THAMES VALLEY

ARCHAEOLOGICAL

SERVICES

Land at Ascot Road, Holyport, Maidenhead, Berkshire

Archaeological Evaluation

by Steve Ford

Site Code: ARM 17/225

(SU 8950 7824)

Land at Ascot Road, Holyport, Maidenhead, Berkshire

An Archaeological Evaluation

for Beaulieu Homes Limited

By Steve Ford

Thames Valley Archaeological Services Ltd

Site Code ARM 17/225

December 2018

Summary

Site name: Land at Ascot Road, Holyport, Maidenhead, Berkshire

Grid reference: SU 8950 7824

Site activity: Evaluation

Date and duration of project: 3rd -13th December 2018

Project coordinator: Tim Dawson

Site supervisor: Steve Ford

Site code: ARM 17/225

Area of site: *c.*14 hectares

Summary of results: This was a targeted evaluation to examine geophysical and aerial photographic anomalies. The trenching confirmed the majority of the cropmark anomalies and a proportion of the geophysical anomalies as being of archaeological origin. Most of the features examined were dated to the Roman period and appear to represent an enclosure complex though no discrete Roman features were recorded. A trench across a circular cropmark confirmed its presence but produced only a few struck flints as dating evidence. One of the cropmark ditches was of post-medieval date. A number of the features were of post-medieval date and possibly of early medieval date.

Two extra trenches were intended to target an area of a putative moated site now surviving only as an L-shaped ditch. These two trenches contained several cut features but all contained material such as coal/clinker, brick/tile or wood and are thought to be of fairly modern date. No deposits were identified that could be interpreted as a moat nor any artefacts unambiguously of medieval date.

A few sherds of earlier prehistoric pottery and struck flints were also recorded.

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

Report edited/checked by:	Steve Preston✓ 31.01.19

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

Tel. (0118) 926 0552; Fax (0118) 926 0553; email tvas@tvas.co.uk; website: www.tvas.co.uk

Land at Ascot Road, Holyport, Maidenhead, Berkshire
An Archaeological Evaluation

by Steve Ford

Report 17/225c

Introduction

This report documents the results of an archaeological field evaluation carried out on land adjacent to Ascot Road, Holyport, Maidenhead, Berkshire (SU 8950 7824) (Fig. 1). The work was commissioned by Ms Liz Alexander of Bell Cornwell LLP, Oakview House, Station Road, Hook, RG27 9TP, on behalf of Beaulieu Homes Limited, 4b Market House, 19-21 Market Place, Wokingham, RG40 1AP.

Planning permission (1703857/OUT) has been sought from the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead for the construction of new housing on *c.*14ha plot of land. As a consequence of the possibility of archaeological deposits existing on the site which may be damaged or destroyed by development, an evaluation has been requested to establish the significance of any buried remains that may be affected by this proposal and allow appropriate conservation or mitigation measures to be put in place when considering the planning application. This is in accordance with the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government's *National Planning Policy Framework* (NPPF 2018) and the Royal Borough's policies on archaeology. The field investigation was carried out to a specification approved by Mr Roland Smith, Archaeology Officer for Berkshire Archaeology, advising the Royal Borough. The fieldwork was undertaken by Steve Ford, Luciano Cicu, Ashley Kruger, Mike Murray and Daniel Neal between 3rd and 13th December 2018. The site code is ARM17/225.

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

Location, topography and geology

The site is located north of Holyport, to the south of Maidenhead in the parish of Bray in eastern Berkshire (Fig. 1). The site is bounded to the west by the A330 and the M40, and on all other sides by the village of Holyport. The site occupies level ground at a height of approximately 26m above Ordnance Datum. According to the British Geological Survey (BGS 1981) the underlying geology consists of Taplow Gravel, which was observed in the trenches as a clayey gravel with many sandy clay silt patches.

Archaeological background

The archaeological potential of the site stems from its location within the archaeologically rich Thames Valley with a wealth of prehistoric and later archaeological finds recorded for the area (Ford 1987; Gates 1975; Dils 2013) and has been detailed in a desk-based assessment (Elliott 2017). Examples of local sites comprise Neolithic occupation recorded at Canon Hill to the east (Bradley *et al.* 1976) with an Early Mesolithic occupation site and Saxon features to the north (Ames 1993). In particular, recent fieldwork has recorded Late Neolithic pits, Early Saxon occupation and a Bronze Age ring ditch at Braywick to the north with Bronze Age occupation at Bray further to the east (Galleano 2018).

Recent aerial photography taken by Mr James Caplin and presented to the Berkshire Historic Environment Record, followed by geophysical survey, has also revealed the presence of another ring ditch as a cropmark along with a series of linear features on the proposal site itself, which are the subject of this targeted evaluation.

Objectives and methodology

The purpose of the evaluation was to determine the presence/absence, extent, condition, character, quality and date of any archaeological deposits represented by a series of cropmarks (Fig. 9) and geophysical anomalies (Fig. 10). A second aim was to determine if an L-shaped feature (Fig. 2) was in fact a surviving component of a rectangular or square moated site of medieval date.

Fourteen trenches were to be excavated across the site, each measuring 25m long and between 1.60m and 2m wide. This was to be done using a 360° type machine fitted with a toothless bucket under constant archaeological supervision and all spoilheaps were to be monitored for finds.

Trenches were to be excavated to the first archaeologically relevant horizon, or to the level of the natural geology. Where archaeological features are certainly or probably present, the stripped areas were to be cleaned using appropriate hand tools, and sufficient of the archaeological features and deposits exposed will be excavated or sampled by hand to satisfy the aims of the brief, without compromising the integrity of any deposits or features that might warrant preservation *in situ* or might better be investigated under the conditions pertaining to full excavation.

Results

All fourteen trenches were excavated on their intended locations (Fig. 3). The trenches measured between 24.4m and 31.4m long and between 0.35m and 1.55m deep. All were 1.6m wide. A complete list of trenches giving

lengths, breadths, depths and a description of sections and geology is given in Appendix 1. The excavated features are summarized in Appendix 2.

Trench 1 (Fig. 4; Pl. 1)

This trench was aligned S- N and measured 24.4m long and 0.48m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.24m of topsoil above 0.24m of subsoil above gravel with extensive sandy clay patches, the latter often with straight edges. One elongated sandy clay patch was examined but was considered to be of non-archaeological origin though it did correspond with a geophysical anomaly. A larger patch corresponded with a wide but diffuse cropmark also noted as a sinuous geophysical anomaly. Two fragments of loomweight were recovered from the spoilheaps

Trench 2 (Figs 4 and 6)

This trench was aligned W- E and measured 26.3m long and 0.46m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.21m of topsoil above 0.25m of subsoil above gravel with sandy clay patches. Two intercutting ditches (6, 7) aligned approximately north to south were revealed which correspond approximately with the fainter of two cropmarks crossing this trench, but not with a geophysical anomaly, and nothing corresponding to the stronger cropmark was located. Ditch 6 was *c.* 1.4m wide and 0.35m deep with a single fill (56) which contained 41 sherds of Early Roman pottery, a single medieval sherd, and a fragment of fired clay. Ditch 7 was *c.* 1.2m wide and 0.5m deep also with a single fill (57) which contained 27 sherds of Roman pottery along with 13 large sherds of a medieval jug. The relationship between the two ditches could not be determined nor could a discrete cut be observed to confirm the position of the medieval jug: it is possible that the single medieval sherd from ditch 6 really belongs in ditch 7. Ditch 7 therefore appears to be of medieval date and will have cut ditch 6.

Trench 3 (Figs 43 and 6; Pl. 3)

This trench was aligned S - N and measured 26.3m long and was between 0.44m and 0.54m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.31m of topsoil above 0.23m of subsoil above gravel with sandy clay patches. The trench was located across a faint square-shaped cropmark that was also identified as a geophysical anomaly. Two linear features were investigated (1, 2) with Ditch 1 aligned approximately west – east closely corresponding with a cropmark and (slightly less so) with a geophysical anomaly. Ditch 1 was *c.* 0.7m wide and 0.4m deep with a single fill (50) which contained 3 sherds of Late Roman pottery, 1 prehistoric sherd and a fragment of Roman tile (*tegula*). Feature 2 was aligned south west – north east, 0.7m wide but only 0.08m deep with a single fill (51) which contained a flint flake. This feature is considered to be either a furrow or more likely a sandy clay patch

within the natural geology and although its location corresponds with a cropmark and geophysical anomaly, its alignment does not.

Trench 4

This trench was aligned SW- NE and measured 26.7m long and was 0.51m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.28m of topsoil above 0.23m of subsoil above gravel with sandy clay patches. The trench was located across a weak linear geophysical anomaly but no archaeological deposits were revealed.

Trench 5 (Pl. 2)

This trench was aligned SSE - NNW and measured 25.2m long and 0.43m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.27m of topsoil above 0.22m of subsoil above gravel with sandy clay patches. The trench was located across weak penannular geophysical anomalies and faint cropmark maculae, but no archaeological deposits were revealed.

