

Hendra Manor Ltd

Woodland Barton, Roche, Cornwall

Excavation Report

February 2014



WOODLAND BARTON, ROCHE, CORNWALL

EXCAVATION REPORT

CP. No: 10622

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archaeology

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WARDELL ARMSTRONG ARCHAEOLOGY

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Quality Assurance

This report covers works as outlined in the brief for the above-named project as issued by the relevant authority, and as outlined in the agreed programme of works. Any deviation to the programme of works has been agreed by all parties. The works have been carried out according to the guidelines set out in the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA) Standards, Policy Statements and Codes of Conduct. The report has been prepared in keeping with the guidance set out by WA Archaeology on the preparation of reports.

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SUMMARY

Wardell Armstrong Archaeology were invited by Hendra Manor Ltd, to undertake an archaeological strip, map and sample excavation in advance of the construction of a wind farm development at Woodland Barton, Roche, Cornwall (centred on National Grid Reference SX 0019 6219).

The strip, map and sample excavation was undertaken over twenty five days between the 7th of October and the 7th of November 2013. The works consisted of the stripping of approximately 2 hectares targeted over the seven areas affected by the development.

A small number of archaeological features were identified within these areas. These consisted of three ditches, five pits and four postholes. A number of other features were investigated and were proven to be natural features.

As this archaeological evaluation was conducted as part of a condition in association with the construction of a new wind farm development, no further work is deemed necessary. However, given the high archaeological potential of the area, it is recommended that any future work be subject to a programme of archaeological investigation

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Wardell Armstrong Archaeology would like to thank Hendra Manor Ltd for commissioning the project. Wardell Armstrong Archaeology would also like to thank Dan Ratcliffe, Historic Environment Advice Officer, Cornwall, for his assistance throughout the project.

The archaeological investigations were undertaken by Jamie McCarthy, Diana Chard, Nathan Chinchen, Karen Duignan and Chris Timmins. The report was written by Helen J MacIntyre and the figures were produced by Adrian Bailey. The environmental analysis was undertaken by Don O'Meara and the finds report was written by Megan Stoakley. The project was managed by Phil Evans, Senior Project Manager for WAA and the report edited by Phil Evans, Senior Project Manager for WAA.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE PROJECT

- 1.1.1 Wardell Armstrong Archaeology were invited Hendra Manor Ltd, to undertake an archaeological strip, map and sample excavation in advance of the commencement of the construction of a wind farm development at Woodland Barton, Roche, Cornwall. The site lies directly to the south of the A30 dual carriageway and 1.5km to the south-west of the village of Roche. (Centred on National Grid Reference SX 0019 6219; (Figures 1).
- 1.1.2 The land within the site, located to the immediate southeast of the A30 Roche road junction has been subject to a desk-based assessment. This was undertaken in 2010 in support of an application for a proposed trunk road service area (TRSA).
- 1.1.3 As a result of the desk-based assessment a geophysical survey was carried out over the 6.5 hectares of land where the TRSA was proposed to be located. The survey recorded an enclosure to the north of the western most proposed turbine. The enclosure was stated to be of possible prehistoric origin.
- 1.1.4 In addition this and other parts of the land within the site boundary have been subject to desk-based assessment in respect of various schemes. These included the proposed construction of the A30 which now bisects the site, a proposed link road between the A391 and the A30 which would have crossed the north-eastern corner of the site and a proposed high pressure gas line which was proposed to be located through the north of the site.
- 1.1.5 In terms of archaeological fieldwork within the boundary of the site an area of tin stream workings (reference MCO40988) located beneath the footprint of the proposed A30 was recommended for a watching brief during road construction. The results of this are unknown. In addition, a hedgerow which may extend to include the western boundary of the site was recommended for hedge sectioning with the sampling of deposits if it were to be disturbed by the construction of the A30.
- 1.1.6 The work was undertaken in response to an archaeological condition placed on the planning approval (Condition 12) stating that a programme of archaeological work to be carried out at the site.
- 1.1.7 The work comprised of a programme of archaeological strip, map and sample excavation of the seven areas affected by the proposed development.
- 1.1.8 All stages of these archaeological investigation were undertaken following approved statutory guidelines (IfA 2008a, 2008b), and were consistent with

- the written scheme of investigation provided by WAA (Evans 2013) and generally accepted best practice.
- 1.1.9 This report outlines the works undertaken on-site, the subsequent programme of post-fieldwork analysis, and the results of this scheme of archaeological works.

2 METHODOLOGY

2.1 WRITTEN SCHEMES OF INVESTIGATION

2.1.1 A written scheme of investigation (Evans 2013) was submitted by Wardell Armstrong Archaeology in response to a request from Hendra Manor Ltd, to undertake archaeological investigations in advance of, any groundwork relating to commencement of the construction of a wind farm development at Woodland Barton, Roche, Cornwall. Following acceptance of the project design by Dan Ratcliff, Historic Environment Advice Officer, Cornwall, Wardell Armstrong Archaeology was commissioned to undertake the work. The written scheme of investigation was adhered to in full, and the work was consistent with the relevant standards and procedures of the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA 2008a, 2008b), and generally accepted best practice.

2.2 THE PROGRAMME OF WORKS

- 2.2.1 The aims and principal methodology of these works can be summarised as follows:
 - to identify, excavate and record, under strictly controlled conditions, any archaeological remains observed on site;
 - to determine the extent, condition, nature, character, date and significance of any archaeological remains encountered;
 - to establish the nature of the activity on the site;
 - to accurately tie the areas investigated into the National Grid at an appropriate scale, with any archaeological deposits and features adequately levelled;
 - to undertake palaeo-environmental investigation via the sampling of environmental deposits encountered as required, in line with English Heritage (2002) guidelines;
 - to produce a photographic record of all contexts using colour digital and 35mm monochrome formats, each photograph including a graduated metric scale;
 - to recover artefactual material which may be useful for dating purposes;
 - to produce a site archive in accordance with MAP2 (English Heritage 1991) and MoRPHE standards (English Heritage 2006);
 - to disseminate the results of these works through an appropriate level of reporting, contributing to relevant regional research agendas.

- 2.2.2 The archaeological excavation covered the seven areas of development within the site.
- 2.2.3 The excavation area was excavated under archaeological supervision by a 360 mechanical excavator using a 1.8 metre wide toothless ditching bucket to either the top of archaeological deposits, or the natural superficial geology, whichever was encountered first. All subsequent excavation was undertaken by hand.
- 2.2.4 The excavation took place over 25 days between the 7th October and the 7th November 2013.

2.3 ARTEFACT AND ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS

- 2.3.1 All finds encountered were retained and were cleaned and packaged according to standard guidelines (English Heritage 2006). Artefactual remains were analysed by Megan Stoakley, Wardell Armstrong Archaeology Finds and Archives Officer.
- 2.3.2 All environmental samples were collected according to standard guidelines (English Heritage 2002). Environmental samples were processed and analysed by Don O'Meara, Wardell Armstrong Archaeology Environmental Officer.

2.4 THE ARCHIVE

2.4.1 A full professional archive has been compiled in accordance with the specification, and in line with current Walker (1990) and English Heritage Guidelines (1991, 2006) and according to the Archaeological Archives Forum recommendations (Brown 2011). The archive will be deposited with the Royal Cornwall Museum, with a digital copy available upon request. The archive can be accessed under the unique project identifier CP10622, WAA13,WBR-A. Wardell Armstrong Archaeology and Warrington Museum support the Online AccesS to the Index of Archaeological InvestigationS (OASIS) project. This project aims to provide an on-line index and access to the extensive and expanding body of grey literature, created as a result of developer-funded archaeological work. As a result, details of the results of this project will be made available by Wardell Armstrong Archaeology, as a part of this national project under the identifier wardella2-166409.

3 BACKGROUND

3.1 LOCATION AND GEOLOGICAL CONTEXT

- 3.1.1 The Woodland Barton, Roche, site comprises of 67 hectares that straddles the A30 dual carriageway near Roche (NGR SX0019 6219) with the development confined to two small areas in two fields to the south of the trunk road comprising of approximately 2.6 hectares. The village of Roche is located 1.5km to the south-west and a business park is located 600m to the west. The site comprised of one arable field to the north of the A30. To the south of the A30 ten land parcels were present. These predominantly comprised of arable fields although some areas of scrub were recorded and an area under grass (to facilitate a landing strip that is due to cease operation once the adjacent service area is developed) was located in the west of the site.
- 3.1.2 The underlying geology of the site comprises of slate and sandstone overlain by an alluvial (British Geological Society 2013). The site is located on a north-east facing slope with topography sloping gently from a high point of 150m AOD, in the south-western part of the site, to a low point of 130m AOD in the east of the site.

