

LAND at MARTIN FARM DREWSTEIGNTON DEVON

Results of an Archaeological Evaluation



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Land at Martin Farm, Drewsteignton, Devon

**Land at Martin Farm,
Drewsteignton,
Devon**

Results of an Archaeological Evaluation

For

Kirsty Gibson

of

Aardvark EM Limited (the Client)

By



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November 2014

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Summary

This report presents the results of an archaeological evaluation carried out by South West Archaeology Ltd. (SWARCH) on land at Martin Farm, Drewsteignton, Devon, as part of the pre-planning documentation for a proposed solar farm.

An earlier geophysical survey, which informed the evaluation process, identified various linear anomalies and possible enclosures. The evaluation revealed five ditches, a hollow-way, a large pit in a possible ditch terminus, a posthole and a tree-throw. These results validated the accuracy of the geophysical survey data.

According to the geophysics results the pit, which produced prehistoric pottery, is probably in the terminus of a linear feature. A shallow ditch near to this pit may be associated with it and only survive intermittently due to the depth of ploughing and shallow nature of the feature and topsoil.

Post-medieval field boundaries, which are associated with the existing field system and removed to increase the size of enclosures were identified by geophysical anomalies and corroborated by the evaluation. An additional ditch in Trench 2 and a hollow-way in Trench 9 may be indicative of an earlier field system, although most likely late-medieval or post-medieval based on their character and the suggestion of an alternative orientation of some boundaries in the 1803-5 OS draft map.

Other than the south-east corner of the north-west field (Field 2), it is unlikely that any significant archaeological remains or deposits will be encountered in the development of the fields subject to the archaeological evaluation.

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Julian Courtier for access

1.0 Introduction

Location:	Land at Martin Farm
Parish:	Drewsteignton
County:	Devon
NGR:	SX685930

1.1 Project Background

This report presents the results of an archaeological evaluation carried out by South West Archaeology Ltd. (SWARCH) at Martin Farm, Drewsteignton, Devon (Figure 1). The work was commissioned by Kirsty Gibson of Aardvark Environmental Matters (the Agent) in order to identify any archaeological features that might be affected by the construction of a proposed solar farm. This phase of archaeological works was informed by a previously conducted walkover survey and desk-based assessment (SWARCH Report No.140819) and an archaeological gradiometer survey (SWARCH Report No.141019).

1.2 Topographical and Geological Background

The proposed solar farm would be located within four fields to the north and north-west of Martin Farm (see Figure 1). These fields are located on the northern slopes of a high ridge of land separating the river valleys of the Troney and the Blackaton Brook, at an altitude of 205-240m AOD.

The soils are the slowly permeable clayey soils of the Halstow Association (SSEW 1983) these overlie mudstones and siltstones of the Ashton Mudstone Member and Crackington Formation. Parts of the Crackington Association and all of the Teign Chert Association fall within the metamorphic aureole of the Dartmoor Granitic intrusion (BGS 2014).

1.3 Historical Background

Unusually, this area is recorded in an authentic Anglo-Saxon charter of c.739. Hollycombe and Drascombe are named in the charter bounds, and it seems likely from the description Martin Farm was included within this grant. Martin Farm appears in the Domesday Book as a small manor, but its subsequent manorial history is obscure. The parish boundary of Drewsteignton follows a highly eccentric course, looping around the entire farm and almost certainly defines the limits of the original Domesday manor.

In the 19th century the farm was owned by the Hole family of North Tawton; in the early 1990s the farm was sold off in parcels. The fields subject to the proposed solar farm development are listed on the Devon Historic Landscape Characterisation as medieval enclosures based on strip fields and modern enclosures adapting medieval fields.

1.4 Archaeological Background

A small amount of archaeological fieldwork has taken place in the wider area. Work in advance of improvements to the Whiddon Down junction revealed a single undated linear feature (AC Archaeology 2003), and historic building recording has taken place at Lovaton Farm (Keystone

1991). According to the owner (Nigel Dawe *pers. comm.*), monitoring in advance of the construction of a new farm building at Martin Farm revealed a number of unstratified flints, but these finds do not appear to have been reported. To the west of Martin Farm, a series of flint scatters have been found (part of the Greig Collection), and there are cropmarks of enclosures to the north and north-west (MDV6990 & MDV37557). To the south, a Roman coin hoard was recovered by metal-detectorists in 2007-8, and the area was then subject to a geophysical survey. SWARCH carried out a Historic Area Assessment and walkover survey as part of this development (SWARCH report 140819).

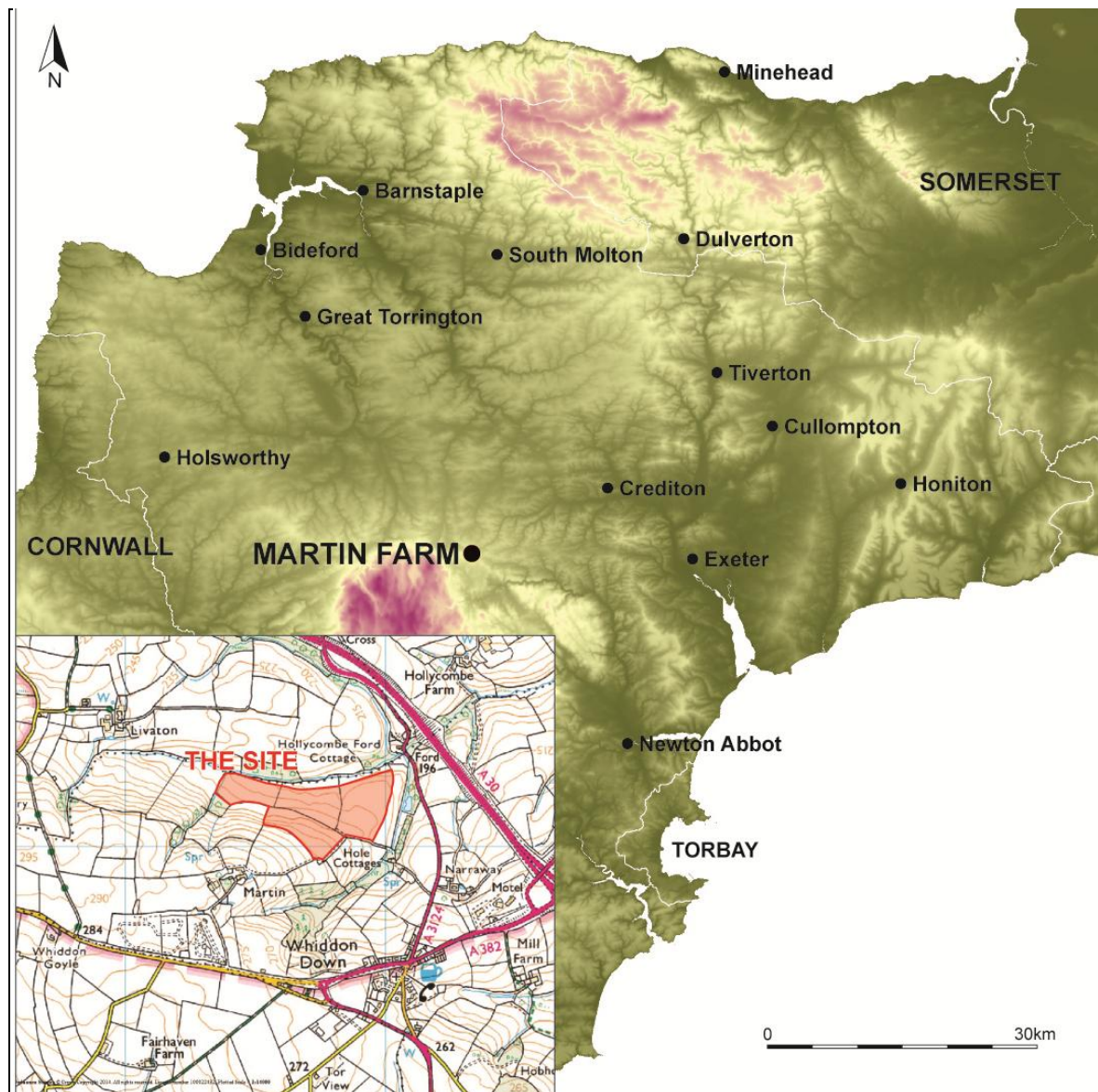


Figure 1: Site location (the proposed extent of the solar farm is indicated).

1.5 Methodology

The archaeological evaluation was conducted in accordance with a Project Design (PD) devised in consultation with Bill Horner, Devon County Council Historic Environment Team (DCHET) (see Appendix 1).

