

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

ARCHAEOLOGICAL

S E R V I C E S

**New Community Sports Centre, Arbour Vale School,
Stoke Road, Slough, Berkshire**

Archaeological Evaluation

by Jo Pine

Site Code: AVS15/279

(SU 9803 8103)

**New Community Sports Centre, Arbour Vale School,
Stoke Road, Slough, Berkshire**

**An Archaeological Evaluation
for CgMs Consulting**

by Jo Pine

Thames Valley Archaeological Services Ltd

Site Code AVS15/279

December 2015

Summary

Site name: New Community Sports Centre, Arbour Vale School, Stoke Road, Slough, Berkshire

Grid reference: SU 9803 8103

Site activity: Evaluation

Date and duration of project: 7th -14th December 2015

Project manager: Jo Pine

Site supervisor: Jo Pine

Site code: AVS 15/279

Area of site: 2.28ha

Summary of results: The evaluation has revealed the presence of occupation dating to the early Medieval period. The features comprise quite substantial pits, linear features , a possible hearth and postholes. Two modern boundary ditches were also recorded.

Location and reference of archive: The archive is presently held at Thames Valley Archaeological Services, Reading and will be deposited at an approved local museum in due course.

*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 All TVAS unpublished fieldwork reports are available on our website: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✓ 21.12.15 Steve Preston✓ 21.12.15

New Community Sports Centre, Arbour Vale School, Stoke Road, Slough, Berkshire An Archaeological Evaluation

by Jo Pine

Report 15/279

Introduction

This report documents the results of an archaeological field evaluation carried out at Arbour Vale School, Stoke Road, Slough, Berkshire SU 9803 8103 (Fig. 1). The work was commissioned by Ms Sally Dicks of CgMs Consulting, 140 London Wall, London EC2Y 5DN. Planning permission (S/00587/005) has been granted by Slough Borough Council to develop the site for a new community stadium together with ancillary accommodation, sports hall, all weather sports pitch and associated parking and landscaping. The consent is subject to a condition (14) relating to archaeology. The results of a field evaluation are required in order to provide sufficient information on the archaeological potential of the site so as to draw up a scheme to mitigate the effects of the development on the archaeological resource, as appropriate.

This is in accordance with the Department for Communities and Local Government's *National Planning Policy Framework* (NPPF 2012) and the Borough Council's policies on archaeology. The field investigation was carried out to a specification approved by Mr Roland Smith, Archaeological Officer for Berkshire Archaeology advising the borough council, and he also monitored the fieldwork. The fieldwork was undertaken by Jo Pine, Luis Esteves and David Platt between 7th and the 14th December 2015. The site code is AVS 15/279 and the archive is presently held at Thames Valley Archaeological Services, Reading and will be deposited at an approved local museum.

Location, topography and geology

The site is located on the northern outskirts of Slough (Fig. 1) and currently consists of a 3.59ha of land to the east of Stoke Road bordered to the north by The West Wing arts building and Orchard County Secondary School to the south (Fig. 2). The eastern part of the site has been excluded from this programme of works because the creation of the playing field will not have any archaeological impact. The area targeted by the evaluation was thus c.2.28ha. The land is predominantly flat and was previously used as a sports pitch. The development area lies at a height of c.30m above Ordnance Datum. The underlying geology is recorded as being Lambeth Group (clay, silt and gravel) overlain by Langley silts (clay and silt, 'brickearth') (BGS 2005). A rich red brown and light red yellow silt was observed in the trenches, together with a patches of gravel in Trenches 7 and 12.

Archaeological background

The archaeological potential of the site has been highlighted in the written scheme of works (Dicks 2015). A search of the Berkshire HER and other sources has revealed some evidence for activity from the prehistoric to modern periods within a 1km radius of the site. The majority of records for the site itself however relate to the Post-Medieval and more recent periods. Evidence for earlier periods lies some distance from the proposal site.

A polished axe fragment of Neolithic date was discovered *c.* 800m south of the study site and less diagnostic prehistoric struck flints *c.*800m north-east of the site. Archaeological investigations at Wexham Road 1km north-east of the site recorded multi-period evidence (Ford 2012). This included an Iron Age enclosure with a round house and postholes, Roman boundary ditches and two early Saxon post-built hall houses. Unstratified prehistoric flint was also discovered at Wexham Court *c.* 1km north-east of the site. Medieval settlement activity has also been recorded 50m to the north along Stoke Road within Buckinghamshire (Elliott2014).

Historically, Slough was in the County of Buckinghamshire in the Parish of Upton within the Hundred of Stoke; the site itself is within the parish of Stoke Poges. Domesday Book mentions Stoke Poges, *Stoches*, as within the land of Walter FitzAnsculf within Stoke Hundred. It was a medium sized parish with arable land for 10 ploughs and woodland for 500 pigs but had a high tax rating of 10 hides in AD 1086. The population in AD 1086 was 13 villagers and 4 slaves and the manor had a mill. The dispersed rural pattern of the Medieval settlement appears to continue into the Post-Medieval period with few standing buildings listed from that period.

The town of Slough grew rapidly from a number of villages in the 19th century within the advent of the Great Western Railway, and in 1974 Slough was incorporated into Berkshire.

The site itself is mapped in 1822 as occupying several parcels of agricultural land divided by hedges (and likely ditches). By 1876 these parcels of land had merged into one large field which had again been divided by the 1920s, when the eastern part appears to be orchard.

Objectives and methodology

The purpose of the evaluation is:

- to determine the existence or absence of any archaeological remains;
- to determine or confirm the approximate date or date range of the remains, by means of artefactual or other evidence;
- to determine or confirm the approximate extent of the remains;
- to determine the condition and state of preservation of the remains;
- to determine the degree of complexity of the horizontal and/or vertical stratigraphy present;

to assess the associations and implications of any remains encountered with reference to the historic landscape;

to determine, as far as is possible, the implications of the remains with reference to economy, status, utility and social activity;

to determine or confirm the likely range, quality and quantity of the artefactual evidence present;

to determine the potential of the site to provide palaeo-environmental and/or economic evidence and the forms in which such evidence may be present; and

to determine the sequence and dating of Made Ground deposits to enable an understanding of the recent history of the site and its impact on archaeological remains.

Specific research aims for the project are :

to establish in more detail the date, character and extent of the archaeological remains on the site;

to seek to clarify the nature and extent of existing disturbance and intrusions and hence assess the degree of archaeological survival of buried deposits and any surviving structures of archaeological significance;

to clarify the recent development history of the site and its impact on the sites archaeological significance; and

to inform the design of suitable mitigation measures and the production of a written scheme of investigation for zoned excavation or an archaeological watching brief if archaeology is identified.

