

LAND AT COMBE CROSS

FILHAM

IVYBRIDGE

DEVON

Results of a Geophysical Survey and Archaeological Evaluation



South West Archaeology Ltd. report no. 170914



www.swarch.net Tel. 01769 573555

Land at Combe Cross, Filham, Ivybridge, Devon Results of a Geophysical Survey & Archaeological Evaluation

By P. Bonvoisin and S. Walls
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Work undertaken by SWARCH for Amanda Burden of Luscombe Maye
On behalf of Mr Shaun Bailey of JH Smerdon & Co.

Summary

This report presents the results of a geophysical survey and archaeological evaluation carried out by South West Archaeology Ltd. (SWARCH) on land at Combe Cross, Filham, Ivybridge, Devon. The site is located south of the A38 and west-north-west of Filham House, historically within the parish of Ugborough.

The southern part of the field was examined as part of the South West Gas Pipeline Reinforcement Project. This encountered post-medieval ditch and a single pit that contained wood charcoal and worked flint radiocarbon dated to the Middle Bronze Age. The geophysical survey undertaken identified fifteen groups of probable or possible anomalies that relate to archaeological activity, and four evaluation trenches were opened to determine the character, date, preservation and significance of the anomalies identified. Six archaeological features/groups were investigated: one historic field boundary, one large pit, one posthole, two ditches, and part of a large terraced platform. The latter feature produced Middle Bronze Age Trevisker ceramics, and is interpreted as a Middle Bronze Age sunken-floored roundhouse. This type of structure is characteristic of lowland Cornwall, and these examples extend the known distribution considerably.

The site should be subject to further archaeological works, such as an area excavation or archaeological monitoring and recording, as part of any planning condition.



September 2017

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AMANDA BURDEN OF LUSCOMBE MAYE (THE AGENT)
SHAUN BAILEY OF JH SMERDON & CO. (THE CLIENT)
THE DEVON HERITAGE CENTRE

PROJECT CREDITS

DIRECTOR: DR. SAMUEL WALLS
FIELDWORK: PETER BONVOISIN; DR SAMUEL WALLS
REPORT: PETER BONVOISIN; DR SAMUEL WALLS
EDITING: DR BRYN MORRIS
GRAPHICS: PETER BONVOISIN; NATALIE BOYD; DR BRYN MORRIS

1.0 INTRODUCTION

LOCATION:	LAND AT COMBE CROSS, FILHAM, IVYBRIDGE
PARISH:	IVYBRIDGE
COUNTY:	DEVON
NGR:	SX 65182 55504
PLANNING NO.	1897/17/FUL; 1901/17/FUL; 1902/17/FUL; 1903/17/FUL
SWARCH REF.	IFC17

1.1 PROJECT BACKGROUND

South West Archaeology Ltd. (SWARCH) was commissioned by Amanda Burden of Luscombe Maye (the Agent) on behalf of Shaun Bailey of JH Smerdon & Co. (the Client) to undertake a geophysical survey and archaeological evaluation on Land at Combe Cross, Filham, Ivybridge, Devon, in advance of a proposed agricultural development. This work was undertaken in accordance with a Project Design (Balmond 2017) and a trench plan drawn up in consultation with Stephen Reed of Devon County Historic Environment Team (DCHET).

1.2 TOPOGRAPHICAL AND GEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

The site is located c.0.25km south of the A38 and c.2km south-east of the centre of Ivybridge (Figure 1). The ground slopes from north to south, from 75m to 64m AOD. The site is bordered by narrow sunken lanes to the north and east with pasture fields to the south and west. The site forms one part of a larger pasture field. West of the site stands Filham House. The site is accessed via gateways in the north-western and south-eastern corners of the field. Overhead cables run east-west c.40m south of the northern corner of the site; electricity pylons also run across the fields to the north of the site, parallel to the A38. Marker posts for the South West Reinforcement Gas Pipeline are visible in the southern part of the field and in the field to the south of Filham.

The soils covering the survey area are the well-drained fine loamy and silty soils of the Denbigh 1 Association (SSEW1983). These overlie Middle Devonian Slates bordering on pyroclastic or basaltic rocks within that series (BGS 2017).

1.3 HISTORICAL & ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

Filham is a small hamlet to the south-east of Ivybridge, in Ivybridge civil parish but historically in Ugborough parish. The site is located to the east of Filham House, which is the site of the Grade II Listed remains of the medieval chapel of St. Andrew. Archaeological works were carried out to the south of the site prior to the installation of a gas pipeline (CA 2001; CA 2010; Mudd & Joyce 2014). Archaeological excavation uncovered a pit and ditch in the southern part of the field; the pit was found to contain worked flint and charcoal that was radiocarbon dated to the Middle Bronze Age. The ditch was determined to be a post-medieval field boundary (CA 2010, 64). Archaeological excavation in the field immediately to the south-west of the site uncovered clay deposits dated by two sherds of Iron Age pottery. A group of stakeholes was interpreted as a possible hearth or oven (CA 2010, 64).

1.4 METHODOLOGY

This work was undertaken in accordance with best practice. The gradiometer survey follows the general guidance as outlined in: *Geophysical Survey in Archaeological Field Evaluation* (English Heritage 2008) and *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Geophysical Survey* (CIfA 2014b).

The archaeological evaluation was conducted in accordance with a Project Design (Balmond 2017) and trench plan drawn up in consultation with Stephen Reed of Devon County Historic Environment Team (DCHET), in line with best practice and CIfA Guidelines (2014).

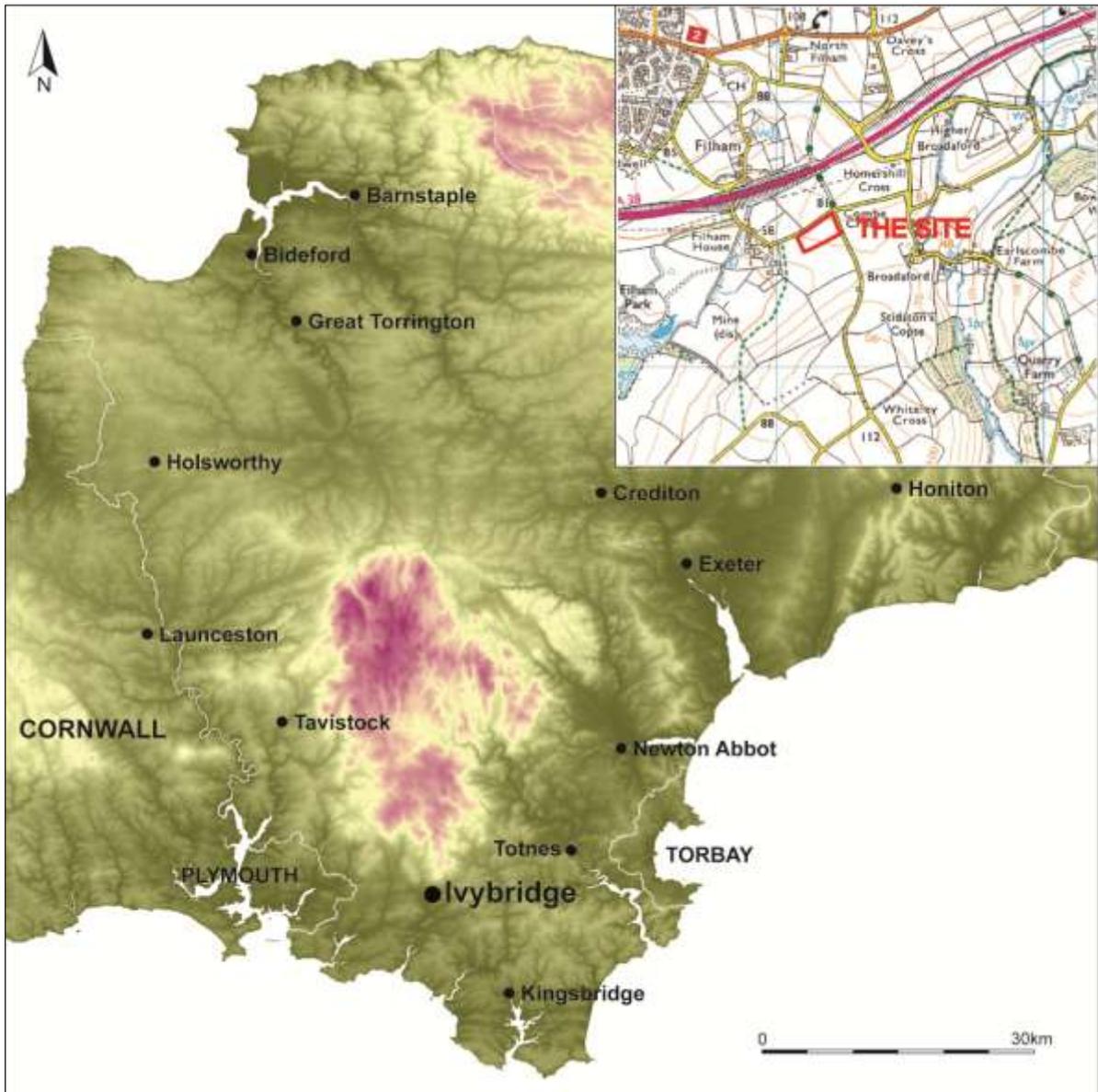


FIGURE 1: SITE LOCATION (THE SITE IS INDICATED).

2.0 GEOPHYSICAL SURVEY

2.1 INTRODUCTION

An area of c.1.5ha was the subject of a magnetometer (gradiometer) survey. The purpose of this survey was to identify and record magnetic anomalies within the proposed site. While identified anomalies may relate to archaeological deposits and structures, the dimensions of recorded anomalies may not correspond directly with any associated features. The following discussion attempts to clarify and characterise the identified anomalies. The survey was undertaken on the 27th July 2017 by P. Bonvoisin; the survey data was processed by P. Bonvoisin.

2.2 METHODOLOGY

The gradiometer survey follows the general guidance as outlined in: *Geophysical Survey in Archaeological Field Evaluation* (English Heritage 2008) and *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Geophysical Survey* (ClfA 2014b).

The survey was carried out using a twin-sensor fluxgate gradiometer (Bartington Grad601). These machines are sensitive to depths of up to 1.50m. The survey parameters were: sample intervals of 0.25m, traverse intervals of 1m, a zigzag traverse pattern, traverse orientation was circumstantial, grid squares of 30×30m. The gradiometer was adjusted ('zeroed') every 0.5-1ha. The survey grid was tied into the Ordnance Survey National Grid. The data was downloaded onto *Grad601 Version 3.16* and processed using *TerraSurveyor Version 3.0.25.0*. The primary data plots and analytical tools used in this analysis were *Shade* and *Metadata*. The details of the data processing are as follows:

Processes: Clip +/- 3SD; DeStripe all traverses, median. DeStagger of particular grids.

Details: 1.0248ha surveyed; Max. 103.23nT, Min. -100.55nT; Standard Deviation 7.55nT, mean -0.13nT, median 0.00nT.

2.3 SITE INSPECTION

The site is located in the north-east corner of the field immediately south-west of Combe Cross. The field was under pasture, which had been cut in advance of this survey. To the north-east and north-west are tall Devon hedgebanks, and the hedge shrubs have grown c.1m into the field. The north-west boundary has a post and wire fence within the hedge; the north-east boundary has fence posts from an earlier post and wire fence, as well as trees growing on and over the bank. An overhead cable runs roughly east-west in the northern part of the site. The south-east and south-west limits of the survey area are open to the field.