Trench 6 (Figs 4 and 7)

This trench was aligned SW - NE and measured 27m long and 0.46m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.24m of topsoil above 0.22m of subsoil above gravel with sandy clay patches. The trench was located across a linear cropmark which corresponded with ditch 13. Ditch 13 was 1.6m wide and 0.4m deep with a single fill (63) though more gravelly to the base and given a second fill number (65) but more probably all one deposit. It contained 1 sherd of Late Roman pottery, a fragment of brick and 1 large sherd of Medieval pottery

Trench 7 (Figs 4 and 7; Pls 5 and 6)

This trench was aligned SW - NE and measured 29.1m long and 0.54m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.27m of topsoil above 0.27m of subsoil above gravel with sandy clay patches. The trench was located across two cropmarks, a strong circular one and a slighter and a penannular one, both of which were also identified as geophysical anomalies. The features in this trench were particularly difficult to distinguish from natural sandy clay patches but eventually Ditch 10 was confirmed which corresponded well to the larger, western ring ditch cropmark. The ditch was at least 2m across and was 0.71m deep with a single fill (61) of brown sandy clay with some gravel. The only artefact recovered was a struck flint.

Ditch 9 was 1.6m wide and 0.44m deep with two fills (59, 60) with a very slight curve in plan. It contained a struck flint and fragments of brick/tile (intrusive) and fired clay.

Ditch 11 was 2m wide with a very slight curve in plan. It was examined by a partial slot which revealed that it was at least 0.3m deep with a single fill (67). No finds were recovered. It seems likely that this feature is the return to Ditch 9 forming the eastern ring gully/ditch though an extra sandy clay stripe at and beyond the nearby end of the trench could be an alternative location for the return.

Trench 8 (Figs 5, 6 and 7; Pls 7 and 8)

This trench was aligned SW - NE and measured 31m long and 0.48m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.26m of topsoil above 0.22m of subsoil above gravel with sandy clay patches. The trench was located across two linear cropmarks which corresponded reasonably well with ditches 8 and 12. Ditch 8 was 1.8m wide and 0.7m deep. Most of the feature had a single fill (58) though more gravelly to the base but a patch of burnt clay (64) was present at the top of the sequence. The ditch contained one sherd of prehistoric, a large fragment of loomweight and a small fragment of burnt bone.

Ditch 12 was 1.5m wide and 0.55m deep with a single fill (62). It contained no dating evidence.

Trench 9 (Figs 5, 6 and 8; Pl. 9)

This trench was aligned SW - NE and measured 27.2m long and 0.45m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.26m of topsoil above 0.09m of subsoil above gravel with sandy clay patches. The trench was located across a linear cropmark and a geophysical anomaly which did not coincide. Ditch 3 was 1.20m wide and 0.25m deep with a single fill (52). It contained 12 sherds of Roman pottery and a large fragment of Roman brick. This feature corresponded well with the geophysical anomaly. Ditch 23 was 0.9m wide and 0.22m deep with a single fill (52). It was not entirely convincing as being of archaeological origin. It contained no dating evidence. The location of this feature within the trench corresponded with a cropmark but other (uninvestigated) sandy clay patches nearby could, in fact, be of archaeological origin and be a better match for the cropmark anomaly.

Trench 10 (Figs 5 and 6)

This trench was aligned SE - NW and measured 27.5m long and 0.65m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.28m of topsoil above 0.37m of subsoil above gravel with sandy clay patches. Ditch 4 was 1.6m wide and 0.3m deep with 2 fills (53, 55). Fill 53 contained a large fragment of late post-medieval glass bottle and two fragments of tile. It did not correspond with the geophysical anomaly but did with a short length of cropmark. The ditch cut or was cut by a posthole or small pit (5) which was 0.2m deep and c. 0.4m across. Its fill (54) contained two fragments of brick/tile.

Trench 11 (Figs 5 and 8; Pl. 10)

This trench was aligned SE - NW and measured 23.5m long and 0.58m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.27m of topsoil above 0.31m of subsoil above gravel with sandy clay patches. Ditch 14 was 1.6m wide and 0.25m deep with a single fill (66). A single small sherd of (probably) Roman pottery was recovered from its fill. The ditch corresponded well with the cropmark and reasonably well with a geophysical anomaly.

Trench 12

This trench was aligned SW - NE and measured 31.4m long and 0.51m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.32m of topsoil above 0.19m of subsoil above gravel with sandy clay patches. The trench was located across two geophysical anomalies but neither were observed. The north-east end of the trench intersected a large macula evident both as a cropmark and geophysical anomaly. A small slot was dug into this which revealed it had a shallow profile and from which was recovered brick/tile and late Post-medieval pottery. It is possibly an old quarry or simply a subsoil hollow which acted as a trap for artefacts. No archaeological deposits were recorded for this trench.

Trench 13 (Fig. 5; Pl. 11)

This trench was aligned SW - NE and measured 24m long and 0.42m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.25m of turf/topsoil above 0.17m of subsoil above gravel with sandy clay patches.

Posthole 15 was 0.6m across and 0.37m deep with two fills (68, 76). Fill 68 produced small pieces of brick/tile and a small fragment of clinker and was of late Post-Medieval date.

Pit 16 was cut through the subsoil and coincided with a general spread of brick/tile and chalk fragments but was revealed to be square pit 2m by at least 0.9m and 0.6m+ deep but was not bottomed. It contained two fills fill (69, 77) of brown sandy clay with much brick/tile including peg tile and chalk especially from the topmost layer. It was of late Post-Medieval date. Feature 17 was either an elongated pit or ditch terminal. It was 0.6m across and 0.4m deep. The single fill (70) produced brick/tile of late Post-Medieval date.

A shallow spread containing brick/tile was investigated at the south-west end of the trench and a pipe drain observed also at the south-west end.

Trench 14 (Fig. 5; Pl. 12)

This trench was aligned SE - NW and measured 29m long and 0.6m to 0.82m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.25m of turf/topsoil above 0.457m of subsoil above gravel with sandy clay patches. Numerous features were present, but all certainly or probably post-medieval/modern.

Posthole 22 was sub-rectangular in plan, up to 0.5m across and 0.13m deep. It had a single fill (74) which produced small pieces of brick/tile and was of late Post-Medieval date.

Posthole 21 was 0.5m across and 0.16m deep. It had a single fill (73) which produced chalk fragments but no datable artefacts.

Pit 20 was triangular in plan with large lumps of 19th/20th century brick protruding from the surface along with what appears to be a burnt *in-situ* basket. It was not further investigated.

Ditch 19 was aligned north-east to south-west and was 1m wide and 0.35m deep. It had a single fill (72) which produced small pieces of brick/tile of late Post-Medieval date.

Posthole or pit 18 was 0.7m across and 0.15m deep. It had a single fill (71) which produced small pieces of brick/tile and was of late Post-Medieval date.

Much of the northern end of the trench was occupied by a large hollow, 5m across and 0.9m deep, cutting subsoil. The base was level and was gravelly. It was backfilled with redeposited gravel. On the base, a small area of disturbance contained several tile fragments indicating that the feature was of late post-medieval date. The feature has the appearance of being an area which has had something substantial removed such as a tank or chamber and then been backfilled.

Finds

Pottery by Alice Lyons

A multi-period assemblage of 117 sherds, weighing 1791g, comprising prehistoric, Roman and post-Roman pottery was recovered during the evaluation. A minimum of 28 individual vessels were identified. Where the pottery could be reliably dated the majority was Early Roman, with a Late Saxon to Early Medieval material also well-represented (Table 1). The pottery was analysed following national guidelines (Barclay *et al* 2016).

Table 1. The pottery by ceramic period

Ceramic Period	*Sherds*	*Wt (g)*	*Average wt (g)*
Late Neolithic to Bronze Age	3	13	4.0
Roman	96	1021	10.6
Late Saxon to Early Medieval	16	684	43.0
Post-Medieval	2	73	36.5
Total	**117**	**1791**	**15.3**

All the pottery was fragmentary, none was deliberately placed, rather it is likely the material found its way into the ditched enclosure systems as part of rubbish disposal from nearby settlement. The average sherd weight for the assemblage is *c*. 16g, however, the prehistoric and Roman material is found in much smaller pieces and is more severely abraded that the post-Roman pottery (Table 1). Pottery was retrieved from five of the fourteen trenches, with most found within Trench 2. All the pottery was either unstratified or from ditches.

Prehistoric

Three (13g) extremely small and abraded undiagnostic handmade reduced ware sherds of late Neolithic to Bronze Age date were found singly in Trenches 3, 6 and 8. This material is typified with abundant flint temper and is almost certainly residual.