Nineteen trenches were to be dug, each 25m long and 1.8m wide. The trenches were to be positioned in a grid pattern to target the site. Topsoil and other overburden was to be removed using a JCB-type machine equipped with a toothless ditching bucket to expose the archaeologically relevant level. This was to take place under constant archaeological supervision, and spoil heaps were to be monitored for finds. Where archaeological features were certainly or possibly present those areas would be hand cleaned and sufficient of the sampled to characterise and date them according to an agreed sample fraction. A programme of soil sampling for environmental remains was to take place should suitable deposits be present.

Results

In the event 21 trenches were excavated, the two additional trenches (Trenches 20 and 21) were excavated to clarify the extent of the archaeological deposits uncovered (Fig. 2). As the trenches were 1.60m wide, where possible, they were extended to cover the same area as if the trench was 1.80m wide and 25m long. A complete list of trenches giving lengths, breadths, depths and a description of sections and geology is given in Appendix 1.

Trench 1

This trench was aligned east-west was 30m long and 0.68m deep. The stratigraphy of the trench was topsoil, a mid-dark grey brown clayey silt which was 0.25m deep, over a mid reddish brown silt subsoil, 0.25m deep, which in turn sealed the geological natural, a rich mid brown red silt. No features or finds were present.

Trench 2

Trench 2 was on a north-south alignment and was 30.50m in length and 0.55m deep. Topsoil, 0.20m deep, overlay the subsoil, a mid brown silt which was 0.35m deep. This sealed the natural geology which was a mid brownish red silt with light reddish yellow silt patches.

Trench 3 (Figs 3 and 5; Pls 1 and 9)

This was aligned east-west and was 31m in length and 0.40m deep. Topsoil, 0.22m deep overlay the subsoil, a mid brown silt which was 0.18m deep. This overlay the natural geology, a mid brownish red silt with reddish yellow silt patches. A large pit (8) was not fully exposed in the trench but was 1.90m wide and 0.56m deep. It contained three fills (65-67). The primary fill (67) was a light brown grey silty clay with charcoal lenses being 0.08m deep. This was overlain by a 0.32m deep mid greyish brown clayey silt (66) with patches of fire reddened silt and lenses of charcoal. This also contained fired clay and burnt flint. This was sealed by a mid brownish grey silt with charcoal flecks (65). A shallow gully (9) was recorded on NNE-SSW alignment. It was 0.45m wide and 0.09m deep. Its fill (68) was a light grey brown silt.

Trench 4 (Figs 3 and 5)

This was on a north-south alignment and was 26.00m in length and 0.55m deep. Topsoil, 0.35m deep overlay the subsoil, a mid reddish brown silt, which was 0.25m deep. This sealed the natural geology which was a mid brownish red silt with light reddish yellow silt patches. At the far south of the trench a service trench was noted. A pit or gully terminus (11) was recorded at the northern end of the trench. This was 0.40m wide and 0.06m deep, and its fill (72) was a mid brown grey clayey silt. A posthole (12) was also recorded at this end of the trench. This was circular, 0.25m, in diameter and 0.05m deep with its fill (73) being a mid brown grey clayey silt. Neither feature contained finds.

Trench 5

This trench was aligned east-west and was 31m in length and between 0.50m and 0.55m deep. Topsoil, 0.20m deep, overlay the subsoil, a mid reddish brown silt which was 0.30m deep. This overlay the natural geology, a mid reddish brownish silt with light reddish yellow silt patches.

Trench 6 (Figs 3 and 5, Pls 2 and 6)

Trench 6 was on a north-south alignment and was 30.00m in length and 0.50m deep. Topsoil, 0.20m deep overlay the subsoil, a mid reddish brown silt which was 0.35m deep. This sealed the natural geology which was a rich mid brownish red silt with light reddish yellow silt patches. A large pit (10) was excavated. This was not fully exposed in the trench but was over 135m wide, 2.75m in length and 0.95m deep. Its lowest fill (71) was a

mottled brown grey silt which contained two sherds of medieval pottery (12th-early 14th century), burnt flint and charcoal. This was sealed by a compact light reddish yellow silt (70). This in turn was sealed by a mid brown grey silt (69) which contained four sherds of medieval pottery dated to the mid 12th-13th century.

Close to this feature was a patch of scorched natural with thermal gradient (19, 81) this was 0.50m in diameter and shown to be 0.05m deep and is possibly a hearth. A posthole (20) was also recorded in this area but was not fully exposed in the trench. It was 0.25m by 0.22m and 0.05m deep and contained a mid brown grey silt (82). Another possible feature (21) was recorded but not excavated. A sherd of 12th-13th century pottery was recovered from its surface.

Further to the north a shallow ditch (16) was recorded on a SW-NE alignment. This was 0.90m wide and 0.16m deep. This contained fill (77) which was a light brownish grey silt which contained two sherds of pottery dated to between the 11th-14th centuries. At the southern end of the trench, ditch 17 was modern (containing a live gas main). Two sherds of medieval pottery were found as residual material in its secondary fill (78).

Trench 7 (Figs 3 and 5; Pl. 7)

This was aligned east-west and was 31m in length and between 0.50m and 0.55m deep. The majority of the trench showed topsoil, 0.25m deep overlay the subsoil, a mid reddish brown silt which was 0.25m deep. This overlay the natural geology, a mid reddish brownish silt with light reddish yellow silt patches. A stretch of 2m at the eastern end of the trench showed topsoil 0.30m deep over gravel natural. At the eastern end of the trench two postholes were recorded (13 and 14) both cutting the silt geology. Posthole (13) was 0.25m in diameter and 0.08m deep. Its fill (74) was a light brownish grey silt. Posthole (14) was ovoid, 0.30m by 0.35m and 0.10m deep. It contained a light brownish grey silt fill (75). Further to the east was a shallow gully (15) on a SW-NE alignment. This was 0.30m wide and 0.08m deep and contained a light brownish grey silt (76). A sherd of abraded pottery, possibly Roman, and a sherd of medieval pottery were recovered from the subsoil of this trench.

Trench 8 (Figs 3 and 5; Pl. 5)

This was aligned north-south was 30m in length and between 0.40-0.45m deep. At the southern end of the trench the stratigraphy was topsoil 0.20m deep over a subsoil, a mid red brown silt which was 0.30m deep. This in turn overlay the natural geology a mid brown red silt with light reddish yellow silt patches. From 17m to the north end of the trench topsoil overlay the fill of a large ditch (1=2). A hand dug slot through this showed it to be at least 1.00m wide and 0.65m deep. The primary fill of slot 1 contained fragments of late post-medieval-early modern brick. This ditch cut a deposit 3 (55) which also contained brick fragments.

Trench 9

This was aligned east-west and was 30m in length and between 0.56 and 0.58m deep. Topsoil, 0.35m deep, overlay the subsoil, a mid brown silt which was 0.3 deep. This overlay the natural geology, a mid brownish red silt with light reddish yellow silt patches.

