

LAND AT OAKFORD VILLAS NORTH MOLTON DEVON

Results of an Archaeological Evaluation



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Land at Oakford Villas, North Molton, Devon

Results an Archaeological Evaluation

For

Shaun Watts of PWH Surveyors Ltd. (The Agent)

On behalf of

Mr John Fanthorpe (The Client)

By



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Summary

South West Archaeology Ltd. undertook an archaeological evaluation on land at Oakford Villas, North Molton, Devon in March 2014. This entailed the excavation of three 50m trenches that spanned the site.

The archaeological evaluation revealed a series of post-medieval ditches that corresponded to a boundary present on the 1840's Tithe map and absent from the cartographic record by 1889. And a parallel series of linear features including one ditch proper that would roughly evenly divide the field into a series of strip fields enclosed in the post-medieval period. Slag from medieval and post-medieval metal working that utilized local mines was also found in the main post-medieval ditch and within the topsoil. No evidence of prehistoric deposits or features associated with standing stones west of the site were encountered.

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John Fanthorpe
 Stephen Reed (DCHET)
 The Staff of the Devon Record Office, Exeter

Introduction

Location: Land at Oakford Villas

Parish: North Molton

County: Devon

NGR: SS 73386 29702

1.1 Project Background

This report presents the results of an archaeological evaluation carried out by South West Archaeology Ltd. (SWARCH) on land at Oakford Villas, North Molton, Devon (Figure 1). The work was commissioned by Shaun Watts of PWH Surveyors Ltd. (the Agent) on behalf of Mr John Fanthorpe (The Client) in order to identify any archaeological features or deposits that might be affected by the proposed construction of three light industrial units.

1.2 Topographical and Geological Background

North Molton is a village on the River Mole in North Devon. The town lies roughly half way between Barnstaple and Tiverton just north of the A361 North Devon Link Road in rolling countryside on the southern fringe of Exmoor. The site specifically sits at a height of about 183m (AOD) and is located at the west end of North Molton in the south-west corner of the Oakford residential estate. The residential estate abuts the sites north and eastern boundaries; Fore Street runs along its south boundary and about four metres lower and open fields meet its west boundary (see Figure 1). The land of the site slopes down to the south and south-west from the north and north-east corner with a slight ridge running north-south in its western half and slightly lower ground on its western side.

The underlying bedrock is the Upcott Slates Formation of sedimentary slate (slatey mud- and siltstone), which formed in the Devonian Period (the late Palaeozoic) (BGS Viewer 2013). The soils of this area are typically the well drained fine loamy- and fine silty soils of the Denbigh 1 Association (Soil Survey of England and Wales 1983).

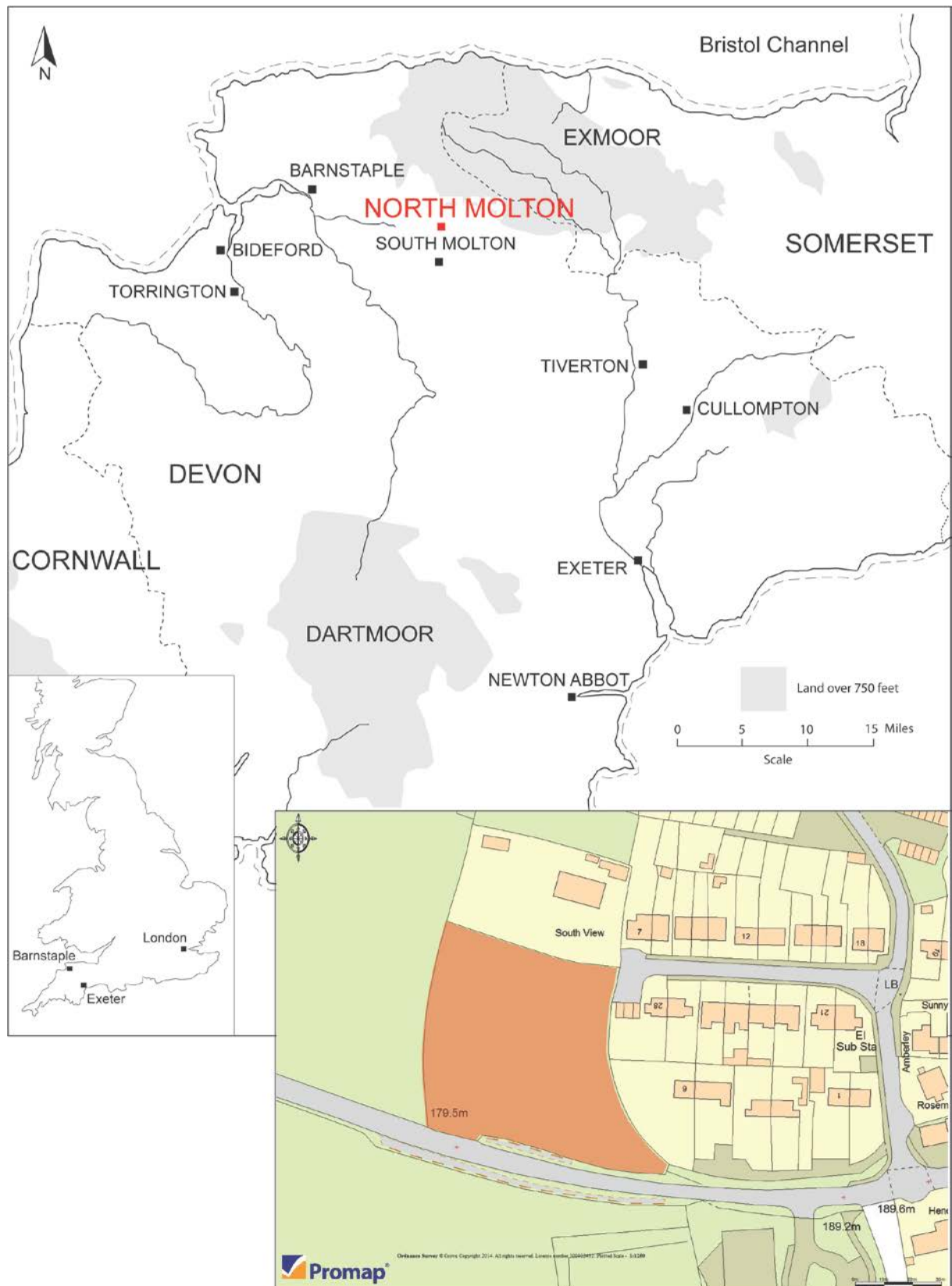
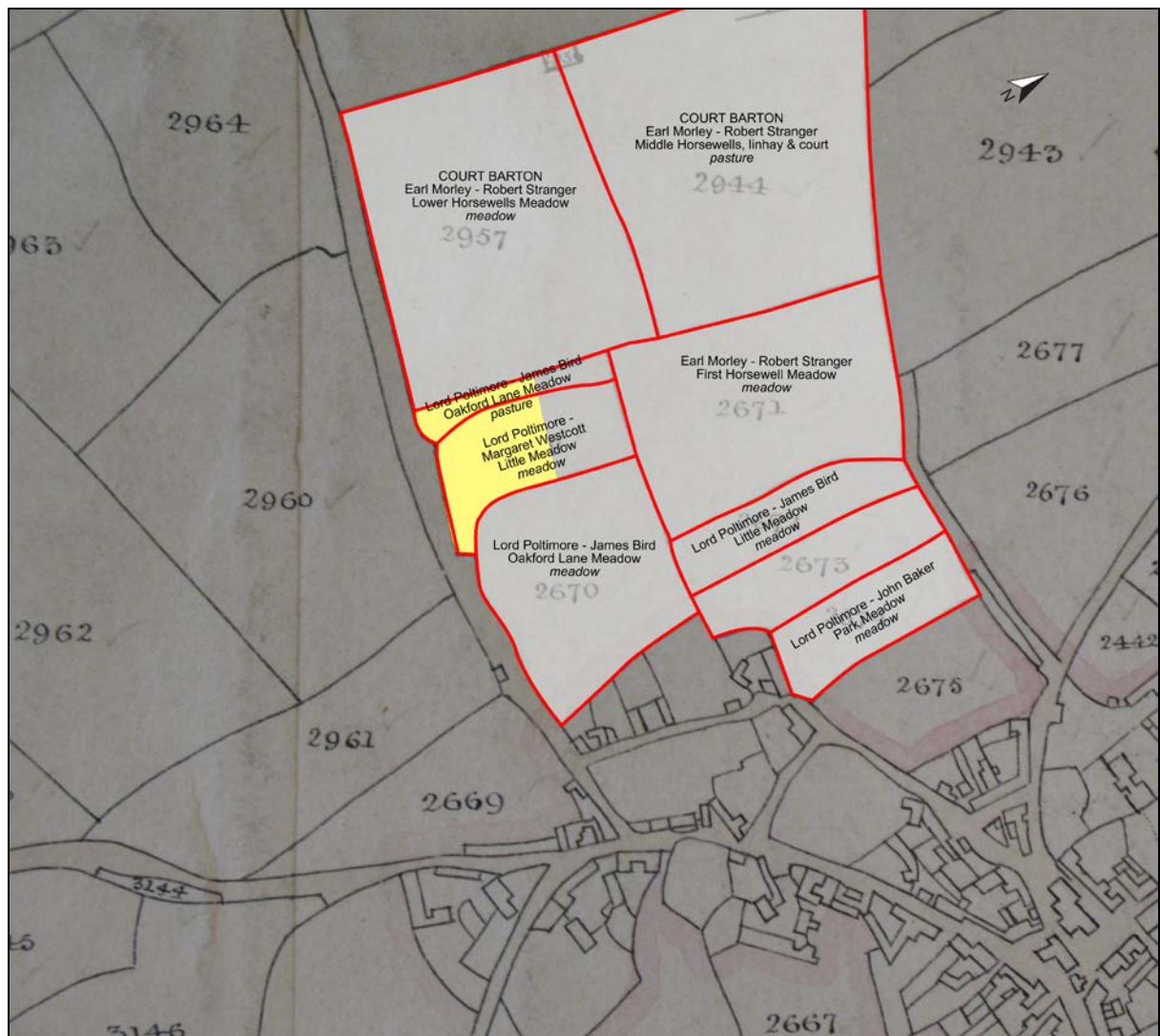


