Results of an Archaeological Evaluation



South West Archaeology Ltd. report no. 161014



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Land at Newton House, Blisland, Cornwall Results of an Archaeological Evaluation

By P. Webb Report Version: FINAL 14th October 2016

Work undertaken by SWARCH for Deborah McCann on behalf of Jonathan Stirling

SUMMARY

South West Archaeology Ltd. (SWARCH) was commissioned to undertake an archaeological evaluation in advance of proposed development of the site. This phase of work builds upon a previous geophysical survey 2016 (Webb 2016).

The site is located on gently sloping land in the centre of the village of Blisland, to the east of the 17th century manor house, and to the north-east of the Norman church. The evaluation area comprised a single roughly rectangular field sub-divided into three smaller paddocks, currently under pasture.

The evaluation identified a total of 23 archaeological features, including: one bank; six ditches; one post-medieval ceramic land-drain; four stone filled soak-away drains; two pits; one stone dump; one natural hollow; one tree-throw; and seven modern service trenches and associated features.

The evaluation validated the majority of the geophysical survey results, equating archaeological features to geophysical anomalies. Although a geophysical survey would not identify small discrete features, the evaluation trenching has demonstrated that most of the ditches and larger features identified in the geophysical survey do survive beneath the ground. The site is shown to have been criss-crossed by a mix of post-medieval and modern drains associated with the surrounding housing and the need to drain the land. Several features remain undated, though are likely to predominantly be similarly post-medieval in date and may reflect earlier land divisions, artefactual evidence suggests that there was prehistoric activity on the site.



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1.0 Introduction

Location: Newton House

Parish: Blisland County: Cornwall

NGR: SX 10212 73209

SWARCH ref: BNH16

1.1 PROJECT BACKGROUND

South West Archaeology Ltd. (SWARCH) was commissioned by Deborah McCann (the Agent) on behalf of Jonathan Stirling (the Client) to undertake an archaeological evaluation in advance of a proposed development of the site. This work was carried out in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (Boyd 2016) drawn up in consultation with Sean Taylor, Senior Development Officer, Historic Environment, Cornwall Council (SDOHE).

This report builds upon the work of previous geophysical and walkover surveys undertaken over the proposed development area in 2016 by SWARCH on behalf of the Client (Webb 2016). The results of this evaluation will inform the planning decision and the extent and nature of any subsequent programme of archaeological mitigation required as a condition of a planning consent.

1.2 TOPOGRAPHICAL AND GEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

Blisland is situated approximately 7km north-east of Bodmin on the western edge of Bodmin Moor. The site is located in the centre of the village, on gently sloping land to the east of the Newton House, and north-east of the church. The evaluation area comprised a single roughly rectangular field, which is sub-divided into three smaller paddocks and currently under pasture at an altitude of approximately 125-135m AOD (see Figure 1).

The soils of this area are the well-drained loamy soils of the Denbigh 2 Association (SSEW 1983), which overlies the slate and siltstone of the Trevose Slate Formation and Rosenum Formation (BGS 2016).

1.3 HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The proposal site is located in the ecclesiastical parish of Blisland, in the hundred of Trigg and deanery of Trigg-Minor. Blisland is a former Domesday manor belonging to the king with four hides and land for 30 ploughs (Williams and Martin 2002). The church has Norman origins, with 15^{th} to 18^{th} century additions and 19^{th} century restorations. The name Blisland, originally *Glustone* (possibly a variation of *Bluston*), incorporates an unidentified element and the Old English $t\bar{u}n$ (farm, village), later replaced with land (Watts 2010).

1.4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

The historic fieldscape of the area, including the proposed development site, is characterised by the Cornwall Council Historic Landscape Characterisation (HLC) as predominantly medieval farmland. The village of Blisland is recorded as 20th century settlement, though developed from a medieval settlement. Medieval farmland is described as Anciently Enclosed Land (AEL) and formed the

agricultural heartland of Cornwall, with the settlements and field systems typically having clear medieval antecedents. AEL has also been demonstrated to indicate areas first settled, enclosed and farmed during late Prehistory i.e. the Middle Bronze Age (c. 1500-1000 BC) until the Roman period (AD 43-410) and continuing into the early medieval period (AD 410-1066). It is considered highly likely that buried archaeology dating to the Prehistoric and Romano-British periods generally survives within areas of AEL.

A number of heritage assets are recorded in close proximity to the proposed development site, including the site of a Neolithic or Bronze Age standing stone; and numerous medieval settlements, and crosses. Of the latter, the remains of one are recorded on Ordnance Survey mapping on the site, though the Cornwall HER suggests that it may be a possible post-medieval rubbing stone. The majority of the assets, however, are post-medieval in date and relate to the development of Blisland, with the late 16th century Grade II listed Newton House and 17th century Manor House to the immediate west of the site. The wider area includes a significant prehistoric landscape which includes: Stipple Stones Henge, Trippet Stones, and a number of barrows, huts and further stone circles.

1.5 METHODOLOGY

The archaeological evaluation was conducted in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) (Boyd 2016) drawn up in accordance with guidelines set out by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA).

The archaeological evaluation took place between the 11th and 13th of October 2016. Five evaluation trenches, each 1.6m wide and totalling 194m in length were opened by a tracked mechanical excavator to the depth of *in situ* weathered natural using a toothless grading bucket. Exposed archaeological deposits were excavated by hand and in accordance with the WSI and CIFA guidelines. The evaluation was designed to establish the presence or absence, extent, depth, character and date of any *in situ* archaeological deposits within the site to inform any further planning decisions. The trenches targeted anomalies identified by geophysical survey (Webb 2016).

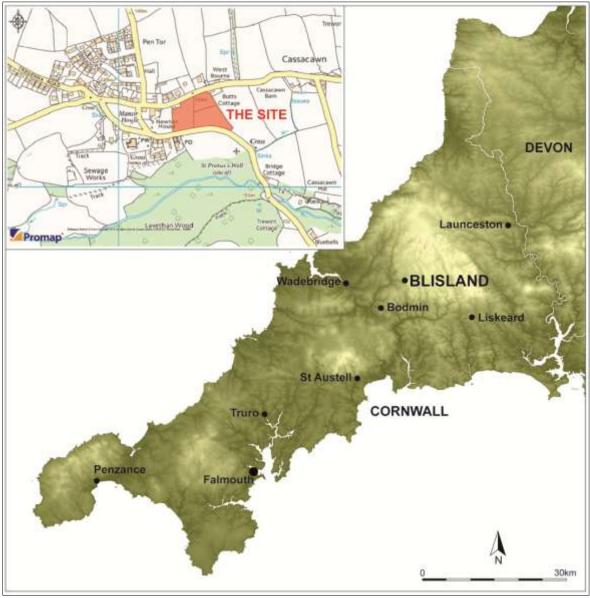


Figure 1: Site location (the site is indicated).

2.0 RESULTS OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

2.1 Introduction

The purpose of this evaluation was to investigate geophysical anomalies identified in an earlier gradiometer survey (Webb 2016) and inform on the archaeological potential and condition of the site.

Five evaluation trenches, each 1.6m wide and between 24m and 50m in length, totalling 194m in length, were opened by a tracked mechanical excavator to the depth of *in situ* weathered natural using a toothless grading bucket. These trenches targeted geophysical anomalies (Figure 2). Exposed archaeological deposits were excavated by hand.

A total of 23 features were identified, including: one bank; six ditches; one post-medieval ceramic land-drain; four stone filled soak-away drains; two pits; one stone dump; one natural hollow; one tree-throw; and seven modern service trenches and associated features.

What follows is a full trench-by-trench account of the results of the evaluation. A complete set of context records can be seen in Appendix 1; a detailed concordance of finds in Appendix 2; and a full set of supporting photographs can be seen in Appendix 3.