Trench 10

This was aligned north-south and was 30m in length and was 0.50m deep. The stratigraphy of the trench was topsoil 0.20m deep overlay the subsoil, a mid brown silt which was 0.29 deep. This overlay the natural geology, a light reddish yellow silt with mid brownish red silt patches.

Trench 11

This trench was aligned east-west and was 31.50m in length and 0.46m deep. Topsoil, a mid grey brown clayey silt, which was 0.20m deep overlay the subsoil, a light reddish brown silt which was 0.20m deep. This sealed the natural geology, a light reddish yellow silt with rich brown red silt patches.

Trench 12 (Figs 4 and 5; Pl. 3)

Trench 12 was aligned north-south and was 30.20m long and between 0.40m and 0.50m deep. The stratigraphy of the trench was topsoil, a mid grey brown clayey silt, which was 0.20m deep. This overlay the subsoil, a light reddish brown silt which was 0.20m deep. This sealed the natural geology, at the southern end of the trench being gravel with the remainder of the trench being light reddish yellow silt with rich brown red silt patches. At the southern end of the trench was a ditch (4 and 6) on a NNW-SSE alignment. This contained late post-medieval or early modern brick from slot 6 (64). A plough mark (7) was also recorded.

Trench 13

This was aligned east-west and was 30.20m in length and between 0.45m and 0.48m deep. A topsoil layer 0.20m deep overlay the subsoil, a mid brownish red silt which was 0.20m deep. This sealed the natural geology, a mid brownish red silt with light reddish yellow silt patches.

Trench 14

This was on a north-south alignment and was 30.10m in length and 0.50m deep. Topsoil, 0.25m deep, overlay the subsoil, a mid brown red silt which was 0.23m deep. This sealed the natural geology which was a mid brownish red silt with light reddish yellow silt patches

Trench 15

This was aligned east-west and was 30.10m in length and between 0.40-0.45m deep. Topsoil, 0.20m deep, overlay the subsoil, a mid red brown silt which was between 0.20m and 0.25m deep. This overlay the natural geology, a mid brownish red silt with light reddish yellow silt patches.

Trench 16

This was aligned north-south and was 30.25m in length and 0.48m deep. The topsoil which was 0.25m deep overlay the subsoil, a mid reddish brown silt which was 0.20m deep. This in turn sealed the natural geology which was a mid brownish red silt with light reddish yellow silt patches.

Trench 17

This was aligned east-west was 30.00m long in length and between 0.40-0.55m deep. Topsoil, 0.25m deep overlay the subsoil, a mid red brown silt which was between 0.20m to 0.25m deep. This sealed, a rich mid brownish red silt with light reddish yellow silt patches.

Trench 18

This was aligned north-south and was 30m in length and 0.50m deep. The stratigraphy of the trench was topsoil 0.25m deep which sealed the subsoil, a mid reddish brown silt which was 0.20m deep. This sealed the natural geology, a mid brownish red silt with light reddish yellow silt patches.

Trench 19

This was aligned east-west and was 30m long and 0.45m deep. Topsoil, 0.20m deep, overlay the subsoil, a mid reddish brown silt which was 0.25m deep. This overlay the natural geology, a mid brownish red silt with light reddish yellow silt patches.

Trench 20

This was aligned SE-NW, was 14.30m long and 0.55m deep. The topsoil layer which was 0.27m deep, overlay the subsoil, a mid reddish brown silt which was 0.23m deep. This overlay the natural geology, a mid brownish red silt with reddish yellow silt patches.

Trench 21 (Figs 4 and 5; Pls 4 and 8)

Trench 21 was aligned north-south, was 10m long and 0.50m deep. Topsoil, 0.26m deep, overlay the subsoil, a mid reddish brown silt which was 0.17m deep. This overlay the natural geology, a mid brownish red silt with reddish yellow silt patches. A small pit (18) was recorded butting from the western edge of the trench, 0.30m by 0.60m and 0.23m deep. Its fill was a charcoal rich clayey silt (80) from which medieval pottery dated to the mid 12th-13th century, fired clay and large quantities of charcoal were recovered.

Finds

Pottery by Paul Blinkhorn

The pottery assemblage comprised 15 sherds with a total weight of 96g. It was entirely of early medieval date, other than a single sherd of probable Roman material. The pottery occurrence by number and weight of sherds per context by fabric type is shown in Appendix 3.

Roman: Roman Greyware. 1 sherd, 14g.

COW: Cotswolds-type Ware, 11th –mid 14th century (Mellor 1994). 2 sherds, 13g.

MOD: Miscellaneous 19th and 20th century wares. 1 sherd, 1g.

MSH: Medieval Shelly Ware, late 12th – 13th century (Mephram 1997, 43-5). 1 sherd, 4g.

MSW: Medieval Sandy ware, late 11th-14th century. 6 sherds, 34g.

OSW: Orange Sandy Ware, mid 12th – 13th century. 2 sherds, 16g.

SS: Shelly-sandy ware, early/mid 12th – early 13th century (Blackmore and Pearce 2010). 2 sherds, 14g.

The range of fabric types is fairly typical of sites in the region. Most of the sherds are abraded to some degree, indicating that most of the pottery is the product of secondary deposition.

The sherd of possible Roman Greyware is extremely abraded, making certain identification impossible, but it appears to be wheel-thrown, suggesting a Roman date is the most likely. The MSW category encompasses a range of sandy fabrics found along a considerable length of the middle Thames Valley and its hinterland, and the problem of differentiating between the numerous different wares has been noted in the past Mellor 1994, 84). The OSW appears to be the same as Surrey fabric OQ (Jones 1998).

Other finds by Jo Pine

Fired Clay

A small assemblage of fired clay was recovered. Over 20 small fragments were recovered from pit 18 (Appendix 4) but the remainder amounted to just a single fragment from posthole 12, two fragments from pit 8 and four from a late post-medieval or early modern ditch 4. None of the fragments possesses any distinguishing feature to enable identification.

Brick and tile

Two large late post-medieval- early modern bricks were recovered from ditch slots 1 and 6 and fragments of similar material were recovered from deposit 55 (Appendix 5).

Burnt Flint

A small assemblage of burnt flint were recovered: four fragments from pit 8 (66) in Trench 3 and 11 fragments from pit 10 (71) in Trench 6 (Appendix 6).

Metal

A fragment of iron nail was recovered from ditch 4 (58).

Macrobotanical plant material and charcoal

Three samples were processed from the site. The samples were wet sieved to 0.25mm and air dried. The flots were examined under a low-power binocular microscope at magnifications between x10 and x40. No charred plant macrofossils were present but large quantities of charcoal were present in samples from features 8 (66), 10 (71) and 18 (80). Large fragments of charcoal were also recovered from hand digging the primary fill (87) of pit 8. The charcoal was of size and structure that would allow species identification.

