

T H A M E S V A L L E Y
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
S E R V I C E S

**Beeches Manor, Reading Road,
Wokingham, Berkshire**

Archaeological Evaluation

by Jamie Lewis

Site Code: RRW10/116

(SU 8070 6900)

**Beeches Manor, Reading Road,
Wokingham, Berkshire**

**An Archaeological Evaluation
for Willmott Dixon Housing Ltd**

by James Lewis
Thames Valley Archaeological Services
Ltd

Site Code RRW10/116

January 2011

Summary

Site name: Beeches Manor, Reading Road, Wokingham, Berkshire

Grid reference: SU 8070 6900

Site activity: Evaluation

Date and duration of project: 13th–16th December 2010

Project manager: Steve Ford

Site supervisor: James Lewis

Site code: RRW10/116

Area of site: *c.* 0.8ha

Summary of results: Five of the seven trenches revealed features potentially of archaeological interest, including ditches, gullies, pits, a posthole, a wall foundation and a chalk surface. One ditch appears reasonably certainly to be medieval, another ditch and pit possibly so. All the other datable features are from the post-medieval period, some of which are clearly of 19th or 20th century date but other may relate to the 17th-century manor house known to have stood on the site from documentary sources. Some features were waterlogged with organic preservation. A single sherd of Late Iron Age or Early Roman pottery was also recovered.

Location and reference of archive: The archive is presently held at Thames Valley Archaeological Services.

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 All TVAS unpublished fieldwork reports are available on our website: www.tvas.co.uk/reports/reports.asp.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 ✓ 06.01.11 Steve Preston ✓ 05.01.11

Beeches Manor, Reading Road, Wokingham, Berkshire An Archaeological Evaluation

by James Lewis

Report 10/116

Introduction

This report documents the results of an archaeological field evaluation carried out at Beeches Manor, Reading Road, Wokingham, Berkshire (SU 8070 6900) (Fig. 1). The work was commissioned by Mr Martin Mewett for Willmott Dixon Housing Ltd, Block E, Southgate Office Village, 286 Chase Road, Southgate, London, N14 6JQ.

Planning permission (F/2010/1559) has been granted by Wokingham Borough Council for the construction of care flats and supported living apartments with managed wildlife areas. The consent is subject to a condition (10) relating to archaeology requiring a programme of archaeological investigation prior to the development. The archaeological potential of the site has been highlighted in a briefing note prepared by Ms Mary O'Donoghue of Berkshire Archaeology. The site covers the location of a large 17th-century house which was documented from at least 1624 and was destroyed in 1953. As a consequence of the possibility of archaeological deposits being present on the site which may be damaged or destroyed by groundworks, a field evaluation is required. Based upon the results of the evaluation a scheme of mitigation of the development's impact on the archaeology can be produced.

This is in accordance with the Department for Communities and Local Government's Planning Policy Statement, *Planning for the Historic Environment* (PPS5 2010), and the Borough Council's policies on archaeology. The field investigation was carried out to a specification approved by Ms Mary O'Donoghue and the work on site was monitored by Ms Fiona MacDonald, Principal Archaeologist of Berkshire Archaeology, advisers to the Borough on matters relating to archaeology. The fieldwork was undertaken by James Lewis, Aidan Colyer and Steve Crabb from 13th to 16th December 2010 and the site code is RRW10/116. The archive is presently held at Thames Valley Archaeological Services, Reading.

Location, topography and geology

The site is located just to the north-west of Wokingham town centre. To the north of the site are a community centre and bowling club, and to the west is the A329. The south of the site is bordered by housing (Fig. 1). A wooded area to the north-east of the development is to be retained as a managed wildlife area (Fig. 2). The land

around comprises low hills and shallow river valleys. The site itself is located in an area of mixed woodland on the southern side of a low hill at an elevation of between 60m to 65m above Ordnance Datum. The underlying geology is lower Bagshot Beds (BGS 1946).

Archaeological background

The archaeological potential of the site stems from its location on the site of a large house (Beches Manor) documented from at least 1624 but possibly earlier, and thought to be named after Roger de Beche who was a large landowner in the 15th century. The house may be one of those present on Rocque's map of Berkshire in 1761 (Fig. 7) and is on the Ordnance Survey preliminary series maps of 1816-1830. A detailed layout is shown on the Ordnance Survey First Edition (Fig. 8) and subsequent editions indicating the main building, outbuildings and a landscaped garden including a sunken lawn. The last building on the site was destroyed by fire in 1953. It is possible that an earlier, late medieval manorial building complex also occupied the site.

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 research aims of this project are:

- to determine if archaeologically relevant levels have survived on this site;
- to determine if archaeological deposits of any period are present;
- to determine if any remains from the documented early post-medieval building are present;
- to determine if the 17th-century building had medieval or earlier origins; and
- to provide sufficient information to construct an archaeological mitigation strategy.

It was proposed to excavate six trenches: five 22m long and one 11m long were to be excavated by a machine fitted with a 1.6m wide toothless ditching bucket under constant archaeological supervision to remove topsoil and other overburden to expose archaeologically relevant levels. 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 will be excavated or sampled by hand to satisfy the aims of the project. This work was to be carried out in such a fashion as not to disturb any remains which might merit preservation *in situ* or might better be investigated under conditions pertaining to full excavation. All spoil heaps were monitored for artefacts and metal detected.

In the event, due to the restricted area caused by the presence of large tree stumps the dimensions and the locations of the trenches had to be modified (Fig. 3). Seven trenches were excavated ranging in lengths from 9m to 27m and all were 1.6m wide. These alterations were agreed by Ms O'Donoghue of Berkshire Archaeology.

Results

Trench 1 (Figs 4 and 5, Pl. 3)

Trench 1 was aligned east-west and measured 27m long and 0.65m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.25m of topsoil over made ground 0.2m thick which consisted of grey sandy clay with yellow mottling, and contained occasional brick and tile inclusions. This overlay the sands of the lower Bagshot Beds.

Eleven features were recorded in this trench; all towards the west end. A corner of a building was found at the west end of the trench. This comprised a red brick wall (52) within a foundation trench (1). The foundation trench was not excavated but it was 0.8–1.0m wide. The bricks were mortar-bonded in the 'English cross' pattern and were machine made red bricks which measured 0.25m long, 0.11m wide and 0.09m high. There were three courses of base stepped out a full brick width on the inside, with up to 6 courses above for total height of 0.8m. The wall probably represents the remains of buildings depicted on the 19th-century Ordnance Survey maps.

Under the wall was a shallow gully (2), aligned NW-SE and 0.4m wide and 0.05m deep. It contained a grey sandy fill (53) and a single sherd of pottery dating from the 16th century or later. It did not appear to continue beyond the wall to the west but it is possible it may have resumed as gully 4 after a gap of around 4m, and did continue out of the trench northwards. The terminus of a similar gully (4) was aligned NW-SE, like 2, and extended beyond the southern side of the trench. Gully 4 was 0.45m wide and 0.1m deep. It contained grey clayey sand (55), with an iron nail, three small pieces of animal bone and tile.

A small posthole (3) with a diameter of 0.3m and 0.1m deep was excavated and this contained grey clayey sand (54) with a small piece (2g) of burnt flint and tile. The posthole truncated an earlier feature (11). Feature 11 was either a small rectangular pit or a gully terminus which was also possibly truncated by a later ditch (5). Feature 11 measured 0.5m long, 0.35m wide and 0.12m deep. It contained pale grey sand (60) and animal bone but no datable finds.

A shallow north-south aligned ditch (5) measured 0.9m wide and 0.2m deep. It contained grey clayey sand (56) horse bones, tile, and two large sherds of pottery dating from the late 15th century. The ditch truncated features 8 and (probably) 11 and was in turn truncated by a modern disturbance. Rectangular pit (8) was 0.56m long and 0.3m wide. It contained pale grey sand (62) with no finds.