Roman

The largest group of material, 96 sherds (1021g) is Roman in date and was recovered from Trenches 2, 3, 6, 8 and 9. Where the pottery can be closely dated the majority is Early Roman, although a small quantity of Late Roman material was also found.

The chronologically earliest material is grog tempered, low-fired, jar/bowl and storage jar fragments which was produced in the early to mid-1st century AD. Indeed, one jar/bowl rim, recovered from ditch 7 (57), was mal-formed and could be considered a waster, suggesting production was taking place locally. Contemporary with this material are finer fragments from a British copy of a Gaulish Butt beaker (Tyers 1996, 163, fig. 200, no 113). Most of the pottery, however, comprises locally produced unsourced sandy grey ware jar/bowl forms, some of which retain soot residues where they have been exposed to an open flame, possibly indicating use as cooking vessels.

The diagnostically late Roman material includes a locally produced sandy grey ware flanged dish copying Black Burnished 1 ware design (Tyers 1996, 184, fig 228, no 45), also a Sandy red ware jar base most likely from the Oxfordshire industry (Tyers 1996, 175- 178).

Table 2. The Roman pottery

Fabric name and abbreviation	*Vessel form*	*Sherds*	*Wt (g)*	*Wt (%)*
Fine grey ware GW(FINE)	Butt Beaker	6	9	<1
Grey ware with grog inclusions GW(GROG); PGROG	Jar/bowl Storage jar	15	292	28.6
Sandy grey ware SGW	Flanged dish, jar/bowl,	69	613	60.0
Sandy red ware SREDW	Jar	6	107	10.5
Total		96	1021	

Late-Saxon to Early Medieval

Sixteen large sherds (684g) in London-type sandy grey ware (Laing 2003, 99) fragments, mostly from a single substantial Late-Saxon to Early Medieval (10th-11th century) handled jar or jug, were found in Trench 2. This vessel is distinctive from the Roman material as it is much thicker-walled and has a diagnostic thumb impression, where the handle was secured to the body when the clay was still wet.

Post-Medieval

Two sandy red ware sherds (73g), with green glaze (GRE), were found in Trench 2. One was a substantial fragment from a handled vessel, probably a jug, the other a small rim fragment from a possible tankard. This fabric and type of decoration was in common used between the 15th and 17th centuries.

Brick/tile by Steve Ford

A collection of brick and tile was recovered, mostly from cut features but including unstratified loomweight fragments from trench 1. A range of types and dates were observed as listed in Appendix 4.

Struck flint by Steve Ford

Five struck flints were recovered (Appendix 5). The collection comprised three flakes and two spalls (pieces less than 20x20mm). All were made from locally derived gravel flint. None of the pieces were closely datable but are probably of Neolithic or Bronze Age date, though those pieces from Roman contexts if not residual are perhaps accidental by-products of ditch digging through gravelly ground.

Burnt Bone by Ceri Falys

A single piece of burnt bone was recovered from Ditch 8 (58) within Trench 8. Weighing just 0.5g, the bone fragment measures 24.0mm by 7.9mm in size, and is mottled grey and white in colour. White colouring to burnt bone indicates the fragment was subjected to temperatures above 600^{o}C which has resulted in the oxidization of the organic components within the bone. The fragment is a portion of non-human tooth, and has the morphology of cattle or sheep/goat teeth, but the size of the fragment does not permit confident identification. No further information can be retrieved from this single burnt tooth fragment.

Charred Plant remains by Joanna Pine

Two 8L sub-samples were taken from Ditches 14 and 23 and wet sieved for charred plant remains using a 0.25mm mesh. No charred material was recovered.

Conclusion

Many of the evaluation trenches achieved the positive objectives intended by confirming the presence of cropmark and geophysical anomalies (Figs 9 and 10) as being of archaeological origin and providing dating evidence for them. Several of the weaker geophysical anomalies were not confirmed and a number of the cropmark anomalies are best considered as being of geological origin or of fairly modern human activity.

The features in trenches 2, 3, 6, 8 and 9 were certainly or probably of Roman date (with one medieval feature) and appear to represent a combination of an enclosure complex, perhaps with an additional small discrete enclosure, and adjacent field boundaries. Curiously, despite moderate volumes of pottery being retrieved from relatively small slots dug across these ditches, no other features such as pits or postholes were recorded as

would be expected if the core of main occupation zones had been examined. It is possible that some of the smaller, circular sandy clay patches (not investigated) were not the natural geology but were cut features, though typically at least some such features would evidently be artefact or charcoal rich even before excavation, but these were not.

For other trenches, namely 10 and 11, these revealed linear features present as cropmarks and geophysical anomalies and revealed that one was of post-medieval date and the other probably Roman.

Trench 7 examined circular cropmark and geophysical anomalies and successfully established their presence. However no dating evidence other than durable struck flints and some (intrusive?) tile were recovered. As far as the western ring ditch was concerned, there was no trace of a surviving mound and no evidence of any complexity.

Finally, Trenches 13 and 14 were intended to explore the area of a possible Medieval moated site and locate further components of it, or ancillary remains. However, although these trenches located a number of cut features most of these were demonstrably of late Post-medieval or modern date, with no trace of any moated feature. No pottery of medieval (or any other) date was found in these two trenches.

References

Ames, R E, 1993, 'A Mesolithic assemblage from Moor Farm, Holyport, near Maidenhead', *Berkshire Archaeol J* **74** (for 1991–3), 1–8

Barclay, A, Knight, D, Booth, P, Evans, J, Brown, DH and Wood, I, 2016, *A Standard for Pottery Studies in Archaeology*, Prehistoric Ceramics Res Grp, Study Grp Roman Pottery, Historic England

BGS, 1981, *British Geological Survey*, 1:50,000, Sheet 269, Solid and Drift Edition, Keyworth

Bradley, R J, Over, L, Startin, D W A and Weng, R, 1976, 'The Excavation of a Neolithic Site at Cannon Hill, Maidenhead, Berkshire, 1974–75', *Berkshire Archaeol J* **68**, 5–19

Colyer, A, 2019 prep, 'Late Neolithic pits, a Bronze Age ring ditch and Early Saxon houses at Braywick Park, Maidenhead, Berkshire: an archaeological excavatio draf report', Thames Valley Archaeological Services rep **17/116d**, Reading

Dils J and M Yates, 2013, *An Historical Atlas of Berkshire*, Berkshire Record Society, Reading

Galleano, C, 2018, 'Thames Hospice, Windsor Road, Bray, Berkshire: An Archaeological evaluation', Thames Valley Archaeological Services report WRB18/13, Reading

Gates, T, 1975, *The Thames Valley, An archaeological Survey of the River Gravels*, Berkshire Archaeol Comm Pubn 1, Reading

Laing, L,2003, *Pottery in Britain 4000BC to AD1900; A guide to Identifying Pot Sherds*

NPPF, 2018, *National Planning Policy Framework*, Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government, London

Taylor, A, 2018, 'Land at Braywick Park, Maidenhead, Berkshire, an archaeological evaluation', Thames Valley Archaeological Services unpubl rep **17/116c**, Reading

Tyers, P, 1996, *Roman Pottery in Britain,* London

APPENDIX 1: Trench details

0m at S or W end

Trench	*Length (m)*	*Breadth (m)*	*Depth (m)*	*Comment*
1	24.4	1.6	0.48	0-0.24m topsoil; 0.24-0.46m brown clayey sand subsoil ; 0.46m+ gravel with extensive brown sandy clay patches. **[Pl. 1]**
2	26.3	1.6	0.46	0-0.2.1m topsoil; 0.24-0.44m brown clayey sand subsoil ; 0.44m+ gravel with extensive brown sandy clay patches. Ditches 6 and 7
3	26.3	1.6	0.44SE, 0.54NW	0-0.31m topsoil; 0.31-0.52m brown clayey sand subsoil ; 0.52m+ gravel with extensive brown sandy clay patches. Ditch 1, Possible gully 2 **[Pl. 3]**
4	26.7	1.6	0.51	0-0.2.8m topsoil; 0.28-0.49m brown clayey sand subsoil ; 0.49m+ gravel with extensive brown sandy clay patches.
5	25.2	1.6	0.47	0-0.27m topsoil; 0.27-0.45m brown clayey sand subsoil ; 0.45m+ gravel with extensive brown sandy clay patches. **[Pl. 2]**
6	27	1.6	0.46	0-0.24m topsoil; 0.24-0.44m brown clayey sand subsoil ; 0.44m+ gravel with extensive brown sandy clay patches. Ditch 13
7	29.1	1.6	0.54	0-0.27m topsoil; 0.27-0.52m brown clayey sand subsoil ; 0.52m+ gravel with extensive brown sandy clay patches. Ditch 9, Ring ditch 10; ring gully 11 **[Pls 5, 6]**
8	31	1.6	0.48	0-0.26m topsoil; 0.26-0.46m brown clayey sand subsoil ; 0.46m+ gravel with extensive brown sandy clay patches. Ditches 8 and 12 **[Pls 7, 8]**
9	27.2	1.6	0.45	0-0.26m topsoil; 0.26-0.35m brown clayey sand subsoil ; 0.35m+ gravel with extensive brown sandy clay patches. Ditches 3 and 23. **[Pl. 9]**
10	27.5	1.6	0.65	0-0.28m topsoil; 0.28-0.63m brown clayey sand subsoil ; 0.63m+ gravel with extensive brown sandy clay patches. Ditch 4, pit 5. **[Pl. 4]**
11	23.5	1.6	0.58	0-0.27m topsoil; 0.27-0.56m brown clayey sand subsoil ; 0.56m+ gravel with extensive brown sandy clay patches. Ditch 14 **[Pl. 11]**
12	31.4	1.6	0.51	0-0.32m topsoil; 0.32-0.49m brown clayey sand subsoil ; 0.49m+ gravel with extensive brown sandy clay patches. Post-medieval hollow at 31m
13	25	1.6	0.42	0-0.25m topsoil; 0.25-0.42m brown clayey sand subsoil ; 0.42m+ gravel with extensive brown sandy clay patches. Features 15-17 **[Pl. 11]**
14	30.2	1.6	0.82NW 0.6 SE	0-0.35m topsoil; 0.35-0.82m brown clayey sand subsoil ; 0.82m+ gravel with extensive brown sandy clay patches. Deep area of late post-medieval disturbance; Features 18-22 **[Pl. 12]**