Within the site there are three areas where percolation test pits have been excavated. Farming implements are evident in the northern corner of the site. A cropmark crosses the site on the approximate line of a removed field boundary. Illustrations showing the site layout, photograph locations and locations of test pits can be found in Appendix 1; a full complement of site photographs can be found in Appendix 2.

LAND AT COMBE CROSS, FILHAM, IVYBRIDGE, DEVON



FIGURE 2: VIEW ALONG THE NORTH-WESTERN BOUNDARY OF THE SITE; VIEWED FROM THE NORTH-EAST (NO SCALE).



FIGURE 3: VIEW ALONG THE SOUTH-EASTERN BOUNDARY OF THE SITE; VIEWED FROM THE SOUTH-WEST (NO SCALE).

2.4 RESULTS

Table 1 with the accompanying Figures 4 and 5 show the analyses and interpretation of the geophysical survey data. Additional graphic images of the survey data and numbered grid locations can be found in Appendix 1.

TABLE 1: INTERPRETATION OF GRADIOMETER SURVEY DATA.

Anomaly Group	Class and Certainty	Form	Archaeological Characterisation	Comments
1	Historic field boundary, probable	Linear	Historic field boundary	Indicative of a former field boundary, backed up by historic map evidence. Responses of c.+5.3nT to -8.2nT.
2	Positive with negative border, probable	Linear	Ditch with raised sides	Indicative of a discrete cut feature or ditch with raised sides or small banks. Responses of c.+4.8nT to -3.3nT.
3	Positive with negative border, probable	Large ovoid	Large pit	Indicative of a cut feature such as a large pit. Responses of c.+12.7nT to -5.3nT.
4	Positive with negative border, probable	Large ovoid	Large pit	Indicative of a cut feature such as a large pit. Responses of c.+12.2nT to -3.8nT.
5	Positive, probable	Linear	Ditch	Indicative of a discrete cut feature or ditch. Responses of c.+5.1nT to +3.2nT.
6	Positive, probable	Linear	Ditch	Indicative of a discrete cut feature or ditch. Responses of c.+7.2nT to +4.1nT.
7	Positive, possible	Linear	Possible ditch	Indicative of a discrete cut feature or possible ditch. Responses of c.+7.4nT to +4.8nT.
8	Positive, possible	Curved linear	Possible ditch	Indicative of a discrete cut feature or possible ditch. Responses of c.+3.9nT to +2.7nT.
9	Positive, possible	Amorphous linear	Possible cut feature or geological feature	Indicative of a discrete cut feature, a possible geological anomaly. Responses of c.+5.2nT to +8.6nT.
10	Positive, possible	Long ovoid	Pit	Indicative of a discrete cut feature, a possible pit. Responses of c.+10.2nT to +3.6nT.
11	Positive, possible	Ovoid	Possible pit	Indicative of a discrete cut feature, a possible pit or geological anomaly. Responses of c.+5.7nT to +4.2nT.
12	Positive, possible	Fragmented amorphous linear	Possible cut feature or geological feature	Indicative of a discrete cut feature, a possible geological anomaly. Responses of c.+8.6nT to +2.8nT.
13	Positive, possible	Linear	Possible ditch	Indicative of a discrete cut feature such as a ditch. Responses of c.+7.9nT to +3.1nT.
14	High positive, possible	Ovoid	Pit or modern disturbance	Indicative of a cut feature such as a pit or possible modern disturbance. Responses of c.+23.1nT to +12.1nT.
15	High positive, possible	Ovoid	Pit or modern disturbance	Indicative of a cut feature such as a pit or possible modern disturbance. Responses of c.+34.7nT to +13.7nT.

2.5 DISCUSSION

The survey identified fifteen groups of anomalies; these were predominantly linear anomalies likely to be associated with historic boundaries and natural and agricultural anomalies. The majority of these anomalies have weak readings suggesting that the features are shallow.

Group 1 is a weak (+5.3nT to -8.2nT) negative linear with positive borders indicative of a previous hedgebank field boundary. The anomaly aligns with the linear observed during the site inspection (picture 10, Appendix 2) and approximately with the boundary shown on the 1st and 2nd edition OS maps (1886 and 1906) as well as the 1842 tithe map (Appendix 3). The cartographic evidence indicates this boundary was removed after 1906.

Group 2 is a weak (+4.8nT to -3.3nT) positive linear with a negative border, indicative of a ditch with raised earthworks to either side.

Groups 3 (+12.7nT to -5.3nT) and 4 (+12.2nT to -3.8nT) are moderate large negative ovoids, indicative of pits, with a slight raise around the rim.

Groups 5 (+5.1nT to +3.2nT) and 6 (+7.2nT to +4.1nT) are weak positive linears on the same south-east to north-west axis; indicative of discrete cut features such as ditches.

Group 7 is a weak (+7.4nT to +4.8nT) positive linear, indicative of a discrete cut feature such as a ditch. Due to the form and proximity, Groups 7 and 14 may be related.

Group 8 is a weak (+3.9nT to +2.7nT) positive linear, indicative of a discrete cut feature such as a ditch.

Groups 9 (+8.6nT to +5.2nT) and 12 (+8.6nT to +2.8nT) are moderate positive amorphous cut features, possibly of archaeological origin but, due to their form, are probably indicative of geological response,.

Group 10 is a moderate (+10.6nT to +3.6nT) oval cut feature indicative of a possible pit.

Group 11 is a weak (+5.7nT to +4.2nT) oval cut feature indicative of a possible pit, due to its location this feature may be related to group 12 and is therefore a possible geological response.

Group 13 is a weak (+7.9nT to +3.1nT) positive linear, indicative of a discrete cut feature or possible ditch.

Groups 14 (+23.1nT to +12.1nT) and 15 (+34.7nT to +13.7nT) are high positive indicative of cut features, such as pits or modern disturbance, due to the high response compared to other features within the site.

Magnetic disturbance is located in two places along the north-west boundary of the site and concentrated in the northern corner of the site; this is due to metallic agricultural tools and a possible former cesspit mentioned by the landowner (not confirmed). Di-polar anomalies are located across the site in an amorphous pattern; these Di-polar anomalies likely represent magnetic or modern debris.

LAND AT COMBE CROSS, FILHAM, IVYBRIDGE, DEVON

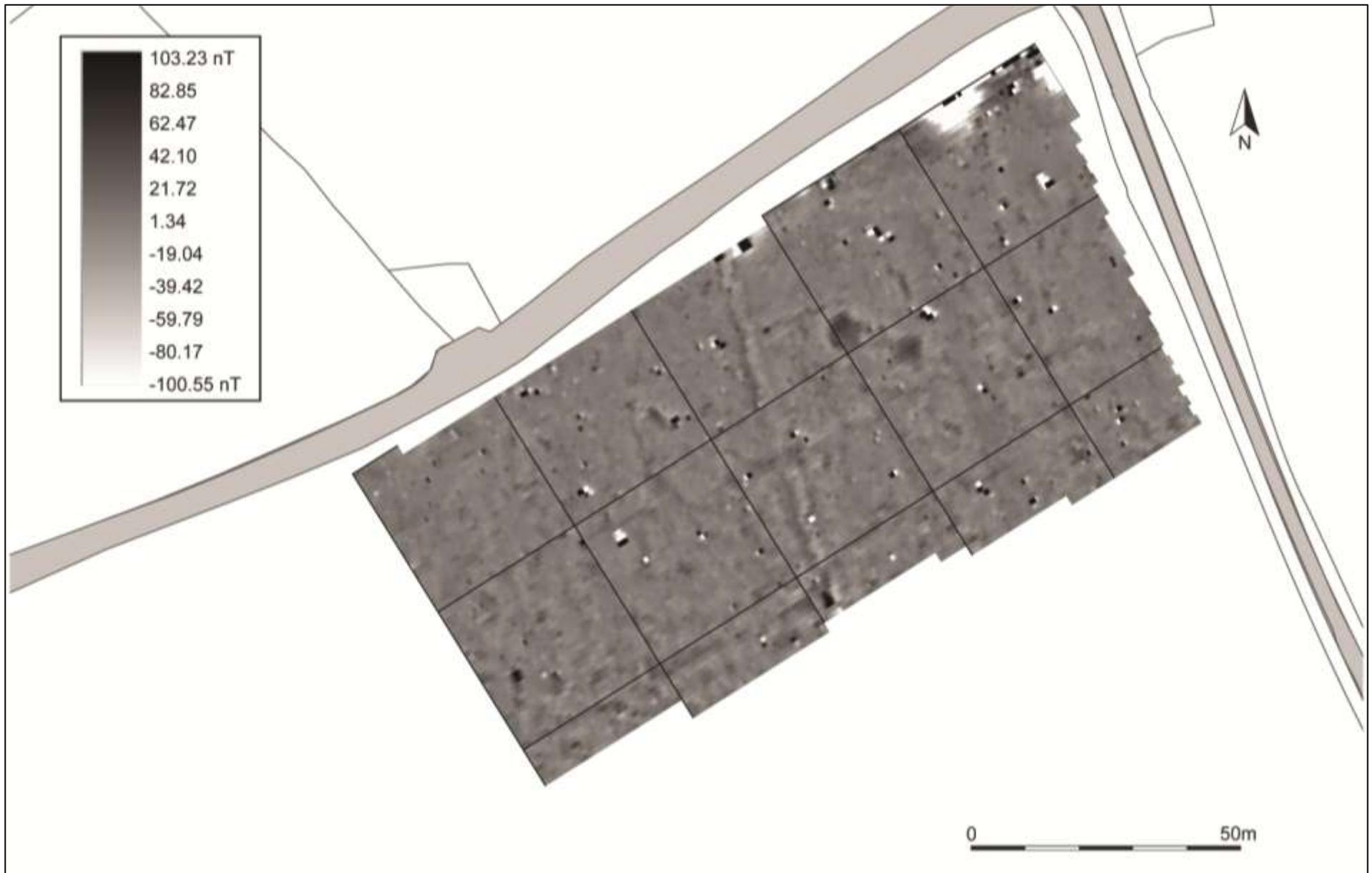


FIGURE 4: SHADE PLOT OF GRADIOMETER SURVEY DATA; MINIMAL PROCESSING.