Feature 6 was either a gully terminus or rectangular pit which extended beyond the northern side of the trench. It measured 0.7m wide and 0.23m deep. The feature contained two fills: dark grey clayey sand (56) overlay yellow-grey clayey sand (57) and brick/tile was found in both fills and one small sherd of early post-medieval pottery in the upper fill. A ditch terminus (7) was excavated and this was aligned NW–SE and was at least 0.7m wide and 0.43m deep. It contained yellow-grey clayey sand (58) and finds of metalwork, brick and pottery of post-medieval date.

Feature 9 was a gully terminus which was aligned north-south and extended beyond the southern edge of the trench. It measured 0.48m wide and 0.2m deep and contained dark grey clayey sand (59) and tile.

Features 3, 5 and 9 were all truncated by a modern pit (10) which contained brick and tile.

Trench 2 (Fig. 3)

Trench 2 was aligned WNW–ESE and measured 23.5m long and the depth varied between 0.5m at the west end and 0.76m at the eastern end. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.25m of topsoil over 0.51m thickness of made ground as in Trench 1, again this contained occasional brick and tile inclusions. This overlay 0.25m thick of black silty sand and below this was the natural geology. No archaeological features were present in Trench 2.

Trench 3 (Figs 4 and 6, Pl. 1)

Trench 3 was aligned SW–NE and measured 14.5m long and 1.2m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of topsoil 0.3m thick above 0.6m of made ground (73) which comprised brown sandy clay with occasional brick and tile inclusions, one sherd of post-medieval pottery and one residual Late Iron Age or early Roman sherd. This overlay black, organic sandy clay (74), 0.3m thick with brick and tile inclusions, two pieces of clear glass (130g), and late Victorian pottery. Below this was a compact chalk surface (81), 0.08m thick. It comprised very small pieces of irregular shaped chalk which covered the whole of the base of the trench. Cutting through this surface was a truncated wooden post which measured approximately 0.2m in diameter, and at least 0.1m high.

A small sondage was excavated through the chalk surface (Fig. 6) and this revealed a layer of red-brown sandy clay (85) 0.2m thick which overlay blue green sand (86) which was at least 0.1m thick. It was not clear if this was natural which had been stained through leaching or a layer of made ground.

Trench 4 (Figs 4-6, Pls 2 and 4)

Trench 4 was aligned SW–NE and was 9m long and 0.89m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.15m depth of topsoil overlying 0.35m of made ground (83) overlying 0.25m of brown clay (84) 0.14m of red-grey clayey sand (69). Below this was the natural geology.

This trench contained three features: gully 15 was aligned along the trench and measured 9m long and was between 0.4–0.7m wide and 0.15m deep. It contained dark grey clayey sand (68) with occasional tile inclusions. The shallow gully truncated a layer which was mottled red-grey clayey sand (69) found throughout the trench. In order to investigate any potential archaeological deposits underneath this layer it was removed from both ends of the trench, but left in place in the middle. At the NE end of the trench was an east-west aligned ditch (16) at least 0.6m wide and 0.43m deep. Its full width could not be established as it extended beyond the side of the trench. It contained orange-grey clayey sand (70) and brick and tile. Parallel to this was a shallow east-west aligned gully (17) and this measured at least 0.6m wide and 0.15m deep. The gully contained dark grey clay with occasional stones. Its full width could not be established as it extended beyond the side of the trench. Both of these features cut through a possible layer of re-deposited natural comprising of yellow sand (87), 0.12m thick.

At the SE end of the trench was a NW–SE aligned ditch (14) which measured 2m wide and 0.6m deep. It contained three fills (Fig. 6 and Pl. 4); grey orange clayey sand (65), 0.22m deep and with tile and eight sherds of medieval pottery; red-grey clayey sand (66), with tile and one sherd of medieval pottery; and at the base of the ditch was grey clayey sand (67), 0.36m thick and with tile, a piece of waterlogged worked wood and one sherd of medieval pottery.

Trench 5 (Figs 4–6)

Trench 5 was aligned NNE–SSW and measured 18.5m long and 1.1m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.22m depth of topsoil above red-brown silty clay (75) 0.2m thick which contained tile and brick. Below this was dark grey brown silty clay (76), 0.5m thick and this contained brick, tile, animal bone and post-medieval pottery. The trench was extended by machine on its SW side in order to more fully investigate feature 19 (see below). Two features were found in this trench. Between 7m and 14m from the south end of the trench, ditch 19 was aligned NE–SW and measured at least 4m wide and was 0.8m deep. Its full width could not be established accurately within the trench. It contained four fills; the top fill was dark grey-brown silty clay (77), 0.6m thick which contained brick and tile. Below this was dark organic grey black silty clay (79), 0.2m thickness which contained small preserved waterlogged branches, bone and late post-medieval pottery. Below this were two fills; light grey clayey sand (78) which was located on the side of the ditch and probably represents an episode of slumping, 0.2m thick but extending 1m up the side of the ditch. At the base of the ditch was a line of large chalk blocks (80), which was very degraded due to continual presence of water at the base of the feature and the depth of the feature prohibited any detailed investigations of the blocks, the thickness of this layer was 0.35m. Feature 19

appears to be a large drainage ditch backfilled in the late post-medieval period, but does not appear to be depicted on the First Edition Ordnance Survey map.

Feature 13 was located at the northern end of the trench and continued beyond the trench in three directions. Only one side of the feature was visible and it appeared to be a ditch which was aligned NW–SE. The feature measured at least 1.8m long and at least 2m wide. Due to the restrictions placed on the excavation by the ingress of water the depth of the feature was not excavated but an auger was used and it was found to be 1.5m deep. It contained a grey sandy silt (64) but no finds.

Trench 6 (Fig. 3)

Trench 6 was aligned NNE–SSW and measured 7m long and 0.9m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.9m of made ground directly onto the natural geology. No archaeological features were found in this trench, however, an air raid shelter, probably dating to World War Two was found at the north-east end of the trench.

Trench 7 (Figs 4 and 6)

Trench 7 was aligned NE–SW and measured 9m long and 0.7m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.36m of topsoil overlying 0.34m of made ground. Below this was the natural geology.

A single (18) ditch was aligned NW–SE across the trench. Due to the ingress of water the feature could not be fully excavated, however, the observable measurements were at least 1.6m long, 1.45m wide and at least 0.1m deep. It contained dark brown silty clay (72), with finds of iron slag, brick, tile and late post-medieval pottery

Finds

Pottery by Paul Blinkhorn

The pottery assemblage comprised 32 sherds with a total weight of 1455g. It consisted of medieval and later wares, along with a single sherd of late Iron Age or early Roman material. The range of fabric types present indicates that there were two main phases of activity at the site, one around the mid-late 13th century, and the other in the mid 16th – 17th century. A single medieval sherd appears to date to the mid-14th – mid 15th century.

The following fabrics were noted:

F356: Surrey Whiteware, mid 13th–mid 15th century (Pearce and Vince 1988). A range of whitewares from several sources in Surrey, including Kingston and Cheam. 11 sherds, 207g.

F405: German Stonewares. AD1480 onwards. A range of hard, grey, salt-glazed fabrics produced at numerous sites in the Rhineland and beyond (Gaimster 1997). The 1 sherd (46g) from this site is of Frechen/Cologne type.

F425: Red Earthenware, 16th–19th century. Fine sandy earthenware, usually with a brown or green glaze, occurring in a range of utilitarian forms. Such 'country pottery' was first made in the 16th century, and in some areas continued in use until the 19th century. 10 sherds, 1124g.

F451: Border Ware, AD1550–1700. Wide range of utilitarian and tablewares in a fine, white fabric with a bright green, yellow or brown glaze. Manufactured at a number of centres on the Surrey/Hampshire border and the main coarseware pottery type in London in the post-medieval period (Pearce 1988). 3 sherds, 29g.