Conclusion

The evaluation has been successful in identifying a small occupation site of early medieval date located in the south-western corner of the evaluated site. Archaeological features were recorded in trenches 3, 4, 6, 7, and 21 and comprised substantial pits, linear features, a possible hearth and postholes. Although pottery was only found in features in Trenches 6 and 21, it is likely the other features in Trenches 3, 4 and 7 are also of medieval date (medieval pottery being recovered from the subsoil of trench 7). These features are likely represent elements of a small farmstead.

Two post-medieval-early modern boundary ditches were also recorded in Trenches 8 and 12. These likely represent boundary divisions plotted on the Stoke Poges and Wexham Inclosure Map of 1822

References

- BGS, 2005, *British Geological Survey*, 1:50000, Sheet 255, Solid and Drift Edition, Keyworth
- Blackmore, L and Pearce, J, 2010, *A dated type-series of London medieval pottery: part 5. Shelly-sandy ware and the greyware industries*, MOLA Monogr **49**, London
- Dicks S, 2015, 'Written scheme of investigation for a programme of archaeological evaluation, Arbour Vale School, Stoke Road, Slough, Berkshire', CgMs Limited, London
- Elliott, G, 2014, Slough Cemetery Extension, Stoke Poges, Stoke Road, Slough, Buckinghamshire, an archaeological evaluation, Thames Valley Archaeological Services report 14/79, Reading
- Ford, S, 2012, 'An early/middle Iron Age enclosure, Saxon halls and Roman features at Wexham Road, Wexham, Slough, Berkshire', in S Preston (ed) *Settlement and Landscape Archaeology in the Middle Thames Valley: Slough and Environs*, TVAS Monogr **14**, Reading, 63–86
- Jones, P, 1998, 'Towards a type series of medieval pottery in Surrey to c. AD1700', *Surrey Archaeol Collect* **85**, 215–38
- NPPF, 2012, *National Planning Policy Framework*, Dept Communities and Local Govt, London
- Mellor, M, 1994, 'A Synthesis of middle and late Saxon, medieval and early post-medieval pottery in the Oxford Region', *Oxoniensia*, **59**, 17–217
- Mepham, L, 1997, 'Pottery' in A G Vince, S J Lobb, J C Richards and L Mepham, *Excavations in Newbury, Berkshire, 1979 – 1990*, Wessex Archaeol Rep **13**, 45-67

APPENDIX 1: Trench details

0m at S, W or SW end

Trench	Length (m)	Breadth (m)	Depth (m)	Comment
1	31.00	1.6	0.58	0.00-0.25m topsoil, a mid-dark grey brown clayey silt; 0.25-0.50m subsoil, a mid reddish brown silt ; 0.50m+ natural geology (mid brownish red silt).
2	30.50	1.6	0.55	0.00-0.20m topsoil, a mid-dark grey brown clayey silt; 0.20-0.55m subsoil, a mid brown silt ; 0.55m+ natural geology (mid brownish red silt with light reddish yellow silt patches).
3	31.00	1.6	0.40	0.00-0.20m topsoil, a mid-dark grey brown clayey silt; 0.20-0.40m subsoil, a mid brown silt ; 0.40m+ natural geology (mid brownish red silt with light reddish yellow silt patches). Pit 8 and Gully 9. [Pls 1 and 8]
4	26.00	1.6	0.50	0.00-0.25m topsoil, a mid-dark grey brown clayey silt; 0.25-0.50m subsoil, a mid reddish brown silt ; 0.50m+ natural geology (mid brownish red silt with light reddish yellow silt patches). Pit 11 and Posthole 12
5	31.00	1.60	E=0.50 W=0.55	0.00-0.20m topsoil, a mid-dark grey brown clayey silt; 0.20-0.50m subsoil, a mid reddish brown silt ; 0.50m+ natural geology (mid brownish red silt with light reddish yellow silt patches).
6	30.00	1.6	0.50	0.00-0.20m topsoil, a mid-dark grey brown clayey silt; 0.20-0.50m subsoil, a mid reddish brown silt ; 0.50m+ natural geology (mid brownish red silt with light reddish yellow silt patches). Pit 10, ditch 16, hearth 19 posthole 20 and feature 21. [Pls 2 and 6]
7	31.00	1.6	E=0.50 W=0.55	West to 29m : 0.00-0.25m topsoil, a mid-dark grey brown clayey silt; 0.2-0.50m subsoil, a mid reddish brown silt ; 0.55m+ natural geology (mid brownish red silt with light reddish yellow silt patches) 29m to 31m : 0.00-0.30m topsoil, 0.30m+ gravel Postholes (13 and 14) Gully 15. [Pl. 7]
8	30.50	1.6	S=0.55 N=0.40	0.00-0.20m topsoil, a mid-dark grey brown clayey silt; 0.20-0.50m subsoil, a mid reddish brown silt ; 0.55m+ natural geology (mid brownish red silt). At northern end 0.00-0.25m topsoil onto ditch 1/2, Feature 3 . [Pl. 5]
9	30.00	1.6	0.50	0.00-0.25m topsoil, a mid-dark grey brown clayey silt; 0.25-0.50m subsoil, a mid brown silt; 0.50m+ natural geology (mid brownish red silt with light reddish yellow silt patches).
10	30.30	1.6	0.50	0.00-0.20m topsoil, a mid-dark grey brown clayey silt; 0.20-0.50m subsoil, a mid reddish brown silt ; 0.50m+ natural geology (light reddish yellows silt with mid brownish red silt patches).
11	31.20	1.6	0.46	0.00-0.20m topsoil, a mid-dark grey brown clayey silt; 0.20-0.50m subsoil, a mid reddish brown silt ; 0.50m+ natural geology (light reddish yellows silt with mid brownish red silt patches).
12	30.20	1.6	S=0.40 N=0.50	North and middle of trench 0.00-0.30m topsoil, a mid-dark grey brown clayey silt; 0.30-0.50m subsoil, a mid reddish brown silt; 0.50m+ natural geology (light reddish yellows silt with mid brownish red silt patches). Southern end 0.00-0.30m topsoil, a mid-dark grey brown clayey silt; 0.30-0.40m subsoil, a mid reddish brown silt; 0.40m+ natural geology (Gravel) Ditch 4/6 and ploughmark 7
13	30.20	1.6	0.45	0.00-0.20m topsoil, a mid-dark grey brown clayey silt; 0.20-0.40m subsoil, a mid reddish brown silt ; 0.40m+ natural geology (light reddish yellows silt with mid brownish red silt patches).
14	30.10	1.6	0.50	0.00-0.25m topsoil, a mid-dark grey brown clayey silt; 0.25-0.48m subsoil, a mid reddish brown silt ; 0.48m+ natural geology (mid brownish red silt with light reddish yellow silt patches).
15	30.10	1.6	E=0.45 W=0.40	0.00-0.20m topsoil, a mid-dark grey brown clayey silt; 0.20-0.40m subsoil, a mid reddish brown silt ; 0.40m+ natural geology mid brownish red silt with light reddish yellow silt patches).
16	30.25	1.6	0.49	0.00-0.25m topsoil, a mid-dark grey brown clayey silt; 0.25-0.45m subsoil, a mid reddish brown silt ; 0.45m+ natural geology (mid brownish red silt with light reddish yellow silt patches).
17	30.50	1.6	E=0.55 W=0.40	0.00-0.20m topsoil, a mid-dark grey brown clayey silt; 0.2-0.40 to 0.50 m subsoil, a mid reddish brown silt ; 0.40m+ natural geology (mid brownish red silt with light reddish yellow silt patches).
18	30.50	1.6	0.50	0.00-0.25m topsoil, a mid-dark grey brown clayey silt; 0.25-0.45m subsoil, a mid reddish brown silt ; 0.45m+ natural geology (mid brownish red silt with light reddish yellow silt patches).
19	30.60	1.6	0.45	0.00-0.20m topsoil, a mid-dark grey brown clayey silt; 0.2-0.45m subsoil, a mid reddish brown silt ; 0.45m+ natural geology (mid brownish red silt with light reddish yellow silt patches).
20	14.30	1.6	0.55	0.00-0.27m topsoil, a mid-dark grey brown clayey silt; 0.27-0.50m subsoil, a mid reddish brown silt ; 0.50m+ natural geology (mid brownish red silt with light reddish yellow silt patches).
21	10.00	1.6	0.50	0.00-0.26m topsoil, a mid-dark grey brown clayey silt; 0.26-0.42m subsoil, a mid reddish brown silt ; 0.425m+ natural geology (mid brownish red silt with light reddish yellow silt patches). brownish red silt with light reddish yellow silt patches). Pit 18. [Pl. 4 and 8]