LAND AT COMBE CROSS, FILHAM, IVYBRIDGE, DEVON

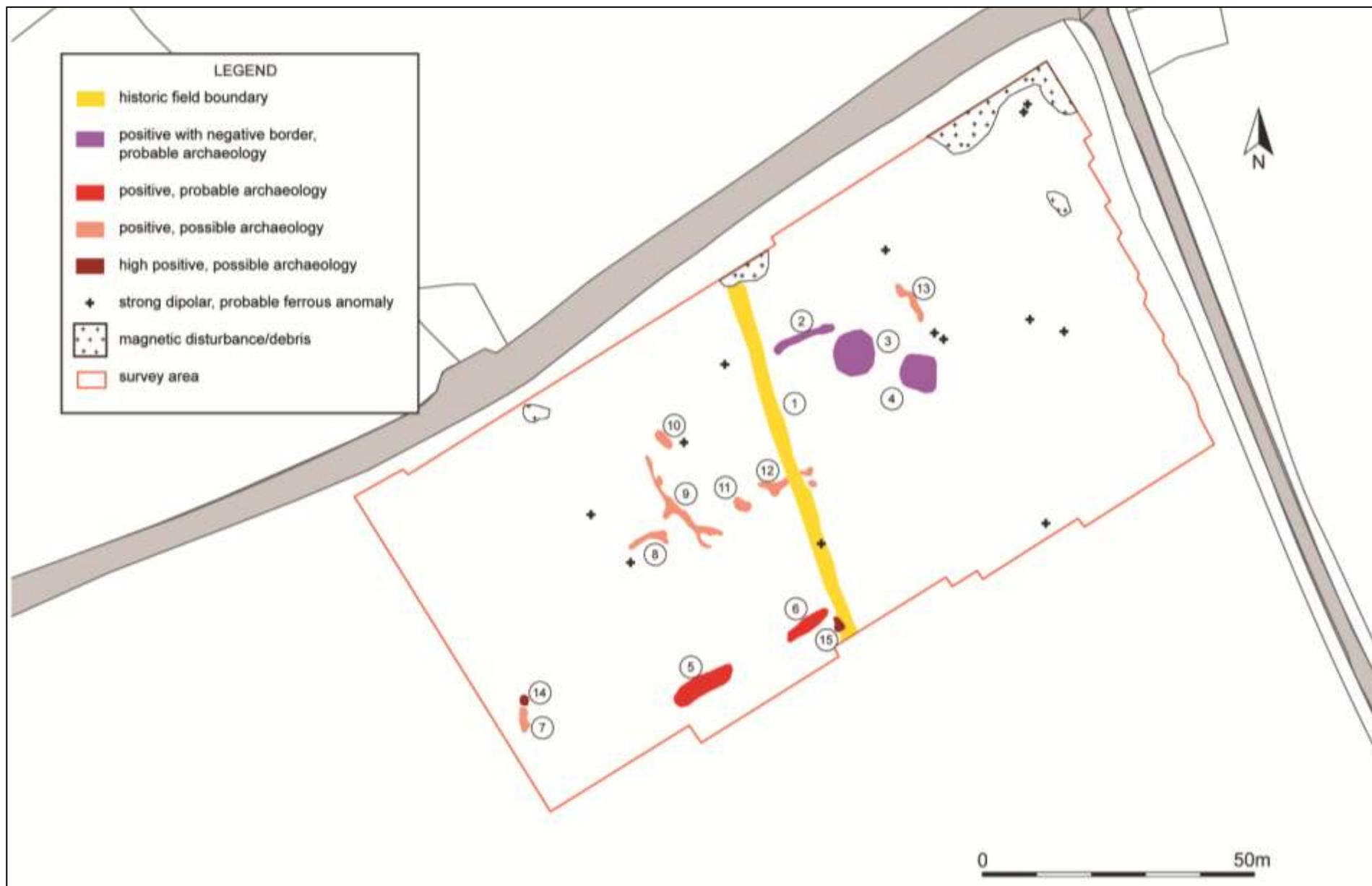


FIGURE 5: INTERPRETATION OF GRADIOMETER SURVEY DATA.
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3.0 EVALUATION TRENCHING

3.1 INTRODUCTION

The evaluation targeted the geophysical anomalies identified by the gradiometer survey, in order to investigate the character, date, preservation and significance of any archaeological features.

The evaluation took place on the 1st and 4th September 2017. Four evaluation trenches, each 1.6m wide and between 9.8m and 41m in length (92.2m in total) were laid out by tape and opened by a tracked mechanical excavator to the depth of *in situ* weathered natural using a toothless grading bucket (Figure 6). Exposed archaeological deposits were excavated by hand and in accordance with the Project Design, CIFA guidelines and DCHET specifications. The trenches were then tied into the OS National Grid using a Leica dGPS.

Six features/groups were identified: a removed historic field boundary, two other ditches, a large pit, a post-hole and part of a terraced platforms cut into the slope. Some geological variation was noted across the site: the shillet varied from compact to loose, with banding within the natural trending north-south. What follows is a trench-by-trench summary of the results of the evaluation (Figure 6 shows the trenches in relation to the geophysical survey). A detailed context list can be found in Appendix 4; a finds concordance in Appendix 5; and a set of supporting photographs in Appendix 7.

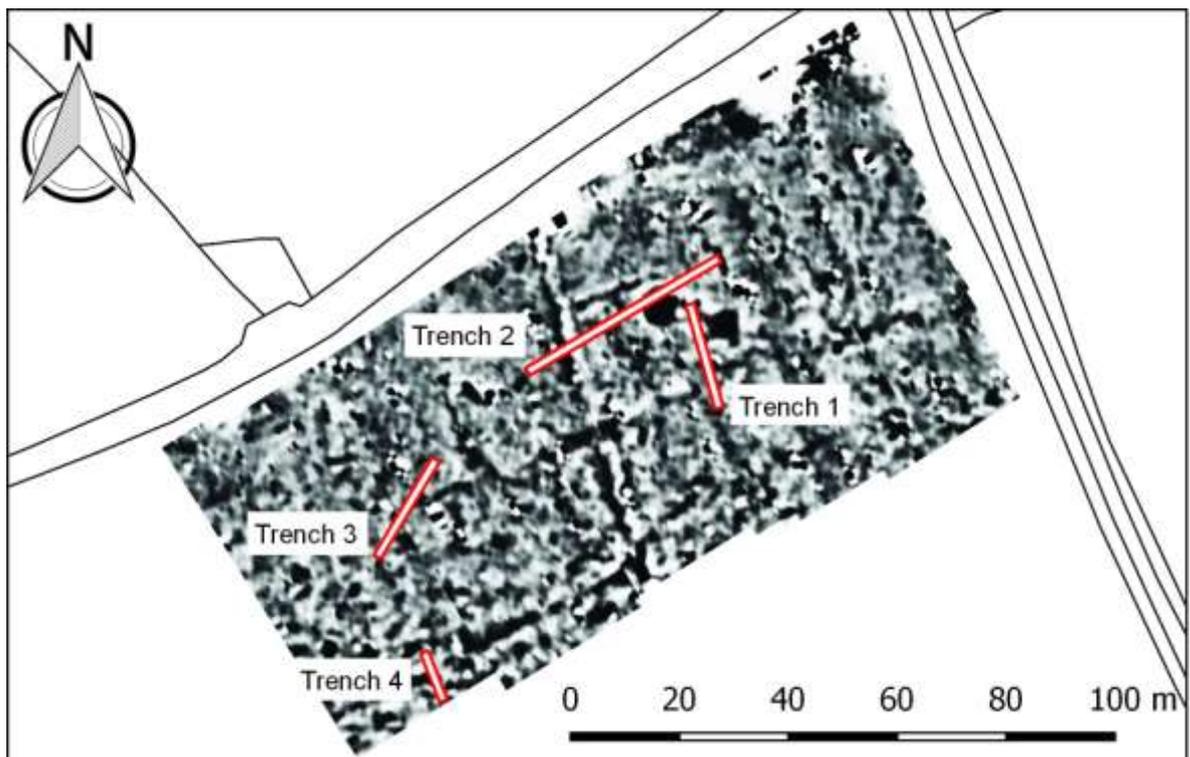


FIGURE 6: LOCATION OF THE TRENCHES OVERLAIN ON THE GREY-SCALE IMAGE OF THE GRADIOMETER RESULTS.

3.2 DEPOSIT MODEL

The stratigraphy was fairly consistent across the site. A homogeneous soft grey-brown silt loam topsoil overlay a greyish-yellow silt-clay subsoil with occasional small sub-angular stones. This in turn sealed the natural shillet. The topsoil with subsoil across most of the site was fairly consistent at c.0.40m thick; in the area of terraced platforms these deposits were up to c.0.5m thick.

3.3 TRENCH 1

Trench 1 was 20.2m long and was orientated north-east to south-west. It was located to target a large oval geophysical anomaly, but when the dGPS data was processed the trench had been opened just beyond the western edge of the anomaly. The topsoil (100) in this trench was a soft grey-brown silt loam c.0.20-0.35m thick. This overlay a greyish-yellow silt-clay a subsoil (101) with occasional small sub-angular stones (>40mm dia.) c.0.2m thick. The natural (102) was a compact grey shillet.

Two features, Pit [103] and Pit/posthole [107], were identified in this trench. Pit [103] was located at the northern end of the trench; the excavated part measured 2.20m by 1m wide, but extended beyond the trench to the east. It was 0.46m deep with moderate sloping sides and a slightly concave to flat base. It contained three fills: an upper fill (104) of clean soft reddish-yellow silt-clay, with occasional to common shillet fragments; this abutted fill (105), a soft grey silt-clay with common large sub-angular stones and quartz fragments (c.0.5×0.3×0.25m). This overlay a thin (c.0.04m) basal fill (106) of loose dark grey silt with common small shillet fragments (>30mm dia.). Fill (106) produced a fragment (73g) of burnt clay, possibly daub.

Pit/Posthole [107] was c.0.94m diameter and was 0.36m deep, with steep to moderate sloping sides and a slightly concave. Pit/Posthole [107] contained a single clean and homogenous reddish-yellow silt-clay fill (108) with rare shillet fragments and no charcoal or finds.

3.4 TRENCH 2

Trench 2 was 41m long and was orientated north-east to south-west. It was located to target a removed historic field boundary and two geophysical anomalies. There was no subsoil in this trench: topsoil (200) directly overlay the natural. It is probable that features in this area may have suffered a greater level of truncation. Five features were identified in this trench: a removed field-boundary [211], a ditch [214], a gully [206], a stone-pull [209], and a large cut feature or platform [203].

Feature [203] was c.8m in diameter and extended the full width of the trench; it extended beyond the limits of excavation to the north-west and south-east. Feature [203] had a moderate sloping side and flat base and was 0.66m deep. It contained three fills, an upper fill (204) of clean reddish-yellow silt-clay with common shillet fragments c.0.45-0.50m thick. This overlay a loose grey silt-clay (205) with common large sub-angular stones and quartz (c.0.5×0.3×0.25m) c.0.15-0.20m thick. It had a thin and patchy basal fill (208) of dark-grey silt-clay with common shillet fragments and charcoal flecks. Ten sherds (292g) of unabraded Middle Bronze Age Pottery from two gabbroic vessels were recovered from fill (208).

At the western edge of the base of Feature [203] was gully [206]. This was 1m wide and 0.28m deep, with moderate sloping sides to a slightly angled base. Gully [203] contained a single fill (207), a grey-brown silt-clay with common shillet fragments and occasional charcoal. Fill (207) produced three sherds of Middle Bronze Age pottery, two of which were heavily abraded.

A stone-pull or small stakehole [209] measuring 0.35×0.05m and 0.03m was identified in the base of Feature [203]. Stone-pull [209] had steep sloping sides and an irregular pointed base; it contained a single fill (210), a loose dark grey-brown silt-clay with occasional shillet fragments.