F411: Metropolitan-type Slipware, 17th–early 18th century (Davey and Walker 2009). As F425, with designs painted in white slip under the glaze. 1 sherd, 29g.

MOD: Miscellaneous 19th and 20th century wares. Mass-produced white earthenwares, stonewares etc. 6 sherds, 109g.

In addition, a single redeposited and very heavily abraded sherd (11g) of late Iron Age or early Roman grog-tempered ware was also present. The pottery occurrence by number and weight of sherds per context by fabric type is shown in Appendix 3.

The medieval assemblage comprised fragments of glazed Surrey Whiteware jugs, probably of Kingston-type, some of which had applied and incised decoration. They are typical medieval products of the industry. A single cistern bunghole in the same fabric also occurred. Such vessels had a currency of the mid-14th to mid-15th century in London (Pearce and Vince 1988, fig. 44), although this sherd, which was fresh and showed little sign of abrasion, occurred alongside mid-16th century or later pottery (context 61).

The post-medieval pottery is all typical of sites of the period in the region, comprising mainly large utilitarian vessels in Red Earthenware, along with the base of a Frechen/Cologne beer-mug and a fragment of a Slipware dish.

A transfer-printed plate from context 74 is impressed with the Davenport mark of 1874–87.

Animal Bone by Ceri Falys

A small assemblage of animal bone was recovered from six contexts in two trenches. A total of 17 fragments were present for analysis, weighing 1380g (Appendix 4). The overall preservation of the remains was good, although all pieces demonstrated moderate fragmentation and occasional cortical exfoliation. All the identifiable bones are from 'large' category mammals: horse and cow. The minimum number of animals present in this small assemblage of bone was found to be two, one horse and one cattle individual. Horse is represented by a complete right side of mandible and a right scapula from ditch 19 (79). Cattle is represented by two tarsal bones (a left talus and calcaneus) in ditch 12 (63), and a single intermediate phalanx in the gully terminus context 11 (60). Evidence of butchery practices was not observed. The remaining bones could not be closely identified.

Ceramic Building Materials by Danielle Milbank

A total of 17.93kg of ceramic building material (152 fragments) were recovered during the excavation, the majority of which were recovered from contexts dated to the late medieval or early post-medieval periods. The majority of the brick and tile were smaller fragments of tile. The ceramic building material is summarised in Appendix 5.

Ceramic building material was recorded most frequently in modest quantities, typically 500g to 1500g, in a large proportion of the features and layers which date to the medieval and post-medieval periods.

Larger quantities (1 to 2 kg) were recovered from gully 6 (56), ditch slots 5 and 7, and layer 75. The greatest quantities of brick and tile were recorded in ditch slot 13, which contained 3.2kg of brick and tile, and ditch slot 18 which contained 3.160kg.

Tiles

Fabric ranged from medium (slightly weak or friable) to very hard and well-fired, though at x10 magnification there was little to differentiate the composition of the tiles recovered in the evaluation, and all were fairly consistent, with moderate to frequent small well-sorted quartz sand inclusions. The colour varied from pale orange to a dark red, with occasional examples of a grey core. Most frequently the fragments had a rough underside, indicating that they were made using a sanded mould.

Plain

The majority of the tile fragments which were recovered were flat, with no notable marks or features. The majority were small fragments, and cannot be closely dated. Many of these are likely to be peg tiles, where the pierced part is not present.

Peg Tiles

Peg holes were present on 4 sherds (deposits 53, 56 and 63), though no complete peg tiles were recovered. This type of tile was produced from the late 12th to 19th century, though it did not become widespread until the late 13th century and was generally limited to high-status buildings before becoming more common from the 15th century onwards. The fabric and finish of the majority of the fragments suggests a later post-medieval date, however one pale orange piece with a rough fabric with frequent quartz sand inclusions recovered from gully 2 may be early post-medieval in date.

Ridge tiles

Layer 75 contained 1 decorative ridge tile, with a hollow cylinder along the top of the ridge. Although it cannot be closely dated by style, the very hard, well-fired fine clay fabric and the finish of the tile suggests it is post-medieval, probably 19th century at the earliest. It is red, with a black colour coating on all surfaces, suggesting the ridge tile was stained by dipping rather than painting.

Pan tile

A large fragment of pan tile was recovered from context 14 (67), which was a slot through a ditch, and is dated by pottery to the 13th-14th centuries. The piece was intact along one long side and measured 338mm long and 11mm thick. The fabric is a slightly soft fired clay with occasional fine quartz sand inclusions. Pantiles such as these were often used on houses with steeply-pitched roofs, replacing thatching, from the mid 17th century, when they were largely imported, and more widespread in the later 17th century onwards, when they were often locally produced.

Bricks

Brick fragments were recovered from three contexts (ditch slots 13 and 18, and gully 6), the majority of which were small, undatable pieces. They were examined under x10 magnification.

Gully 6 contained a fragment which is 50mm thick, 100mm wide and of a hard, well-fired red fabric with frequent small quartz sand inclusions and mortar adhering to the rough underside. It is unfrosted and is likely to be broadly early post-medieval in date, and is categorised as Harley type 4.

Ditch slot 13 contained three notable pieces, which can be categorised according to Harley (1974). Of these, one is 52mm thick, a dark brown on the surface with a red core, and is a fine clay fabric with no inclusions, and a rough, porous texture with a very rough base with visible straw impressions. The form, thickness and finish suggest it is a handmade brick of medieval date, of Harley type 2.

Two other brick fragments were recovered from this context: one is 30mm thick and 112mm wide, the other 38mm thick and 124mm wide. Both are a fine sandy fabric with occasional small inclusions, and are well-fired and hard. Both have a rough lower surface suggesting a sandy mould was used in their production. They appear to be a form of very flat mould-made early medieval brick, possibly of the 13th century, and can be classified as Harley type 2, (with a method of production more typical of Harley type 4).

Overall, the brick and tile assemblage recovered in the course of the evaluation is modest. Although the tiles are generally not closely datable, the majority are derived from contexts dated by their pottery to the post-medieval periods.

The earlier, probably medieval (13th or 14th century) brick fragments are not necessarily derived from a building of this date on the evaluation site. Due to re-use and their durable nature, bricks of early date are often found eventually discarded in much later contexts.

Metal finds by Steve Crabb

Eleven iron items were recovered, almost all of them from ditch terminus 7, apart from one nail in gully 4 (Appendix 6). Most of the objects from ditch 7 cannot be identified but they include at least two nail fragments. Small amounts of undiagnostic iron slag also came from ditches 14 and 18 and a larger lump (978g) from pit 8.

Wood by James Lewis

A single piece of waterlogged worked wood was recovered from feature 14. It was oak and measured 300mm long, 43mm wide, 31mm thick and weighed 200gms. One end was broken and the other displayed at least one, possibly two cut marks on either side. These cut marks measured 10mm by 22mm and 18mm by 5mm respectively. Unfortunately due to the condition of the wood it is not possible to identify its function.

Conclusion

The evaluation has shown the presence of numerous man-made features on the site of various dates and demonstrated that the archaeologically relevant horizons have not been badly truncated, and indeed in places are protected below relatively deep layers of made ground. Some features were waterlogged. Most of the features revealed are of post-medieval date, though few of them are definitely late post-medieval (Victorian) or 20th century date. At least one ditch is reasonably securely dated to the medieval period and two other features may be of a similar date but are less securely dated. Pottery of later medieval, and even a sherd of Roman date is present, and although no features can be assigned to those periods it is possible there may have been activity of those periods on the site or nearby. Early Post-medieval pottery (mid 16th – 17th century) suggests that some of the features may indeed relate to the manor house, and could provide confirmation of an earlier date for it.

