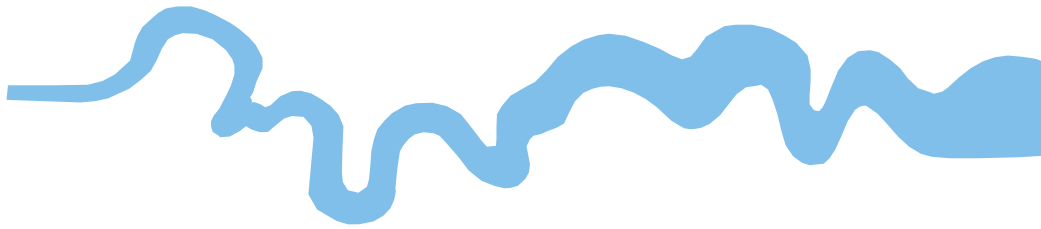


T V A S



SOUTH WEST

**Land at Trungle Parc, Paul,
Penzance, Cornwall**

Archaeological Watching Brief

by Beth Tucker

Site Code: TPP25/134

(SW 4582 2728)

Land at Trungle Parc, Paul, Penzance, Cornwall

An Archaeological Watching Brief for Armour Heritage

by Beth Tucker

TVAS South West

Site Code TPP 25/134

August 2025

Summary

Site name: Land at Trungle Parc, Paul, Penzance, Cornwall

Grid reference: SW 4582 2728

Site activity: Archaeological watching brief

Date and duration of project: 17th July 2025

Project manager: Agata Socha-Paszkiewicz

Site supervisor: Mariusz Paszkiewicz

Site code: TPP 25/134

Area of site: c. 1750 sq m

Summary of results: Two areas were observed, one area had clearly been subjected to disturbance prior to the current works. The archaeological horizon was not reached in the second area of ground reduction. No finds nor deposits of any archaeological interest were encountered.

Location and reference of archive: The archive is presently held at TVAS South West, Taunton and will be deposited with the Archaeology Data Service in due course.

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www.tvas.co.uk/reports/reports.asp.*

Report edited/checked by:	Steve Ford✓ 21.08.25 Steve Preston✓ 20.08.25
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Land at Trungle Parc, Paul, Penzance, Cornwall

An Archaeological Watching Brief

by Beth Tucker

Report 25/134

Introduction

This report documents the results of an archaeological watching brief carried out at land at Trungle Parc, Paul, Penzance, Cornwall (SW 4582 2728) (Fig. 1). The work was commissioned by Ms Sue Farr of Armour Heritage, Greystone Cottage, Trudoxhill, Frome, Somerset, BA11 5DP

Planning consent (PA20/11427) has been granted by Cornwall Council for the formation of access and the erection of an agricultural building at Trungle Parc, Paul, Penzance. The planning consent is subject to a condition (4) which requires a programme of archaeological work in the form of an archaeological watching brief to be undertaken during the course of the works. This is in accordance with the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government's *National Planning Policy Framework* (NPPF 2021), and the County Council's policies on archaeology. The field investigation was carried out to a written scheme of investigation (WSI; Farr 2021) approved by Daria Dabal, Archaeological Officer at Cornwall Council. The fieldwork was undertaken by Mariusz Paszkiewicz on 17th July 2025 and the site code is TPP 25/134. The archive is presently held at TVAS South West in Taunton and will be deposited with the Archaeology Data Service.

Location, topography and geology

The site is located approximately 500m to the north-west of the village of Paul and 2.8km south-west of the town of Penzance. (Fig. 1). While the area of the site subjected to the archaeological watching brief was formerly a roadside hedge and an area of woodland, the wider site is used by the local football and cricket club and an additional field is used as a campsite. The site slopes from a height of 103.9m at the west end of the site to 92.9m at the east end of the site. The underlying geology is mapped as Land's End Intrusion - Granite (BGS 2000), no natural geology was witnessed during the works.

Archaeological background

The archaeological potential of the site was documented in a Written Scheme of Investigation prepared for the project (Farr 2021), in summary the site is in close proximity to archaeological finds and deposits identified in

the Historic Environment Records (HER). Very little in the way of archaeological investigation has been undertaken in the immediate area, however the earliest known activity in the area relates to a Mesolithic flint scatter approximately 200m to the south-east of the site. Neolithic activity is also present in the area with a polished axe and multiple rough-outs identified to the north and east of the development site.

