Gully 15.
20	24.9	1.80	0.53	0-0.25m topsoil; 0.25-0.35m subsoil; 0.35m+ orange brown silty clay with few gravel inclusions. Ditch 22. [Pl. 16]
21	25	1.80	0.45	0-0.25m topsoil; 0.25-0.39m subsoil; 0.39m+ orange brown silty clay with few gravel inclusions. [Pl. 4]
22	24.9	1.80	0.36	0-0.23m topsoil; 0.23-0.3m subsoil; 0.3m+ orange brown silty clay with few gravel inclusions.
23	24.8	1.80	0.5	0-0.3m topsoil; 0.3-0.46m subsoil; 0.46m+ orange brown silty clay with few gravel inclusions.
24	24.8	1.80	0.38-0.46	ESE end: 0-0.28; 0.28-0.39m; 0.39m+ orange brown silty clay with few gravel inclusions. WNW end: 0-0.24m topsoil; 0.24-0.3m subsoil; 0.3m+ orange brown silty clay with few gravel inclusions.
25	25	1.80	0.36	0-0.18m topsoil; 0.18m-0.29m subsoil; 0.29m+ orange brown silty clay with occasional gravel inclusions. [Pl. 5]
26	25.4	1.80	0.56	0-0.3m topsoil; 0.3-0.51m subsoil; 0.51m+ orange brown silty clay with occasional gravel inclusions.
27	25	1.80	0.45	0-0.26m topsoil; 0.26-0.38m subsoil; 0.38m+ orange brown silty clay with occasional gravel inclusions. [Pl. 6]
28	25.3	1.80	0.38	0-0.2m topsoil; 0.2-0.31m subsoil; 0.31m+ orange brown silty clay with few gravel inclusions.
29	25.3	1.80	0.35	0-0.18m topsoil; 0.18-0.3m subsoil; 0.3m+ orange brown silty clay with few gravel inclusions.
30	25	1.80	0.41	0-0.22m topsoil; 0.22-0.38m subsoil; 0.38m+ orange brown silty clay.
31	24.8	1.80	0.56	0-0.32m topsoil; 0.32-0.51m subsoil; 0.51m+ orange brown silty clay.
32	25.3	1.80	0.5	0-0.35m topsoil; 0.35-0.45m subsoil; 0.45m+ orange brown silty clay. Pit 27 and 28. [Pl. 16]
33	25	1.80	0.5	0-0.32m topsoil; 0.32-0.47m subsoil; 0.47m+ orange brown silty clay with frequent gravel inclusions.
34	25.1	1.80	0.55	0-0.32m topsoil; 0.32-0.5m subsoil; 0.5m+ orange brown silty clay with frequent gravel inclusions.
35	25	1.80	0.47	0-0.35m topsoil; 0.35-0.4m subsoil; 0.4m+ orange brown silty clay with frequent gravel inclusions. Gully 23 and ditch 24.
36	25	1.80	0.42	0-0.22m topsoil; 0.22-0.33m subsoil; 0.33m+ orange brown silty clay with frequent gravel inclusions.
37	25	1.80	0.63	0-0.39m topsoil; 0.39-0.6m subsoil; 0.6m+ orange brown silty clay with few gravel inclusions.
38	25	1.80	0.75-0.95	NW end: 0-0.38m topsoil; 0.38-0.72m subsoil; 0.72m+ orange brown silty clay with few gravel inclusions. SE end: 0-0.35m topsoil; 0.35-0.9m subsoil; 0.9+ orange brown silty clay with few gravel

<i>Trench</i>	<i>Length (m)</i>	<i>Breadth (m)</i>	<i>Depth (m)</i>	<i>Comment</i>
				inclusions.
39	25	1.80	0.45-0.66	N end: 0-0.25m topsoil; 0.25-0.45m subsoil; 0.45m+ orange brown silty clay with few gravel inclusions. S end: 0-0.35m topsoil; 0.35-0.66m subsoil; 0.66m+ orange brown silty clay with few gravel inclusions.
40	25	1.80	0.52-0.75	0-0.36m topsoil; 0.36-0.52m subsoil; 0.52m+ light yellow brown silty clay. Gully 21, burnt mound deposits 77, 78 and 79. [Pls 17 and 18]
41	26	1.80	0.55	0-0.3m topsoil; 0.3-0.5m subsoil; 0.5m+ orange brown silty clay with few gravel inclusions. [Pl. 7]
42	25	1.80	0.36	0-0.25m topsoil; 0.25-0.36m subsoil; 0.36m+ orange brown silty clay with few gravel inclusions.
43	25	1.80	0.45	0-0.25m topsoil; 0.25-0.4m subsoil; 0.4m+ orange brown silty clay with few gravel inclusions. Pit 25. [Pl. 19]
44	24.9	1.80	0.4	0-0.25m topsoil; 0.25-0.38m subsoil; 0.38m+ orange brown silty clay with few gravel inclusions.
45	25.5	1.80	0.55	0-0.4m topsoil; 0.4-0.5m subsoil; 0.5m+ orange brown silty clay with few gravel inclusions.
46	24.8	1.80	0.5	0-0.3m topsoil; 0.3-0.46m subsoil; 0.46m+ orange brown silty clay with few gravel inclusions. Gully 26. [Pl. 20]
47	25	1.80	0.55	0-0.4m topsoil; 0.4-0.5m subsoil; 0.5m+ orange brown silty clay with few gravel inclusions.
48	24.7	1.80	0.55-0.8	SW end: 0-0.41m topsoil; 0.41-0.65m subsoil; 0.65m+ orange brown silty clay with occasional gravel inclusions. NE end: 0-0.41m topsoil; 0.41-0.55m subsoil; 0.55m+ orange brown silty clay with few gravel inclusions.
49	25	1.80	0.6	0-0.4m topsoil; 0.4-0.5m subsoil; 0.5m+ orange brown silty clay with few gravel inclusions.
50	25	1.80	0.58	0-0.4m topsoil; 0.4-0.48m subsoil; 0.48m+ orange brown silty clay with few gravel inclusions becoming gravellier towards the northern end.
51	25.3	1.80	0.33	0-0.18m topsoil; 0.18-0.24m subsoil; 0.24m+ orange brown silty clay with few gravel inclusions. Possible pit 29. [Pl. 21]
52	25	1.80	0.6	0-0.35m topsoil; 0.35-0.46m subsoil; 0.46m+ orange brown silty clay with few gravel inclusions.
53	25	1.80	0.4	0-0.24m topsoil; 0.24-0.33m subsoil; 0.33m+ orange brown silty clay. [Pl. 8]
54	25	1.80	0.36	0-0.25m topsoil; 0.25-0.32m subsoil; 0.32m+ orange brown silty clay with few gravel inclusions.
55	26	1.80	0.5	0-0.28m topsoil; 0.28-0.45m subsoil; 0.45m+ orange brown silty clay.