2.2 DEPOSIT MODEL

A consistent site stratigraphy was identified across the site: topsoil, mid-dark brown soft-friable loam-silt; overlying a buried soil/lower topsoil, mid brown soft-friable loam-silt; overlying subsoil, light brown soft silt-clay; over the natural, a banded red-clay with granite to blue-brown-yellow soft clay and shillet. Typically the depths of the deposits were deeper towards the south-east corner of the site, the topsoil ranging from c.0.15 in Trench 1 in the north-west to c.0.26m in Trench 3 in the south-east. Similarly the depths of subsoil ranged from c.0.10m to 0.27m in Trench 3 in the south-east corner; following the expected pattern of colluvial build-up downslope, though also affected by the presence of a natural hollow at the southern end of the site.

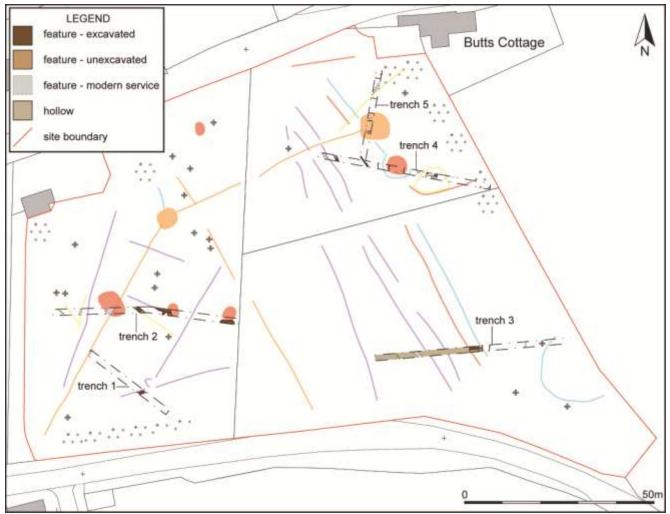


FIGURE 2: TRENCH LOCATIONS AND IDENTIFIED ARCHAEOLOGICAL FEATURES IN RELATION TO GEOPHYSICAL ANOMALIES.

2.3 TRENCH 1

Trench 1, measuring $26m \times 1.60m$ and excavated to a depth of 0.60m was located towards the south-west corner of the site on an approximate north-west to south-east alignment, and was situated to target possible linear geophysical anomalies and suspected modern disturbance features. No finds were recovered from this trench.

Two features: ditch [104]; and service trench [107] (Figure 3), were identified within the trench. Ditch [104] was a linear feature located towards the southern end of the trench and aligned east-north-east by west-south-west. It measured 0.55m wide and 0.25m deep with moderate to steep sloping sides and concave base (Figure 4). It contained two fills: upper fill (105), mid brown soft-friable clay-silt; and basal fill (106) mid-light brown soft-friable silt-clay. It contained no finds.

Service trench [107] was a linear feature located at the northern end of the trench and orientated approximately north-east to south-west. It cut the topsoil and measured 0.3+m wide. It contained an upper fill (108), light brown and red clay, re-deposited natural. This feature was not excavated.

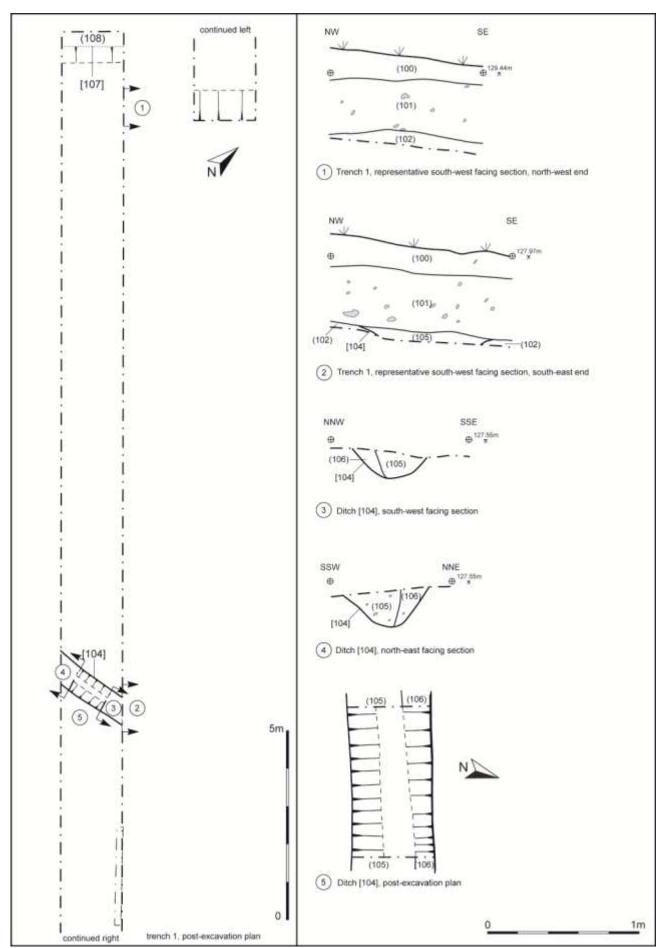


FIGURE 3: TRENCH 1 PLANS AND SECTIONS.



FIGURE 4: DITCH [104]; VIEWED FROM THE SOUTH-WEST (0.30M SCALE).

Both of the features recorded within the trench were identified during the geophysical survey, modern service trench [107] corresponding with the suspected modern disturbance feature; and ditch [104] with the southern of two possible archaeological features.

2.4 TRENCH 2

Trench 2, measuring $49m \times 1.60m$ on an approximate east to west alignment was located towards the centre of the western paddock to target a series of linear and possible pit anomalies identified on the geophysical survey. Finds recovered from the trench included: 1 sherd of white refined earthenware (9g), 1 sherd (16g) of 14^{th} - 15^{th} century medieval pottery from subsoil (201).

A total of eleven features: ditches [211], [213], [225], and [234]; drains [209], and [230]; pits [215], and [217]; service trenches [228], and [232]; and tree throw [204] (Figure 5), were identified within the trench and corresponded with several of the geophysical anomalies.

Ditch [211] was a linear feature located towards the centre of the trench and aligned approximately north by south (Figure 6). It measured 0.5m wide and 0.40m deep with moderate to steep sloping sides and concave base. It contained a single fill: (212), mid-dark brown friable silt, which had been cut by drain [209]. No finds were recovered from this feature.

Ditch [213], located immediately to the west of [211], was orientated approximately north-north-east by south-south-west and measured 0.35m wide and 0.20m deep. It had moderate to steep sloping sides with concave base, and cut pit [215]. The ditch contained a single fill: (214), mid-dark brown soft-friable clay-silt, which had been cut by pit [217]. Finds recovered from this feature included one sherd (2g) of heavily abraded 13th-14th century medieval pottery.

To the east, ditch [225] was orientated north-west by south-east, and measured 0.8m wide and 0.58m deep with near vertical sides and flat base (Figure 7). It contained two fills: upper fill (226), mid red-brown soft-friable clay silt; and lower fill (227), mid brown soft-friable slightly clay-silt. A single (13g) retouched flint blade was recovered from this feature.

Cutting pit [217] towards the centre of the trench, ditch [234] was orientated north-west to south-east and measured 0.50m wide and 0.40m deep with a near vertical east side and shallow west side, with slightly concave base. It contained a single fill: (219), mid brown soft-friable slightly clay-silt. No finds were recovered from this feature.

Cutting the eastern edge of ditch [211], drain [209] was orientated approximately north by south and measured 0.35m wide and 0.08m deep with moderate sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill: (210), dark brown soft-friable silt and was lined with sub-angular slate-stone. No finds were recovered from this feature.

Located towards the western end of the trench, drain [230] was orientated north-east to south-west and measured 0.40m wide. It contained an upper fill of dark brown soft-friable clay-silt with common sub-angular stone. This feature was not excavated.

Pit [215], cut by ditches [211] and [213], survived to dimensions of c.1m wide \times 0.60m deep with moderate sloping sides and concave base. It contained a single fill: (216), mid orange-brown soft-friable slightly clay silt. No finds were recovered from this feature.

To the west of this, and cutting ditch [213], pit [217] was sub-oval in plan orientated east by west and measured 3.20m wide and 0.50m deep with moderate to steep sloping sides and slightly concave base. It contained seven fills: (218), (220), (221), (222), (223), mid-dark brown soft-friable clay-silts; and (224), mid yellow-brown soft-friable clay-silt. No finds were recovered from this feature.

