THAMES VALLEY

ARCHAEOLOGICAL

SERVICES

SOUTH WEST

# Land at Halwyn Road, Crantock, Newquay, Cornwall

**Archaeological Evaluation**

**by Andrew Weale**

**Site Code: HCN16/146**

**(SW7926 6022)**

# Land at Halwyn Road, Crantock, Newquay, Cornwall

**An Archaeological Evaluation**

**for Armour Heritage**

by Andrew Weale

Thames Valley Archaeological Services Ltd

Site Code HCN16/146

**August 2016**

## Summary

**Site name:** Land at Halwyn Road, Crantock, Newquay Cornwall

**Grid reference:** SW 7926 6022

**Site activity:** Evaluation

**Date and duration of project:** 8th–11th August 2016

**Project manager:** Andrew Weale

**Site supervisor:** Andrew Weale

**Site code:** HCN 16/146

**Area of site:** *c.* 1.88ha

**Summary of results**

**Location and reference of archive:** The archive is presently held at Thames Valley Archaeological Services, South West in Taunton and will be deposited at The Royal Cornwall Museum and Archaeology Data Service in due course.



| | |
|---|---|
| Report edited/checked by: | Steve Ford✓ 19.08.16 |
| | Steve Preston✓ 19.08.16 |



*TVAS (South West),Unit 21, Apple Business Centre, Frobisher Way, Taunton TA2 6BB*

*Tel. (01823) 288 284; Fax (01823) 272 462; email: southwest@tvas.co.uk; website : www.tvas.co.uk*

# Land at Halwyn Road, Crantock, Newquay, Cornwall
# An Archaeological Evaluation

by Andrew Weale

**Report 16/146**

## Introduction

This report documents the results of an archaeological field evaluation carried out at Halwyn Road, Crantock, Cornwall (SW 7926 6022) (Fig. 1). The work was commissioned by Ms Sue Farr of Armour Heritage Ltd, Greystone Cottage, Trudoxhill, Frome, Somerset BA11 5DP

An outline planning application (PA15/11981) has been submitted to Cornwall Council for the construction of up to 59 dwellings and 10 allotments. Following submission of an historic environment desk-based assessment and subsequent geophysical survey, the Senior Development Officer (historic environment) has advised an archaeological evaluation is undertaken prior to the determination of the planning application, to investigate anomalies identified during the geophysical survey. This is in accordance with the Department for Communities and Local Government's *National Planning Policy Framework* (NPPF 2012) and the County's policies on archaeology. The field investigation was carried out to a specification (Farr 2016) approved by the local authority as advised by Mr Charles Johns, the Senior Development Officer (historic environment). The fieldwork was undertaken by Andrew Weale, Mariusz Paszkiewicz, Piotr Wróbel and Dominika Golebiowska between 8th and 11th August 2016 and the site code is HCN 16/146. The archive is presently held at TVAS (South West) in Taunton and will be deposited at The Royal Cornwall Museum and archaeology data service in due course.

## Location, topography and geology

The site is located on a north-western facing slope at the south-east edge of the village of Crantock which lies on the Gannel estuary in Cornwall, 3km to the south-west of Newquay (Fig. 1). The site is to the north of Halwyn Road, and directly east of Winstowe Terrace, some 75m south-east of the Crantock Conservation Area. It comprises a parcel of land of *c*. 1.88ha which currently consists of an area of open pasture (derelict). The site is bounded on all sides by established hedges with Halwyn Road to the south, Winstowe Terrace forming the south-west corner, and pasture to the west, north and east (Fig. 2)

The site is gently undulating with a predominantly gentle slope from the south to north-west with a slight rise along the northern edge of the site forming a small combe. It lies at 48m above Ordnance Datum (aOD) in the north-west corner, rising to 54m aOD at the eastern boundary. The underlying geology is described as Devonian Trendrean Mudstone Formation: Mudstone and Siltstone (BGS 2014). Entering the site along the western boundary and following the path of the combe is a Quaternary Head deposit, clay, silt, sand and gravel. These deposits are formed from the material accumulated by down slope movements including landslide, debris flow, solifluction, soil creep and hill wash. A mixture of thinly bedded rock and clay deposits was encountered in the evaluation.

## Archaeological background

An historic environment desk-based assessment has been undertaken (Armour Chelu 2016) and can be summarized as follows. Nothing of archaeological interest was previously recorded within the site itself. Archaeological remains recorded by the Cornwall Historic Environment Record within 1km of the site, include an early medieval church site or *lann*, and subsequent Prebendary College and Collegiate Church which form an important element of the historic core of Crantock. Within the wider environs, archaeological evidence generally relates to prehistoric burial practice, medieval settlement and agriculture, alongside post-medieval and modern settlement.

The place name Crantock (*Langorroc*) derives from the name of St Carantoc, an Irish missionary, and the Cornish name for a church enclosure (Weatherhill 2005) and can reputedly be traced back to the 5th century with the founding of a *lann* by St. Carantoc(Cornwall Council 2010). Crantock is recorded in Domesday Book of 1086 as *Langoroc*, where it is shown to belong to The Canons of St Carantoc who also held it before the Conquest. The lands comprised three hides, less two acres and it never paid geld (tax). There was arable land for 10 ploughs but only 1½ ploughs and 3 villans available to work it. It was worth 5s (1086) but when it was received by the Count of Mortain it was worth 40s, this may mean that at some point after the conquest Crantock passed from the Canons' control to the Count's only to have been passed back before 1086 (Williams and Martin 2002, 345). The dramatic drop in value presumably relates to the obvious under-population in 1086.

It has been suggested that the foundation of the New Quay on the north side of the Gannel estuary was the result of funding by the Canons of St Carantoc, with the town of Newquay eventually superseding Crantock as the largest settlement in the area (Cornwall Council 2010).

The College was suppressed by Dissolution in 1548. The extant Church of St Carantoc represents the only surviving building from the college, although some undated foundations are present in the churchyard. The church's earliest features are of Norman origin. Archaeological evidence for the collegiate complex includes the remains of a large subrectangular enclosure surrounding the church and other earthworks which might be related.

Records dating from 1373 identify a separate settlement at Halwyn, derived from the Cornish elements *hel* meaning *hall* and *guyn* meaning *white* (Padel 1985), and it is possible that elements of a medieval field system identified some 360m south of the site may relate to this settlement. Further field systems and a remnant boundary, recorded to the east attest to the rural agricultural nature of the medieval landscape.

The large field which comprises the site would have been formed through the enclosure of smaller open medieval strip fields, probably in the later medieval or post-medieval period and the site might contain evidence for this. The potential for the site to contain archaeological remains of other periods was considered to be relatively low.

### *Geophysical survey*

A geophysical survey (gradiometer) was undertaken (Lefort 2016) across the entire site, which identified anomalies of likely and possible archaeological interest (Fig. 3). A number of other features related to agricultural features and trends of uncertain origin. Two phases of field system have been detected: the clearer one is aligned roughly east to west whereas the other is weaker and is set on a north-west to south-east alignment. Agricultural features of relatively recent date include probable former field boundaries and numerous ploughstripes on a similar alignment.

## Objectives and methodology

The aims of the evaluation was to determine the presence/ absence, extent, condition, character, quality and date of any archaeological or palaeoenvironmental deposits within the area of development. The general objectives of the project were to:

excavate and record all archaeological deposits and features within the areas threatened by the proposed development;

produce relative and absolute dating and phasing for deposits and features recorded on the site;

establish the character of these deposits in attempt to define functional areas on the site such as industrial, domestic, etc.; and

produce information on the economy and local environment and compare and contrast this with the results of other excavations in the region.

The specific research aims of this project are:

to ground truth the results of the recently completed geophysical survey;

to clarify the presence/absence and extent of any buried archaeological remains within the site that may be impacted by development;

to identify, within the constraints of the evaluation, the date, character, condition and depth of any surviving remains within the site;

to assess the degree of existing impacts to sub-surface horizons and to document the extent of archaeological survival of buried deposits;

to provide information in order to draw up an appropriate mitigation strategy if required; and

to produce a report to present the results of the evaluation in sufficient detail to allow an informed decision to be made concerning the site's archaeological potential.

A total of 13 trenches each 30m long and 2m wide (*c.* 4% of site area) were excavated across the site. Topsoil and any other overburden was removed by a $360^0$ tracked machine. A toothless ditching bucket was used to expose archaeologically sensitive levels, under constant archaeological supervision. Where archaeological remains were exposed, these were cleaned by hand, investigated, recorded and sampled. Metal detectors were used to enhance the recovery of metal finds.