APPENDIX 2: Feature details

<i>Trench</i>	<i>Cut</i>	<i>Fill (s)</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Dating evidence</i>
		50	Topsoil		
		51	Subsoil		
1	1	52	Gully	Medieval / early post-medieval	CBM
1	2	53	Gully		
2	3	54	Gully	Post-medieval	CBM
5	4	55	Gully		
4	5	56	Gully		
4	6	57	Gully		
4	7	58	Ditch		
7	8	59	Ditch	Post-medieval	CBM, Glass
12	9	60	Possible ditch terminus or pit		
9	10	61	Ditch		
9	11	62	Gully		
11	12	63	Gully		
11	13	64	Gully		
13	14	65	Pit	Modern	Metal (discarded)
19	15	66	Gully		
16	16	67, 68	Gully		
16	17	69, 70	Gully		
15	18	71	Gully		
15	19	72, 73	Gully		
15	20	74, 75	Gully		
40	21	76	Gully	Post medieval / modern	Stratigraphy
40		77	Burnt flint spread	Bronze Age?	Feature type
40		78	Burnt flint spread	Bronze Age?	Feature type
40		79	Burnt mound (heat affected natural)	Bronze Age?	Feature type
20	22	80	Ditch		
35	23	81	Gully (possible terminus)		
35	24	82	Ditch		
43	25	83	Pit	Late Bronze Age / Early Iron Age	Pottery
46	26	84	Gully	Late Bronze Age / Early Iron Age	Pottery
32	27	85	Pit	Late Neolithic	Pottery
32	28	86	Pit		
51	29	87	Pit		

APPENDIX 3: Pottery catalogue by context

<i>Trench</i>	<i>Cut</i>	<i>Deposit</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Fabric</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>Wt (g)</i>	<i>Diam</i>	<i>Ceramic phase</i>
43	25	83	Pit	FQ	5	8	-	Late Bronze Age / Early Iron Age
43	25	83	Pit	DQ	37	96	-	Late Bronze Age / Early Iron Age
46	26	84	Gully	DQ	17	6	-	Late Bronze Age / Early Iron Age
32	27	85	Pit	SaCa	10	3	-	Late Neolithic

APPENDIX 4: Catalogue of ceramic building material

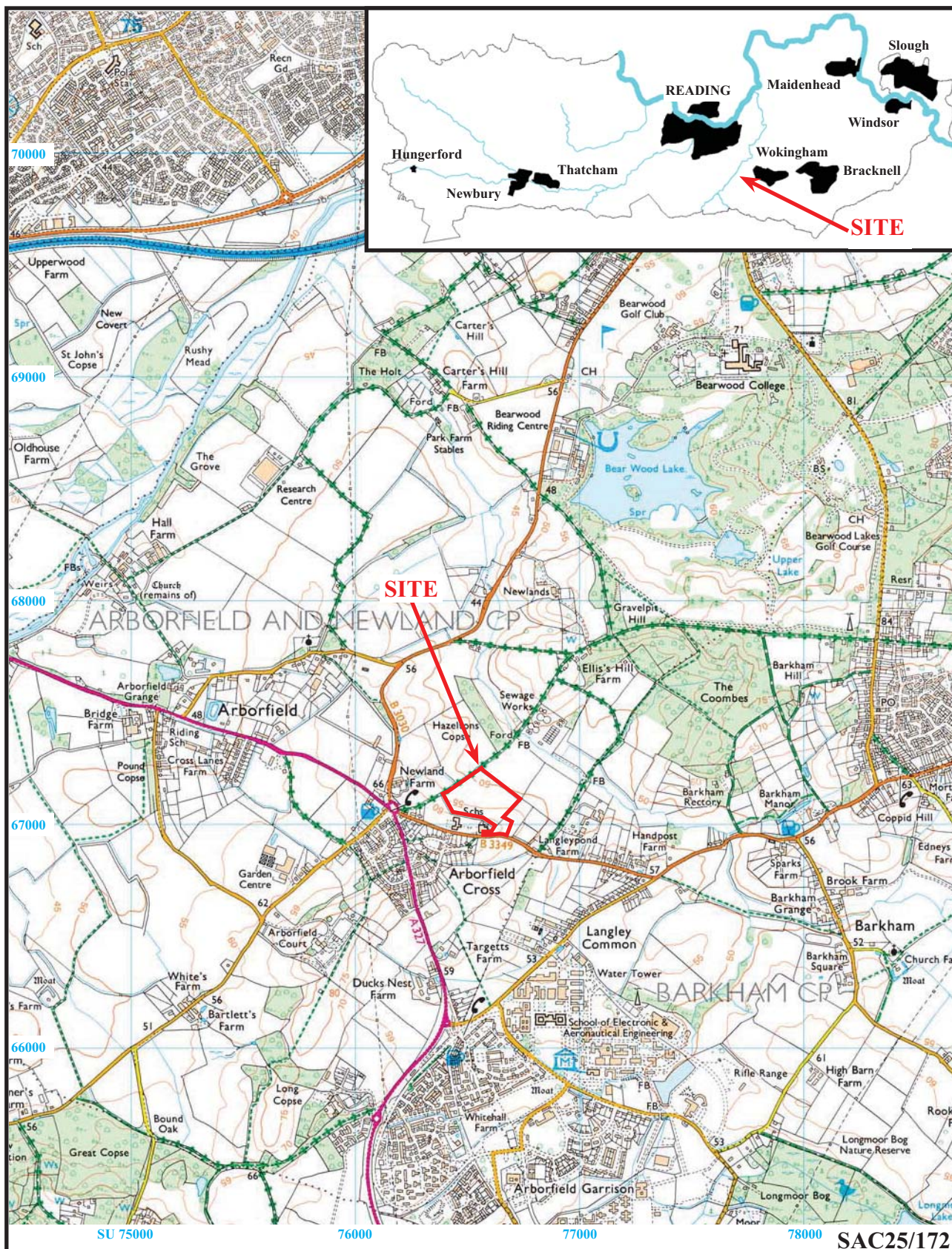
<i>Trench</i>	<i>Cut</i>	<i>Deposit</i>	<i>Feature Type</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>Wt (g)</i>
1	1	52	Gully	3	73
2	3	54	Gully	2	26
4	5	56	Gully	7	5
4	7	58	Ditch	2	3
7	8	59	Ditch	2	69