Modern service features [228], and [232] were located towards the western end of the trench. [228] measured 1.5m wide; and [232] 0.20m wide. The former was orientated approximately north-east by south-west, the latter north-west by south-east; and both contained upper fills of re-deposited natural, mid yellow-brown compacted but friable yellow-brown silt-clay. Both features cut through the topsoil, from below the turf, and neither was excavated.

The majority of the features recorded within the trench correspond to anomalies identified on the geophysical survey. Modern service trench [228] corresponds to the modern disturbance running through the trench, whilst [232] was located within an area of high disturbance, masking its presence. Of the three possible archaeological features, two were identified as features, the westernmost as drain [230]; and the central anomaly as ditch [234]. The third possible linear feature towards the eastern end of the trench does not appear to be real. Of the three possible pits, the westernmost was not visible, modern service [228] preventing the trench from being excavated to full depth at this point, whilst the easternmost was identified as tree throw [104]. Only the central of the possible pits was archaeological in nature, identified as pits [215] and [217], with intercutting linear features [209], [211], [213], and [234]. Linear feature [225] was not identified on the original interpretation of the geophysical survey, but re-examination of the results identifies a heavily masked linear feature.

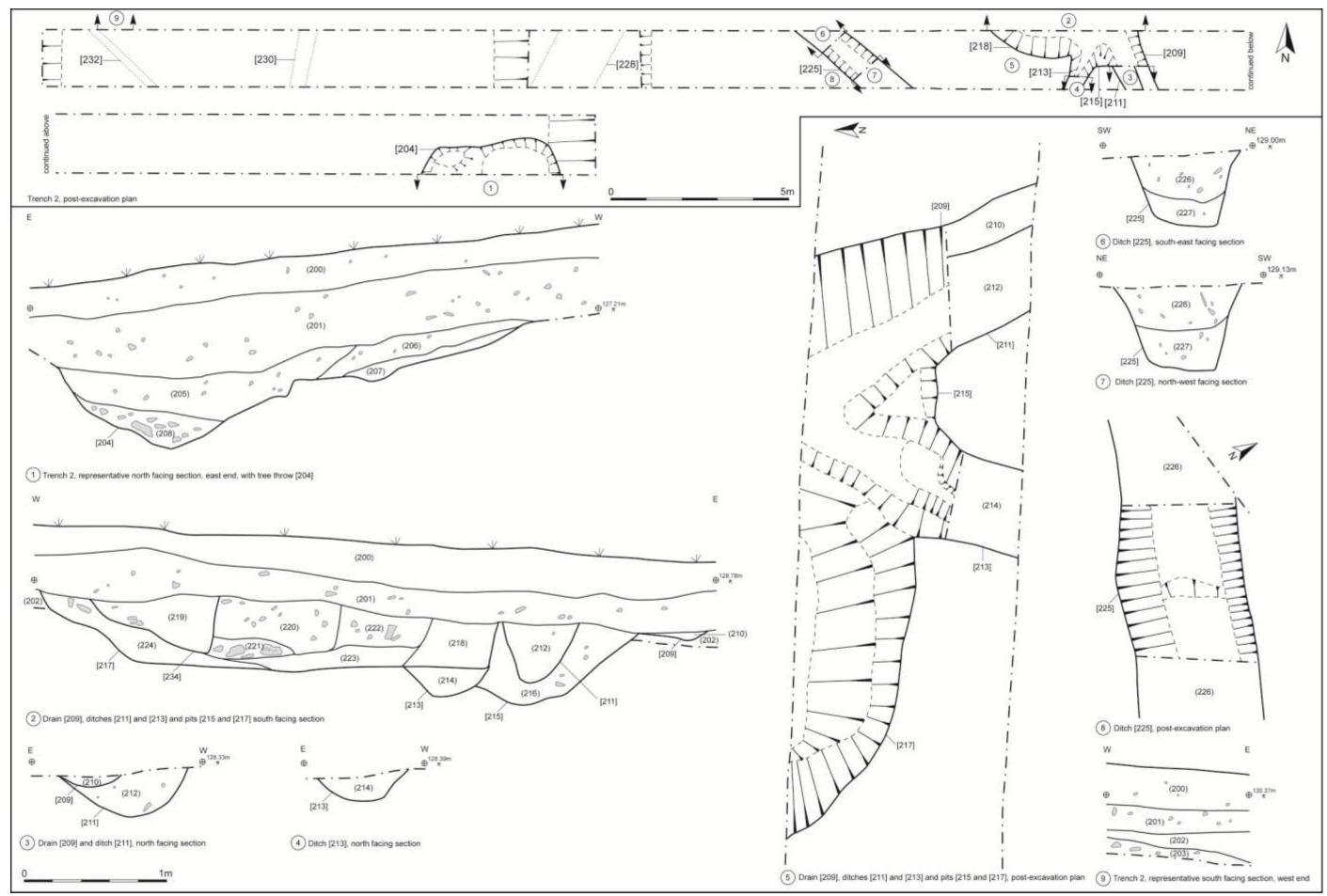


FIGURE 5: TRENCH 2 PLANS AND SECTIONS SOUTH WEST ARCHAEOLOGY LTD.



Figure 6: Ditches [209], [211], [213], and [234]; and pits [215], and [217], south facing section; viewed from the south (1M & 2M scales).



Figure 7: Ditch [225] North-West facing section; viewed from the North-West (0.30m & 1m scales).

2.5 TRENCH 3

Trench 3, measuring 49.10m × 1.60m on an approximate east to west alignment was located towards the south-east corner of the site to target a series of linear anomalies identified on the geophysical survey. It contained a stratigraphic sequence of: topsoil (300), dark grey-brown friable silt-loam 0.30m thick. This overlay lower/buried topsoil (301), mid-dark brown soft-friable silt 0.20m thick; subsoil (302), mid red-brown soft-friable clay-silt with occasional shillet fragments 0.15m thick; and the natural (303), light yellow-brown compact clay and weathered shillet fragments with granite. Finds recovered from the trench included: 2 sherds (19g) of white refined earthen ware; 1 sherd (102g) of post-medieval North Devon Gravel Tempered pottery; and 1 fragment (8g) of 17th-18th century green vessel glass from topsoil (300).

Four features: bank {309}; ditch [304]; land-drain [311]; and modern service trench [313] were identified within the trench (Figure 8) and corresponded with some, though not all of the geophysical anomalies. Bank {309} was located towards the centre of the trench on an approximate north to south alignment and measured 0.46m high. It had collapsed / been demolished over the fills of ditch [304] creating an overall width of 4.80m and gentle sloping sides to convex top (Figure 9). Its construction was of mid-dark grey-brown friable clay-silt with moderate grit and frequent granite and mudstone inclusions *c*.0.20-0.40m. No finds were recovered from this feature

Sealed by bank demolition {309}, ditch [304] ran along the western side of the bank on the same north to south alignment and measured 2.45m wide and 0.90m deep. It had a very steep western side and moderate to steep eastern side with flat base. It contained four fills: (305), (306), (307), mid brown-yellow silt-clays; and (308), mid-dark grey-brown friable clay-silt. The ditch cut the subsoil and was sealed by the demolition of the bank. No finds were recovered from this feature.

Towards the western end of the trench land-drain [311] was orientated north-west to south-east, and measured 0.25m wide. It contained an upper fill (312), dark brown soft silt-clay and ceramic land-drain. This feature was not excavated.

To the east of [311] a modern service trench [313] had been cut in from the topsoil, orientated north-west to south-east and measuring 1m wide. It contained an upper fill (314) of re-deposited natural, mid yellow-brown compacted but friable yellow-brown silt-clay. This feature was not excavated.

A natural hollow was also identified within the trench, extending 28+m to the west from bank {309} and measured *c*.0.40m deep. It had a moderate sloping east side, following the natural, with slightly undulating base and had been filled by subsoil (302) and buried soil (301).

