

# LAND OFF VICARAGE AND MANOR ROADS

LANDKEY

NORTH DEVON

DEVON

Results of a Desk-Based Assessment and Archaeological Evaluation



South West Archaeology Ltd. report no. 180326



[www.swarch.net](http://www.swarch.net)

Tel. 01769 573555

# Land off Vicarage and Manor Roads, Landkey, North Devon, Devon

## Results of a Desk-Based Assessment and Archaeological Evaluation

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By P. Webb  
Report Version: VERSION 3  
23<sup>rd</sup> April 2018

Work undertaken by SWARCH for  
Michael Gee of Landkey United Charities (the Client)

### Summary

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*This report presents the results of an archaeological evaluation carried out by South West Archaeology Ltd. for land off Vicarage and Manor Roads, Landkey, North Devon, Devon. The site is located within the historic core of Landkey in close proximity to the 13<sup>th</sup> century church and historic manor.*

*The evaluation identified seven features across the three trenches, all post-medieval or more probably 18<sup>th</sup> or 19<sup>th</sup> century in date. Some of these features correspond with a building shown on the site on the 1845 tithe map, but it appears this structure was comprehensively demolished before c.1880. Following its demolition a drain was dug that destroyed the western wall of the building, and a very large feature was excavated to the east; the fills of the latter feature were waterlogged, and it is likely to relate to the drainage of the site. Almost all of the material recovered from the site can be dated to the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century and is domestic in character.*

*Given the results of the archaeological evaluation, and the type, age and preservation of the features encountered, the archaeological potential of the site is deemed to be low and further archaeological investigation of limited value.*

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April 2018

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STEPHEN REED OF DEVON COUNTY HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT TEAM (DCHET)  
THE STAFF OF THE DEVON HERITAGE CENTRE (DHC)

## PROJECT CREDITS

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PROJECT DIRECTOR: DR. SAMUEL WALLS  
PROJECT MANAGER: PETER WEBB  
DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT: PETER WEBB  
FIELDWORK: PETER WEBB  
FINDS PROCESSING: NATALIE BOYD; CHRIS SOPP; SEAN STEVENS  
REPORT: PETER WEBB  
EDITING: DR. SAMUEL WALLS; DR BRYN MORRIS  
GRAPHICS: PETER BONVOISIN; PETER WEBB

## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

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<b>LOCATION:</b>	LAND OFF VICARAGE AND MANOR ROADS
<b>PARISH:</b>	LANDKEY
<b>DISTRICT:</b>	NORTH DEVON
<b>COUNTY:</b>	DEVON
<b>NGR:</b>	SS 59155 31173
<b>PLANNING NO.</b>	64024
<b>HE OFFICER REF.</b>	ARCH/DM/ND/31933A
<b>SWARCH REF.</b>	LVR18

### 1.1 PROJECT BACKGROUND

South West Archaeology Ltd. (SWARCH) was commissioned by Michael Gee of Landkey United Charities (the Client) to undertake an archaeological evaluation on land at the junction of Vicarage and Manor Roads, Landkey, North Devon, Devon, to inform a planning application for proposed development of the land. This work was undertaken in accordance with a Project Design (Boyd 2018) drawn up in consultation with Stephen Reed of Devon County Historic Environment Team (DCHET) and in line with best practice and ClfA guidelines.

### 1.2 TOPOGRAPHICAL AND GEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

The site is located within the historic core of Landkey approximately 1.8km south-east of Barnstaple, to the south of the A361 North Devon Link Road, and north of a tributary of the River Taw. The site comprises a single garden plot (recently subdivided) on the south-facing slopes towards the base of a river valley at an altitude of c.35m AOD (see Figure 1). The soils of this area are the well-drained fine loamy soils of the Denbigh 2 Association bordering the slowly-permeable seasonally-waterlogged clayey fine loamy and fine silty soils of the Hallsworth 2 Association (SSEW 1983). These overlie the mudstone of the Codden Hill Chert, and Doddiscombe Formations with superficial gravels, sands and silts of the Taw River Terrace Deposits (BGS 2018).

