

**35 Coppermill Road, Wraysbury,  
Berkshire, 2006**

**An Archaeological Watching Brief**

**For Mr J Phull**

by Steve Ford

Thames Valley Archaeological Services

Ltd

Site Code CRW06-57

**December 2006**

## Summary

**Site name:** 35 Coppermill Road, Wraysbury, Berkshire

**Grid reference:** TQ 0216 7540

**Site activity:** Watching Brief

**Date and duration of project:** 5th June 2006

**Project manager:** Steve Ford

**Site supervisor:** Andy Taylor

**Site code:** CRW 06/57

**Summary of results:** No finds nor deposits of archaeological interest were observed

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

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Report edited/checked by: Jo Pine ✓ 15.12.06
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# 35 Coppermill Road, Wraysbury, Berkshire, 2006 An Archaeological Watching Brief

by Steve Ford

**Report 06/57**

## **Introduction**

This report documents the results of an archaeological watching brief carried out at 35 Coppermill Road, Wraysbury, Berkshire (TQ 0216 7540) (Fig. 1). The work was commissioned by Mr J Phull of 92 London Road, Datchet, Berkshire, SL3 9LQ.

A planning consent (06/002/00/FUL) has been granted by the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead to construct new houses on the site following demolition of the existing structure. This was subject to a condition relating to archaeology which required a watching brief to be carried out during groundworks.

This is in accordance with the Department of the Environment's Planning Policy Guidance, *Archaeology and Planning* (PPG16 1990), and the Districts policies on archaeology. The field investigation was carried out to a specification approved by Ms Fiona Macdonald, Archaeology Officer with Berkshire Archaeology, advisors to the Borough on matters relating to archaeology. The fieldwork was undertaken by Andy Taylor on 5th June 2006 and the site code is CRW 06/57.

The archive is presently held at Thames Valley Archaeological Services, Reading and will be deposited at Reading Museum in due course.

## **Location, topography and geology**

The site is located on the eastern side of Coppermill Road with the Colne Brook to the west and Wraysbury Reservoir to the east. (Figs. 1 and 2). The site is currently vacant with the previous structure having been recently demolished. The underlying geology comprises alluvium (BGS 1981) and the site lies at a height of c.18m above Ordnance Datum.

## **Archaeological background**

The archaeological potential of the area stems from its location in the Colne Valley and also within the wider Thames Valley, both of which are considered as being archaeologically rich (Ford 1987; Gates 1975). More specifically, the site lies close to excavated areas containing rich Neolithic and Roman deposits to the west of the

site (Ford and Pine 2003) with more recent fieldwork in areas further to the west revealing further similar deposits.

## **Objectives and methodology**

The purpose of the watching brief was to excavate and record any archaeological deposits affected by the new construction work. This was to involve examination of all areas of topsoil stripping, landscaping, ground reduction and the digging of trenches for foundations and services for structures as necessary.

## **Results**

The only ground disturbance of interest for archaeological observation on this site comprised the digging of the foundation trenches (Fig. 3). The footing trenches observed were dug using a small 360° type machine and measured 0.9m wide and 1.2m deep. The stratigraphy consisted 0.35m of topsoil above 0.25m of a gravelly clay subsoil/alluvium above 0.15m of fine gravel above gravelly sand (Fig. 4). Inspection of the trenches did not reveal any cut archaeological features and no finds were recovered from the spoilheaps.