## Results

All trenches were excavated as intended (Fig. 2), but the trench widths were 2.10m. Trenches 4, 6 and 13 were slightly moved northwards to give clearance for the machine underneath electricity cables running along the southern hedge boundary. The trenches varied from 26.5m to 32.2m long and from 0.70m to 1.40m deep. Several of the trenches showed scarring in the underlying bedrock that appeared to be very deep ploughing or subsoiling.

A complete list of trenches giving lengths, breadths, depths and a description of sections and geology is given in Appendix 1. A complete list of features investigated forms Appendix 2.

Trench 1 (Figs 2 and 3)

Trench 1 was aligned NW-SE was 31.5m long and a maximum of 1.40m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of topsoil which decreased in humic content with depth and was a total of 0.60m thick beneath which was a subsoil 0.40m thick. Beneath the subsoil was a layer of red brown clay with occasional stones (69). No sign of the anomaly highlighted in the geophysics survey could be seen in the subsoil or in deposit 69. This deposit was then removed over the trench from the north-west end to past the centre of the trench where it was found to be a maximum of 0.40m thick. Deposit 69 overlay creamy white bedded natural rock. Deposit 69 appears to be the head deposits noted in the Geology map of the area (BGS 2012). The geophysical anomaly did not appear in the natural beneath deposit 69.

Trench 2 (Figs 2, 3, 4 and 6 Pls 1 and 5)

Trench 2 was aligned SW-NE was 31m long and a maximum of 0.84m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of topsoil similar to Trench 1 which was 0.54m thick beneath which a subsoil 0.28m deep which overlay cream white bedded natural rock. Located 14.5m from the south-western end of the trench was Ditch 5 which was aligned SSW to NNE, 1.92m wide and 0.58m deep. Ditch 5 contained deposit 59 which was a mid red brown silty clay with frequent fragments of stone which contained a single small sherd of early Bronze Age pottery. Ditch 5 is in a similar position and orientation to a feature highlighted by the geophysical report which has been interpreted as a possible agricultural feature. This feature continues to the south in Trench 3 as Ditch 6.

Trench 3 (Figs 2 and 3)

Trench 3 was aligned NW-SE was 30m long and a maximum of 0.90m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of topsoil similar to Trench 1 which was 0.49m thick beneath which was a subsoil 0.31m thick which overlay creamy white bedded natural rock. At 10.5m from the south-western end of the trench was Ditch 6 which was aligned SSW to NNE, 1.12m wide and 0.38m deep. Ditch 6 contained deposit 60 which was a mid red brown silty clay with frequent fragments of stone which contained no datable artefacts. Ditch 6 is in a similar position and orientation to a feature highlighted by the geophysical report which has been interpreted as a possible agricultural feature. This feature continues to the north in Trench 2 as Ditch 5.

Trench 4 (Figs 2, 3, 4 and 6 Pls 4 and 6)

Trench 4 was aligned SSW-NNE was 39.3m long and a maximum of 0.85m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of topsoil similar to Trench 1 which was 0.43m thick beneath which was a subsoil 0.31m thick which overlay creamy white bedded natural rock. At 9.5m from the south end of the trench was Ditch 2 which was aligned E to W, 0.83–1.0m wide and 0.18–0.23m deep. Ditch 2 contained deposit 56 which was a mid red brown silty clay with frequent fragments of stone which contained no datable artefacts. Located 24m from the south end of the trench, Ditch 3 was aligned roughly E to W 0.69m wide widening towards the edge of the trench, and a

maximum of 0.37m deep. Ditch 3 contained deposit 57 which was a mid red brown silty clay with a medium amount of stone fragments and contained no datable artefacts. Ditch 2 is in a similar position and orientation to a feature highlighted by the geophysical report and extends to the east being exposed within Trench 13 as Ditch 4 and Trench 5 as Ditch 9. Ditch 3 is in a similar position and orientation to a feature highlighted by the geophysical report which has been interpreted as a possible agricultural feature.

Trench 5 (Figs 2 and 3)

Trench 5 was aligned SE-NW was 29.7m long and a maximum of 0.80m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of topsoil similar to Trench 1 which was 0.48m thick beneath which was a subsoil 0.26m thick which overlay cream white bedded natural rock. Located 16.5m from the southern end of the trench, Ditch 7 was aligned roughly W-E, was 1.00m wide and 0.55m deep. Ditch 7 contained deposit 61 which was a mid red brown silty clay with frequent fragments of stone and a single piece of worked flint. Ditch 7 was in a similar position and orientation to a feature highlighted by the geophysical report. This feature continues to the east and west being exposed within Trench 13 as Ditch 4 and Trench 4 as Ditch 2.

Trench 6 (Figs 2 and 3)

Trench 6 was aligned SSW-NNE was 26m long and a maximum of 0.80m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of topsoil similar to Trench 1 which was 0.57m thick beneath which was a subsoil 0.23m thick which overlay cream white bedded natural rock. 10m from the southern end of the trench was Ditch 11 which was aligned SW to NE 0.50m wide and 0.15m deep. Ditch 11 contained deposit 64 which was a mid red brown silty clay with moderate fragments of stone which contained no datable artefacts. 20m from the southern end of the trench was Ditch 10 which was aligned SE to NW 0.78m wide and 0.32m deep. Ditch 10 contained deposit 63 which was a mid red brown silty clay with moderate fragments of stone which contained no datable artefacts. Ditches 10 and 11 in similar positions and orientations to anomalies highlighted by the geophysical report, interpreted to be forming part of a field system. This feature continues to the north in Trench 2 as Ditch 5.

Trench 7 (Figs 2, 3, 5 and 7 Pls 3 and 7)

Trench 7 was aligned WNW-SSE was 32.2m long and a maximum of 0.85m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of topsoil which was 0.59m thick beneath which 0.14m of subsoil which overlay natural yellow brown silty clay. 12m from the south end of the trench was Ditch 8 which was aligned south to north 0.8m wide and 0.57m deep. Ditch 8 contained deposit 62 which was a mid red brown silty clay with very frequent fragments of stone which contained a single piece of worked flint. Ditch 8 was in a similar position and orientation to a feature highlighted by the geophysical report which appears to form part of a field system. This feature continues to the south in Trench 6 as Ditch 10.

Trench 8 (Figs 2 and 3)

Trench 8 was aligned SW-NE was 30.4m long and a maximum of 1.00m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of topsoil which was 0.60m thick beneath which 0.20m of subsoil which overlay natural yellow brown silty clay. In the centre of the trench the subsoil increased to a depth of 0.40m without any change to its consistency. No evidence could be observed of the possible agricultural geophysical survey anomaly nor the possible archaeological anomaly.

Trench 9 (Figs 2 and 3)

Trench 9 was aligned WNW-ESE was 28.4m long and a maximum of 1.00m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of topsoil 0.50m thick beneath which was a subsoil 0.10m thick. Beneath the subsoil was a layer of red brown clay with occasional stones (70). No sign of the geophysical anomaly highlighted in the geophysics survey could be seen in the subsoil or in deposit 70. This deposit was then removed from the trench. Deposit 70 overlay creamy white bedded natural rock. Deposit 70 appears to be the head deposits noted in the Geology map of the area (BGS 2012).

Trench 10 (Figs 2, 3, 5 and 6 Pls 4, 8, 9 and 10)

Trench 10 was aligned SSE-NNW was 30m long and a maximum of 0.85m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of topsoil which was 0.40m thick beneath which was a subsoil 0.40m deep which overlay natural yellow brown silty clay.

Whilst machining though the subsoil, 10m from the southern end of the trench, a large block of slate rock was observed within the base of the subsoil with a further two blocks perpendicular to it at the north and south ends. No further machine stripping took place around these slate blocks and they were further investigated by hand. Upon cleaning it emerged these three slate blocks were upright on edge and that two large quartz stones were resting on top of a broken slate block within the upright three blocks. The rim of a pottery vessel (Urn 2) was also revealed at this level to the west of the broken interior slate block. After removal of the quartz and internal slate slabs deposit 52 was revealed a medium red brown silty clay with small stone fragments. Deposit 52 contained two almost intact pottery vessels, Urn 1 which was beneath the internal slate block and Urn 2 to the north of it which was not covered by the slate blocks. After removal of deposit 52 and both vessels a further slate block was revealed beneath which butted the vertical slate block on the east of the feature and the south but not that to the north. After all the slate slabs were removed it was found that they lay in a rectangular cut, 1, which was 0.76m N-S and 0.56m E-W, the east edge of which had been disturbed by deep ploughing or subsoiling. The pottery vessels contained red brown silty clay with small stone fragments and were micro-excavated by a specialist. No cremated bone and no more than a few flecks of charcoal were recvoered from these fills. Urn 1

was found to be a Closed Beaker whilst Urn 2 was a Neutral Beaker with an Early Bronze Age date. Neither of the two geophysical anomalies seen in the survey were observed within the trench, and the stone-lined cist had not been detected.