Figure 1: Site location (the site is shaded in red).

1.3 Historical Background

North Molton was recorded in Domesday as having four iron workers and there were mines recorded in the 16th century with copper mines recorded in the 19th century that produced a small amount of gold, although not sufficient amounts for commercial extraction. In the later 19th century mines on the River Mole and in North Molton were producing iron, copper, lead and manganese with a tramway running the four miles between Florence mine and South Molton train station by 1874. These mines were mostly closed between 1877 and 1885. Until the 18th century the village was also an important centre of the woollen industry.

North Molton was a manor within the royal demesne until it was granted to the la Zouche family by King John. In 1270 it was granted a licence to hold a weekly market and an annual fair on All Saints' Day. The manor passed to the St Maur family, then to the Bampfylde family, in the 15th century and to the Parker family, later Earls of Morely, in 1550, who held the manor into the 19th century. The Manor was then held by Lord Poltimore and sold off in part to tenants during the 20th century. It remains an active rural community and commuter settlement for people working across North Devon. The Tithe map below (Figure 2) shows the land owner, tenants and field use of the plots surrounding the site and the presence of a curved east-west boundary across the site extant in the 1840's. By 1889 this boundary is absent from the cartographic record.



1.4 Archaeological Background

The proposed development lies in an area of archaeological potential in a landscape where prehistoric activity is demonstrated by the survival of three standing stones to the west that are recorded on the Historic Environment Record (HER No. MDV7664, MDV7665, MDV7666). Archaeological deposits associated with the known prehistoric activity in the area may be present within the proposed development site. A known Medieval farmstead, recorded in 1332, at Oakford (HER No. MDV15556) and built upon in the 17th century lies directly to the west of the site and may be the source of the Medieval and later field systems present in the existing boundaries. Groundworks associated with the development may have the potential to expose and destroy archaeological or artefactual material associated with the known prehistoric and medieval activity in the area.

1.5 Methodology

The schedule of work regarding the archaeological evaluation was conducted in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) devised in consultation with Stephen Reed of the Devon County Historic Environment Team (DCHET) (see Appendix 1).

The archaeological evaluation took place on the 31st of March 2014. Three evaluation trenches, each 1.5m wide by c.50m in length, were excavated to the depth of the *in situ* weathered natural using a toothless grading bucket under careful archaeological supervision. Exposed archaeological deposits were then excavated by hand and recorded in accordance with the WSI and IfA guidelines. These trenches formed a “Z” shape that traversed the site with the two parallel-horizontal trenches (Trenches 1 and 3) at the south and north ends of the site and the diagonal (Trench 2) running north-east by south-west between them (Figure 3).

2.0 Archaeological Evaluation

Three archaeological evaluation trenches were excavated in accordance with the WSI and as described in the methodology above. Significant archaeological remains from the site included seven ditches aligned roughly north-south across the site in all three trenches. Four of these correspond to a known post-medieval field boundary evident in the cartographic record. Three others correspond to a parallel set of ditches c.15m east of the historic boundary. The historic boundary produced dateable post-medieval finds. The parallel ditches produced probable late- and post-medieval ceramic building material (CBM) (see Appendix 2 for details of all contexts).

2.1 Trench 1

<i>Trench 1: 1.5×49.25m, aligned NW-SE</i>		
<i>Stratigraphy</i>		
<i>Context</i>	<i>Thickness/Depth</i>	<i>Description</i>
(100)	0.29m	Topsoil; dark grey-brown, friable clay-silt.
(101)	0.21m	Subsoil; dark-mid yellow-brown, friable clay-silt with occasional medium sub-angular stones.
(102)	below 0.42m at west end	Natural; light brownish-yellow and yellowish-red shillet and clay
	below 0.52m at east end	

2.1.1 Description

The topsoil and subsoil from Trench 1 produced medieval to modern pottery fragments and clay pipe. At the north-west end of the trench the natural was cut by Ditch [105], a linear feature (1.10m wide, 0.60m deep) aligned north-south, it had very steep sides, stepped near to the base with sharp breaks of slope and a flat base. It contained two fills; (106) and (107), upper and lower respectively. Fill (106) was a mid yellow-brown, friable-soft clay-silt with moderate small-medium shillet fragments and very occasional charcoal flecks. It produced a piece of slag. Fill (107) was a light yellow-grey brown, friable-soft clay-silt with frequent small shillet fragments. This Ditch was cut on its west side by Ditch [103] and its east side by Ditch [108], both of which ran parallel to Ditch [105]. Ditch [103], a linear feature (1m wide, 0.20m deep) that had a gentle-moderate slope with a concave break of slope and flat base. It contained a single fill, (104), a dark grey-brown, friable clay-silt with occasional medium-large shillet stones and very occasional charcoal flecks and slate fragments. It produced medieval and post-medieval pottery, CBM and Fe fragments. Ditch [108], a linear feature (0.48m wide, 0.06+m deep) that had gentle sides and a flat base. It contained a single fill, (109), a mid yellow-brown, friable clay-silt with occasional small shillet fragments. One metre east of Ditch [108] was the parallel Ditch [110], a linear feature (0.68m wide, 0.09m deep) with moderate-gentle sides and a slightly concave base. It contained a single fill, (111), a mid yellow-grey brown, friable clay-silt with occasional medium sub-angular stones. c.15m east of Ditch [110] were three parallel ditches, [112], [114] and [116], from west to east each one metre apart, aligned north-south and parallel with Ditch [105]. Ditch [112], a linear feature (0.65m wide, 0.05m deep) that had gentle sides and a flat, irregular root disturbed base. It contained a single fill (113), similar to fill (109). Ditch [114], a linear feature (0.68m wide, 0.24m deep) that had moderately steep sides with a slight concave break of slope and base. It contained a single fill, (115), a light-mid yellow-brown, friable clay-silt with moderate shillet fragments and stones and occasional charcoal flecks. Ditch [116], a linear feature (0.93m wide, 0.08m deep) that had gentle sides and a flat, irregular root disturbed base. It contained a single fill, (117), similar to fill (109). A seemingly root disturbed patch of natural also occurred at the east end of the trench.



Figure 3: Ditch [108], viewed from north (1m scale).



Figure 4: Ditch [110], viewed from south (1m scale).



Figure 5: Ditches [103], [105], viewed from north (1m scale).



Figure 6: Ditch [116], viewed from south (1m scale).



Figure 7: Ditch [112], viewed from south (1m scale).



Figure 8: Ditch [114], viewed from south (1m scale).



Figure 9: Sample section, west end of Trench 1, viewed from north (1m scale).



Figure 10: Sample section, east end of Trench 1 viewed from north (1m scale).

