

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

ARCHAEOLOGICAL

S E R V I C E S

**Paddock End, Terry's Lane,
Cookham, Berkshire**

Archaeological Watching Brief

by Lizzi Lewins

Site Code: TLC16/05

(SU 8904 8531)

Paddock End, Terry's Lane, Cookham Berkshire

An Archaeological Watching Brief

For Mr. C Hedges

by Lizzi Lewins

Thames Valley Archaeological Services Ltd

Site Code TLC 16/05

January 2016

Summary

Site name: Paddock End, Terry's Lane, Cookham, Berkshire

Grid reference: SU 8904 8531

Site activity: Watching Brief

Date and duration of project: 11th January 2016

Project manager: Steve Ford

Site supervisor: James McNicoll-Norbury

Site code: TLC 16/05

Area of site: 115 sq m monitored (overall site 0.5 ha)

Summary of results: No archaeological features or finds were observed during the course of the watching brief.

Location and reference of archive: The archive is presently held at Thames Valley Archaeological Services, Reading and will be deposited with a museum willing to accept the material 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 All TVAS unpublished fieldwork reports are available on our website: www.tvas.co.uk/reports/reports.asp.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 ✓ 05.02.16 Steve Preston ✓ 03.02.16

Paddock End, Terry's Lane, Cookham, Berkshire An Archaeological Watching Brief

by Lizzi Lewins

Report 16/05

Introduction

This report documents the results of an archaeological watching brief carried out at Paddock End, Terry's Lane, Cookham, Berkshire (SU 8904 8531) (Fig. 1). The work was commissioned by Mr. Carey Hedges of Paddock End, Terry's Lane, Cookham, Berkshire.

Planning permission (15/011139/FULL) has been gained from the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead for the construction of an extension to the existing house. The consent includes a condition relating to archaeology which requires that a watching brief be carried out during the groundworks.

This is in accordance with the Department for Communities and Local Government's *National Planning Policy Framework* (NPPF 2012) and the Royal Borough's policies on archaeology. The field investigation was carried out to a specification approved by Mr Roland Smith, Archaeology Officer with Berkshire Archaeology, the archaeological advisers to the Royal Borough. The fieldwork was undertaken by James McNicoll-Norbury on 11th January 2016 and the site code is TLC 16/05.

The archive is presently held at Thames Valley Archaeological Services, Reading and will be deposited with a museum willing to accept the material in due course.

Location, topography and geology

Cookham occupies the south bank of a bend in the Thames, east of Reading and north of Maidenhead in eastern Berkshire (Fig. 1) The site is located centrally between Cookham Rise and the main village of Cookham. It is bordered to the south by the White Hart public house and the B4447 (The Pound) and to the east by Terry's Lane (Fig. 2). The site comprises a flat parcel of land occupied by the house, out buildings and a swimming pool. The site lies on the interface of the underlying geology and consisted of Taplow Gravel and Alluvium and was observed across the site as a mix of silty and chalky clay and occasional gravel. The site lies at a height of c.28m above Ordnance Datum at the foot of a slope which rises to the north- west.

Archaeological background

The archaeological potential of the site has been highlighted in a briefing document prepared by Mr. Roland Smith of Berkshire Archaeology. In summary the archaeological potential of the site stems from its location within the archaeologically rich Thames Valley. The site lies just to the north-west of the historic core of Cookham which is thought to have middle Saxon origins and a minster church by the 8th century AD (Astill 1978). There had been little archaeological investigation in the area until recently but a number of watching briefs and evaluations have recently been conducted within the immediate area and have revealed the presence of archaeological features dating mainly to the Saxon and Medieval periods, and some evidence of prehistoric activity has also been uncovered (summarized in McNicoll-Norbury and MUNDIN 2013: see also Ford 2005; MUNDIN 2008; McNicoll-Norbury 2009a). Five further small sites, however, revealed no archaeological features or finds (Hammond 2003; McNicoll-Norbury 2009b; Porter 2014; Platt and Porter 2014) or only post medieval finds (Platt 2014).