References

- BGS, 1946, *British Geological Survey*, 1:633 60, Sheet 268, Drift Edition, Keyworth
- Davey, W and Walker, H, 2009, *The Harlow Pottery Industries*, Medieval Pottery Research Group Occas Pap **3**
- Gaimster, D, 1997, *German Stoneware*, London
- Harley, L S, 1974, *A typology of brick*, BAA, London
- Pearce, J, 1988, *Border Wares*, London
- Pearce, J and Vince, A, 1988, *A Dated Type-Series of London Medieval Pottery. Part 4: Surrey Whitewares*
London and Middlesex Archaeol Soc Spec Pap **10**
- PPS5, 2010, *Planning for the Historic Environment*, The Stationery Office, Norwich

APPENDIX 1: Trench details

0m at S or W end

Trench	Length (m)	Breadth (m)	Depth (m)	Comment
1	27.0	1.6	0.65	0–0.25m topsoil; 0.25–0.45m made ground; 0.45m+ grey sand (natural geology). Features 1–11. [Pl. 3]
2	23.5	1.6	W: 0.5 E: 0.76	0–0.25m topsoil; 0.25–0.76m made ground; 0.76m+ sand (natural geology).
3	14.5	1.6 (at base)	1.2	0–0.3m topsoil; 0.3–0.9m made ground; 0.9–1.2m black organic layer, 1.2–1.28 chalk surface (81); 1.28m+ red–brown sand (natural geology). [Pl. 1]
4	9.0	1.6	0.6	0–0.25m topsoil; 0.25–0.6m made ground; 0.6m+ sand (natural geology). Ditches/gullies 14–17 and layer 69. [Pls 2, 4]
5	18.5	1.6	1.1	0–0.45m topsoil; 0.45–1.1m subsoil; 1.1m+ sand (natural geology). Ditches 12, 13 and 19.
6	7.0	1.6	0.9	0–0.9m made ground; 0.9m+ sand (natural geology). Air raid shelter.
7	9.0	1.6	0.7	0–0.36m topsoil; 0.36–0.7m made ground; 0.7m+ sand (natural geology). Ditch 18.

APPENDIX 2: Feature details

Trench	Cut	Fill (s)	Type	Date	Dating evidence
	-	50	Topsoil		
	-	51	Subsoil		
1	1	52	Wall foundation	19th Century	Brick
1	2	53	Gully	16th–17th Century	Pottery
1	3	54	Posthole		
1	4	55	Gully terminus	Medieval/Post Medieval	Tile
1	5	61	Ditch	late 15th Century or later, probably 16th	Pottery
1	6	56, 57	Gully terminus/Pit	16th–17th Century	Pottery
1	7	58	Ditch terminus	17th–18th Century	Pottery
1	8	62	Pit	Possibly medieval	Stratigraphy (Earlier than 5), slag
1	9	59	Pit	Medieval/Post Medieval	Tile
1	10	-	Modern cut	Modern	
1	11	60	Gully terminus/Pit		
5	12	63	Ditch same as 19	17th–19th Century	Pottery
5	13	64	Ditch		
4	14	65–67	Ditch	13th–14th Century	Pottery
4	15	68	Gully	Medieval/Post Medieval	Brick/Tile
4	-	69	Spread	(later than 14)	Stratigraphy
4	16	70	Gully	Medieval/Post Medieval	Brick/Tile
4	17	71	= 15	Medieval/Post Medieval	Brick/Tile
7	18	72	Ditch	16th–19th Century	Pottery
3	-	73	Made ground	Modern	pottery, brick
3	-	74	Made ground	Late Victorian/Modern	pottery, brick
5	-	75	Made ground	(later than 19)	Stratigraphy
5	-	76	Made ground	(later than 19)	Stratigraphy
5	19	77–80	Ditch	16th–19th Century	Pottery
3	-	81	Chalk surface		
7	-	82	Made ground	(later than 18)	Stratigraphy
4	-	83	Made ground	(later than 84)	Stratigraphy
4	-	84	Made ground	(later than 69)	Stratigraphy
3	-	85	Sand		
3	-	86	Sand		
4	-	87	Re-deposited natural		

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

Trench	Cut	Deposit	LIA		F356		F405		F451		F425		F411		MOD	
			No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt
3	-	73	1	11							1	36			1	30
3	-	74									1	381			5	79
1	2	53							1	14						
1	5	61			1	86	1	46								
1	6	56							1	3						
1	7	58							1	12			1	29		
4	14	65			8	86										
4	14	66			1	25										
4	14	67			1	10										
7	18	72									3	83				
5	-	76									3	238				
5	19	79									2	386				
		Total	1	11	11	207	1	46	3	29	10	1124	1	29	6	109

APPENDIX 4: Inventory of animal bone

Trench	Cut	Deposit	No frags	Wt (g)	Horse	Cattle	Large Mammal	Unidentifiable
1	4	55			-	-	-	3
1	11	60	1	6	-	1	-	-
1	5	61	5	108	5	-	-	-
5	12	63	5	86	-	2	-	3
5	-	76	1	42	-	-	1	-
5	19	79	2	1124	1	-	-	-

APPENDIX 5: Summary of ceramic building material

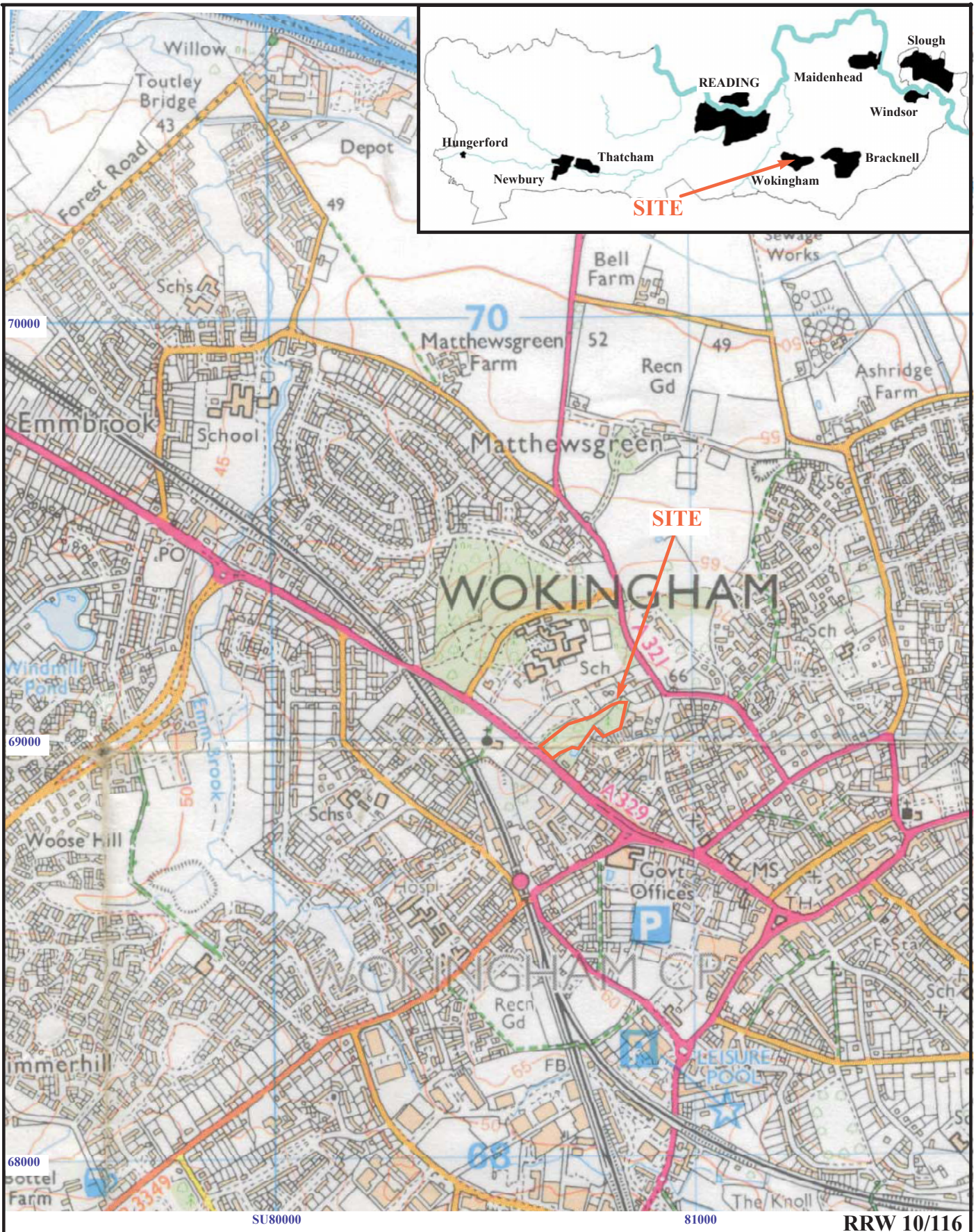
Trench	Cut	Deposit	Type	B-T	No	Wt (g)
1	2	53	Gully	tile	1	342
1	3	54	Posthole	tile	2	68
1	4	55	Gully terminus	tile	9	376
1	6	56	Gully terminus	brick, tile	9	1008
1	7	58	Ditch terminus	tile	27	1840
1	9	59	Pit	tile	7	262
1	5	61	Ditch	tile	38	1670
5	12	63	Ditch	tile	9	584
5	13	64	Ditch	brick, tile	7	3200
4	14	65	Ditch	tile	7	596
4	14	66	Ditch	tile	1	60
4	14	67	Ditch	tile	1	1208
4	15	68	Gully	tile	7	428
4	16	70	Gully	tile	5	814
7	18	72	Ditch	brick, tile	10	3160
3	-	73	Made ground	tile	8	550
5	-	75	Made ground	tile	1	1640
5	-	76	Made ground	tile	3	128

