

# Devon County Council Historic Environment Record

<b>Civil Parish &amp; District:</b> Tiverton, Mid Devon	<b>National Grid Reference</b> SS 98615 13079	<b>Number:</b>
<b>Subject:</b> Evaluation trenching at 10 Mayfair, Tiverton, Devon.		<b>Photo attached?</b> YES
<b>Planning Application no:</b> 17/00910/FUL	<b>Recipient museum:</b> Royal Albert Memorial Museum	
<b>OASIS ID:</b> southwes1-306897	<b>Museum Accession no:</b> reference number 18/06	
<b>Contractor's reference number/code:</b> TVM18	<b>Dates fieldwork undertaken:</b> 13 <sup>th</sup> March 2018	
<p><b>Description of works.</b></p> <p>Archaeological evaluation trenching was undertaken by South West Archaeology Ltd. (SWARCH) at the request of Oliver Leighton-Boyce of Westernberg Ltd. (the Client), prior to the construction of five houses in the garden of 10 Mayfair, Tiverton, Devon. This work was undertaken on the 13<sup>th</sup> March 2018 in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (Balmond 2018) drawn up in consultation with Marrina Neophytou of the Devon County Historic Environment Team (DCHET).</p> <p>The site lies between Tiverton and Halberton on a shallow south-east facing slope near the summit of a broad shallow ridge, at a height of c.105m AOD. The soils are listed as the well-drained gritty reddish loamy soils of the Crediton Association (SSEW 1983), overlying undifferentiated Quaternary river terrace deposits with sandstones of the Tidcombe Sand Member at depth (BGS 2018). The Devon HLC characterises the fields here as <i>medieval enclosures based on strip fields</i>. Extensive geophysical survey in the surrounding area has highlighted its archaeological potential (Stratascan 2012; 2014), and significant quantities of worked flints have been recovered during fieldwalking from a number of sites in the area including West Manley, Long Burrow, and ahead of construction of the North Devon Link Road (Quinnell <i>et al.</i> 2015). Evaluation trenching south-west of the site recovered late Neolithic pottery, a Middle Bronze Age pot with possible cremation and a field system of probable Roman date (Cotswold 2015).</p> <p>Four trenches (92m in total) were excavated by a tracked mechanical excavator fitted with a 1.5m wide toothless grading bucket to the depth of <i>in-situ</i> weathered natural deposits (encountered at a depth of c.0.25m). The ground across much of the site was recently disturbed, with many tree stumps having been removed and geotechnical investigations undertaken. Across the site the soft gritty buff-brown sandy loam topsoil was c.0.25m thick and sat directly upon the natural. The natural varied from clean red-brown clayey sands at the eastern end of the site, to highly heterogeneous pale buff-brown and poorly-sorted river terrace deposits up to 3m+ deep (in geotechnical pits) at the western end of the site. The central part of the site was very wet, and Trench 3 filled with water during the evaluation.</p> <p>Only two archaeological features were identified: a ditch [202] in Trench 2 of possible Prehistoric origin and likely relating to a relict fieldsystem; and a small shallow pit [102] in Trench 1. The sides of ditch [202] sloped at c.45° degrees, dropping to a vertical-sided U-shaped base (Figures 2 &amp; 4); this may indicate at least one episode of re-cutting. The ditch was orientated north-east to south-west and contained five fills. Fill (203) was the uppermost, and comprised a soft friable sandy-silt loam with common pebbles; this was very similar to the topsoil (200). Fill (204) was a soft pinkish-brown sandy silt with frequent to abundant pebbles. Fill (205) was a soft and gritty greyish-buff brown sandy silt with abundant pebbles. Fill (206) was a soft gritty grey sandy-silt with abundant pebbles. The basal fill (207) consisted of redeposited pinkish clayey sand with lenses of gritty buff-brown pebbles. This feature is probably the continuation of a linear geophysical anomaly identified in the field to the south. Pit [102] was sub-rectangular with steep sides to the north and west, becoming a gentler to the south, with an undulating base (see Figure 2). The single fill (103) was a gravelly buff-brown sandy clay. There were no finds from the site.</p> <p><b>References</b></p> <p>Balmond, F. 2018: <i>10 Mayfair, Tiverton, Mid Devon, Devon: Written Scheme of Investigation</i>. TVM18WSlv1.</p> <p>BGS 2018: <a href="http://maps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyviewer_google/googleviewer.html">http://maps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyviewer_google/googleviewer.html</a></p> <p>Cotswold 2015: <i>Land North and South of Blundell's Road, Tiverton, Devon: Archaeological Evaluation</i>. R15007.</p> <p>Quinnell, H., Dymond, T., Keene, B. and Newberry, J. 2015: 'Lithic scatters, archaeology and road construction in the Tiverton area, Proc. Devon Archaeol. Soc. 73, 1-66.</p> <p>SSEW 1983: <i>Legend for the 1:250,000 Soil Map of England and Wales</i>.</p> <p>Stratascan 2012: <i>Geophysical Survey Report; Land East of Tiverton, Devon</i>. J3103.</p> <p>Stratascan 2014: <i>Geophysical Survey Report; Land East of Tiverton, Devon</i>. J6605.</p>		
<b>Recorder:</b> S. Thorogood		<b>Date sent to HER:</b> 06/04/2018