3.2 HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

- 3.2.1 *Introduction*: this historical background is compiled mostly from secondary sources, and is intended only as a brief summary of historical developments specific to the study area. References to the County Historic Environment Record (HER) are included where known.
- 3.2.2 *Prehistoric (up to AD43):* There is no evidence of Mesolithic (8000-4000BC) activity within the site boundary or within its vicinity. The earliest evidence of activity in the wider area is a Neolithic (4000-2500BC) settlement on Helman Tor located 5.1km east of the site (CO991). A Neolithic funerary site known as a Portal Dolmen is located in the vicinity of the Tor 6.2km east of the site (CO189). This would have been ritual foci marking a perceived ancestral territory (Johnson and Rose 2003).
 - Standing stones located on a prominent ridge at Breock Down, approximately 6km north of the site may date as early as the late Neolithic period (CO358 and 15002). The downs were utilised extensively for Bronze Age barrow cemeteries located less than 10km to the north-west of the site. Additional barrows are recorded in closer proximity to the site, these being located 930m north-east, 1.7km west and 2km east.

A curvilinear enclosure know as a 'round' (MCO41123) and a rectangular enclosure (MCO41122) recorded 270m west and 300m south of the site possibly represent Iron Age settlement n the vicinity of the site. It is possible that the circular enclosure recorded within the site by a geophysical survey (2010) may also date to the Iron Age period and be a 'round'.

There are a number of Iron Age hillforts in the area. The closest of these defended settlements to the site are located 2.3km to the north-west (CO908) and 5km to the west (CO90). Four are present at Bodmin, approximately 7km to the north-east (CO287, CO430 and CO429) and one is present 8.2km to the south (CO188). The enclosure within the site boundary may represent an Iron Age 'round'; settlements which rather than being found on hilltops were present on hill slopes or spurs in the more favoured farmland (Johnson and Rose 2003).

- 3.2.4 Romano-British (c.AD43–cAD410): During the Roman period the settlements of the 'rounds' is likely to have continued (Johnson and Rose 2003). It is recorded that Roman settlement may have been present within the 'round' recorded 270m west of the site (MCO41123). Therefore it is also possible that the enclosure within the site was occupied during this period. However, apart from the presence of the Old Coach Road which is adjacent (in part) to the northern boundary of the site and which is reputed to be Roman in origin (MCO25733) there is no other evidence for Roman activity within the site boundary or its immediate vicinity. Notably, however, a fort a Nanstallon located 5km north-east of the site (CO1097) is the only certain for in Cornwall (Johnson and Rose 2003).
- 3.2.5 Early Medieval (c.AD410 c.AD1066): The prefix 'tre' in the farm name Trenower Farm which is located 410m south-west of the site (MCO17636) is indicative of settlement originating in the seventh century (Johnson and Rose 2003). This is repeated in the place name of the small hamlet of Tremoddret which is located 470m south of the site (MCO17542). In closer vicinity to the site an early medieval enclosure is recorded 300m south of the site (MCO41122).

Inhabitants of these settlements may have worked the early medieval tin stream-works recorded within the footprint of the A30 which bisects the site (MCO40988). Other medieval stream-works are recorded 340m north, 400m north, 600m west, 760m north, 840m north-east and 850m west of the site (MCO50439, MCO50443, MCO50512, MCO40999 and MCO42459). In relation to the stream-works a tinners hut is recorded 960m west of the site (MCO42513).

In addition to the stream-works, early medieval field systems most likely strip fields are recorded within the site boundary (MCO40989) and

MCO40991). Other contemporary field systems are recorded 815m north, 850m south-east and 890m south (MCO42567), MCO41119 and MCO41129). Areas of early ridge and furrow are recorded adjacent to, 390m north, 760m south-east and 990m south of the site (MCO40992, MCO40997, MCO41118 and MCO41127) and other singular early medieval boundaries are common.

An early medieval Holloway is recorded 380m is recorded 380m east of the site (MCO40985) and an early medieval trackway is recorded 910m north (MCO42566). In addition a large number of wayside crosses, erected from the ninth century onwards, are present within the wider area. These would have guided the traveller through often difficult or otherwise unmarked terrain.

- 3.2.6 *Medieval* (*c.AD1066 c.AD1540*): Settlement 410m south-west and 490m south of the site located at Trenower and Tremodrett respectively is known to have continued into the medieval period. A manor is known to have existed at the latter (MCO11483). By this time other settlements had become established at Chilbrook (MCO13952), Colbiggan (MCO14044), Penstraze (MCO16243), Brynn (MCO13622), Polskeys (MCO16417), and Little Rosemellyn (MCO51850) at distances of between 470m and 960m of the site. A fulling mill is recorded 440m south-east of the site (MCO25737).
- 3.2.7 Post-medieval and Modern (c.AD1540-present): On the first edition Ordnance Survey Map 1881 the settlement of Victoria was shown to have been established to the west of the site and a road was shown bounding the site to the north. The land within the site was shown as a mixture of furze and rough grassland and small parcels of enclosed land. The second edition Ordnance Survey map dated to 1908 showed the removal of some of the furze. Little change was depicted on the Ordnance Survey map of 1938 by which time Woodlands Barton farmhouse was depicted to the immediate south of the site. By the 1980s all of the furze had been removed and a large number of field boundaries had been removed presumably to facilitate modern farming methods.

4 RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

4.1 Introduction

- 4.1.1 This section presents the results of the archaeological strip, map and sample excavation. Separate artefact analysis can be found in Section 5 and environmental analysis in Section 6. A context table can be viewed in Appendix 1 and all figures can be found in Appendix 2.
- 4.1.2 The whole of the monitored area (shaded in red) (Figure 2) was stripped of topsoil (1001) and subsoil (1002) onto natural clays and slate (1003) through which the archaeological features present were cut. For the purpose of this report the site has been split into seven areas which correlate to the areas that contained features which were excavated.

4.2 AREA 1

4.2.1 This area produced the most significant archaeology of the entire site. The largest, and best defined feature, was a large ditch which was located to the western side of the area on a northwest-southeast alignment (Plate 1). It ran the full length of the site and continued in both directions beyond the limit of excavation. As there is no evidence to indicate it is an enclosure ditch and the fact that it ran almost parallel to a hedgerow strongly indicates that it was an earlier field boundary.



Plate 1: overall view of ditch with section [1071] in foreground

- 4.2.2 Seven slots were excavated across the ditch [1004], [1007], [1010], [1016], [1061], [1067], and [1071] (Figure 3).
- 4.2.3 The ditch remained consistently between 0.35m and 0.9m deep along its length (Figure 3) and the width varied from 0.82m up to 2.45m. It had a v-

shaped profile with steep south-west side but more gradual on the north-east (Plate 2).



Plate 2: South-east facing section of ditch [1071]

- 4.2.4 The north-east side was truncated by a later re-cut of the ditch (Plate 3). This was an obvious re-cut, in section, along the entire length exposed across the site, and was confirmed during the excavation of the slots along its length (Sections 1, 27, 28 and 29, Figure 4).
- 4.2.5 The original ditch contained a single fill which consisted of mid orange/brown silty clay with occasional sub-angular stone. This suggests natural silting of the ditch over a period of time. The fill was sterile.
- 4.2.6 The re-cut of the ditch also contained a single fill. This was mid/dark brown silty clay with occasional sub-angular stone and slate.
- 4.2.7 Only one slot produced finds (1064) which consisted of one Fe object (SF003), possibly a nail (Section 27, Figure 4).



Plate 3: South-east facing section across ditch [1067], showing re-cut [1069]

- 4.2.8 An earlier linear feature [1063] was cut by the later, large ditch. This can be seen in a relationship slot (Section 27, Figure 4). It was aligned northeast-southwest and appeared to terminate [1077] approximately 2m, to the northeast, from the large ditch. It was 1.18m wide and a maximum of 0.44m deep. The fill was mid/dark brown sandy clay with occasional gravel. This fill produced six sherds of pottery which were dated to mid to Late Bronze Age. Therefore it is reasonable to speculate that this linear was an earlier boundary ditch which was likely to have been out of use before the larger, later ditch was cut.
- 4.2.9 Three postholes were located in Area One, all to the south-west of the ditch (Figure 3). Two, [1020] and [1022], towards the south of the area with the third, [1024], further to the north. Postholes [1020] and [1022] were both small, round and contained a single fill (Sections 5 and 6, Figure 5). The fills were the same dark greyish brown silty clay with occasional gravel inclusions. As they were in close proximity to each other and contained identical fills it is reasonable to assume they are contemporary with each other. However, as these are the only two post holes in the area it is impossible to draw any conclusions as to their purpose. The third post hole [1024], to the north (Section 7, Figure 5) also contained a similar fill to [1020] and [1022] but with no associated features, again, it is impossible to draw any conclusions as to its purpose.
- 4.2.10 To the east of [1024] was a burnt area/possible hearth [1042]. This was a small spread of burnt material (Section 16, Figure 5) lying directly onto the natural (1003). As this burning was not contained within a feature it suggests that this was a single event and therefore unlikely to be a hearth.
- 4.2.11 A pit [1058] was located to the north-east of the ditch (Figure 3). It was 1m in diameter and 0.2m deep with steep sides and a flat base (Plate 4). It contained one fill (1059) of very dark brown/black, charcoal rich, silty clay with three fragments of two querns within it (Section 26, Figure 5). Two quern fragments (SF1) were identified as saddle quern made from granite, a common type of intrusive, granular igneous rock and is almost certainly prehistoric in date. The fact that others have been found in Cornwall associated with Bronze Age deposits gives a tentative Bronze Age date to these fragments. The third fragment (SF2) is also possibly originated from a quern stone, although the shape is not typical of a saddle quern. However, the visible wear on one surface and the fact that is associated with the other two fragments (SF1) it is likely to be of Bronze Age date also.