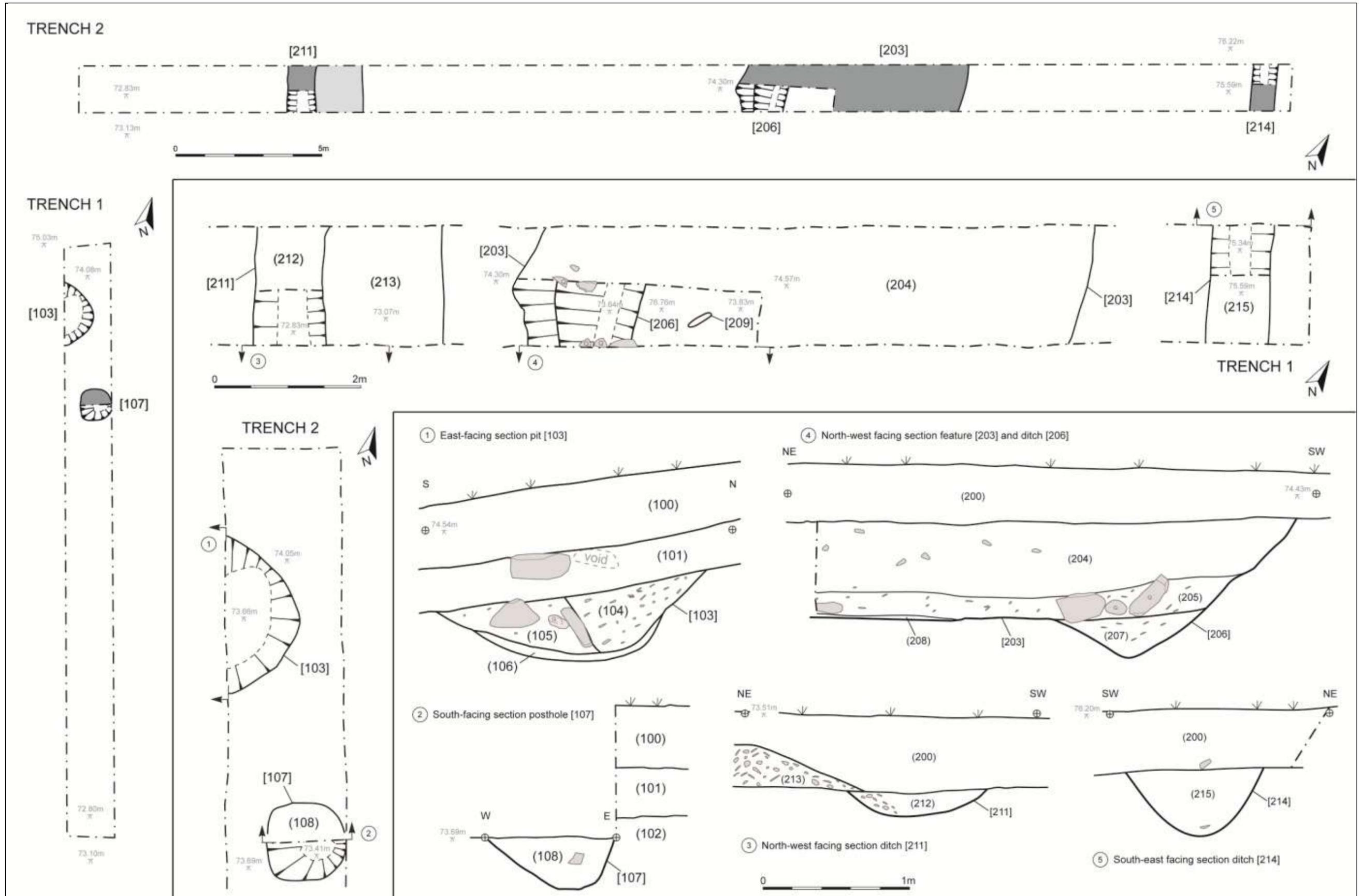


FIGURE 7: PLANS AND SECTIONS FOR TRENCHES 1 AND 2.

Ditch [214] was located at the north-east end of the trench. It was orientated north-west to south-east and measured c.0.85m wide and 0.44m deep; it had steep to moderate sloping sides and a moderately concave base. It contained a single fill (215), a homogeneous clean red-grey silt-clay with common shillet fragments. There were no finds.

Ditch [211] and bank {213} were located c.6.5m from the western end of the trench, the remains of a historic field boundary removed during the 20th century. Bank {213} consisted of compacted redeposited natural shillet in a yellow-grey silt-clay and stood 0.3m high and c.3m wide. Bank {213} was overlain partly by topsoil (200) and partly by fill (212) of Ditch [211]. Ditch [211] was aligned roughly north-south, measured 1m wide and 0.16m deep and had moderate to gentle sloping sides and a slightly concave base. It contained a single fill, a clean grey silt-clay with occasional shillet, which became more common to the east closer to the former bank. A ditch was not observed to the east of the bank, but it is possible it was covered by the remains of the bank. There were no finds.



FIGURE 8: NORTH-WEST FACING SECTION THROUGH FEATURE [203], FROM THE NORTH-WEST (2M & 1M SCALES).

3.5 TRENCH 3

Trench 3 was 21.2m long and was orientated north-east to south-west. It was located to target several amorphous linear geophysical anomalies. The stratigraphy was identical to the sequence to Trench 1: topsoil (300) overlying a subsoil (301) over the natural shillet. A single archaeological feature was observed. Ditch [303] was located at the northern end of the trench, orientated approximately north to south, and measured 0.8m wide and 0.20m deep. It had moderate to gentle sloping sides and a moderate concave base. It contained a single fill (304), a clean reddish-yellow silt-clay with occasional shillet fragments. There were no finds.

Stone-pull [305] was located c.3m south-west of Ditch [303] and measured 0.7x0.2m across and 0.06m deep, with irregular sloping sides and a slightly irregular base. It contained a single fill (306), a clean loose grey silt-clay with common shillet. There were no finds.

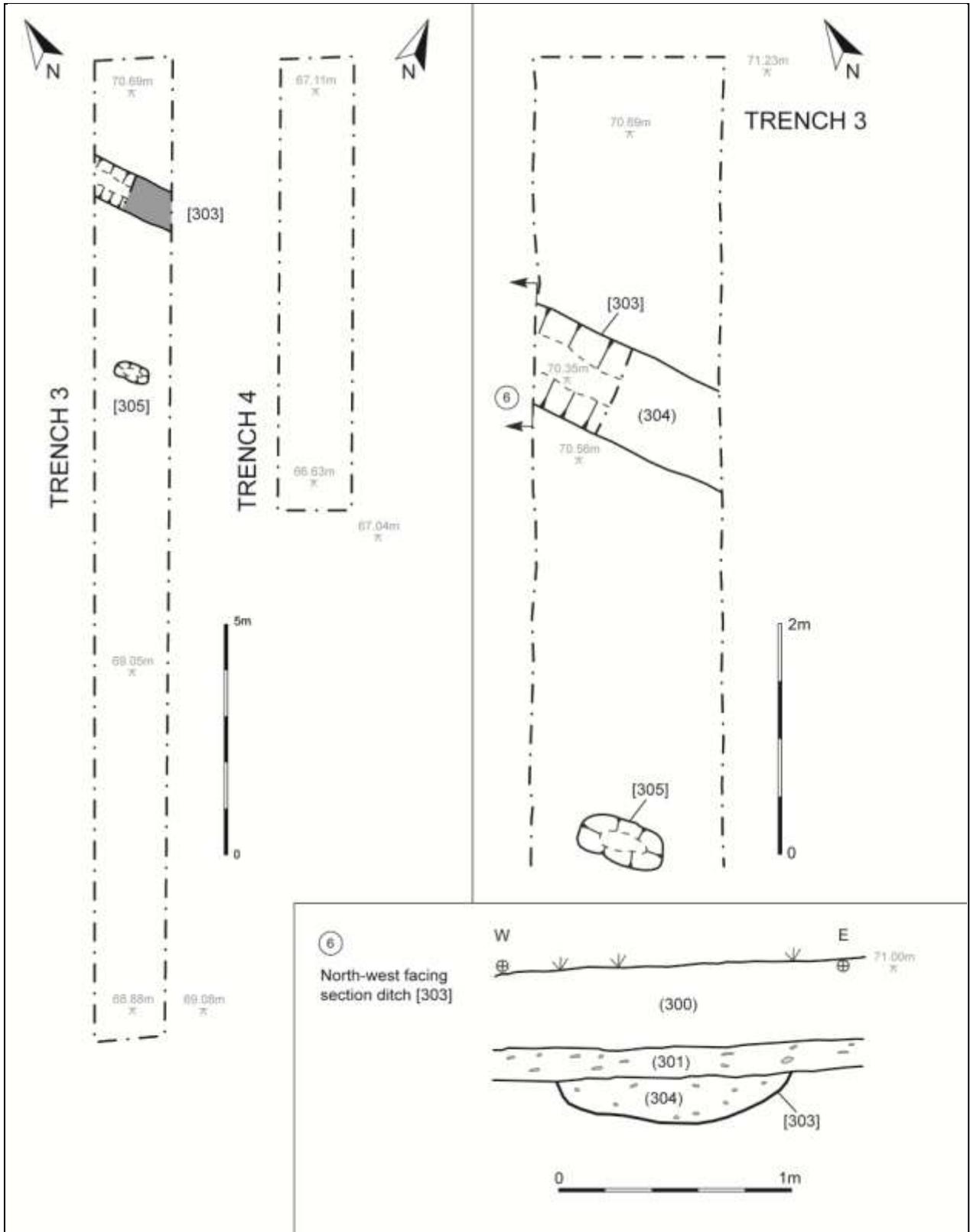


FIGURE 9: PLANS AND SECTIONS FOR TRENCHES 3 AND 4.

3.6 TRENCH 4

Trench 4 was 9.8m long and orientated north-west to south-east. It was located to target a strong but interrupted linear geophysical anomaly. The stratigraphy was identical to that of Trench 1: topsoil (400) overlying a subsoil (401) over the natural shillet. No archaeological features were identified in this trench, although a band of stony material orientated north-east to south-west was noted in the topsoil during the machining.

3.7 FINDS

The finds assemblage for the site was very small, with only 2 sherds (3g) of industrial whiteware from the topsoil. The stratified material consisted of 1 fragment (72g) of burnt clay (daub) from (106); 10 sherds (292g) of Middle Bronze Age gabbroic pottery, including 3 co-joining basal angles and three rim sherds from (208); 1 fragment (22g) of charcoal from (207); 3 sherds (44g) of Middle Bronze Age gabbroic vessels, including 1 rim sherd with impressed fingernail decoration from (207). The pottery analysis carried out by Dr. Imogen Wood (see Appendix 6) assesses the Bronze Age material as being of regional significance, specifically in the light of work being done in advance of the new town at Sherford, Plymouth (Quinnell *forthcoming*).

3.8 DISCUSSION

The geophysical and evaluation results suggest that the site contains the remains of a Middle Bronze Age settlement, most likely consisting of two roundhouses of the sunken-floored variety usually encountered in the lowlands of Cornwall (Jones & Quinnell 2011, 217-221), but which have been identified in South Devon, e.g. at Staddon, Plymouth (Exeter Archaeology project 4813 and 4648). Filham is the most easterly example of this structural type thus far identified, although one other has been posited near Exminster (Mudd & Joyce 2014).