Objectives and methodology

The purpose of the watching brief was to excavate and record any archaeological deposits affected by the groundworks. This involved the examination of all areas of intrusive groundworks including the stripping of overburden and digging of the foundation trenches and service runs.

Any archaeological deposits threatened by the groundworks were to be excavated and recorded with sufficient time allowed within the groundwork schedule without causing any undue delay.

A mini digger fitted with a toothless ditching bucket was used to excavate the foundation trenches and all spoilheaps were monitored for finds.

Results

Retaining Wall

A trench for a retaining wall was excavated to the rear of the existing property (Fig. 3). The trench was 0.60m wide, about 15m long, and *c.*0.90m deep (Pl. 1). The stratigraphy consisted of 0.39m of topsoil overlying 0.38m of subsoil overlying the silty clay natural geology (Pl. 2). No archaeological features or finds were observed.

Foundation trenches

The foundation trenches were dug to the north of the existing property (Fig. 3). The footprint of the new building was a total of 6.5m wide and 14.5m in length (Pl. 3). The trenches were dug to a depth of between 0.90m and

1.60m. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.30m of topsoil overlying 0.90m of subsoil overlying the chalky clay natural geology (Pl. 4). No archaeological features or finds were observed.

Finds

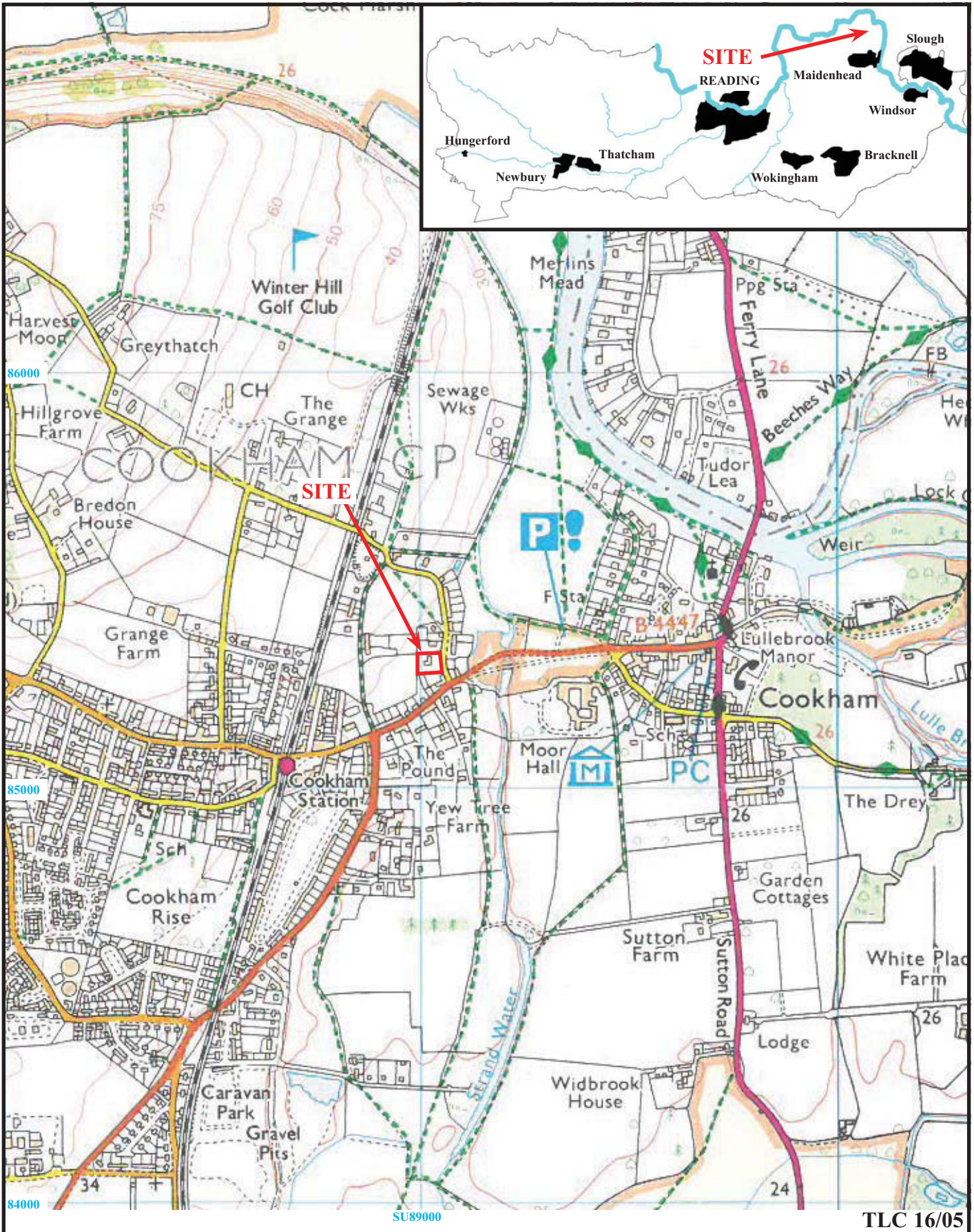
No finds of archaeological interest were observed.