The archaeological evaluation took place from the 29th-31st October 2014. Ten evaluation trenches; six 50m in length, three 30m in length and one 15m in length, each 1.60m wide were excavated to the depth of the *in situ* weathered natural using a toothless grading bucket under careful archaeological supervision. All exposed archaeological deposits were then excavated by hand and recorded in accordance with the PD and IfA guidelines. The trench locations (Figure 2) were determined based on the analysis of- and validation of a previous gradiometer survey (SWARCH Report No.141019).

Land at Martin Farm, Drewsteignton, Devon



2.0 Results of Archaeological Evaluation

2.1 Introduction to the Evaluation

Trench locations (Figure 2) were determined based on the analysis of- and validation of a previous gradiometer survey (SWARCH Report No.141019). For this reason, some areas devoid of geophysical anomalies also needed investigation.

The gradiometer survey identified a number of removed field boundaries and a probable service trench. A number of possible land drains were also identified. It identified the remains of three enclosures of probable Prehistoric or Romano-British date, and the fragmentary remains of a possible field system. This may suggest that this essentially medieval landscape formed part of the core farmland of the Prehistoric and Romano-British landscape as well. The survey also indicates plough damage would appear relatively severe.

Trench 1 targeted an area devoid of geophysical anomalies. Trench 2 targeted two linear anomalies of possible archaeological origin. Trenches 3 and 4 targeted anomalies that may have represented a possible rectilinear enclosure of probable archaeological origin. Trench 5 targeted a probable geological anomaly. Trenches 6 and 8 targeted areas devoid of geophysical anomalies. Trench 7 targeted an area of probable geological variation and a possible removed historic field boundary. Trench 9 targeted a curvilinear anomaly of probable archaeological origin. Trench 10 targeted a linear anomaly of possible archaeological origin.

The evaluation revealed five ditches, a hollow-way, a large pit in a possible ditch terminus, a posthole and a tree-throw. These results validated the accuracy of the geophysical survey data. Other than topsoil, the pit was the only feature to produce datable finds. These were prehistoric. A complete detailed list of contexts can be seen in Appendix 2 and a complete list of finds in Appendix 3. A complete set of supporting photographs can be seen in Appendix 4. Sample sections of empty trenches can be seen in Figure 16.

2.2 Trench 1

<i>Trench 1: 1.60×50m, aligned north-south</i>		
<i>Stratigraphy</i>		
<i>Context</i>	<i>Depth/Thickness</i>	<i>Description</i>
(100)	0.33-0.41m	Topsoil. Dark brown, soft slightly clayey-silt, fairly clean plough soil, stones towards the base of the deposit.
(101)	0.12-0.18m	Subsoil. Mid yellow-brown, soft fine clay-silt, very clean, occasional stone inclusions.
(102)	Below a depth of c.0.53m	Natural. Light reddish yellow, stony and firm clay with common shillet and sub-angular stones, some plough scars.

Trench 1 revealed a single large ovoid tree-throw. Tree-throw [103] (Figure 11), was 3.40m wide and 0.85m deep, it had steep irregular sides and an irregular base. It contained two fills; upper fill (104), a clean mid yellow-grey, soft clay-silt; and a lower fill (105), of redeposited natural shillet disturbed by up-rooting of a now absent tree. It contained no finds. Trench 1 revealed no significant archaeological remains or deposits.

2.3 Trench 2

<i>Trench 1: 1.60×55m, aligned north-west by south-east</i>		
<i>Stratigraphy</i>		
<i>Context</i>	<i>Depth/Thickness</i>	<i>Description</i>
(200)	0.30-0.40m	As (100).
(201)	0.08-0.18m	As (100).
(202)	Below a depth of c.0.48m	As (100).

Trench 2 revealed three linear features and a posthole (Figure 12), none of which produced any finds. From east to west these were: Posthole [203] (Figure 3), 0.64m in diameter and 0.40m deep. It contained a single fill, (204), a light grey-brown, soft clay-silt. Ditch [205] (Figure 4), 3.35m wide and 0.50m deep, was aligned north-south. It had very steep sides, wide flat step and curved break to a flat base and contained two fills; upper fill (206), a mid orange-brown, firm silt-clay with occasional medium-large stones and charcoal flecks; and a lower fill (207), of mid grey-brown, compact shillet and clay-silt. Ditch [208] (Figure 5), 1.85m wide and 0.54m deep, was aligned NNW-SSE. It had very steep irregular sides with a sharp concave break of slope and flat but irregular base. It contained two fills; upper fill, (209), a mid orange-brown, firm silty-clay with moderately frequent shillet grit inclusions; and lower fill, (210), a light grey-brown, soft clay-silt with moderate-frequent shillet grit inclusions and occasional charcoal flecks. Ditch [211] (Figure 6), 4.30m wide and 0.49m deep, was aligned north-south. It had gentle slopes with steep concave breaks and a wide flat base. It contained two fills, upper fill, (212), which was similar to Fill (206); and lower fill, (213), which was similar to fill (207).



Figure 3: Posthole [203], viewed from the south (1m scale).



Figure 4: Ditch [205], viewed from the south-east (2m scale).



Figure 5: Ditch [208], viewed from the south-east (1m scale).



Figure 6: Ditch [211], viewed from the south (2m scale).

2.4 Trench 3

<i>Trench 1: 1.60×15m, aligned east-west</i>		
<i>Stratigraphy</i>		
<i>Context</i>	<i>Depth/Thickness</i>	<i>Description</i>
(300)	0.35m	As (100).
(301)	Below a depth of 0.35m	As (401).

Trench 3 had an ephemeral linear disturbance to the compact gravelly-clay natural. This may have been plough disturbance or bioturbation or the indication of a truncated feature which did not survive deeper than the topsoil. Trench 3 revealed no proven significant archaeological remains or deposits.

2.5 Trench 4

<i>Trench 1: 1.60×47m, aligned WNW-ESE</i>		
<i>Stratigraphy</i>		
<i>Context</i>	<i>Depth/Thickness</i>	<i>Description</i>
(400)	0.29-0.34m	As (100).
(401)	Below a depth of 0.29-0.34m	Natural. Light blue-orange compact clay and shillet-gravel with plough scars.

Trench 4 revealed a large pit and a linear with a terminus (Figure 13). The pit was the only feature on site to produce finds; 4 sherds (9g) of prehistoric pottery. At the east end of the trench was Pit [402] (Figure 7), 1.80m wide and 1.26m deep. It had very steep straight sides and a flat narrow base and it contained seven fills. From bottom to top these were: (403), a light yellowy grey, lowest redeposited natural, clayey shillet frags; (404), a layer of charcoal that was sampled; (405), a mid orange grey redeposited natural, gravelly clay silt; (406), a light grey brown, soft clay-silt, with occasional grit and manganese inclusions; (407), a mottled mid orange grey, firm clay silt; (408), which was as (405); and (409), a mid grey, compact-firm silt-clay, which contained the finds. 8m west of Pit [402] was Ditch [410] (Figure 8), 0.76m wide and 0.13m deep, was aligned east-west and terminated at its west end and turned north by 90° at its east end. It had a gentle slope with a wide flattish base. It contained a single fill, (411), a mid orange-brown, soft clay-silt with frequent shillet fragment inclusions and occasional charcoal flecks.



Figure 7: Pit [402], viewed from the south (2m scale).



Figure 8: Ditch terminus [410], viewed from the east (1m scale).

2.6 Trench 5

<i>Trench 1: 1.60×30m, aligned east-west</i>		
<i>Stratigraphy</i>		
<i>Context</i>	<i>Depth/Thickness</i>	<i>Description</i>
(500)	0.35m	As (100).
(501)	Below a depth of 0.35-0.70+m	As (401).
(502)	0.35+m	Colluvium filling dry combe/valley, a mid red-orange brown, firm clay-silt, very clean. Not fully excavated.

Trench 5 contained a colluvium, Subsoil (502), which filled a dry combe/valley. It was a mid red-orange brown, firm clay-silt and was not fully excavated. Trench 5 revealed no significant archaeological remains or deposits.

2.7 Trench 6

<i>Trench 1: 1.60×30m, aligned north-east by south-west</i>		
<i>Stratigraphy</i>		
<i>Context</i>	<i>Depth/Thickness</i>	<i>Description</i>
(600)	0.35m	As (100).
(601)	Below a depth of c.0.35m	As (401).

Trench 6 revealed no significant archaeological remains or deposits.

2.8 Trench 7

<i>Trench 1: 1.60×50m, aligned east-west</i>		
<i>Stratigraphy</i>		
<i>Context</i>	<i>Depth/Thickness</i>	<i>Description</i>
(700)	0.25m	As (100).
(701)	Below a depth of c.0.25m	Natural. Light orange-blue, compact clay. Water-logged.

Trench 7 revealed no significant archaeological remains or deposits.