APPENDIX 2: Catalogue of features

Trench	*Cut*	*Fill*	*Type*	*Date*	*Dating evidence*	*Comment*
3	1	50	Ditch	Late Roman	Pottery	1 prehistoric sherd
3	2	51	Gully/furrow?	-	Flint	doubtful
9	3	52	Ditch	Roman	Pottery	
10	4	53, 55	Ditch	Post-medieval	Glass, tile	
10	5	54	Pit	Post-medieval	Brick	
2	6	56	Ditch	Early Roman	Pottery	1 medieval sherd
2	7	57	Ditch	Medieval	Pottery	27 Roman
8	8	58, 64	Ditch	Prehistoric?	Pottery	
7	9	59, 60	Ditch	-		Brick fragment, intrusive?
7	10	61	Ring ditch	Bronze Age?	Form	
7	11	67	Ring gully	-		
8	12	62	Ditch	-		
6	13	63, 65	Ditch	Roman	Pottery	1 medieval sherd
11	14	66	Ditch	Roman?	Pottery	
13	15	68, 76	Posthole	Post-medieval	Brick/tile; clinker	
13	16	69, 77	Pit	Post-medieval	Brick,tile, chalk	
13	17	70	Pit or ditch	Post-medieval	Brick/tile	
14	18	71	Posthole	Post-medieval	Brick/tile	
14	19	72	Ditch	Post-medieval	Brick/tile	
14	20	-	Pit	Post-medieval/Modern	Brick/tile	
14	21	73	Posthole	Post-medieval?		
14	22	74	Posthole	Post-medieval	Brick/tile	
9	23	75	Ditch	-		doubtful

APPENDIX 3: Catalogue of pottery

KEY: B = base, BEAK – beaker, C=century, D = decorated body sherd, Dsc = description, E=Early, EMED = Early Medieval, FDISH = flanged dish, HM = handmade, L=late, LSAX = Late Saxon, M=mid, PMED = post-Medieval, PRE = prehistoric, R = rim, RB = Roman, SJAR = storage jar, SW = slow wheel, U=undecorated body sherd, U/S = unstratified, WM = wheel made.

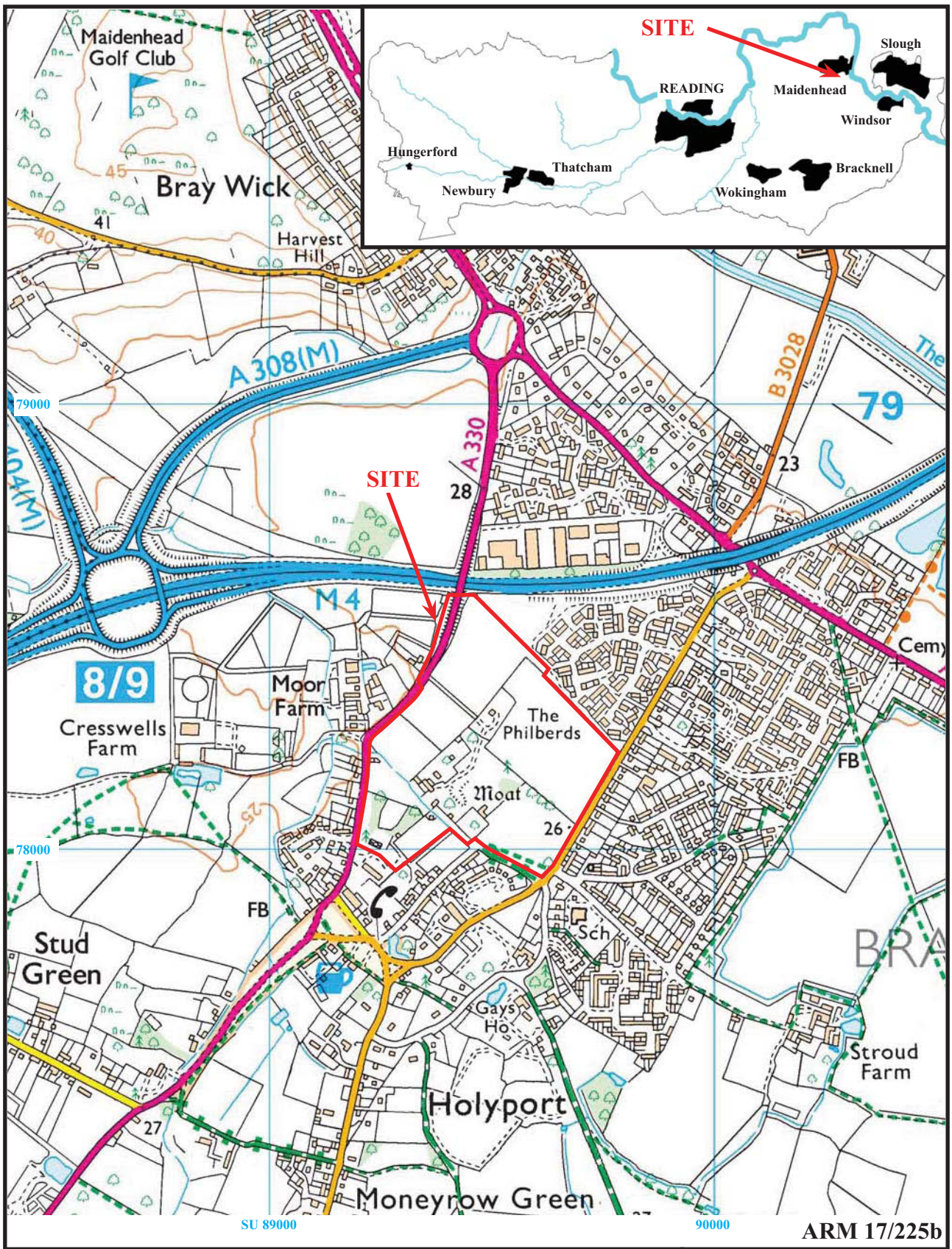
Trench	*Cut*	*Fill*	*Type*	*ERA*	*HM/WM*	**Fabric Family*	*Dsc*	*Form*	*No.*	*Wt (g)*	*Date*
2	6	56	Ditch	RB	WM	SGW	U	jar	4	20	LC1-C4
2	6	56	Ditch	RB	WM	SGW	UD	jar	18	133	MC1-C4
2	6	56	Ditch	RB	WM	GW(FINE)	U	beak	6	9	MC1
2	6	56	Ditch	RB	SW	GW(GROG)	UB	jar/bowl	5	30	MC1
2	6	56	Ditch	RB	HM	PGROG	UB	sjar	4	198	C1-C4
2	6	56	Ditch	RB	HM	GW(GROG)	R	lid	2	36	MC1-E/MC2
2	6	56	Ditch	RB	HM	GW(GROG)	R	jar	1	7	MC1-MC2
2	6	56	Ditch	LSAX-EMED	SW	SGW	U	jar	1	17	C9-C11
2	7	57	Ditch	RB	WM	SGW	UB	jar	23	166	MC1-C4
2	7	57	Ditch	RB	WM	GW(GROG)	R	jar	1	11	MC1-E/MC2
2	7	57	Ditch	LSAX-EMED	SW	SGW	UH	jug	13	453	C9-C11
2	7	57	Ditch	RB	WM	SGW	UD	jar/bowl	2	35	MC1-MC2
2	7	57	Ditch	RB	WM	GW(GROG)	U	jar/bowl	1	8	MC1-EC2
2	U/S	U/S	U/S	LSAX-EMED	SW	SGW	H	handle	1	31	C9-C11
2	U/S	U/S	U/S	RB	WM	SGW	UB	jar	8	126	LC1-C4
2	U/S	U/S	U/S	PMED	WM	GRE	R	tankard	1	5	C15-C17
2	U/S	U/S	U/S	PMED	WM	GRE	H	jug	1	68	C15-C17
3	1	50	Ditch	PRE	HM	GW(FLINT)	U	jar/bowl	1	1	PRE
3	1	50	Ditch	RB	WM	SGW	U	jar	2	20	MC1-C4
3	1	50	Ditch	RB	WM	SGW	R	fdish	1	10	MC3-EC5
3	U/S	U/S	U/S	RB	WM	SGW	RU	jar/bowl	3	43	MC1-C4
6	13	63	Ditch	LSAX-EMED	SW	SGW	UB	jar	1	183	C9-C11
6	13	63	Ditch	RB	WM	SREDW	UB	jar	1	67	C4
6	U/S	U/S	U/S	RB	WM	SGW	U	jar	1	2	MC1-C4
6	U/S	U/S	U/S	PRE	HM	GW(FLINT)	U	jar/bowl	1	1	PRE
8	8	58	Ditch	PRE	HM	GW(GROG)	U	jar/bowl	1	11	PRE
9	3	52	Ditch	RB	WM	SGW	R	jar	5	16	MC1-C4
9	3	52	Ditch	RB	WM	SGW	UB	jar	2	42	MC1-C4
9	3	52	Ditch	RB	WM	SREDW	UB	jar	5	40	MC1-C4
11	14	66	Ditch	RB	WM	SGW	UB	?	1	2	MC1-C4