Of the features identified on the geophysical survey in this trench, the positive and negative linear anomalies located towards the centre of the trench were identified as bank {309} and ditch [304], whilst the westernmost possible archaeological feature was modern service trench [313]. The other interpreted features in this trench were not identified on the ground, though the curvilinear feature at the eastern end of the trench is likely at least in part caused by stone deposits within the subsoil. The eastern of the possible features was not identified on the ground, though is likely to have been a heavily disturbed linear stone drain.

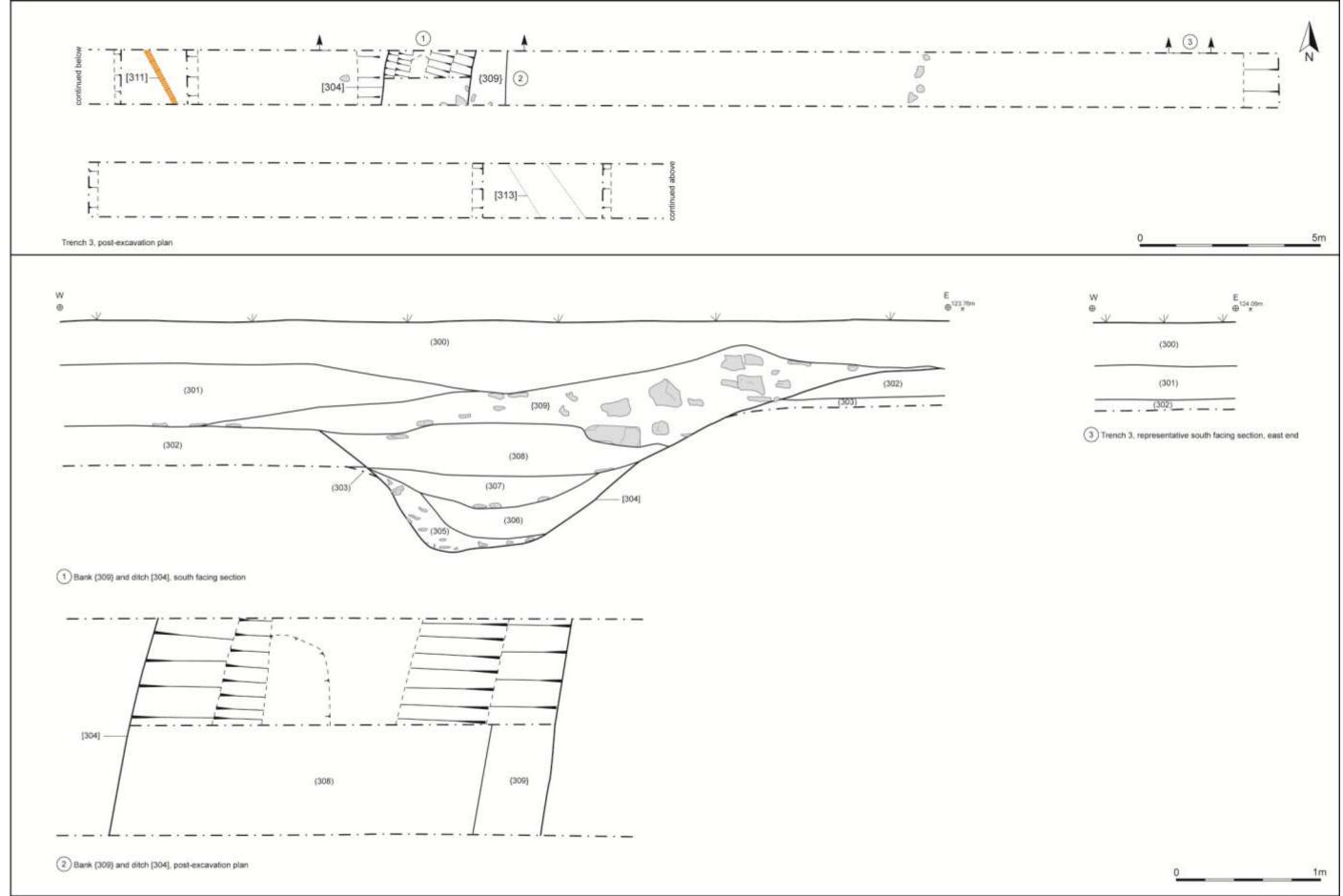


FIGURE 8: TRENCH 3 PLANS AND SECTIONS.



FIGURE 9: BANK (309) AND DITCH [304], SOUTH FACING SECTION; VIEWED FROM THE SOUTH (2M SCALE).

2.6 TRENCH 4

Trench 4, measuring $46.20m \times 1.60m$ on an approximate north-west to south-east alignment was located towards the north-east corner of the site to target a series of linear and possible pit anomalies identified on the geophysical survey. It contained a stratigraphic sequence of: topsoil (400), dark grey-brown friable silt-loam 0.26m thick. This overlay lower/buried topsoil (401), dark grey-brown friable sandy-silt-loam 0.36m thick; subsoil (402), light brown-yellow to brown-red soft clay-silt 0.08-0.30m thick; and the natural (403), light red-yellow compact clay and granite. Finds recovered from the trench included: 1 sherd (14g) of white refined earthen ware from topsoil (400).

Four features: stone drains [404], and [406]; stone dump (408); and modern service trench [409] were identified within the trench (Figure 10) and corresponded with some, though not all of the geophysical anomalies. Stone drain [404], located towards the western end of the trench, was orientated north-north-west by south-south-east and measured 0.60m wide and 0.20m deep with very steep sides and flat base. It contained a single fill (405), yellow-brown soft-friable clay-silt with frequent stone inclusions. To the east of this, a second stone drain [406] was on the same north-north-west to south-south-east alignment and measured 0.36m wide and 0.10m deep with moderate to steep sides and flat base. It contained a single fill (407), yellow-brown soft-friable clay-silt with frequent stone inclusions. No finds were recovered from this feature.

Stone dump (408), located towards the eastern end of the trench appeared as a possible linear feature orientated north-north-east by south-south-west, and measured c.1.5m wide and 0.38m deep with a shallow sloping side and convex top. The stones were within a dark brown friable sandy-silt-loam matrix. It abutted against a substantial granite boulder within the natural, and is likely to have formed a dump of stones from clearance during ploughing episodes.

Located at the very western end of the trench, modern service trench [409], measuring 0.75m wide on a north-north-west to south-south-east alignment, was cut in from the topsoil. It contained an upper fill (410) of re-deposited natural, mid yellow-brown compacted but friable yellow-brown silt-clay. This feature was not excavated.

The features recorded in Trench 4 correspond to several of the anomalies identified on the geophysical survey. The two possible features correspond to modern service trench [409] and stone drain [404]. The suspected linear feature at the eastern end of the trench did not appear as a real feature, whilst the possible pit feature was likely caused by a natural stony spread noticed during the machining. Similarly, stone spread (408) corresponds to an area of disturbance on the geophysical survey, whilst stone drain [406] was probably not picked up due to the depth of soils overlying it and its ephemeral nature.

2.7 TRENCH 5

Trench 5, measuring $24.10m \times 1.60m$ on an approximate north-east to south-west alignment was located towards the north-east corner of the site to target a series of linear and probable modern features identified on the geophysical survey. It contained a stratigraphic sequence of: topsoil (500), dark grey-brown friable silt-loam 0.24m thick. This overlay lower/buried topsoil (501), dark grey-brown friable sandy-silt-loam 0.22-0.38m thick; subsoil (502), light brown-yellow to brown-red soft clay-silt 0.10-0.28m thick; and the natural (503), mixed yellow and orange clays. Finds recovered from the trench included: 1 sherd (9g) of flower pot and 1 clay pipe stem (1g) from topsoil (500).

Two features: modern service trench [504]; and modern man-hole inspection hatch [506] were identified in the trench (Figure 11). Service trench [504] was orientated north-east to south-west, measured 1.00m wide and had been cut in from the topsoil. It contained an upper fill (505) of redeposited natural, mid yellow-brown compacted but friable yellow-brown silt-clay. This feature was not excavated. Man-hole inspection hatch comprised a triangular metal hatch measuring $0.60m \times 0.60m$ opening up onto a modern drainage system. This feature protruded from the topsoil and was not excavated.