Conclusion

Despite the high potential to encounter archaeology given the site's proximity to the historic core of Cookham and recent discoveries nearby, no archaeological features or finds were encountered during the course of the watching brief.

References

- Astill, G G, 1978, 'Historic Towns in Berkshire; an archaeological appraisal', Berkshire Archaeol Comn Publ **2**, Reading
- BGS, 2005, *British Geological Survey*, 1:50,000, Sheet 255, Solid and Drift Edition, Keyworth
- Ford, S, 2005, 'Thyme Cottage, School Lane, Cookham, Berkshire, An Archaeological Watching Brief, TVAS unpubl rep **04/129**, Reading
- Hammond, S, 2003, 'The Coach House, Mill Lane, Cookham, Berkshire, An Archaeological Watching Brief', TVAS unpubl rep **03/104**, Reading
- McNicoll-Norbury, J, 2009a, 'Bridge House, Ferry Lane, Cookham, Berkshire, An Archaeological Watching Brief', TVAS unpubl rep **09/56**, Reading
- McNicoll-Norbury, J, 2009b, 'Studio House, School Lane, Cookham, Berkshire, An Archaeological Watching Brief, TVAS unpubl rep **09/36**, Reading
- McNicoll-Norbury, J and Munding, A, 2013, 'Evidence for the Saxon Topography of Cookham, and some Late Neolithic Grooved Ware Pottery', *Berkshire Archaeol J*, **81**, 79–86
- Munding, A, 2008, 'Spencers, The Pound, Cookham, Berkshire, An Archaeological Watching Brief, TVAS unpubl rep **08/93**, Reading
- NPPF 2012, *National Planning Policy Framework*, Dept Communities and Local Govt, London
- Platt, D, 2014, 'Winter Hill Farm, Winter Hill, Cookham, Maidenhead, Berkshire, An Archaeological Evaluation', TVAS unpubl rep **14/06**, Reading
- Platt, D and Porter, S, 2014, 'Dean Grange, Terry's Lane, Cookham, Maidenhead, Berkshire, An Archaeological Evaluation', TVAS unpubl rep **14/199**, Reading
- Porter, S, 2014, 'The Old Fire Station, Berries Road, Cookham, Berkshire, An Archaeological Evaluation', TVAS unpubl rep **13/194**, Reading