Trench 11 (Figs 2 and 3)

Trench 11 was aligned S-N was 29.60m long and a maximum of 0.80m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of topsoil which was 0.59m thick beneath which was a subsoil 0.28m deep which overlay natural yellow brown silty clay. At 24.5m from the south end of the trench was Ditch 12 which was aligned west to east, 1.14m wide and 0.45m deep. Ditch 12 contained deposit 65 which was a mid red brown silty clay with moderate fragments of stone which contained no datable artefacts. Ditch 12 in a similar position and orientation to a feature highlighted by the geophysical report which has been interpreted appear to form part of a field system.

Trench 12 (Figs 2 and 3)

Trench 12 was aligned WNW-ESE was 29.5m long and a maximum of 0.75m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of topsoil which was 0.50m thick beneath which 0.17m of subsoil which overlay natural yellow brown silty clay. The trench contained no archaeological features or artefacts.

Trench 13 (Figs 2 and 3)

Trench 13 was aligned SSW-NNE was 26.4m long and a maximum of 0.85m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of topsoil which was 0.50m thick beneath which was a subsoil 0.27m deep which overlay natural yellow brown silty clay. At 19m from the south end of the trench was Ditch 4 which was aligned west to east, 1.54m wide and 0.68m deep. Ditch 4 contained deposit 58 which was a mid red brown silty clay with frequent fragments of stone which contained which contained a single piece of worked flint. Ditch 4 was in a similar position and orientation to a feature highlighted by the geophysical report which has been interpreted as appearing to form part of a field system together with Ditch 2 in Trench 4 to the west and Ditch 7 in Trench 5 to the east.

## Finds

### *Beaker and Bronze Age pottery* by Richard Tabor

An assemblage of two complete vessels and a fragmentary sherd weighing 1235g was recovered from two contexts so that exactly three vessels are represented. The two complete vessels were both upright and had been sealed by a capping stone over a stone cist (Pl. 9).

The vessels and sherd were allocated to fabric groups based on the material, size and sorting of the principal inclusions. Vessel form was determined according to the characteristic profile, rim and other diagnostic

features, including surface treatment in accordance with guidelines for the recording and analysis of prehistoric pottery (PCRG 2010).

Fabrics

**S1**. (Fine) Moderately soft grey fabric with reddish yellow exterior and grey interior surfaces. Includes moderate fine (<0.25-1mm) rarely medium and coarse (<2mm-5mm) shillet with rare angular quartz (<5mm). Smoothed exterior surface.

**sS1**. (Medium) Soft grey fabric with reddish brown exterior and grey interior surfaces. Includes moderate fine (<0.25-1mm), rarely medium and coarse (<2mm-6mm), shillet with sparse red sandstone (2-5mm), rare angular quartz (<5mm) and rare rounded grey pebbles (3mm-9mm). The exterior surface showed evidence for smoothing but had suffered some abrasion.

**gQ1**. (Medium) Soft brown fabric with dark grey surfaces. Includes moderate angular clear quartz (<4mm), sparse to moderate dark grey grog (<3mm) and rare shillet grits (<2mm). Represented by a single sherd which was badly fragmented so that surface treatment could not be determined.

Description of the vessels (Plate 10) and sherd

V1. [1] (52), Beaker, closed, sS1. Simple flattened rim above long straight, near vertical neck over low shoulder or girth forming a globular lower body. Simple base with angle of c. $70^0$. Decoration comprised near vertical or slightly slanting incisions of approximately 8mm length, probably executed using a thin spatulate tool, distributed on the exterior from immediately below the rim to immediately above the base. The impressions were arranged in irregular columns, 14 of which comprised single vertical arrangements and two of which were in pairs. Vessel height: 151mm. Rim diameter: 120mm. Base diameter 110mm. Wall thickness: 7mm. Distance from rim to shoulder: 90mm (59.6% of vessel profile above girth). Weight: 496g.

V2. [1] (52), Beaker, neutral, S1. Simple rounded rim above straight neck varying from vertical on one side to slightly outward on the other above a fairly pronounced low shoulder. Simple base with angle of c. $80^0$. Decoration on exterior surface and executed entirely by a rectangular toothed comb. Three horizontal rows on the first 17mm below the rim form the upper boundary for a 57mm deep zone of unfilled geometric outlines forming triangles, diamonds and rhomboids. Some of the outlines extend below what is otherwise the lower boundary formed by a single horizontal row of comb impressions. None of the higher zone outlines continue below the uppermost of three more rows on the upper side of the shoulder. A second zone of similar unfilled geometric outlines extends from the underside of the shoulder to 12mm above the base angle, the lower limit formed by three further rows of comb impressions. Vessel height: 130mm. Rim diameter: 110mm. Base diameter 78mm. Wall thickness: 7mm. Distance from rim to girth: 80mm (61.5% of vessel profile above girth). Weight: 735g. An extremely thin trace of carbonised material covered an area of c. 10mm by 20mm of the vessels upper interior.

V3. [5] (59), gQ1. Incurved flattened rim. Very fragmentary. Possible 3mm wide, 0.7mm deep horizontal linear incision below the rim gives a beaded effect.

Discussion

The two Crantock beakers have in common with each other similarly low girths/shoulders so that around 60% of the vessel profile rises from them. The fabrics of both are consistent with local production, as is implied by the quartz crystals in the rim fragment.

Beaker pottery remains sparse in Cornwall but has been found most frequently on the Lizard (midden and settlement sites) and Penwith peninsulas and especially along the county's north coast, usually in association with cists and barrows (Patchett 1944, map 4; Harris 1979, fig. 14; Healy in Christie *et al*. 1985; Jones and Quinnell 2006, fig. 6).

Decoration of Beakers through rustication by, or pairing of, fingernail impressions over entire exteriors and zoning boundaries of geometric motifs impressed by comb is common (Case 1995, figs 6.4 and 6.5). A spatulate tool rather than fingernails was used for rows of linear impressions in zones separated by comb impressed rows on a beaker with a fairly low, well-defined shoulder from within a cist at Harrowbarrow in the east of Cornwall (Thomas and Hartgroves 1990, 57). The geometric decoration was executed more rigorously than at Crantock on straight-necked vessels with low girths/shoulders from a burnt mound at Lower Boscaswell, Penwith (Jones and Quinnell 2006, fig. 8, 1 and 2). Here, too, decoration was by toothed comb and also included paired fingernail impressions (Jones and Quinnell 2006, figs 8-10).

It has been suggested that vessels in upright positions were probably placed with contents, most probably fluids. Beakers with a small capacity (less than 0.5 litres) tend to be associated with the burials of children (Case 1995, 59-60). The capacities of the Crantock vessels fall within the lower/medium capacity range at approximately 1.2 litres and 0.8 litres (Case 1995, 57-60, Fig. 6.1). Both the Crantock Beakers were in upright positions and are likely to be suited to analysis of residues which may be retained within their porous fabrics (Oudemans 2007).

The dating of Beakers remains problematic and the trace of carbon in V2 is unlikely to be sufficient for carbon dating so that form and decoration are the only guides to the age of the vessels. Whilst it is true that the decorative repertoire became more complex over time the earliest motifs appear to have remained in use (Boast 1995, 73-4). Two radiocarbon dates gave a *terminus post quem* of between 2041 and 1508 cal BC for the Beaker pottery at Poldowrian, The Lizard (Parker Pearson 1990, 5). Case's typology was followed in the case of the Harrowbarrow Beaker, giving an earlier date in the late 3rd millennium (Harrison 1990, 57). Two assays from the burnt mound at Lower Boscaswell yielded a commensurate range of 2230 to 2020 cal BC at 95% probability (Jones and Quinnell 2006, 52, figs 8-10). The grog inclusions in the rim sherd, V3, are indicative also of an earlier Bronze Age date.

## *Flint* by Steve Ford

Two struck flints were recovered. Ditch 4 (58) in trench 5 contained a small core made on a pebble. Ditch 8 (62) in trench 7 contained a spall (piece less than 20mm x 20mm). However, the removals from the core are no larger than this suggesting such small pieces are made to be used. The flints are not closely datable and only a neolithic/Bronze Age date can be suggested.

*Environmental sampling*

The fills of the two vessels in cist 1 were excavated in 20mm spits with the samples floated and wet sieved using a 0.2mm mesh. This revealed only a few flecks of charred material, probably wood charcoal.