APPENDIX 6: Summary of metalwork (all iron)

<i>Trench</i>	<i>Cut</i>	<i>Deposit</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Cat No</i>	<i>Object</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>wt (g)</i>
1	4	55	Gully terminus	1	nail	1	16
1	7	58	Ditch terminus	2	object	1	
1	7	58	Ditch terminus	3	nail	1	3
1	7	58	Ditch terminus	4	nail	1	8
1	7	58	Ditch terminus	5	object	1	36
1	7	58	Ditch terminus	6	object	1	5
1	7	58	Ditch terminus	7	tool?	1	168
1	7	58	Ditch terminus	8	object	1	144
1	7	58	Ditch terminus	9	object	1	4
1	7	58	Ditch terminus	10	object	1	2
1	7	58	Ditch terminus	11	object	1	8
1	8	62	Pit	-	slag	1	978
4	14	65	Ditch	-	slag	1	58
7	18	72	Ditch	-	slag	2	318

Appendix 7: Dimensions of Worked Wood

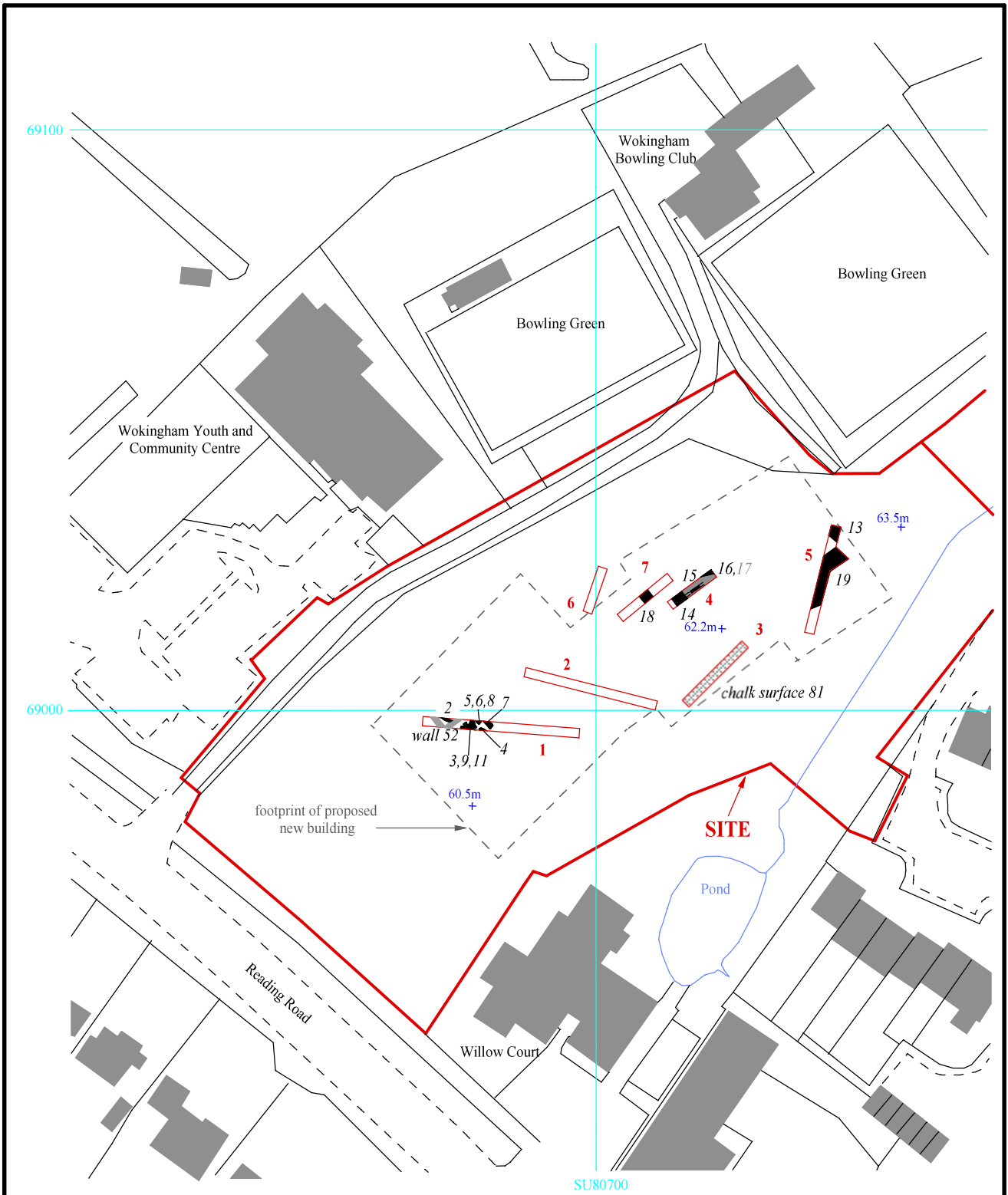
<i>Trench</i>	<i>Cut</i>	<i>Deposit</i>	<i>No frags</i>	<i>Wt (g)</i>	<i>length</i>	<i>width</i>	<i>thickness</i>	<i>date</i>
1	14	67	1	200g	300mm	43mm	31mm	13 th -15 th cent



**Beeches Manor, Reading Road, Wokingham, Berkshire, 2010
Archaeological Evaluation**

Figure 1. Location of site within Wokingham and Berkshire.

Reproduced from Ordnance Survey Explorer 159 at 1:12500
Ordnance Survey Licence 100025880



RRW 10/116

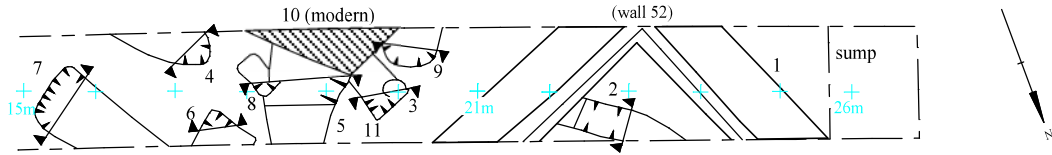
**Beeches Manor, Reading Road, Wokingham,
Berkshire, 2010
Archaeological Evaluation**

Figure 3. Location of trenches.