2.9 Trench 8

<i>Trench 1: 1.60×30m, aligned north-south</i>		
<i>Stratigraphy</i>		
<i>Context</i>	<i>Depth/Thickness</i>	<i>Description</i>
(800)	0.41m	As (100).
(801)	Below a depth of 0.41m	As (401).

Trench 8 revealed no significant archaeological remains or deposits.

2.10 Trench 9

<i>Trench 1: 1.60×50, aligned east-west</i>		
<i>Stratigraphy</i>		
<i>Context</i>	<i>Depth/Thickness</i>	<i>Description</i>
(900)	0.27m	Topsoil. Dark grey-brown, soft clay-silt plough soil with moderate shillet inclusions.
(901)	Below a depth of c.0.53m	Natural. Weathered shillet and clay, light whitish orange with blue grey, occasional medium to large stones.

Trench 9 revealed a single undated linear feature, Hollow-way [902] (Figures 9 and 14). It was aligned ENE-WSW and it had a gentle western slope, moderately gentle eastern slope and a flattish base. It contained a single fill, (903), a mid orange-brown, firm silty-clay with a weathered natural horizon to a compact shillet base.



Figure 9: Hollow-way [90], viewed from the east (2m scale).

2.11 Trench 10

<i>Trench 1: 1.60×50m, aligned north-east by south-west</i>		
<i>Stratigraphy</i>		
<i>Context</i>	<i>Depth/Thickness</i>	<i>Description</i>
(1000)	0.33-0.49m	As (900)
(1001)	Up to 0.44m	Colluvium, mid yellow-orange clay-silt (with sand), in bottom/northern 20m of trench and intermittent/patchy across most the rest with plough-scars. This colluvium is resting in a step/plateaux in the slope between Martin Farm and the steep valley slope beside the watercourse.
(1002)	Below a depth of 0.40-0.80m	Natural. Light yellow and grey, compact shillet and clay, particularly stony patches and disturbed patches.

Trench 10 revealed a single linear feature, Ditch [1003] (Figures 10 and 15). It was aligned east-west and it had an even moderate slope to a flat base. It contained two fills; lower fill (1004), a mid orange brown, friable clay-silt, medium to large sub angular stones at base; and upper fill (1005), a mottled light brown-orange, friable-firm silt-clay of mixed up natural and subsoil.



Figure 10: Ditch [1003], viewed from the west (1m scale).

2.12 Finds

Very few finds were recovered from the evaluation. The topsoil across the site was relatively sparse of finds. Topsoil from Trenches 1 and 2 produced; ×3 sherds (3g) of White Refined Earthen ware; ×1 fragment (25g) of glazed- and ×1 fragment (9g) of industrial ceramic from the 19th-20th centuries; ×2 fragments (38g) of struck flint; and ×1 sherd (1g) of South Somerset ware. The topsoil in Trench 4 produced ×1 sherd (6g) of abraded medieval pottery. Fill (409) of Pit [402] in Trench 4 produced ×4 sherds (9g) of possible Iron Age (or poor quality medieval pottery). The topsoil in Trench 8 produced ×1 fragment (52g) of a land drain. The topsoil in Trench 10 produced ×1 fragment (7g) of unstruck flint; and ×1 sherd (3g) of abraded medieval pottery with a fragmentary glaze and a granite derived temper.

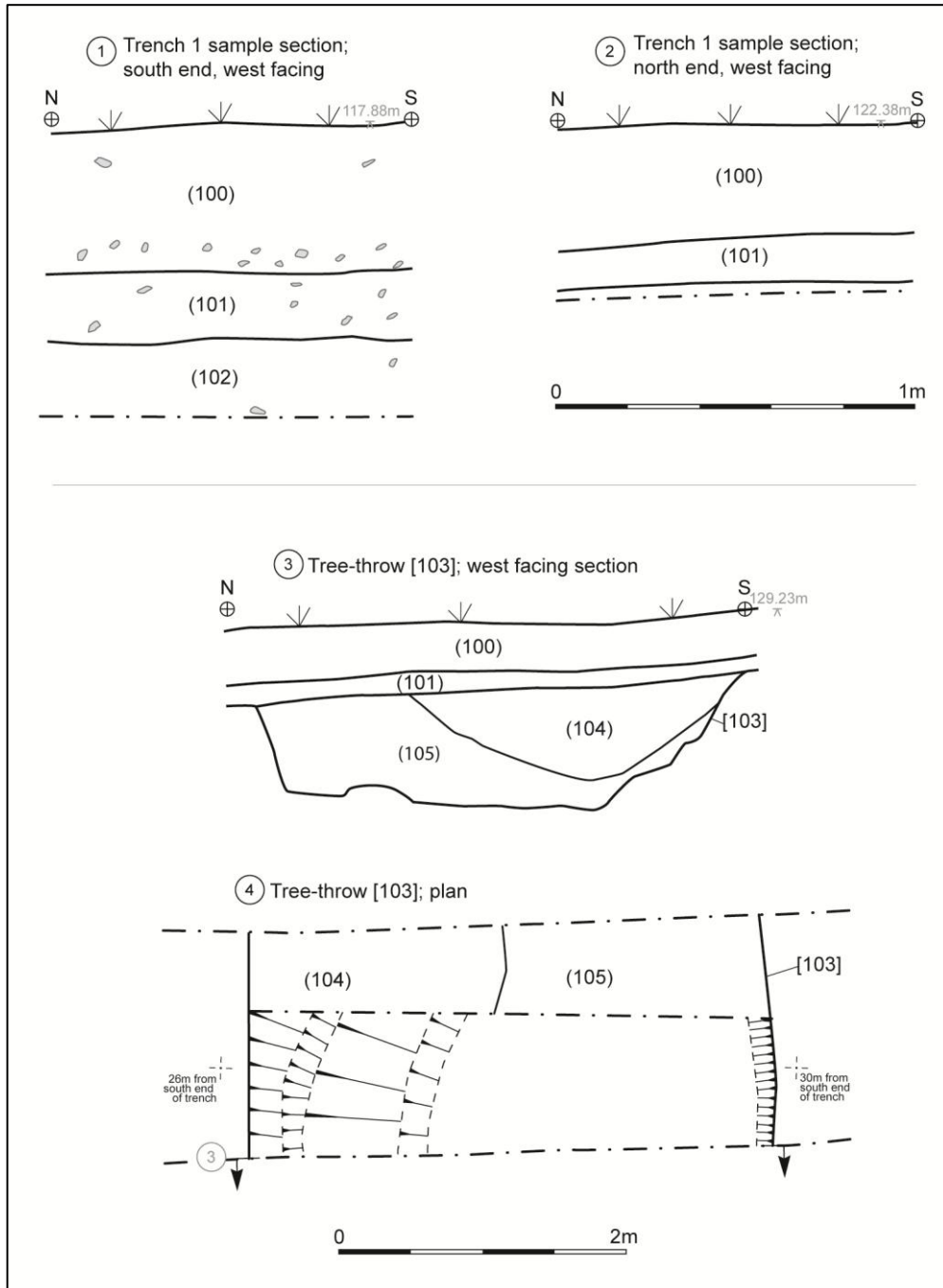


Figure 11: Section drawings and plans for Trench 1 (sample sections are located within 2m of their respective Trench ends).

*all levels are relative to an arbitrary fixed point of 100m AOD, which can be re-calibrated at a later date.

