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ARCHAEOLOGICAL

S E R V I C E S

**Land west of Beech Tree Close, Oakley,  
Basingstoke, Hampshire**

**An Archaeological Evaluation**

**By Tom Stewart and Andrew Muddin**

**BTO 17/241  
(SU 5625 4981)**

# **Land west of Beech Tree Close, Oakley, Basingstoke, Hampshire**

**An Archaeological Evaluation  
for Foreman Homes**

by Tom Stewart and Andy Muddin  
Thames Valley Archaeological Services Ltd

Site Code BTO17/241

**April 2018**

## Summary

**Site name:** Land west of Beech Tree Close, Oakley, Basingstoke

**Grid reference:** SU 5725 4981

**Site activity:** Archaeological Evaluation

**Date and duration of project:** 20th March to 3rd April 2018

**Project coordinator:** Danielle Millbank

**Site supervisor:** Luis Esteves, Tom Stewart

**Site code:** BTO 17/241

**Area of site:** 5.46ha

**Summary of results:** The northern portion of the site was found to contain a moderate density of cut archaeological features of Late Saxon into Early Medieval date and this area is considered to have high archaeological potential. Elsewhere, a number of undated features were recorded along with a single posthole of Early-Middle Saxon date. A few sherds of Roman pottery were also recovered from the site.

**Location and reference of archive:** The archive is presently held at Thames Valley Archaeological Services, Reading and will be deposited with Hampshire Cultural Trust in due course.

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[www.tvas.co.uk/reports/reports.asp](http://www.tvas.co.uk/reports/reports.asp).*

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# Land west of Beech Tree Close, Oakley, Basingtoke, Hampshire An Archaeological Evaluation

by Tom Stewart and Andrew Munding

**Report 17/241**

## **Introduction**

This report documents the results of an archaeological field evaluation carried out on land west of Beech Tree Close, Oakley, Basingtoke, Hampshire (SU 5730 4998) (Fig. 1). The work was commissioned by Ms Jane Carrington, for the Foreman Homes Group, Unit 1, Duncan Road, Park Gate, Hampshire SO30 1BX.

Outline planning permission (14/00963/OUT) was gained on appeal (APP/H1705/W/15/3005729) from Basingtoke and Deane Borough Council to develop the site for residential use. The consent is subject to a condition (12) that requires a programme of archaeological investigation on the site. 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. This investigation was to take the form, initially, of evaluation by means of trial trenching to establish if the site has any archaeological potential and to inform a mitigation strategy if required. The investigation followed a written scheme of investigation approved by Mr Neil Adam, Senior Archaeologist for Hampshire County Council, advising the Borough, and the fieldwork was also monitored by him.

The fieldwork was supervised by Thomas Stewart and Luis Esteves, with assistance from Ashley Kruger, Maisie Foster and Daniel Haddad, from 26th March to 3rd April 2018. The site code is BTO17/241. The archive is presently held at Thames Valley Archaeological Services, Reading and will be deposited with Hampshire Cultural Trust in due course.

## **Location, topography and geology**

The site is located on an irregular parcel of land west of Beech Tree Close and Barn Lane, which is south-east of Oakley and next to the modern development of East Oakley (Fig. 1). The site encompasses three fields, under pasture, with a house (Cedar Lodge) in the north-east corner. The site lies on relatively level ground with the southern third on a gentle southern facing slope. The surrounding landscape consist mostly of undulating chalk downland. The underlying geology is clay and gravel capping the higher ground in the north with Seaford Chalk (Upper Chalk) at depth (BGS 1981). The site lies at approximately 125m above Ordnance Datum.

## **Archaeological background**

The archaeological potential of the site has been highlighted in an archaeological desk-based assessment (Lucie 2014) which highlights known archaeological deposits in the vicinity. In summary, there is considered to be fair potential for Iron Age, Roman and Medieval deposits in the vicinity.

No heritage assets are known within the site though in the wider area there is probable Medieval potential in the agricultural hinterland of Church Oakley. Settlement in the area is recorded from 1236, with an earlier (late Saxon) manor also recorded (Lucie 2014). To the north, a nearby excavation at Rectory Road found a large pit which contained a quantity of middle Iron Age pottery and eleven loomweights (Norton and Marshall 2008). This site also found a number of early Roman features that indicated a probable settlement. Enclosed Roman settlements are common in the Basingstoke area (Elliott *et al.* 2017), with sites such as Popley showing Late Iron Age to 1st century Roman small scale occupation.

## **Objectives and methodology**

The purpose of the evaluation was to determine the presence/absence, extent, condition, character, quality and date of any archaeological deposits within the area of development.

The specific aims were to:

- determine if archaeological relevant levels survived on the site;
- determine if archaeological deposits of any period were present;
- determine if any Roman settlement deposits were on the site;
- inform a strategy for mitigation if required.

Fifty-eight trenches were to be excavated, between 25m long. Topsoil and any other overburden were to be removed to expose archaeologically sensitive levels by a machine fitted with a toothless ditching bucket, under constant archaeological supervision. Where archaeological features were certainly or probably present, the stripped areas were to be cleaned using appropriate hand tools. Sufficient of the archaeological features and deposits exposed were then to be excavated or sampled by hand to satisfy the aims of the project, without compromising the integrity of any features that might warrant preservation *in situ* or might better be investigated under the conditions pertaining to full excavation.

## **Results**

Some 56 trenches were dug more or less in the positions intended but two trenches, one in the north paddock and the western trench to Cedar Lodge were repositioned (Fig. 3). The field boundary noted on the modern Ordnance Survey

map for the large south field was not present (Fig. 2). A slight widening of Trench 47 (2.3m) was necessary to uncover the full extent of Pit 22/23. The spoilheaps were monitored for finds.

A complete list of trenches giving lengths, breadths, depths and a description of sections and geology is given in Appendix 1. The excavated features, with dating evidence, are summarized in Appendix 2.

#### Trenches 1-12 (Fig. 3)

Most of these trenches were aligned to the gradient, apart from Trenches 7, 10 and 11. All were between 24m and 25m long to a depth of between 0.25-0.57m. The first six trenches uncovered chalk, some with patches of the upper reddish silty clay exposed. The topsoil was a brown grey clayey silt (50), overlying reddish brown silty clay subsoil (51). The chalk exposed was the upper weather surface, either damaged by plough, or glacial scarring. Most of these trenches were between 129.8m above OD and 131.68m aOD.

#### Trench 13 (Figs 4 and 6)

Trench 13 was aligned SE - NW and was 23.5m long and 0.4m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.22m of topsoil and 0.16m subsoil overlying natural reddish clayey silt with flint inclusions that would have capped the chalk natural. At 7.6m from the south-east end of the trench, a single small pit (21) was recorded which was 0.25m in diameter and 0.15m deep. It was filled with a single fill, which was dark reddish brown clayey silt with occasional sub-rounded flint inclusions (74). No finds were recovered.

#### Trenches 14-21, 26 (Fig. 3)

These trenches were on the western side of the large southern field, at a height of 130-131m aOD. All were between 23m and 25m long to a depth between 0.38-0.58m. No chalk was exposed with these trenches, with the natural geology the reddish brown silty clay. No deposits of archaeological interest were encountered.

#### Trench 22 (Figs 4 and 6)

This trench was aligned SSW - NNE and was 23.8m long and 0.56m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.39m of topsoil and 0.16m subsoil overlying natural reddish clayey silt with flint inclusions that would have capped the chalk natural. A gully (12) was recorded at 20m from the SSW end of the trench, perpendicular to the trench. This had a single fill (63) of greyish red clayey silt with occasional small rounded flint inclusions. The gully extended the width of the trench and was 0.51m wide and 0.09m deep. No finds were recovered from its fill but a sample (4) was sieved for finds and environmental material, which recovered only very fragmentary charcoal.

#### Trench 23 (Figs 4 and 6)

This trench was aligned SW - NE and was 23.6m long and 0.53m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.37m of topsoil and 0.17m subsoil overlying natural light brown-red clayey silt with flint inclusions that would have capped the chalk natural. At the SW end of the trench, a gully (16) on a N-S axis was recorded, which was 0.41m wide and 0.12m deep. It was filled with a single fill (68), a reddish grey clayey silt with occasional weathered chalk inclusions. No finds were recovered.