The remainder of the samples were then sieved using a 2mm mesh which recovered neither artefacts nor cremated bone.

## Conclusion

The evaluation showed that archaeological features were present across the whole site and there was some correlation between the results of the geophysical survey and the subsoil features, although not in all cases. One set of anomalies identified as possible field systems appears consistently as cut features (features 2, 4, 7, 10, 11 and 12), but all of the anomalies interpreted as 'possible archaeological features' on the survey did not appear at all. Of the possible (recent) agricultural features, two were present as substantial ditches whilst the rest were absent.

The field system, comprising a large east–west ditch together with an enclosure to the east are the most substantial features across the site, however, only two pieces of prehistoric worked flint were recovered from the large east–west ditch, which is not enough to reliably date this feature.

The ditch close to the current field entrance remains undated, however the other ditch shown as possibly agricultural on the geophysical survey did contain a single small sherd of Early Bronze Age Pottery. As with the flints, however, it is unclear if this necessarily dates the ditch.

The most surprising result was the almost intact cist burial found in the centre of the site within Trench 10 (though no bone human or otherwise survived). This cist contained two Early Bronze Age Beakers, which appears to be the first time this has been reported from Cornwall.

## References


Armour Chelu, R, 2016, Land at Halwyn Road, Crantock, Cornwall, Historic Environment Desk Based Assessment, Amour Heritage report AH403/2, Armour Heritage, Frome

BGS, 2014, *British Geological Survey*, 1:50000, Sheet **346**, Solid and Drift New Series, Keyworth

Boast, R, 1995, 'Fine pots, pure pots, Beaker pots', in I Kinnes and G Varndell, *'Unbaked Urns of Rudely Shape': Essays on British and Irish Pottery for Ian Longworth*, Oxford, 69–80

Case, H, 1995, 'Beakers: loosening a stereotype', in I Kinnes and G Varndell, *'Unbaked Urns of Rudely Shape': Essays on British and Irish Pottery for Ian Longworth*, Oxford, 55–67

Christie, P with Healy, F, Roe, F, Stead, S, Cartwright, C and Evans, J, 1985, 'Barrows on the North Cornish Coast: Wartime Excavations by C. K. Croft Andrew', *Cornish Archaeology* **24**, 23–122

Cornwall Council, 2010, *Crantock Conservation Area Character Appraisal & Management Proposals*, Truro

Farr, S, 2016, Land at Halwyn Road, Crantock, Cornwall, Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Field Evaluation , Amour Heritage WSI AH414, Amour Heritage, Frome

Harris, D, 1979, 'Poldowrian, St Keverne: A Beaker Mound of the Gabbro of the Lizard Peninsula', *Cornish Archaeol* **18**, 13–32

Harrison, R, 1990, 'Report on the Bell Beaker from Harrowbarrow', in A Thomas and S Hartgroves, 'A Beaker Cist Grave at Harrowbarrow', *Cornish Archaeol,* **29**, 57

Jones, A and Quinnell, H, 2006, 'Cornish Beakers: new discoveries and perspectives', in *Cornish Archaeol* **45**, 31–69

Lefort, R, 2016, *Halwyn Road, Crantock, Cornwall. Gradiometer Survey Report,* Lefort Geophysics report 16-0004.02, North Petherton

NPPF, 2012, *National Planning Policy Framework*, Dept Communities and Local Government, London

Oudemans, T, 2007, *Applying Organic Residue Analysis in Ceramic Studies in Archaeology – a functional approach*, https://www.researchgate.net/publication/257829823_Applying_organic_residue_analysis_in_ceramic_studies_-_a_functional_approach (accessed: 12th August 2016)

Parker Pearson, M, 1990, 'The Production and distribution of Bronze Age Pottery in South-Western Britain', *Cornish Archaeol* **29**, 5–32

Parker Pearson, M, 1990, 'The Production and distribution of Bronze Age Pottery in South-Western Britain', in Kinnes and Varndell 1995, 89–100

Patchett, F, 1944, 'Cornish Bronze Age Pottery', *Archaeol J* **101**, 17–49

PCRG, 2010, *The Study of Prehistoric Pottery: General policies and guidelines for analysis and publication*, Prehistoric Ceramics Research Group, occas pap 1 & 2, 3rd edition

Thomas, A and Hartgroves, S, 1990, 'A Beaker Cist Grave at Harrowbarrow', *Cornish Archaeol* **29**, 52–9

Webster, C, 2008, *The Archaeology of South West England: South West Archaeological Research Framework Resource Assessment and Research Agenda*, Somerset County Council, Taunton