The defining characteristic of sunken-floored roundhouses is that they are set down into a large sub-circular pit. These pits usually contain limited evidence for floors or occupation layers, but most of the excavated examples were deliberately backfilled after abandonment (Nowakowski 2001; Bampton & Walls *forthcoming*). The remains of a very thin and patchy occupation layer (208) are present at the base of the Filham example, and most of the finds came from this layer. The pottery is relatively fresh and unabraded, especially in comparison to those from the fill (208) of Gully [206], indicating they were recovered from a primary deposition context.

Trench 1 just missed the second probable sunken-floored roundhouse but exposed two pits and/or postholes. This would indicate that the two structures are associated with other, smaller features that are not readily identifiable on the geophysical survey.

The undated ditches identified on the site may represent the remains of a field system associated with the settlement, coeval with the extensive field systems identified on Dartmoor and now across the Sherford development. The finds and remains at Filham must therefore be seen in conjunction with this extensive pattern of Prehistoric activity.

4.0 CONCLUSION

The site is located a short distance south of the A38 in the civil parish of Ivybridge and the historic ecclesiastical parish of Ugborough. The historic mapping indicates the survey area lay within two separate fields until at least the early 20th century. Archaeological fieldwork carried out just to the south of the site in advance of the South West Gas Reinforcement Pipeline covered evidence for Middle Bronze Age activity.

The geophysical survey identified a number of probable and possible anomalies of archaeological origin. These features were subject to a programme of evaluation trenching which validated the results of the survey. This assessment has identified a Middle Bronze Age settlement that consists of two sunken-floored roundhouses with the remnants of a contemporary field system.

5.0 BIBLIOGRAPHY & REFERENCES

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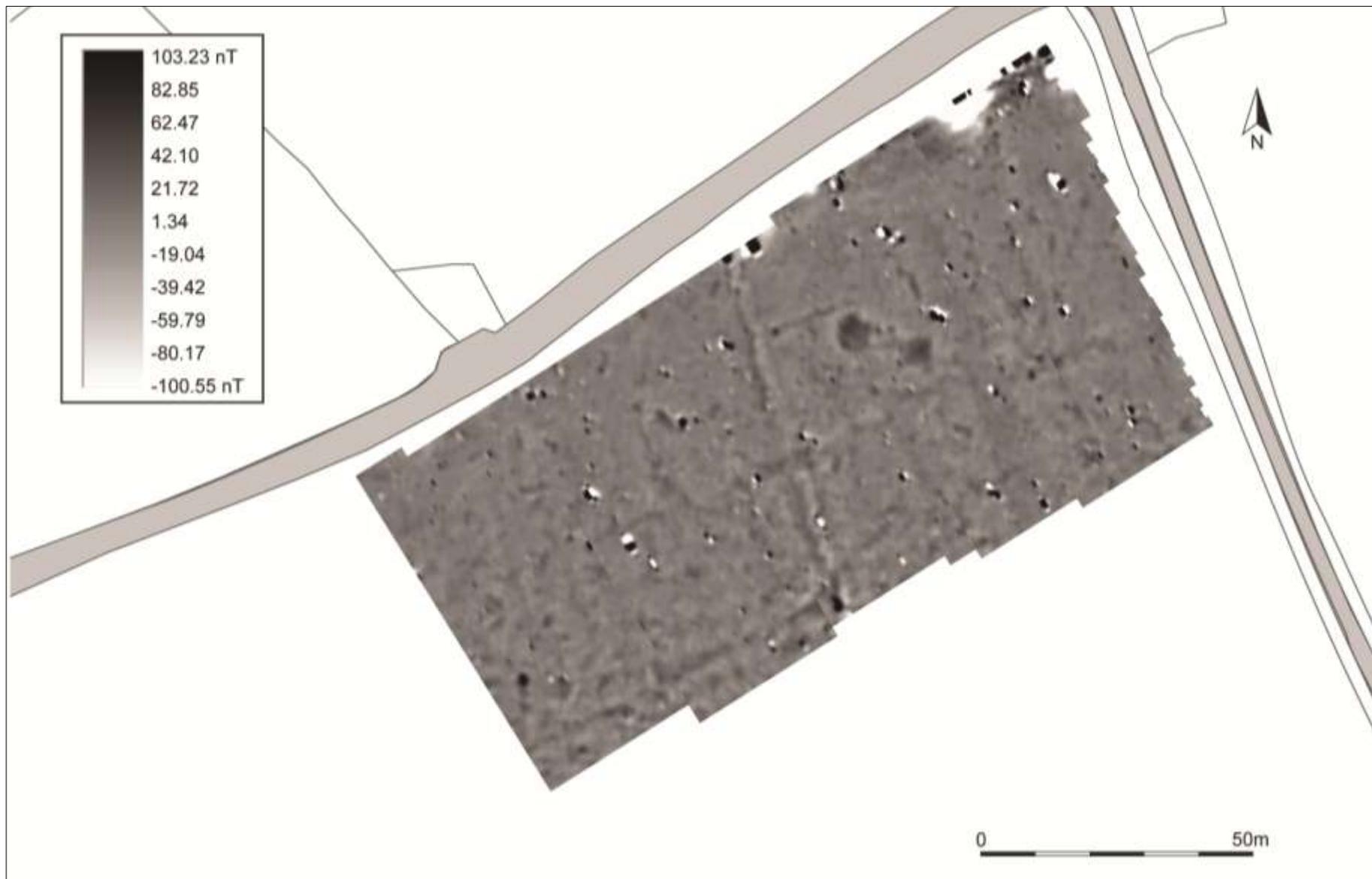
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APPENDIX 1: ADDITIONAL GRAPHICAL IMAGES OF THE GRADIOMETER SURVEY



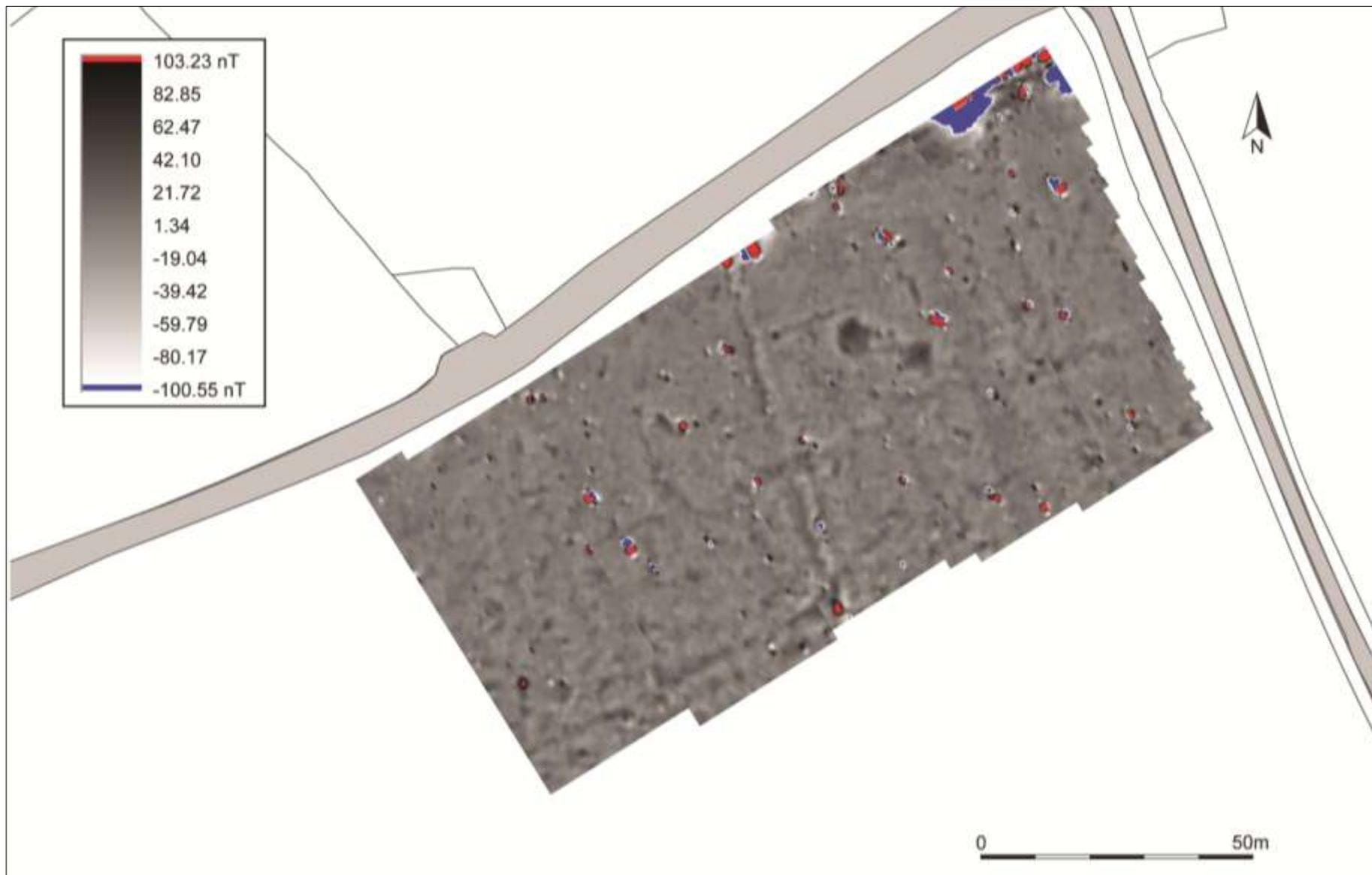
GEOPHYSICAL SURVEY GRID LOCATION AND NUMBERING.