Plate 4: North-east facing section of pit [1058] containing saddle quern

- 4.2.12 A large modern feature [1091] was recorded to the west of the ditch and in the area between the postholes (Figure 3). It was 4.27m x 1m x 1.20m and contained large, unsorted stones throughout (Section 37, Figure 5). The size and shape of this feature and the stone fill suggests that it is a natural feature that has been deliberately backfilled in order to level the ground in that area. The presence of two sherds of pottery (dated middle to late Bronze Age) within the very upper part of the fill, and not a sealed context, is argued as the result of taphanomic processes within the area and therefore does not influence the modern date of this feature.
- 4.2.13 A number of other features [1046, [1048], [1050], [1052], [1054] and [1056] were investigated in Area One and were proven to be natural features.

4.3 AREA 2

- 4.3.1 Area Two contained only one feature (Figure 6). A narrow, shallow ditch, aligned east-west, towards the south with the east end continuing beyond the limit of excavation. Three slots were excavated, [1085], [1087] and [1089]. Approximately 20m from the baulk it appeared to terminate [1089].
- 4.3.2 The ditch remained consistently between 0.12m and 0.1m deep along its length and the width varied from 0.55m up to 0.95m. It had a u-shaped profile with moderate sloping sides to a slightly concave base. It contained one homogenous fill of mid orangey-brown silty clay with occasional subrounded, small stone inclusions.
- 4.3.3 None of the three slots produced dating evidence.

4.4 Area 3

4.4.1 Six possible features, [1102], [1104], [1106], [1108], and [1110] and [1112], were investigated, within Area Three, all of which proved to be natural features.

4.5 AREA 4

- 4.5.1 Two shallow pits [1026] and [1030] and one posthole [1032] (Figure 8) were located toward the north of Area Four (Sections 8, 10 and 11, Figure 13).
- 4.5.2 While pit [1030] was quite ephemeral the second pit [1026] was circular and filled with a dark grey silty clay with burnt stone within it (Plate 5). The burnt stones do not appear to be deliberately placed and therefore it is proposed this was a rubbish pit containing discarded burnt material.
- 4.5.3 The post hole [1030], to the south of the two pits, contained a single, dark grey silty clay fill (1031). This feature produced two, friable sherds of pottery. These have been given the tentative date of late Bronze Age and therefore indicates that the post hole is of that period.
- 4.5.4 Two other features were investigated towards the south-east, [1032] and [1034], both of which proved to be natural features.



Plate 5: North facing section pit [1026]

4.6 AREA 5

4.6.1 A large circular feature, probably a pit, [1096], was the only archaeological feature in this area (Figure 10). It contained a single fill of mid brown silty clay with occasional charcoal. A small charcoal spread (1124) was found (Figure 9 and 10) to the east of the area. Neither features produced any

dating evidence. Two other features [1079] and [1083] (Figure 9) were investigated both of which proved to be natural features.

4.7 AREA 6

- 4.7.1 A shallow, narrow ditch [1118] ran across the extent of the area on a north-south alignment (Figure 11). It was 0.56m wide and 0.25m deep and contained one fill of light grey-brown silty clay (Section 61, Figure 13). It produced no dating evidence.
- 4.7.2 A small, shallow gully [1092] also ran across the extent of the area (Figure 11) and continued, in both directions, beyond the limit of excavation (Section 48, Figure 13). The fill (1093) contained no dating evidence.
- 4.7.3 Two other features were investigated in Area Six [1122] [1125] proved to be natural features.

4.8 AREA 7

- 4.8.1 A large, irregular pit [1100] 1.8m x 1.09m x 0.22m, (Figure 12), with one homogenous fill (1111) of pale grey silty clay with occasional orange flecks was the only archaeological feature in this area (Section 51, Figure 13). It contained no dating evidence.
- 4.8.2 Four other features were investigated within Area Seven. Two were identified as tree throws and the remaining two natural features.

5 FINDS

5.1 FINDS ASSESSMENT

- 5.1.1 A total of 14 artefacts, weighing 9,933Kg, were recovered from six contexts during an archaeological excavation on land at Woodland Barton, Roche, Cornwall.
- 5.1.2 All finds were dealt with according to the recommendations made by Watkinson & Neal (1998) and to the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA) Standard & Guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials (2008b). All artefacts have been boxed according to material type and conforming to the deposition guidelines recommended by the Royal Cornwall Museum.
- 5.1.3 The material archive has been assessed for its local, regional and national potential and further work has been recommended on the potential for the material archive to contribute to the relevant research frameworks.
- 5.1.4 Quantification of the bulk and small finds is visible in Tables and 2.

Cxt	Feature	Material	Qty	Wgt (g)	Date	Notes
1031	[1030]	Pottery	2	24	Р	Late Bronze Age?
1039	[1038]	Pottery	6	10	Р	MBA-LBA
1060	[1091]	Pottery	1	16	Р	MBA-LBA
1066	[1063]	Pottery	1	11	Р	Late Bronze Age?

Table 1: Quantification of Bulk Finds by Context

Key:

Cxt: Context
Qty: Quantity
Wgt: Weight
U: Unknown
P: Prehistoric
BA: Bronze Age

MBA: Middle Bronze Age LBA: Late Bronze Age

5.2 Prehistoric Pottery

- 5.2.1 A total of 10 fragments of prehistoric pottery, weighing 61g, were recovered from four deposits (Table 1).
- 5.2.2 The fragments are generally in poor condition. The sherds are very fragile and friable with a large amount of abrasion evident on the surfaces.
- 5.2.3 Pottery fragments recovered from deposits (1039) and (1066) comprise medium to thick-walled, undecorated sherds of a mid-orange to reddish hue. The sherds have a soft compaction and the temper comprises moderate, well-sorted fine flint inclusions (<0.5mm Ø) with randomly sorted, larger flint inclusions (c.1mm Ø). All of the inclusions appear to comprise burnt flint. The finish on the exterior surfaces of the fragments is fairly poor.
- 5.2.4 The pottery fragments were primarily identified as Bronze Age with a possible date of Middle to Late Bronze Age given.
- 5.2.5 Pottery fragments recovered from deposits (1031) and (1066) comprise medium-walled, undecorated sherds of a mid to dark grey hue. The exterior and interior surfaces of the pottery recovered from (1060) have a reddish tinge which could be the result of burning or over-firing or the iron content of the clay. The sherds have a medium to hard compaction the temper comprises frequent, well-sorted fine flint inclusions (0.5mm 1mm Ø) with poorly sorted, larger, burnt flint inclusions (1mm 2mm Ø). The sherds appear to be quite well-finished. Diagnostic fragments include a base fragment (1031) and a rim fragment (1060).
- 5.2.6 The sherds were primarily identified as Bronze Age and then given a possible date of Late Bronze Age. The fragments from (1031) and (1060) may have originated from jars or bowls with vessel shapes including globular or ovoid jars as well as bipartite or tripartite carinated forms (Gibson 2002, 114).