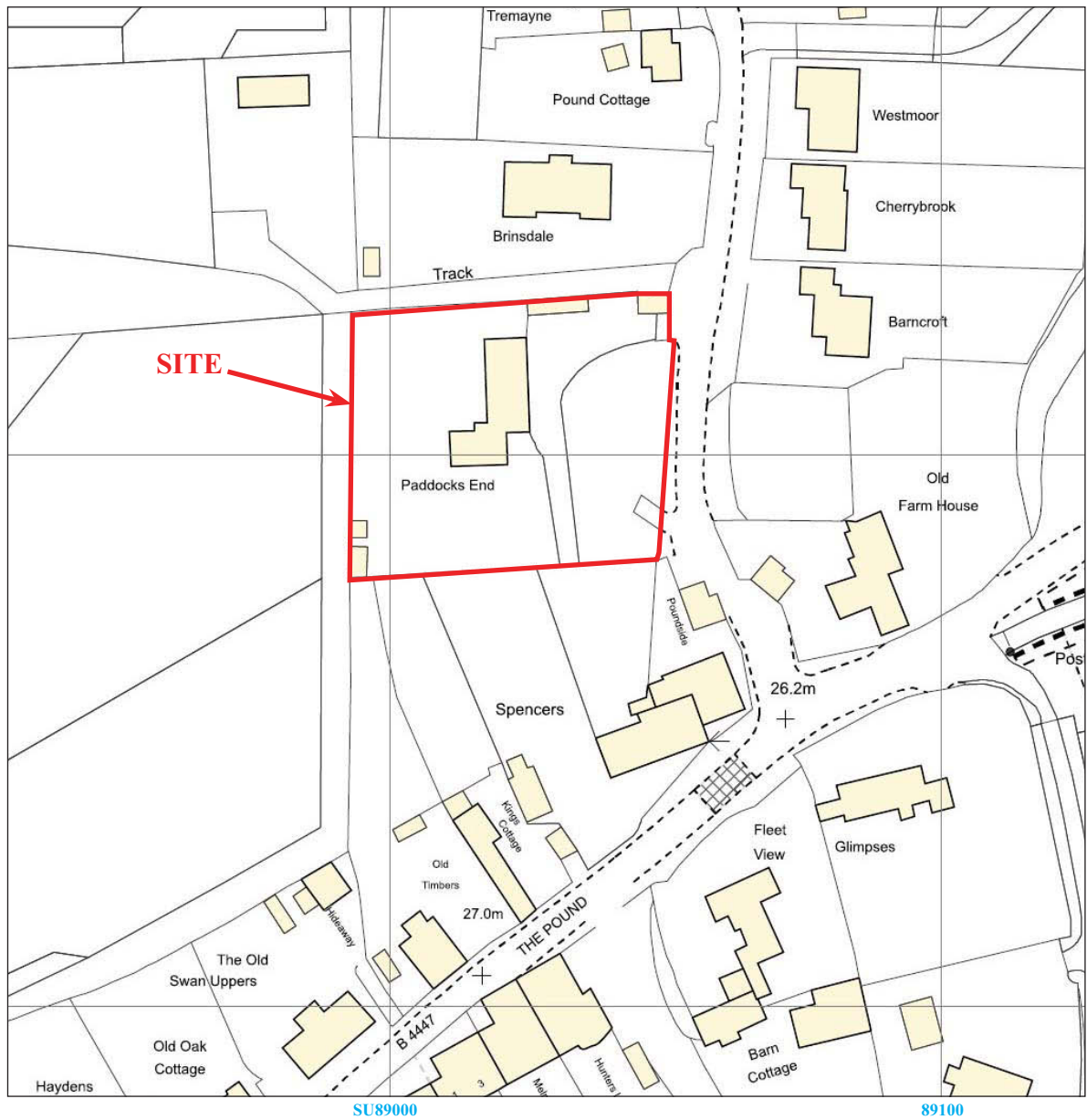


**Paddocks End, Terry's Lane,
Cookham, Berkshire, 2016
Archaeological Watching Brief**

Figure 1. Location of site within Cookham and Berkshire.