Weatherhill, C, 2005, *Place Names in Cornwall and Scilly*, Salisbury

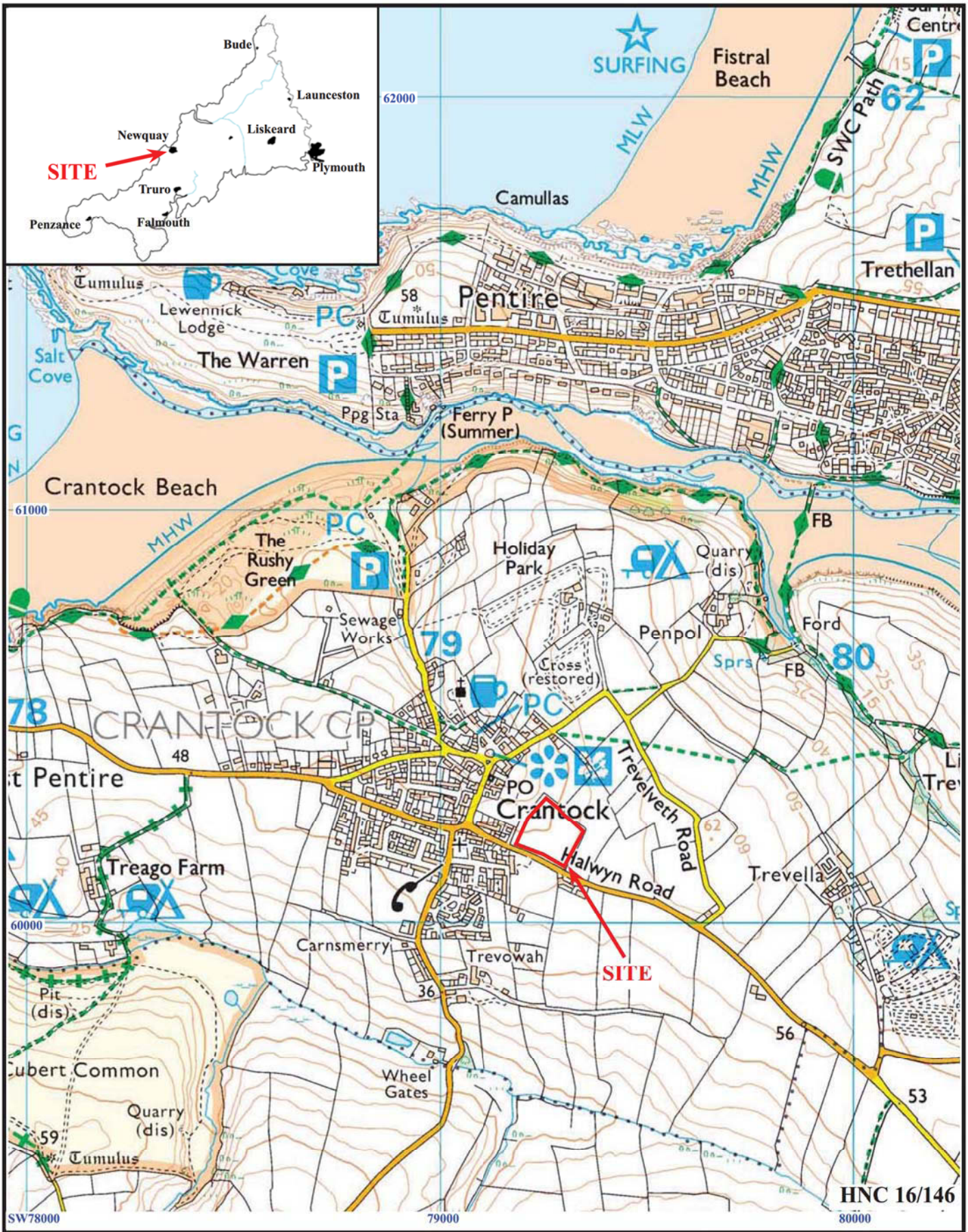
**APPENDIX 1:** Trench details

0m at South, West or South West end

| *Trench* | *Length (m)* | *Breadth (m)* | *Depth (m)* | *Comment* |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 31.5 | 2.10 | 1.40 | 0-0.60m Topsoil; 0.60-1.00m Subsoil; 1.00-1.40m Head (69); 1.4m+ creamy white bedded rock (Natural Geology). |
| 2 | 31.0 | 2.10 | 0.84 | Topsoil 0-0.54m. Subsoil 0.54-0.82m. 0.82m+ creamy white bedded rock (Natural Geology). Ditch 5 **[Pls 1 and 5]** |
| 3 | 30.0 | 2.10 | 0.90 | West end Topsoil 0-0.49m. Subsoil 0.49-0.60m 0.60m+ creamy white bedded rock (Natural Geology). Ditch 6 |
| 4 | 29.3 | 2.10 | 0.85 | Topsoil 0-0.43m. Subsoil 0.43-0.74m. 0.74m+ creamy white bedded rock (Natural Geology). Ditches 2, 3 **[Pls 2 and 4]** |
| 5 | 29.70 | 2.10 | 0.80 | Topsoil 0-0.48m. Subsoil 0.48-0.76m. 0.76m+ creamy white bedded rock (Natural Geology). Ditch 7 |
| 6 | 26.0 | 2.10 | 0.80 | Topsoil 0-0.57m. Subsoil 0.57-0.80. 0.80m+ creamy white bedded rock (Natural Geology). Ditch 6 |
| 7 | 32.2 | 2.10 | 0.85 | S Topsoil 0-0.59m. Subsoil 0.59-0.73m. 0.73m+ yellow brown silty clay (Natural Geology). Ditch 8 **[Pls 3 and 7]** |
| 8 | 30.40 | 2.10 | 1.0 | Topsoil 0-0.60m. Subsoil 0.60-1.00. 1.00m+ creamy white bedded rock (Natural Geology). |
| 9 | 28.40 | 2.10 | 1.05 | Topsoil 0-0.50m. Subsoil 0.50-0.60m. 0.60-1.00 Head 1.00m+ creamy white bedded rock (Natural Geology). |
| 10 | 30.0 | 2.10 | 0.85 | Topsoil 0-0.40m. Subsoil 0.40-0.80. 0.80m+ creamy white bedded rock (Natural Geology). Cist 1 **[Pls 4, 6, 9 and 10]** |
| 11 | 29.60 | 2.10 | 0.85 | Topsoil 0-0.59m. Subsoil 0.59-0.85m. 0.85m+ brown-yellow silty clay (Natural Geology). Ditch 12 |
| 12 | 29.5 | 2.10 | 0.75 | Topsoil 0-0.57m. Subsoil 0.57-0.67m. 0.67m+ yellow-brown silty clay (Natural Geology). |
| 13 | 26.5 | 2.10 | 0.85 | Topsoil 0-0.59m. Subsoil 0.50-0.77m. 0.77m+ yellow-brown silty clay (Natural Geology). Ditch 4 |

**APPENDIX 2**: Feature details

| *Trench* | *Cut* | *Fill (s)* | *Type* | *Date* | *Dating evidence* |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 10 | 1 | 52, 66, 67, 68 | Cist | Early Bronze Age | Pottery |
| 4 | 2 | 56 | Ditch | Prehistoric? | Stratigraphy |
| 4 | 3 | 57 | Ditch | Undated | None |
| 13 | 4 | 58 | Ditch | Prehistoric? | Flint |
| 2 | 5 | 59 | Ditch | Prehistoric? | Pottery |
| 3 | 6 | 60 | Ditch | Prehistoric? | Stratigraphy |
| 5 | 7 | 61 | Ditch | Prehistoric? | Stratigraphy |
| 7 | 8 | 62 | Ditch | Prehistoric? | Flint |
| 6 | 10 | 63 | Ditch | Prehistoric? | Stratigraphy |
| 6 | 11 | 64 | Ditch | Undated | None |
| 11 | 12 | 65 | Ditch | Undated | None |
| 1 | | 69 | Head | Quaternary | Geology |
| 9 | | 70 | Head | Quaternary | Geology |

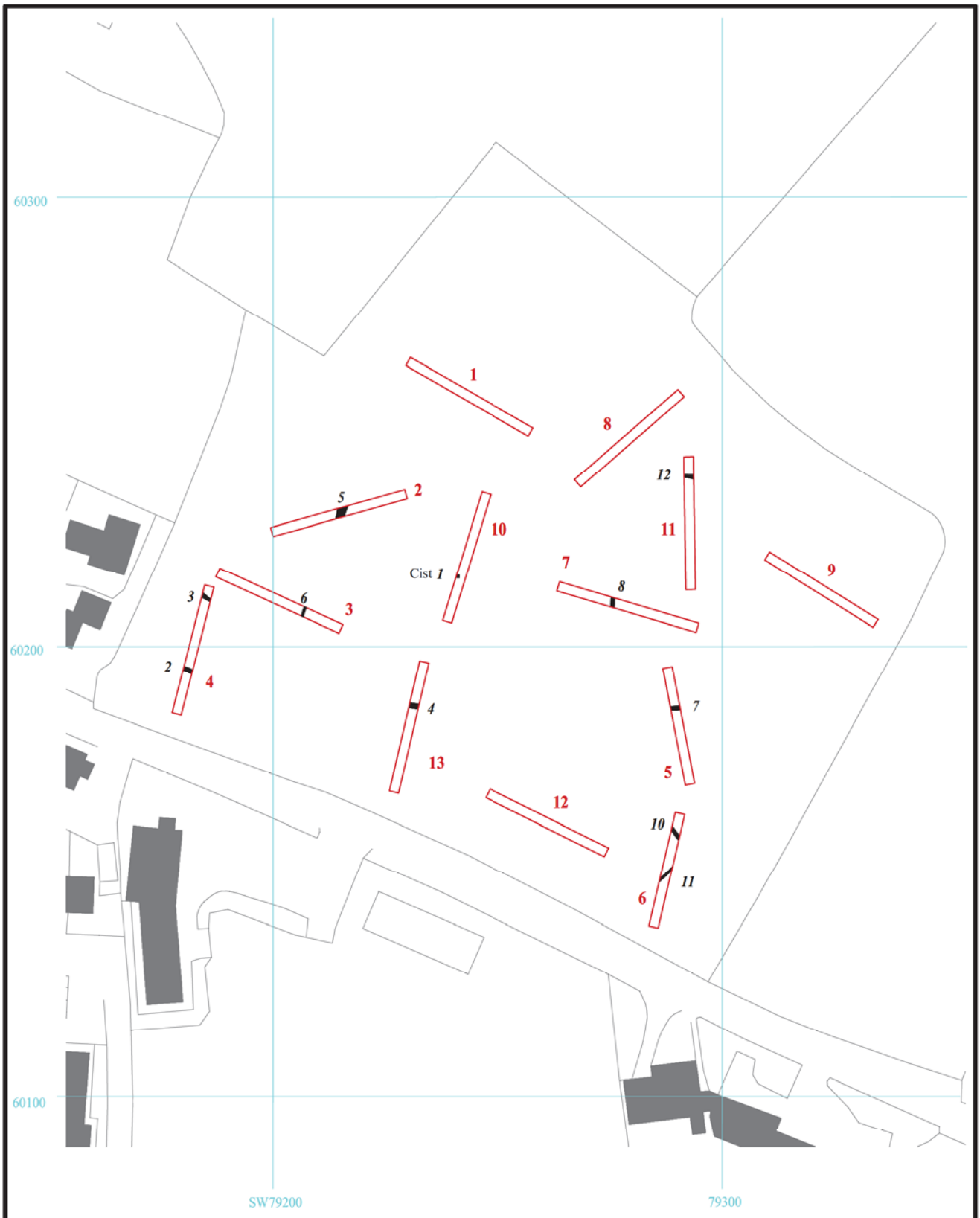



**Land at Halwyn Road, Crantock, Newquay, Cornwall, 2016**
**Archaeological Evaluation**

Figure 1. Location of site in relation to Newquay and within Cornwall.