APPENDIX 5: Catalogue of burnt flint

<i>Trench</i>	<i>Cut</i>	<i>Deposit</i>	<i>Feature Type</i>	<i>Sample</i>	<i>Wt (g)</i>
40		77	Burnt mound	5	2395
43	25	83	Pit	6	559

APPENDIX 6: Catalogue of charred plant remains

<i>Trench</i>	<i>Cut</i>	<i>Deposit</i>	<i>Feature Type</i>	<i>Phase</i>	<i>Sample</i>	<i>Litres</i>	<i>Comments</i>
1	2	53	Gully	Undated	1	8	Few Small flecks of charcoal
5	4	55	Gully	Undated	2	8	Two fragments of charcoal, too small for identification
9	10	61	Ditch	Undated	3	8	Few flecks of charcoals 37x indeterminate seeds, too charred for proper identification
40		77	Burnt mound	BA (?)	5	32	Over 100 flecks of charcoal and 56 fragments of charcoal, too small for identification
43	25	83	Pit	LBA/EIA	6	8	Over 100 flecks of charcoal and 18 fragments, too small for identification



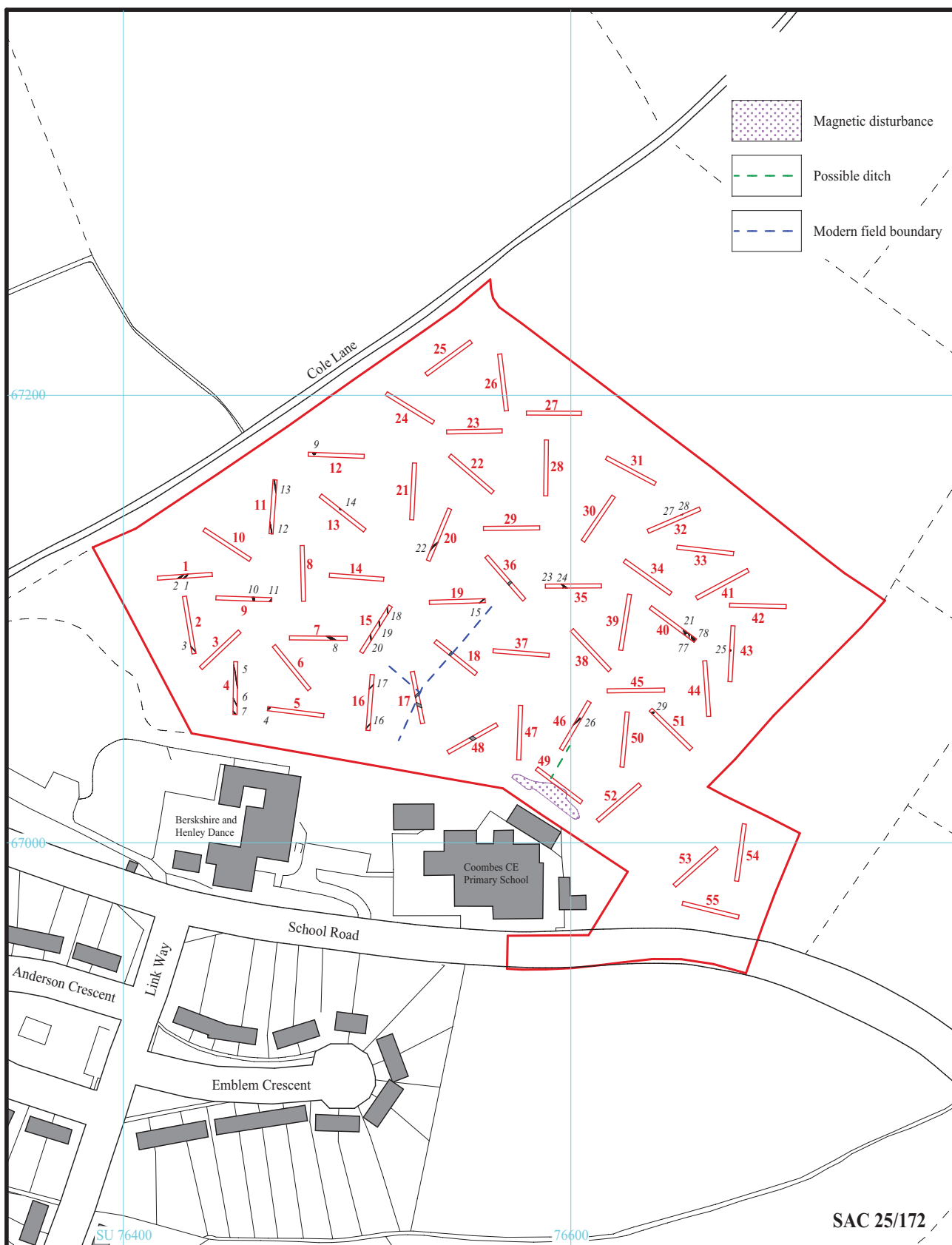
**Land North of School Road, Arborfield Cross,
Berkshire, 2025**

Archaeological evaluation

**Figure 1. Location of site within Arborfield Cross and
Berkshire.**

Reproduced under licence from Ordnance Survey Explorer Digital mapping at 1:25000
Crown Copyright reserved