#### Trench 24 (Figs 4 and 6)

This trench was aligned SE - NW and was 24m long and 0.43m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.21m of topsoil and 0.22m subsoil overlying natural light brown-red clayey silt with flint inclusions that would have capped the chalk natural. At the SE end of the trench at 1.8m, a pit (13) was recorded, which was 0.45m in diameter and 0.12m deep. It was filled with a single fill (64), a dark reddish grey clayey silt with occasional flint and weathered chalk inclusions. One sherd of pottery was recovered from its fill of Late Saxon to Early Medieval date. Sieving of the soil sample (5)e from this fill recovered no material of interest.

#### Trench 25 (Figs 4 and 6; Pl.1)

This trench was aligned ESE - WNW and was 24.3m long and 0.44m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.25m of topsoil and 0.19m subsoil overlying natural light brown-red clayey silt with flint inclusions capping the chalk natural. At the ESE end of the trench, a part of an elongated pit (24) was observed, but lay almost wholly under the north section. This was left unexcavated. At 13m in the trench, on a SW-NE axis, was a ditch (20) which was 0.97m wide and 0.26m deep. It contained a single fill (75) from which no finds were recovered.

#### Trench 27 (Figs 4 and 6)

This trench was aligned SW - NE and was 24.6m long and 0.46m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.26m of topsoil and 0.22m subsoil overlying natural light brown-red clayey silt with flint inclusions that would have capped the chalk natural. At 10.8m from the SW end of the trench a perpendicular gully (15) was recorded, which was 0.6m wide and 0.16m deep. It was filled with a single fill (73), a dark brown-grey silty clay with occasional flint and weathered chalk inclusions. Four sherds of pottery was recovered from its fill of Early Medieval date, with a possibility of the context being Late Saxon.

#### Trench 28 (Figs 4 and 6; Pl. 2)

Trench 28 was aligned SE - NW and was 23.9m long and 0.4m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.23m of topsoil and 0.17m subsoil overlying natural light brown-red clayey silt with flint inclusions that would have capped the chalk natural. At the SE end, exposing a length of 6.3m, a gully (18) on a ESE-WNW axis was recorded, It was 0.4m wide

and 0.25m deep. It was filled with a single fill (70), a dark brown grey silty clay with occasional rounded flint inclusions. No finds were recovered from this trench.

#### Trench 29 (Figs 4 and 6)

This trench was aligned SE - NW and was 23m long and 0.31m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.19m of topsoil and 0.13m subsoil overlying natural light brown-red clayey silt with flint inclusions that would have capped the chalk natural. At 15.4m from the SE end of the trench a posthole (17) was recorded, which was 0.3m in diameter and 0.1m deep. It was filled with a single fill (69), a soft light brown grey silt with occasional rounded flint inclusions. It contained a single sherd of early Saxon pottery.

#### Trenches 30-37 (Figs 3)

The remainder of the trenches in the southern field were in the north east side of the field, covering the highest points at c. 132m aOD. All were between 23m and 25m long, apart from Trench 31 which was 17.5m long. Most of the depths of the trenches varied between 0.39-65m deep. All exposed the reddish brown clayey silt, apart from Trench 31 which exposed patches of chalk within the overlaying clay silts. No archaeological deposits were encountered in these trenches.

#### Trench 38 (Figs 4,6 and 7: Pl.3 and 11)

This trench was aligned SE - NW and was 24.1m long and 0.46m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.31m of topsoil and 0.23m subsoil overlying natural light brown-red clayey silt with flint inclusions that would have capped the chalk natural. At 4.5m to 9.5m from the SE end of the trench, three ditches were noted with two (8 and 9) intersecting in the SW. The W-E axis ditch (7) was 0.7m wide and 0.2m deep. It was filled with a single fill (58) which was a compact grey brown silty clay with occasional rounded flint gravel inclusions. No finds were encountered, and although a soil sample (2) was taken of the fill, it recovered no material.

The two other ditches were most likely contemporary to Ditch 7, as ditch 9 was parallel to it and Ditch 8 perpendicular to it. Ditch 8 was 0.39m wide and 0.1m deep and was filled with a single fill (59) of grey brown silty clay with occasional gravel. One sherd of Early Medieval pottery was recovered from ditch 8. A soil sample was also taken from this fill which recovered no material. The parallel ditch (9), was 0.72m wide and 0.17m deep. It was filled with a single fill (60), a dark reddish brown silty clay with occasional flint inclusions. Though no relation between 8 and 9 was obvious in section, it is thought both ditches are most likely contemporary.



#### Trench 39 (Figs 5 and 6)

This trench was aligned SW - NE and was 24.5m long and 0.46m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.31m of topsoil and 0.23m subsoil overlying natural light brown-red clayey silt with flint inclusions that would have capped the chalk natural. At 13m from the SW end of the trench a ditch (6) was recorded, which was 1m wide and 0.17m deep. It was filled with a single fill (57), a dark reddish brown silty clay with occasional flint inclusions. No finds were recovered from this feature, though a soil sample was taken of its fill. This recovered no material from the sample.

#### Trench 40 (Figs 5 and 6; Pls 4 and 8)

Trench 40 was aligned SW - NE and was 24.8m long and 0.51m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.35m of topsoil and 0.26m subsoil overlying natural light brown-red clayey silt with flint inclusions that would have capped the chalk natural. At 8.3m from the SW end, and covering 5.7m in length the SW a large pit (14) was recorded, which was investigated with a slot 0.85m wide and 1.7m long, investigating the SW extent. It was filled to the base with four fills (65, 66, 67 and 71) to an overall depth of 0.85m deep. The upper fill, under subsoil, was a dark brown, silty clay with rare small stone inclusions to a depth of 0.25m. Next was a fill of firm light brown silty clay (66) to a depth of 0.52m deep. On the SW side of the sloping base was a fill (71) a dark brown grey silt with occasional rounded flint inclusions. This reached a depth of 0.7m deep and was at least a depth of 0.6m deep. The basal fill was level across the base of the feature, which had exposed the chalk below the capping deposit above (67). The basal fill was a firm dark brown clay with occasional flint and weathered chalk inclusions. Pottery, totalling, ten sherds were recovered from three of the pit's fills, with one sherd of Roman pottery in fill 65 with the sherds from the two lower fills (66-7) of Late Saxon-Early Medieval date.

#### Trench 41 (Figs 5,6 and 7; Pl.5 and 12)

This trench was aligned WSW - ENE and was 23.4m long and 0.51m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.37m of topsoil and 0.19m subsoil overlying natural brown-red clayey silt with flint inclusions that would have capped the chalk natural. Between 98–10m from the WSW end of the trench a ditch (11) was recorded, which was 0.93m wide and 0.31m deep. It was filled with a single fill (62), a reddish brown-grey silty clay with occasional flint and weathered chalk inclusions. No finds were recovered from this feature, though a soil sample was taken of its fill. A pit (10) was also in this trench, filled with a single fill (61) of grey brown silty clay. A piece of iron strap end was recovered from the fill.

#### Trenches 42 and 43 (Figs 3, 4 and 6)

Trench 42 was aligned SSW - NNE and was 24.1m long and 0.51m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.38m of topsoil and 0.18m subsoil overlying natural light brown-red clayey silt with flint inclusions that would have capped the chalk natural. No deposits were recovered

Trench 43 was aligned SSE - NNW and was 23.2m long and 0.53m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.37m of topsoil and 0.16m subsoil overlying natural light brown-red clayey silt with flint inclusions that would have capped the chalk natural. located 3m from the SSE end of the trench was a gully (5), which was 0.93m wide and 0.31m deep. It was filled with a single fill (62), a reddish brown silty clay with occasional flint inclusions. Only an unidentifiable piece of iron (mostly corrosion product) was recovered from this feature.