APPENDIX 2: Feature details

<i>Trench</i>	<i>Cut</i>	<i>Deposit</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Dating Evidence</i>
8	1	52-54	Ditch	Late Post-medieval-early Modern	Brick
8	2	56	Ditch	Late Post-medieval-early Modern	Association
8	3	55	Feature	Late Post-medieval-early Modern	Brick
12	4	57-58	Ditch	Late Post-medieval-early Modern	Association and metal
12	7	61	Ploughmark	Late Post-medieval-early Modern	
12	6	62-64	Ditch	Late Post-medieval-early Modern	Brick
3	8	65-67	Pit		
3	9	68	Gully		
6	10	69-71	Pit	Medieval	Pottery
4	11	72	Pit		
4	12	73	Posthole		
7	13	74	Posthole		
7	14	75	Posthole		
7	15	76	Gully		
6	16	77	Ditch	Medieval	Pottery
6	17	78-79	Modern service	Modern	China
21	18	80	Pit	Medieval	Pottery
6	19	81	Hearth		
6	20	82	Posthole		
6	21	83	Unexcavated feature		

APPENDIX 3: Pottery occurrence by number and weight (in g) of sherds per context by fabric type

<i>Trench</i>	<i>Cu</i>	<i>Deposit</i>	Roman		COW		MSW		SS		OSW		MSH		MOD		<i>Date</i>
			<i>N</i>	<i>W</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>W</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>W</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>W</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>W</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>W</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>W</i>	
7		Subsoil	1	14					1	9							U/S
6	10	69					3	17			1	7					M12thC
6	10	71					1	6	1	5							12thC
6	16	77					2	11									L11thC
6	17	78			2	13											11thC
6	17	79													1	1	MOD
21	18	80									1	9					12thC
	21	surface											1	4			L12thC
		Total	1	14	2	13	6	34	2	14	2	16	1	4	1	1	

APPENDIX 4: Catalogue of Fired Clay

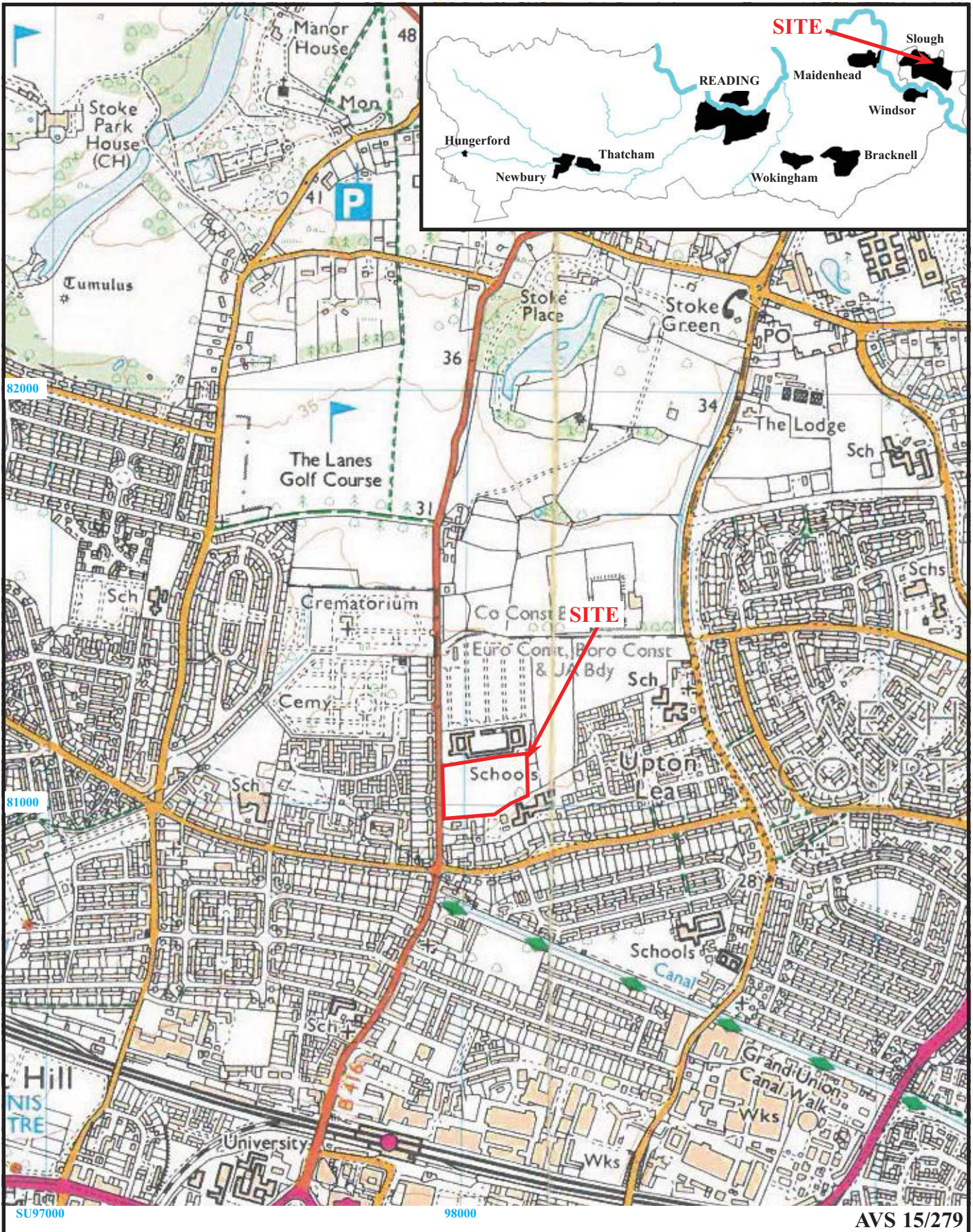
<i>Trench</i>	<i>Cut</i>	<i>Deposit</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Wt (g)</i>
12	4	58	Ditch	4	9
3	8	65	Pit	2	21
4	12	73	Posthole	1	<1
21	18	80	Pit	20	35