THAMES VALLEY
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
SERVICES



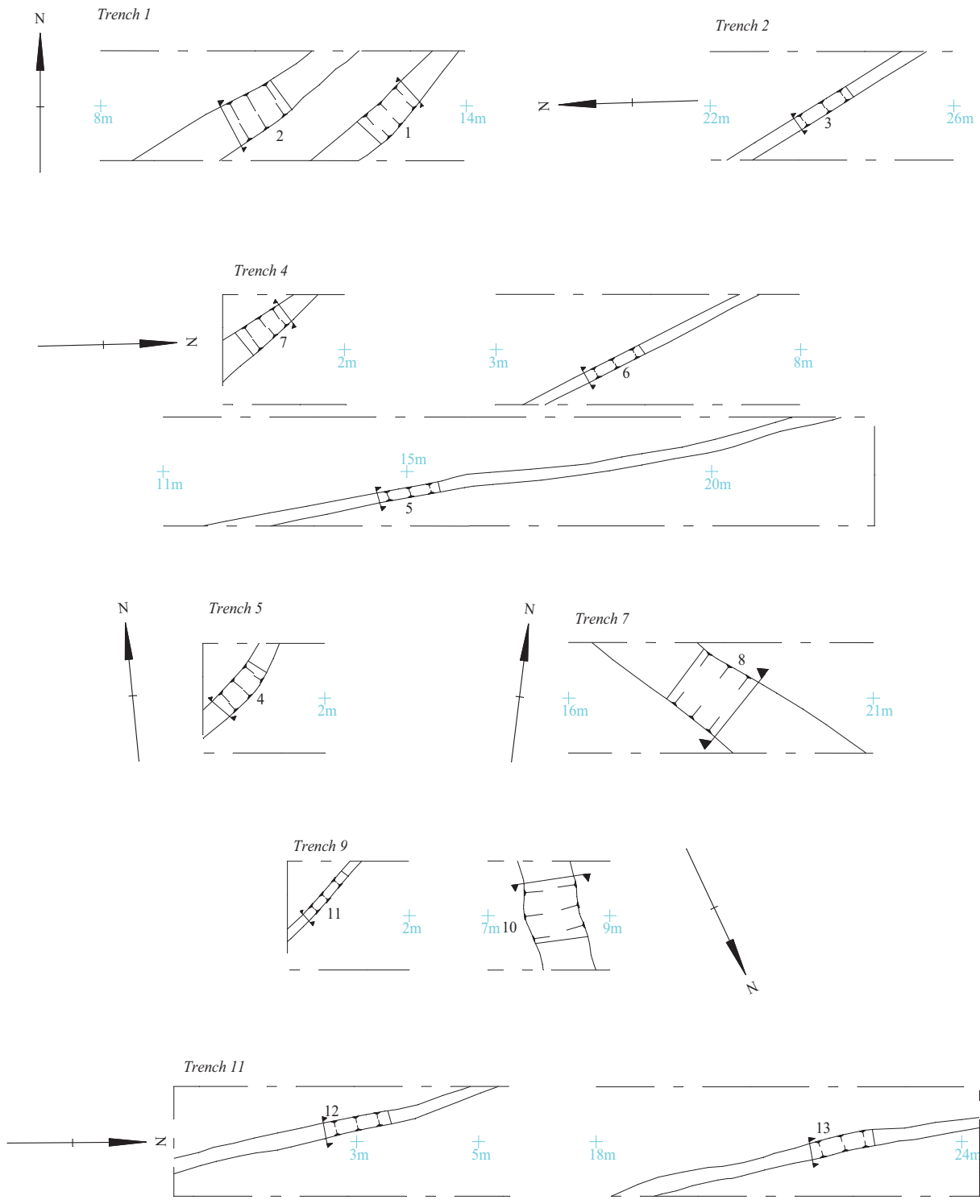
Land North of School Road, Arborfield Cross, Berkshire, 2025

Archaeological Evaluation

Figure 2. Locations of trenches, features and geophysical survey results (after Pre-Construct Geophysics 2024).