#### Trench 44 (Figs 5,6 and 7)

This trench was aligned SW - NE and was 23.7m long and 0.55m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.41m of topsoil and 0.24m subsoil overlying natural brown-red clayey silt with flint inclusions that would have capped the chalk natural. At the NE end of the trench was a ditch (26) aligned east-west; and a pit or gully terminus (26) was noted at 7m from the SW end. Both were filled with single fills, and both remain undated.

#### Trench 45, 46 and 47 (Figs 3, 5 and 6; Pls 6 and 9)

Trench 45 was aligned W-E and was 23.2m long and 0.52m deep. It consisted of topsoil and subsoil, onto natural geology at a depth of 0.52. Trench 46 was aligned SSW-NNE and was 25.3m long and 0.55m deep. No deposits were identified in these two trenches.

Trench 47 was aligned south-north, and was 25.3m long. It reached a depth of 0.62m. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.46m of topsoil and 0.16m subsoil overlying natural brown-red clayey silt over chalk. At 10m from the south end, a large oval feature was encountered, 2.9m long by 1.83m wide. It was in fact two pits, totalling a depth of 0.44m deep. The pit (23) to the SE side of the feature was made up of three fills, and was cut by pit 22. A slump layer (78) covered the upper fills of both pits to a depth of 0.23m. Pit 22's upper fill (79) was grey silty clay with occasional gravel and charcoal inclusions. The basal fill (80) was a light brown silty clay with occasional gravel inclusions. The secondary fill of this pit contained seven sherds of local sandy-flint tempered Early Medieval pottery. The sample (6) taken from this fill recovered fragmentary charcoal.

The underlying pit (23) was filled with three fills (81, 82 and 83), The upper deposit was a grey silty clay with occasional flint inclusions to a depth of 0.33m deep. This overlay the secondary fill of soft brown silty clay with occasional gravel. The basal fill was filling a small scoop at the base of the feature, and a soft charcoal rich deposit of

which a sample (7) was taken. It recovered a small quantity of fragmentary charcoal. No pottery was recovered from this feature, but it must predate pit 22.

Further to the NNW at 18m, were two small postholes (29 and 30). Both of these small postholes were at the base of the trench, roughly circular and a similar dimension (0.3m wide and 0.06m deep). They contained single fills (88 and 89), reddish brown silty clay with weathered chalk. No finds were recovered from these deposits.

#### Trenches 48 and 49 (Figs 3, 5 and 6)

Trench 48 was aligned ESE - WNW and was 22.6m long and 0.55m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.4m of topsoil and 0.15m subsoil overlying natural light brown-red clayey silt with flint inclusions that would have capped the chalk natural. No archaeological deposits were recovered.

Trench 49 was aligned ESE - WNW and was 14.9m long and 0.61m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.51m of topsoil and 0.1m subsoil overlying natural light brown-red clayey silt with flint inclusions that would have capped the chalk natural. At 4-5m from the WNW end was a ditch (32) and was not investigated at this time but was 1.1m wide and 0.31m deep.

#### Trench 50 (Figs 5 and 6)

This trench was aligned W - E and was 22.6m long and 0.52m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.4m of topsoil and 0.12m subsoil overlying natural light brown-red clayey silt with flint inclusions that would have capped the chalk natural. A ditch (31) was recorded which was 1.1m wide and 0.31m deep. It was not excavated due to flooding, but was filled with a reddish brown clayey silt (87).

#### Trenches 51, 52, 54, 55, 56, 57 and 58 (Fig. 3)

These trenches were in the north-east corner of the area, with Trenches 56 and 57 next to Cedar Lodge. These trenches were 24.1 and 20.6m long respectively. Both were dug to a depth of 0.43m deep. The remainder's stratigraphy consisted of 0.47m of topsoil and 0.15m subsoil overlying natural light brown-red clayey silt with flint inclusions that would have capped the chalk natural. No deposits were recovered.

#### Trench 53 (Figs 5 and 6; Pl. 10)

This trench was aligned SW - NE and was 23.5m long and 0.47m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.32m of topsoil and 0.08m subsoil overlying natural light brown-red clayey silt with flint inclusions that would have capped the chalk natural. At 5m from the SW end was a pit (33). This was 1.3m in diameter and contained three fills (88, 89 and 90). The upper fill was a grey silty clay with no finds recovered. A sample (8) was taken of this fill, which contained very

fragmentary charcoal pieces. The secondary fill was a firm light brown silty clay to a depth of 0.3m deep. The basal fill was a grey brown silty clay. No finds were recovered.

A small posthole (34) was recorded at 11.5m from the SW end. No finds were recovered from its fill, which was a light grey silty clay (91). A final pit (19) was at 21m from the SW end of the trench. Pieces of animal bone were recovered from its single fill (72). This was 0.7m in diameter and 0.12m deep.

## Finds

### *Pottery by Paul Blinkhorn*

The pottery assemblage comprised 43 sherds with a total weight of 350g. It consisted of Anglo-Saxon and early medieval wares, along with two residual Roman sherds. The following fabric types were noted:

**EMS:** Early/middle Anglo-Saxon Organic-tempered Ware, 5th – 9th century. 1 sherd, 2g.

**MAQ:** Sandy Flint-tempered Ware, AD1000-1220 (Cotter 2011, 22). 22 sherds, 204g.

**MAV:** Chalk-tempered Ware with Flint, AD850-1200 (ibid., 27). 2 sherds, 39g.

**MBX:** Chalk-tempered Ware, AD850-1050 (ibid., 50). 6 sherds, 39g.

**NAB:** Newbury 'A/B' Ware, late 11th – late 14th century (Mephram 1997, 51-2). 8 sherds, 46g.

**NAC:** Newbury C ware, late 12th – mid 14th century (ibid., 52-4). 2 sherds, 17g.

**Roman:** Roman greyware. 2 sherds, 3g.

The pottery occurrence by number and weight of sherds per context by fabric type is shown in Appendix 3. Each date should be regarded as a *terminus post quem*.

Some of the late Saxon and early medieval fabrics (MAQ, MAV and MBX) are very similar to known wares from Winchester (Cotter 2011) and Southampton (Brown 2002), and so, given its proximity, the fabric codes for the former are used here. Late Anglo-Saxon pottery is rare in the Basingstoke area, but the few known assemblages are generally flint- and chalk-tempered wares similar to these (Jervis 2011, 40). It is uncertain whether these wares are from the same source as the Winchester and Southampton material or a local variant; wares such as these occur relatively widely in Hampshire, and their sources are, as yet, unknown and not clearly understood (Cotter 2011, 53).

The group of MBX from context 56 includes a jar rim with a simple, everted and curved rim with light finger-tipping on the edge. This is not uncommon for vessels in this fabric from Winchester (Cotter 2011, 57). The pottery from context 78 is largely from a single vessel, and includes a finger-tipped "piecrust" rimsherd from a jar. Such decoration is also known on jars of this type from Winchester, but is rare (Cotter 2011, 25)

The two sherds of NAC from contexts 65 and 66 are from the same vessel. Overall, the assemblage is in good condition, other than some of the calcareous inclusions having leached out, presumably due to the soil conditions. It all appears reliably stratified.

### *Animal bone by Lizzi Lewins*

A small assemblage of animal bone (9 fragments), weighing a total of 87g, was recovered during the course of the evaluation. The bone was fragmented and a high proportion of surface abrasion was noted. The bone was classified according to size (large mammal – cattle, horse; medium mammal – sheep/goat, pig, deer) and where possible to species level. A full catalogue of the bone can be found in Appendix 4.

Both fragments from pit 14 (67) were classifiable and consisted of a single long bone shaft fragment from medium and large mammals. Five classifiable fragments from pit 19 (72) consisted of 2 two fragments of large mammal long bone shaft, a single cattle molar and a fragment of long bone shaft and un-fused phalange from a medium mammal.

No taphonomy associated with butchery was noted and no further analysis was possible.

### *Metal objects by Lizzi Lewins*

Two ferrous objects were recovered during the course of the evaluation. Cat no. 1 (from cut 5, fill 56) was classified as an unidentifiable object due to the level of corrosion present. Cat no. 2 (from cut 10, fill 61) is likely to be a piece of iron strapping. No dates could be assigned to either fragment and no further analysis was possible.