## **Finds**

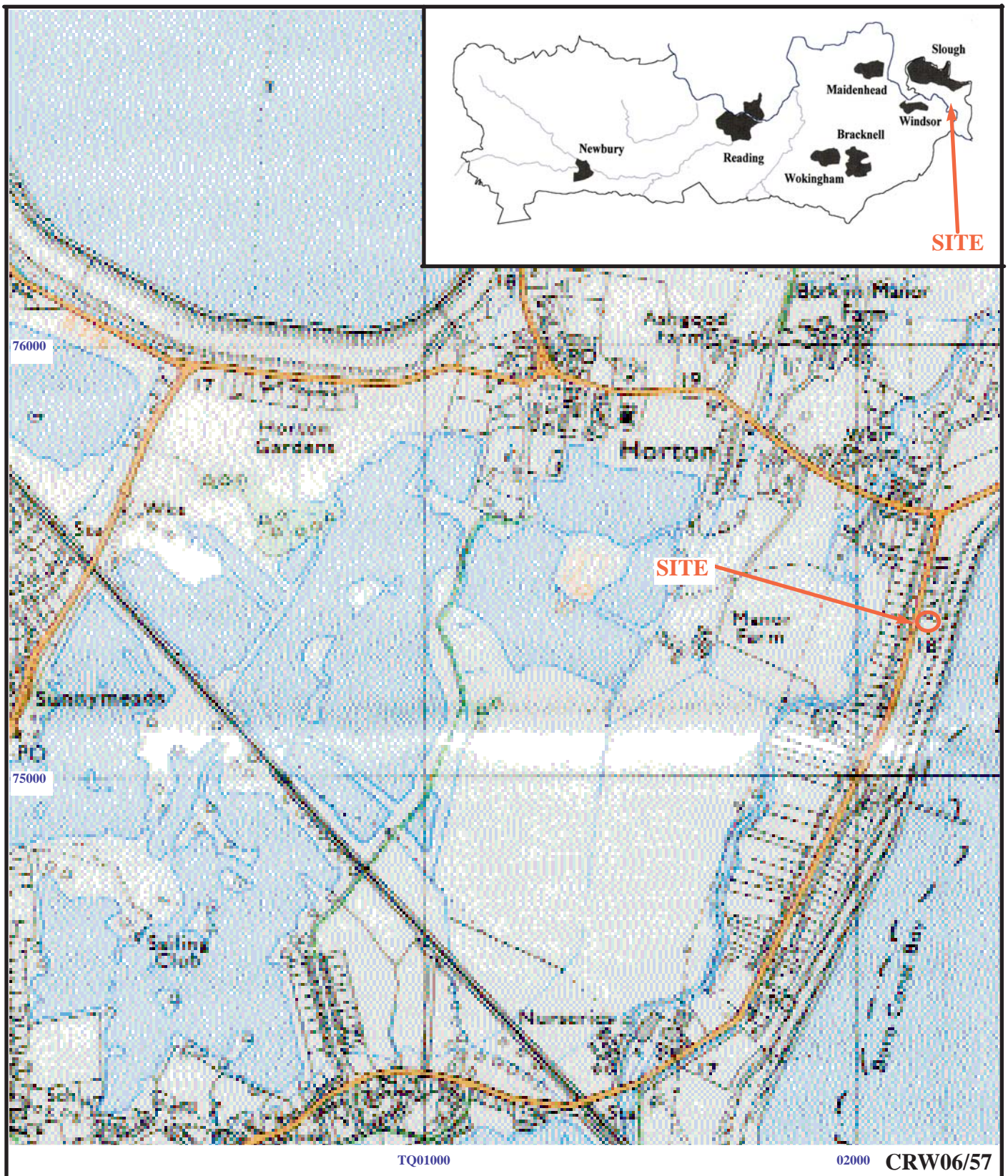
No finds of archaeological interest were recovered.

## **Conclusion**

This small watching brief did not reveal any artifacts or finds of archaeological interest.

## **References**

- BGS, 1981, *British Geological Survey*, 1:50,000, Sheet 269, Drift Edition, Keyworth
- Ford, S, 1987, *East Berkshire Archaeological Survey*, Berkshire County Council Dept Highways and Planning Occas Pap **1**, Reading
- Ford, S and Pine J, 2003, 'Neolithic ring ditches and Roman landscape features at Horton, (1989–1996)' in S Preston (ed), *Prehistoric, Roman and Saxon sites in Eastern Berkshire*, TVAS monogr **2**, Reading, 13–85
- Gates, T, 1975, *The Thames Valley, An archaeological Survey of the River Gravels*, Berkshire Archaeol Comm Pubn **1**, Reading
- PPG 16, 1990, *Archaeology and Planning*, Dept of the Environment Planning Policy Guidance 16, HMSO