5.4 SMALL FINDS

5.4.1 Two worked stone small finds (SFs 1 & 2), weighing 9,864Kg, were recovered from a single context (Table 2). One iron small find (SF 3) was recovered from

SF No	Context	Feature	Material	Qty	Wgt (g)	Date	Notes
							Granite saddle quern
1	1059	[1058]	Stone	2	5701	BA?	fragments
							Incomplete granite
							(quern?) stone
2	1059	[1058]	Stone	1	4163	Р	fragment
							Nail fragment,
3	1064	[1061]	Iron	1	8	U	undiagnostic

Table 2: Quantification of Small Finds

- 5.4.2 Small finds 1 and 2 comprise worked stone fragments recovered from the single deposit (1059) of Pit [1058].
- 5.4.3 Small find 1 comprises two fragments of an incomplete saddle quern most likely made from granite, a common type of intrusive, granular igneous rock. The geology of Cornwall is dominated by a granite backbone thus it is possible that the fragments were locally manufactured. Evidence of grinding is visible in the ventral (upper surface) of both fragments in the form of a smooth, concave depression.
- 5.4.4 Small find 1 is likely prehistoric in date, although assigning the artefact to a specific period is difficult. It is possible that the artefact is Bronze Age in date and several examples of Bronze Age saddle querns have been recovered from sites at Portmeor, Trewey-Foage and Kerrow situated in the Zennor parish of Cornwall located to the south-west of Woodland Barton (Cornwall Museums 2014).
- 5.4.5 Small find 2 comprises a single sub-rectangular/square fragment of granite measuring 179mm (L) x 158mm (W) x 82mm (D). Evidence of wear is apparent on one surface. It is possible that the fragment originated from a quern stone, although the shape is not typical of a saddle quern. When the artefact is considered in context with the other finds, it is likely to be prehistoric in date and of possible contemporary date with Small Find 1 (Bronze Age).
- 5.4.6 A single iron object, small find 3, weighing 8g, was recovered from deposit (1064). The artefact is in poor condition with a large amount of rust corrosion visible on the exterior surface.

The object comprises a nail shank of unknown date.

5.5 STATEMENT OF POTENTIAL

5.5.1 The small finds assemblage recovered from the excavation at Woodland Barton provides important evidence of prehistoric, particularly Bronze Age, domestic activity on the site. The recovery of worked stone fragments provides evidence of grain-grinding and processing at the site. The finds from the site contribute important information towards our understanding of the prehistoric landscape of Cornwall and the finds assemblage is therefore of moderate to high potential.

6 ENIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS

6.1 Introduction

- 6.1.1 During the course of the archaeological evaluation thirteen samples were taken which were processed to assess their archaeobotancial potential and finds retrieval. The samples were taken to extract material that may aid the understanding of the depositional history of the site. This could include evidence of human activity that may have left preserved archaeological material during the prehistoric or historic periods; though it was acknowledged that based on the artefact analysis material from the Bronze Age may be represented in these features. As well as anthropogenic evidence the remains of wild plants may allow inferences to be made regarding the local environment, though the type of waterlogged preservation best suited to inferences of this nature was not encountered onsite.
- The methodology employed required that the whole earth samples be broken 6.1.2 down and split into their various different components: the flot, the residue, the clay-silt and the sand-silt. The sample was manually floated and sieved through a 'Siraf' style flotation tank. In this case the residue and the flot are retained while the sand-silt-clay components are filtered out. The sample was flotted over a 0.5mm plastic mesh, into which the residue was collected, then air-dried and sorted by eye for any material that may aid our understanding of the deposit. Charcoal fragments were retained for potential later analysis, though charcoal was only found infrequently and in small amounts from the sample. The residue samples were also scanned with a hand magnet to retrieve forms of magnetic material. This was done to retrieve residues of metallurgical activity, in particular hammer scale, spheroid hammer scale, fuel-ash slag and vitrified material which might be indicative of other high temperature non-metallurgical processes (though in this particular case only low amounts of naturally occurring magnetic minerals were recovered). Processing procedures and nomenclature follows the conventions set out by the English Heritage Centre for Archaeological Guidelines publication (2001) and the Historic Metalurgy Society (Bayley et. Al 2008). An experienced archaeologist examined all of the dried residues for artefactual material.
- 6.1.3 The washover (flot) was recovered in a 250-micron geological sieve, dried slowly and scanned at x40 magnification for charred and uncharred botanical remains. Identification of these was undertaken by comparison with reference material held in the Environmental Laboratory at Wardell-Armstrong Archaeology and by reference to relevant literature (Cappers et al. 2010, Beijerinck, 1947, Jacomet 2006). Plant taxonomic nomenclature follows Stace (2010).

- 6.1.4 Favourable preservation conditions can lead to the retrieval of organic remains that may produce a valuable suite of information, in respect of the depositional environment of the material, thus enabling assessment of anthropogenic activity, seasonality and climate and elements of the economy associated with the features from which the samples are removed. In this case however the nature and preservation of the deposits was not conductive to this sort of detailed analysis.
- 6.1.5 Table 1 in Appendix 2 contains the details of the analysis on a sample by sample basis. For material from the residue the relative abundance is based on a scale from 1 (lowest) to 3 (highest), unless it is stated that total counts or weights were used to record the presence of such material. Cereals are counted in terms of the total number of individuals. The other plant remains have been recorded on a scale from A-E. This is calculated as; A=1, B=2-10, C=11-30, D=30-100, E=c.100+; the exception being unidentified seeds, where the numbers of unidentified species is given, rather than their relative abundance.

6.2 DISCUSSION OF THE PLANT REMAINS

- 6.2.1 All samples produced flots which very low amounts of charcoal (all less than 5 grams). Many of the flots also contained fibrous modern plant roots, in particular sample <5> (1111) produced frequent straw and chaff material which was clearly modern intrusive material.
- 6.2.2 Charred plant remains were recovered from samples <4> (1109) and <5> (1111). In both these cases charred hexaploid wheat type grains were recovered. This material is not enough to make a detailed economic inference regarding the site, but could provide material for radiocarbon dates should these be required. Plant remains were generally not preserved by charring and are likely to represent modern intrusive material. However, a single charred seed of borage (Borago officinalis) was recovered from sample <3> (304). This plant was introduced in the Roman period and its presence here might be indicative of Roman or medieval cultivation of the plant.
- 6.2.3 The heavy residues produced little cultural material, with only small (2-4mm) fragments of burnt clay/ceramic material from <3> (304) representing possible human activity.

6.3 CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

6.3.1 No further work is recommended at this time on the material

6.3.2 Should radiocarbon dating be sought from this site then most of the samples produced charred herbaceous types material which would be suitable for this.

7 CONCLUSION

7.1 CONCLUSIONS

- 7.1.1 Wardell Armstrong Archaeology were invited by Hendra Manor Ltd, to undertake an archaeological strip, map and sample excavation in advance of the commencement of the construction of a wind farm development at Woodland Barton, Roche, Cornwall (centred on National Grid Reference SX 0019 6219).
- 7.1.2 The strip, map and sample excavation was undertaken over twenty five days between the 7th of October and the 7th of November 2013. The works consisted of the stripping of approximately 2 hectares targeted over the seven areas affected by the development.
- 7.1.3 A small number of archaeological features were identified within these areas. These consisted of three ditches, five pits and four postholes. A number of other features were investigated and were proven to be natural features.
- 7.1.4 The large ditch, in Area One, ran the full length of the site and continued in both directions beyond the limit of excavation. Evidence was found that the ditch had been re-cut at a later date along its entire length. As there is no evidence to indicate it is an enclosure ditch and the fact that it ran almost parallel to a hedgerow strongly indicates that it was an earlier field boundary. Only one find was recovered from this feature, a small iron nail, which could not be dated therefore it is not possible to firmly date the ditch. However, a pit containing quern stone fragments, to the east of the ditch has been dated to the general prehistoric period so it may suggest that the ditch also has its origins from this time.
- 7.1.5 Although Area One contained most features a number were identified in other areas. Two narrow, shallow ditches were excavated one in Area Two the other in Area Six. The ditch in Area Two appeared to terminate approximately 20m from baulk but with no evidence of a continuation further to the west it suggests that it was a boundary rather than an enclosure ditch. The ditch in Area Six extended beyond the stripped area and therefore its full length is presently unknown. Four further pits were excavated in Areas 4, 5 and 7. Two were located in Area 4, one was quite ephemeral while the second contained burnt stones within its fill. These do not appear to be deliberately places and therefore it is proposed this was a rubbish pit containing discarded burnt material. The two remaining pits were found in Areas Five and Seven respectively. A post hole in Area Four produced two, friable sherds of pottery which were given the tentative date of late Bronze Age and therefore indicates that the posthole is of that period.

- 7.1.6 A small amount of dating evidence was recovered during the strip, map and sample. This comprised of ten sherds of pottery, three fragments of saddle quern and one iron nail. The pottery was all dated to the Mid/Late Bronze Age, as were the quern fragments. The iron nail was updateable. With the pottery, and quern fragments, firmly dated it is reasonable to conclude that the features fall within the wider date of the Bronze Age and perhaps tentatively suggest Late Bronze Age.
- 7.1.7 While there is no definite settlement activity within the site the presence of the pottery and quern fragments may suggest its existence in a wider context.

7.2 RECOMMENDATIONS

7.2.1 As the purpose of this archaeological field excavation was to establish the nature and extent of below ground remains within the proposed development area as specified by Cornwall County Council, no further field work is deemed necessary within the study area.

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8.2 OTHER SOURCES

Cornwall Museums (2014), http://www.museumsincornwall.or.uk/.