### 1.3 HISTORICAL & ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

Landkey is located towards the south-eastern corner of the parish of Landkey, and lies in the hundred of South Molton and deanery of Barnstaple. Settlement is first recorded in 1166, though the place-name element 'lan' would indicate earlier origins. The manor belonged to the family of Beuple before passing to Sir Nigel Loring in the 14<sup>th</sup> century; and subsequently via the Peyvre, Broughton and Bedford families to Sir John Rolle in 1706. The proposal site is recorded in 1845 as being part of Landkey Town, and belonging to the Feoffees of Landkey, occupied by Mary Lewis; it is recorded as containing a house and garden. By the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, historic maps indicate that the house had been demolished, the site being left as a garden plot throughout the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

### 1.4 METHODOLOGY

The archaeological evaluation was conducted in accordance with a Project Design (PD) (Boyd 2018) drawn up in consultation with Stephen Reed (DCHET) and in line with best practice. Three trenches, each 1.40m wide and totalling c.40m in length, were laid out using hand tapes and opened by tracked mechanical excavator to the depth of archaeological deposits or weathered natural using a toothless grading bucket. Exposed archaeological deposits were excavated by hand and in accordance with the WSI and ClfA 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 archaeological evaluation took place between 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> March 2018

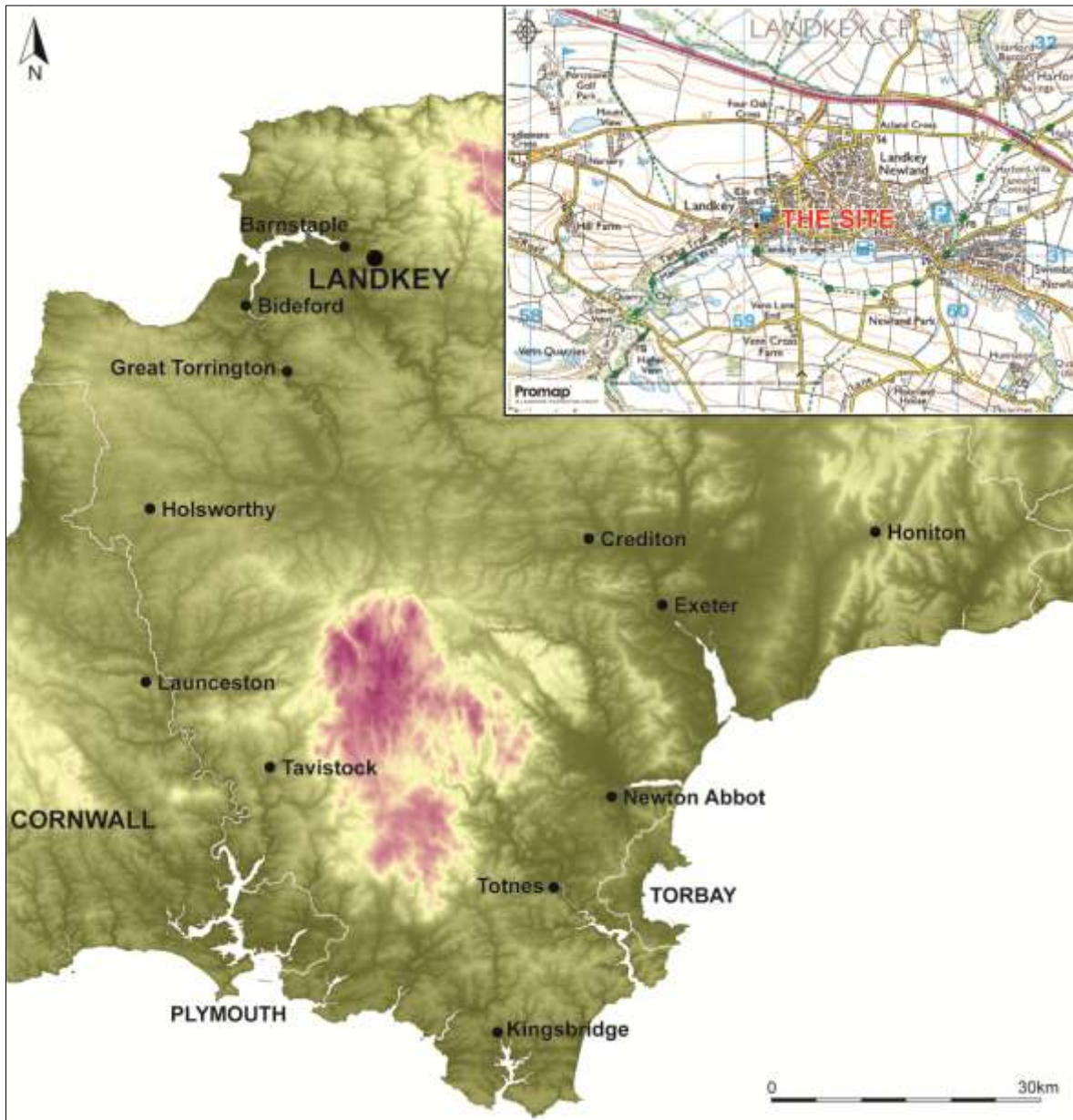


FIGURE 1: SITE LOCATION (THE SITE IS INDICATED).



## 2.0 DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT

### 2.1 DOCUMENTARY HISTORY

Landkey is located towards the south-eastern corner of the parish of Landkey, and lies in the hundred of South Molton and deanery of Barnstaple (Lysons 1822). Settlement at Landkey is first recorded in 1166 as the settlement of *Landechei*, from the Cornish *lann* and meaning ‘church-site of St. Cai’ (Gover *et al.* 1973). The manor belonged to the family of Beuple before passing to Sir Nigel Loring in the 14<sup>th</sup> century; and subsequently through the Peyvre, Broughton and Bedford families to the Sir John Rolle in 1706. The proposed site is recorded in 1845 as being part of *Landkey Town*, belonging to the Feoffees of Landkey and occupied by Mary Lewis; and is recorded as containing a house and garden.