### *Burnt flint by Lizzi Lewins*

Burnt flint weighing a total of 451g was recovered from 3 features. The majority was recovered from pit 22 (79).

### *Fired clay by Lizzi Lewis and Danielle Millbank*

A total of three fragments of formless fired clay weighing 22g were recovered from the evaluation. The fragments were uniformly red brown with a fine fabric and occasional 1mm flint inclusions. No charcoal was seen within the fragments and no further analysis was possible.

### *Macrobotanical remains by Jo Pine*

A total of nine samples were processed from deposits encountered during the evaluation. 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 recovered. Charcoal was recovered from four contexts (Appendix 5) ranging in size from fragments <1mm up to a 17mm piece however the small fragment size did not allow for species identification.

## Conclusion

The evaluation has revealed that a number of the evaluation trenches contained certain and probable archaeological deposits. The majority of these were of Late Saxon to Early Medieval date and were mostly located in the northern part of the site. A smaller number of undated features were recorded in the southern part of the site but this group also included a single posthole containing Early/Middle Saxon pottery.

The northern portion of the site is considered to have high archaeological potential with an area in the south corresponding with the Saxon finds of uncertain potential.

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**APPENDIX 1: Trench details**

0m at S or west end

<i>Trench</i>	<i>Length (m)</i>	<i>Breadth (m)</i>	<i>Depth (m)</i>	<i>Comment</i>
1	25	1.8	0.56	0–0.14m topsoil; 0.14-0.31m subsoil; 0.31-0.56m mid red brown silt clay chalk and flint incl, 0.56m light red brown silt clay (natural geology).
2	25	1.8	0.36	0–0.12m topsoil; 0.12-0.25m subsoil; 0.25-0.36m mid red brown silty clay chalk and flint incl, 0.36m silty clay (natural geology).
3	25	1.8	0.56	0–0.21m topsoil; 0.21-0.42m subsoil; 0.42-0.56m mid red brown silty clay chalk and flint incl, 0.56m silty clay (natural geology).
4	25	1.8	0.54	0–0.21m topsoil; 0.21-0.43m subsoil; 0.43-0.54m mid red brown silty clay chalk and flint incl, 0.54m silty clay (natural geology).
5	25	1.8	0.53	0–0.19m topsoil; 0.19-0.40m subsoil; 0.40-0.53m mid red brown silty clay chalk and flint incl, 0.53m silty clay (natural geology).
6	25	1.8	0.55	0–0.21m topsoil; 0.21-0.45m subsoil; 0.45-0.55m mid red brown silty clay chalk and flint incl, 0.55m silty clay (natural geology).
7	25	1.8	0.57	0–0.20m topsoil; 0.20-0.57m subsoil; 0.57 silty clay (natural geology).
8	25	1.8	0.57	0–0.26m topsoil; 0.26-0.57m subsoil; 0.57 silty clay (natural geology).
9	25	1.8	0.51	0–0.22m topsoil; 0.22-0.55m subsoil; 0.55 silty clay (natural geology).
10	25	1.8	0.62	0–0.25m topsoil; 0.25-0.62m subsoil; 0.62 silty clay (natural geology).
11	25	1.8	0.25	0–0.25m topsoil; 0.25m silty clay (natural geology).
12	25	1.8	0.41	0–0.23m topsoil; 0.23-0.41m subsoil; 0.41m silty clay (natural geology).
13	25	1.8	0.40	0–0.22m topsoil; 0.22-0.40m subsoil; 0.40m silty clay (natural geology). Pit 21.
14	25	1.8	0.47	0–0.30m topsoil; 0.30-0.47m subsoil; 0.47m silty clay (natural geology).
15	25	1.8	0.50	0–0.28m topsoil; 0.28-0.50m subsoil; 0.50m silty clay (natural geology).
16	25	1.8	0.38	0–0.26m topsoil; 0.26-0.38m subsoil; 0.38m silty clay (natural geology).
17	25	1.8	0.48	0–0.22m topsoil; 0.22-0.48m subsoil; 0.48m silty clay (natural geology).
18	25	1.8	0.58	0–0.30m topsoil; 0.30-0.58m subsoil; 0.58m silty clay (natural geology).
19	25	1.8	0.55	0–0.33m topsoil; 0.33-0.55m subsoil; 0.55m silty clay (natural geology).
20	25	1.8	0.48	0–0.34m topsoil; 0.34-0.48m subsoil; 0.48m silty clay (natural geology).
21	25	1.8	0.51	0–0.29m topsoil; 0.29-0.51m subsoil; 0.51m silty clay (natural geology).
22	25	1.8	0.56	0–0.37m topsoil; 0.37-0.56m subsoil; 0.56m silty clay (natural geology). Gully 12
23	25	1.8	0.53	0–0.37m topsoil; 0.37-0.53m subsoil; 0.53m silty clay (natural geology) Gully 16
24	25	1.8	0.43	0–0.21m topsoil; 0.21-0.43m subsoil; 0.43m silty clay (natural geology). Pit 13
25	25	1.8	0.44	0–0.25m topsoil; 0.25-0.44m subsoil; 0.44m silty clay (natural geology). Ditch 20 and Pit 24. <b>[Pl. 1]</b>
26	25	1.8	0.45	0–0.20m topsoil; 0.20-0.45m subsoil; 0.45m silty clay (natural geology).
27	25	1.8	0.46	0–0.26m topsoil; 0.26-0.46m subsoil; 0.46m silty clay (natural geology). Gully 15
28	25	1.8	0.40	0–0.23m topsoil; 0.23-0.40m subsoil; 0.40m silty clay (natural geology). Gully 18. <b>[Pl. 2]</b>
29	23	1.8	0.31	0–0.19m topsoil; 0.19-0.31m subsoil; 0.31m silty clay (natural geology). Posthole 17
30	25	1.8	0.46	0–0.28m topsoil; 0.28-0.46m subsoil; 0.46m silty clay (natural geology).
31	25	1.8	0.51	0–0.23m topsoil; 0.23-0.51m subsoil; 0.51m silty clay (natural geology).
32	25	1.8	0.48	0–0.29m topsoil; 0.29-0.48m subsoil; 0.48m silty clay (natural geology).
33	25	1.8	0.41	0–0.25m topsoil; 0.25-0.41m subsoil; 0.41m silty clay (natural geology).
34	25	1.8	0.65	0–0.41m topsoil; 0.41-0.65m subsoil; 0.65m silty clay (natural geology).
35	25	1.8	0.65	0–0.27m topsoil; 0.27-0.42m subsoil; 0.42m silty clay (natural geology).
36	25	1.8	0.39	0–0.27m topsoil; 0.27-0.39m subsoil; 0.39m silty clay (natural geology).
37	25	1.8	0.32	0–0.19m topsoil; 0.19-0.32m subsoil; 0.32m silty clay (natural geology).
38	25	1.8	0.53	0–0.36m topsoil; 0.36-0.53m subsoil; 0.53m silty clay (natural geology). Ditches 7;8 and 9. <b>[Pls 3, 11]</b>
39	25	1.8	0.32	0–0.31m topsoil; 0.31-0.46m subsoil; 0.46m silty clay (natural geology). Ditch 6
40	25	1.8	0.51	0–0.35m topsoil; 0.35-0.51m subsoil; 0.51m silty clay (natural geology). Pit 14. <b>[Pls 4, 8]</b>
41	25	1.8	0.51	0–0.37m topsoil; 0.37-0.51m subsoil; 0.51m silty clay (natural geology). Pit10 and Ditch 11. <b>[Pls 5, 12]</b>
42	25	1.8	0.51	0–0.38m topsoil; 0.38-0.51m subsoil; 0.51m silty clay (natural geology).
43	25	1.8	0.53	0–0.37m topsoil; 0.37-0.53m subsoil; 0.53m silty clay (natural geology). Ditch 5
44	25	1.8	0.55	0–0.41m topsoil; 0.41-0.55m subsoil; 0.55m silty clay (natural geology). Gully terminus 26 and ditch 25
45	25	1.8	0.52	0–0.42m topsoil; 0.42-0.52m subsoil; 0.52m silty clay (natural geology).
46	25	1.8	0.52	0–0.42m topsoil; 0.42-0.52m subsoil; 0.52m silty clay (natural geology). Pits 22 and 23; postholes 29 and 30
47	25	1.8	0.62	0–0.46m topsoil; 0.46-0.62m subsoil; 0.62m silty clay (natural geology). pit 27; post holes 29; 30. <b>[Pls 6, 7, 9]</b>
48	25	1.8	0.62	0–0.46m topsoil; 0.46-0.62m subsoil; 0.62m silty clay (natural geology).
49	18	1.8	0.61	0–0.51m topsoil; 0.51-0.61m subsoil; 0.61m silty clay (natural geology). Ditch 32 (unexc)
50	25	1.8	0.61	0–0.40m topsoil; 0.40-0.52m subsoil; 0.52m silty clay (natural geology). Ditch 31 (unexc)
51	25	1.8	0.54	0–0.40m topsoil; 0.40-0.54m subsoil; 0.54m silty clay (natural geology).