APPENDIX 4: Catalogue of brick and tile, fired clay

Trench	*Cut*	*Fill*	*Type*	*Date*	*No.*	*Wt (g)*
1	U/S	-	Loomweight	Late Prehistoric/Roman?	2	433
2	6	56	Fired clay	-	2	10
3	1	50	Tegulae	Roman	1	340
6	13	63	Brick?	-	1	8
7	9	60	Brick	Post-medieval?	1	11
7	9	60	Fired clay		1	4
8	8	58	Loomweight	Late Prehistoric/Roman?	1	276
9	3	52	Brick	Roman	1	152
10	4	54	Tile	Post-medieval	2	23
10	5	55	Tile	Post-medieval	2	41

APPENDIX 5: Catalogue of struck flint

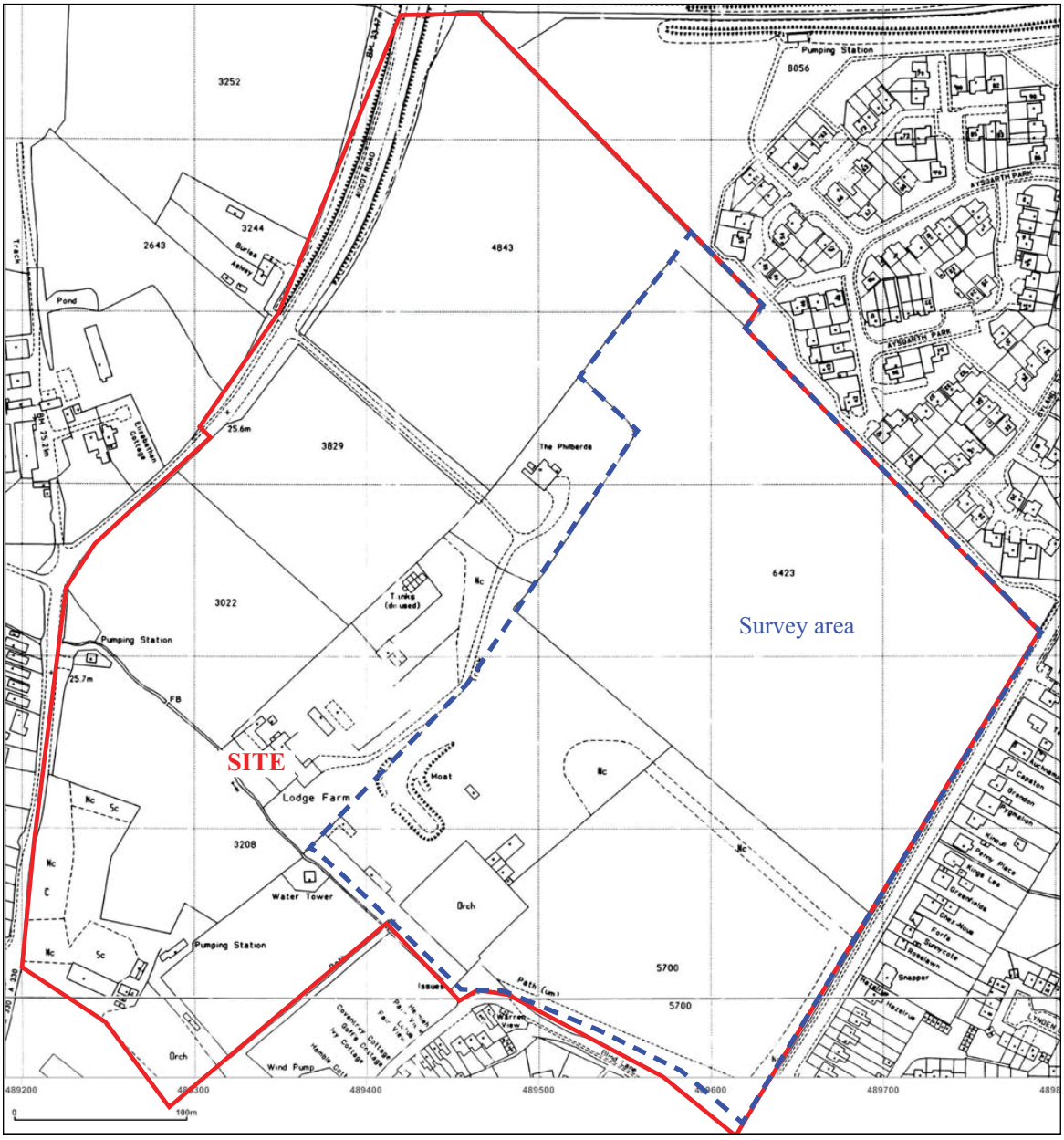
Trench	*Cut*	*Fill*	*Type*
2	6	56	Flake
3	2	51	Flake
6	13	63	Spall
7	9	60	Flake; Spall



Land at Ascot Road, Holyport,
Maidenhead, Berkshire, 2018
Geophysical Survey (Magnetic)

Figure 1. Location of site within Holyport and Berkshire.