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

THAMES VALLEY
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
SERVICES



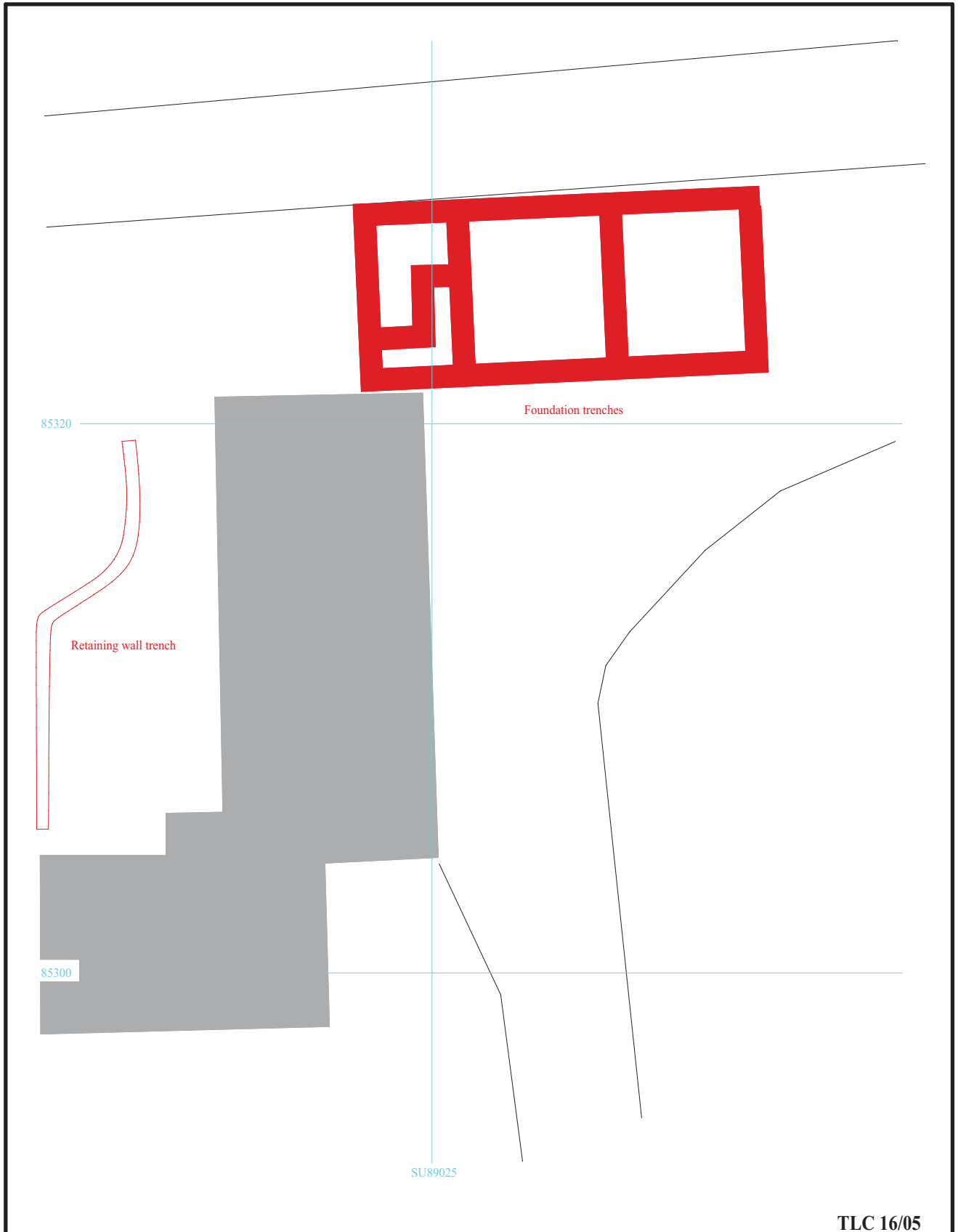
TLC 16/05



**Paddock End, Terry's Lane,
Cookham, Berkshire, 2016
Archaeological Watching Brief**
Figure 2. Detailed location of site.

Reproduced from Ordnance Survey Digital Mapping under licence.
Crown copyright reserved. Scale 1:1250

THAMES VALLEY
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
SERVICES



TLC 16/05



**Paddock End, Terry's Lane,
Cookham, Berkshire, 2016
Archaeological Watching Brief**

Figure 3. Location of observed areas.



THAMES VALLEY
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
SERVICES



Plate 1. Retaining wall trench, looking south-west, Scales: 1m and 0.5m.



Plate 2. Retaining wall trench section, looking north west, Scales: 1m and 0.5m.

TLC 16/05

**Paddock End, Terry's Lane
Cookham, Berkshire, 2016
An Archaeological Watching Brief
Plates 1 - 2.**

THAMES VALLEY
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
SERVICES



Plate 3. Foundations, looking south-west, Scales: 2m and 1m.



Plate 4. Foundation Section, looking west, Scales: 2m and 1m.