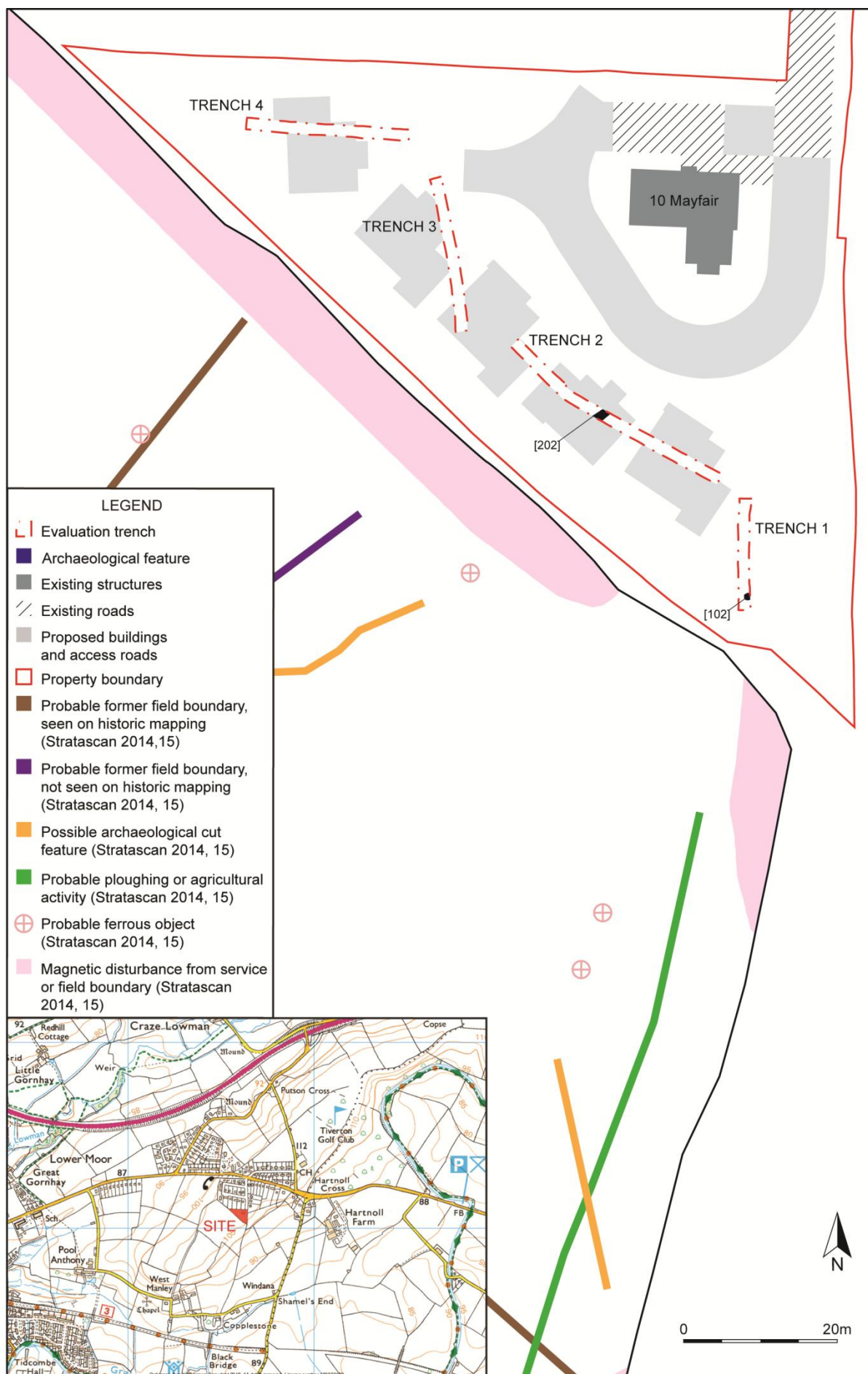


FIGURE 1: SITE LOCATION AND PLAN; SHOWING FEATURE AND TRENCH LOCATIONS (STRATASCAN 2014, AFTER FIGURE 15).