2.2 Trench 2

<i>Trench 2: 1.5×49.15m, aligned NE-SW</i>		
<i>Stratigraphy</i>		
<i>Context</i>	<i>Thickness/Depth</i>	<i>Description</i>
(200)	0.26m	As (100).
(201)	0.27m	As (101).
(202)	below 0.53m	As (102).

2.2.1 Description

Trench 2 contained the same linear ditch features as Trench 1 of which three were excavated. At its west end were plough-scars and the historic field boundary represented in Trench 1 by Ditches [103], [105] and [108] and the parallel eastern ditch associated with the same boundary [110]. In the eastern half of the trench were Ditches [203], [205] and [207] from west to east,

which equate to Ditches [112], [114] and [116] in Trench 1 respectively. Ditch [203], a linear feature (0.72m wide, 0.12m deep) that had irregular sides and base from severe root disturbance. It contained a single fill, (204), similar to (109) with disturbed natural shillet fragments. Ditch [205], a linear feature (0.75m wide, 0.20m deep) that had moderate sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill, (206), the same as (115), but that produced CBM fragments. Ditch [207], a linear feature (0.60m wide, 0.13m deep) that had a steep west slope and gentle east slope with a flat-concave base (slightly irregular). It contained a single fill, (208), the same as (204). A root disturbed patch of natural trending north-south also occurred at the east end of the trench.



Figure 11: Ditch [207], viewed from south (1m scale).



Figure 12: Ditch [205], viewed from south (1m scale).



Figure 13: Ditches [203], [205], [207], viewed from east (1m scale).

2.3 Trench 3

<i>Trench 3: 1.5×49m, aligned NW-SE</i>		
<i>Stratigraphy</i>		
<i>Context</i>	<i>Thickness/Depth</i>	<i>Description</i>
(200)	0.25m	As (100).
(201)	0.22-0.30m	As (101).
(202)	below 0.46m at west end	As (102).
	below 0.56m at east end	

2.3.1 Description

Trench 3 contained the same historical linear ditch features as Trenches 1 and 2, Ditches [103]-[110], from which bone and pottery were found in its western component (equating to Fill (104)). At its east end was Ditch [303], a linear feature (0.67m wide, 0.24m deep) with moderate slopes and a concave base. It contained a single fill, (304), the same as (115). A root disturbed patch of natural also occurred about five metres east of this feature.



Figure 14: Ditch [303], viewed from north (1m scale).

2.4 Finds

Topsoil and subsoil finds included medieval, post-medieval and modern finds. Finds from sealed contexts included; from Fill (104), ×4 (9g) post-medieval North Devon Gravel Tempered ware, ×1 (9g) post-medieval Gravel Free ware, ×1 (18g) 15th century North Devon Coarse ware, ×1 (2g) 17th century slip ware, ×1 (3g) Fe fragment, ×1 (33g) CBM fragment; Fill (106), ×1 (295g) smithying kiln base fragment of slag; and from Fill (206), ×1 (13g) a vitrified clay fragment and ×2 (1g) CBM fragments. These finds would suggest a medieval origin for the site boundaries and their survival into the post-medieval era of local mining. Although the cartographic record shows only the ditches associated with Ditch [105] were extant by 1840 and these were removed by 1889. All finds were recorded and a sample retained. The details of all finds can be seen in Appendix 3.

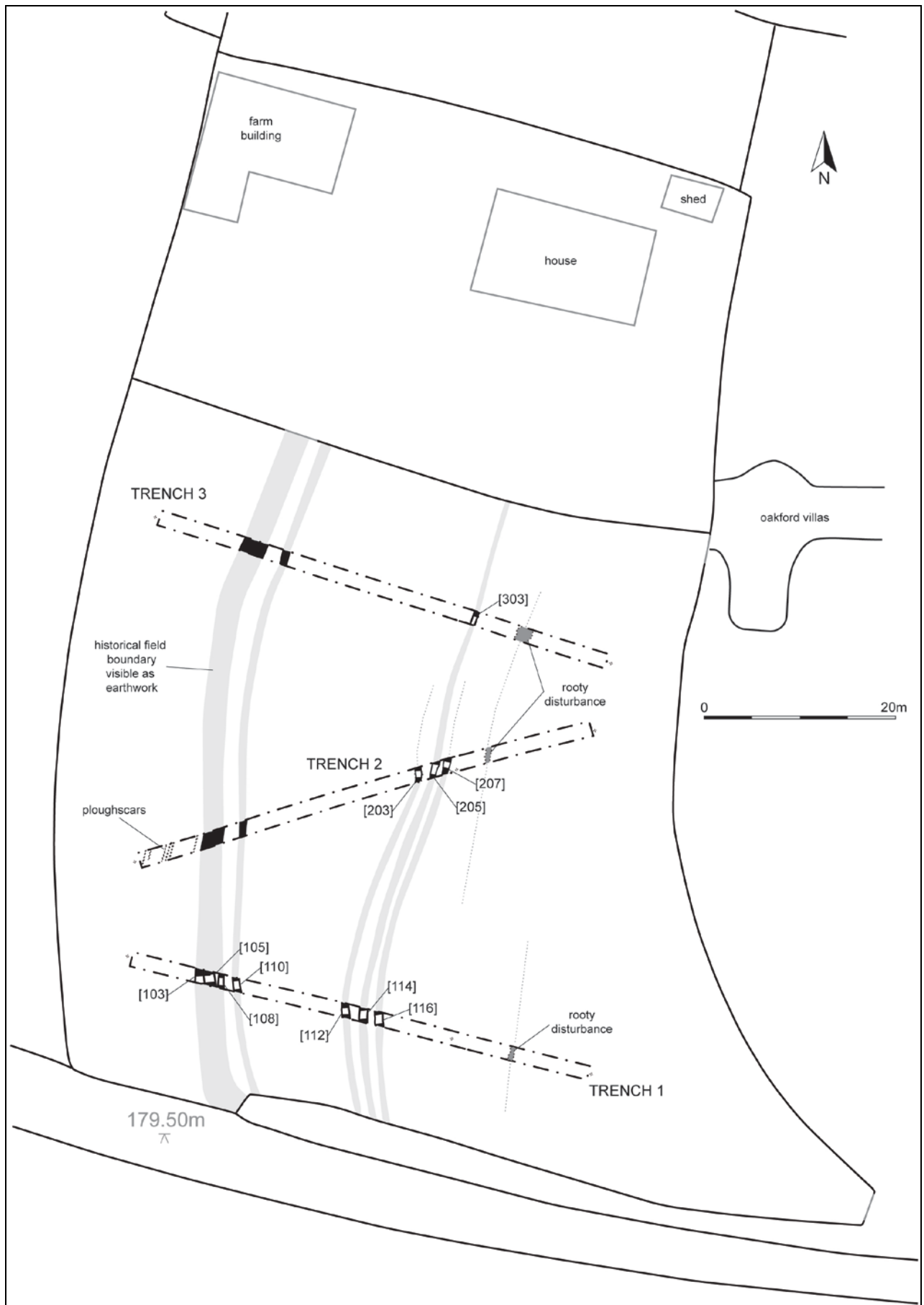


Figure 15: Trench locations, projected line of features in greyscale.