THAMES VALLEY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES SOUTH WEST




HCN 16/146

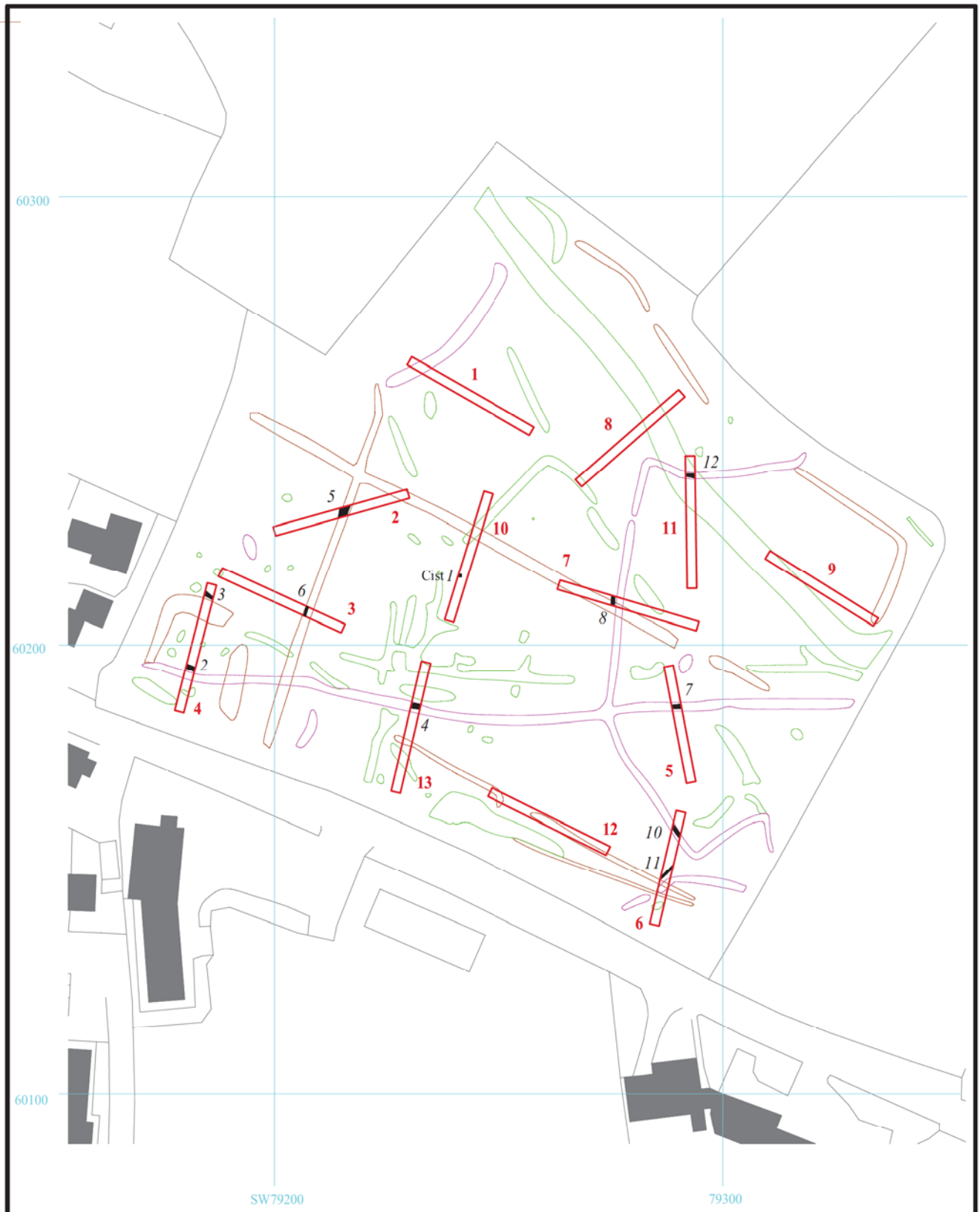
N

# Land at Halwyn Road, Crantock, Newquay, Cornwall, 2016
# Archaeological Evaluation

Figure 2. Location of trenches and features

0 100m

THAMES VALLEY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES SOUTH WEST




HCN 16/146

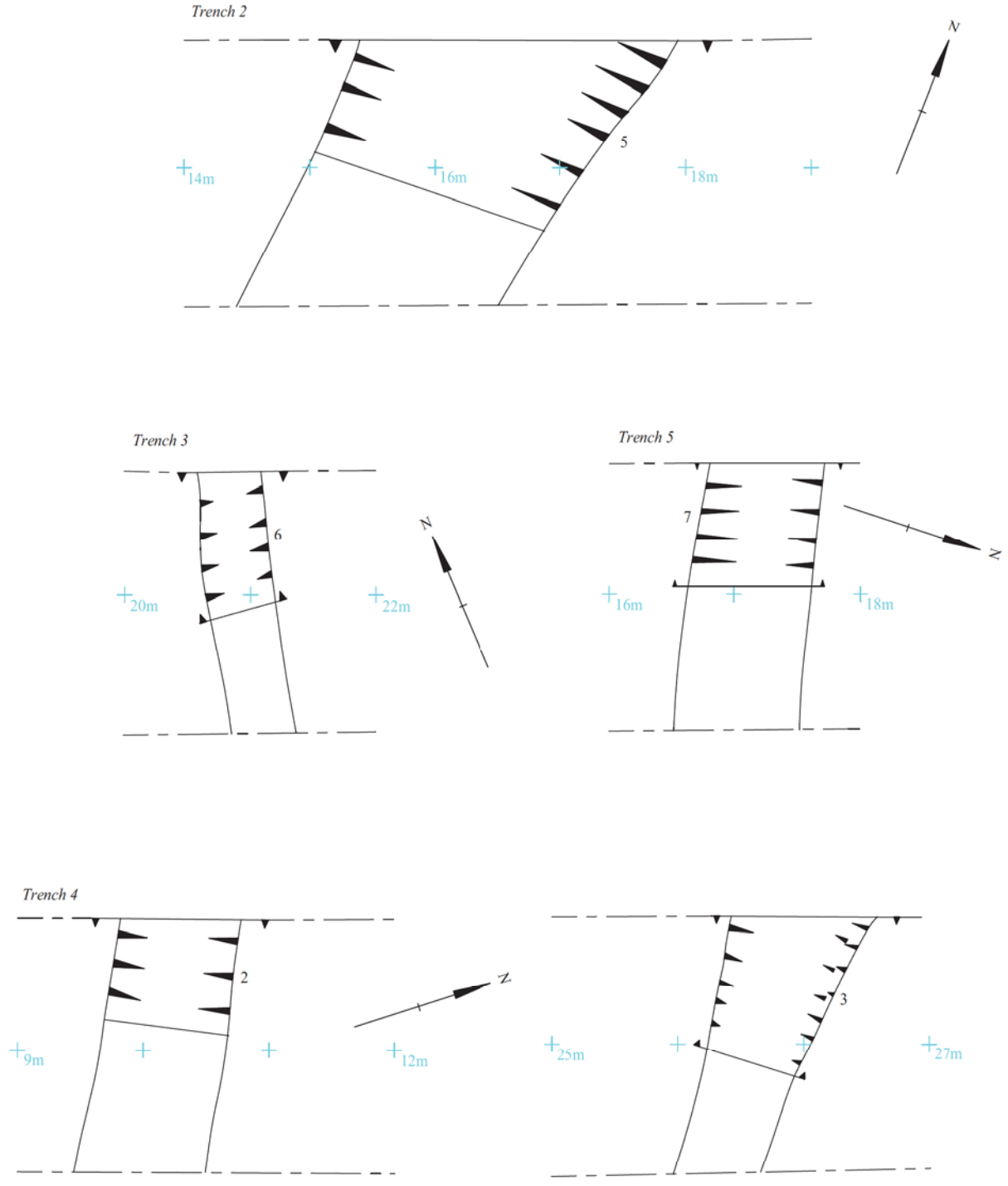
N

**Land at Halwyn Road, Crantock, Newquay, Cornwall, 2016**
**Archaeological Evaluation**

Figure 3. Location of Trenches overlaying Geophysical Survey Results

0 100m

THAMES VALLEY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES SOUTH WEST



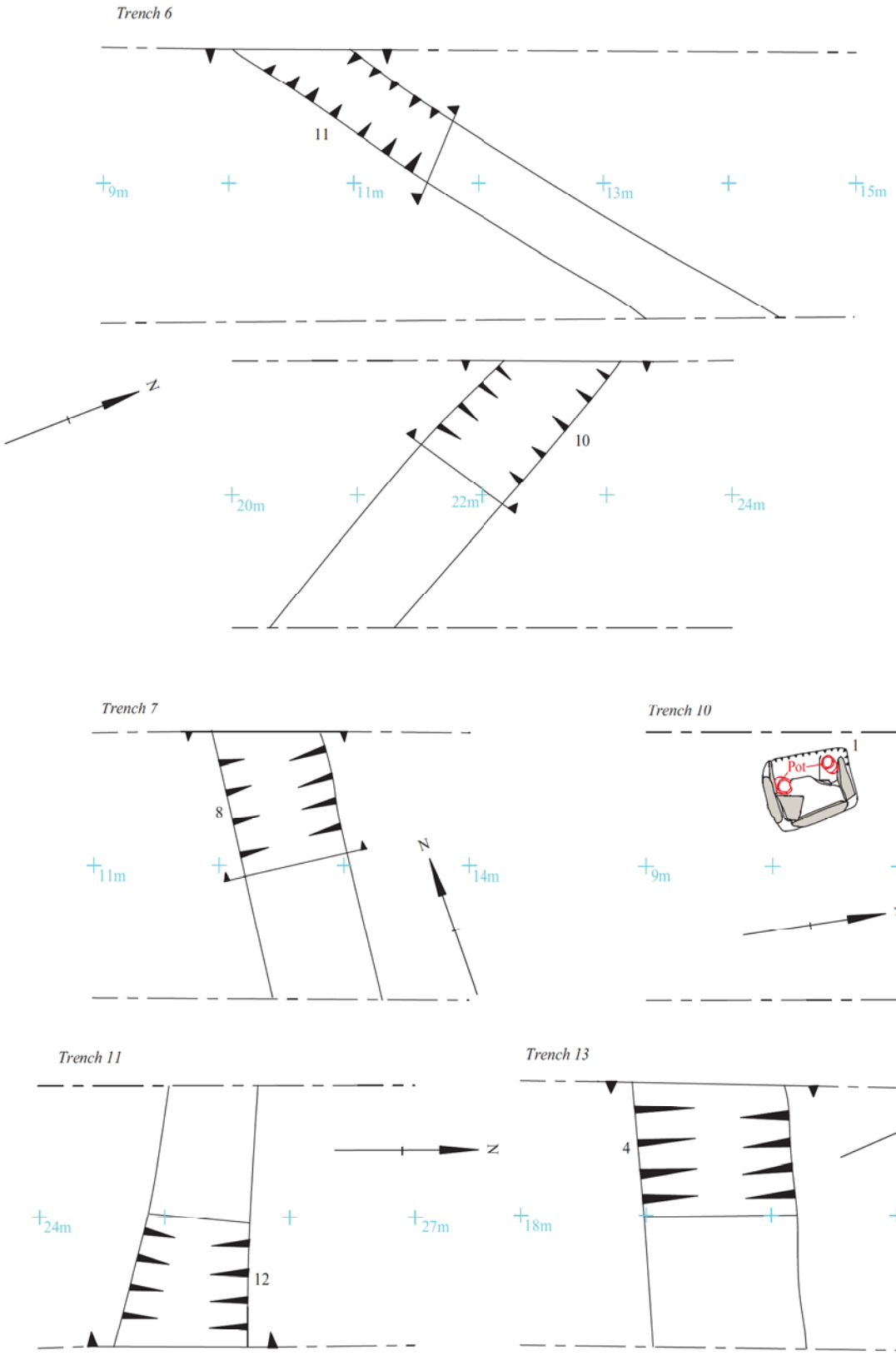

HCN 16/146

**Land at Halwyn Road, Crantock, Newquay, Cornwall, 2016**
**Archaeological Evaluation**

Figure 4. Plans of Trenches 2, 3, 4 and 5

0 5m

THAMES VALLEY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES SOUTH WEST



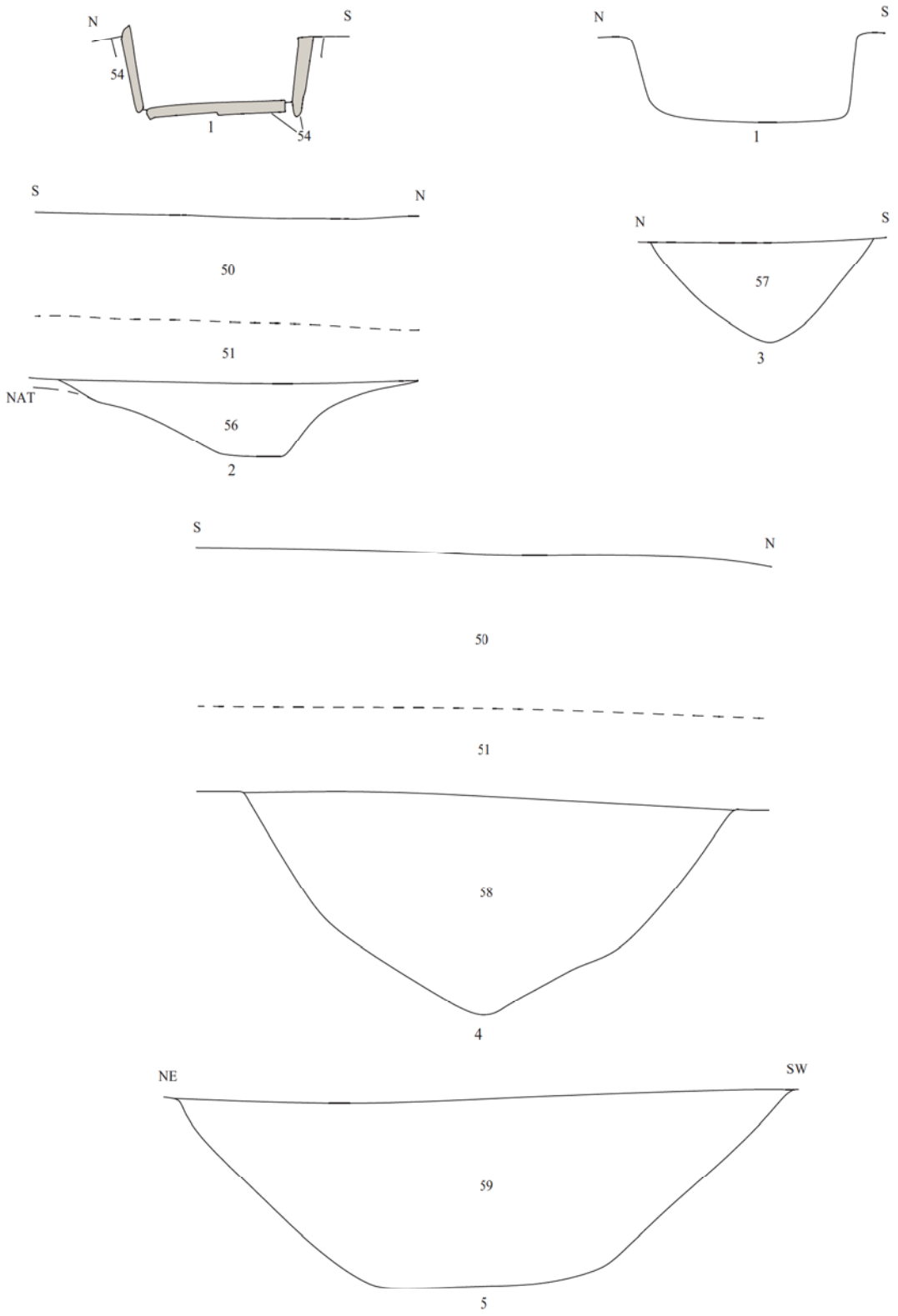

HCN 16/146

# Land at Halwyn Road, Crantock, Newquay, Cornwall, 2016
# Archaeological Evaluation

Figure 5. Plan of Trenches 6, 7, 10, 11 and 13

0 5m

THAMES VALLEY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES SOUTH WEST



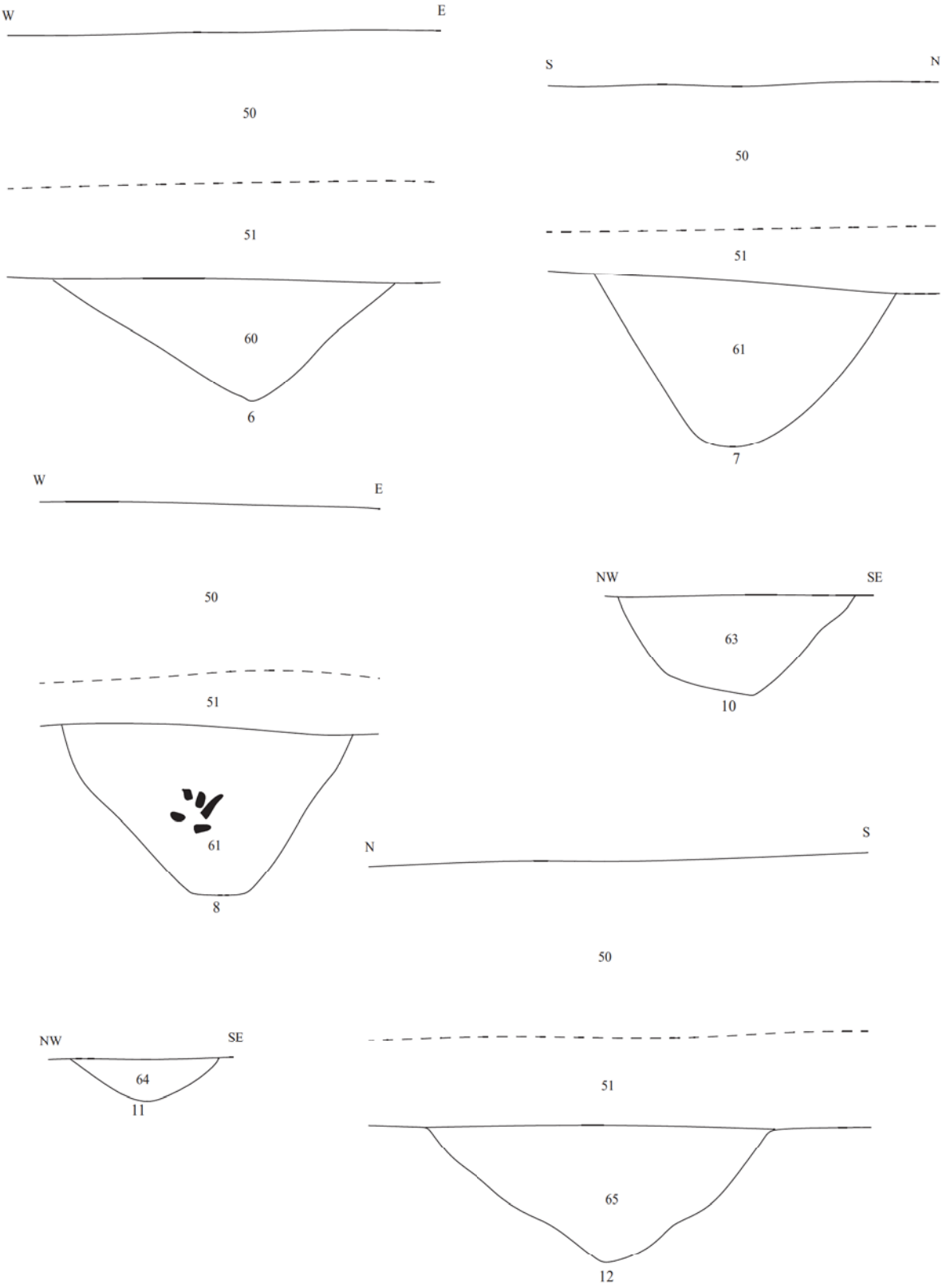

HCN 16/146

# Land at Halwyn Road, Crantock, Newquay, Cornwall, 2016
# Archaeological Evaluation

Figure 6. Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5

0 1m

THAMES VALLEY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES SOUTH WEST




HCN 16/146

**Land at Halwyn Road, Crantock, Newquay, Cornwall, 2016**
**Archaeological Evaluation**

Figure 7. Sections 6, 7, 8, 10, 11 and 12

0 1m

THAMES VALLEY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES SOUTH WEST

Plate 1. Trench 2, looking North-East. Scales: 2m, 2m and 1m

Plate 2. Trench 4, looking North. Scales: 2m, 2m and 1m

**HCN 16/146**

**Land at Halwyn Road, Crantock, Newquay, Cornwall, 2016**
**Archaeological Evaluation**

**Plates 1 and 2.**

THAMES VALLEY
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
SERVICES
SOUTH WEST

Plate 3. Trench 7, looking south-east. Scales: 2m, 2m and 1m.

Plate 4. Trench 10, looking North. Scales: 2m, 2m and 1m.

**HCN 16/146**

**Land at Halwyn Road, Crantock, Newquay, Cornwall, 2016**
**Archaeological Evaluation**

**Plates 3 and 4.**

THAMES VALLEY