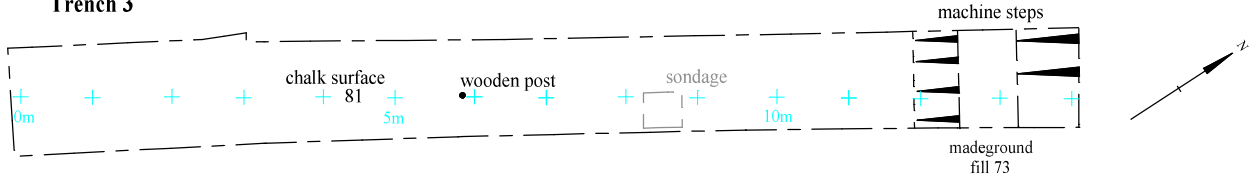


THAMES VALLEY
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
SERVICES

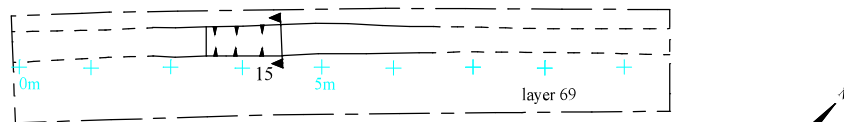
Trench 1



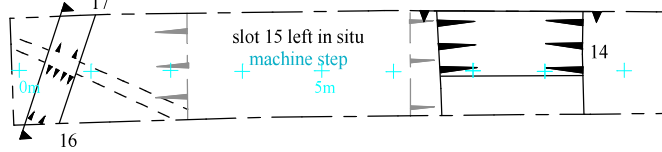
Trench 3



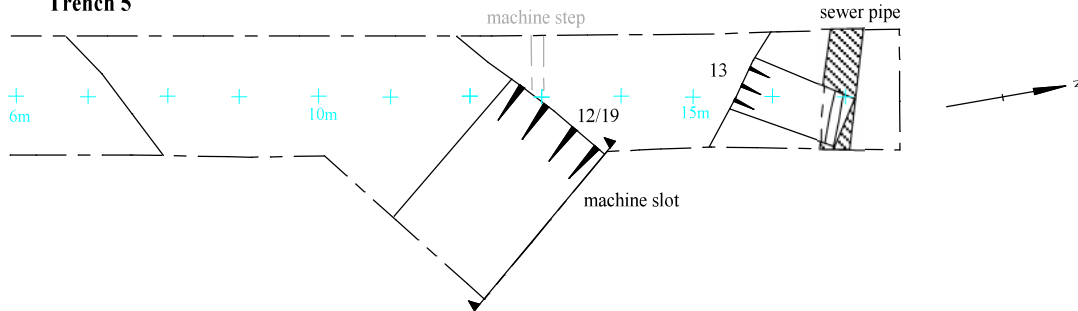
Trench 4 - upper



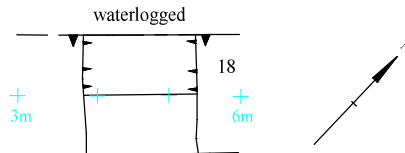
Trench 4 - Lower



Trench 5



Trench 7



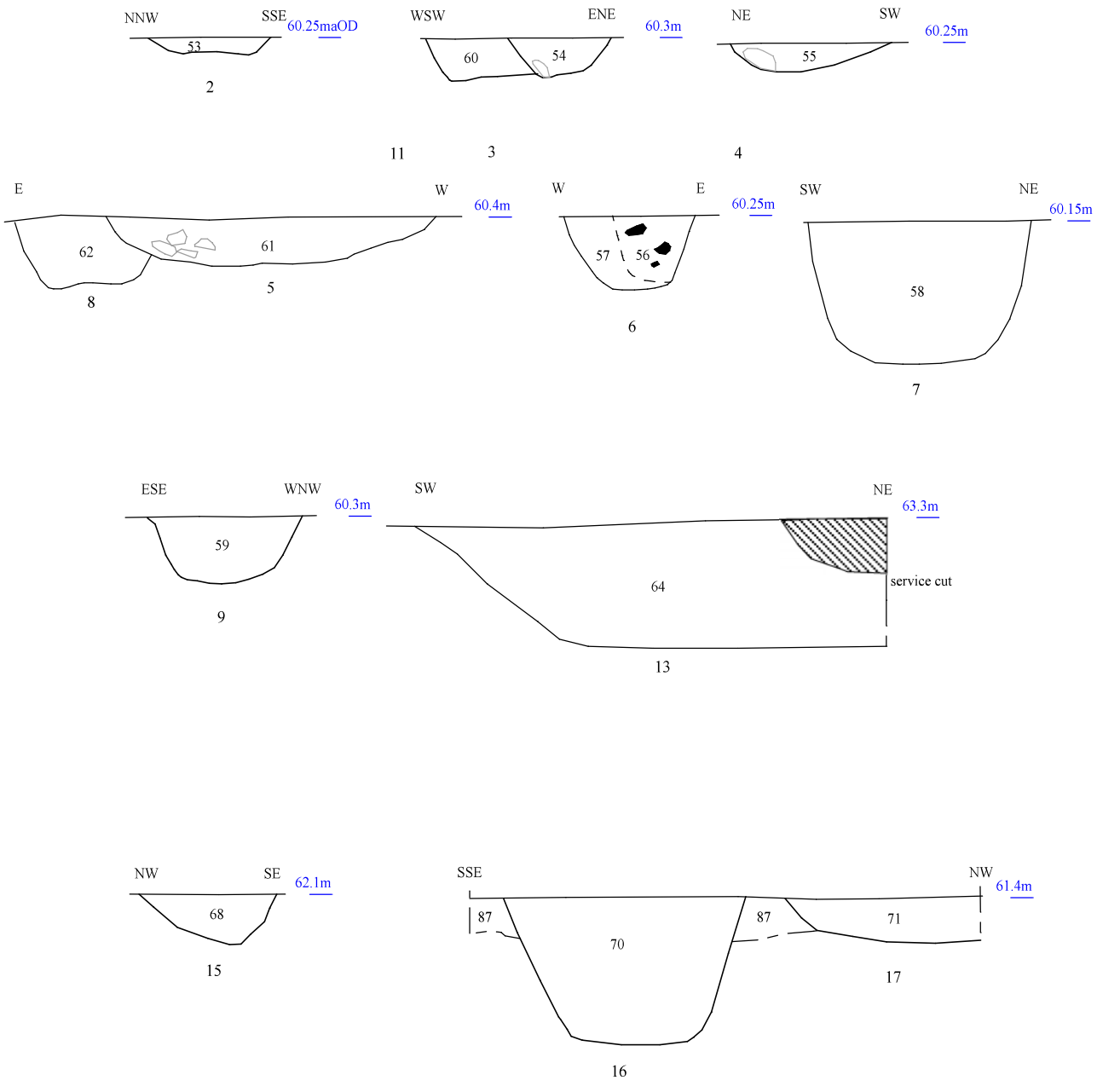
RRW10/116

Beeches Manor, Reading Road, Wokingham,
Berkshire, 2010
Archaeological Evaluation

Figure 4. Detail of trenches.