0 100m

THAMES VALLEY
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
SERVICES

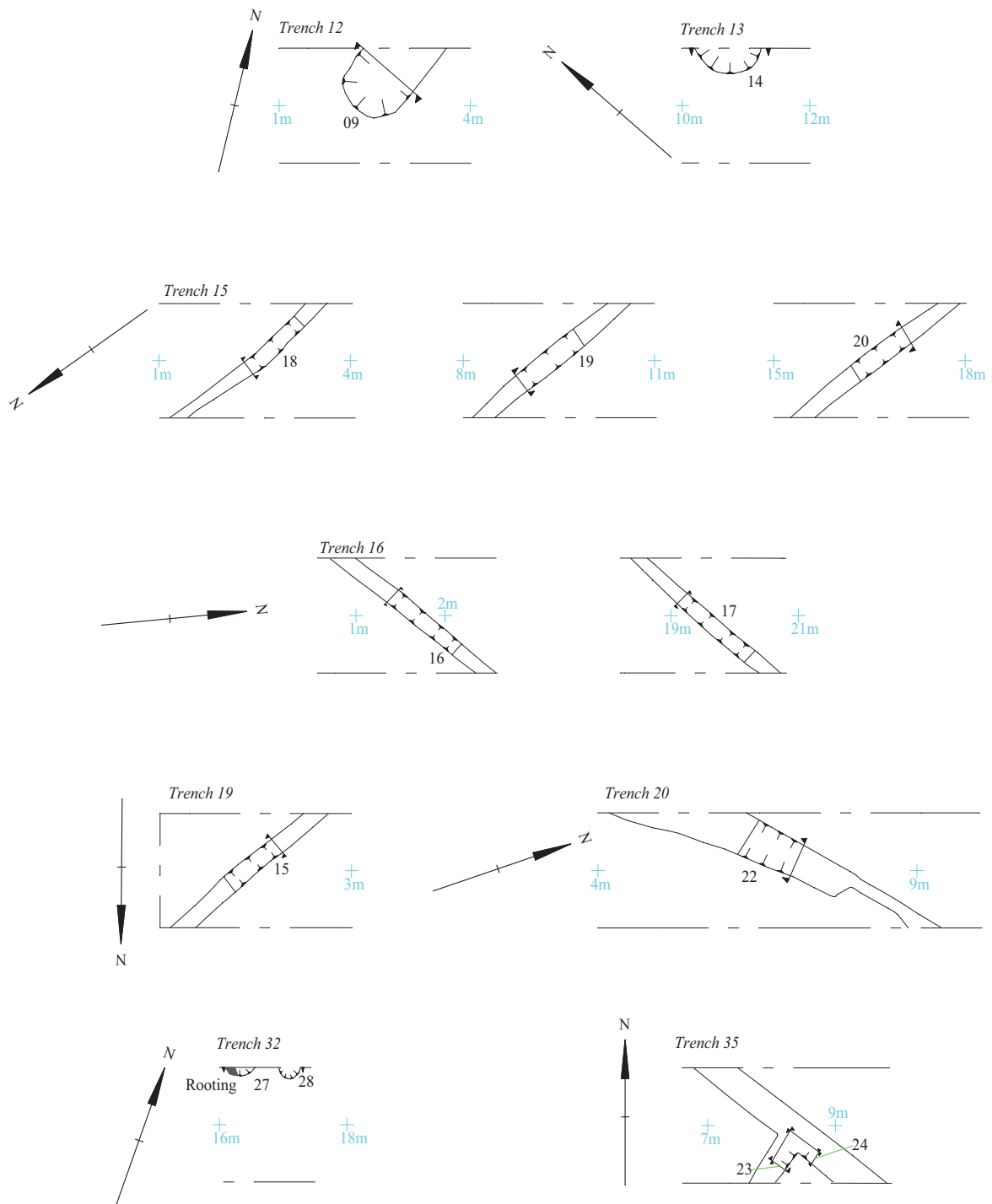


SAC 25/172

**Land North of School Road, Arborfield Cross,
Berkshire, 2025
Archaeological Evaluation**

Figure 3. Plan of trenches





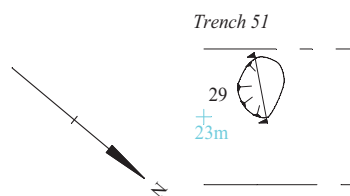
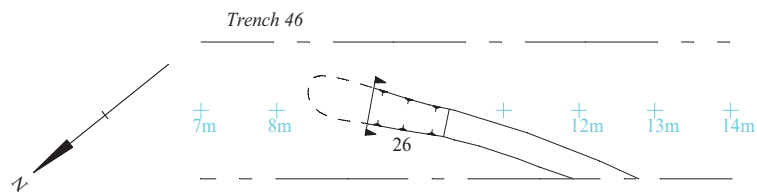
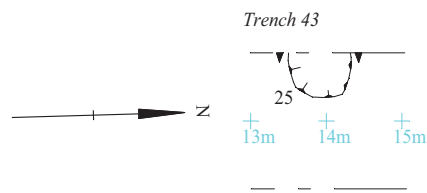
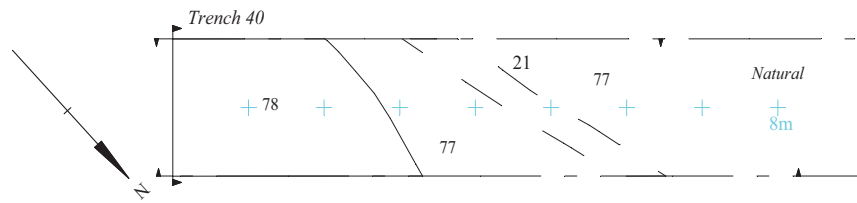
SAC 25/172