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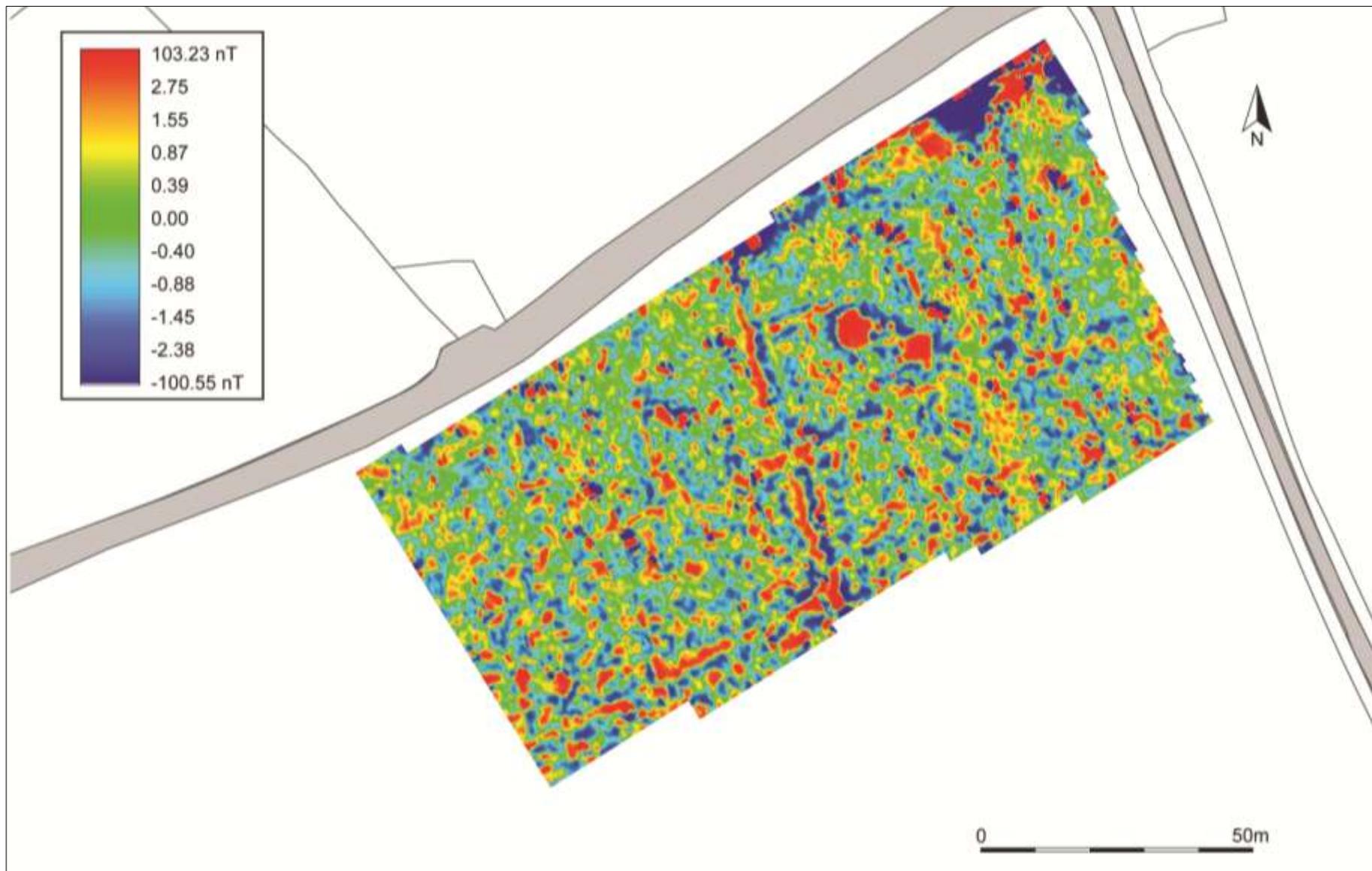
SHADE PLOT OF GRADIOMETER SURVEY DATA; GRADIATED SHADING.

LAND AT COMBE CROSS, FILHAM, IVYBRIDGE, DEVON



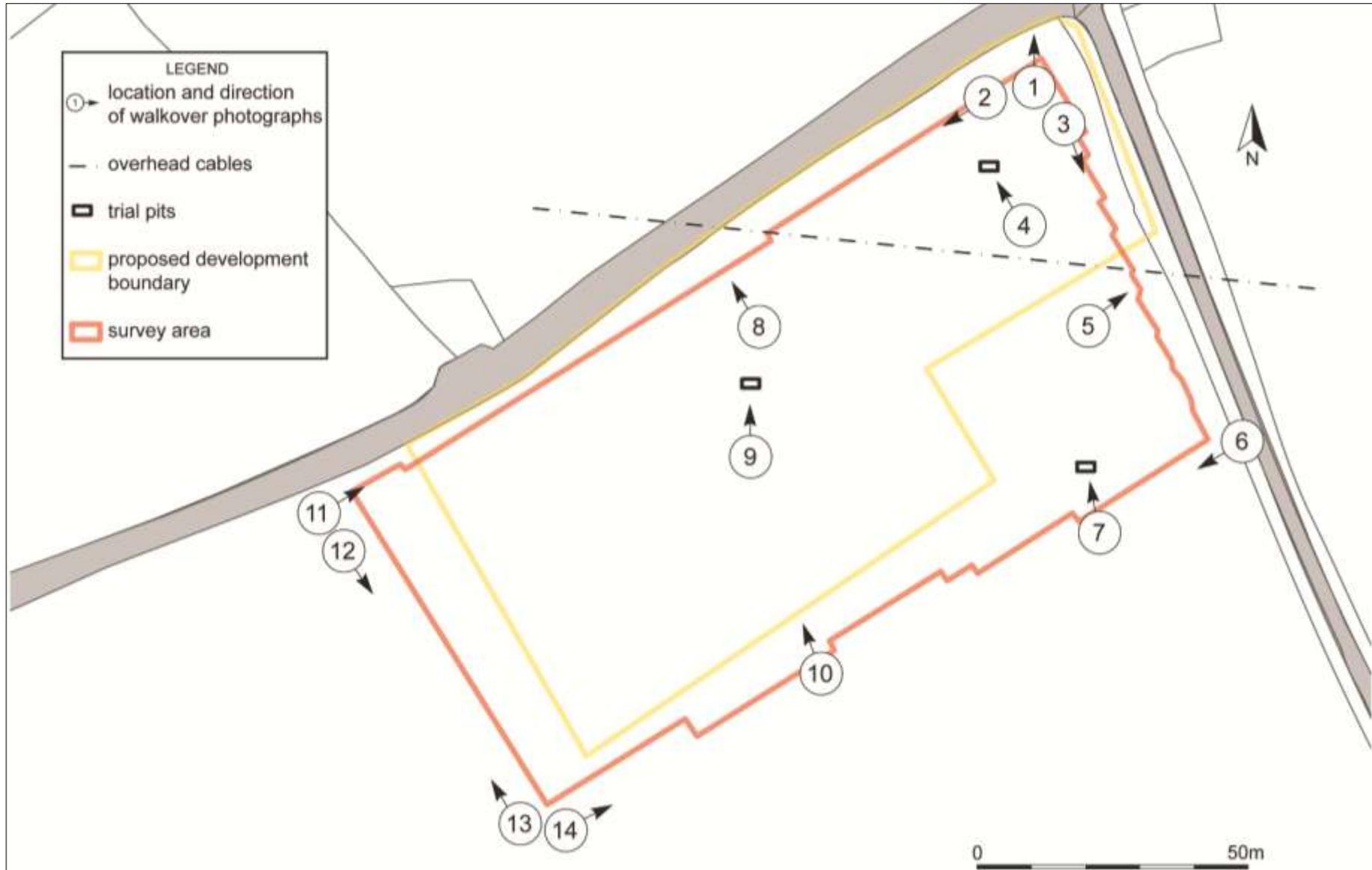
RED GREYSCALE BLUE SHADE PLOT OF GRADIOMETER SURVEY DATA; GRADIATED SHADING.

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RED-BLUE-GREEN (2) SHADE PLOT OF GRADIOMETER SURVEY DATA; BAND WEIGHT EQUALISED; GRADIATED SHADING.

APPENDIX 2: SUPPORTING PHOTOGRAPHS: SITE INSPECTION



SITE LAYOUT, FEATURES MENTIONED IN THE SITE INSPECTION AND PHOTOGRAPH LOCATIONS.

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1. VIEW OF THE NORTHERN CORNER OF THE SITE; VIEWED FROM THE SOUTH, LOOKING NORTH.



2. VIEW ALONG THE NORTH-WESTERN BOUNDARY OF THE SITE; VIEWED FROM THE NORTH-EAST, FACING SOUTH-WEST.



3. VIEW OF THE NORTH-EASTERN BOUNDARY OF THE SITE; VIEWED FROM THE NORTH-WEST, LOOKING SOUTH-EAST.



4. VIEW OF THE PERCOLATION TEST PITS NEAR THE NORTHERN CORNER OF THE SITE; VIEWED FROM THE SOUTH, LOOKING NORTH (SCALE 1M).



5. VIEW OF THE NORTH-EASTERN BOUNDARY OF THE SITE; VIEWED FROM THE SOUTH-WEST, LOOKING NORTH-EAST, (SCALE 1M).



6. VIEW OF THE SOUTH-EASTERN BOUNDARY OF THE SITE; VIEWED FROM THE NORTH-EAST, LOOKING SOUTH-WEST.



7. VIEW OF THE PERCOLATION TEST PITS NEAR THE SOUTH-EAST CORNER OF THE SITE; VIEWED FROM THE SOUTH, LOOKING NORTH (SCALE 1M).