The earliest cut archaeological features, a prehistoric field boundary and two Iron Age to Roman ‘rounds’, were identified through aerial photography 275m to the east of the site. Features of a similar age were noted to the north of the development site and further undated features also identified in the area. The site has been identified by the county’s Historic Landscape Characterization project as Anciently Enclosed Land and so the site is considered to have a high archaeological potential for medieval and earlier periods.

Objectives and methodology

The purpose of the watching brief was to determine the presence or absence of archaeological remains, and should any remains be present, to ensure their preservation by record to the highest possible standard. The specific aims were to:

- confirm the approximate date or date range of the remains by means of artefactual or other evidence;
- determine or confirm the approximate extent of any remains;
- determine the condition and state of preservation of the remains;
- determine the degree of complexity of the horizontal and/or vertical stratigraphy present;
- prepared a report on the results of the watching brief; and
- prepare and deposit a site archive with the local museum.

All groundworks below the existing ground surface were to be undertaken under constant archaeological supervision. Where possible a toothless ditching bucket was to be used and spoilheaps were to be monitored. Where archaeological features were possibly or certainly present, the area was to be cleaned, excavated and recorded using hand tools to recover artefactual, ecofactual and dating evidence, and in order to determine, where possible, stratigraphic relationships as discussed in the WSI (Farr 2021). Where extensive, well-preserved remains were identified, consultation with the Archaeological Officer at Cornwall Council and the client were to discuss any further necessary mitigation work. All work undertaken on site followed the ClfA’s standard for archaeological monitoring and recording (2023) and was guided by local and regional research priorities such as the Historic England *Research Agenda* (HE 2017) and the *South West Research Agenda* (Webster 2007; Croft and Grove 2021).

Results

The archaeological monitoring consisted of the supervision of the work to create an access road onto the site and an area of ground reduction.

Access road (Figs 3 and 4; Pls 1 and 2)

An access road measuring approximately 10m wide and up to 1.55m deep was excavated along a previous access track on site which was approximately 102m E-W before turning roughly N-S for 50m and narrowing to 4m wide for most of this stretch. Despite its depth the natural geology was not witnessed, instead it appeared the area had been considerably disturbed by previous modern activities on site. The stratigraphy consisted of: 0.5m of disturbed topsoil above 0.2m of mid yellowish-brown stone made ground, above 0.39m of dark brownish-grey gravel made ground.

No finds nor features of any archaeological interest were identified.

Ground reduction area (Fig. 3 and 4; Pls. 3 and 4)

An irregularly shaped area measuring up to 22.5m long, 20.0m wide and up to 0.42m deep was excavated at the western end of the access road. No archaeological artefacts or deposits were encountered, however, this area also did not successfully reach the archaeological horizon. The stratigraphy consisted of: 0.18m of topsoil above 0.24m of subsoil.

Conclusion

Two areas were subjected to archaeological monitoring at Trungle Parc, Paul. Both areas failed to produce finds or features of archaeological significance. An access road reached a significant depth of between 1.09-1.55m and yet the archaeological horizon was not witnessed. This may suggest this area of site has been deeply made up in the past and archaeological deposits within this area either may have been damaged/destroyed or survive beneath the made ground deposits. The ground reduction area had not been disrupted by previous activities on site, though work in this area did not go deep enough to reach the archaeological horizon.