**Land North of School Road, Arborfield Cross,
Berkshire, 2025
Archaeological Evaluation**

Figure 4. Plan of trenches continued

0 5m

THAMES VALLEY
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
SERVICES



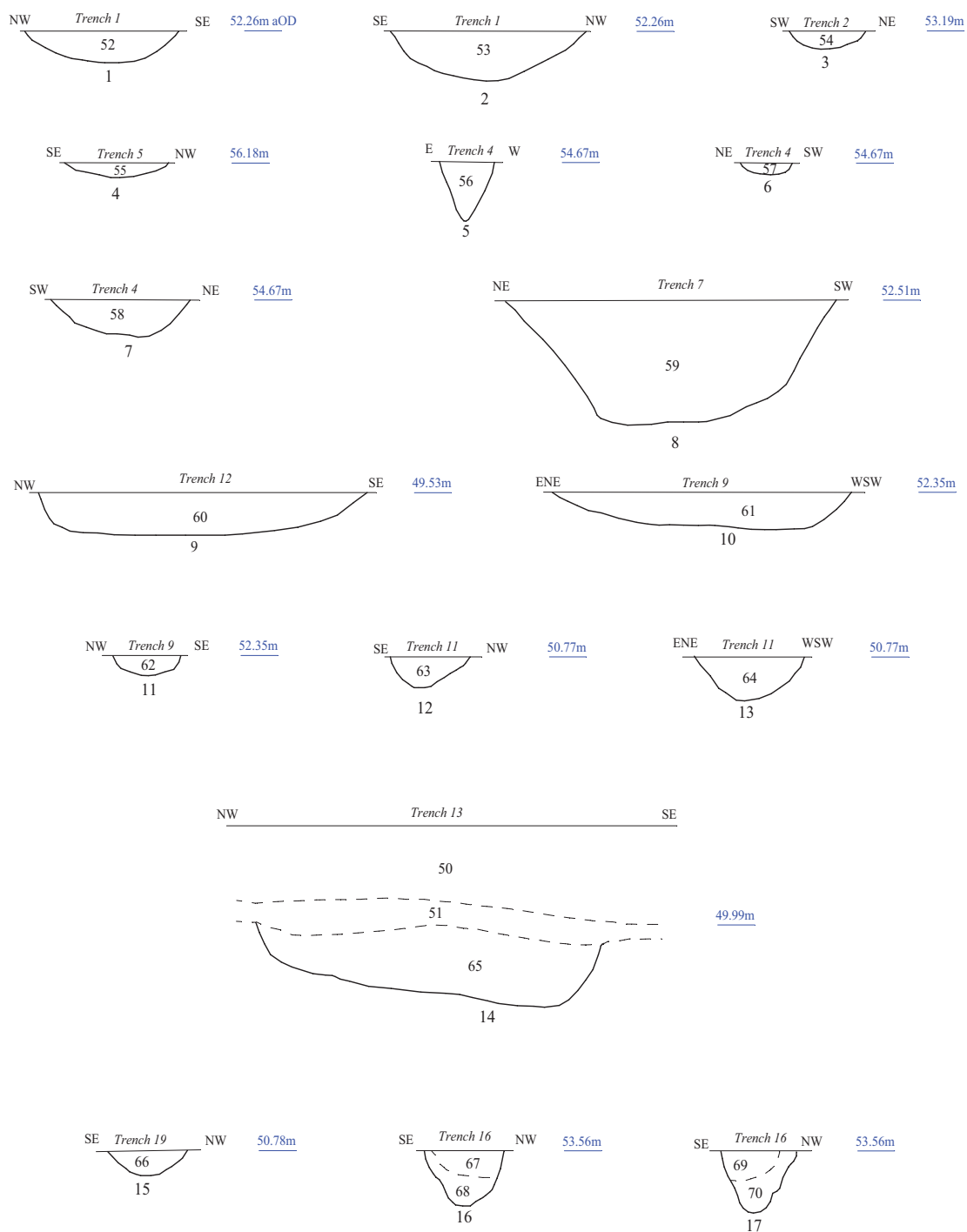
SAC 25/172

**Land North of School Road, Arborfield Cross,
Berkshire, 2025
Archaeological Evaluation**

Figure 5. Plan of trenches continued



THAMES VALLEY
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
SERVICES



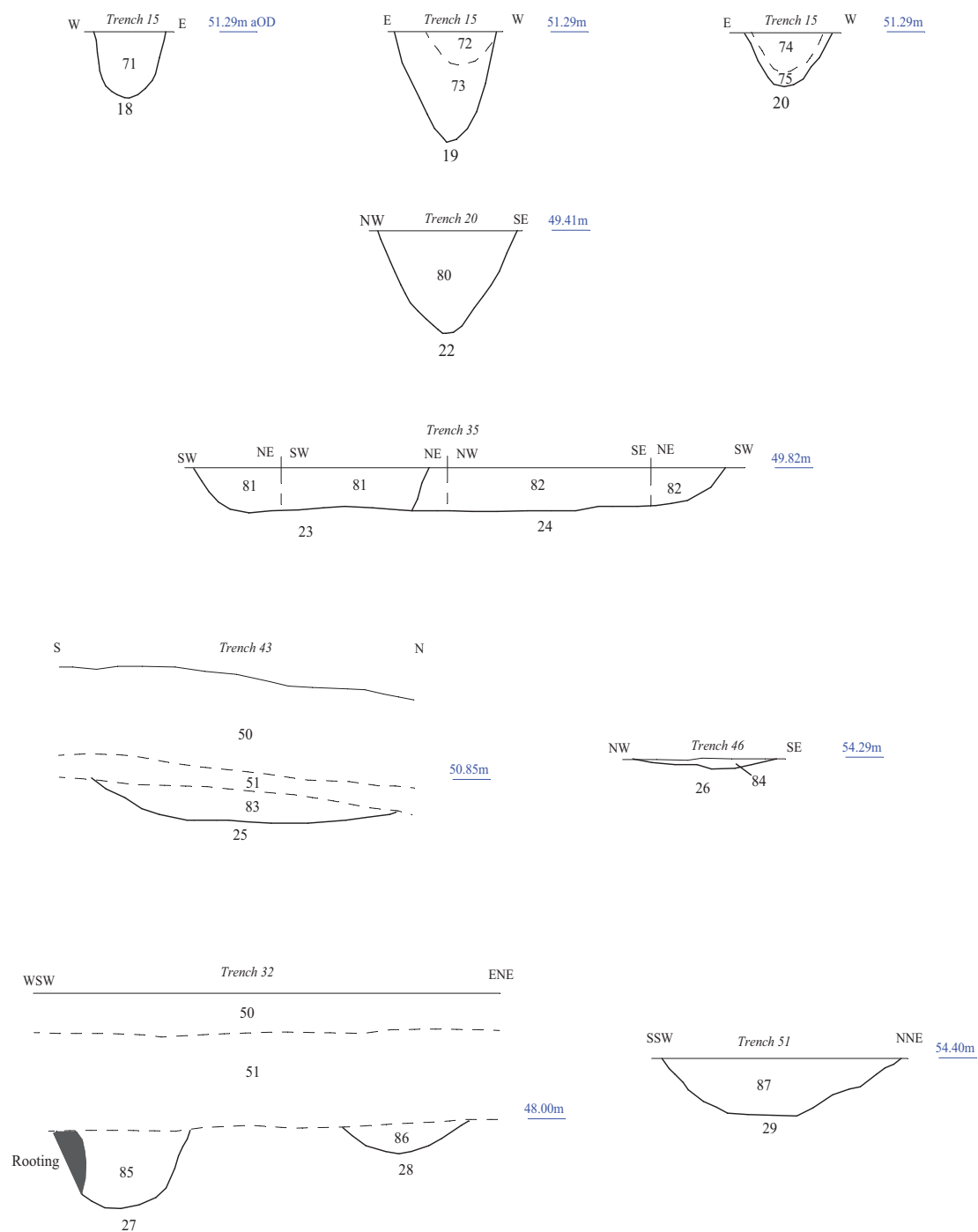
SAC25/172

**Land North of School Road, Arborfield Cross,
Berkshire, 2025
Archaeological Evaluation**

Figure 6. Sections.

