



Cornwall & Scilly Historic Environment Record

Historic Environment Record, Historic Environment Service,
Environment & Heritage, Cornwall Council

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Site Name: Land at Timberlee, Tregay Lane, Liskeard	
Grid ref (10-fig): 25584 65449	OS Map No: SX 25566545
Parish: Liskeard	
Site Type: (Major) Residential Development	
Period: Medieval - post-medieval - modern	Form:
<p>Description:</p> <p>Archaeological evaluation trenching was undertaken by South West Archaeology Ltd. (SWARCH) at the request of Ivan Tomlin of Planning for Results (the Agent) on behalf of Michael Hoskin of Mansion Developments SW Ltd. (the Client) in advance of a proposed development of ten domestic dwellings and associated infrastructure on land at Timberlee, Tregay Lane, Liskeard, Cornwall (Figure 1). This work was undertaken by P. Webb on 10th and 11th February 2016 in accordance with a WSI drawn up in consultation with Phil Copleston, Cornwall Council's Senior Development Officer, Historic Environment (SDOHE). The works comprised the excavation of five evaluation trenches, each c.1.50m wide and totalling c.100m in length, across the proposal area (Figure 2).</p> <p>The former Domesday manor and market town of Liskeard, in the parish of the same name, is located between the East Looe and Seaton Rivers in Cornwall, approximately 25km north-west of Plymouth, and to the south of the A30 in rolling countryside on the southern fringe of Bodmin Moor. A 13th century fortified manor or castle belonging to the Earls of Cornwall is recorded within the town. The site comprises a roughly triangular piece of land on the northern limit of Liskeard, in an area categorised on the Historic Landscape Characterisation as Medieval Farmland. The HER records the surrounding landscape as containing the prehistoric site of Roundbury (MCO56995); and several medieval settlements, including at: Culverlands (MCO17298), Halbathick (MCO17370) and Trembraze (MCO17372). In the immediate vicinity are the post-medieval quarries of Trembraze (MCO56996 and 57071). The soils of this area are the well-drained fine loamy- and fine silty soils of the Denbigh 1 Association (SSEW 1983), overlying the sedimentary slate and siltstones of the Saltash Formation (BGS 2016).</p> <p>The upper stratigraphy of the site varied from east to west. The eastern half comprised Topsoil, a mid brown, soft-friable silt-clay, 0.25-0.50m thick which, to the south, overlay a Lower Topsoil, mid yellow-brown friable-soft silt-clay, 0.15-0.30m thick. This overlaid the Natural, blue-grey shillet within mid-light yellow-brown soft clay. To the north the Topsoil overlaid a root disturbed Layer, 0.10-0.25m thick, combining topsoil and natural. This overlaid a thin layer of Subsoil and the Natural. The western half of the site was largely comprised of modern aggregate or dump deposits. These overlay the Subsoil and Natural.</p> <p>The majority of the features identified were not of archaeological interest, comprising tree throws and modern services. However, a compacted shillet Surface (303 and 411) was identified beneath a modern dump (in Trench 3) and surface (in Trench 4). The position of this feature, to the centre-west of the site, corresponds with a 'yard' area depicted only on the 1948 Ordnance Survey map, indicating it as an early-mid 20th century surface.</p> <p>All finds were recovered from disturbed contexts. Tree throw [104] containing: a single sherd (13g) of Lostwithiel Type micaceous medieval coarseware dating to the 13th-14th centuries. Disturbed topsoil (503) included: single sherds of post 1720 white refined earthenware (2g), Westwald stoneware (2g), Raeran stoneware jug handle (20g), Frechen stoneware Bellamine 'Bartman' partial jug face (31g) with an unusual open-mouth and tongue out design; and a single possible 18th century clay pipe stem (<1g).</p> <p>No significant archaeological features or remains were present.</p>	
Land Use (Area): Farmland on edge of settlement	Land Use (Site): Residential
Date of Site Visit: 10-11/02/2016	
Recorder's name, address and phone number: P. Webb, South West Archaeology Ltd, The Old Dairy, Hacche Lane Business Park, Pathfields Business Park, South Molton Devon, EX36 3HL; 01769 573555	