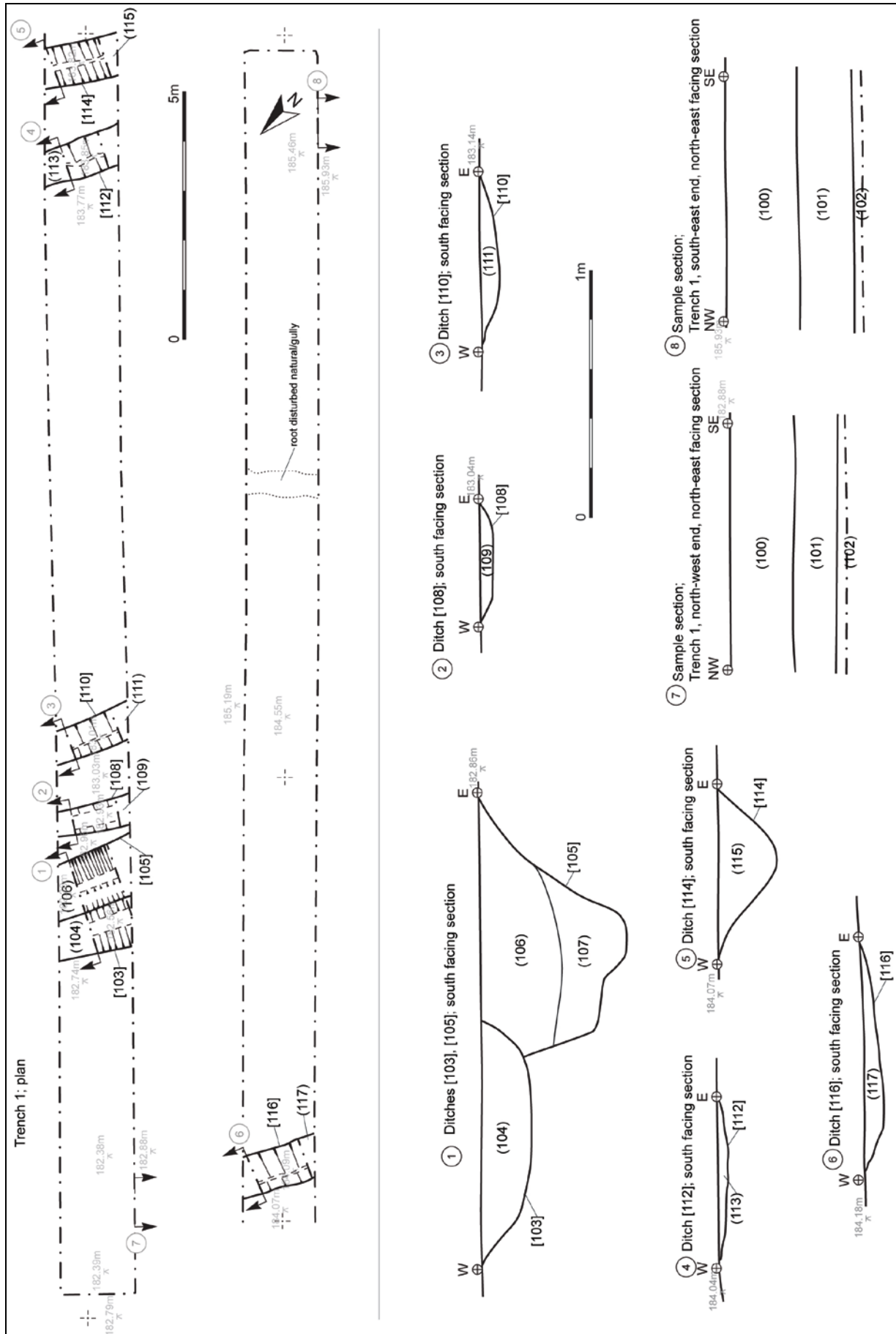


Figure 16: Plan and section drawings of Trench 1 (section numbers equate to greyscale numbers on plan).

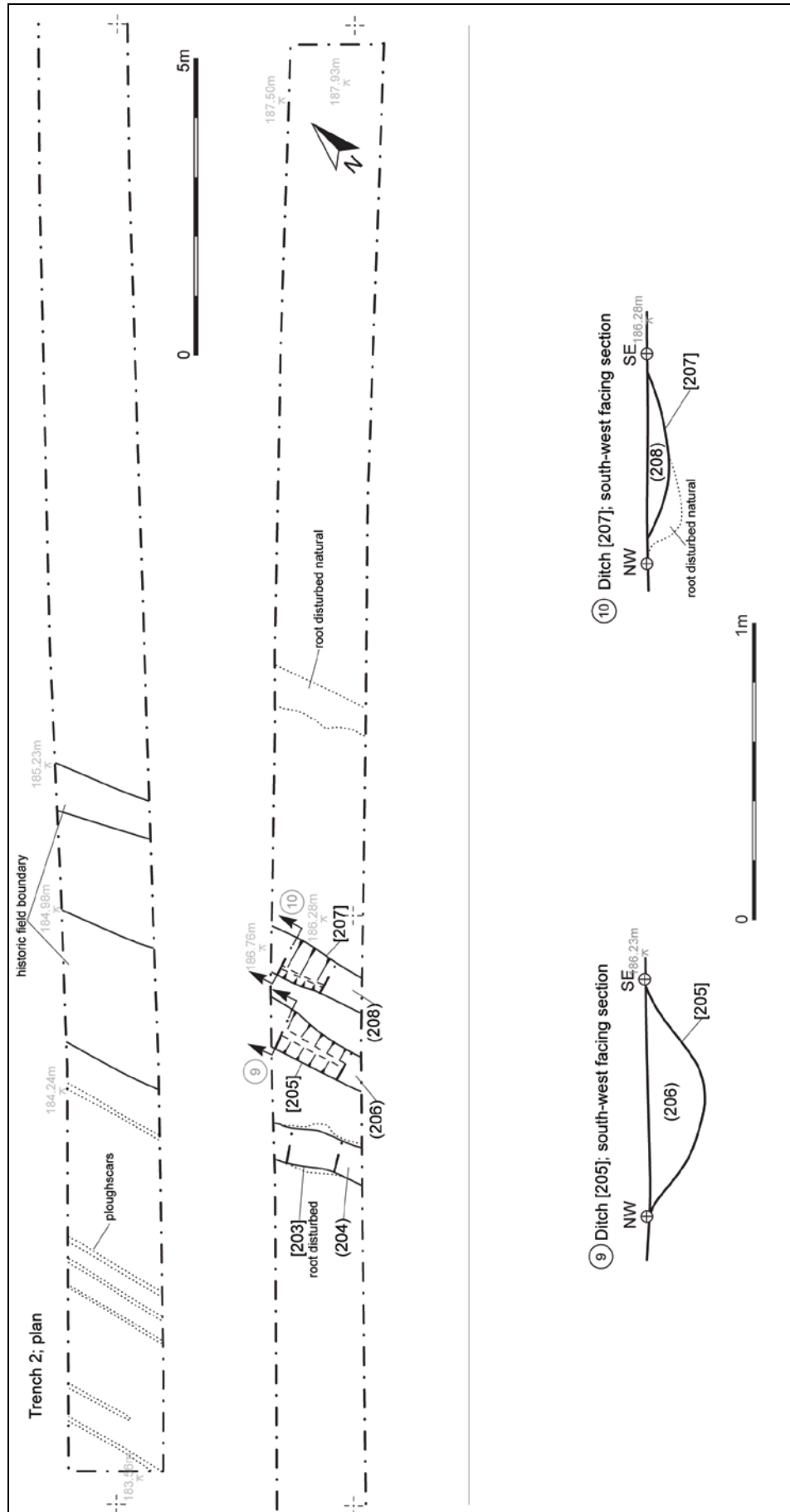


Figure 17: Plan and section drawings of Trench 2 (section numbers equate to greyscale numbers on plan).