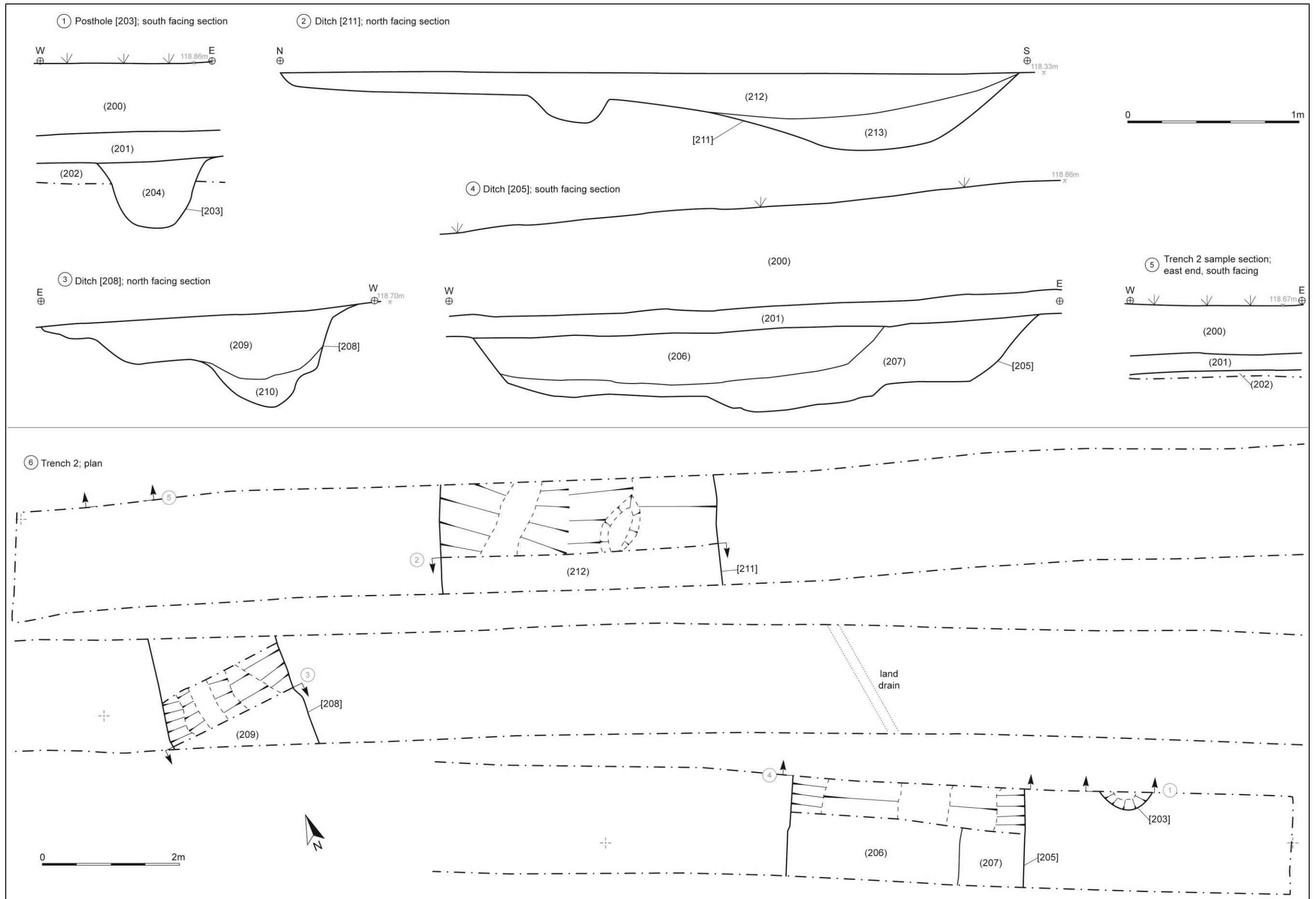


Figure 12: Section drawings and plans for Trench 2.

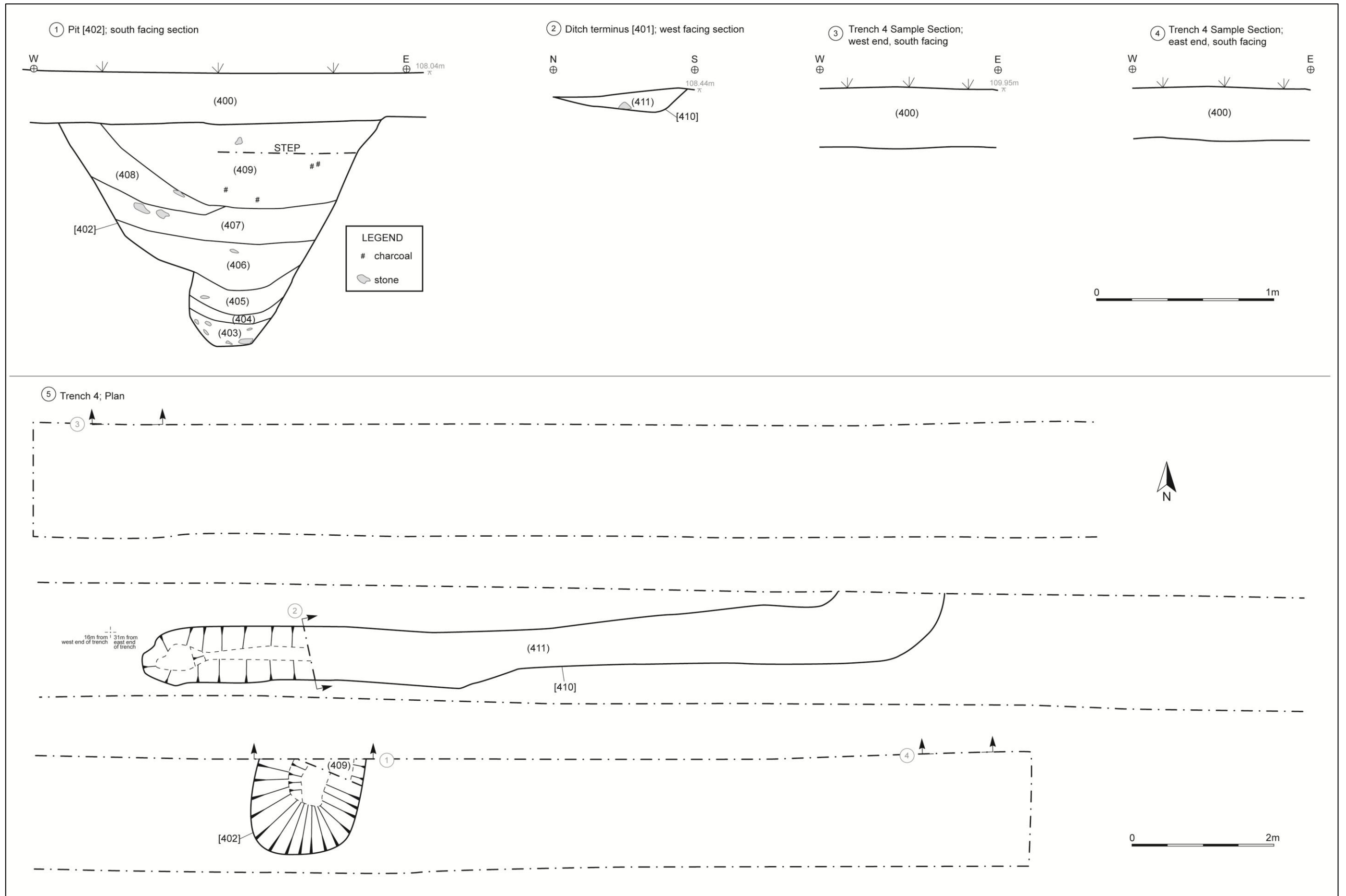


Figure 13: Section drawings and plans for Trench 4.