An apparent linear arrangement of stone was also identified within the trench, orientated approximately north-west to south-east and measured 1.5m wide. It may have formed a bank/boundary, though is more likely that a large natural granite boulder within the natural allowed additional stones to have collected against it as there did not appear to be a formal structure.

Trench 5 was located to target a suspected modern feature, which was identified as man-hole cover [506]; the stones to the south of it likely to be adding to the disturbance picked up on the geophysics. The only other feature in the trench, modern service [504] was not previously identified due to the high levels of disturbance in the north-east corner of the site.

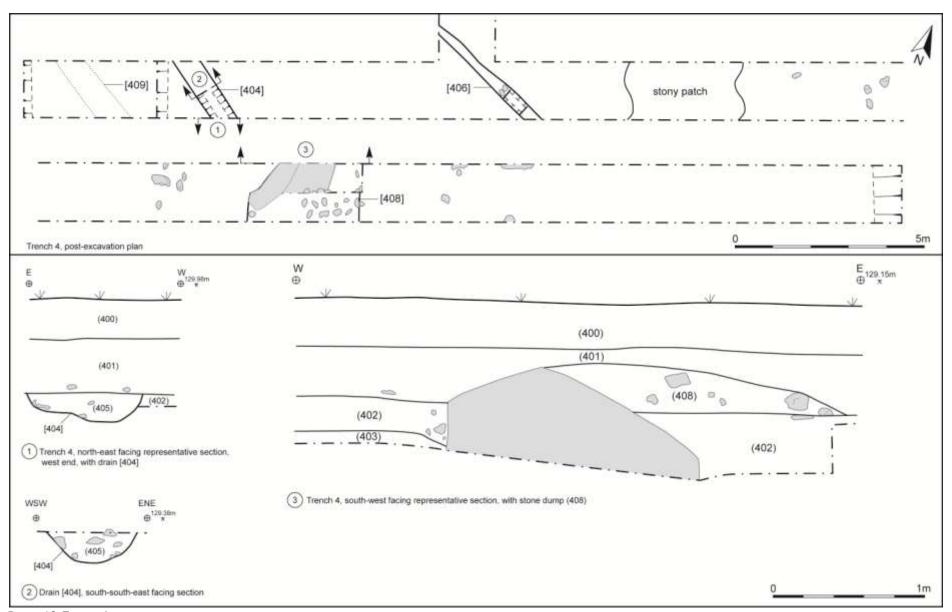


FIGURE 10: TRENCH 4 PLANS AND SECTIONS.

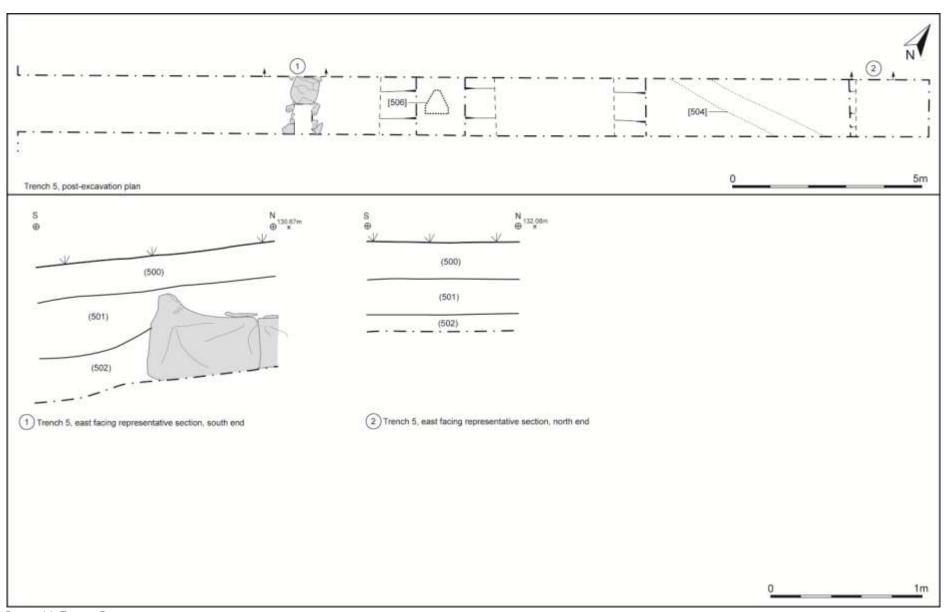


FIGURE 11: TRENCH 5 PLANS AND SECTIONS.

2.8 FINDS

There were relatively few finds encountered across the site. Three features contained finds, all within Trench 2; all other finds were recovered from the topsoil and subsoil. All of the finds recovered from the site were as follows:

2.8.1 TOPSOIL AND SUBSOIL:

Topsoil (200) contained 1 sherd (9g) of white refined earthen ware with blue transfer print. Subsoil (201) contained 1 sherd (16g) of possible Lostwithiel type granite derived jar dating to the 14th-15th centuries. Topsoil (300) contained 2 sherds (19g) of white refined earthen ware; 1 sherd (102g) of post-medieval North Devon Gravel Tempered ware; 1 fragment (8g) of 17th-18th century green vessel glass. Topsoil (400) contained 1 sherd (14g) of post-medieval white refined earthenware. Topsoil (500) contained 1 sherd (9g) of flower pot and 1 fragment (1g) of a clay pipe stem.

2.8.2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL FEATURES:

Ditch fill (214) contained 1 sherd (2g) of heavily abraded 13th-14th century medieval pottery; ditch fill (226) contained 1 (13g) retouched flint blade, likely to be early Neolithic in date; and tree-throw fill (205) contained 1 (4g) retouched flint blade fragment, also likely to be early Neolithic in date.

2.8.3 DISCUSSION:

The relatively sparse number of finds across the site suggests an infrequent-, or relative debris free, amount of mucking across the site through the medieval and later periods. Most of the features remain undated, though those that were dateable are post-medieval or modern in date and the rest likely to be of a similar date. Only feature [225] may be earlier, the presence of a retouched flint blade suggesting that it may be early Neolithic. A second retouched flint blade was also recovered from tree-throw [104]. However, both of these are likely to be residual, along with the medieval sherd of pottery recovered from ditch [213]. These residual finds indicate that there was prehistoric and medieval activity on the site, but that these phases of activity were not reflected in the identified archaeological features.

3.0 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

3.1 Discussion

The results of the evaluation trenching validate the results of the geophysical survey: the majority of the geophysical anomalies were identified (Figure 2). Those anomalies that were interpreted as weak or intermittent were only occasionally identified and it may be that severe ploughing had truncated some of these. Features that were identified additional to the geophysical survey results were predominantly in areas where there were high levels of disturbance, re-examination of the results identifying traces of features visible through the disturbance. Other features identified on the geophysical survey which did not appear as features on the ground are likely the result of the patchy stony nature of the natural.

The majority of the features on the site can be identified as either: modern drain and service trenches associated with the surrounding housing, or as post-medieval field-drains linked to the agricultural and pastoral use of the site and the need to keep it dry. The remaining features are likely to be the result of previous land divisions not identified on the historic mapping, and currently undated. The presence of a flint blade and the different nature of the fill of ditch [225] may indicate it as an earlier, possibly prehistoric feature. However, the location of the lithic material and root disturbed nature of some of the deposits may indicate it as a residual find, and along with the second flint blade recovered from tree-throw [204] indicate early Neolithic activity on the site.

3.2 Conclusion

The evaluation validated the majority of the geophysical survey results, equating archaeological features to geophysical anomalies. Although a geophysical survey would not identify small discrete features, the evaluation trenching has demonstrated most of the ditches and larger features do survive beneath the ground, and did not encounter many small discrete features which were not shown on the geophysics. The site is shown to have been criss-crossed by a mix of post-medieval and modern drains associated with the surrounding housing and the need to drain the land.

Several features remain undated, though are likely to predominantly be similarly post-medieval in date and may reflect earlier land divisions, though artefactual evidence suggests that there was prehistoric activity on the site. Ditch [225] and presumably a parallel anomaly on the geophysics results may relate to earlier (medieval or prehistoric activity), as the fill was very different, from the other excavated features. If any further archaeological works are to be required it is recommended that they are merited only in the western paddock where these earlier features were encountered, so that their date and function can perhaps be ascertained.