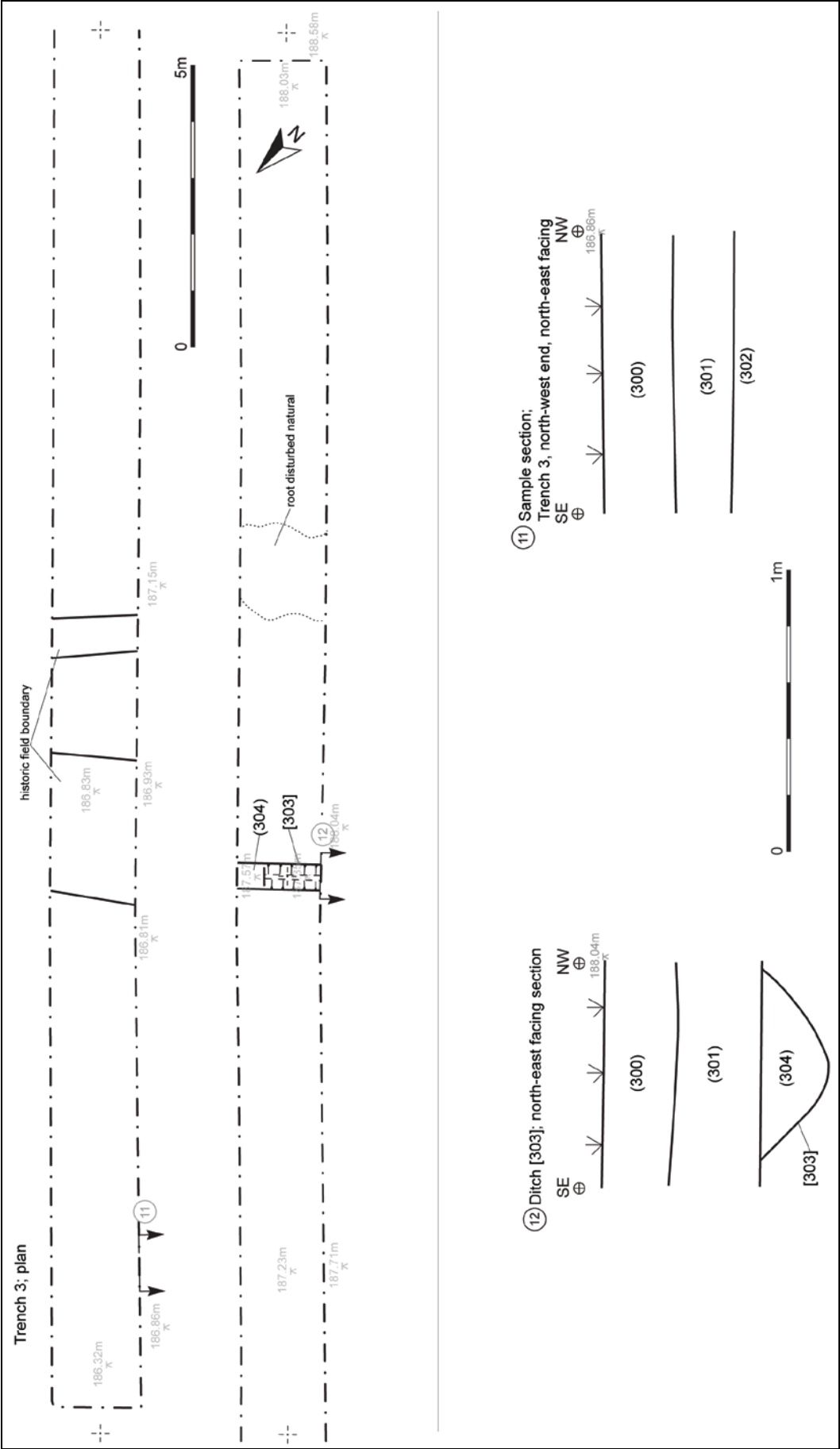


Figure 18: Plan and section drawings of Trench 3 (section numbers equate to greyscale numbers on plan).

3.0 Discussion and Conclusions

Cartographic evidence indicates the site underwent the enclosure of medieval strip fields in the late or post-medieval period with some boundaries extant and going out of use in the 19th century. The north-south aligned boundary present on the 1840's Tithe map that divided the current site was still present as an earthwork during the evaluation with the land west of the boundary being *c.*0.30m lower than that to the east, which exacerbated the difference in height above sea level caused by the natural slope of the land on either side of this ridge with the ground level falling by between *c.*0.40m and 1m.

The archaeological evaluation identified four linear features that corresponded to the historic boundary described above which was also identified in aerial photography. A substantial ditch that had been re-cut along both sides in to the 19th century. About 15m east- and parallel to this was another series of three linear ditches that also occurred. These comprised of a central ditch that ran across the site and was flanked by shallow irregular linear features on each side, which appear to represent flanking hedge lines to the central boundary. Although these hedge lines have created irregular and inconsistent linear features, they appear to not survive at the north end of the site. This is most likely due to their shallow nature and ploughing at some time across the field. Based on the plough scars west of the historic boundary in Trench 2 and the depth of subsoil; it is evident ploughing has occurred on site despite the 1840's Tithe assignation for the site as meadow and pasture. The central ditch of the eastern set of ditches produced CBM indicative of a medieval or post-medieval date for the region. It also produced vitrified clay which may be associated with smithying practices.

The linear trend of apparent root disturbed natural may represent ploughing or more likely some remnant of agricultural practice east of the historic boundary or even further strip field boundaries that do not survive.

The small amount of medieval pottery recovered across the site does indicate agricultural activity in the medieval period, as would be expected if the origins of the remnant and existing field system were medieval. The presence of slag (associated with smithying kiln furniture) across the site and within the ditches supports the theory that both series of ditches existed into the post-medieval period, while only the western (extant earthwork) series survived into the later 19th century before its removal prior to 1889.

There was no evidence of prehistoric activity associated with the three standing stones to the west of the site (HER No. MDV7664, MDV7665, MDV7666) encountered within the evaluation. The depth of ploughing and survival of post-medieval features would suggest that any shallow prehistoric features would not survive on site.

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Appendix 1

WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION FOR DESK BASED ASSESSMENT AND EVALUATION TRENCHING AT LAND AT OAKFORD VILLAS, NORTH MOLTON, DEVON

Location: Land at Oakford Villas
Parish: North Molton
County: Devon
NGR: SS 73386 29702
Planning Application no: 56551
Proposal: Construction of three light industrial units
HET ref: Arch/DM/ND/21312a
Date: 19th March 2014

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 This document forms a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) which has been produced by South West Archaeology Ltd (SWARCH) at the request of Shaun Watts of PWH Surveyors Ltd (the Agent) on behalf of Mr. John Fanthorpe (the Client). It sets out the methodology for desk based assessment and archaeological evaluation trenching to be undertaken during the above development and for related off site analysis and reporting. The WSI and the schedule of work it proposes were drawn up in consultation with Stephen Reed of the Devon County Historic Environment Team (DCHET) and forms part of a staged process of works. Following the completion of this initial stage of fieldwork investigation results will be supplied to the DCHET to enable them to determine the scope of any further archaeological work that may be required.

Should further mitigation be required, it would consist of a watching brief to strip, map and record the site or an area excavation. This would be done in consultation with the HET and according to the methodology outlined in section 4.2 of this WSI.

1.2 In accordance with paragraph 141 of the *National Planning Policy Framework* (2012), and then Local Development Framework Policy on archaeology, it is advised that any consent your Authority may be minded to issue should carry the condition as worded below based on model Condition 55 as set out in Appendix A of Circular 11/95, whereby:

No development shall take place until the applicant has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted by the applicant and approved by the Planning Authority.

The development shall be carried out at all times in strict accordance with the approved scheme, or such other details as may be subsequently agreed in writing by the District Planning Authority.

To ensure that an appropriate record is made of archaeological evidence that may be affected by the development

2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 The proposed development lies in an area of archaeological potential in a landscape where prehistoric activity is demonstrated by the survival of three standing stones to the west that are recorded on the Historic Environment Record. Archaeological deposits associated with the known prehistoric activity in the area may be present within the proposed development site. Groundworks associated with the construction of the new industrial units in this area have the potential to expose and destroy archaeological or artefactual material associated with the known prehistoric activity in the area.

3.0 AIMS

- 3.1.1 To assess the potential for the survival of below-ground archaeological deposits.
- 3.1.2 Produce a report containing the results of the desk-based assessment and evaluation trenching;
- 3.1.3 Provide a statement of the impact of the proposed development on the potential archaeological resource, with recommendations for those areas where further evaluation and/or mitigation strategies may be required.

4.0 METHOD

4.1 Desk-based appraisal:
 The programme of work shall include an element of desk-based research to place the development site into its historic and archaeological context. This work will consist of map regression based on the Ordnance Survey maps and the Tithe Map(s) and Apportionments. An examination will also be made of records held by the HER.
 The reporting requirements for the desk-based work will be confirmed in consultation with the HET. This desk-based work will be undertaken in advance of any fieldwork commencing. If a full report is prepared then this information will be presented as part of the final report along with the results of the fieldwork.

4.2 Evaluation Excavations:

A series of three evaluation trenches will be dug on site, covering at least 5% of the total area of the development site, as per the trench plan below (Fig. 1). The evaluation trenches will be opened by machine but thereafter undertaken by hand by the site archaeologist to the depth of *in situ* subsoil/weathered natural or archaeological deposits whichever is highest in the stratigraphic sequence. Should archaeological deposits be exposed they will be investigated by the site archaeologist.

4.2.1 The archaeological work will be carried out in accordance with the *Institute for Archaeologists Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation 1994 (revised 2001 & 2008)* and *Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief 1994 (revised 2001 & 2008)*.