THAMES VALLEY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES

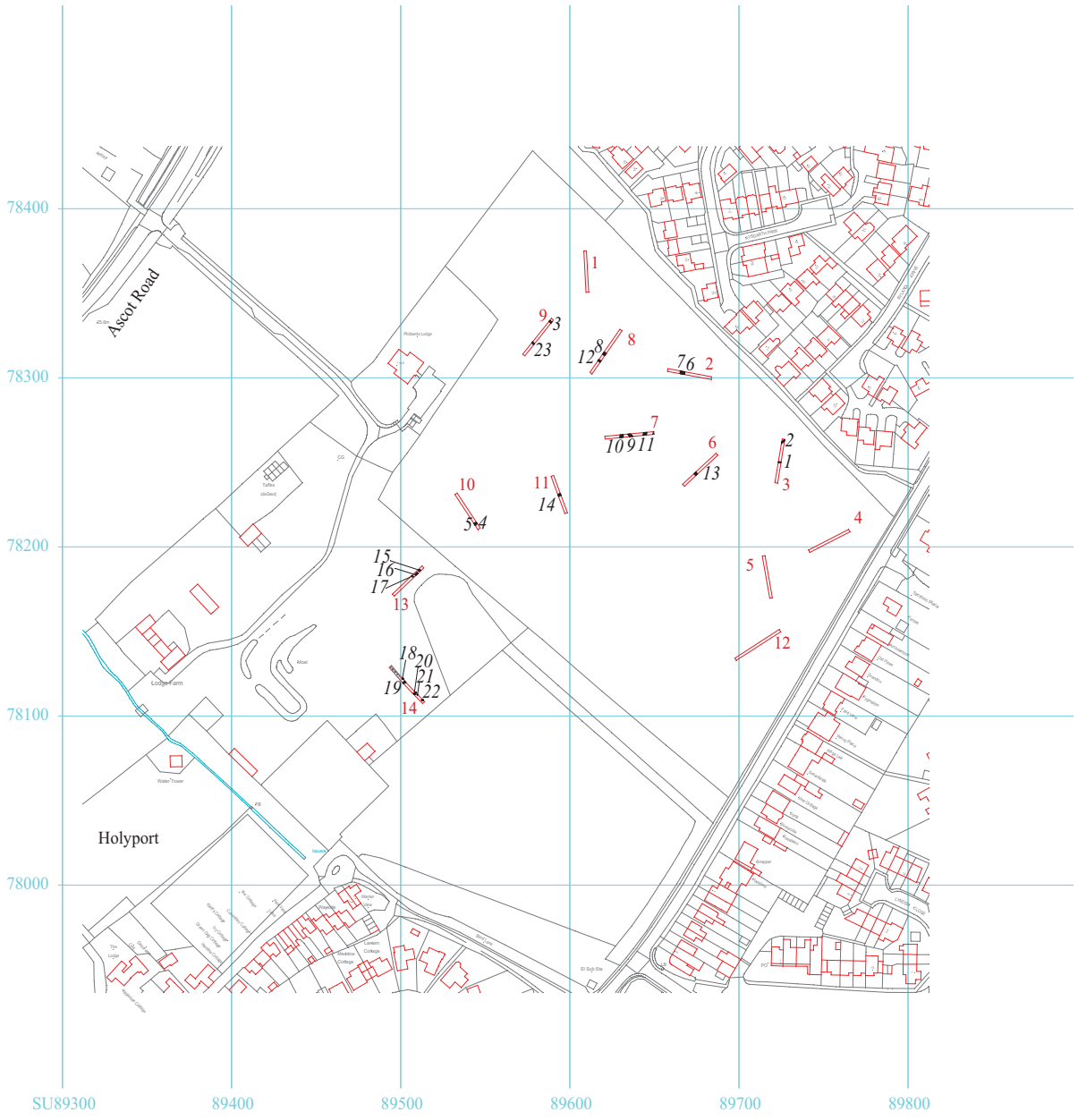


ARM 17/225c

N

Land at Ascot Road, Holyport, Maidenhead, Berkshire, 2018
Archaeological Evaluation
Figure 2. Location of survey area within wider site.

THAMES VALLEY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES



ARM17/225

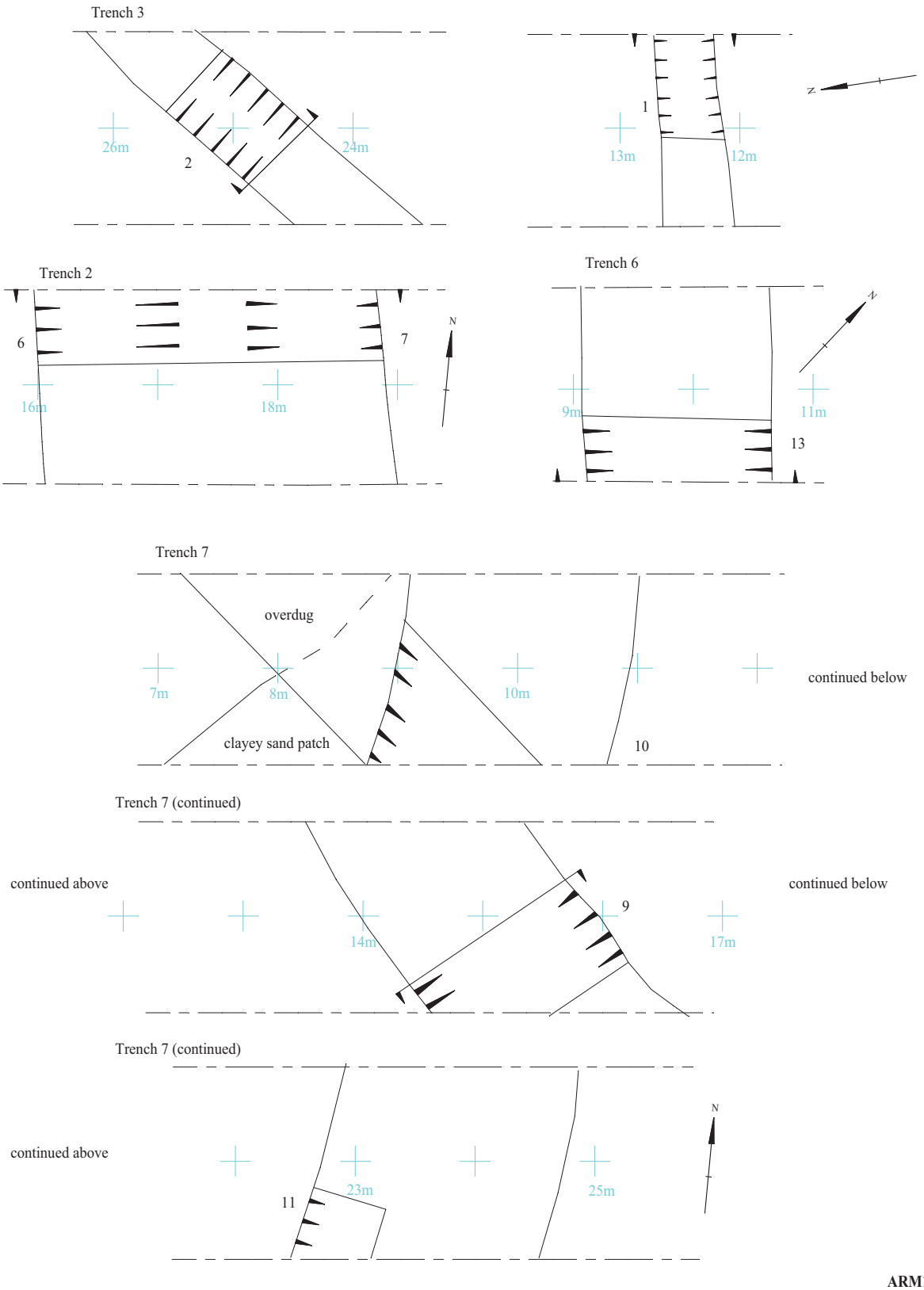
N

Land adjacent to Ascot Road, Holyport, Maidenhead, Berkshire Archaeological Evaluation

Figure 3. Location of evaluation trenches.

0 100m

THAMES VALLEY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES



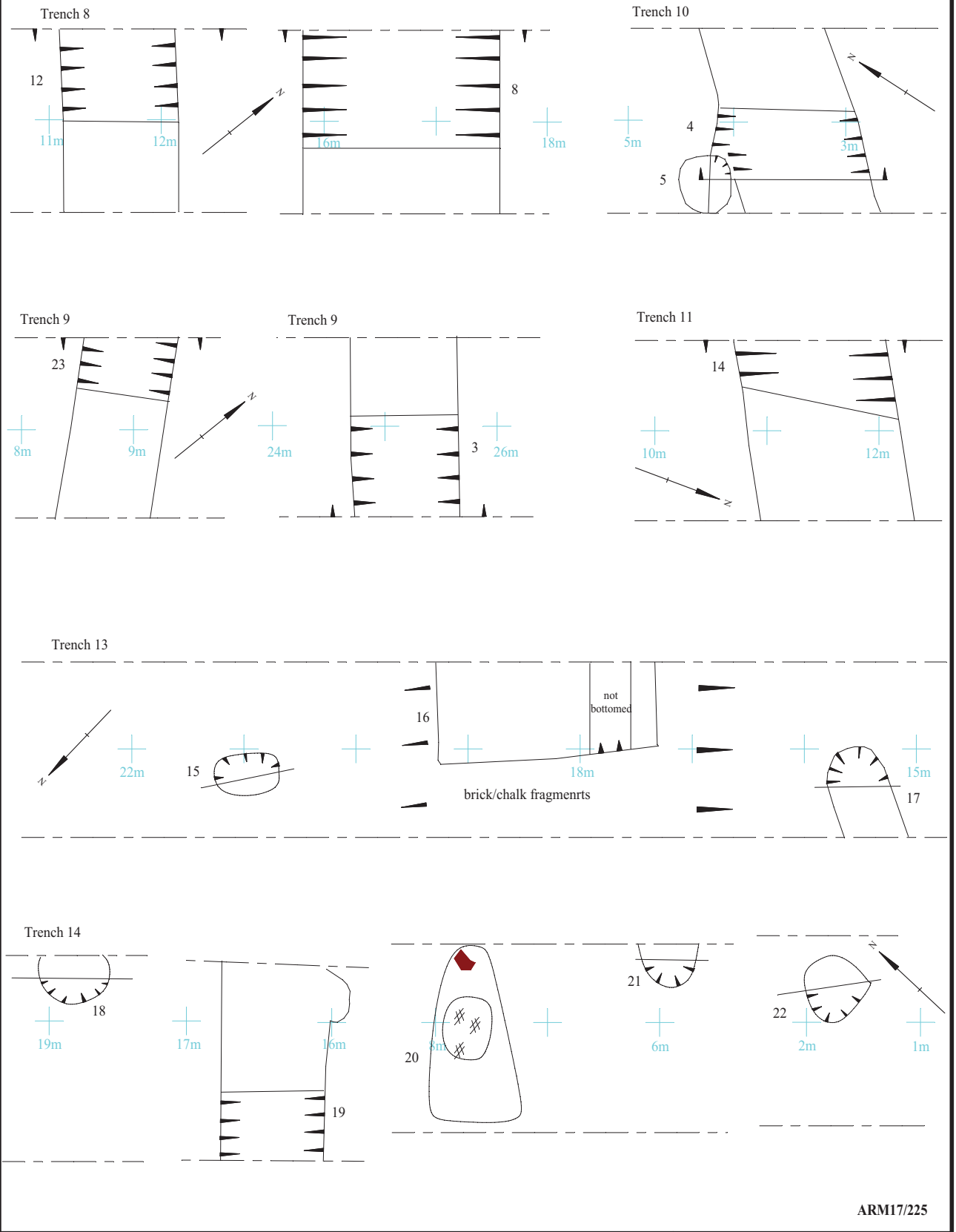
ARM17/225

Land adjacent to Ascot Road, Holyport, Maidenhead, Berkshire Archaeological Evaluation