References

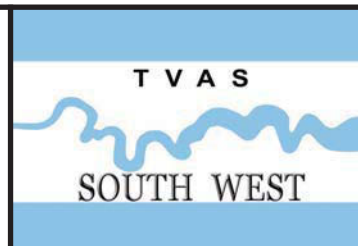
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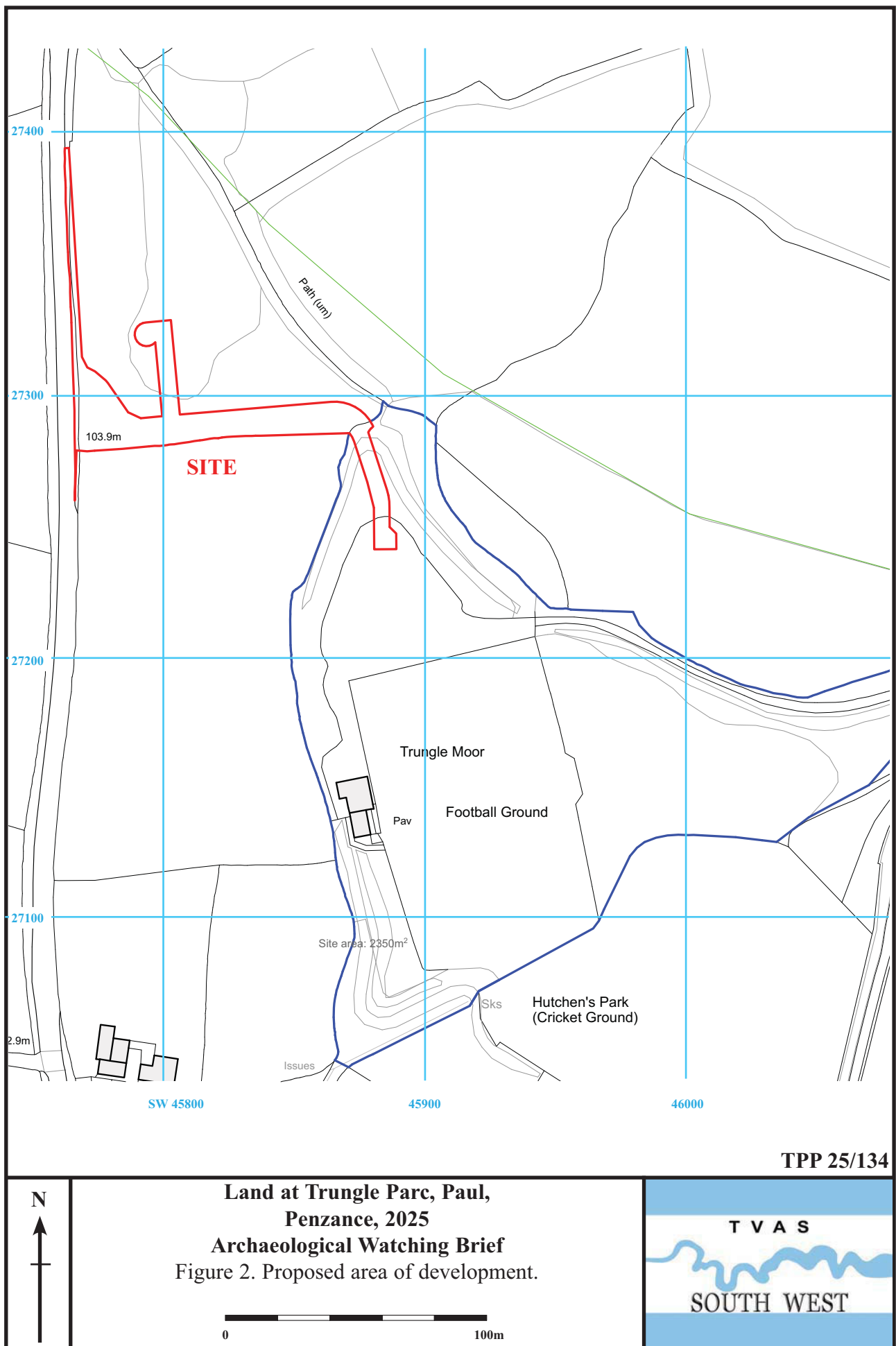