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
SERVICES
SOUTH WEST

Plate 5. Trench 2 Ditch 5, looking North. Scales: 2m 1m.

Plate 6. Trench 4 Ditch 2, looking east. Scales: 1m 0.3m.

**HCN 16/146**

**Land at Halwyn Road, Crantock, Newquay, Cornwall, 2016**
**Archaeological Evaluation**

**Plates 5 and 6.**

THAMES VALLEY
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
SERVICES
SOUTH WEST

Plate 7. Trench 7 Ditch 8, looking North. Scales 2m, 1m.


Plate 8. Trench 10, Cist 1 under excavation, looking North. Scales: 1m, 0.3m.



**Land at Halwyn Road, Crantock, Newquay, Cornwall, 2016**
**Archaeological Evaluation**

**Plates 7 and 8.**

THAMES VALLEY
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
SERVICES
SOUTH WEST

Plate 9. Trench 10, Cist 1 under excavation with Urns 1 and 2, looking East. Scales: 1m, 0.3m


Plate 10. Urns 1 and 2 after excavation. Scale 0.2m

# 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 |

**TVAS (South West),**
**Unit 21 Apple Business Centre,**
**Frobisher Way, Taunton,**
**Somerset, TA2 6BB**

**Tel: 01823 288 284**
**Fax: 01823 272 462**
**Email: southwest@tvas.co.uk**
**Web: www.tvas.co.uk**

# OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England



Printable version

## OASIS ID: thamesva1-261508

### Project details

| | |
|---|---|
| Project name | Land at Halwyn Bay, Crantock, Newquay |
| Short description of the project | Evaluation trenching revealed features across the whole site, with some correlation with results of an earlier geophysical survey, although not in all cases. Most of these, however, were relatively recent field boundaries. Exceptions include a substantial field system which might be dated by just one sherd of prehistoric pottery and two struck flints. More significant was an almost intact cist burial containing two early Bronze age beakers (although no bone survived) |
| Project dates | Start: 08-08-2016 End: 11-08-2016 |
| Previous/future work | Yes / Not known |
| Any associated project reference codes | HCN16/146 - Contracting Unit No. |
| Any associated project reference codes | PA15/11981 - Planning Application No. |
| Type of project | Field evaluation |
| Site status | None |
| Current Land use | Grassland Heathland 5 - Character undetermined |
| Monument type | CIST BURIAL Early Bronze Age |