8. VIEW OF THE NORTH-WESTERN BOUNDARY OF THE SITE; VIEWED FROM THE SOUTH-EAST, LOOKING NORTH-WEST (SCALE 1M).



9. VIEW OF THE PERCOLATION TEST PITS NEAR THE CENTRE OF THE SITE; VIEWED FROM THE SOUTH, LOOKING NORTH (SCALE 1M).



10. VIEW OF THE LINEAR FEATURE THAT BISECTS THE SITE; VIEWED FROM THE SOUTH-EAST, LOOKING NORTH-WEST.



11. VIEW OF THE NORTH-WESTERN BOUNDARY OF THE SITE; VIEWED FROM THE SOUTH-WEST, FACING NORTH-EAST.



12. VIEW OF THE SOUTH-WESTERN BOUNDARY OF THE SITE; VIEWED FROM THE NORTH-WEST, LOOKING SOUTH-EAST.

LAND AT COMBE CROSS, FILHAM, IVYBRIDGE, DEVON

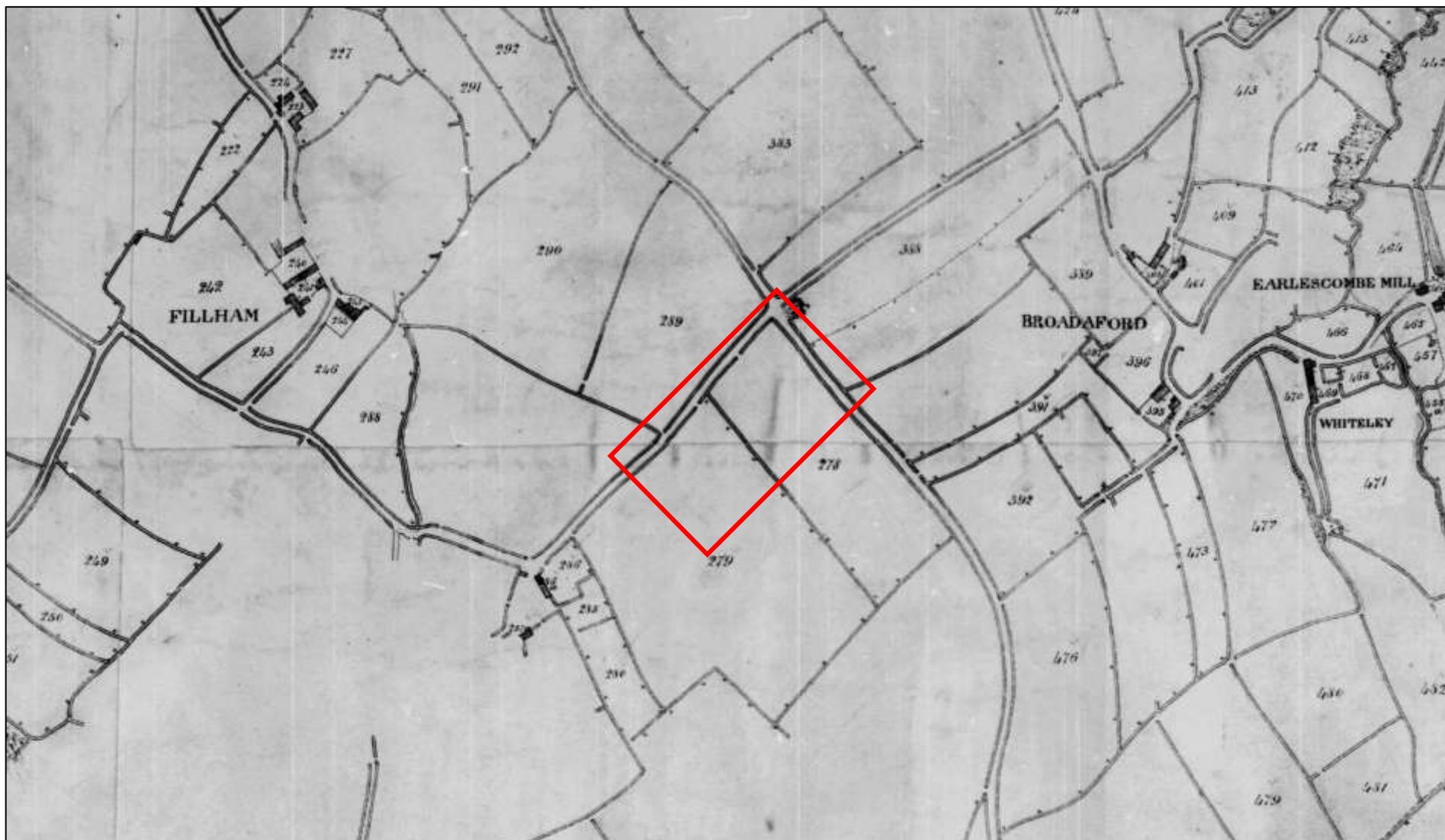


13. VIEW OF THE SOUTH-WESTERN BOUNDARY OF THE SITE; VIEWED FROM THE SOUTH-EAST, LOOKING NORTH-WEST.



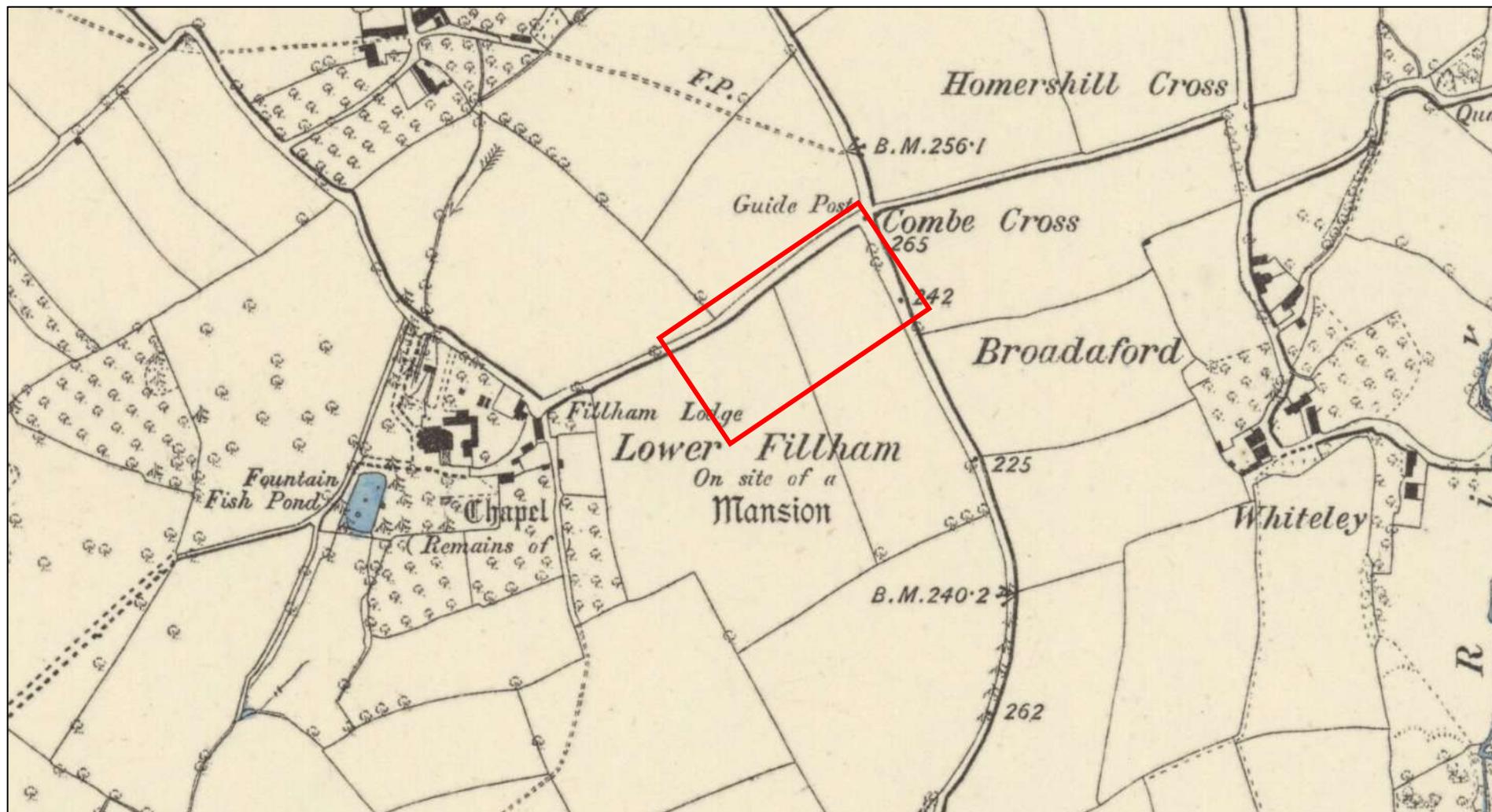
14. VIEW ALONG THE SOUTH-EASTERN BOUNDARY OF THE SITE; VIEWED FROM THE SOUTH-WEST, FACING NORTH-EAST.

APPENDIX 3: SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS: HISTORIC MAPPING OF LOCAL AREA



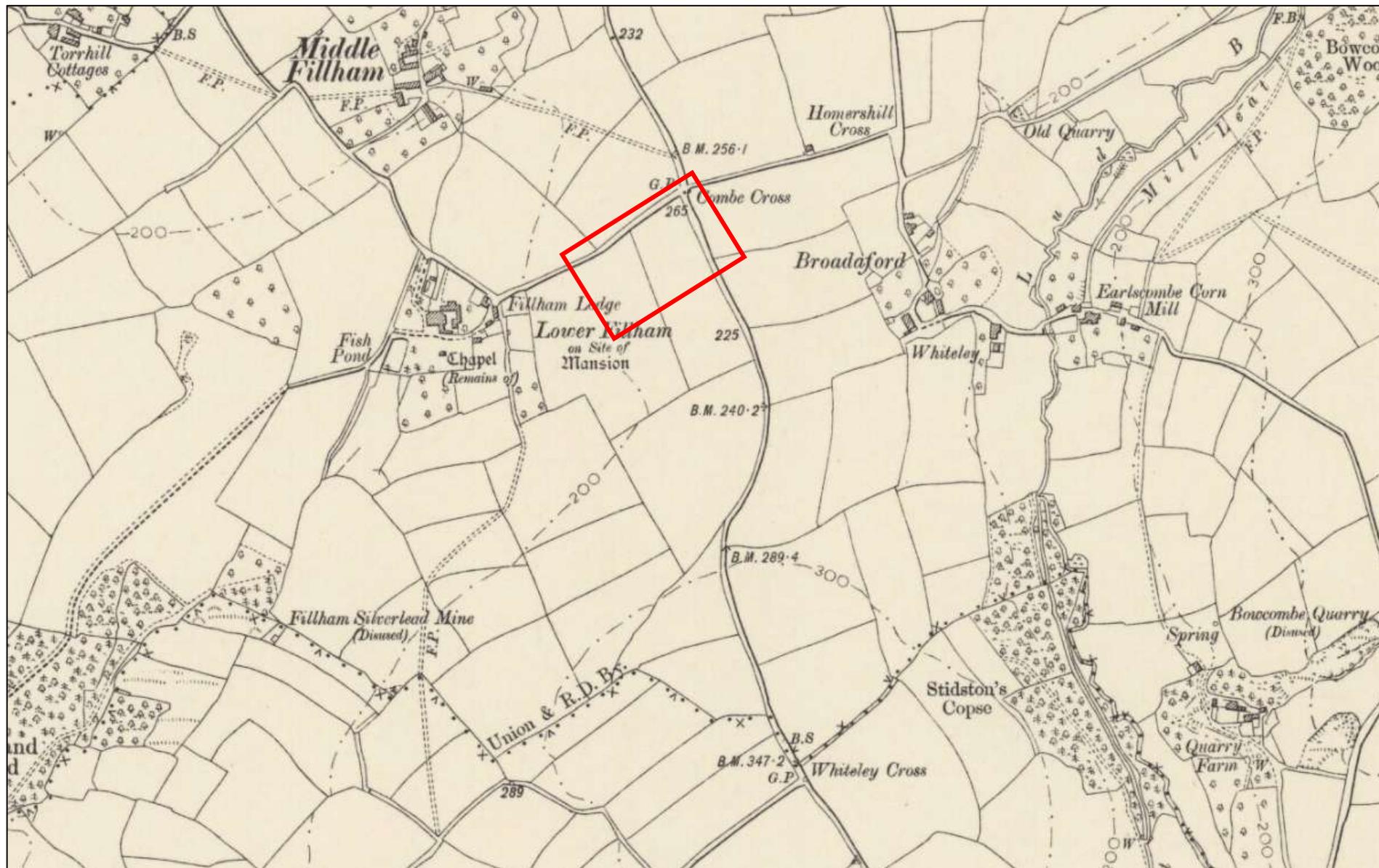
EXTRACT FROM THE 1843 TITHE MAP OF UGBOROUGH, THE APPROXIMATE LOCATION OF THE SITE IS INDICATED (DHC).

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EXTRACT FROM THE OS FIRST EDITION 6" MAP OF 1886, THE APPROXIMATE LOCATION OF THE SITE IS INDICATED (DHC).

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EXTRACT FROM THE OS SECOND EDITION 6" MAP OF 1906, THE APPROXIMATE LOCATION OF THE SITE IS INDICATED (DHC).