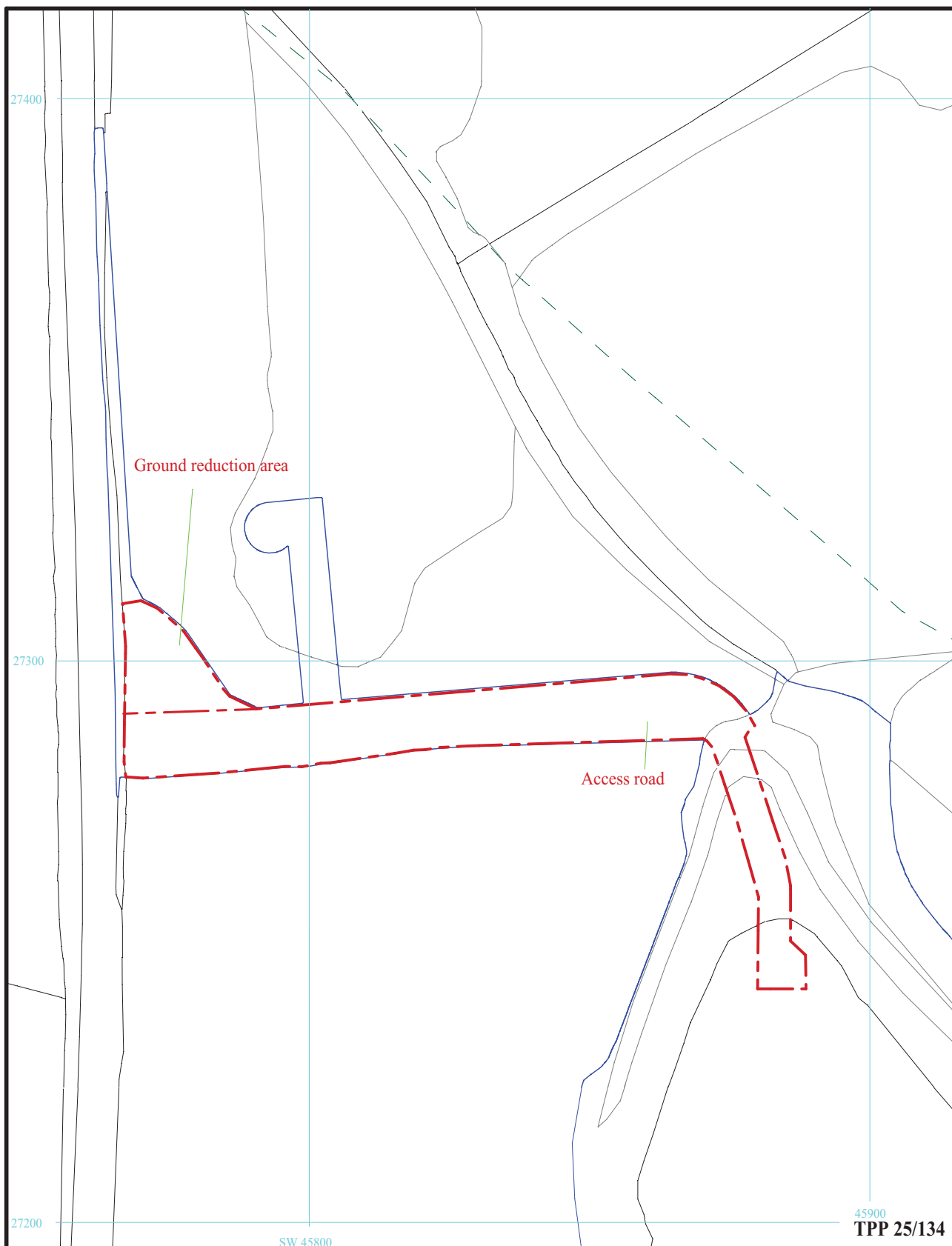
**Land at Trungle Parc, Paul,
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Figure 1. Location of site within Paul and Cornwall.

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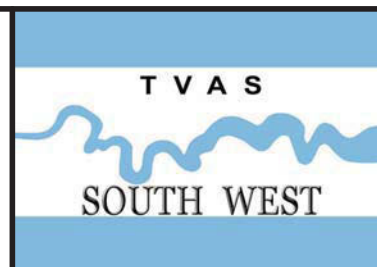




**Land at Trungle Parc, Paul,
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Figure 3. Detailed location of area monitored (red)
under the archaeological watching brief.

0 50m



Access road

E

W

Disturbed topsoil

Mid yellowish-brown stone made ground

Dark brownish-grey gravel made ground

Ground reduction area

S

N

Topsoil

Subsoil

TPP 25/134

**Land at Trungle Parc, Paul,
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Figure 4. Representative sections.

0 1m

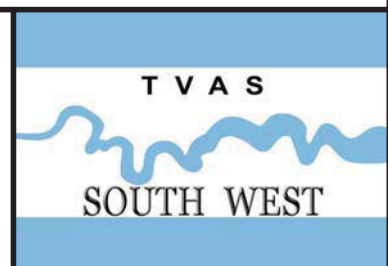




Plate 1. General shot of access road, looking north-east.
Scales: 2m and 1m.



Plate 2. Section of access road, looking south.
Scales: 2m and 1m.

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**Land at Trungle Parc, Paul,
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Plates 1 and 2.**





Plate 3. Working shot of ground reduction area, looking south.



Plate 4. Shot of ground reduction area, looking north.
Scales: 2m and 1m.