THAMES VALLEY
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
SERVICES



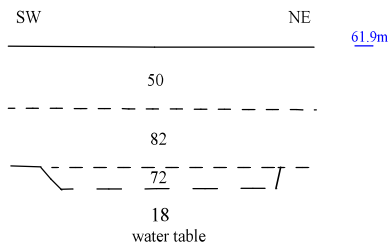
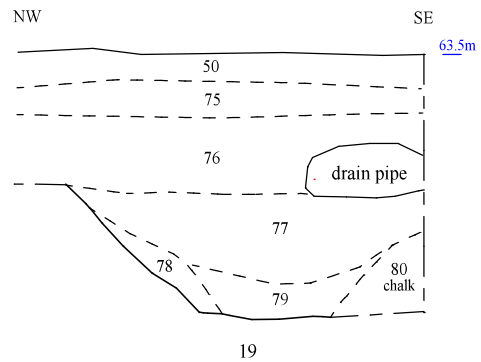
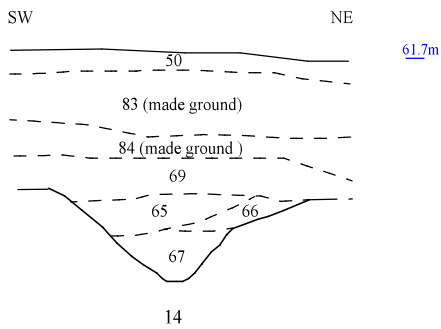
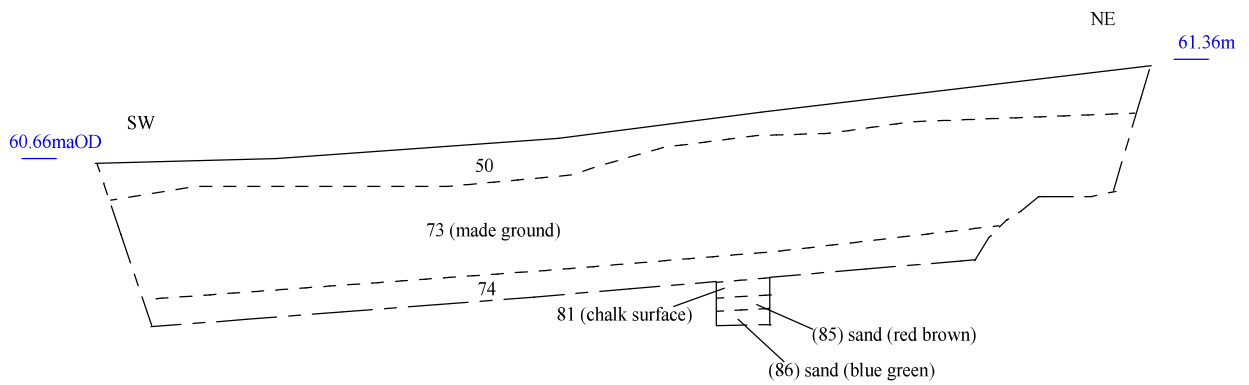
RRW 10/116

**Beeches Manor, Reading Road, Wokingham, Berkshire, 2010
Archaeological Evaluation**

Figure 5. Sections.