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APPENDIX 4: CONTEXT LIST

CONTEXT	DESCRIPTION		RELATIONSHIPS	DEPTH/ THICKNESS	SPOT DATE
Trench 1					
(100)	<i>Topsoil</i>	Mid grey-brown soft silt loam, homogeneous, with occasional shillet fragments.	Overlies (101)	0.25-0.4m	Modern
(101)	<i>Lower topsoil</i>	Greyish-yellow silt-clay with occasional shillet fragments and sub-angular stones (>10mm dia.)	Overlain by (100); Overlies Natural	0.2m	Modern
(102)	<i>Natural</i>	Yellow-grey silt-clay with common to frequent shillet fragments, banding aligned north-south.	Overlain by (101), cut by [103] and [107]	-	-
[103]	<i>Cut</i>	Cut of a large pit, 2.2m+ by 1m+, sub-ovoid in plan with moderate sloping sides and flat base.	Cuts Natural, filled by (106), (105) and (104)	0.45m	Middle Bronze Age
(104)	<i>Fill</i>	Upper fill of Pit [103]. A soft homogenous reddish-yellow silt-clay, with occasional to common shillet fragments.	Upper fill of [103], overlies (105)	0.4m	Middle Bronze Age
(105)	<i>Fill</i>	Soft loose grey silt-clay with common large sub-angular stones and quartz stones (c.0.50mx0.25mx0.20m)	Fill of [103]; Overlies (106); Overlain by (104)	0.4m	Middle Bronze Age
(106)	<i>Fill</i>	Basal fill of Pit [103]. A dark grey silt-clay with frequent to dominant shillet fragments.	Overlain by (105)	0.05m	Middle Bronze Age
[107]	<i>Cut</i>	Cut of a large posthole, c.0.95m diameter	Cuts natural, filled by (108)	0.4m	? Middle Bronze Age
(108)	<i>Fill</i>	Clean reddish-yellow silt-clay fill of [107] with rare shillet fragments.	Fill of [107]	0.4m	? Middle Bronze Age
Trench 2					
(200)	<i>Topsoil</i>	As (100)	Overlies (201)	0.4m	Modern
(201)	<i>VOID</i>	<i>VOID</i>	<i>VOID</i>	<i>VOID</i>	<i>VOID</i>
(202)	<i>Natural</i>	As (102), some banding evident, where shillet more frequent and softer	Overlain by (200)	-	-
[203]	<i>Cut</i>	c.8m Diameter platform cut into the hillslope, with moderate sloping side and flat base	Filled by (208), (205) and (204); Cut by [206] and [209]	0.66m	Middle Bronze Age
(204)	<i>Fill</i>	Upper homogeneous and clean fill of [203], re-deposited natural.	Fill of [203], overlies (205)	0.45-0.5m	Middle Bronze Age
(205)	<i>Fill</i>	Middle fill of [203]. A loose grey silt-clay with common large sub-angular stones and quartz (c.0.50mx0.25mx0.20m). Appears to have been tipped from the outside of the feature.	Fill of [203], overlain by (204), overlies (208)	0.15-0.2m	Middle Bronze Age
[206]	<i>Cut</i>	Cut of (ring) ditch, 1m wide, with moderate sloping sides and slightly pointed base.	Cuts [203], filled by (207)	0.28m	Middle Bronze Age
(207)	<i>Fill</i>	Single fill of Ditch [206]. A dark grey-brown silt-clay with common shillet fragments occasional charcoal and pot	Fill of [206]	0.28m	Middle Bronze Age
(208)	<i>Fill</i>	Basal fill of [203]. A thin and patchy dark-grey silt-clay with common shillet fragments, common to occasional charcoal and pottery sherds.	Fill of [203], overlain by (205)	0.01m	Middle Bronze Age
[209]	<i>Cut</i>	Cut of stakehole/stone-pull, c.0.4m x 0.05m	Cuts [203], filled by (210)		Middle Bronze Age
(210)	<i>Fill</i>	Grey-brown silt-clay with common shillet fragments.	Fill of [209], overlain by (208)		Middle Bronze Age
[211]	<i>Cut</i>	Ditch aligned roughly north-south, measuring 1m wide and 0.16m deep, with moderate to gentle sloping sides and a slightly concaved base.	Cuts natural, filled by (212)	0.16m	Post-medieval
(212)	<i>Fill</i>	Single fill if Ditch [211]. A clean grey silt-clay with occasional shillet, which became common to the east, towards the former bank.	Fill of Ditch [211], Overlain by [213]	0.16m	Post-medieval
[213]	<i>Hedgebank</i>	Bank [213] was comprised of compacted re-deposited natural shillet in a yellow-grey silt-clay, upstanding to 0.3m high and c.3m wide.	Overlain by (200), overlies (212)	0.30m	Post-medieval
[214]	<i>Cut</i>	Ditch, orientated north-south, c.0.85m wide, with steep to moderate sloping sides and moderately concaved base.	Cut Natural [202], filled by (215)	0.44m	? Prehistoric
(215)	<i>Fill</i>	Single fill of Ditch [214] a homogenous clean red-grey silt-clay with common shillet	Fill of Ditch [214], overlain by (200)	0.44m	? Prehistoric

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		fragments.			
Trench 3					
(300)	Topsoil	As (100)	Overlies (301)	0.25m	Modern
(301)	Lower topsoil	As (101)	Overlain by (300); Overlies (302)	0.15m	Modern
(302)	Natural	As (102)	Overlain by (301)	-	-
[303]	Cut	Ditch orientated north-west to south-east. Measures 0.8m wide x 0.34m deep with moderate sloping side and flat base.	Cuts Natural, filled by (304)	0.34m	? Prehistoric
(304)	Fill	Fill of Ditch [303]. A homogeneous, clean reddish-yellow silt-clay	Fill of [303]	0.34m	? Prehistoric
[305]	Cut	Irregular natural feature, e.g. stone pull or roots, c.0.5m x 0.25m	Cuts Natural, filled by (306)	0.04m	?Modern
(306)	Fill	Fill of stone pull [305]. A loose grey silt-clay with common shillet fragments	Fill of [305]	0.04m	?Modern
Trench 4					
(400)	Topsoil	As (100)	Overlies (401)	0.25m	Modern
(401)	Lower topsoil	As (101)	Overlain by (400); Overlies (402)	0.15m	Modern
(402)	Natural	As (102)	Overlain by (401)	-	-

APPENDIX 5: FINDS CONCORDANCE

Context	No.	Weight (g)	Pottery	No.	Weight (g)	Other	Date
Topsoil	2	3	Industrial whiteware, 1 stamped -OM- -RMA- (i.e. toothpaste lid)				19th Century
106	1	73	Burnt clay (daub?)				Middle Bronze Age
207	3	43	BA, 1 finer rim with incised dec on shoulder	1	22	charcoal	Middle Bronze Age
208	4	212	BA coarse, chunkier jar				Middle Bronze Age
	6	78	3 rim, 3 base, finer vessel.				Middle Bronze Age

APPENDIX 6: POTTERY ASSESSMENT *by Dr. Imogen Wood*

An assessment of the small ceramic assemblage from IFC17 suggests a Middle Bronze Age date for the pottery associated with a large pit/depression and possible sunken-featured roundhouse.

Quantification

Context	Period	Count	Weight
(207)	Middle Bronze Age	3	44g
(208)	Middle Bronze Age	10	292g
(106) Burnt Clay	Middle Bronze Age	1	72g
Topsoil	19 th century	2	3g
	Total	16	411g

Condition

The overall condition of the pottery is good being level 1 fresh break (according to Sorenson’s scale), apart from 2 coarser sherds in (207) which have level 3 high abrasion. This suggests the majority of the assemblage is in its primary deposition context with little post-depositional movement.

Burnt clay weighing 72g is poorly-mixed riverine clay; the shape is indicative of the daub used in the construction of houses.

Middle Bronze Age pottery

There are 4 diagnostic bevelled rims in this assemblage, from both (207) and (208), which are characteristic of Middle Bronze Age pottery traditions.

Further to this, one rim sherd from (207) has impressed fingernail decoration just below the rim of a small jar, which supports a Middle Bronze Age date.

There are 3 reduced basal angle sherds (co-joining) with internal charring and three rim sherds, all from (208), that are part of a single small fine jar in a fine fabric. The remaining 4 sherds from (208) are from a large storage jar in a coarser fabric. The two heavily-abraded body sherds from (207) are also from coarse large jars.

Fabric

None of the fabrics match those found on the SW gas pipeline for the Middle Bronze Age period, although these are over very large area.

The fabrics are not consistent with a locally-derived source of clay or temper.

Coarse Fabric (Gabbroic)

Contains the typical abundant feldspar and amphibole and gabbro rock fragments. But also includes common opaque well-rounded quartz grains 1mm in matrix with rare examples 3mm in size; and mudstone.

Fine decorated sherd (Gabbroic)

Fine gabbroic fabric with the addition of partially-polished well-rounded quartz grain.

Fine (Gabbroic)

Co-joining vessel

Typical gabbroic fabric with abundant feldspar and gabbro rock fragments, but also includes Biotite and muscovite micas and grey slate.

Comments on Fabric

The fabrics described in brief above suggest a gabbroic admixture, possibly using estuarine/riverine sand in the case of the coarseware as indicated by the rounded quartz. The polished quartz grain in the decorated sherd suggests an admixture with possible beach-derived sand.

Gabbroic fabrics do occur in Devon in the Bronze Age and Iron Age, so is of no major significance, unless the finding of analysis from Sherford dramatically alter this assumption.

Discussion

The nearest excavation with which to compare this assemblage is Site 34 on the South West reinforcement pipeline excavation carried out by Cotswold archaeology (Mudd and Joyce 2014). A pit feature and possible hearth produced charcoal and worked flint but no pottery. A charred barley grain dated to 1379-1208 cal. BC and 1404-1215 cal. BC suggesting a Middle Bronze Age date. The internal residue from the sherds found at IFC17 could be used to establish contemporaneity between the two sites.

Significance

The assemblage is of regional significance adding valuable information of the distribution of Bronze Age gabbroic pottery in Devon and contributes to the understanding of the adjacent site 34 excavated in 2005-2007.

The overall significance of this assemblage in part relies on the nature and fabric of the Bronze Age assemblage currently being excavated at Sherford near Plymouth, as this would be the nearest comparable site and Henrietta Quinnell is reviewing this type of material in south Devon based on that site.

APPENDIX 7: EVALUATION PHOTOS



NORTH-WEST FACING SECTION THROUGH PART OF PLATFORM [203], VIEWED FROM THE NORTH-WEST (2M SCALE).



PLATFORM [203], VIEWED FROM THE WEST (2M SCALE).



SOUTH FACING SECTION OF DITCH [303], VIEWED FROM THE SOUTH (1M & 0.4M SCALES).



DITCH [303] IN PLAN, VIEWED FROM THE SOUTH (1M SCALE).



STONE PULL/ PIT [305], POST-EX , VIEWED FROM THE SOUTH (0.4M SCALE).



NORTH-WEST FACING SECTION OF DITCH [211], HEDGEBANK {213} TO THE LEFT, VIEWED FROM THE NORTH-WEST (1M & 0.4M SCALES).



SOUTH-EAST FACING SECTION OF DITCH [214], VIEWED FROM THE NORTH-WEST (1M & 0.4M SCALES).



NORTH-EAST FACING SECTION OF PIT [103], VIEWED FROM THE NORTH-EAST (2M & 1M SCALES).



SOUTH-EAST FACING SECTION OF POSTHOLE [107], VIEWED FROM THE SOUTH-EAST (1M SCALE).



LEFT: TRENCH 1, POST-EX, VIEWED FROM THE NORTH-NORTH-WEST (2M SCALE).



RIGHT: TRENCH 2, POST-EX, VIEWED FROM THE NORTH-EAST (2M SCALE).

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LEFT: TRENCH 3, POST-EX, VIEWED FROM THE NORTH-EAST (2M SCALE).

RIGHT: TRENCH 4, POST-EX, VIEWED FROM THE NORTH-WEST (2M SCALE).



THE OLD DAIRY
HACCHE LANE BUSINESS PARK
PATHFIELDS BUSINESS PARK
SOUTH MOLTON
DEVON
EX36 3LH

TEL: 01769 573555
EMAIL: MAIL@SWARCH.NET