TLC 16/05

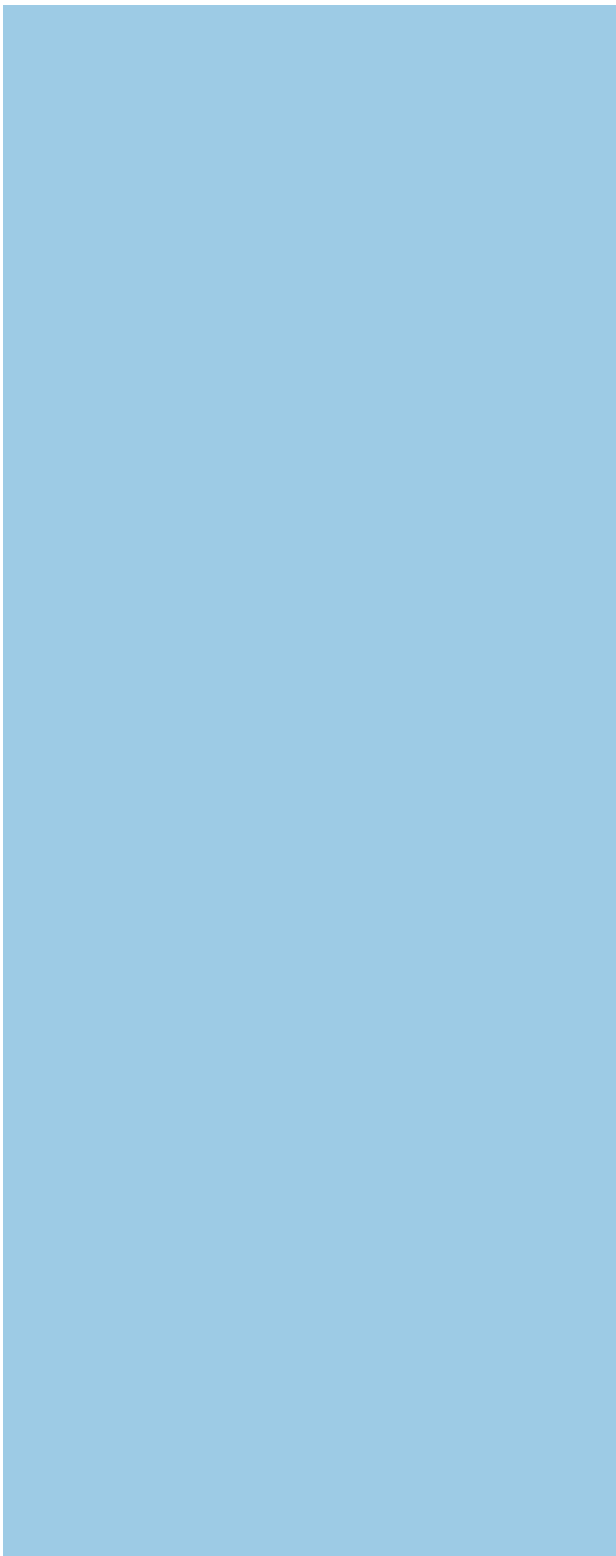
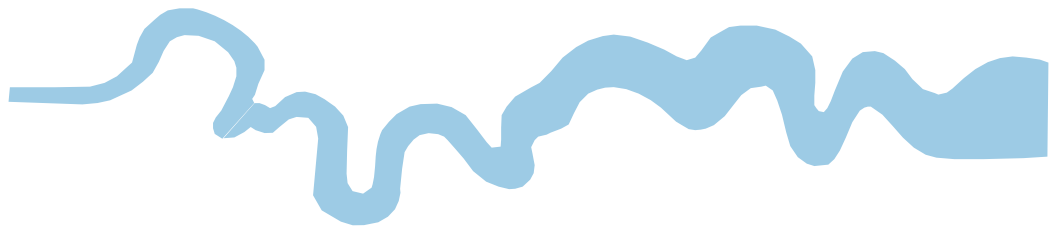
Paddock End, Terry's Lane
Cookham, Berkshire, 2016
An Archaeological Watching Brief
Plates 3 - 4.

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**