Trench 3

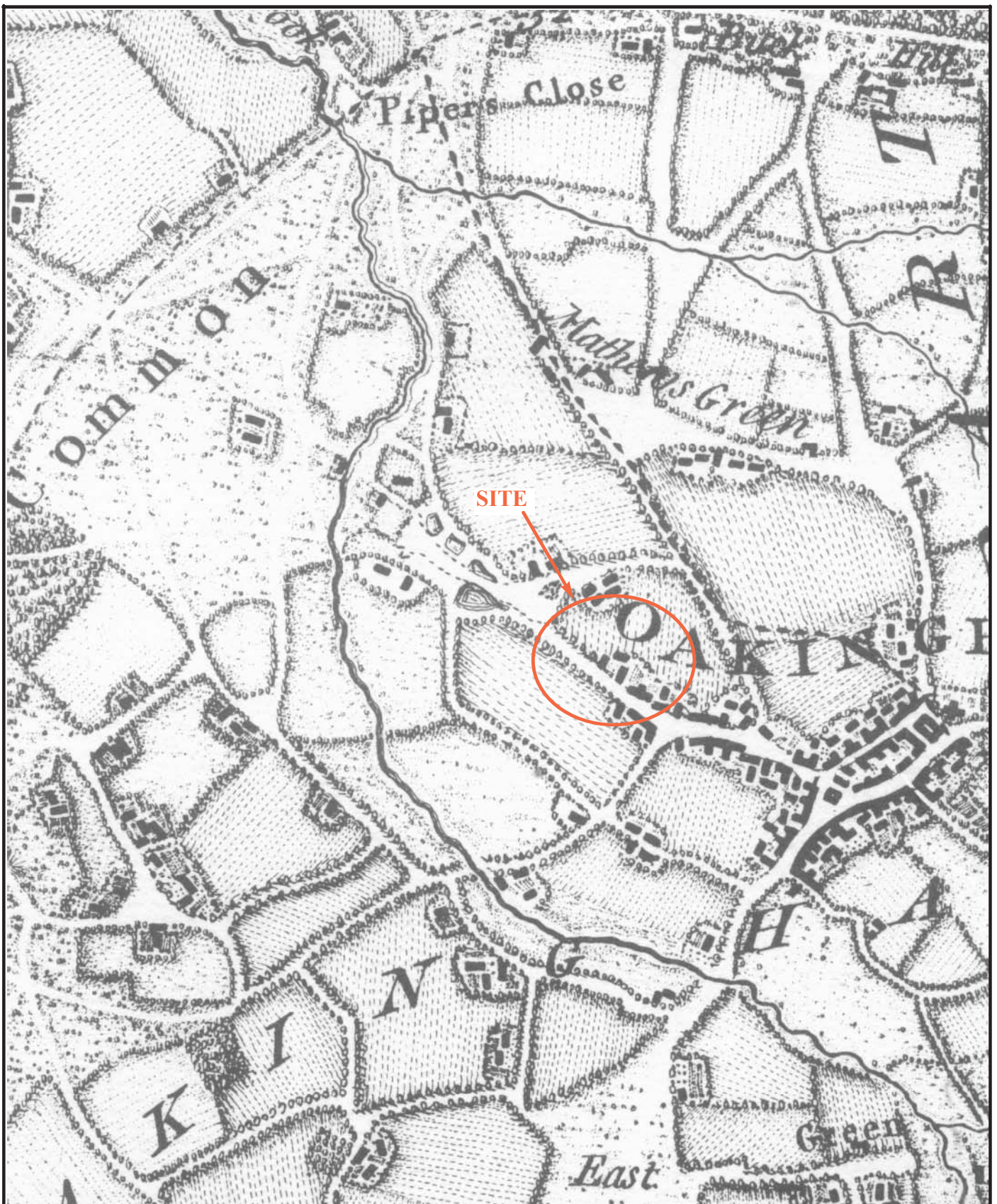


RRW 10/116

**Beeches Manor, Reading Road, Wokingham, Berkshire, 2010
Archaeological evaluation**

Figure 6. Sections



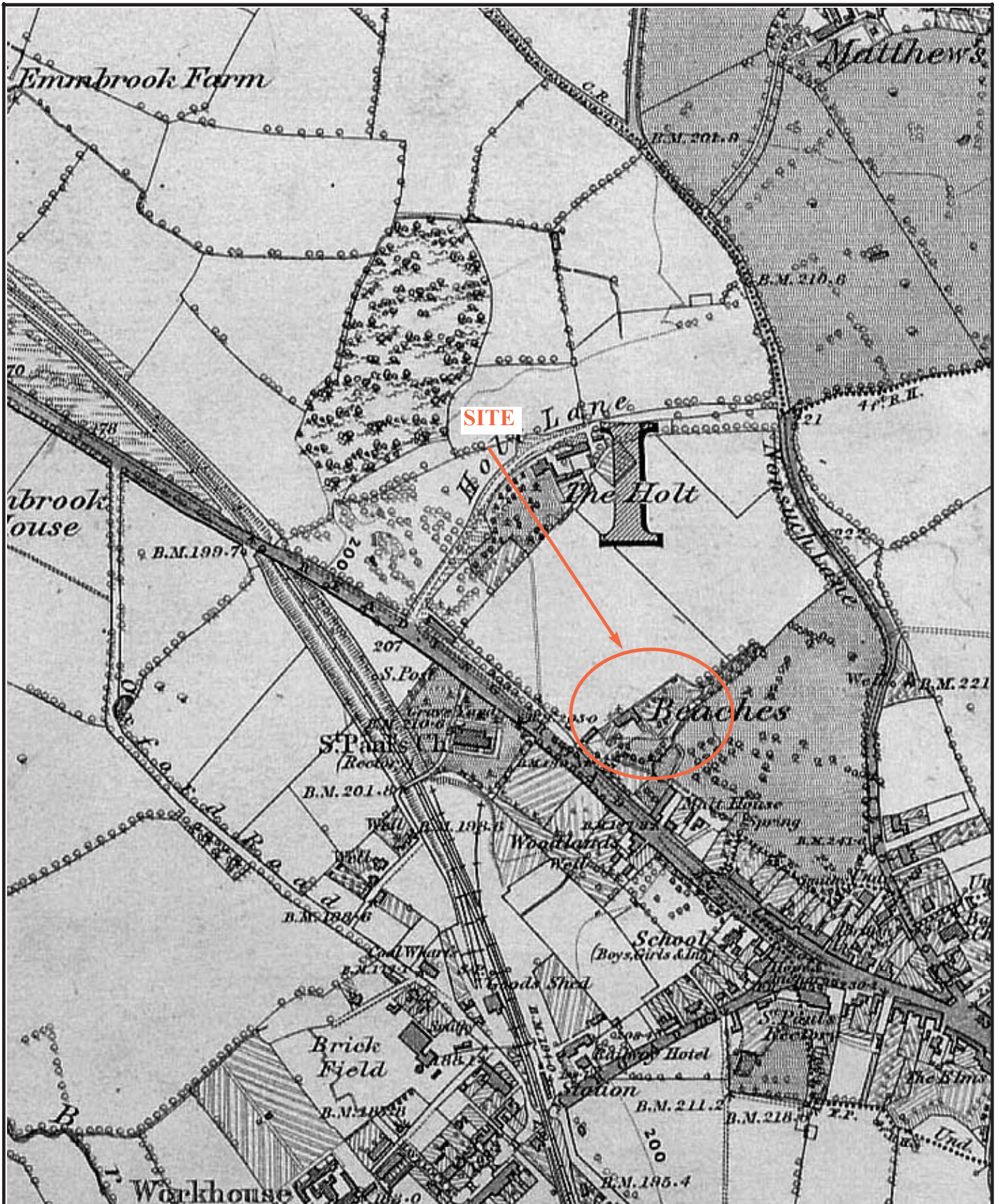


RRW 10/116

**Beeches Manor, Reading Road, Wokingham, Berkshire, 2010
Archaeological Evaluation**

Figure 7. Rocque's map of Berkshire, 1761.

THAMES VALLEY
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
SERVICES



RRW 10/116

Beeches Manor, Reading Road, Wokingham, Berkshire, 2010
Archaeological Evaluation

Figure 8. First Edition Ordnance Survey, 1881-7

THAMES VALLEY
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
SERVICES



Plate 1. Trench 3, looking north-east, horizontal scales: 2m, 1m and 0.5m.



Plate 2. Trench 4, looking north east, horizontal scales: 2m, 1m, and 0.5m.

RRW 10/116

Beeches Manor, Reading Road, Wokingham, Berkshire, 2010
Archaeological Evaluation

Plates 1 and 2



Plate 3. Trench 1, pit 8 and ditch 5, looking south, horizontal scale: 1m, vertical scale: 0.1m.



Plate 4. Trench 4, ditch 14, looking north-west; horizontal scale: 2m, vertical scale: 1m.

RRW 10/116

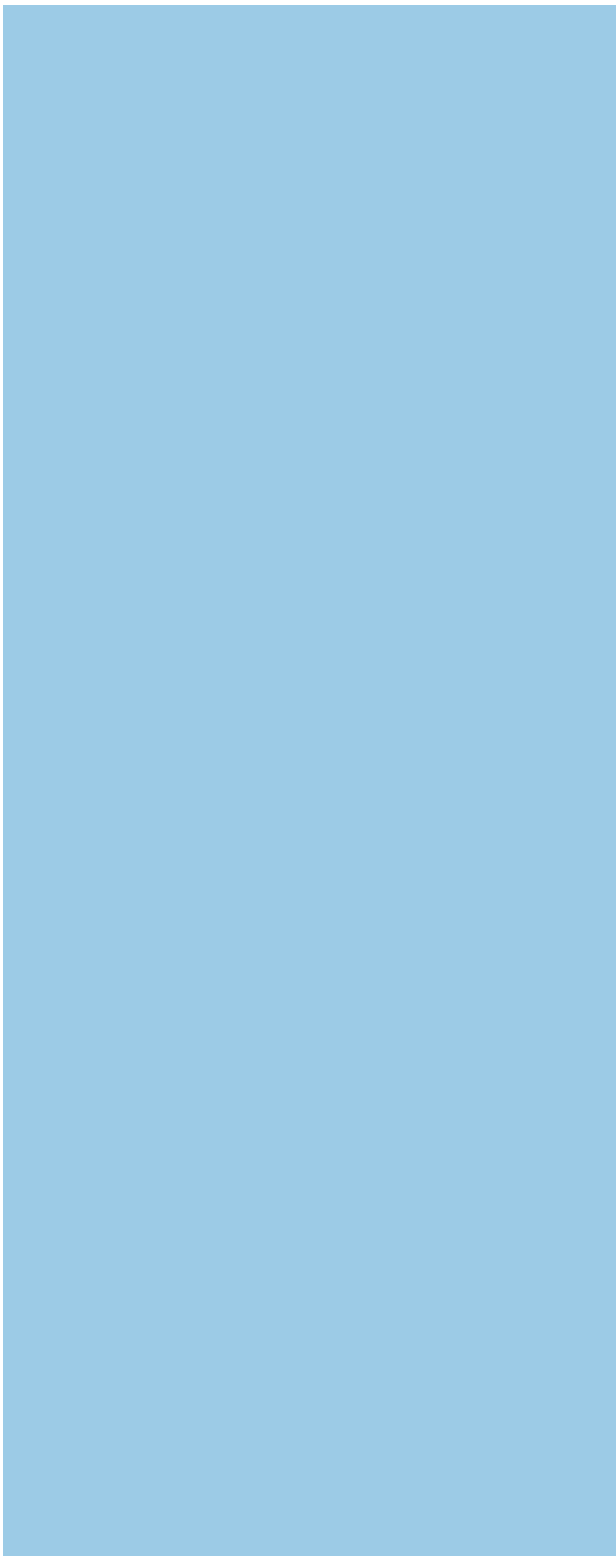
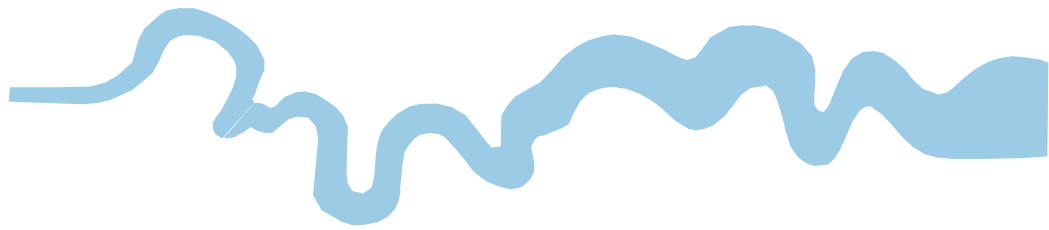
**Beeches Manor, Reading Road, Wokingham, Berkshire, 2010
Archaeological Evaluation**

Plates 3 and 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**