Figure 4. Trench details

0 1m

THAMES VALLEY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES



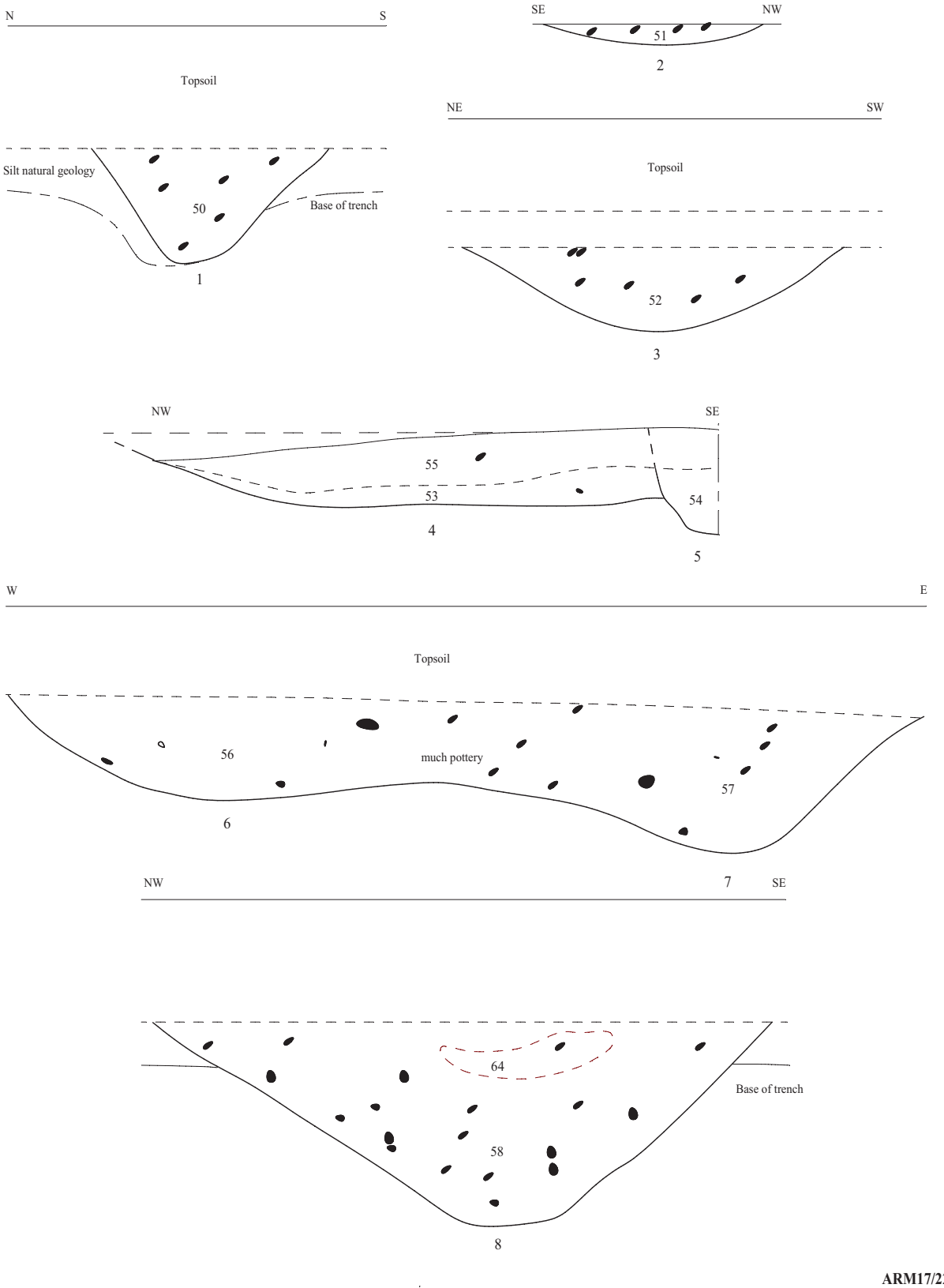
ARM17/225

Land adjacent to Ascot Road, Holyport, Maidenhead, Berkshire Archaeological Evaluation

Figure 5. Trench details

0 1m

THAMES VALLEY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES



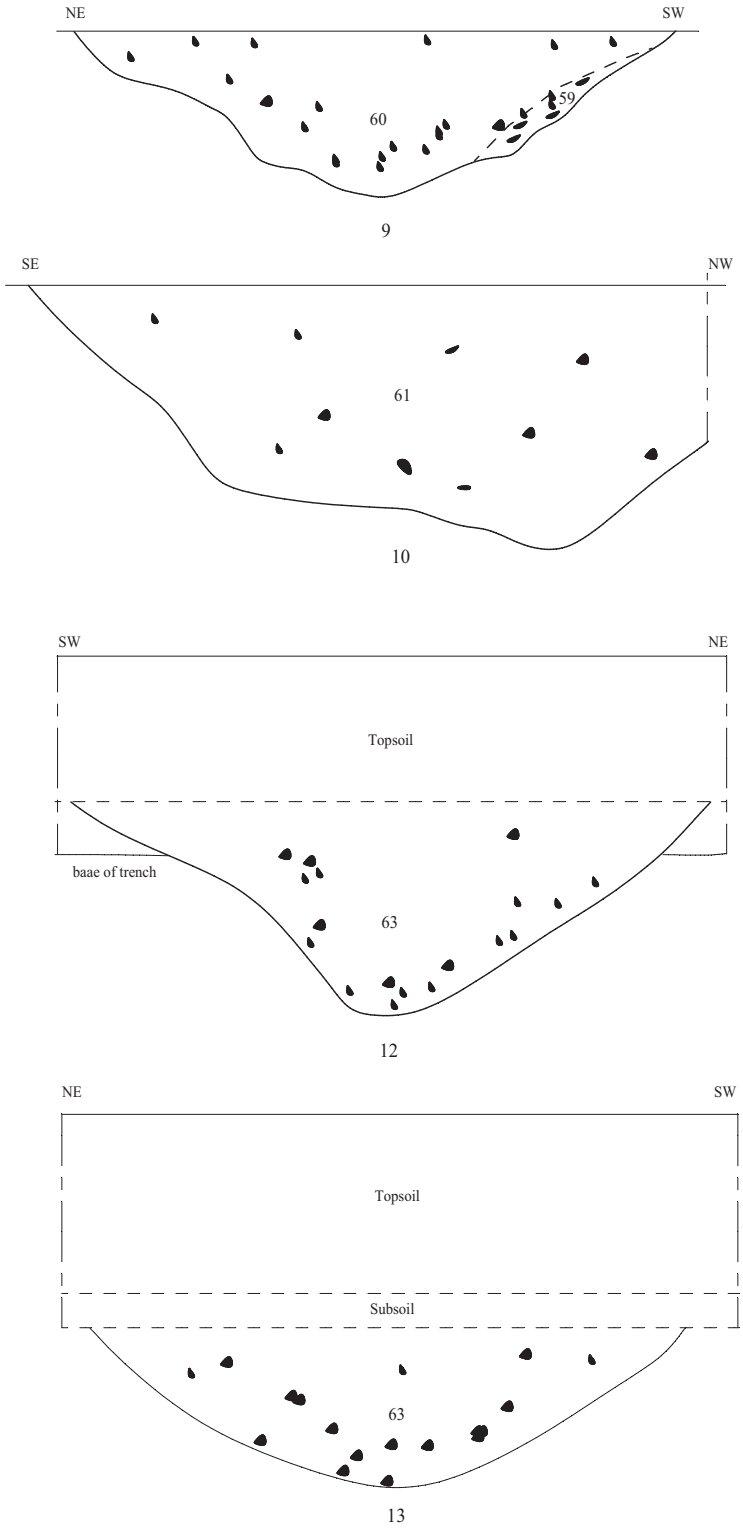
ARM17/225

Land adjacent to Ascot Road, Holyport, Maidenhead, Berkshire Archaeological Evaluation