<i>Trench</i>	<i>Length (m)</i>	<i>Breadth (m)</i>	<i>Depth (m)</i>	<i>Comment</i>
52	25	1.8	0.54	0–0.35m topsoil; 0.35-0.52m subsoil;0.52m silty clay (natural geology).
53	25	1.8	0.47	0–0.33m topsoil; 0.33-0.47m subsoil;0.47m silty clay (natural geology). Pits 19; 33 and posthole 34. <b>[Pl. 10]</b>
54	25	1.8	0.40	0–0.32m topsoil; 0.32-0.40m subsoil;0.40m silty clay (natural geology).
55	23.50	1.8	0.44	0–0.24m topsoil; 0.24-0.44m subsoil;0.44m silty clay (natural geology).
56	25.10	1.8	0.43	0–0.26m topsoil; 0.26-0.43m subsoil;0.43m silty clay (natural geology).
57	21.80	1.8	0.41	0–0.26m topsoil; 0.26-0.43m subsoil;0.43m silty clay (natural geology).
58	18.20	1.8	0.53	0–0.41m topsoil; 0.41-0.53m subsoil;0.53m silty clay (natural geology).



**APPENDIX 2: Feature catalogue**

<i>Trench</i>	<i>Cut</i>	<i>Fill (s)</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Dating evidence</i>
43	5	56	Ditch	Late Saxon-Early Medieval	pottery
39	6	57	Ditch	-	-
38	7	58	Ditch	-	-
38	8	59	Ditch	Early Medieval	pottery
38	9	60	Ditch	-	-
41	10	61	Pit	-	-
41	11	62	Ditch	-	-
24	12	63	Gully	-	-
22	13	64	Pit	Late Saxon-Early Medieval	pottery
40	14	65-7, 71	Pit	Late Saxon-Early Medieval	pottery
27	15	73	Gully	Late Saxon-Early Medieval	pottery
23	16	68	Gully	-	-
29	17	69	Posthole	Early Saxon	pottery
28	18	70	Gully	-	-
53	19	72	Pit		
25	20	93	Ditch	Medieval	pottery
13	21	18	Pit	Medieval	associated with 19
47	22	79, 80	Pit	Early Medieval	pottery
47	23	81-3	Pit	Early Medieval or earlier	cut by 22
25	24	75	Elongated pit?	Late Saxon - Early Medieval	pottery
44	25	76	Ditch	-	-
44	26	77	Gully terminus	-	-
47	29		Postholes	-	-
47	30	86	Posthole	-	-
50	31		Ditch (unexc)	-	-
49	32		Ditch (unexc)	-	-
53	33	88-90	Pit	-	-
53	34	91	Posthole	-	-

**APPENDIX 3: Pottery occurrence by number of sherds and weight per context by fabric type.**

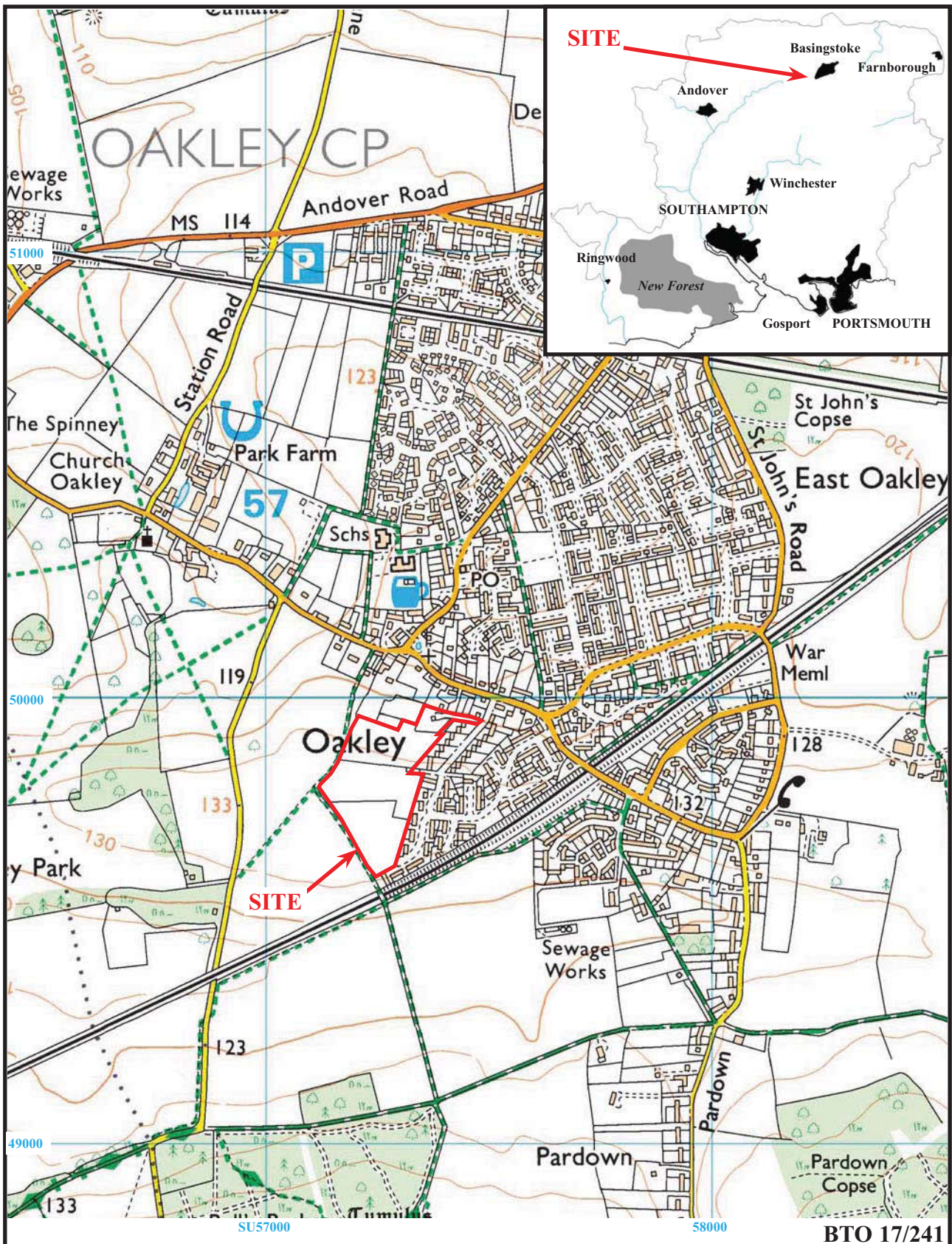
<i>Cut</i>	<i>Fill</i>	<b>Roman</b>		<b>EMS</b>		<b>MBX</b>		<b>MAV</b>		<b>MAQ</b>		<b>NAB</b>		<b>NAC</b>	
		<i>No</i>	<i>Wt (g)</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Wt (g)</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Wt (g)</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Wt (g)</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Wt (g)</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Wt (g)</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Wt (g)</i>
5	56	1	1			5	35			3	22	2	19		
8	59											1	5		
13	64							1	17						
14	65	1	2			1	4			2	2	1	7	1	4
14	66											1	6	1	13
14	67									2	10				
15	73									1	4	3	9		
17	69			1	2										
22	79									7	61				
24	75							1	22						
27	78									7	105				
	<b>Total</b>	2	3	1	2	6	39	2	39	22	204	8	46	2	17