APPENDIX 1: CONTEXT TABLE

Context Number	Туре	Description
1001	Deposit	Topsoil
1002	Deposit	Subsoil
1003	Deposit	Natural
1004	Cut	Ditch cut
1005	Fill	Fill of [1004]
1006	Fill	Fill of [1004]
1007	Cut	Ditch cut
1008	Fill	Fill of [1007]
1009	Fill	Fill of [1015]
1010	Cut	Ditch cut
1011	Fill	Fill of [1010]
1012	Fill	Fill of [1010]
1013	Cut	Ditch cut
1014	Cut	Ditch cut
1015	Cut	Ditch cut
1016	Cut	Ditch cut
1017	Fill	Fill of [1016]
1018	Cut	Cut
1019	Fill	Fill of [1018]
1020	Cut	Posthole
1021	Fill	Fill of [1020]
1021	Cut	Posthole
1022	Fill	Fill of [1022]
1023	Cut	Possible posthole
1024	Fill	Fill of [1024]
1025	Cut	Circular pit
1020	Fill	Burnt stone fill of [1026]
1027	Cut	Natural feature
1028	Fill	Burnt stone fill of [1028]
1029	Cut	Pit
1030	Fill	Burnt fill of [1030]
1031	Cut	Posthole
	Fill	
1033		Clay silt fill of [1032]
1034 1035	Cut Fill	Natural feature
		Fill of [1034]
1036	Cut Fill	Natural feature
1037		Fill of [1036]
1038	Cut Fill	Posthole
1039		Fill of [1038]
1040	Cut	Tree throw
1041	Fill	Fill of [1040]
1042	Deposit	Burnt area/possible hearth
1043	Cut	Natural feature
1044	Fill	Fill of [1043]
1045	Fill	Fill of [1043]
1046	Cut	Natural feature
1047	Fill	Fill of [1046]
1048	Cut	Natural feature
1049	Fill	Fill of [1048]
1050	Cut	Natural feature
1051	Fill	Fill of [1050]

Context Number	Туре	Description
1052	Cut	Natural feature
1053	Fill	Fill of [1052]
1054	Cut	Natural feature
1055	Fill	Fill of [1054]
1056	Cut	Natural feature
1057	Fill	Fill of [1056]
1058	Cut	Pit
1059	Fill	Fill of [1058]
1060	Fill	Fill of [1091]
1061	Cut	Ditch
1062	Cut	Ditch
1063	Cut	Ditch
1064	Fill	Fill of [1061]
1065	Fill	Fill of [1062]
1066	Fill	Fill of [1063]
1067	Cut	Ditch
1068	Fill	Fill of [1067]
1069	Cut	Re-cut in ditch [1067]
1070	Fill	Fill of [1069]
1071	Cut	Ditch E-W
1072	Fill	Fill of [1071]
1073	Fill	Fill of [1075]
1074	Fill	Fill of [1076]
1075	Cut	Ditch E-W
1076	Cut	Possible linear/plough scar
1077	Cut	Ditch
1078	Fill	Fill of [1077]
1079	Cut	Natural feature
1080	Fill	Fill of [1079]
1081	Cut	Pit
1082	Fill	Fill of [1081]
1083	Cut	Natural feature
1084	Fill	Fill of [1083]
1085	Cut	Linear feature
1086	Fill	Fill of [1085]
1087	Cut	Linear feature
1088	Fill	Fill of [1087]
1089	Cut	Possible terminus
1090	Fill	Fill of [1089]
1091	Cut	Modern circular feature
1092	Cut	Gully
1093	Fill	Fill of [1092]
1093	Cut	Tree throw
1094	Fill	Fill of [1094]
1095	Cut	Pit
1096	Fill	Fill of [1096]
1097	Cut	
1098	Fill	Tree throw Fill of [1098]
1100	Cut	Irregular pit
1101	Fill	Fill of [1100]
1102	Cut	Natural feature
1103	Fill	Fill of [1102]
1104	Cut	Natural feature
1105	Fill	Fill of [1104]
1106	Cut	Natural feature

Context Number	Туре	Description
1107	Fill	Fill of [1106]
1108	Cut	Natural feature
1109	Fill	Fill of [1108]
1110	Cut	Natural feature
1111	Fill	Fill of [1110]
1112	Cut	Natural feature
1113	Fill	Fill of [1112]
1114	Cut	Natural feature
1115	Fill	Fill of [1114]
1116	Cut	Natural feature
1117	Fill	Fill of [1116]
1118	Cut	Ditch/gully
1119	Fill	Fill of [1118]
1120	Cut	Modern feature
1121	Fill	Fill of [1120]
1122	Cut	Modern ditch
1123	Fill	Fill of [1122]
1124	Deposit	Charcoal layer
1125	Cut	Natural feature
1126	Fill	Fill of [1125]

APPENDIX 2: ENVIRONMENTAL TABLE

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Sample	-	2	4	٠,	7	~	6	10	11	13	14	16	28
Context	1031	1044	1059	1072	1073	1080	1086	1037	1025	1021	1023	1097	1029
	Pit	Nat.	Pit	Ditch	Ditch	Nat.	Linear	Nat.	P-	P-	P-hole	Pit	Nat.
Type of Feature									hole	hole			
Volume processed (litres)	5	10	25	20	5	10	10	5	5	15	20	40	10
Volume of retent(Kg)	0.2	9.8	1.2	6.5	13.4	1.2	3.1	2.4	2.8	6.9	1.2	10.3	1.3
Volume of flot (grams)	>10	>10	>10	>10	>10	20	>10	>10	>10	>10	>10	70	20
Residue contents (relative abundance)													
Burnt Clay		1											
Charcoal	3	2	1			2		-	-	1	2	3	1
Stones/gravel	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	2
Flint/Chert										1			
Flot matrix (relative abundance)													
Charcoal	2;	3;3	2;3	1;1	1;	2;3	1;3	1;1	2;2	2;3	2;3	3;3;	3;3
Modern roots	3;3	1;	2;1	3;3	2;	2;1	3;1	3;3	2;2	2;	2;		
Modernherbaceous material				;1	2;								
Sclerotia				1;	1;		;2						
Charred plant remains (total counts)													
Indeterminate cereal; grain											;2	;2	;2
Other plant remains (relative abundance)													
Betula pendula (Birch)		A;				A;		;A					
Cardus/Cirsium species (Thistle species)			A;										
Crataegus monogyna (Hawthorn)						A*.							
Danthonia decumbens (heath grass)												;?A*	
cf. Montia fontana (possible Blinks)				В;									
Persicaria sp. (Smartweeds)						A;B							
Polygonum aviculare (Common Knotgrass)						B;A							
Potentilla cf. sterillis (barren strawberry)		A;											
Ranunculus species (Buttercup)			В;										
Rubus species (Brambleberry)		Α;		C;	C;								
Trifolium sp. (Clover)						À;							
Taraxacum officinale (Dandelion)								A;					
Unidentified											*.		