0 1m

THAMES VALLEY
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
SERVICES



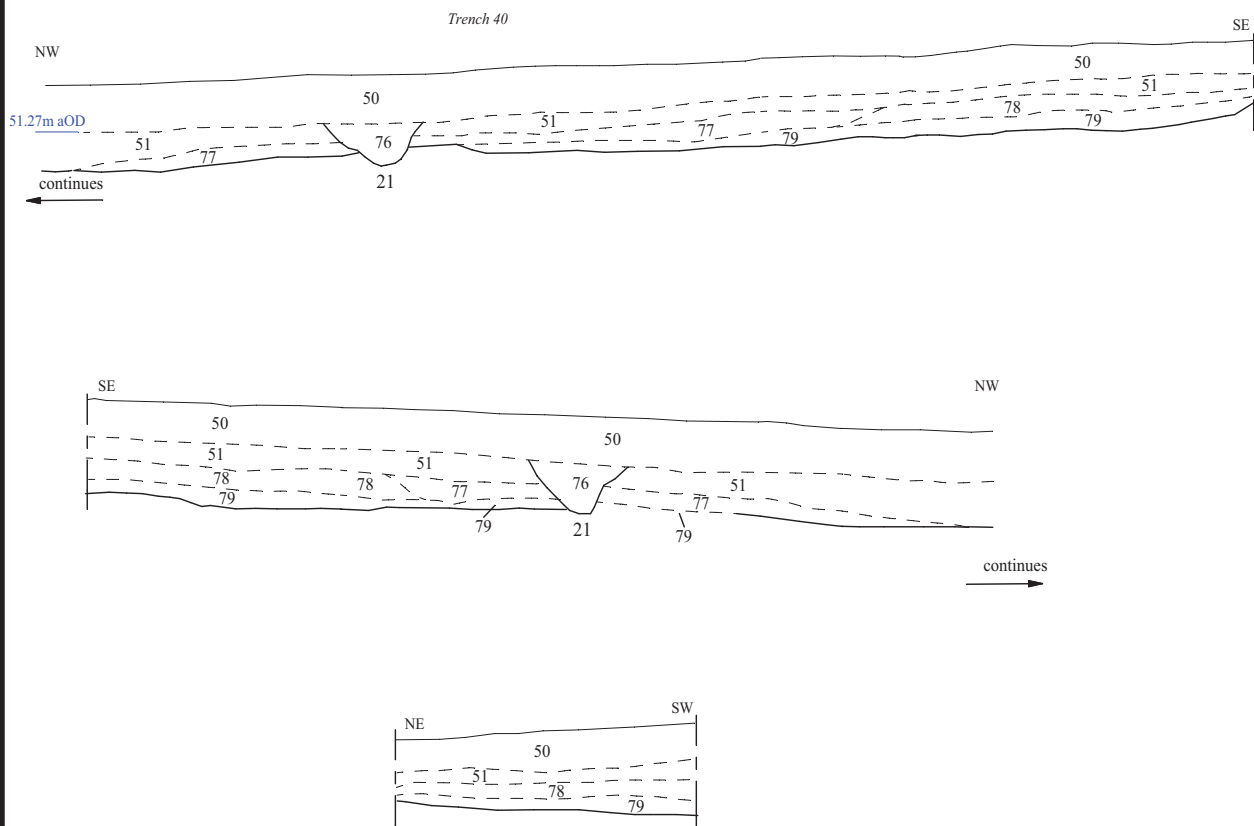
SAC25/172

**Land North of School Road, Arborfield Cross,
Berkshire, 2025
Archaeological Evaluation**

Figure 7. Sections continued.

0 1m

THAMES VALLEY
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
SERVICES



SAC25/172

**Land North of School Road, Arborfield Cross,
Berkshire, 2025
Archaeological Evaluation**

Figure 8. Sections continued.

0  2.5m

THAMES VALLEY
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
SERVICES



Plate 1. Trench 4, looking north,
Scales: 2m, 1m and 0.5m.



Plate 2. Trench 9, looking north-west,
Scales: 2m, 1m and 0.5m.



Plate 3. Trench 10, looking north-west,
Scales: 2m, 1m and 0.4m.



Plate 4. Trench 21, looking north-east,
Scales: 2m, 1m and 0.3m.

SAC25/172

**Land North of School Road, Arborfield Cross,
Berkshire, 2025**
Archaeological evaluation
Plates 1 - 4.

THAMES VALLEY
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
SERVICES



Plate 5. Trench 25, looking north,
Scales: 2m, 1m and 0.4m.



Plate 6. Trench 27, looking east,
Scales: 2m, 1m and 0.4m.



Plate 7. Trench 41, looking north,
Scales: 2m, 1m and 0.5m.



Plate 8. Trench 53, looking north-east,
Scales: 2m, 1m and 0.4m.

SAC25/172

**Land North of School Road, Arborfield Cross,
Berkshire, 2025**
Archaeological evaluation
Plates 5 - 8.

THAMES VALLEY
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
SERVICES



Plate 9. Trench 1, gully 1, looking north-east,
Scales: 0.5m and 0.1m.



Plate 10. Trench 5, gully 4, looking south-west,
Scales: 0.3m and 0.1m.



Plate 11. Trench 7, ditch 8, looking south-east,
Scales: 0.5m and 0.4m.



Plate 12. Trench 12, possible ditch terminus or pit 9,
looking north-east, Scales: 0.5m and 0.1m.

SAC25/172

**Land North of School Road, Arborfield Cross,
Berkshire, 2025**
Archaeological evaluation
Plates 9 - 12.

THAMES VALLEY
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
SERVICES



Plate 13. Trench 9, ditch 10, looking south,
Scales: 0.5m and 0.1m.



Plate 14. Trench 16, ditch 16, looking south,
Scales: 0.2m and 0.1m.



Plate 15. Trench 20, ditch 22, looking east,
Scales: 0.4m and 0.3m.



Plate 16. Trench 32, pits 27 and 28, looking north-east,
Scales: 1m and 0.4m.

SAC25/172

**Land North of School Road, Arborfield Cross,
Berkshire, 2025**
Archaeological evaluation
Plates 13 - 16.

THAMES VALLEY
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
SERVICES



Plate 17. Trench 40, gully 21 and burnt mound deposits 77-79, looking south,
Scales: 2m, 1m and 0.5m.