**APPENDIX 4: Animal bone catalogue**

<i>Cut</i>	<i>Deposit</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>No. frags</i>	<i>Wt (g)</i>	<i>Cattle</i>	<i>Large</i>	<i>Medium</i>	<i>Unid</i>
14	67	Pit	2	26	-	1	1	-
19	72	Pit	7	61	1	2	2	2

**APPENDIX 5: Catalogue of plant remains**

<i>Cut</i>	<i>Deposit</i>	<i>Sample</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Charcoal</i>	<i>Seeds</i>
6	57	1	Gully	-	-
7	58	2	Gully	-	-
8	59	3	Gully	-	-
12	63	4	Pit	2mm piece	-
13	64	5	Gully	-	-
14	67	8	Pit	5mm piece	-
19	72	9	Pit	-	-
22	79	6	Pit	11mm-17mm pieces	-
23	83	7	Pit	Fragments	-



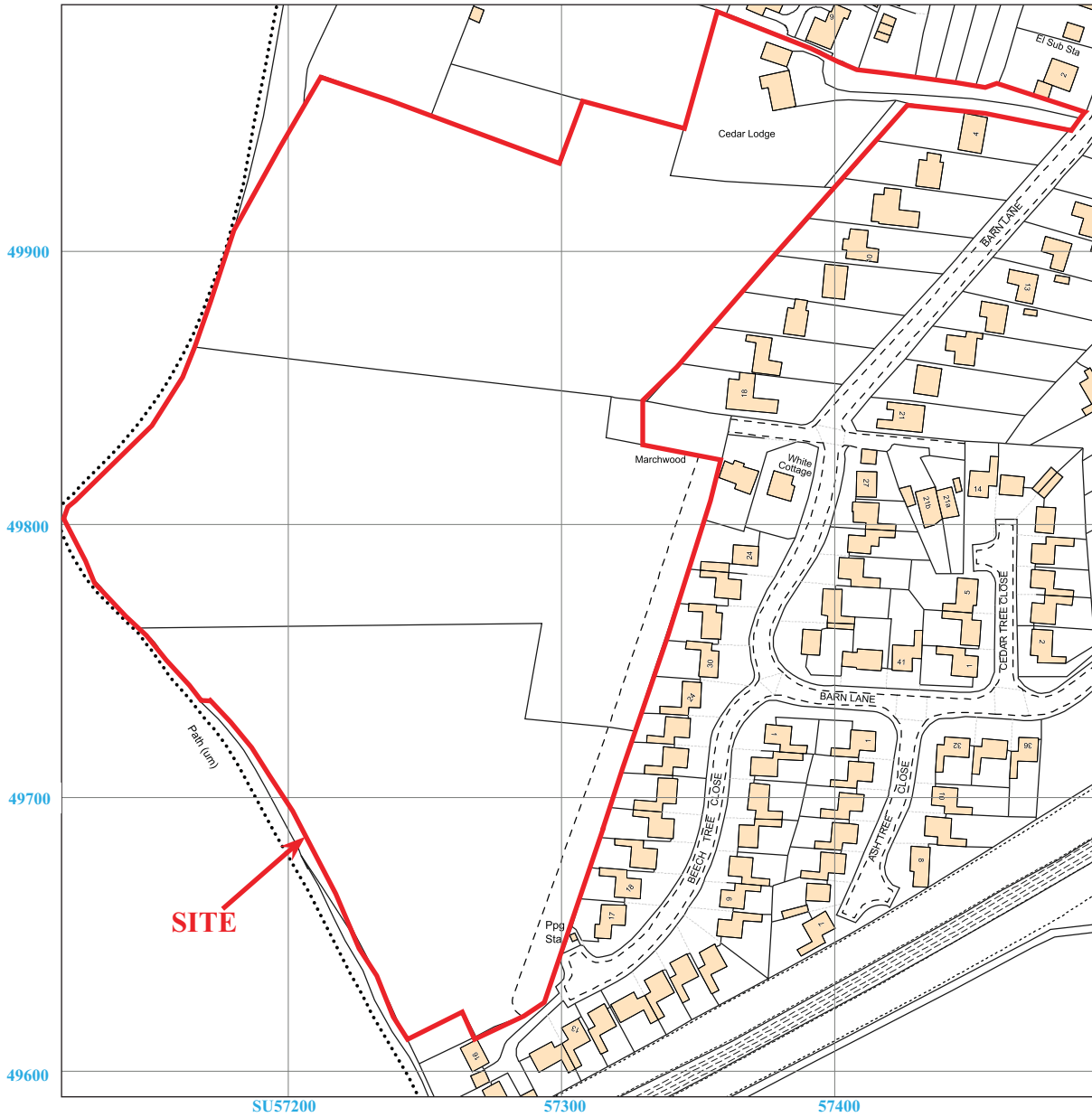
**Land west of Beech Tree Close, Oakley,  
Basingstoke, Hampshire, 2018  
Archaeological Evaluation**

Figure 1. Location of site within Oakley and Hampshire.

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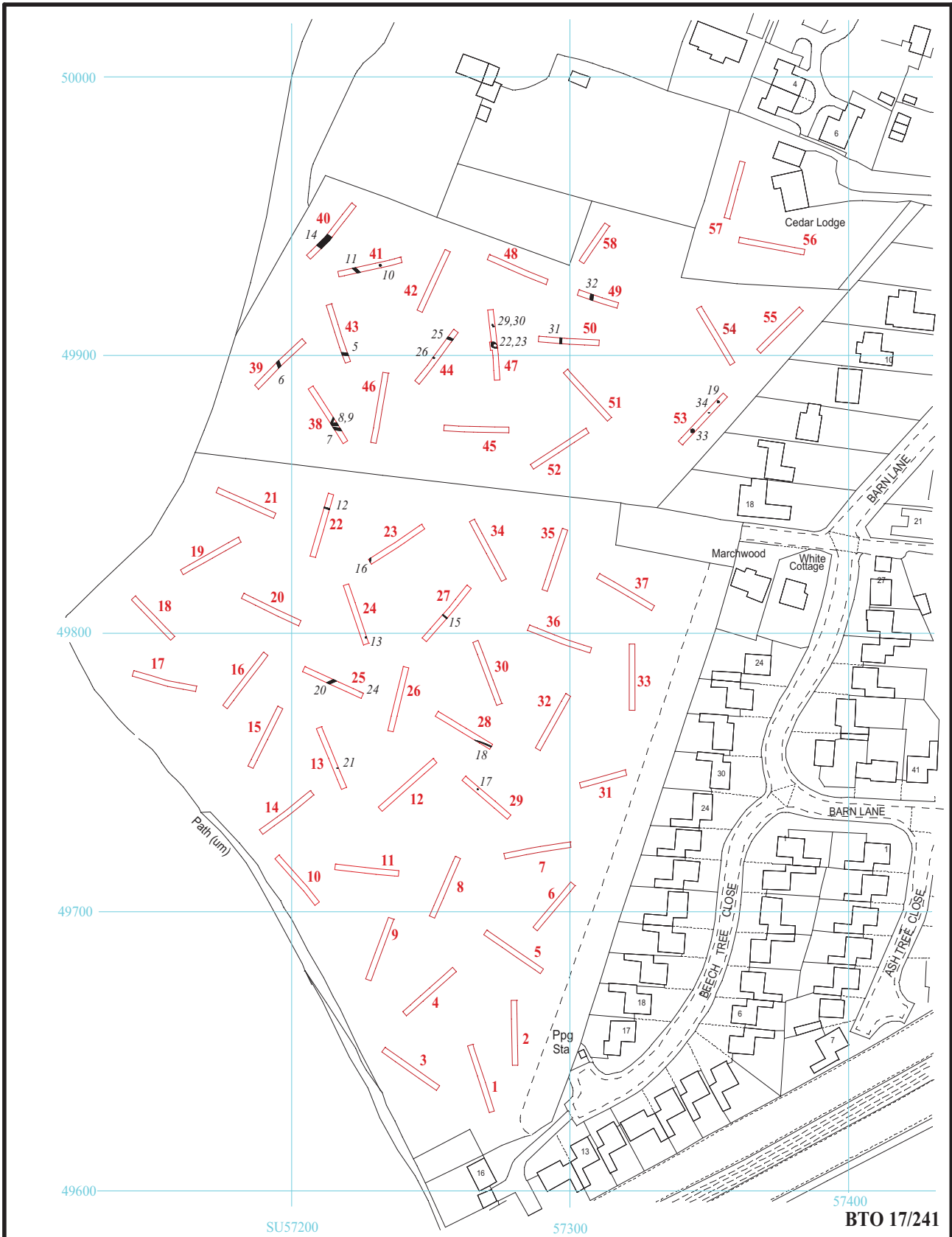
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**Land west of Beech Tree Close, Oakley,  
Basingstoke, Hampshire, 2018  
Archaeological Evaluation**  
Figure 2. Detailed site location, west of Beech Tree Close.