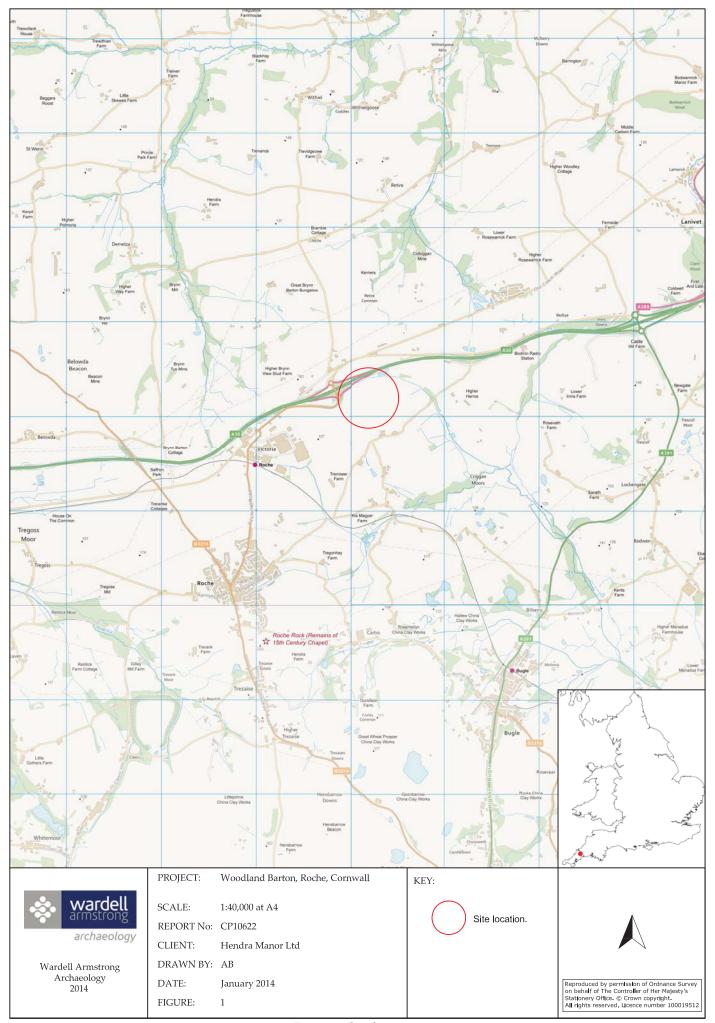
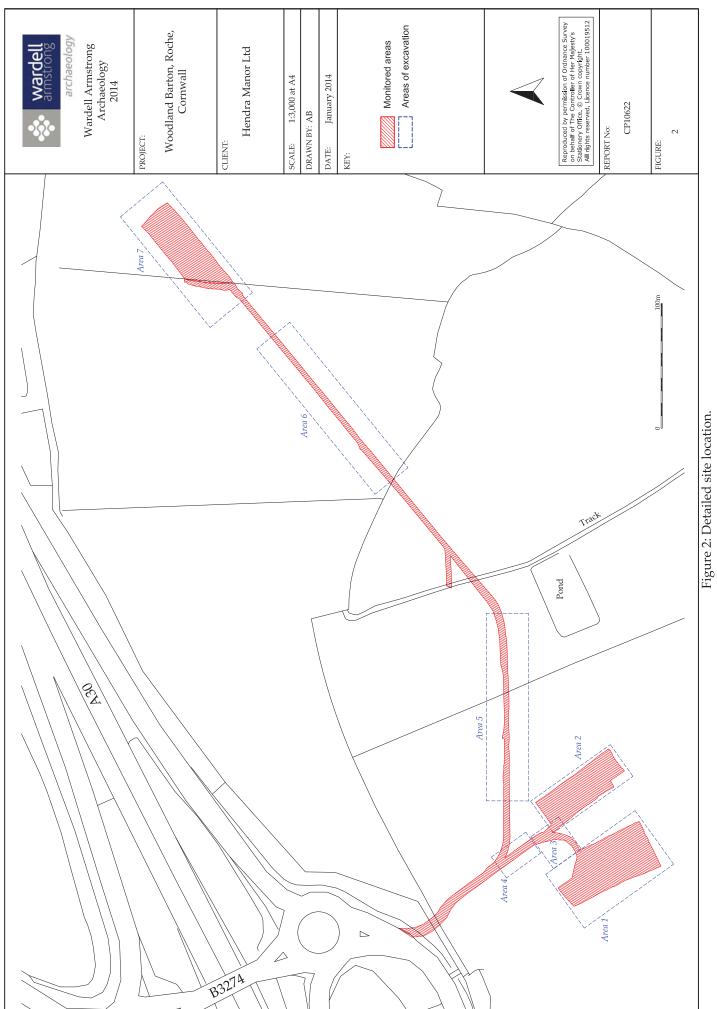


Figure 1: Site location.



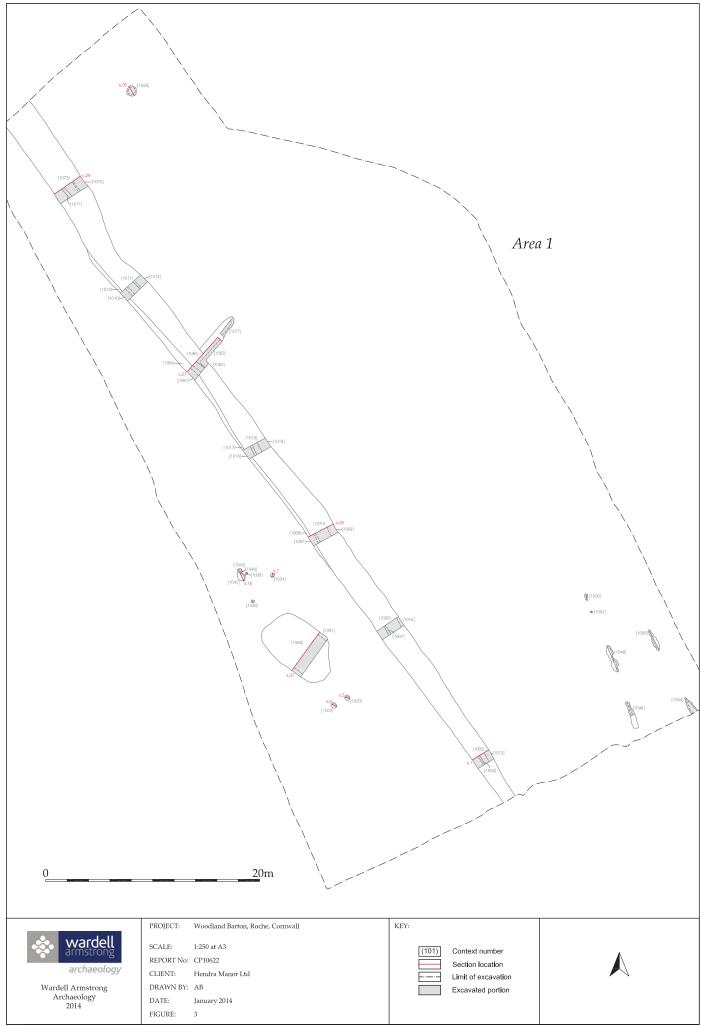
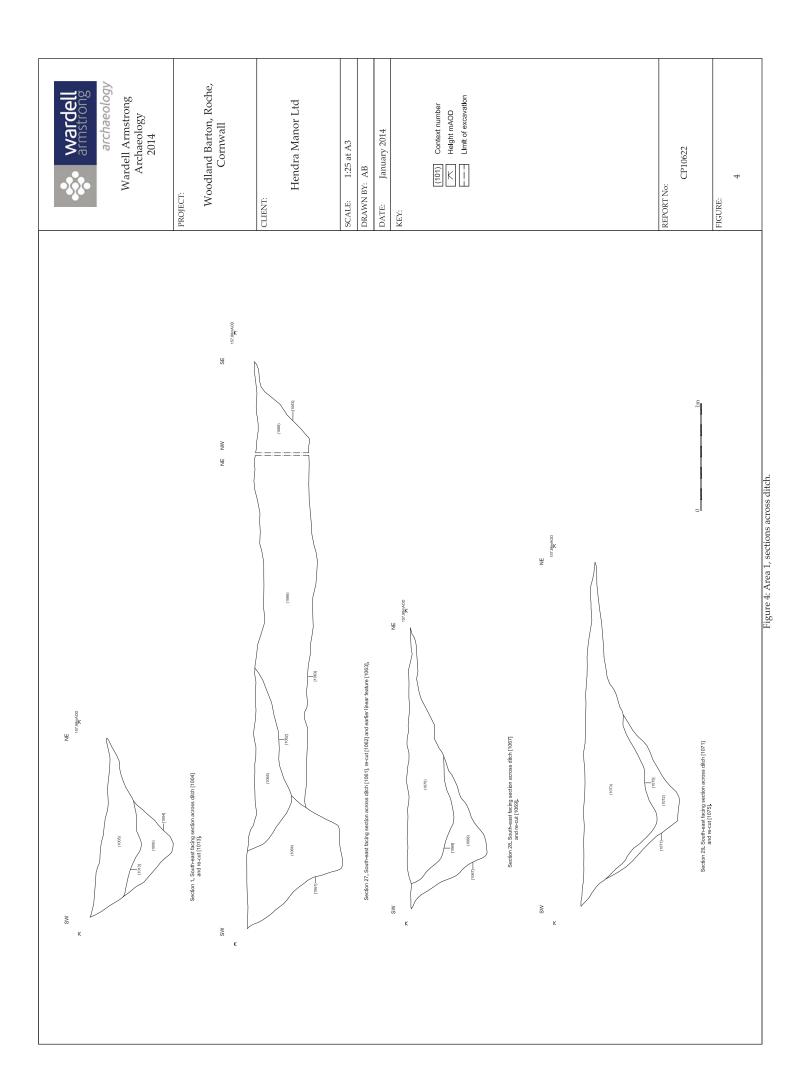


Figure 3: Area 1, plan.