| Monument type | FIELD BOUNDARIES Uncertain |
| Significant Finds | CERAMICS Early Bronze Age |
| Significant Finds | LITHICS Late Prehistoric |
| Methods & techniques | "Sample Trenches","Targeted Trenches" |
| Development type | Rural residential |
| Prompt | National Planning Policy Framework - NPPF |
| Position in the planning process | Between deposition of an application and determination |

### Project location

| | |
|---|---|
| Country | England |
| Site location | CORNWALL RESTORMEL CRANTOCK Land at Halwyn Road |
| Study area | 1.88 Hectares |
| Site coordinates | SW 7926 6022 50.399622876563 -5.106487758227 50 23 58 N 005 06 23 W Point |
| Height OD / Depth | Min: 48m Max: 54m |

### Project creators

| | |
|---|---|
| Name of Organisation | TVAS Southwest |
| Project brief originator | Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body |

| | |
|---|---|
| Project design originator | Sue Farr |
| Project director/manager | Andrew Weale |
| Project supervisor | Andrew Weale |
| Type of sponsor/funding body | Consultant |
| Name of sponsor/funding body | Armour Heritage Ltd |

## Project archives

| | |
|---|---|
| Physical Archive recipient | Royal Cornwall Museum |
| Physical Contents | "Ceramics","Environmental","Worked stone/lithics" |
| Digital Archive recipient | Royal Cornwall Museum |
| Digital Contents | "other" |
| Digital Media available | "Images raster / digital photography" |
| Paper Archive recipient | Royal Cornwall Museum |
| Paper Contents | "Ceramics","Environmental","Stratigraphic","Survey","Worked stone/lithics" |
| Paper Media available | "Context sheet","Correspondence","Drawing","Matrices","Microfilm","Miscellaneous Material","Photograph","Plan","Report","Section","Survey " |

## Project bibliography 1

| | |
|---|---|
| Publication type | Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript) |
| Title | Land at Halwyn Road, Crantock, Newquay, Cornwall: an archaeological evaluation |
| Author(s)/Editor(s) | Weale, A |
| Other bibliographic details | 16/146 |
| Date | 2016 |
| Issuer or publisher | TVAS South West |
| Place of issue or publication | Taunton |
| Description | A4 comb-bpund client report |
| URL | http://www.tvas.co.uk/reports/reports.asp |

| | |
|---|---|
| Entered by | Steve Preston (tvas@tvas.co.uk) |
| Entered on | 31 August 2016 |