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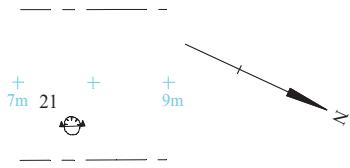


**Land west of Beech Tree Close, Oakley,  
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Archaeological Evaluation**

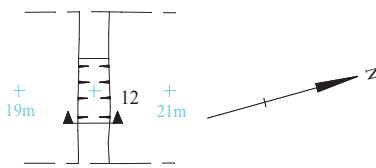
Figure 3. Location of trenches and features.



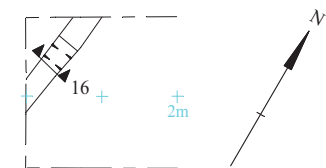
Trench 13



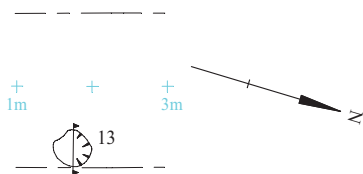
Trench 22



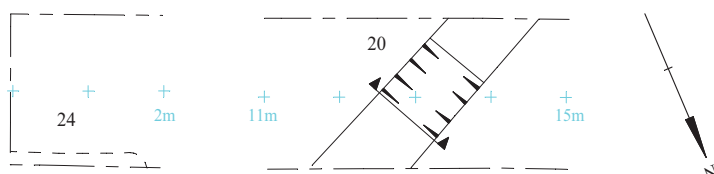
Trench 23



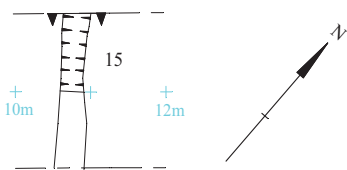
Trench 24



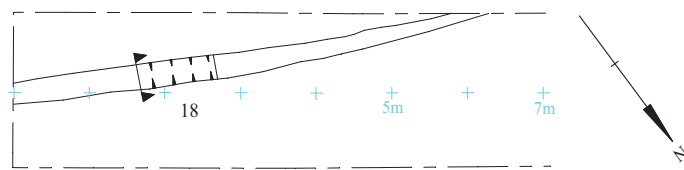
Trench 25



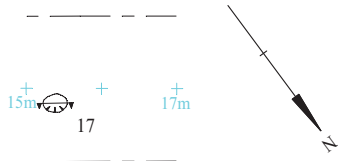
Trench 27



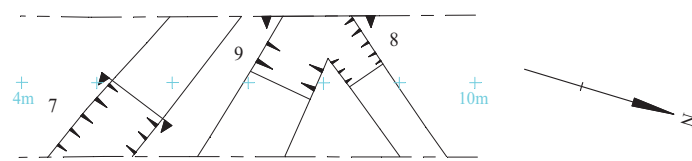
Trench 28



Trench 29



Trench 38



BTO 17/241

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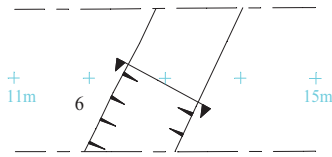
Figure 4. Detail of trenches.



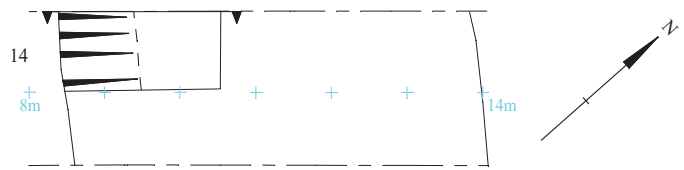
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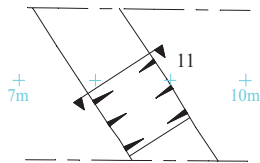
Trench 39