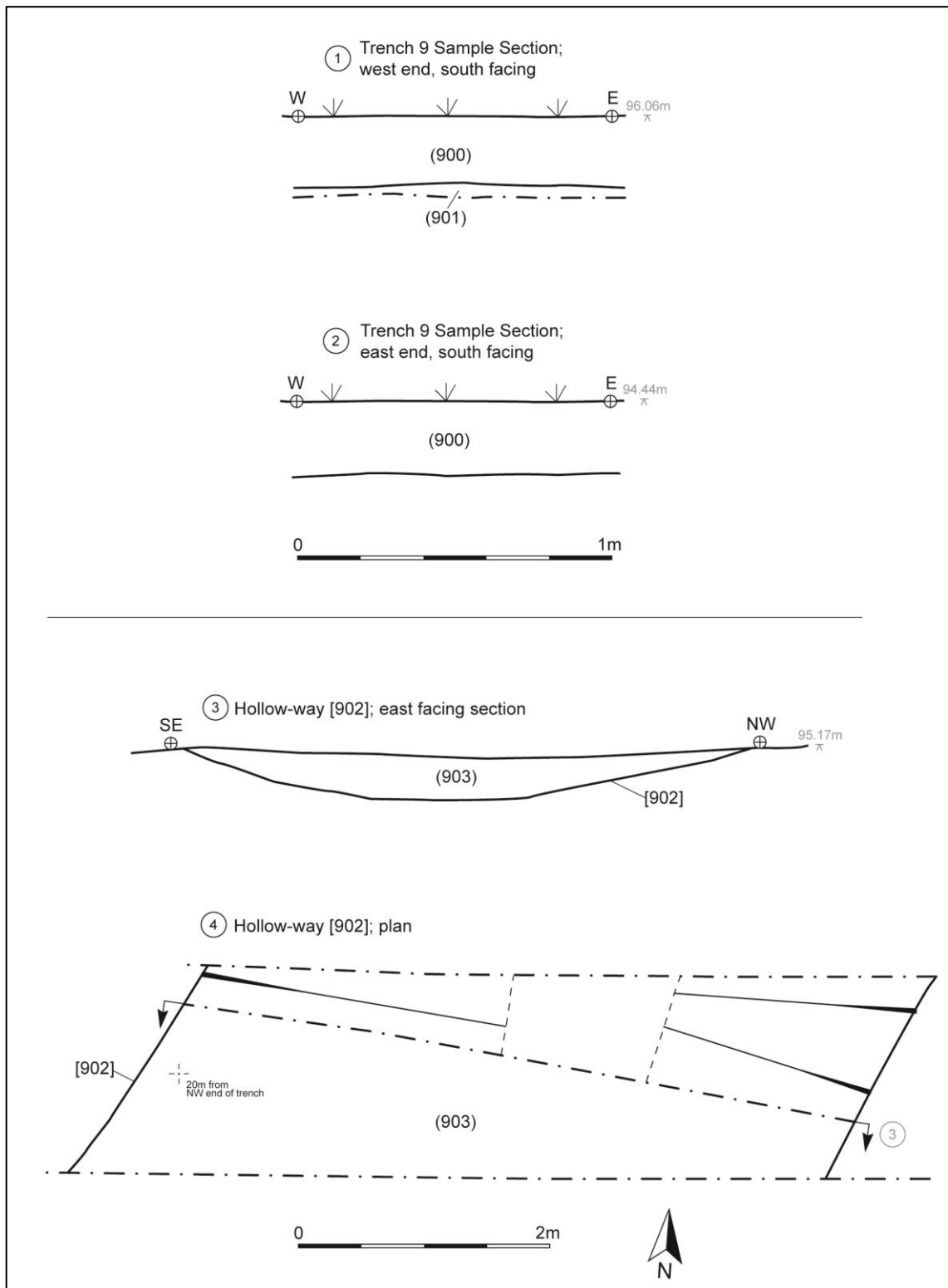


Figure 14: Section drawings and plans for Trench 9.

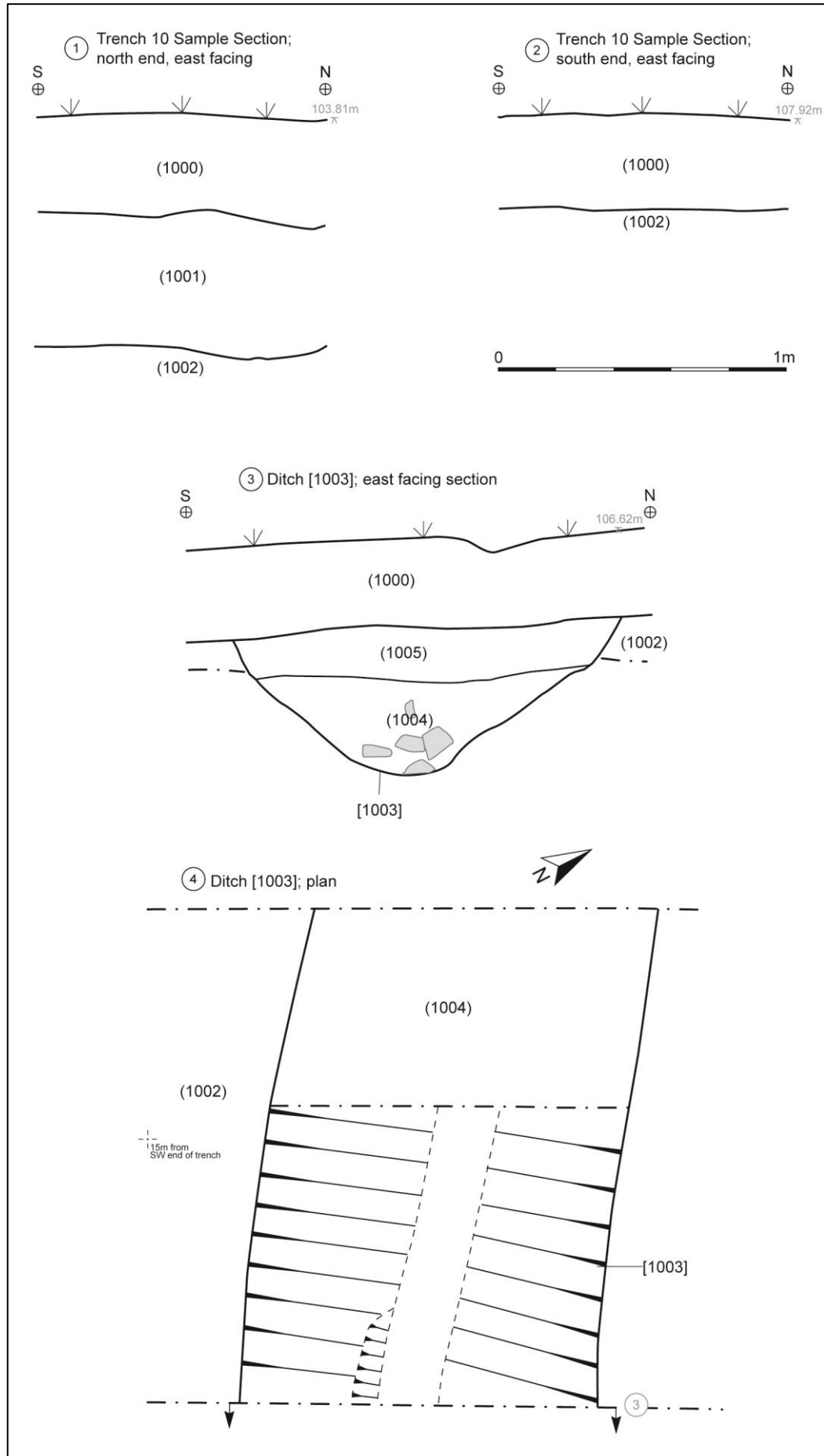


Figure 15: Section drawings and plans for Trench 10.

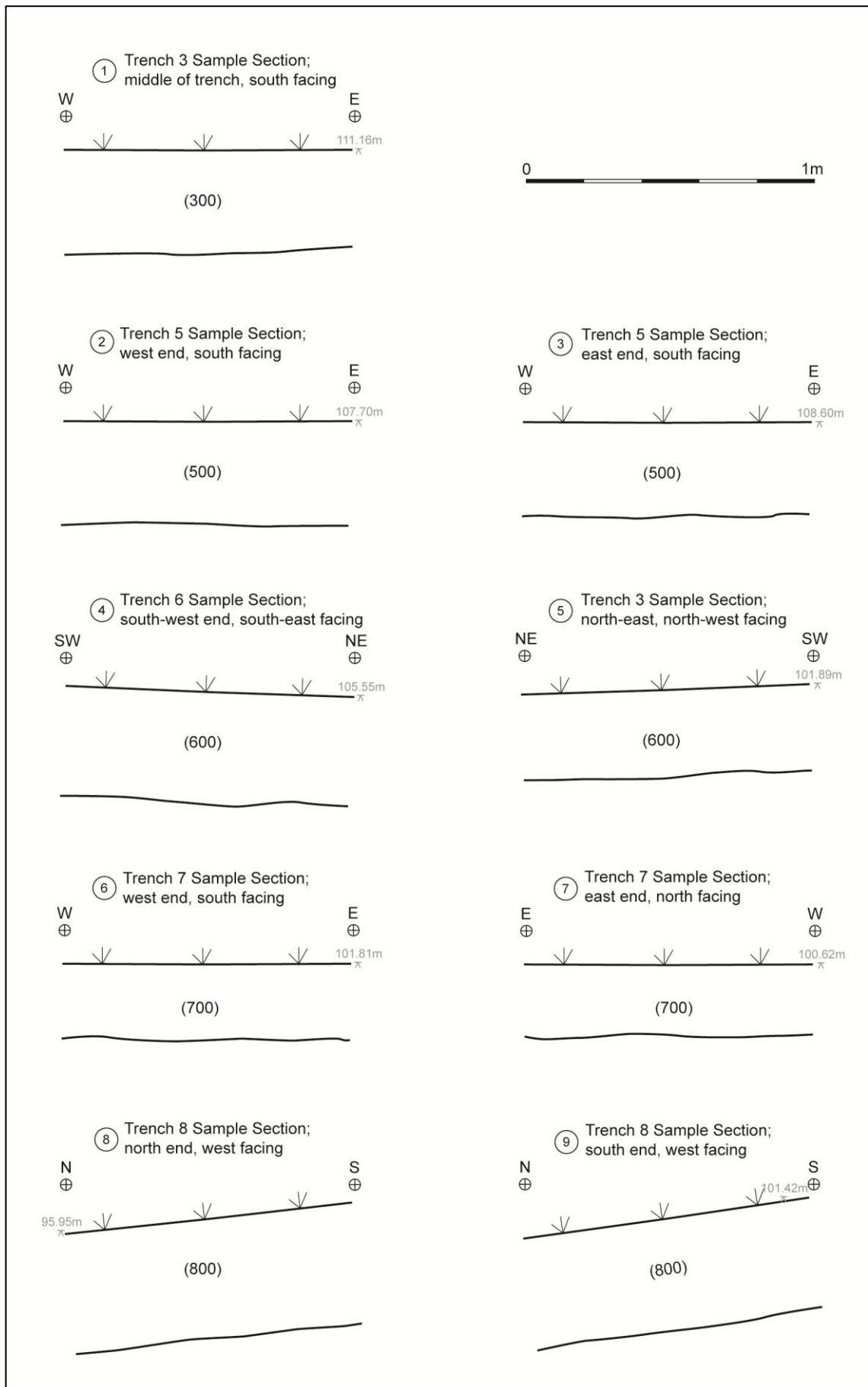


Figure 16: Trench sample sections; Trenches 3 and 5-8 (sample sections are located within 2m of their respective trench ends).