APPENDIX 5: Catalogue of Brick

<i>Trenc</i> <i>h</i>	<i>Cut</i>	<i>Deposit</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Wt (g)</i>
8	1	53	Ditch	9	624
8	3	55	Feature	1	18
12	6	64	Ditch	1	1700

APPENDIX 6: Catalogue of Burnt Flint

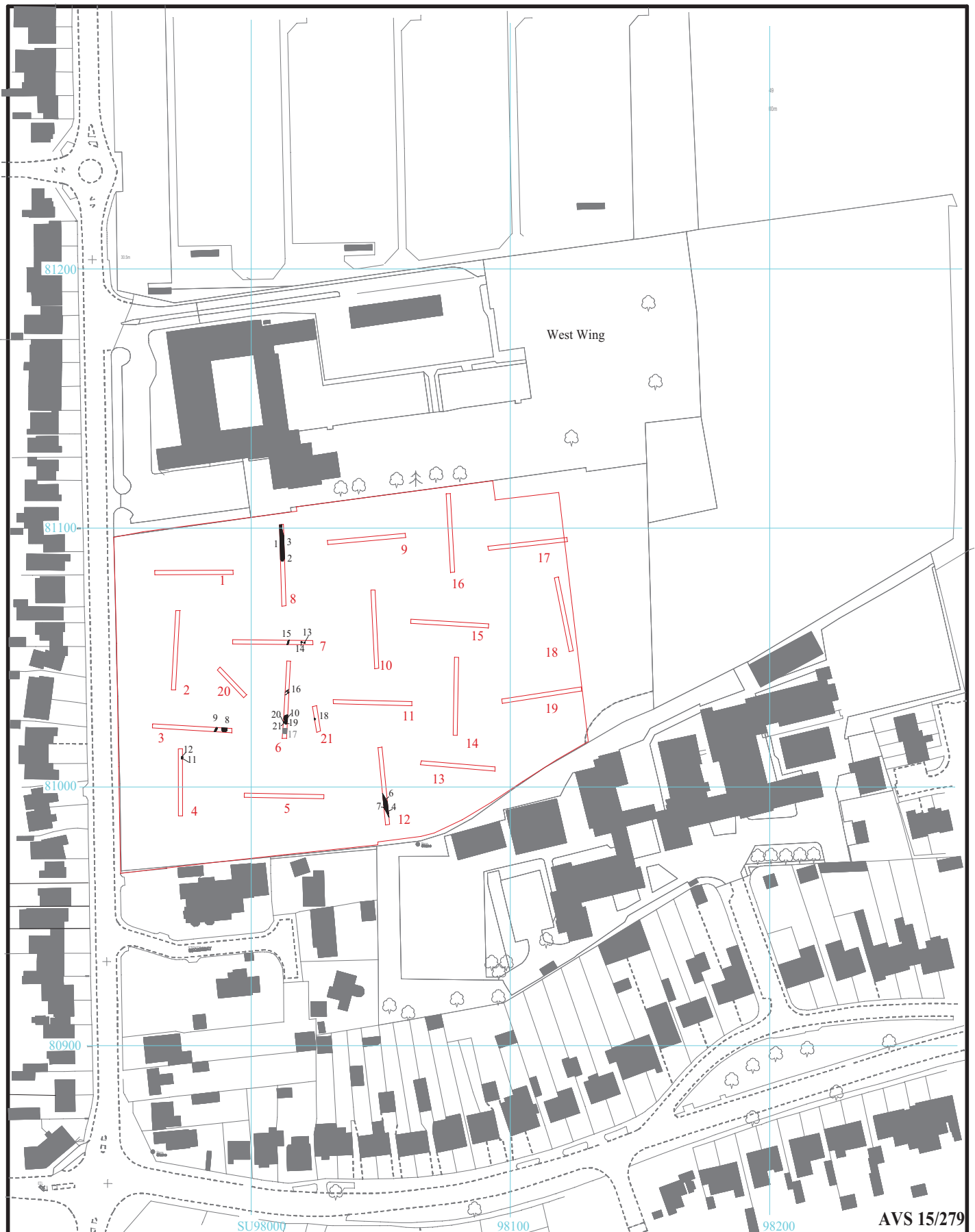
<i>Trench</i>	<i>Cut</i>	<i>Deposit</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Sample</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Wt (g)</i>
3	8	66	Pit		4	102
4	10	71	Pit	1b	9	21
6	10	71	Pit		2	59



**New Community Sports Centre, Arbour Vale, Stoke Road,
Slough, Berkshire, 2015
Archaeological Evaluation**

Figure 1. Location of site within Slough and Berkshire.

Reproduced from Ordnance Survey Explorer 172 at 1:12500
Ordnance Survey Licence 100025880



AVS 15/279

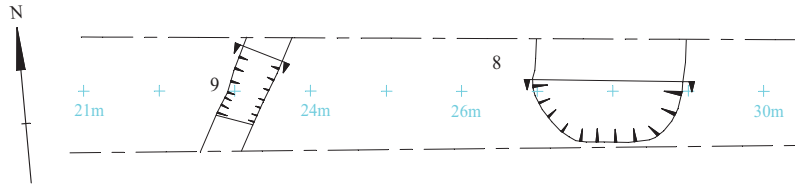
**New Community Sports Centre, Arbour Vale, Stoke Road,
Slough, Berkshire, 2015
Archaeological Evaluation**

Figure 2. Location of trenches.