Figure 6. Sections

0 1m

THAMES VALLEY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES



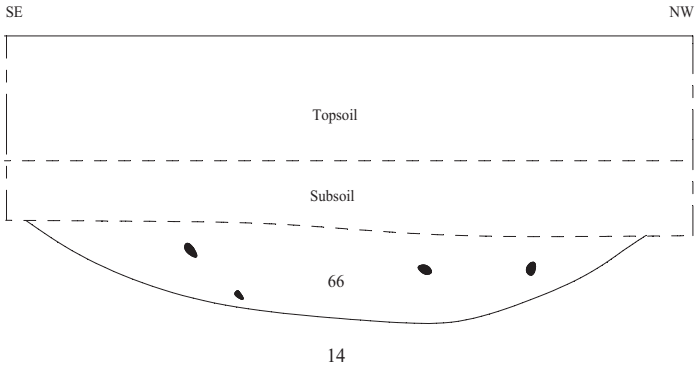
ARM17/225

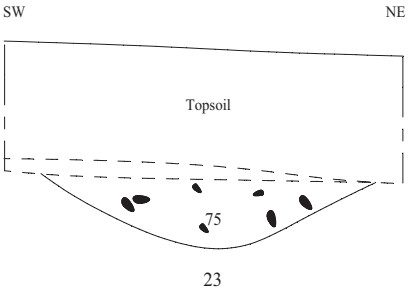
Land adjacent to Ascot Road, Holyport, Maidenhead, Berkshire Archaeological Evaluation

Figure 7. Sections

0 1m

THAMES VALLEY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES





ARM17/225

Land adjacent to Ascot Road, Holyport, Maidenhead, Berkshire Archaeological Evaluation

Figure 8. Sections

0 1m

THAMES VALLEY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES

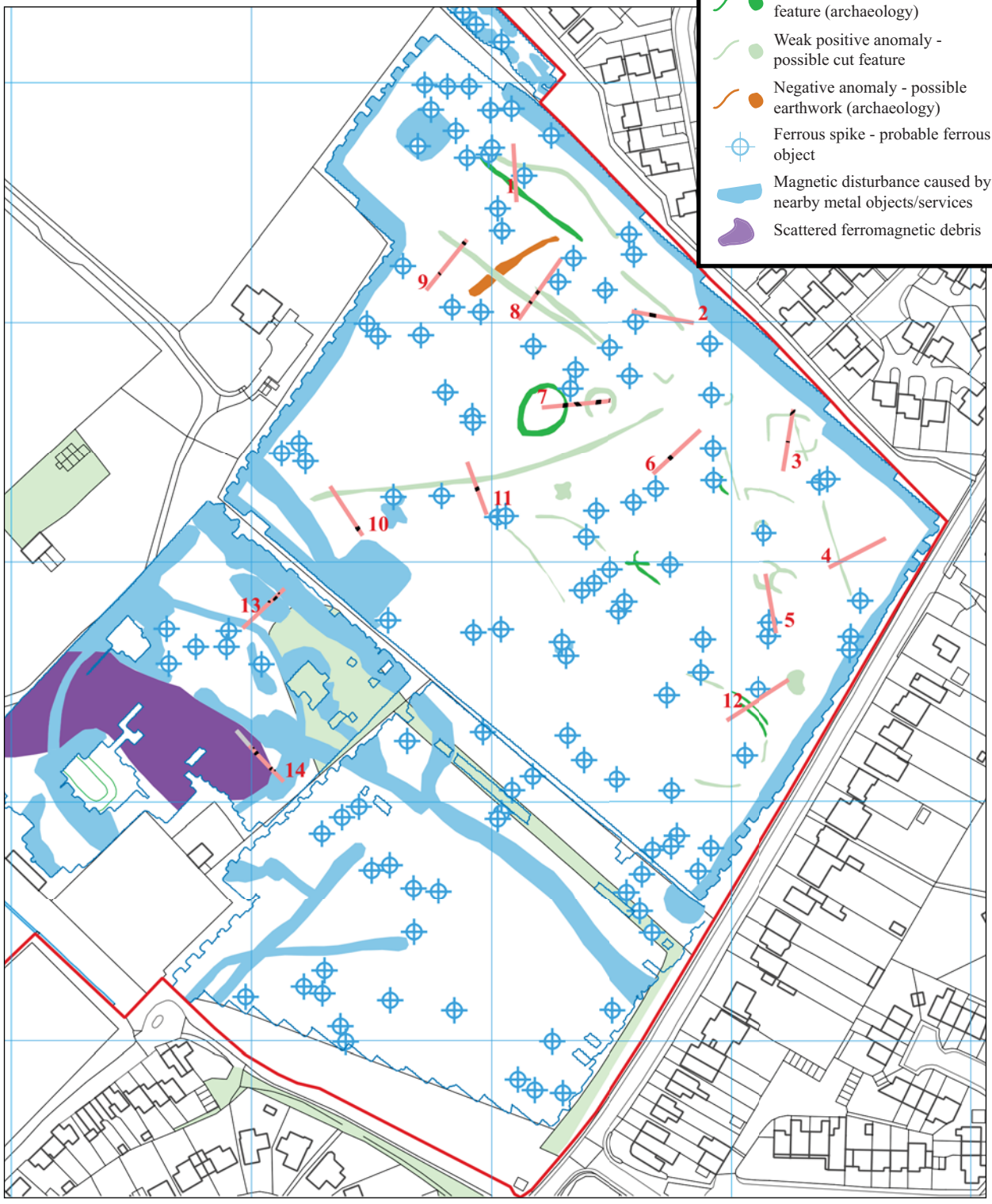
ARM 17/225c

N

Land at Ascot Road, Holyport,
Maidenhead, Berkshire, 2018
Archaeological Evaluation

Figure 9. Trench plan overlaid on orthorectified aerial photographs supplied by Mr J Caplin.

THAMES VALLEY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES



ARM 17/225c

N

Land at Ascot Road, Holyport, Maidenhead, Berkshire, 2018
Archaeological Evaluation

Figure 10. Trench plan overlaid on interpretation plot of geophysical survey (after Beaverstock 2018).

THAMES VALLEY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES

Plate 1. Trench 1, showing investigated silt stripe, looking north, Scales: 1m and 0.3m

Plate 2. Trench 5, looking north-east. Scales: 1m and 0.3m

Plate 3. Trench 3, Ditch 1 looking east. Scales:1m and 0.3m

Plate 4. Trench 10, Features 4 and 5 looking south west, Scales: 1m and 0.1m.

Plate 5. Trench 7, Ditch 9 looking south east, Scales: 1m and 0.3m

Plate 6. Trench 7, Ditch 10 looking east, Scales: 1m and 0.3m (nb differential drying)

ARM 17/225

Land at Ascot Road, Holyport, Maidenhead, Berkshire, 2018
Archaeological Evaluation
Plates 1 to 6.

THAMES VALLEY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES

Plate 7. Trench 8, Ditch 8 looking north west,
Scales: 1m and 0.3m

Plate 8. Trench 8, Ditch 12 looking north-east.
Scales: 1m and 0.3m

Plate 9. Trench 9, Ditch 23 looking east.
Scales: 0.1m and 0.3m

Plate 10. Trench 11, Ditch 14 looking south west,
Scales: 1m.

Plate 11. Trench 13, looking south west,
Scales: 1m

Plate 12. Trench 14, looking north east,
Scales: 1m

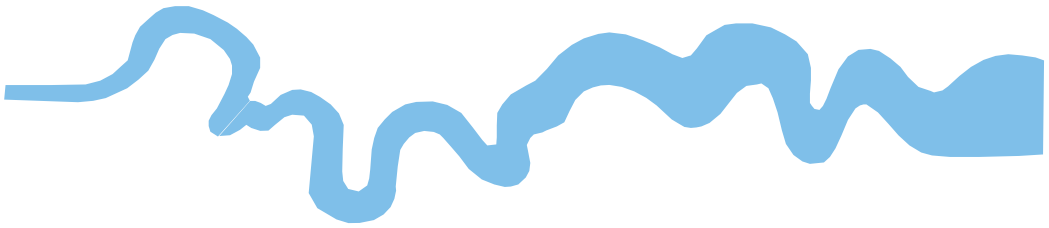
ARM 17/225

Land at Ascot Road, Holyport,
Maidenhead, Berkshire, 2018
Archaeological Evaluation
Plates 7 to 12.

THAMES VALLEY
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
SERVICES

TIME CHART

	Calendar Years
Modern	AD 1901
Victorian	AD 1837
Post Medieval	AD 1500
Medieval	AD 1066
Saxon	AD 410
Roman	AD 43
	AD 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
Web: www.tvas.co.uk

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