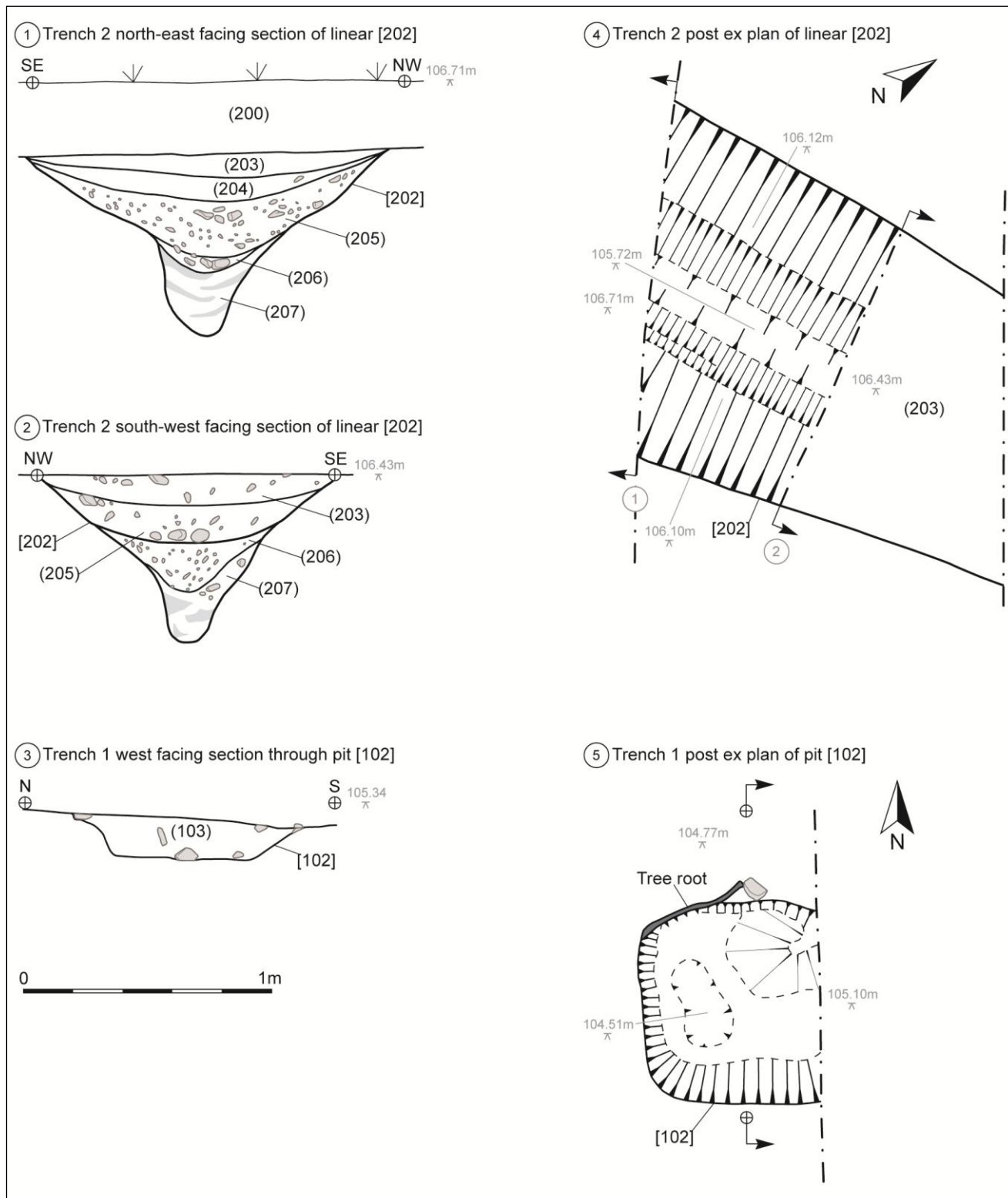


FIGURE 2: PLANS AND SECTION DRAWINGS.





FIGURE 3: SITE SHOT, POST-EXCAVATION; VIEWED FROM THE NORTH-WEST ACROSS TRENCH 4 (2M SCALE).



FIGURE 4: DITCH [202]; VIEWED FROM THE NORTH-EAST (1M SCALE).