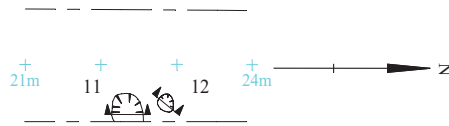
0 100m

THAMES VALLEY
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
SERVICES

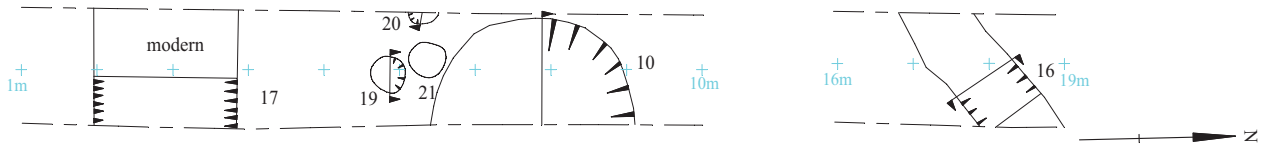
Trench 3



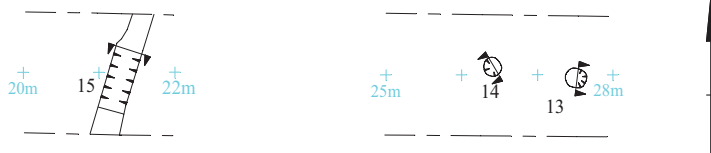
Trench 4



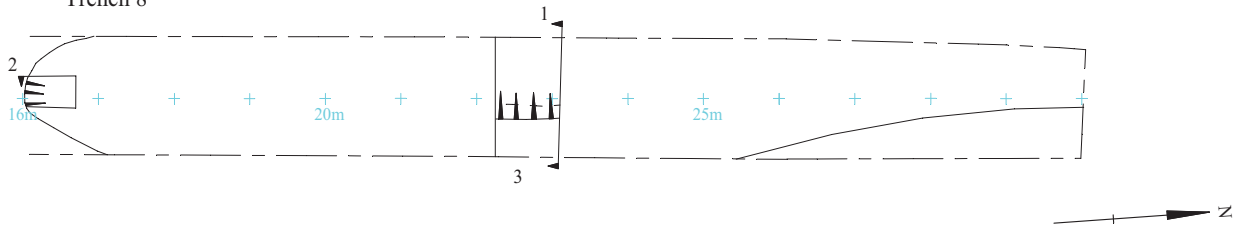
Trench 6



Trench 7



Trench 8



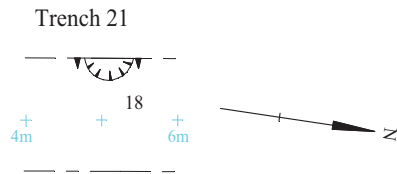
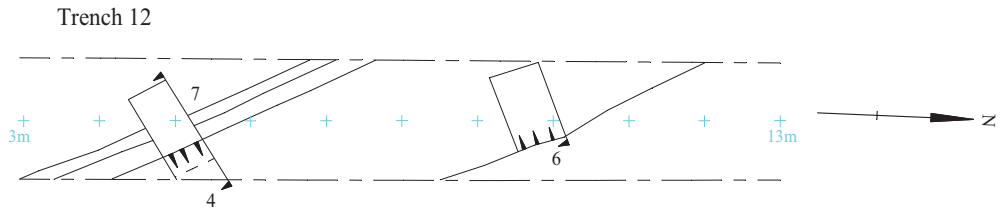
AVS 15/279

**New Community Sports Centre, Arbour Vale, Stoke Road,
Slough, Berkshire, 2015
Archaeological Evaluation**

Figure 3. Detail of trenches.