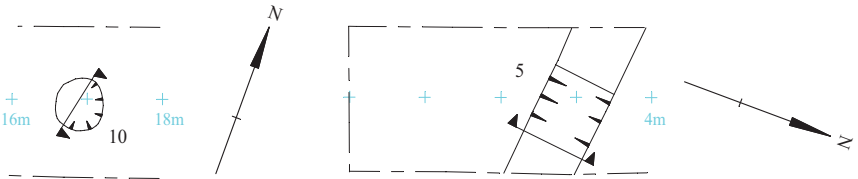
Trench 40



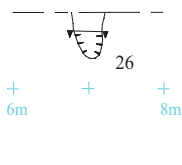
Trench 41



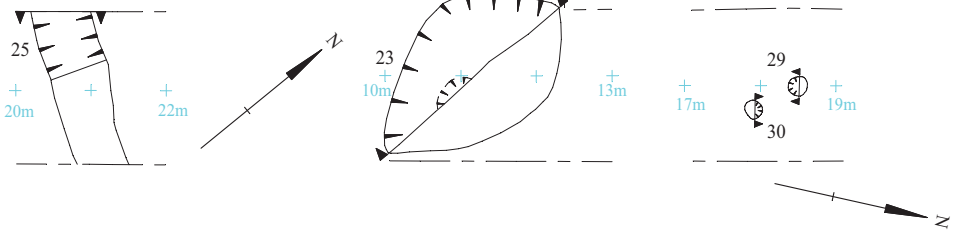
Trench 43



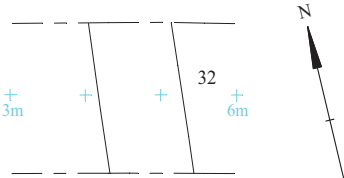
Trench 44



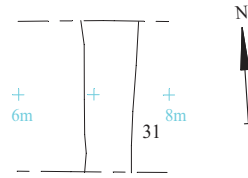
Trench 47



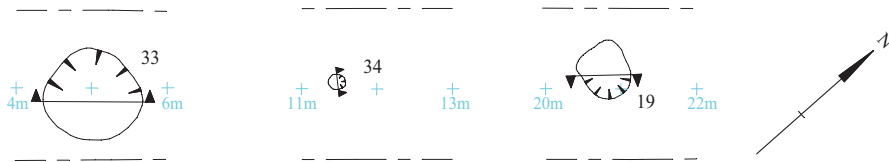
Trench 49



Trench 50



Trench 53

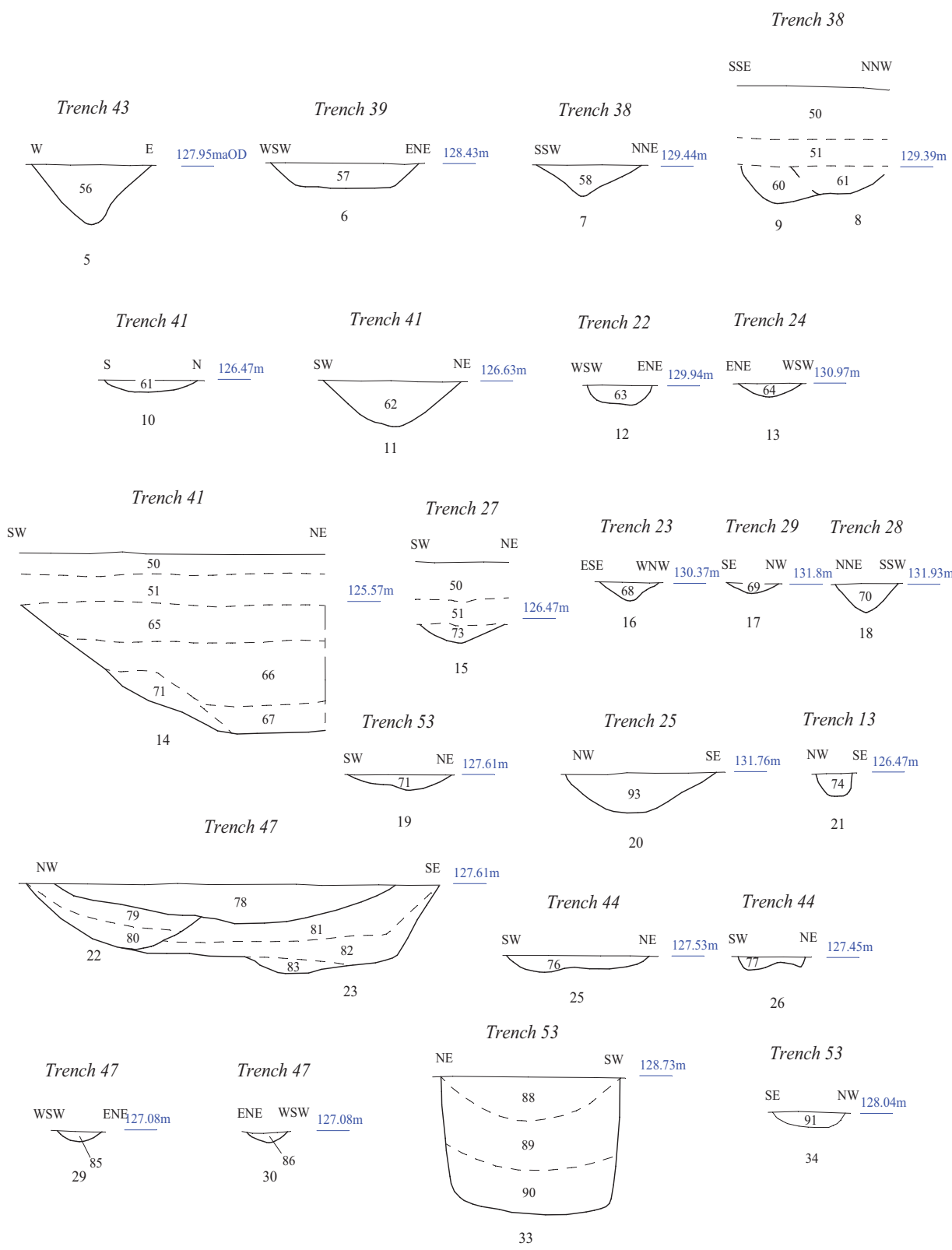


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Figure 5. Detail of trenches.





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**Land west of Beech Tree Close, Oakley,  
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Figure 6. Sections.





Plate 1. Trench 25, looking west north west,  
Scales: horizontal 2m and 1m, vertical 0.3m.



Plate 2. Trench 28, looking west,  
Scales: horizontal 2m and 1m, vertical 0.3m.



Plate 3. Trench 38, looking north west,  
Scales: horizontal 2m and 1m, vertical 0.3m.



Plate 4. Trench 40, looking north,  
Scales: horizontal 2m and 1m, vertical 0.3m.



Plate 5. Trench 41, looking north west,  
Scales: horizontal 2m and 1m, vertical 0.3m.



Plate 6. Trench 47, looking south south east,  
Scales: horizontal 2m and 1m, vertical 0.3m.

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**Land west of Beech Tree Close, Oakley,  
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Plates 1 - 6.**

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Plate 7. Trench 43, ditch 5, looking west, Scales: 0.5m and 0.3m.



Plate 8. Pit 14 in Trench 40, looking north west, Scales: 2m and 1m.

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**Land west of Beech Tree Close, Oakley,  
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Plates 7 and 8.**

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Plate 9. Trench 47, pits 22 and 23, looking north, Scales: 2m and 0.5m.

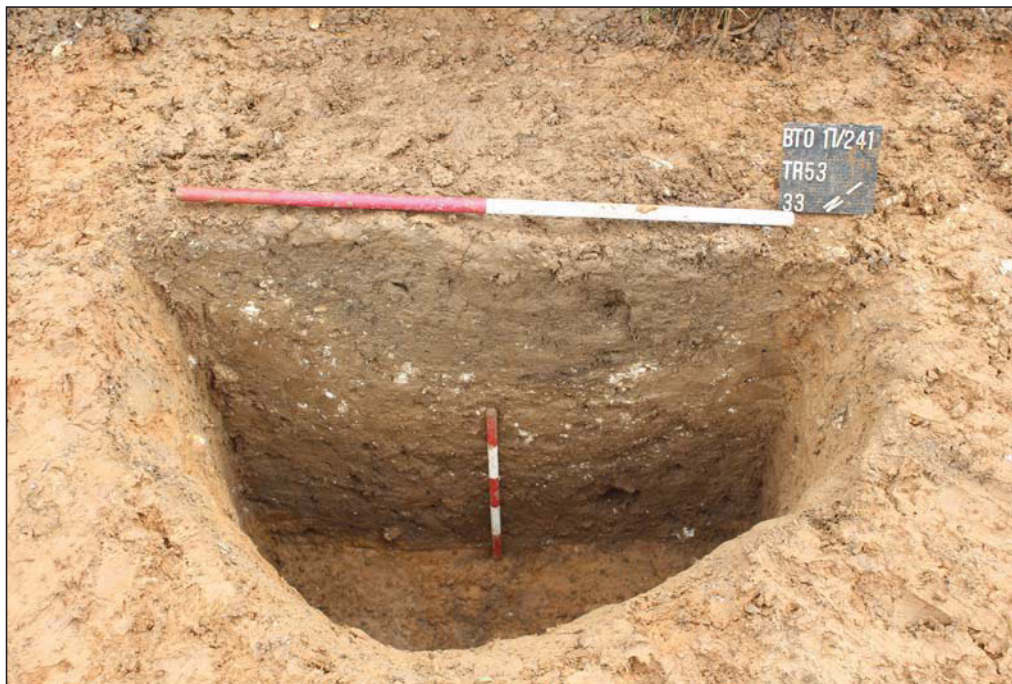


Plate 10. Trench 53, pit 33, looking south east, Scales: 1m and 0.5m.

BTO 17/241

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Plates 9 and 10.

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Plate 11. Trench 38, ditch 7, looking south east, Scales: 0.5m and 0.1m.



Plate 12. Trench 41, ditch 11, looking north west, Scales: 0.5m and 0.3m.

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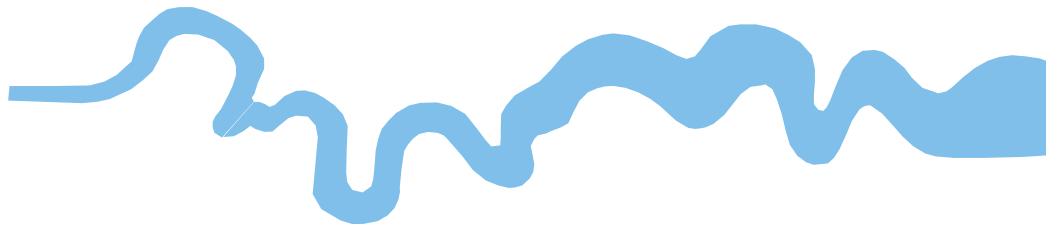
Land west of Beech Tree Close, Oakley,  
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Plates 11 and 12.

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## TIME CHART

	Calendar Years
Modern _____	AD 1901
Victorian _____	AD 1837
Post Medieval _____	AD 1500
Medieval _____	AD 1066
Saxon _____	AD 410
Roman _____	AD 43 AD 0 BC
Iron Age _____	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](mailto:tvas@tvas.co.uk)  
Web: [www.tvas.co.uk](http://www.tvas.co.uk)**

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