4.2.2 Spoil will be examined for the recovery of artefacts.

- 4.2.3 All excavation of exposed archaeological features shall be carried out by hand, stratigraphically, and fully recorded by context to IfA guidelines. All features shall be recorded in plan and section at scales of 1:10, 1:20 or 1:50. All scale drawings shall be undertaken at a scale appropriate to the complexity of the deposit/feature and to allow accurate depiction and interpretation. An adequate photographic record of the excavation will be prepared. Where digital imagery is the sole photographic record, archivable prints will be prepared by a photographic laboratory.
- 4.2.4 If archaeological features are exposed, then *as a minimum*:
- i) small discrete features will be fully excavated;
 - ii) larger discrete features will be half-sectioned (50% excavated);
 - iii) long linear features will be sample excavated along their length, with investigative excavations distributed along the exposed length of any such feature, and to investigate terminals, junctions and relationships with other features.
 - iv) One long face of each trench will be cleaned by hand to allow site stratigraphy to be understood and for the identification of archaeological features.
- Should the above % excavation not yield sufficient information to allow the form and function of archaeological features/deposits to be determined full excavation of such features/deposits may be required. Additional excavation may also be required for the taking of palaeoenvironmental samples and recovery of artefacts. Any variation of the above will be undertaken in consultation with the HET.
- 4.2.5 Artefacts will be bagged and labelled on site. Unstratified post-1800 pottery may be discarded on site after a representative sample has been retained. Following post-excavation analysis and recording, further material may be discarded, subject to consultation with the appropriate specialists and the receiving Museum;
- 4.2.6 Should archaeological or palaeoenvironmental remains be exposed, the site archaeologist will investigate, record and sample such deposits.
- 4.2.7 The project will be organised so that specialist consultants who might be required to conserve or report on finds or advise or report on other aspects of the investigation (e.g. palaeoenvironmental analysis) can be called upon and undertake assessment and analysis of such deposits - if required. On-site sampling and post-excavation assessment and analysis will be undertaken in accordance with English Heritage's guidance in *Environmental Archaeology: a guide to the theory and practice of methods, from sampling and recovery to post-excavation* (2002).
- 4.2.8 Human remains will be left *in-situ*, covered and protected. Removal will only take place under appropriate Ministry of Justice and environmental health regulations. Such removal will be in compliance with the relevant primary legislation.
- 4.2.9 Any finds identified as treasure or potential treasure, including precious metals, groups of coins or prehistoric metalwork, will be dealt with according to the Treasure Act 1996 Code of Practice (2nd Revision) (Dept for Culture Media and Sport). Where removal cannot be effected on the same working day as the discovery, suitable security measures will be taken to protect the finds from theft.
- 4.2.10 In the event of particularly significant discoveries, the HET will be informed and a site meeting between the consultant, the HET and the client/applicant will be held to determine the appropriate response.
- 4.3 The Client will provide SWARCH with details of the location of existing services and of proposed groundworks within the site area, and of the proposed construction programme.
- 4.4 Health and Safety requirements will be observed at all times by any archaeological staff working on site, particularly when working with machinery. As a minimum: high-visibility jackets, safety helmets and protective footwear will be worn.
- 4.4.1 Appropriate PPE will be employed at all times.
- 4.4.2 The site archaeologist will undertake any site safety induction course provided by the Client.
- 4.4.3 If the depth of trenching exceeds 1.2 metres the trench sides will need to be shored or stepped to enable the archaeologist to examine and if appropriate record the section of the trench. The provision of such measures will be the responsibility of the client.
- 4.5 If significant or complex archaeological remains are uncovered, SWARCH will liaise with the client and DCHET to determine the most satisfactory way to proceed.
- 5.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL RECORDING**
- 5.1 This will be based on IfA guidelines and those advised by DCHET and will consist of:
- 5.1.1 Standardised single context recording sheets, survey drawings in plan, section and profile at 1:10, 1:20, 1: 50 and 1:100 as appropriate and digital photography.
 - 5.1.2 Survey and location of features.
 - 5.1.3 Labelling and bagging of finds on site, post-1800 unstratified pottery may be discarded on site after a representative sample has been retained.
- Any variation of the above shall be agreed in consultation with the DCHET.
- 5.2 A photographic record of the excavation will be prepared. This will include photographs illustrating the principal features and finds discovered, in detail and in context. The photographic record will also include working shots to illustrate more generally the nature of the archaeological operation mounted. All photographs of archaeological detail will feature an appropriately-sized scale. The photographic record for the excavations will be made using digital techniques only.
- 5.3 The drawn and written record will be held on an appropriately archivable medium in accordance with the current conditions of deposit of the Museum of Barnstaple and North Devon, Barnstaple (MBND).
- 5.4 Should suitable deposits be exposed (e.g. palaeoenvironmental), then scientific assessment/ analysis/dating techniques will be applied to further understand their nature/date and to establish appropriate sampling procedures. The project will be organised so that specialist consultants who might be required to conserve or report on other aspects of the investigations can be called upon. Should deposits be exposed that contain palaeoenvironmental or datable elements appropriate sampling and post-excavation analysis strategies will be initiated. On-site sampling and post-excavation assessment and analysis will be undertaken in accordance with English Heritage's guidance in *Environmental Archaeology: a guide to the*

theory and practice of methods, from sampling and recovery to post-excavation 2002 and if necessary with reference to and with advice from the English Heritage Regional Science Advisor.

6.0 REPORTING

6.1 If a report is produced it will include the following elements:

- 6.1.1 A report number, date and the OASIS record number;
- 6.1.2 A copy of this WSI;
- 6.1.3 A summary of the project's background;
- 6.1.4 A description and illustration of the site location;
- 6.1.5 A methodology of the works undertaken, and an evaluation of that methodology;
- 6.1.6 Plans and reports of all documentary and other research undertaken;
- 6.1.7 A summary of the project's results;
- 6.1.8 An interpretation of the results in the appropriate context;
- 6.1.9 A summary of the contents of the project archive and its location (including summary catalogues of finds and samples);
- 6.1.10 A location plan and overall site plan including the location of areas subject to archaeological recording;
- 6.1.11 Detailed plans of areas of the site in which archaeological features are recognised along with adequate OD spot height information. These will be at an appropriate scale to allow the nature of the features exposed to be shown and understood. Plans will show the site and features/deposits in relation to north. Archaeologically sterile areas will not be illustrated unless this can provide information on the development of the site stratigraphy or show palaeoenvironmental deposits that have influenced the site stratigraphy;
- 6.1.12 Section drawings of deposits and features, with OD heights, at scales appropriate to the stratigraphic detail to be shown and must show the orientation of the drawing in relation to north/south/east/west. Archaeologically sterile areas will not be illustrated unless they can provide information on the development of the site stratigraphy or show palaeoenvironmental deposits that have influenced the site stratigraphy;
- 6.1.13 A description of any remains and deposits identified including an interpretation of their character and significance;
- 6.1.14 Assessment and analysis, as appropriate, of significant artefacts, environmental and scientific samples;
- 6.1.15 Discussion of the archaeological deposits encountered and their context;
- 6.1.16 A consideration of the evidence within its wider context;
- 6.1.17 Site matrices where appropriate;
- 6.1.18 Photographs showing the general site layout and exposed significant features and deposits referred to in the text. All photographs will contain appropriate scales, the size of which will be noted in the illustration's caption;
- 6.1.19 A summary table and descriptive text showing the features, classes and numbers of artefacts recovered and soil profiles with interpretation;
- 6.1.20 Specialist assessment or analysis reports where undertaken.

6.2 DCHET will receive the report within three months of completion of fieldwork, dependant on the provision of specialist reports, radiocarbon dating results etc, the production of which may exceed this period. If a substantial delay is anticipated then an interim report will be produced and a revised submission date for the final report agreed with the HET.

6.3 Should the development proceed in a staged manner, with each stage requiring archaeological fieldwork, and where a period of more than three months between each stage is anticipated or occurs, then SWARCH will prepare an interim illustrated summary report at the end of each stage. The report will set out the results of that phase of archaeological works, including the results of any specialist assessment or analysis undertaken. The report will be produced within three months of completion of each phase of fieldwork. At the completion of the final stage of the fieldwork an overarching report setting out the results of all stages of work will be prepared. HET would normally expect to receive the report within three months of completion of fieldwork - dependent upon the provision of specialist reports, radiocarbon dating results etc the production of which may exceed this period. If a substantial delay is anticipated then the HET will be informed of this, an interim report will be produced within three months of the completion of the final stage of fieldwork, and a revised date for the production of the full report agreed between the HET and SWARCH.

6.4 Where excavations reveal significant archaeological remains with the potential to yield important information about the site and its environment, then a formal Post-Excavation Report and revised Written Scheme of Investigation may be required. This document may also fulfil the requirement for an interim report if a substantial publication delay is anticipated. This document will include the following elements:

- 6.4.1 A summary of the project and its background;
- 6.4.2 A plan showing the location of the site, and plans showing the location of archaeological features and artefactual or palaeoenvironmental deposits;
- 6.4.3 Research aims and objectives;
- 6.4.4 A method statement, outlining how these aims and objectives will be achieved;
- 6.4.5 Detail the tasks to be undertaken;
- 6.4.6 The results of specialist assessment reports;
- 6.4.7 The project team;
- 6.4.8 The overall timetable, including monitoring points with HET;
- 6.4.9 Detail of the journal in which the material will be published.