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APPENDIX 1: CONTEXT DETAILS

CONTEXT	DESCRIPTION		RELATIONSHIPS	DEPTH/THICKNESS	SPOT DATE							
		To a hid										
Trench 1 (100) Layer Topsoil. Mid-dark brown soft-friable loam-silt 0.15-0.20m thick. Cut by [107]; overlies (101) 0.15-0.20m Modern												
(100)	Layer	Buried soil/topsoil. Mid brown soft-friable loam-silt 0.15-0.20m thick.	Overlain by (100); overlies	0.15-0.20m 0.35m	Modern							
(102)	Lover	Cubasil Light hyayya saft silt alay 0.10m thick	(105) Cut by [104]; overlies (103)	0.10m								
(102)	Layer Natural	Subsoil. Light brown soft silt-clay 0.10m thick. Natural. Banded mid red clay with stone.	Overlain by (102)	0.10m								
[104]	Cut	Linear ditch aligned east-north-east by west-south-west. Measures 0.55m wide and 0.25m deep with moderate to steep sloping sides and concave base.	Filled by (105), (106); cuts (102)	0.25m	Post-medieval(?)							
(105)	Fill	Upper fill of ditch [104]. Mid brown soft-friable clay-silt with rare sub-angular stone 10-20mm.	Overlain by (101); overlies (106); fill of [104]	0.25m								
(106)	Fill	Basal fill of ditch [104]. Mid-light brown soft-friable silt-clay. Weathering/slump deposit.	Overlain by (105); fill of [104]	0.25m								
[107]	Cut	Linear service trench orientated approximately north-east to south-west. Cut in from the topsoil and measures 0.3+m wide.	Filled by (108); cuts (100)	-	Modern							
(108)	Fill	Fill of service trench [107]. Light brown and red clay, re-deposited natural.	Overlain by turf; fill of [107]	-	Modern							
		Trench 2										
(200)	Layer	Topsoil. Mid-dark brown soft-friable silt 0.30m thick.	Cut by [228], [232]; overlies (201)	0.30m	Modern							
(201)	Layer	Buried soil/topsoil. Mid-dark brown soft-friable silt 0.36m thick.	Overlain by (200); overlies (205), (210), (212), (219)	0.36m								
(202)	Layer	Subsoil. Mid brown-yellow soft silt-clay 0.10m thick.	Cut by [209], [215], [217], [225]; overlies (203)	0.10m								
(203)	Natural	Natural. Blue-brown-yellow soft slightly silt-clay.	Overlain by (202)	-								
[204]	Cut Tree-throw. Sub-oval feature orientated east to west. Measures 3.9m wide an deep with moderately steep sloping sides and undulating base.		Filled by (205), (206), (207), (208); cuts [202]	0.5m	Prehistoric(?)							
(205)	Fill	Upper fill of [204]. Mid brown soft slightly silt-clay with occasional sub-angular stone 10-30mm. Flint blade.	Overlain by (201); overlies (206), (208); Fill of [204]	0.33m								
(206) Fill		Fill of [204]. Mid slightly grey-brown soft slightly silt-clay. Overlain by (20 (207); Fill of [20])		0.17m								
(207)	Fill	Fill of [204]. Mid yellow0brown soft slightly silt clay with occasional sub-angular stone 10-30mm. Overlain by (i		0.10m								
(208)	Fill Fill of [204]. Mid brown soft slightly silt-clay with frequent-abundant sub-angular stone 10-100mm.		Overlain by (205); Fill of [204]	0.24m								
[209]	Cut Linear drain cut orientated approximately north by south and measured 0.35m wide and 0.08m deep with moderate sloping sides and a concave base.		0.08m	Post-medieval(?)								
(210)	Fill	Fill of [209]. Dark brown soft-friable silt with occasional sub-angular slate-stone inclusions.	Overlain by (201); Fill of [209]	0.08m								
[211]	Cut	Linear ditch located towards the centre of the trench and aligned approximately north by south. It measured 0.5m wide and 0.40m deep with moderate to steep sloping sides	Filled by (212); cuts (216)	0.40m	Post-medieval(?)							

		and concave base.			
(212)	Fill	Fill of [211]. Mid-dark brown friable silt.	Cut by [209]; Fill of [211]	0.40m	
[213]	Cut	Linear ditch orientated approximately north-north-east by south-south-west and measured 0.35m and 0.20m deep. It had moderate to steep sloping sides with concave base.	Filled by (214); cuts (216)	0.20m	Post-medieval(?)
(214)	Fill	Fill of [213]. Mid-dark brown soft-friable clay-silt.	Cut by [217]; fill of [213] Filled by (216); cuts (202)	0.20m	
[215]	Cut	Possible sub-oval pit with dimensions of $c.1$ m wide $\times 0.60$ m deep with moderate sloping sides and concave base.	0.60m	Post-medieval(?)	
(216)	Fill	Fill of [215]. Mid orange-brown soft-friable slightly clay-silt.	Cut by [213]; fill of [215]	0.60m	
[217]	Cut	Possible sub-oval pit sub-oval in plan, measuring 3.2m east by west and 0.5m deep with moderate to steep sloping sides and slightly concave base.	Filled by (218), (220), (221), (222), (223), (224); cuts (202)	0.50m	Post-medieval(?)
(218)	Fill	Fill of [217]. Mid brown soft-friable silt with occasional-rare sub-angular stone 10-30mm.	Overlain by (223); fill of [217]	0.30m	
(219)	Fill	Fill of [234]. Mid brown soft-friable slightly clay-silt.	Overlain by (201); fill of [234]	0.40m	
(220)	Fill	Fill of [217]. Mid-dark brown soft-friable slightly clay-silt with frequent sub-angular to sub-rounded stone 10-30mm.	Cut by [234]; overlies (221); Fill of [217]	0.38m	
(221)	Fill	Fill of [217]. Dark brown soft-friable slightly clay-silt with frequent angular stone 10-50mm.	Overlain by (220); overlies (223); Fill of [217]	0.14m	
(222)	Fill	Fill of [217]. Mid brown soft-friable slightly clay-silt with occasional sub-angular stone 10-50mm.	Overlain by (220); overlies (223); fill of [217]	0.26m	
(223)	Fill	Fill of [217]. Mid brown soft-friable slightly clay-silt.	Overlain by (222); overlies (224); fill of [217]	0.14m	
(224)	Fill	Fill of [217]. Mid yellowish-brown soft-friable clay-silt. Basal fill/slump deposit.	Overlain by (223); fill of [217]	0.24m	
[225]	Cut	Cut Linear ditch orientated north-west by south-east. It measured 0.8m wide and 0.58m Filled b deep with near vertical sides and flat base. (202)		0.58m	Prehistoric? Or medieval
(226)	Fill	Upper fill of [225]. Mid red-brown soft-friable clay-silt with common sub-angular stone 10-50mm.	Overlain by (201); overlies (227); fill of [225]	0.32m	
(227)	Fill	Lower fill of [225]. Mid brown soft slightly silt-clay with common-occasional sub-angular slate-stone/shillet fragments 10-20mm.	Overlain by (226); fill of [225]	0.28m	
[228]	Cut	Cut for modern service trench. Orientated north-east by south-west. Measures 1.5m wide. Not excavated.	Filled by (229); cuts (200	-	Modern
(229)	Fill	Fill of [228]. Re-deposited natural, mid yellow-brown compacted but friable yellow-brown silt-clay.	Overlain by turf; fill of [228]	-	
[230]	Cut	Linear drain cut. Orientated north-east to south-west and measured 0.40m wide. Not excavated.	Filled by (231); cuts (202)	-	Post-medieval(?)
(231)	Fill	Fill of [230]. Dark brown soft-friable clay-silt with common sub-angular stone.	Overlain by (201); fill of [230]	-	
[232]	Cut	Cut of modern service trench. Orientated north-west by south-east. Measures 0.20m wide. Not excavated.	Filled by (233); cuts (200)	33); cuts (200) -	
(233)	Fill	Fill of [232]. Re-deposited natural, mid yellow-brown compacted but friable yellow-brown silt-clay.	Overlain by turf; fill of [232]	-	
[234]	Cut	Linear ditch orientated north-west to south-east and measured 0.50m wide and 0.40m deep with a near vertical east side and shallow west side, with slightly concave base.	Filled by (219); cuts (220)	0.40m	Post-medieval(?)