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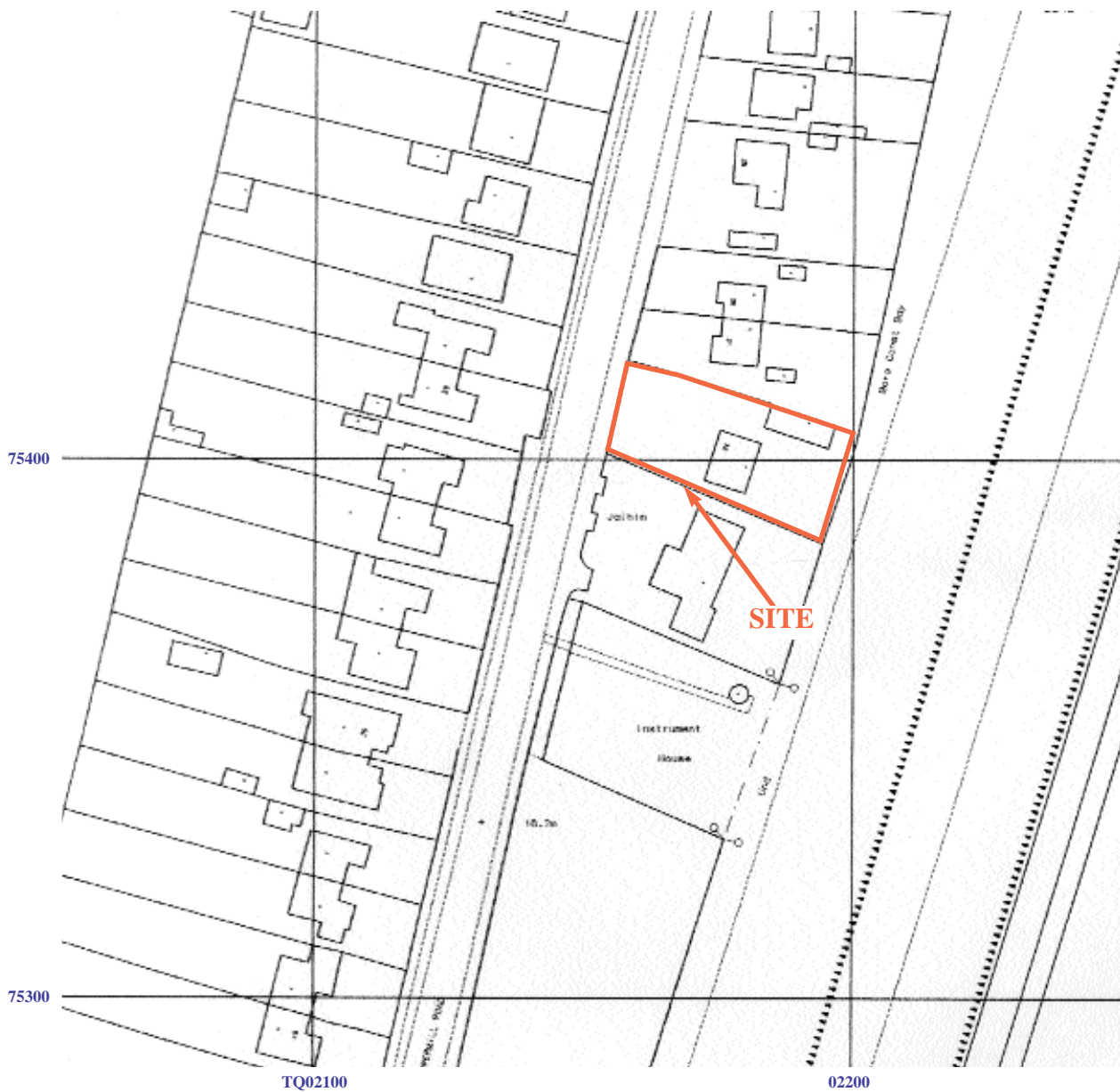
Figure 1. Location of site within Wraysbury and Berkshire.

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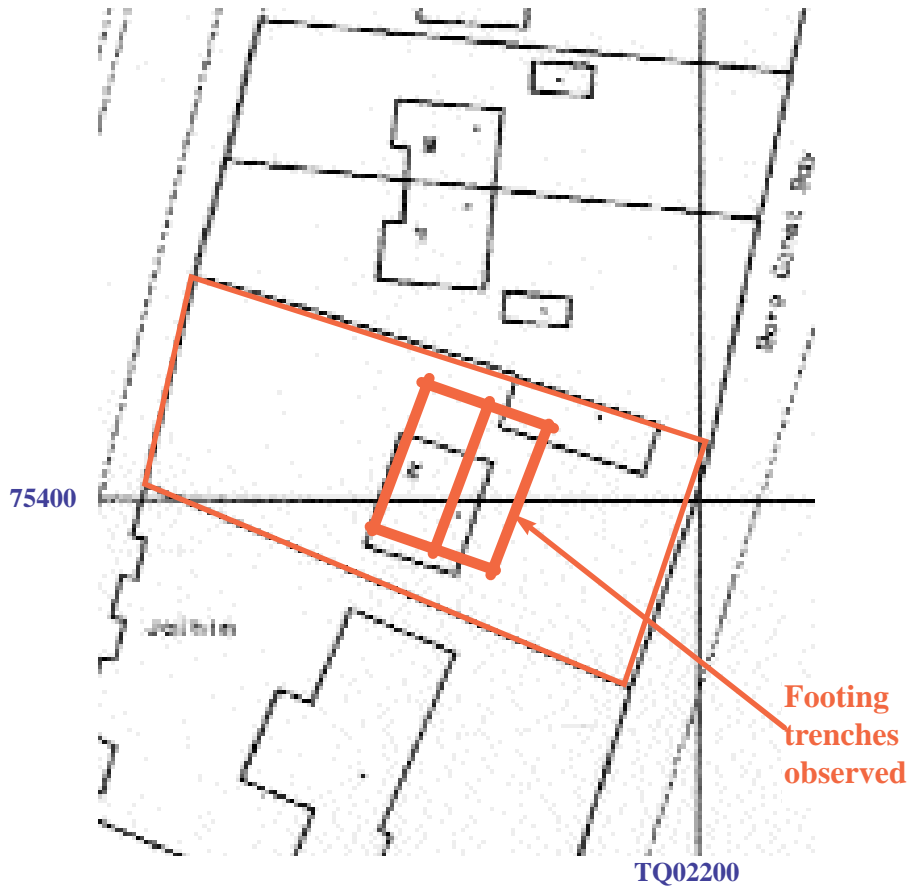
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Figure 2. Location of site on Coppermill Road.

Scale: 1:1250.

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Figure 3. Location of watching brief observations on the site.

Scale: 1:625.

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