HET will receive a draft of this report within three months of the completion of the fieldwork, specialist reports allowing.

6.5 Where the exposure of archaeological, artefactual or palaeoenvironmental remains is limited or of little significance reporting will follow on directly from the field work - see 6.3 above. Should particularly significant archaeological or palaeoenvironmental remains, finds and/or deposits be encountered, then these, because of their importance, are likely to merit wider publication in line with government planning guidance in paragraph 141 of the *National Planning Policy Framework* (2012). If such remains are encountered, the publication requirements – including any further analysis that may be necessary – will be confirmed with the HET.

- 6.6 Post Excavation Assessment, Analysis and Project Designs for further work:
Where excavations reveal archaeological, artefactual or palaeoenvironmental deposits that have potential for yielding important information about the site or its environs, through specialist assessment and analysis, this assessment work will be undertaken and reported on in a separate formal Post-Excavation Assessment and Project Design. This document may also fulfil the role of an interim report if a substantial publication delay is expected.
This document will be produced within three months of completion of the fieldwork - specialist input allowing - and agreed with the HET.
- 6.7 A copy of the report detailing the results of these investigations will be submitted to the OASIS (*Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations*) database under reference southwes1-175237 within 3 months of completion of fieldwork.
- 7.0 MONITORING**
- 7.1.1 SWARCH shall agree monitoring arrangements with the HET and give two weeks' notice, unless a shorter period is agreed, of commencement of the fieldwork. Details will be agreed of any monitoring points where decisions on options within the programme are to be made.
- 7.1.2 Monitoring will continue until the deposition of the site archive and finds, and the satisfactory completion of an OASIS report - see 8.0 below.
- 7.1.3 SWARCH will notify the HET upon completion of the fieldwork stage of these works.
- 8.0 ARCHIVE**
- 8.1 On completion of the project an ordered and integrated site archive will be prepared in accordance with the Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE) (<http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/publications/morphe-project-managers-guide/>).
The digital element of the archive will be transferred to the Archaeology Data Service (ADS) for long-term curation. A reference number will be obtained from the Museum of Barnstaple and North Devon (MBND), with regard deposition of the material (finds) element of any archive created by these works.
- 8.2 The archive will consist of two elements, the digital archive and the material archive.
- 8.2.1 The digital archive, including digital copies of all relevant written and drawn records and photographs, will be deposited with the Archaeology Data Service (ADS) and in compliance with their standards and requirements.
- 8.2.2 The material archive, comprising the retained artefacts/samples and the hardcopy paper record (if requested) will be cleaned (or otherwise treated), ordered, recorded, packed and boxed in accordance with the deposition standards of the MBND, and in a timely fashion.
- 8.2.3 If the MBND wishes to retain the hardcopy paper archive, it will be deposited with the rest of the material archive under the same accession number. Should the MBND decline the hardcopy paper archive, that archive will be offered to other appropriate museum bodies or the HET. If a suitable third party cannot be found, the hardcopy paper archive will be retained by SWARCH for 3 years and then destroyed.
- 8.3 SWARCH will, on behalf of the MBND, obtain a written agreement from the landowner to transfer title to all items in the material archive to the receiving museum.
- 8.4 If ownership of all or any of the finds is to remain with the landowner, provision and agreement must be made for the time-limited retention of the material and its full analysis and recording, by appropriate specialists.
- 8.5 SWARCH will notify the HET upon the completion of:
i) deposition of the digital archive with the ADS, and
ii) deposition of the material (finds) archive with the museum.
- 8.6 The condition placed upon this development will not be regarded as discharged until the report has been produced and submitted to the HET and the LPA, the site archive deposited and the OASIS form completed.
- 8.7 There will not be a requirement to prepare an archive for fieldwork projects that do not expose deposits of archaeological interest and yield little or no artefactual material. The results of these projects will be held by the HER in the form of the report submitted by SWARCH and the creation of an OASIS entry and uploading of the report. This process would be agreed with the HET and completed prior to the condition being discharged.
- 8.8 The archive will be completed within 3 months of the completion of the final report.
- 9.0 CONFLICT WITH OTHER CONDITIONS AND STATUTORY PROTECTED SPECIES**
- Even where groundworks are being undertaken under the direct control and supervision of SWARCH personnel, it remains the responsibility of the Client - in consultation with SWARCH, the applicant or agent - to ensure that the required archaeological works do not conflict with any other conditions that have been imposed upon the consent granted and should also consider any biodiversity issues as covered by the NERC Act 2006. In particular, such conflicts may arise where archaeological investigations/excavations have the potential to have an impact upon protected species and/or natural habitats e.g. SSSIs, National Nature Reserves, Special Protection Areas, Special Areas of Conservation, Ramsar sites, County Wildlife Sites etc.
- 10.0 PERSONNEL & MONITORING**
- 10.1 The project will be managed by Colin Humphreys; the archaeological monitoring and building recording will be undertaken by SWARCH personnel with appropriate expertise and experience. Where necessary, appropriate specialist advice will be sought (see list of consultant specialists in Appendix 1 below).

Natalie Boyd

South West Archaeology

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email: mail@swarch.net

Appendix 1 – List of specialists

Building recording

Richard Parker 11 Toronto Road, St James, Exeter. EX4 6LE. Tel: 07763 248241

Conservation

Alison Hopper Bishop the Royal Albert Memorial Museum Conservation service a.hopperbishop@exeter.gov.uk
 Richard and Helena Jaeschke 2 Bydown Cottages, Swimbridge, Barnstaple EX32 0QD mrshjaeschke@email.msn.com
 Tel: 01271 830891

Curatorial

Thomas Cadbury Curator of Antiquities Royal Albert Memorial Museum, Bradninch Offices, Bradninch Place, Gandy Street, Exeter EX4 3LS Tel: 01392 665356

Bone

Human Professor Chris Knusel University of Exeter Tel: 01392 722491 c.j.knusel@ex.ac.uk
 Animal Wendy Howard Department of Archaeology, Laver Building, University of Exeter, North Park Road, Exeter EX4 4QE
w.j.howard@exeter.ac.uk Tel: 01392 269330

Lithics

Martin Tingle Higher Brownston, Brownston, Modbury, Devon, PL21 OSQ martin@mtingle.freemove.co.uk

Palaeoenvironmental/Organic

Wood identification Dana Challinor Tel: 01869 810150 dana.challinor@tiscali.co.uk
 Plant macro-fossils Julie Jones juliedjones@blueyonder.co.uk
 Pollen analysis Ralph Fyfe Room 211, 8 Kirkby Place, Drake Circus, Plymouth, Devon, PL4 8AA

Pottery

Prehistoric Henrietta Quinell 39D Polsloe Road, Exeter EX1 2DN Tel: 01392 433214
 Roman Alex Croom, Keeper of Archaeology Tyne & Wear Archives & Museums, Arbeia Roman Fort and Museum, Street, South Shields, Tyne and Wear NE332BB Tel: (0191) 454 4093 alex.croom@twmuseums.org.uk
 Baring John Allen, 22, Rivermead Road Exeter EX2 4RL Tel: 01392 256154 john.p.allan@btinternet.com
 Medieval John Allen, 22, Rivermead Road Exeter EX2 4RL Tel: 01392 256154 john.p.allan@btinternet.com
 Post Medieval Graham Langman Exeter, EX1 2UF Tel: 01392 215900 email: su1429@eclipse.co.uk



Fig. 1 Plan of the proposed evaluation trenches.