		Trench 3			
300)	Layer	Topsoil. Dark grey-brown friable silt-loam 0.30m thick	Overlies (301)	0.30m	Modern
(301)	Layer	Buries soil/topsoil. Mid-dark brown soft-friable silt 0.20m thick	Overlain by (300); overlies (309)	0.20m	
302)	Layer	Subsoil. Mid red-brown soft-friable clay-silt with occasional shillet fragments 0.15m thick	Cut by [304]; overlies (303)	0.15m	
303)	Natural	Natural. Light yellow-brown compact clay and weathered shillet fragments with granite.	Overlain by (302)	-	
304]	Cut	Linear ditch with north to south alignment and measured 2.45m wide and 0.90m deep. It had a very steep western side and moderate to steep eastern side with flat base.	0.90m	Post-medieval(?)	
305)	Fill	Basal fill of [304]. Mid brown-yellow compact clay with frequent shillet grit and small-medium angular stone inclusions.	Overlain by (306); fill of [304]	0.20m	
306)	Fill	Fill of [304]. Mid-light yellow brown firm silt-clay with moderate shillet and grit inclusions.	Overlain by (307); overlies (305); fill of [304]	0.22m	
307)	Fill	Fill of [304]. Mid yellow-brown soft silt-clay with moderate-frequent shillet inclusions.	Overlain by (308); overlies (306); fill of [304]	0.21m	
308)	Fill	Upper fill of [304]. Mid-dark grey-brown friable clay-silt with moderate grit and frequent stone inclusions 20-40mm.	Overlain by (309); overlies (307); fill of [304]	0.37m	
[309]	Structure	Demolished bank on an approximate north to south alignment and measured 0.46m high. It had collapsed / been demolished over the fills of ditch [304] creating an overall width of 4.80m and gentle sloping sides to convex top. Its construction was of mid-dark grey-brown friable clay-silt with moderate grit and frequent granite and mudstone inclusions c.0.20-0.40m.	Overlain by (301); overlies (308)	0.46m	Post-medieval(?)
310	Void	Void	Void	Void	Void
[311]	Cut	Cut for land drain. Orientated north-west to south-east, and measured 0.25m wide. Not excavated.	Filled by (312); cuts (301)	-	Modern
(312)	Fill	Fill of [311]. Dark brown soft silt-clay and ceramic land-drain.	Overlain by (300); fill of [311]	-	
313]	Cut	Cut of modern service orientated north-west to south-east and measuring 1m wide. Not excavated.	Filled by (314); cuts (300)	-	Modern
314)	Fill	Fill of [313]. Re-deposited natural, mid yellow-brown compacted but friable yellow-brown silt-clay.	Overlain by turf; fill of [313]	-	
		Trench 4			
400)	Layer	Topsoil. Dark grey-brown friable silt-loam 0.26m thick.	Overlies (401)	0.26m	Modern
401)	Layer	Buries soil/topsoil. Dark grey-brown friable sandy-silt-loam 0.36m thick.	Overlain by (400); overlies (405), (407), (408)	0.36m	
402)	Layer	Subsoil. Light brown-yellow to brown-red soft clay-silt 0.08-0.30m thick.	Cut by [404], [406]; overlies (403)	0.30m	
403)	Natural	Natural. Light red-yellow compact clay and granite.	Overlain by (402)	-	
404]	Cut	Linear drain orientated north-north-west by south-south-east and measured 0.60m wide and 0.20m deep with very steep sides and flat base.	Filled by (405); cuts (402)	0.20m	Post-medieval(?)
405)	Fill	Fill of [404]. Light yellow-brown soft-friable clay-silt with frequent medium stone at base.	Overlain by (401); fill of [404]	0.20	
406]	Cut	Linear drain with north-north-west to south-south-east alignment and measured 0.36m wide and 0.10m deep with moderate to steep sides and flat base.	Filled by (407); cuts (402)	0.10m	Post-medieval(?)
407)	Fill	Fill of [406]. Yellow-brown soft-friable clay-silt with frequent stone inclusions.	Overlain by (401); fill of [406]	0.10m	

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(408)	Spread	Possible linear feature orientated north-north-east by south-south-west, and measured c.1.5m wide and 0.38m deep with a shallow sloping side and convex top. The stones were within a dark brown friable sandy-silt-loam matrix. It abutted against a substantial granite boulder within the natural, and is likely to have formed a dump of stones from clearance during ploughing episodes.	Overlain (401); overlies (402)	0.38m	Modern?
[409]	Cut	Cut of modern service measuring 0.75m wide on a north-north-west to south-south-east alignment. Not excavated.	Filled by (410) cuts (400)	-	Modern
(410)	Fill	Fill of [409]. Re-deposited natural, mid yellow-brown compacted but friable yellow-brown silt-clay.	Overlain by turf; fill of [409]	-	
		Trench 5			
(500)	Layer	Topsoil. Dark grey-brown friable silt-loam 0.24m thick.	Overlies (501)	0.24m	Modern
(501)	Layer	Buried soil/topsoil. Dark grey-brown friable sandy-silt-loam 0.22-0.38m thick.	Overlain by (500); overlies (502)	0.22-0.38m	
(502)	Layer	Subsoil. Light brown-yellow to brown-red soft clay-silt 0.10-0.28m thick.	Overlain by (502); overlies (503)	0.10-0.28m	
(503)	Natural	Natural. Mixed yellow and orange clays.	Overlain by (502)	-	
[504]	Cut	Cut of modern service orientated north-east to south-west, measured 1.00m wide and had been cut in from the topsoil. Not excavated.	Filled by (505); cuts (500)	-	Modern
(505)	Fill	Fill of [504]. Re-deposited natural, mid yellow-brown compacted but friable yellow-brown silt-clay.	Overlain by turf; fill of [504]	-	
[506]	Structure	Modern man-hole inspection hatch comprised a triangular metal hatch measuring 0.60m × 0.60m opening up onto a modern drainage system. This feature protruded from the topsoil and was not excavated.	Cuts (500)	_	Modern

APPENDIX 2: CONCORDANCE OF FINDS

				POTTERY		CL	AY PIPES		OTHER		
Context	Notes	Sperds	Wgt. (g)	Notes	Frags.	Wgt. (g)	Notes	Frags.	Wgt. (g)	Notes	
(200)	Discarded	1	9g	White refined earthenware with blue transfer print. Post-medieval 1770+							
(201)	Retained	1	16g	Possible Lostwithiel granite derived jar fragment. Medieval 14 th -15 th century							
(205)	Retained							1	4g	Retouched flint blade fragment. Possible early Neolithic	
(214)	Retained	1	2g	Pottery scrap. Heavily abraded, possibly residual. Medieval 13 th -14 th century							
(226)	Retained							1	13g	Retouched flint blade fragment. Possible early Neolithic	
(200)	Discarded	2	19g	White refined earthenware				1	8g	Green vessel glass. Late 17 th -18 th century	
(300)	Discarded	1	102g	North Devon Gravel Tempered bowl base. Post- medieval							
(400)	Discarded	1	14g	White refined earthenware. Post-medieval 1770+							
(500)	Discarded	1	9g	Flower pot	1		Clay pipe stem				

APPENDIX 3: SUPPORTING PHOTOGRAPHS



TRENCH 1, POST-EXCAVATION; VIEWED FROM THE SOUTH-EAST (1M & 2M SCALES).



Trench 1, post-excavation; viewed from the north-west (1m & 2m scales).



TRENCH 1, SOUTH-WEST FACING SECTION, OBLIQUE; VIEWED FROM THE SOUTH (2M SCALE).