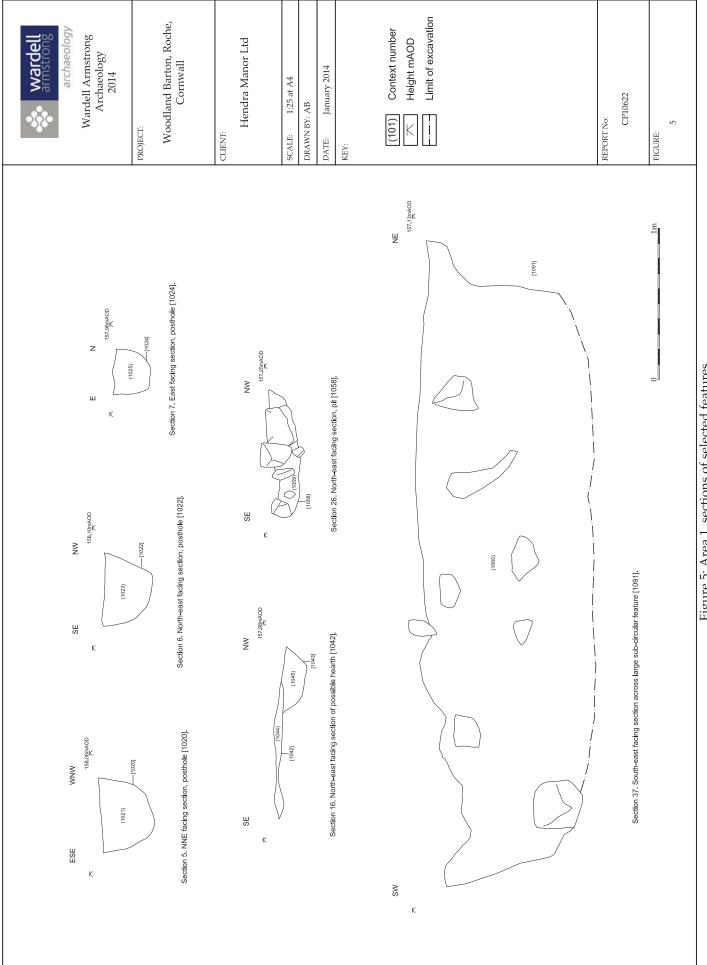


Figure 5: Area 1, sections of selected features.

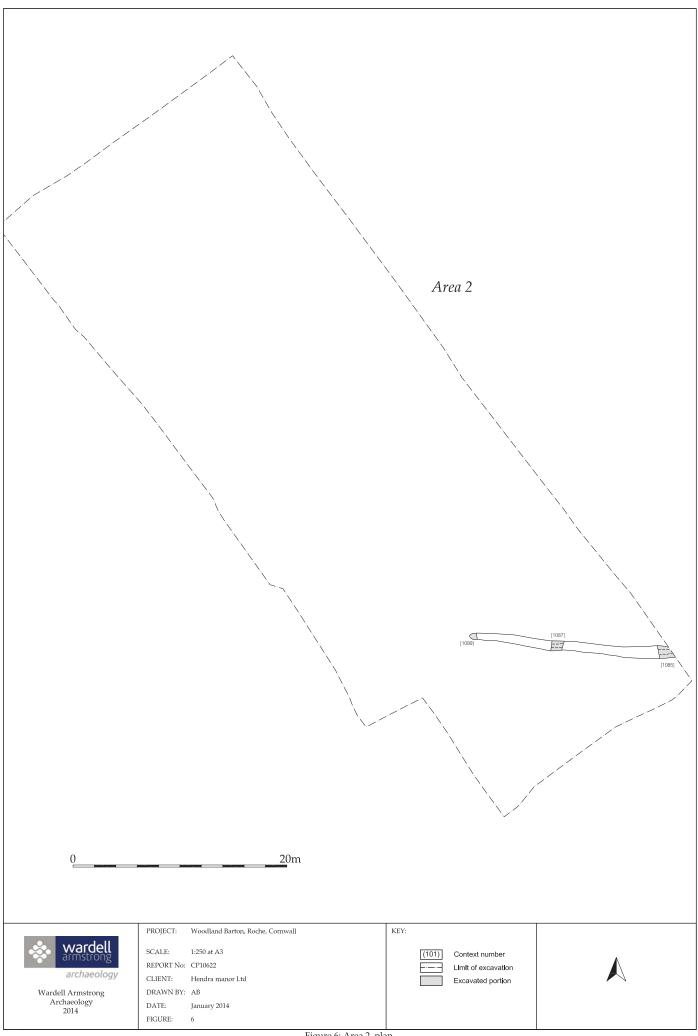


Figure 6: Area 2, plan.

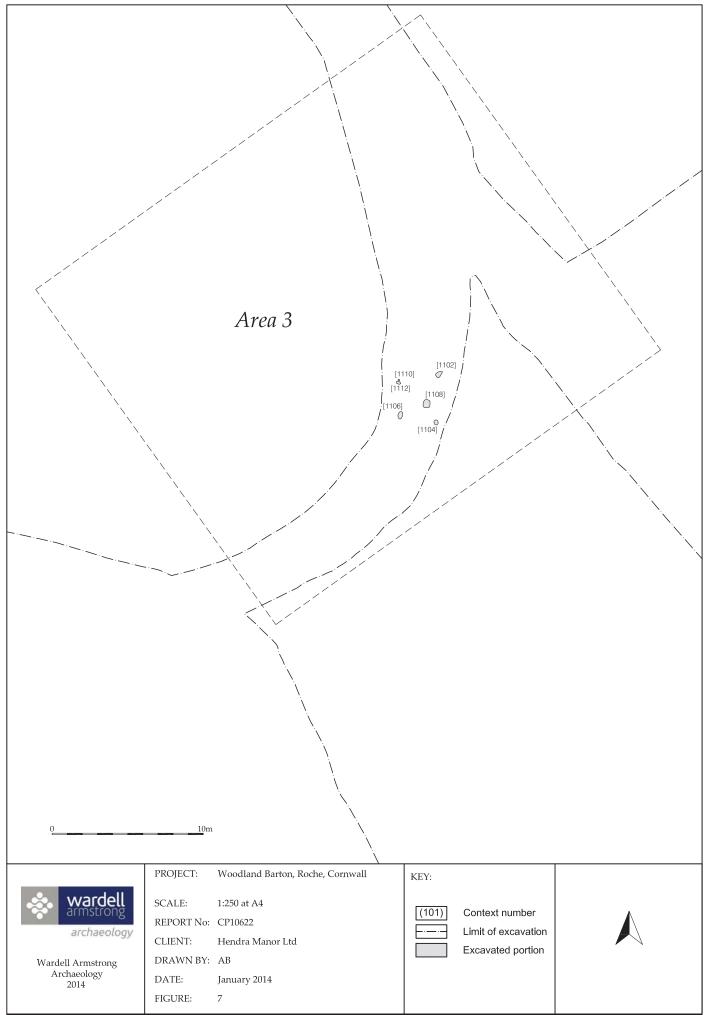


Figure 7: Area 3, plan.