3.0 Discussion and Conclusion

3.1 Discussion

Ditches [205] and [211] toward either end of Trench 2 were both aligned roughly north-south in relation to the existing field system and equate to identified geophysical anomalies. They represent bank and ditched subdivisions of the existing field system that were removed sometime before the drawing of the 1840 tithe map for Drewsteignton (SWARCH Report No.140819). Ditch [208] is of a similar form and contains similar fills to Ditches [205] and [211]. It is on a slightly different alignment, which possibly curves and may represent a slightly earlier field system with similarly aligned boundaries.

Pit [402] equates to the terminus denoting a possible entrance of a half rectilinear enclosure targeted by Trench 4. It contained fills that represent probable primary fills of redeposited natural from collapsing and weathered edges suggesting it may have been left open briefly. It then contains a deposited layer of charcoal overlaid with successive purposefully (?) redeposited layers of mixed natural material, suggesting a single backfilling event. The uppermost fill, Fill (409), contained prehistoric pottery. The utilized or ritual closing of ditches in prehistory is a well documented phenomenon and this may represent a further example. Ditch [410] existed within a possible enclosure identified on the geophysical survey and supported by the existence of Pit [402] in an apparent terminus of this linear anomaly. It may represent part of the same enclosure or field system. Part of this linear anomaly was targeted in Trench 3 but it did not occur below the depth of topsoil. If Ditch [410] was an equivalent feature then its shallow depth may account for the lack of survival of the linear anomaly in some places, especially on a slope upslope where soil depths are slightly shallower. The only medieval pottery recovered from the topsoil came from near the west end of Trench 4 and may be associated with the features [402] and [410].

Trench 7 supports the geophysical survey and historic mapping in identifying the limit of the historic field boundaries. These boundaries did not extend beyond a probable natural boundary into a particularly boggy area at the base of the valley near to the watercourse, which is still respected by ploughing practices today.

The Hollow-way identified in Trench 9 was visible on the ground as a wide slightly curvilinear earthwork. Although it did not produce any finds its orientation may be reflected on the 1803-5 Ordnance Survey Surveyors Draft map (SWARCH Report No.140819). These surveyors' maps are not wholly reliable but it does show a couple of curving boundaries in the north-east of the site, which could (if taken to be accurate) be associated with this feature.

Ditch [1003] in Trench 10 was aligned parallel with the existing east-west boundaries of the field system and most likely represents a subdivision of the field system denoted by a drainage ditch. This ditch contained large sub-angular stones at its base that may have been a purposeful deposition to aid drainage and remove the larger stones from the soil. Although, associated with the existing field system, this ditch is not represented on the cartographic record meaning it is either 17th century or earlier, or was only short lived. It is likely this feature is a contemporary of Ditches [205] and [211] and removed to expand the existing enclosures for more large scale or open agricultural practices.

3.2 Conclusion

The evaluation validated the geophysical survey results, equating archaeological and geological features to geophysical anomalies. Although a geophysics survey will not identify small discrete features it is fair to assume that the anomalies associated with enclosures may contain, or be near to associated discrete or subtle features. However, it is probable that areas devoid of geophysical anomalies do not contain significant archaeological features or deposits.

The presence of prehistoric material from a pit and condition and morphology of an associated ditch support the interpretation of a probable Iron Age to Romano-British agricultural tradition as suggested in SWARCH Report No.141019, based on identified enclosure shaped geophysical anomalies; the two most substantial of which are located and not evaluated in the southern fields surveyed. Associated features may possibly survive near to Trench 4, although shallow features may have been fully truncated due to the depth of soil and ploughing.

Post-medieval field boundaries, which are associated with the existing field system and removed to increase the size of enclosures were identified by geophysical anomalies and corroborated by the evaluation in Trenches 2 and 10.

An additional ditch in Trench 2 and a hollow-way in Trench 9 may be indicative of an earlier field system, although most likely late medieval or post-medieval based on their character and the suggestion of an alternative orientation of some boundaries in the 1803-5 OS draft map.

Other than the south-east corner of the north-west field (Field 2), it is unlikely that any significant archaeological remains or deposits will be encountered in the development of the fields subject to the archaeological evaluation.

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Appendix 1

PROJECT DESIGN FOR EVALUATION TRENCHING ON LAND AT MARTIN FARM, DREWSTEIGNTON, DEVON

Location: Land at Martin Farm,
Parish: Drewsteignton
County: Devon
NGR: SX 685 930
Proposal: Solar PV Farm
Date: 28th October 2014

1.0 INTRODUCTION

This document forms a Project Design (PD) which has been produced by South West Archaeology Limited (SWARCH) at the request of Kirsty Gibson of Aardvark EM Ltd (the Client). It sets out the methodology for evaluation trenching and for related off site analysis and reporting at Martin Farm, Drewsteignton, following the desk-based research and geophysical survey which have already been carried out. The PD and the schedule of work it proposes have been drawn up in consultation with Bill Horner, Devon County Historic Environment Team (DCHET).

2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

A small amount of archaeological fieldwork has taken place in the wider area. Work in advance of improvements to the Whiddon Down junction revealed a single undated linear feature (AC Archaeology 2003), and historic building recording has taken place at Lovaton Farm (Keystone 1991). According to the owner (Nigel Dawe, *pers. comm.*), monitoring in advance of the construction of a new farm building at Martin Farm revealed a number of unstratified flints, but these finds do not appear to have been reported. To the west of Martin Farm, a series of flint scatters have been found (part of the Greig Collection), and there are cropmarks of enclosures to the north and north-west (MDV6990 & MDV37557). To the south, a Roman coin hoard was recovered by metal-detectorists in 2007-8, and the area was subject to a geophysical survey.

Twenty-nine anomalies or groups of anomalies of probable or possible archaeological origin were identified in the geophysical survey carried out by SWARCH in September 2014. This included three enclosures and associated features, and fragmentary remains of a possible fieldsystem. The survey also demonstrated that plough-damage is likely to be relatively pronounced.

3.0 AIMS

3.1 The principal objectives of the work will be to:

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 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 Evaluation Excavations:

Seven evaluation trenches will be dug on site, targeting features highlighted by the geophysics results (Fig. 1). The trenches will cover approximately 390m in total. 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.

4.1.1 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)*.

4.1.2 Spoil will be examined for the recovery of artefacts.

4.1.3 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.

4.1.4 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.

- 4.1.5 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;
- 4.1.6 Should archaeological or palaeoenvironmental remains be exposed, the site archaeologist will investigate, record and sample such deposits.
- 4.1.7 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).
- 4.1.8 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.
- 4.1.9 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.
- 4.1.10 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.

5.0 REPORT

- 5.1 A report will be produced, which will form an integral part of the HVIA report; it will include the following:
 - 5.1.1 A report number and the OASIS ID number;
 - 5.1.2 A location map, with the boundary of the development site clearly marked on each. All plans will be tied to the national grid;
 - 5.1.3 A concise non-technical summary of the project results;
 - 5.1.4 The aims and methods adopted in the course of the investigation;
 - 5.1.5 Illustrations of the site in relation to known archaeological deposits/sites around it, in order to place the site in its archaeological context;
 - 5.1.6 A statement of the impact of the proposed development on the potential archaeological resource, and shall indicate any areas where further evaluation (e.g. intrusive trenching) and/or recording is recommended;
 - 5.1.7 A copy of this PD will be included as an appendix.
- 5.2 The full report will be submitted within three months of completion of fieldwork. The report will be supplied to the HET on the understanding that one of these copies will be deposited for public reference in the HER. A copy will be provided to the HET in digital 'Adobe Acrobat' PDF format.
- 5.3 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 the reference number Southwes1-193623.

6.0 FURTHER WORK

Should the results of this Assessment indicate a need for further archaeological works to be undertaken this may need to be completed before validation of the Planning Application in order to enable the Local Planning Authority to make an informed and reasonable decision on the application, in accordance with the guidelines contained within paragraph 141 of paragraph 128 of the *National Planning Policy Framework* (2012).