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

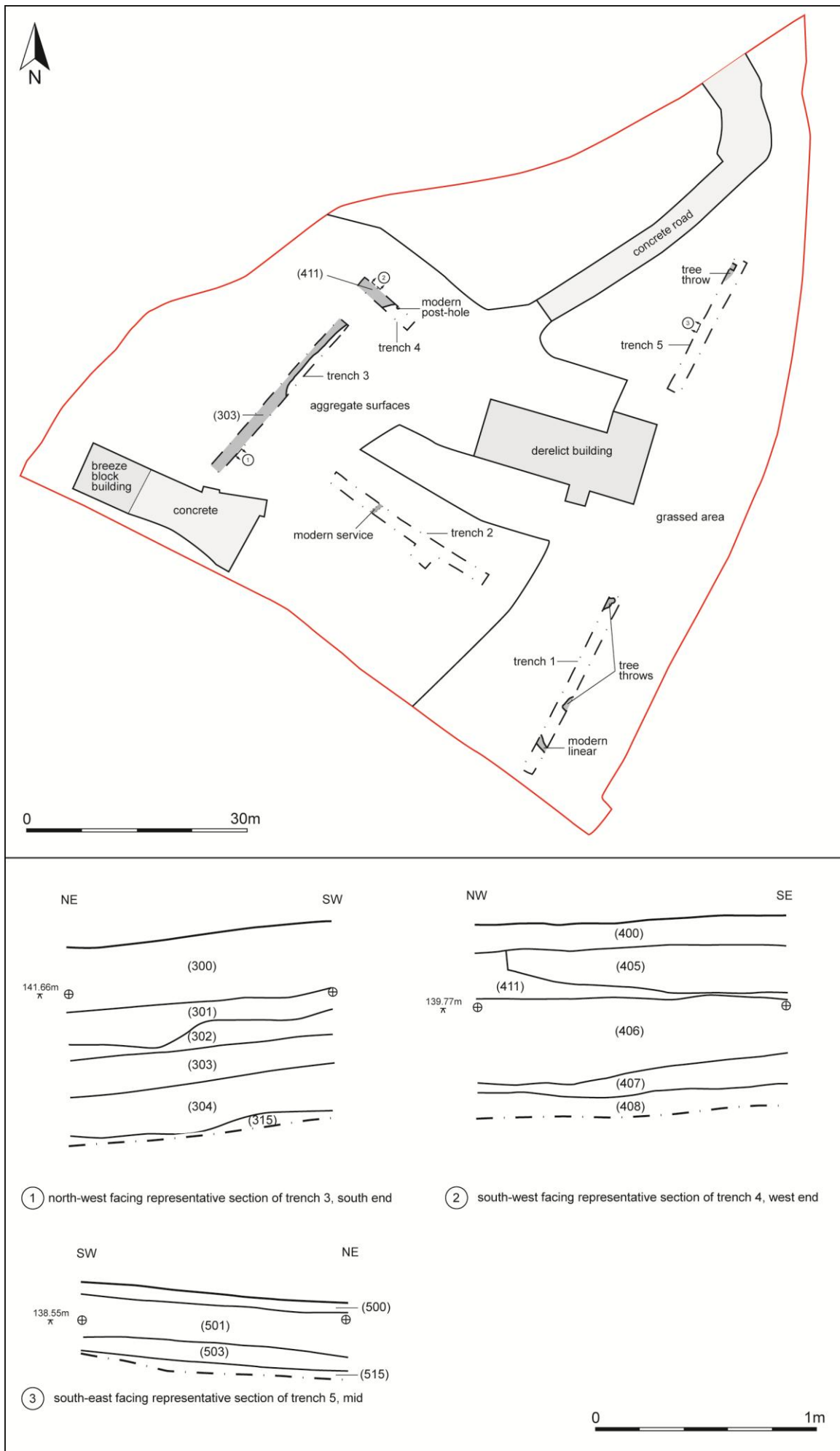


Figure 2: Site drawings; above, site plan; below, representative sections.

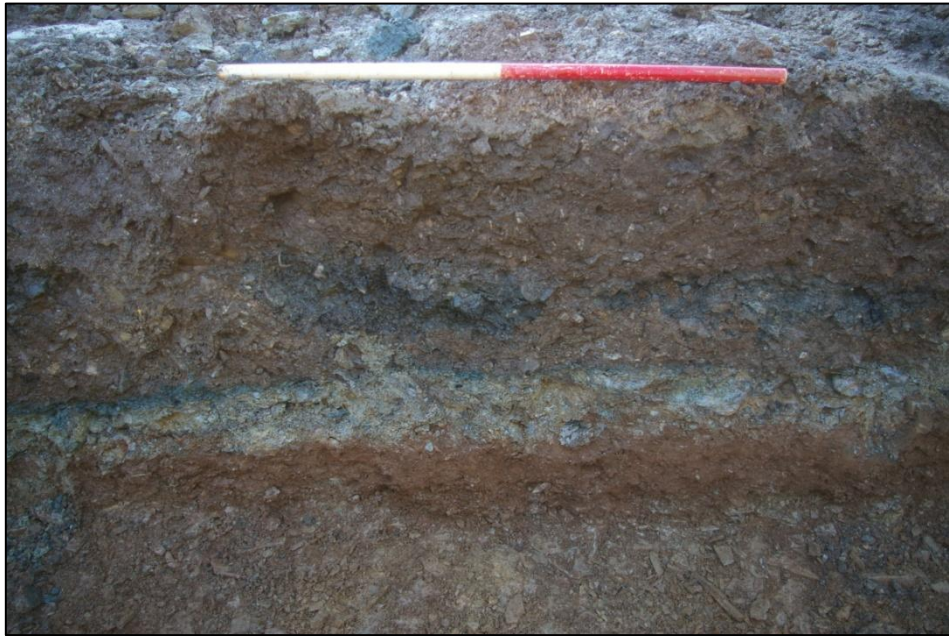


Figure 3: Surface (303), south end, north-west facing section; viewed from the north-west (1m scale).



Figure 4: Surface (411), probable continuation of Surface (303), south-west facing section, viewed from the south-west (1m scale).



Figure 5: Post-excavation view of trench 1; viewed from the north-east (1m and 2m scales).