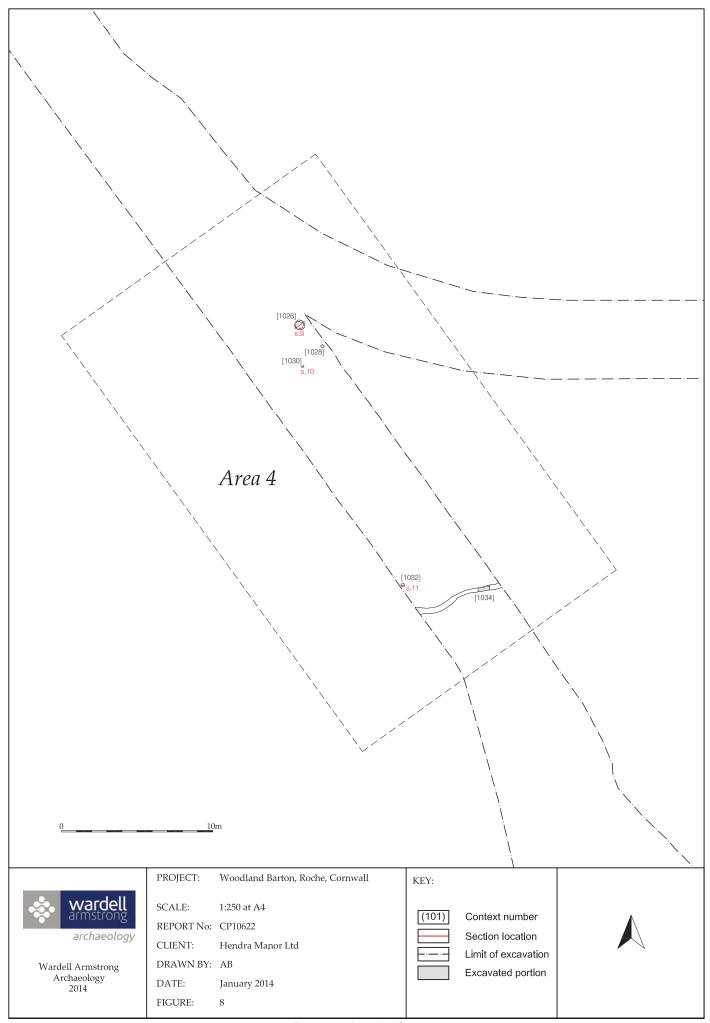


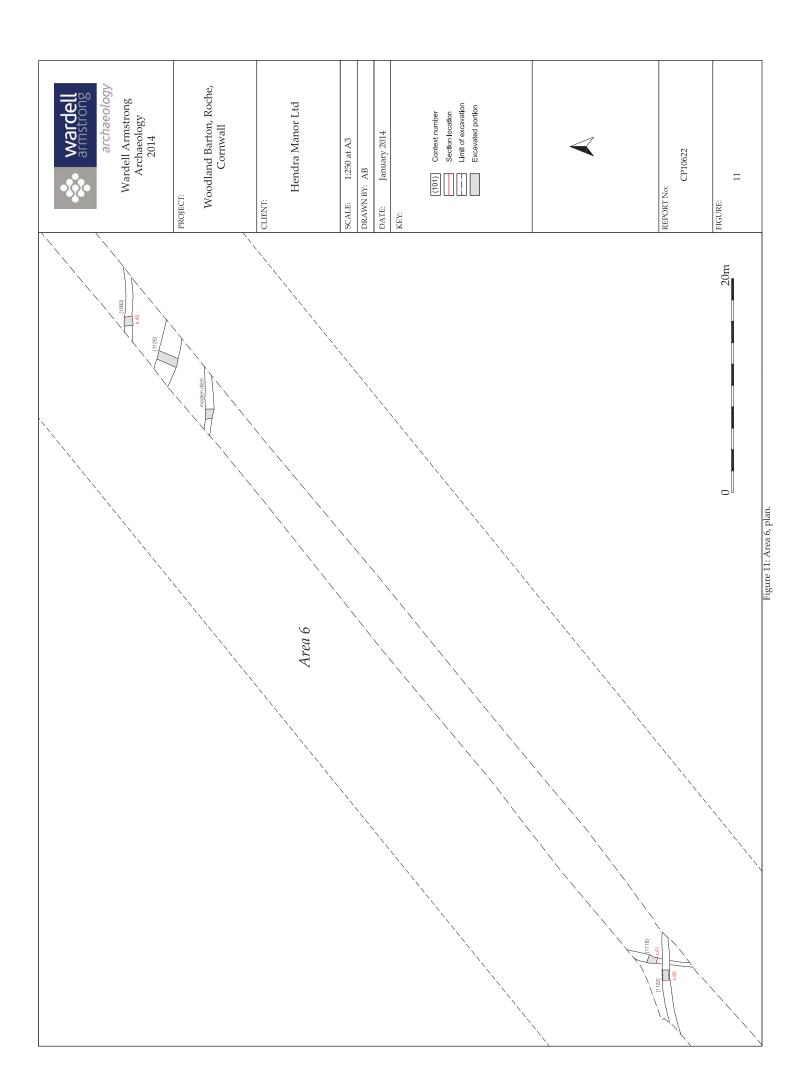
Figure 8: Area 4, plan.

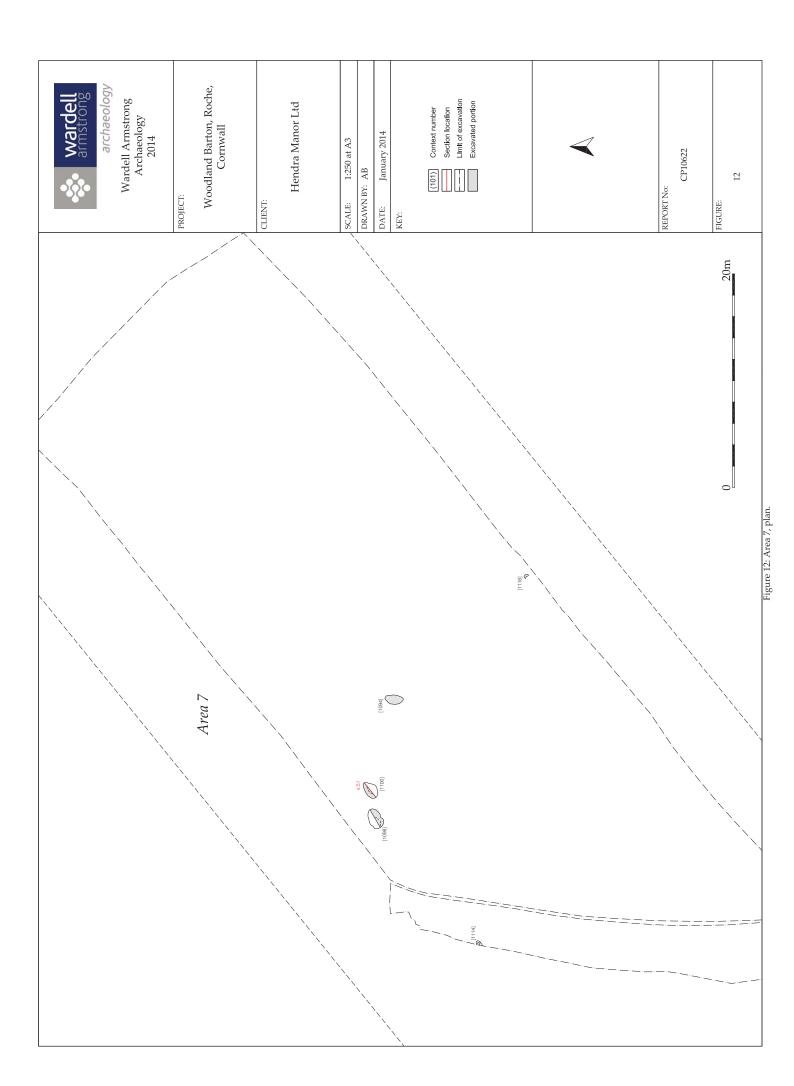
wardell armstrong archaeology Wardell Armstrong Archaeology 2014 PROJECT: Woodland Barton, Roche, Cornwall	CLIENT: Hendra Manor Ltd SCALE: 1:250 at A3	DATE: January 2014 KEY: (101) Context number Excavated portion	REPORT No: CP10622 FIGURE:
	Area 5		Figure 9: Area 5, plan (1).
			20m
		(Bas)1	0

rigure 9: Area 5, pian (1).

wardell armstrong archaeology Wardell Armstrong Archaeology 2014 PROJECT: Woodland Barton, Roche, Cornwall	Hendra Manor Ltd SCALE: 1:250 at A3 DRAWN BY: AB DATE: January 2014 KEY: (101) Context number Excavated portion	REPORT No: CP10622 FIGURE:
		Fiortre 10: Area 5, plan (2)
	Area 5	20m
		20
	PSILL	0

Figure 10: Area 5, plan (2).





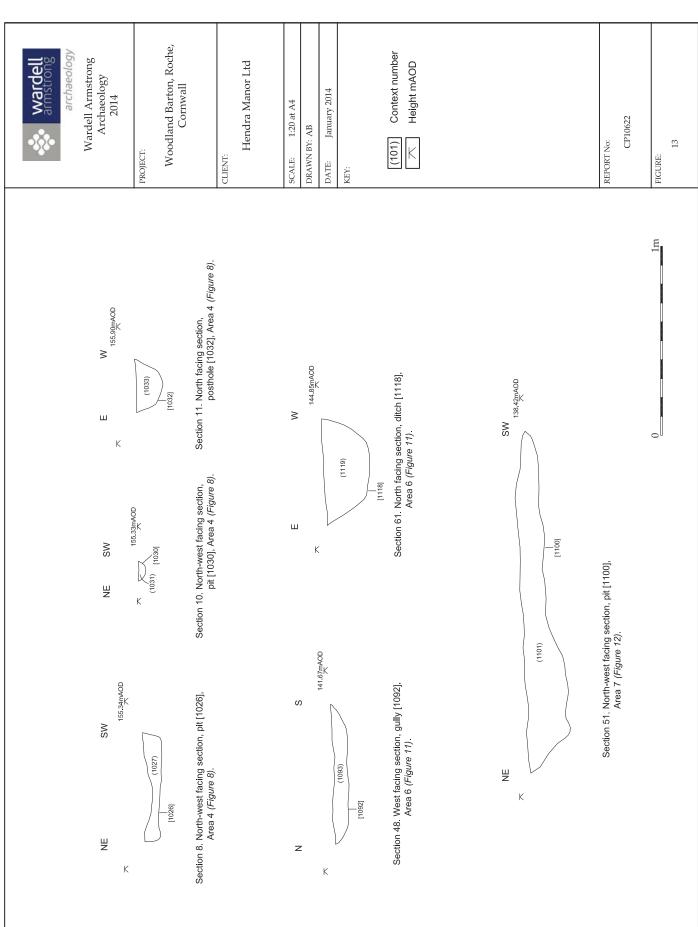


Figure 13: Trackway, sections of archaeological features (Areas 4, 6 & 7).

APPENDIX 3: FIGURES

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