Plate 18. Trench 40, gully 21 and burnt mound deposits 77-79, looking east,
Scales: 2m, 1m and 0.5m.

SAC25/172

**Land North of School Road, Arborfield Cross,
Berkshire, 2025**
Archaeological evaluation
Plates 17 and 18.

THAMES VALLEY
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
SERVICES



Plate 19. Trench 43, pit 25, looking west,
Scales: 1m and 0.4m.



Plate 20. Trench 46, gully 26, looking north east,
Scales: 0.4m and 0.1m.



Plate 21. Trench 51, pit 29, looking north west,
Scales: 0.5m and 0.1m.



Plate 22. Trench 17, modern land drain, looking north,
Scales: 1m and 0.3m.

SAC25/172

**Land North of School Road, Arborfield Cross,
Berkshire, 2025**
Archaeological evaluation
Plates 19 - 22.

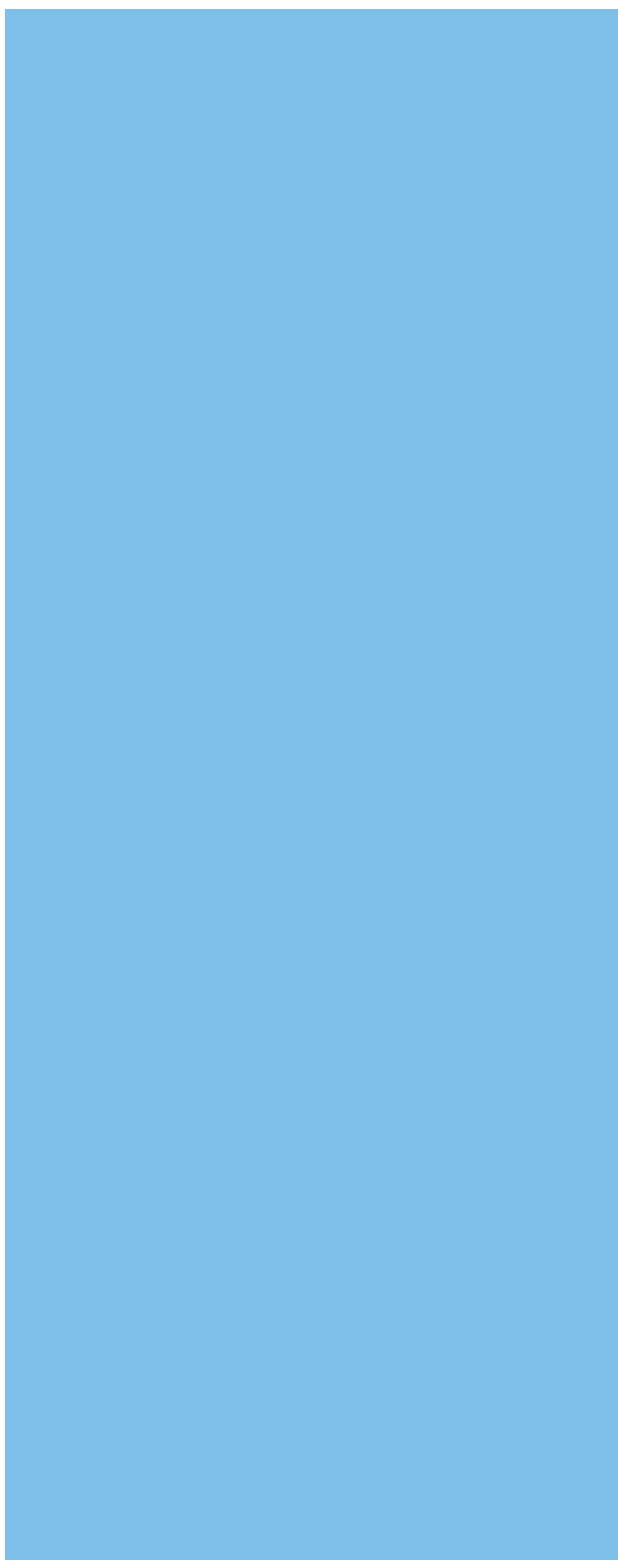
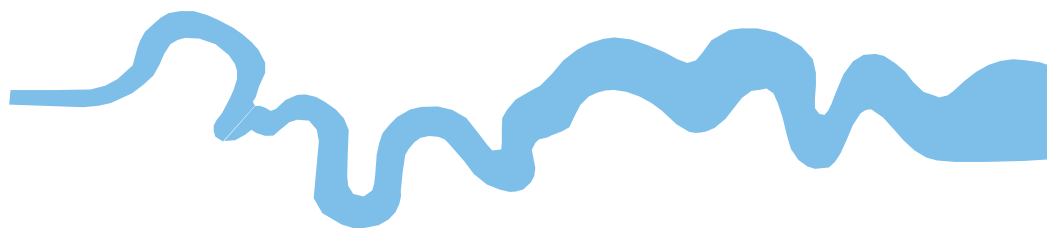
THAMES VALLEY
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
SERVICES

TIME CHART

Calendar Years

Modern _____	AD 1901
Victorian _____	AD 1837
Post Medieval _____	AD 1500
Medieval _____	AD 1066
Saxon _____	AD 410
Roman _____	AD 43
	AD 1/1 BC
Iron Age: Late	100 BC
Iron Age: Middle	400 BC
Iron Age: Early	750 BC
Bronze Age: Late _____	1300 BC
Bronze Age: Middle _____	1700 BC
Bronze Age: Early _____	2100 BC
Neolithic: Late	3300 BC
Neolithic: Early	4300 BC
Mesolithic: Late	6000 BC
Mesolithic: Early	10000 BC
Palaeolithic: Upper	30000 BC
Palaeolithic: Middle	70000 BC
Palaeolithic: Lower	2,000,000 BC





**Thames Valley Archaeological Services Ltd,
47-49 De Beauvoir Road,
Reading RG1 5NR**

**Tel: 0118 9260552
Email: tvas@tvas.co.uk
Web: www.tvas.co.uk**

***Offices in:
Brighton, Taunton, Stoke-on-Trent, Wellingborough
and Ennis (Ireland)***