THAMES VALLEY
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
SERVICES

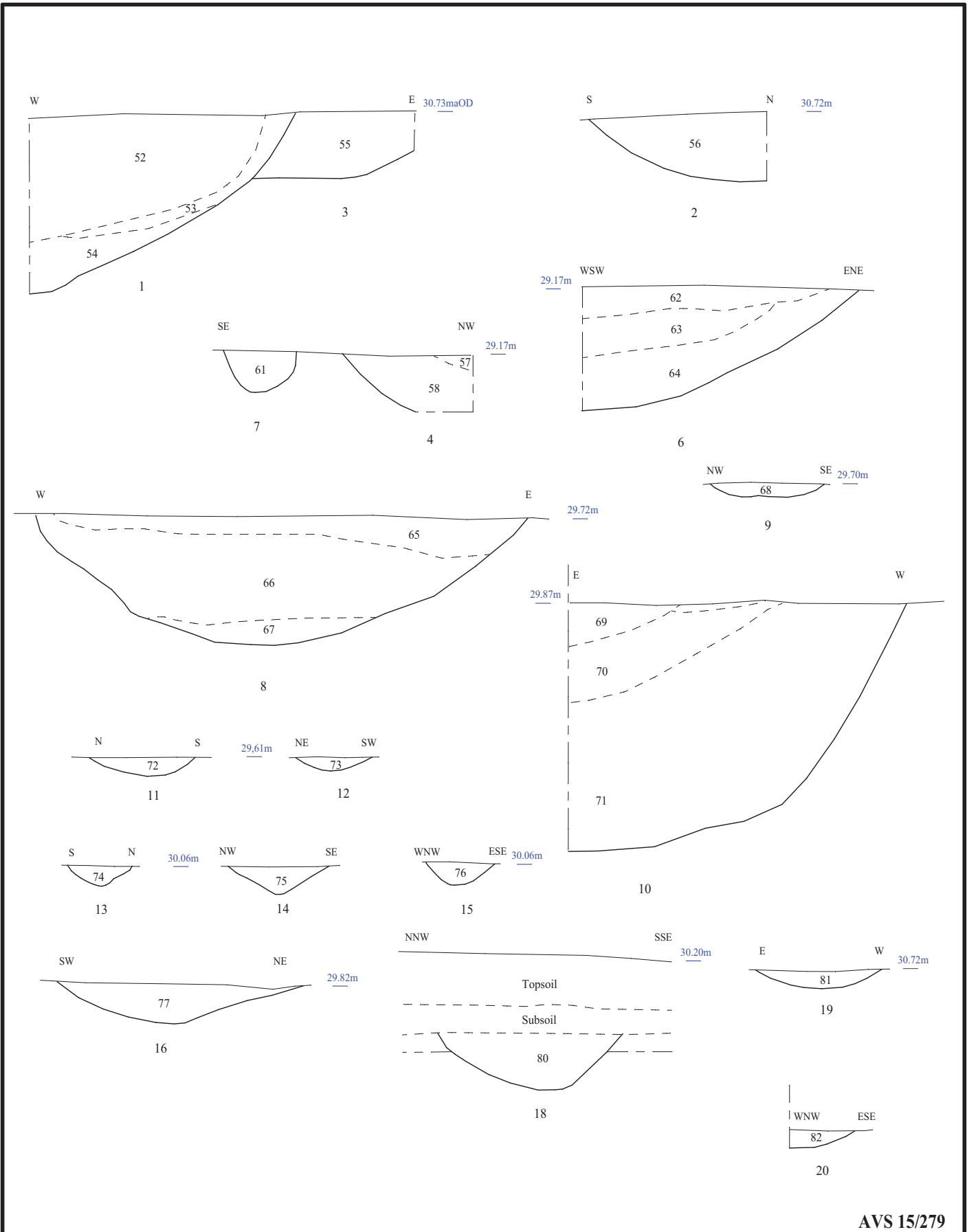


AVS 15/279

**New Community Sports Centre, Arbour Vale, Stoke Road,
Slough, Berkshire, 2015
Archaeological Evaluation**

Figure 4. Detailed plans of trenches 12 and 21.





AVS 15/279

**New Community Sports Centre, Arbour Vale, Stoke Road,
Slough, Berkshire, 2015
Archaeological Evaluation**

Figure 5. Sections.





Plate 1. Trench 3, looking east, Scales: horizontal 2m and 1m, vertical 0.5m.



Plate 2. Trench 6, looking north, Scales: horizontal 2m and 1m, vertical 0.5m.

AVS 15/279

**New Community Sports Centre, Arbour Vale, Stoke Road,
Slough, Berkshire, 2015
Archaeological Evaluation
Plates 1 - 2.**

THAMES VALLEY
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
SERVICES



Plate 3. Trench 12, looking north, Scales: horizontal 2m and 1m, vertical 0.5m.



Plate 4. Trench 21, looking north, Scales: horizontal 2m and 1m, vertical 0.5m.

AVS 15/279

**New Community Sports Centre, Arbour Vale, Stoke Road,
Slough, Berkshire, 2015
Archaeological Evaluation
Plates 3 - 4.**

THAMES VALLEY
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
SERVICES



Plate 5. Trench 8, ditch 1, looking south, Scales: horizontal 1m, vertical 0.5m.



Plate 6. Trench 6, pit 10, looking south, Scales: horizontal 1m, vertical 0.5m.

AVS 15/279

**New Community Sports Centre, Arbour Vale, Stoke Road,
Slough, Berkshire, 2015
Archaeological Evaluation
Plates 5 - 6.**

THAMES VALLEY
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
SERVICES

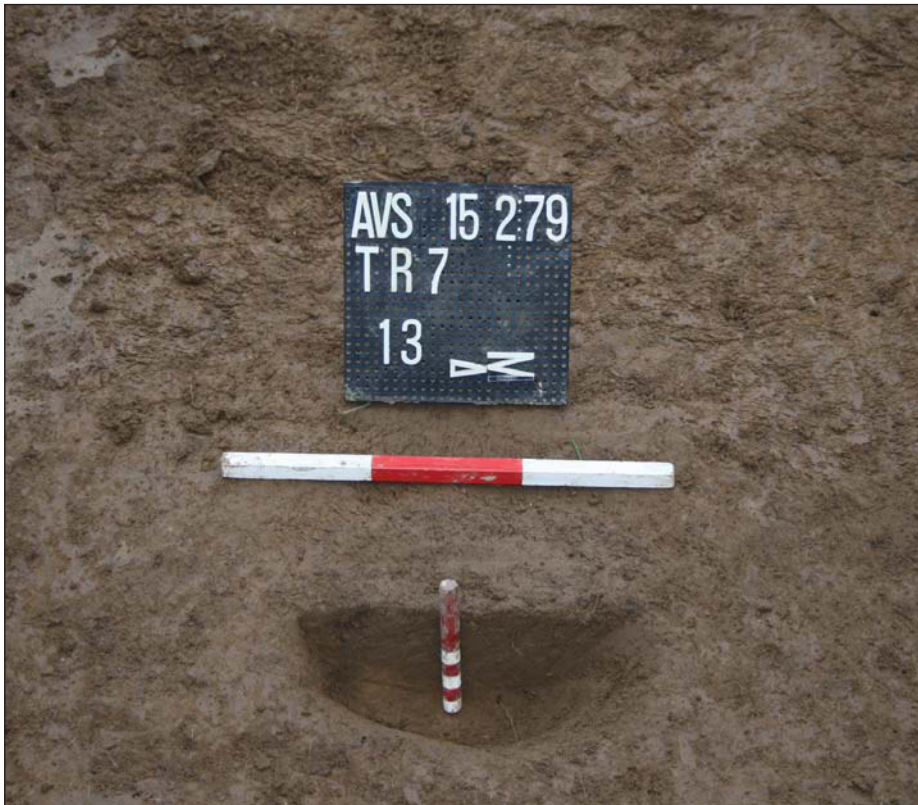


Plate 7. Trench 7, pit 13, looking east, Scales: horizontal 0.3m, vertical 0.1m.



Plate 8. Trench 21, pit 18, looking west, Scales: horizontal 1m, vertical 0.5m.

AVS 15/279

**New Community Sports Centre, Arbour Vale, Stoke Road,
Slough, Berkshire, 2015
Archaeological Evaluation
Plates 7 - 8.**

THAMES VALLEY
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
SERVICES



Plate 9. Trench 3, pit 8, looking north, Scales: horizontal 1m, vertical 0.5m.

AVS 15/279

**New Community Sports Centre, Arbour Vale, Stoke Road,
Slough, Berkshire, 2015
Archaeological Evaluation**

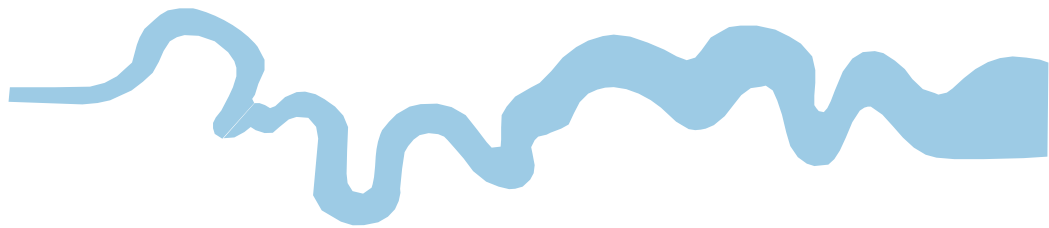
Plate 9.

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
Iron Age _____	BC/AD 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,
Berkshire, RG1 5NR**

**Tel: 0118 9260552
Fax: 0118 9260553
Email: tvas@tvas.co.uk
Web: www.tvas.co.uk**