7.0 ARCHIVE DEPOSITION

- 7.1 An ordered and integrated site archive will be prepared in accordance with Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE) English Heritage 2006 upon completion of the project. If artefactual material is recovered the requirements for archive storage shall be agreed with Plymouth City Museum and Art Gallery under an accession number.
- 7.2 Where there is only a documentary archive this will be retained by SWARCH for a minimum of 3 years after which point it may be destroyed. A copy of the report will also be supplied to the National Monuments Record (NMR) Swindon.

8.0 PERSONNEL

The project will be managed by Colin Humphreys; the desk-based research and the visual impact assessment will be carried out by SWARCH personnel with suitable expertise and experience. Relevant staff of DCHET will be consulted as appropriate. Where necessary, appropriate specialist advice will be sought (see list of consultant specialists in Appendix 1 below).

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Appendix – List of specialists

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Alison Mills The Museum of Barnstaple and North Devon, The Square, Barnstaple, North Devon. EX32 8LNTel: 01271 346747

Bone

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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 Quinnell 39D Polsloe Road, Exeter EX1 2DN Tel: 01392 433214

Roman Alex Croom, Keeper of Archaeology Tyne & Wear Archives & Museums, Arbeia Roman Fort and Museum, Baring
Street, South Shields, Tyne and Wear NE332BB Tel: (0191) 454 4093 alex.croom@twmuseums.org.uk

Medieval John Allan, 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

Land at Martin Farm, Drewsteignton, Devon

Appendix 2
Context List

Context	Description		Relationships	Depth/ Thickness	Spot Date
(100)	Topsoil	Dark brown, soft slightly clayey-silt, fairly clean plough soil, stones towards the base of the deposit.	Overlaid (101)	0.37m	C20-C21
(101)	Subsoil	Mid yellow-brown, soft fine clay-silt, very clean, occasional stone inclusions.	-	0.15m	-
(102)	Natural	Light reddish yellow, stony and firm clay with common shillet and sub-angular stones, plough scars.	-	-	-
[103]	Cut	Cut of sub-ovoid tree-throw (1.60+×3.40×0.85m), very steep sides, irregular sides. 2 fills.	Cut (102); Contained (104), (105)	0.85m	-
(104)	Fill of tree throw	Upper fill of Tree-throw [103], mid yellow-grey, soft clay-silt, clean.	Fill of [103]; Overlaid (105); Overlain by (101)	0.64m	-
(105)	Fill of tree throw	Lower fill of Tree-throw [103], shillet – redeposited natural/ disturbed by up-rooting.	Fill of [103]	0.75m	-
(200)	Topsoil	As (100)	Overlaid (201)	0.35m	C20-C21
(201)	Subsoil	As (101)	-	0.13m	-
(202)	Natural	As (102)	-	-	-
[203]	Cut of posthole	Cut of oval posthole (0.64m dia.×0.40m), near vertical-very steep sides, concave break, flattish base. 1fill.	Cut (202); Contained (204)	0.40m	-
(204)	Fill of posthole	Fill of Posthole [203], light grey-brown, friable-soft clay-silt with frequent shillet grit.	Fill of [203]; Overlain by (201)	0.40m	-
[205]	Cut of ditch	Cut of Linear ditch (1.60+×3.35×0.50m), very steep sides, wide flat step and curved break to a flat base. 2 fills. Aligned north-south.	Cut (202); Contained (206), (207)	0.50m	-
(206)	Fill of ditch	Upper fill of Ditch [205], mid orange-brown, firm silt-clay, occasional medium-large stones and charcoal flecks.	Fill of [205]; overlaid (207); Overlain by (201)	0.30m	-
(207)	Fill of ditch	Lower fill of Ditch [205], mid grey-brown, compact in ground, loose out, natural shillet and clay-silt, weathered bank material redeposited and washed in?	Fill of [205]; Overlain by (206)	0.33m	-
[208]	Cut of linear feature	Cut of linear ditch (1.60+×1.85×0.54m), very steep irregular sides, sharp concave break, flat but irregular base. 2 fills. Aligned NNW-SSE.	Cut (202); Contained (109), (110)	0.54m	-
(209)	Fill of linear feature	Upper fill of Ditch [208], mid orange-brown, firm silty-clay with moderately frequent shillet grit inclusions.	Fill of [208]; Overlaid (210); Overlain by (201)	0.39m	-
(210)	Fill of linear feature	Lower fill of Ditch [208], light grey brown, soft clay-silt with moderate-frequent shillet grit inclusions and occasional charcoal flecks.	Fill of [208]; Overlain by (209)	0.15m	-
[211]	Cut of ditch	Cut of linear ditch (1.60+×4.30×0.49m), gentle slope, steep concave break, wide flat base. 2 fills. Aligned north-south.	Cut (202); Contained (212), (213)	0.49m	-
(212)	Fill of ditch	Upper fill of Ditch [211], light orange-brown, firm clay-silt with occasional shillet inclusions and charcoal flecks. Similar to (206).	Fill of [211]; Overlaid (213); Overlain by (201)	0.25m	-
(213)	Fill of ditch	Lower fill of Ditch [211], weathered natural as (207) but very rooty with fish-scale grit at edges.	Fill of [211] Overlain by (212)	0.24m	-
(300)	Topsoil	As (100)	Overlaid (301)	0.35m	C20-C21
(301)	Natural	As (401)	Overlain by (300)	-	-
(400)	Topsoil	As (100)	Overlaid subsoil	0.31m	C20-C21
(401)	Natural	Light blue-orange compact clay and shillet-gravel with plough scars.	-	-	-
[402]	Cut of Pit	Cut of oval pit (1.80×1.32×1.26m) in possible terminus of a curvilinear, very steep straight sided pit, flat narrow base. 7 fills.	Cut (401); Contained (403)-(409)	1.26m	Iron Age

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(403)	Fill of Pit	Light yellowy grey, lowest redeposited natural, clayey shillet frags	Fill of [402]; Overlain by (404)	0.14m	-
(404)	Fill of pit	Layer of charcoal	Fill of [402]; Overlaid (402); Overlain by (405)	0.05m	-
(405)	Fill of Pit	Mid orange grey redeposited natural, gravelly clay silt	Fill of [402]; Overlaid (404); Overlain by (406)	0.14m	-
(406)	Fill of pit	Light grey brown, soft clay silt, with occasional grit and manganese inclusions	Fill of [402]; Overlaid (405); Overlain by (407)	0.26m	-
(407)	Fill of Pit	Mottled mid orange grey, firm clay silt	Fill of [402]; Overlaid (406); Overlain by (408)	0.20m	-
(408)	Fill of pit	As (405)	Fill of [402]; Overlaid (407); Overlain by (409)	0.20m	-
(409)	Fill of pit	Mid grey, compact firm silt clay	Fill of [402]; Overlaid (408); Overlain by (400)	0.48m	Iron Age
[410]	Cut of Ditch	Cut of linear (11+×0.76×0.13m), Gentle slope wide flattish base, terminus at east end and turns almost 90 degrees to the south at its west end. 1 fill.	Cut (401); Contained (411)	0.13m	-
(411)	Fill of ditch	Fill of Ditch [410], mid orange-brown, soft clay-silt, frequent shillet fragment inclusions and occasional charcoal flecks.	Fill of [410]	0.13m	-
(500)	Topsoil	As (100)	Overlaid (502)	0.35m	C20-C21
(501)	Natural	As (401)	Overlain by (502)	-	-
(502)	Subsoil	Colluvium filling dry combe/valley, a mid red-orange brown, firm clay-silt, very clean. Not fully excavated.	Overlaid (501); Overlain by (500)	0.35+m	-
(601)	Topsoil	As (100)	Overlaid (601)	0.35m	C20-C21
(601)	Natural	As (401)	Overlain by (600)	-	-
(700)	Topsoil	As (100)	Overlaid (701)	0.25	C20-C21
(701)	Natural	Light orange-blue, compact clay. Water-logged.	Overlain by (700)	-	-
(800)	Topsoil	As (100)	Overlaid (801)	0.41	C20-C21
(801)	Natural	As (401)	Overlain by (800)	-	-
(900)	Topsoil	Dark grey-brown, soft clay-silt plough soil with moderate shillet inclusions.	-	0.27m	C20-C21
(901)	Natural	Weathered shillet and clay, light whitish orange with blue grey, occasional medium to large stones.	-	-	-
[902]	Cut of hollow-way	Cut of hollow-way, gentle western slope, moderately gentle eastern slope, flattish base. 1 fill.	Cut (901); Contained (903)	-	-
(903)	Fill of hollow-way	Fill of Hollow-way [902], mid orange brown, firm silty clay weathered natural horizons to shillet.	Fill of [902]; Overlain by (900)	-	-
(1000)	Topsoil	As (900)	-	0.41m	C20-C21
(1001)	Subsoil	Colluvium, mid yellow-orange clay-silt (with sand), in bottom/northern 20m of trench and patchy across most the rest with plough-scars.	-	0.46m	-
(1002)	Natural	Light yellow and grey, compact shillet and clay, particularly stony patches and disturbed patches.	-	-	-
[1003]	Cut of Ditch	Cut of Linear ditch (1.60+×1.17×0.51m), even moderate slope to flat base. 2 fill.	Cut (1001); Contained (1004)	0.51m	-
(1004)	Fill of Ditch	Lower fill of Ditch [1003], mid orange brown, friable clay-silt, medium to large sub angular stones at base.	Fill of [1003]; Overlain by	0.32m	-