Appendix 2

Context List

Context	Description		Relationships	Depth/Thickness	Spot Date
(100)	Topsoil	Dark grey-brown, friable clay-silt, finds = pottery, ceramic, slag	Overlaid (101); Same as (200)(300)	0.29m	C20-C21
(101)	Subsoil	Dark-mid yellow-brown, friable clay-silt with occasional medium sub-angular stones, finds = pottery, slag	Overlaid features; Overlain by (100); Same as (201)(301)	0.21m	C19-C20
(102)	Natural	Light brownish-yellow and yellowish-red shillet and clay	Cut by features; Overlain by (101); Same as (202)(302)	Below 0.42-0.52m	-
[103]	Cut of Ditch	Linear feature (1m wide), aligned north-south, gentle-moderate slope with a concave break of slope and flat base	Cut (106); Contained (104)	0.20m	Post-med
(104)	Fill of Ditch	Dark grey-brown, friable clay-silt with occasional medium-large shillet stones and very occasional charcoal flecks and slate fragments, finds = medieval and post-medieval pottery, CBM and Fe fragments	Fill of [103]; Overlain by (101)	0.20m	Post-med
[105]	Cut of Ditch	Linear feature (1.10m wide) aligned north-south, very steep sides, stepped near to the base with sharp breaks of slope and a flat base	Cut (102), contained (106)(107)	0.60m	Post-med
(106)	Fill of Ditch	Upper fill, mid yellow-brown, friable-soft clay-silt with moderate small-medium shillet fragments and very occasional charcoal flecks, finds = slag	Fill of [105]; Overlain by (101); Overlaid (107); Cut by [103]	0.33m	Post-med
(107)	Fill of Ditch	Lower fill, light yellow-grey brown, friable-soft clay-silt with frequent small shillet fragments	Fill of [105]; Overlain by (106)	0.27m	Post-med
[108]	Cut of Ditch	Linear feature (0.48m wide), aligned north-south, gentle sides and a flat base	Cut (102); Contained (109)	0.06m	-
(109)	Fill of Ditch	Mid yellow-brown, friable clay-silt with occasional small shillet fragments.	Fill of [108]; Overlain by (101)	0.06m	-
[110]	Cut of Ditch	Linear feature (0.68m wide), aligned north-south, moderate-gentle sides and a slightly concave base	Cut (102); Contained (111)	0.09m	-
(111)	Fill of Ditch	Mid yellow-grey brown, friable clay-silt with occasional medium sub-angular stones	Fill of [110]; Overlain by (101)	0.09m	-
[112]	Cut of Ditch	Feature (0.65m wide), aligned north-south, gentle sides and a flat, irregular root disturbed base	Cut (102); Contained (113)	0.05m	-
(113)	Fill of Ditch	Similar to Fill (109)	Fill of [112]; Overlain by (101)	0.05m	-
[114]	Cut of Ditch	Linear feature (0.68m wide), aligned north-south, moderately steep sides with a slight concave break of slope and base	Cut (102); Contained (115)	0.24m	-
(115)	Fill of Ditch	Light-mid yellow-brown, friable clay-silt with moderate shillet fragments and stones and occasional charcoal flecks	Fill of [114]; Overlain by (101)	0.24m	-
[116]	Cut of Ditch	Linear feature (0.93m wide), aligned north-south, gentle sides and a flat, irregular root disturbed base	Cut (102); Contained (117)	0.08m	-
(117)	Fill of Ditch	Similar to Fill (109)	Fill of [116]; Overlain by (101)	0.08m	-
(200)	Topsoil	Same as (100)	Overlaid (201); Same as (100)(300)	0.26m	C20-C21
(201)	Subsoil	Same as (101)	Overlaid features; Overlain by (200); Same as (101)(301)	0.27m	C19-C20
(202)	Natural	Same as (102)	Cut by features; Overlain by (201); Same as (102)(302)	below 0.53m	-
[203]	Cut of Ditch	Linear feature (0.72m wide, 0.12m deep), aligned NNE-SSW, had irregular sides and base from severe root disturbance	Cut (202); Contained (204)	0.12m	-
(204)	Fill of Ditch	Similar to (109) with disturbed natural shillet fragments	Fill of [203]; Overlain by (201)	0.12m	-
[205]	Cut of Ditch	Linear feature (0.75m wide), aligned NNE-SSW, moderate sides and a concave base	Cut (202); Contained (206)	0.20m	Post-med
(206)	Fill of Ditch	Same as (115), finds = slag, flecks of CBM	Fill of [205]; Overlain by (201)	0.20m	Post-med
[207]	Cut of Ditch	Linear feature (0.60m wide), aligned NNE-SSW, steep west slope and gentle east slope with a flat-concave base (slightly irregular)	Cut (202); Contained (208)	0.13m	-
(208)	Fill of Ditch	Same as (204)	Fill of [207]; Overlain by (201)	0.13m	-

(200)	Topsoil	Same as (100)	Overlaid (301); Same as (200)(100)	0.25m	C20-C21
(201)	Subsoil	Same as (101)	Overlaid features; Overlain by (300); Same as (201)(101)	0.22-0.30m	C19-C20
(202)	Natural	Same as (102)	Cut by features; Overlain by (301); Same as (202)(102)	below 0.46-0.56m	-
[203]	Cut of Ditch	Linear feature (0.67m wide), aligned NNE-SSW, moderate slopes and a concave base	Cut (302); Contained (304)	0.24m	-
(204)	Fill of Ditch	Same as (115)	Fill of [303]; Overlain by (301)	0.24m	-

Appendix 3

Concordance of Finds

		POTTERY			OTHER			DATE
Context	Notes	Sherds	Wgt. (g)	Notes	Frgs.	Wgt. (g)	Notes	
(100)		1	5	North Devon Medieval Coarse ware C13/C14	1	787	Modern concrete, curve so from above old pipe, above post-med ditch Trench 3. C20 (d)	C20
		3	21	White refined earthen ware (WRE) with blue transfer print (BTP). C19-C20 (d)	2	5	Clay pipe stem frags. (1 elliptical) (d)	
		1	5	Stone ware base frag. C19 (d)				
		4	72	North Devon post-medieval ware 2× gravel tempered	3	3	CBM frags (d)	
(101)		1	21	North Devon Gravel Tempered ware – post-medieval	2	291	Slag, ore-like & heavy (d)	C19-C20
		1	6	North Devon Medieval Coarse ware C13/C14				
		2	4	North Devon sandy ware C13/C14				
		1	15	WRE, BTP, plate rim (d)				
(104)		4	9	North Devon Gravel Tempered ware – post-medieval	1	3	Fe frag., corroded flat piece (d)	C19-C20
		1	9	North Devon Gravel Free ware – post-medieval				
		1	18	North Devon Medieval Coarse ware C14/C15	1	33	CBM, hand-made brick frag. (d)	
		1	2	C17 slip ware, closed form/jug				
(104) Trench 3	From top of feature	2	27	North Devon Gravel Tempered ware – post-medieval, 1× rim fragment	2	24	Animal bone (d)	C19-C20
(106)					1	295	Slag, ore-like, heavy, smithying bottom fragment?	C18-C19
(206)					2	1	CBM frags. (d)	C19
					1	13	Burnt CBM frag. pumis-slag-like on one side/vitrified clay	
		18	173					

* All finds labelled with a (d) were discarded.

Appendix 4

List of Jpegs on CD Rom to the rear of the report.

<i>Photo</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>From</i>	<i>Scale</i>
NMOV14(1)	Site shot, pre-excavation, showing post-medieval boundary as earthwork	NW	-
NMOV14(2)	Ditch [116]	S	1m
NMOV14(3)	Ditch [114]	S	1m
NMOV14(4)	Ditch [112]	S	1m
NMOV14(5)	Rooty smear <i>c.</i> 15m east of ditches [112]-[116]	E	1m
NMOV14(6)	Ditches [112], [114], [116]	E	1m
NMOV14(7)	Ditch [110]	S	1m
NMOV14(8)	Ditch [108]	S	1m
NMOV14(9)	As above	N	1m
NMOV14(10)	Ditches [103], [105]	S	1m
NMOV14(11)	As above	N	1m
NMOV14(12)	Ditches [103], [105], [108], [110]	E	1m
NMOV14(13)	Sample section 1 – west end Trench 1	N	1m
NMOV14(14)	Sample section 2 – east end Trench 1	N	1m
NMOV14(15)	Trench 1 post-excavation	W	1m
NMOV14(16)	Ditch [207]	S	1m
NMOV14(17)	Ditch [205]	S	1m
NMOV14(18)	Ditch [203]	S	1m
NMOV14(19)	Ditches [203], [205], [207]	E	1m
NMOV14(20)	Trench 2 post-excavation	NE	2m
NMOV14(21)	As above	SW	2m
NMOV14(22)	Historic/post-medieval field boundary in Trench 2	SW	2m
NMOV14(23)	As above	NE	2m
NMOV14(24)	Ditch [303] and Sample section near middle of Trench 3	N	1m
NMOV14(25)	Ditch [303]	S	1m
NMOV14(26)	Trench 3 post-excavation	E	2m
NMOV14(27)	As above	W	2m
NMOV14(28)	Site shot post-excavation	NW	-
NMOV14(29)	As above	W	-
NMOV14(30)	Historic/post-medieval field boundary in Trench 3	NE	-
NMOV14(31)	Rooty smears/disturbed natural <i>c.</i> 5m east of Ditch [303]	NE	-



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