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**Land at Trungle Parc, Paul,
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Plates 3 and 4.**

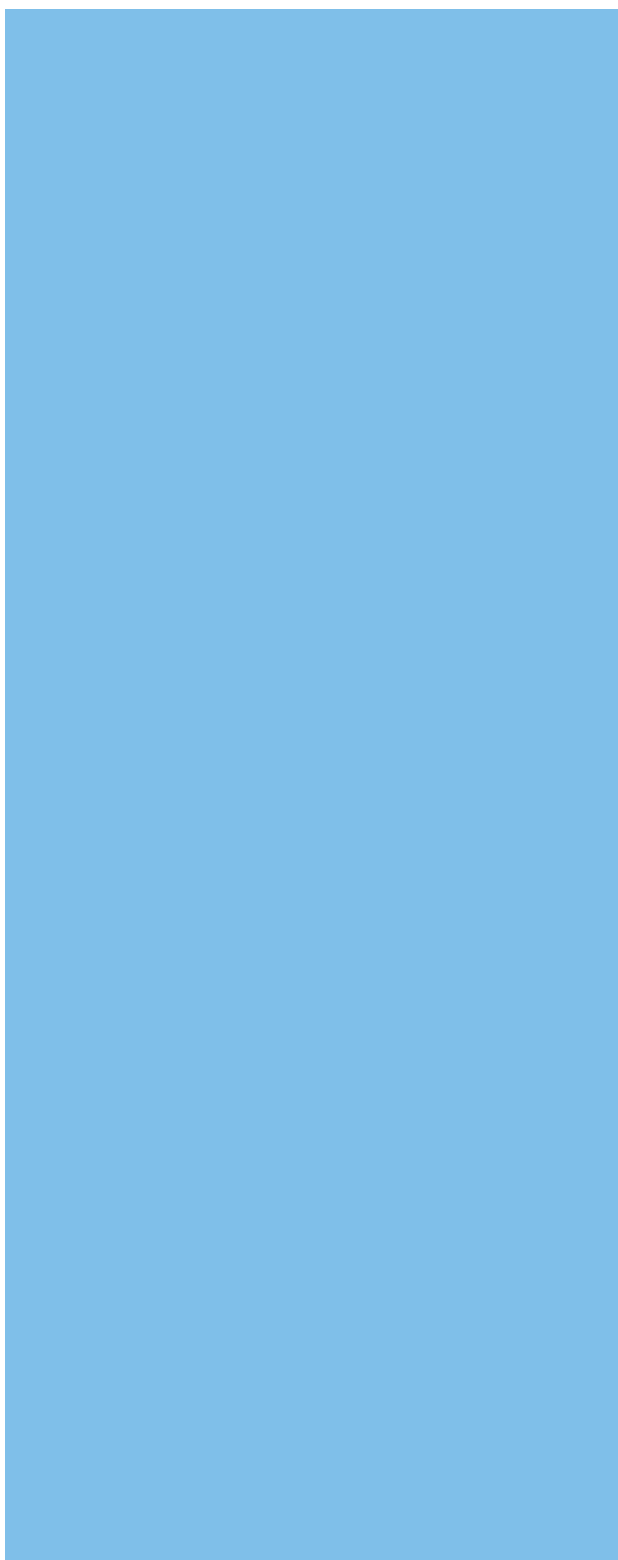
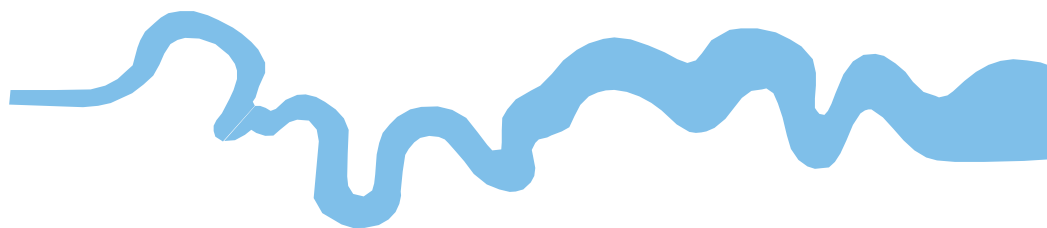


TIME CHART

Calendar Years

Modern _____	AD 1901
Victorian _____	AD 1837
Post Medieval _____	AD 1500
Medieval _____	AD 1066
Saxon _____	AD 410
Roman _____	AD 43
	AD 0 BC
Iron Age _____	750 BC
Bronze Age: Late _____	1300 BC
Bronze Age: Middle _____	1700 BC
Bronze Age: Early _____	2100 BC
Neolithic: Late	3300 BC
Neolithic: Early	4300 BC
Mesolithic: Late	6000 BC
Mesolithic: Early	10000 BC
Palaeolithic: Upper	30000 BC
Palaeolithic: Middle	70000 BC
Palaeolithic: Lower	2,000,000 BC





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