Land at Martin Farm, Drewsteignton, Devon

			(1005)		
(1005)	Fill of Ditch	Upper fill of Ditch [1003], mottled light brown-orange, friable-firm silt-clay, mixed up natural and subsoil.	Fill of [1003]; Overlaid (1004); Overlain by (1005)	0.19m	-

Appendix 3

Finds List

Context	Notes	POTTERY			Flint			OTHER			DATE
		Sherds	Wgt. (g)	Notes	Frgs.	Wgt. (g)	Notes	Frgs.	Wgt. (g)	Notes	
(100)	Trench 1 Topsoil	2	2	White Refined Earthen ware, 1 with blue transfer print	1	37	Flint; rough/large primary flake with lots of cortex	1	25	Glazed ceramic (sink fragment?)	C20
		1	1	C18 South Somerset Ware							
(200)	Trench 2 Topsoil	1	1	White Refined Earthen ware	1	1	Flint flake	1	9	Later C19 industrial ceramic	C20
(400)	Trench 4 Topsoil	1	6	Abraded Medieval coarse ware							C20
(409)	Fill of Pit [402]	3	6	Water-rounded quartz & sandstone temper, Prehistoric?							Iron Age
		1	3	Granite derived fabric, finer than Trench 10 fragment, medieval?							
(800)	Trench 8 Topsoil							1	52	Land Drain fragment	C20
(1000)	Trench 10 Topsoil	1	3	Granite derived temper with fragmentary glaze = abraded medieval	1	7	Un-worked flint fragment				C20
		10	22		3	45					

Appendix 4
Supporting Photos



Tree-throw [103], viewed from the west (2m scale).



Tree-throw [103], viewed from the south-west (2m scale).



Tree-throw [103], viewed from the east (2m scale).



Sample section at south end of Trench 1, viewed from the west (1m scale).

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Left: Trench 1 post-excitation, viewed from the south (1+2m scale).

Right: Trench 10 post-excitation, viewed from the north (1+2m scale).



Left: Trench 2 post-excitation, viewed from the west (1+2m scale).

Right: Ditch [410], viewed from the east (1+2m scale).



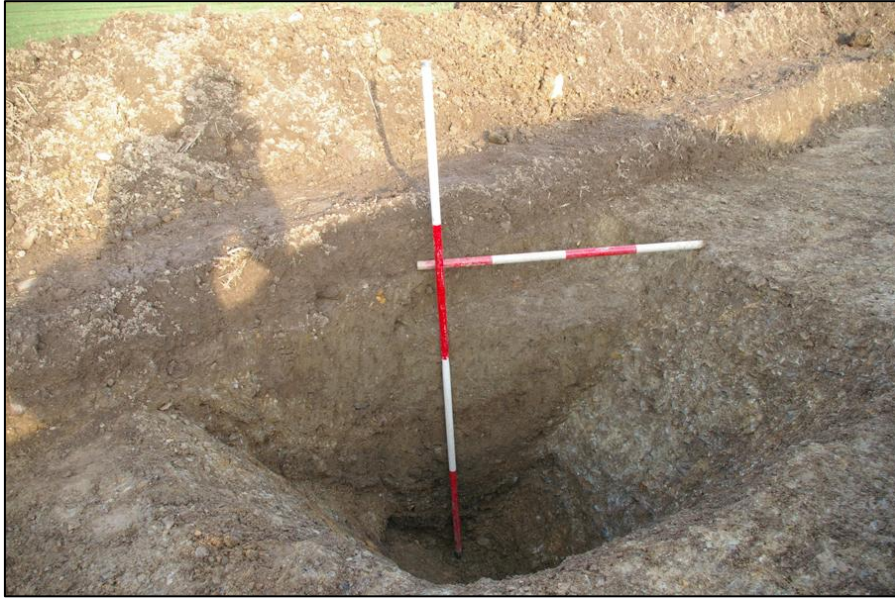
Ditch [211], viewed from the north (2m scale).



Ditch [211], viewed from the north-east (2m scale).



Ditch [208], viewed from the south-east (1m scale).



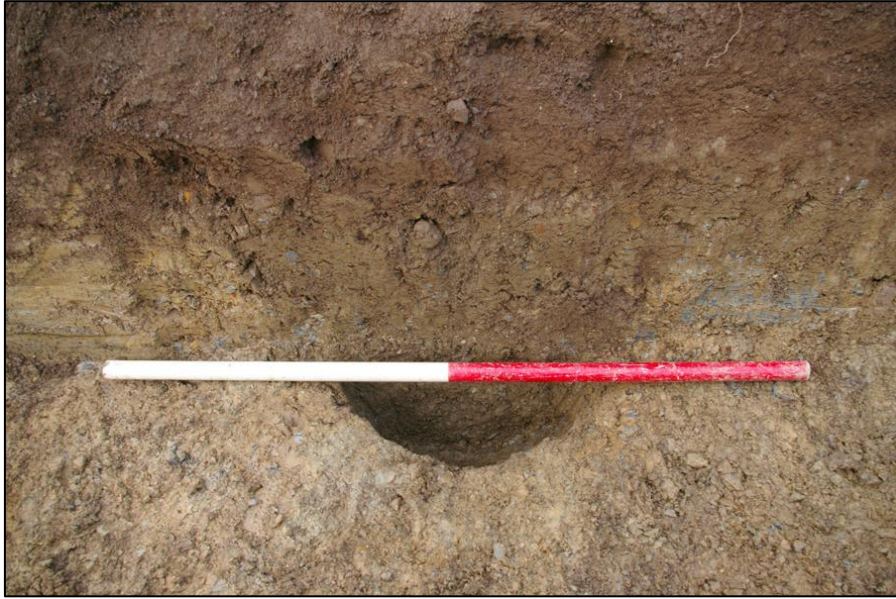
Pit [402], viewed from the south (1+2m scale).



Pit [402], viewed from the south (1+2m scale).



Ditch [205], viewed from the south (2m scale).



Posthole [203], viewed from the south (1m scale).



Sample section at west end of Trench 2, viewed from the south (1m scale).



Trench 3 post-excavation, viewed from the south-west (1+2m scale).

Land at Martin Farm, Drewsteignton, Devon



Left: Trench 2 post-excavation, viewed from the east (1+2m scale).

Right: Trench 4 post-excavation, viewed from the west (1+2m scale).



Left: Trench 4 post-excavation, viewed from the east (1+2m scale).

Right: Trench 5 post-excavation, viewed from the east (2m scale).



Sample section in middle of Trench 3, viewed from the south-east (1m scale).



Possible disturbed natural in middle of Trench 3, viewed from the south-west (1m scale).



Sample section at east end of Trench 4, viewed from the south (1m scale).



Sample section at east end of Trench 5, viewed from the south (1m scale).



Sample section at north-east end of Trench 6, viewed from the north-west (1m scale).



Sample section at west end of Trench 7, viewed from the south (1m scale).

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Left: Trench 6 post-excavation, viewed from the south-west (2m scale).

Right: Trench 7 post-excavation, viewed from the west (2m scale).



Left: Trench 8 post-excavation, viewed from the north (2m scale).

Right: Trench 9 post-excavation, viewed from the east (1+2m scale).



Sample section at south end of Trench 8, viewed from the west (1m scale).



Hollow-way [902], viewed from the south (2m scale).



Hollow-way [902], viewed from the south-east (2m scale).



Sample section at west end of Trench 9, viewed from the south (1m scale).



Ditch [1003], viewed from the east (1m scale).



Ditch [1003], viewed from the east (1m scale).



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



Site shot from Trench 9 showing Trenches 1-5 & 10, viewed from the north-east (no scale).



Site shot from Trench 9 showing Trenches 5-8, viewed from the north-east (no scale).

Land at Martin Farm, Drewsteignton, Devon



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