TRENCH 1, SOUTH-WEST FACING SECTION, OBLIQUE; VIEWED FROM THE NORTH-WEST (2M SCALE).



 $Trench \ 1, \ Representative \ south-west \ facing \ section, \ over \ ditch \ [104]; \ viewed \ from \ the \ south-west \ (1m \ scale).$



Trench 1, representative south-west facing section, west end; viewed from the south-west (1m scale).



DITCH [104], PRE-EXCAVATION; VIEWED FROM THE WEST (1M SCALE).



DITCH [104], POST-EXCAVATION; VIEWED FROM THE SOUTH-WEST (0.3M SCALE).



DITCH [104], SOUTH-WEST FACING SECTION; VIEWED FROM THE SOUTH-WEST (0.3 m scale).



DITCH [104], NORTH-EAST FACING SECTION; VIEWED FROM THE NORTH-EAST (0.3M SCALE).



Trench 2, post-excavation; viewed from the east (1m & 2m scales).



Trench 2, south-facing section, east end oblique; viewed from the south-east (2m scale).



Trench 2, post-excavation, east end; viewed from the west (1m & 2m scales).



Trench 2, post-excavation, west end; viewed from the west (1m & 2m scales).



TRENCH 2, SOUTH FACING SECTION, OBLIQUE, WEST END; VIEWED FROM THE SOUTH-WEST (2M SCALE).



Tree-throw [204], pre-excavation; viewed from the south (1m scale).



Tree-throw [204], pre-excavation; viewed from the north (1m scale).



Tree-throw [204], north facing section; viewed from the north (1m & 2m scales).



Tree-throw [204], post-excavation; viewed from the north-east (1m $\&\,$ 2m scales).



PIT [217] AND ASSOCIATED FEATURES, PRE-EXCAVATION; VIEWED FROM THE SOUTH (2M SCALE).



PIT [217] AND ASSOCIATED FEATURES, PRE-EXCAVATION; VIEWED FROM THE SOUTH-WEST (2M SCALE).



DITCHES [209], [211], [213], [234], AND PITS [215], [217], SOUTH FACING SECTION; VIEWED FROM THE SOUTH (1 M & 2 M SCALES).



DITCHES [209], [211], [213], [234], AND PITS [215], [217], SOUTH FACING SECTION, OBLIQUE; VIEWED FROM THE SOUTH-WEST (1 M & 2M SCALES).



DITCHES [209], [211], [213], [234], AND PITS [215], [217], SOUTH FACING SECTION, OBLIQUE; VIEWED FROM THE SOUTH-EAST (1M & 2M SCALES).



DITCHES [209], AND [211], POST-EXCAVATION; VIEWED FROM THE NORTH (1M SCALE).



DITCHES [209], AND [211], NORTH FACING SECTION; VIEWED FROM THE NORTH (1M SCALE).



DITCH [211], SOUTH FACING SECTION; VIEWED FROM THE SOUTH (2M SCALE).



DITCH [213], POST-EXCAVATION; VIEWED FROM THE NORTH (0.3M SCALE).



DITCH [213], NORTH FACING SECTION; VIEWED FROM THE NORTH (0.3M SCALE).



DITCH [234], AND PIT [217], SOUTH FACING SECTION; VIEWED FROM THE SOUTH (2M SCALES).



DITCHES [209], [211], [213], [234], AND PITS [215], [217], POST-EXCAVATION; VIEWED FROM THE NORTH-EAST (0.3M & 1M SCALES).



DITCH [225], PRE-EXCAVATION; VIEWED FROM THE SOUTH-EAST (1M SCALE).



DITCH [225], POST-EXCAVATION; VIEWED FROM THE NORTH-WEST (0.3m $\&\ 1\mbox{m}\ scales).$



DITCH [225], SOUTH-EAST FACING SECTION; VIEWED FROM THE SOUTH-EAST (0.3m & 1m scales).



DITCH [225], NORTH-WEST FACING SECTION; VIEWED FROM THE NORTH-WEST (0.3m & 1m scales).



MODERN SERVICE TRENCH [228], PRE-EXCAVATION; VIEWED FROM THE SOUTH-WEST (1M SCALE).



Trench 3, post-excavation; viewed from the east (1m & 2m scales).



Trench 3, post-excavation; viewed from the west (1m & 2m scales).



Trench 3, south facing section, oblique; viewed from the south-west (2m scale).



TRENCH 3, SOUTH FACING SECTION, OBLIQUE; VIEWED FROM THE SOUTH-WEST (2M SCALE).



TRENCH 3, REPRESENTATIVE SOUTH FACING SECTION, EAST END; VIEWED FROM THE SOUTH (1M SCALE).



DITCH [304], PRE-EXCAVATION; VIEWED FROM THE SOUTH-EAST (2M SCALE).



DITCH [304], POST-EXCAVATION; VIEWED FROM THE NORTH (2M SCALE).



DITCH [304], POST-EXCAVATION; VIEWED FROM THE EAST (2M SCALE).



DITCH [304], POST-EXCAVATION; VIEWED FROM THE NORTH-EAST (2M SCALE).



DITCH [304], POST-EXCAVATION; VIEWED FROM THE WEST (2M SCALE).



DITCH [304], POST-EXCAVATION; VIEWED FROM THE SOUTH-WEST (2M SCALE).



DITCH [304], POST-EXCAVATION; VIEWED FROM THE SOUTH-EAST (2M SCALE).



DITCH [304], POST-EXCAVATION; VIEWED FROM THE SOUTH-WEST (2M SCALE).



DITCH [304], SOUTH FACING SECTION; VIEWED FROM THE SOUTH (2M SCALE).



DITCH [304], SOUTH FACING SECTION, OBLIQUE; VIEWED FROM THE SOUTH-WEST (2M SCALE).



DITCH [304] AND BANK $\{309\}$, SOUTH FACING SECTION; VIEWED FROM THE SOUTH (2M SCALE).



Land-drain [311], pre-excavation; viewed from the south-east (1m scale).



MODERN SERVICE TRENCH [313], PRE-EXCAVATION; VIEWED FROM THE SOUTH-EAST (1M SCALE).



Trench 4, post-excavation; viewed from the south-east (1m & 2m scales).



Trench 4, post-excavation; viewed from the north-west (1m & 2m scales).



Trench 4, south-west facing section, oblique; viewed from the south-east (2m scale).



TRENCH 4, SOUTH-WEST FACING SECTION, OBLIQUE; VIEWED FROM THE WEST (2M SCALE).



Stone drain [404], north facing section; viewed from the north (1m scale).



Stone drain [404], south-east facing section; viewed from the south-east (0.3m scale).



Stone drain [404], post-excavation; viewed from the south-east (1m scale).



EPHEMERAL STONE DRAIN [406]; VIEWED FROM THE SOUTH-EAST (1M SCALE).



Stone deposit (408), post-excavation; viewed from the north (2m scale).



STONE DEPOSIT (408), POST-EXCAVATION; VIEWED FROM THE EAST (2M SCALE).



Stone deposit (408), post-excavation; viewed from the south (2m scale).



STONE DEPOSIT (408), POST-EXCAVATION; VIEWED FROM THE WEST (1M SCALE).



Trench 5, post-excavation; viewed from the south-west (1m & 2m scales).



Trench 5, post-excavation; viewed from the north-east (1m & 2m scales).



Trench 5, south-east facing section, oblique; viewed from the south (2m scale).



TRENCH 5, SOUTH-EAST FACING SECTION, OBLIQUE; VIEWED FROM THE NORTH (2M SCALE).



Stone deposit in Trench 5, post-excavation; viewed from the east (1m scale).



STONE DEPOSIT IN TRENCH 5, POST-EXCAVATION; VIEWED FROM THE WEST (1M SCALE).



Stone deposit in Trench 5, post-excavation; viewed from the north (1m scale).



STONE DEPOSIT IN TRENCH 5, POST-EXCAVATION; VIEWED FROM THE SOUTH (1M SCALE).

LAND AT NEWTON HOUSE, BLISLAND, CORNWALL



POST-EXCAVATION VIEW OF SITE; VIEWED FROM THE NORTH-EAST (NO SCALE).



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