### 2.2 CARTOGRAPHIC DEVELOPMENT

The first cartographic source is the OS Surveyor’s draft map of 1804 (Figure 2). The scale of this map makes it difficult to discern any real detail, but the two centres of Landkey are clearly marked, along with a series of buildings in the area of the church.



FIGURE 2: EXTRACT FROM THE ORDNANCE SURVEY SURVEYOR’S DRAFT MAP OF 1804; THE APPROXIMATE LOCATION OF THE SITE IS INDICATED (BL).

The earliest detailed cartographic source available to this study is the Landkey tithe map of 1845 (Figure 3), which shows a large rectangular building within the plot, accessed by a track continuing from the road junction with Manor Road. The curving and irregular field boundaries suggest that the somewhat irregular but straighter post-medieval boundaries sit within a wider medieval fieldscape. All of the field names are prosaic, including *Garden* and *Meadow* (see Table 1). The site itself falls within a single plot to the north-east of the church, listed as *House & Garden* (no.1054). The tithe map appears to indicate that there has been limited development of the settlement.



FIGURE 3: EXTRACT FROM THE LANDKEY TITHE MAP OF 1845; THE EXTENT OF THE SURVEY AREA IS INDICATED (DHC).

TABLE 1: EXTRACT FROM THE 1845 LANDKEY TITHE APPORTIONMENT.

Number	Landowner	Lessee	Tenant	Field Name	Cultivation
Landkey Town					
973	Trustees of Lord Rolle		Thomas Joce Buckingham	Church Lake	Meadow
1051	Reverend John Russell		Peter Bowden	Churchyard & Church	-
1052	<b>Feoffees of Landkey</b>		Richard Galliford	Garden	-
1053				House & Green	Pasture
<b>1054</b>			<b>Mary Lewis</b>	<b>House and Garden</b>	-
Taylors Tenement					
1063	Trustees of Lord Rolle		Thomas Dennis	Meadow	Arable
1064				Cottage & Garden	
Part of Town Tenement					
1074	Trustees of Lord Rolle		Grace Dart	Garden	Meadow
1075				Meadow	

By the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, as depicted by the 1888 OS 1<sup>st</sup> edition map (Figure 4), very little of the landscape appears to have changed since the 1840s. Some boundary loss had occurred, though some fields have been subdivided. The main change was the loss of the building within the proposal plot, whilst the wider settlement saw the addition of a new school to the east, and the growth of Landkey Town Farm to the west.

The landscape as depicted in the 1913 OS 2<sup>nd</sup> edition map (Figure 5) is almost unchanged, those changes primarily comprising further boundary alternations and the development of buildings surrounding Landkey Town Corn Mills.



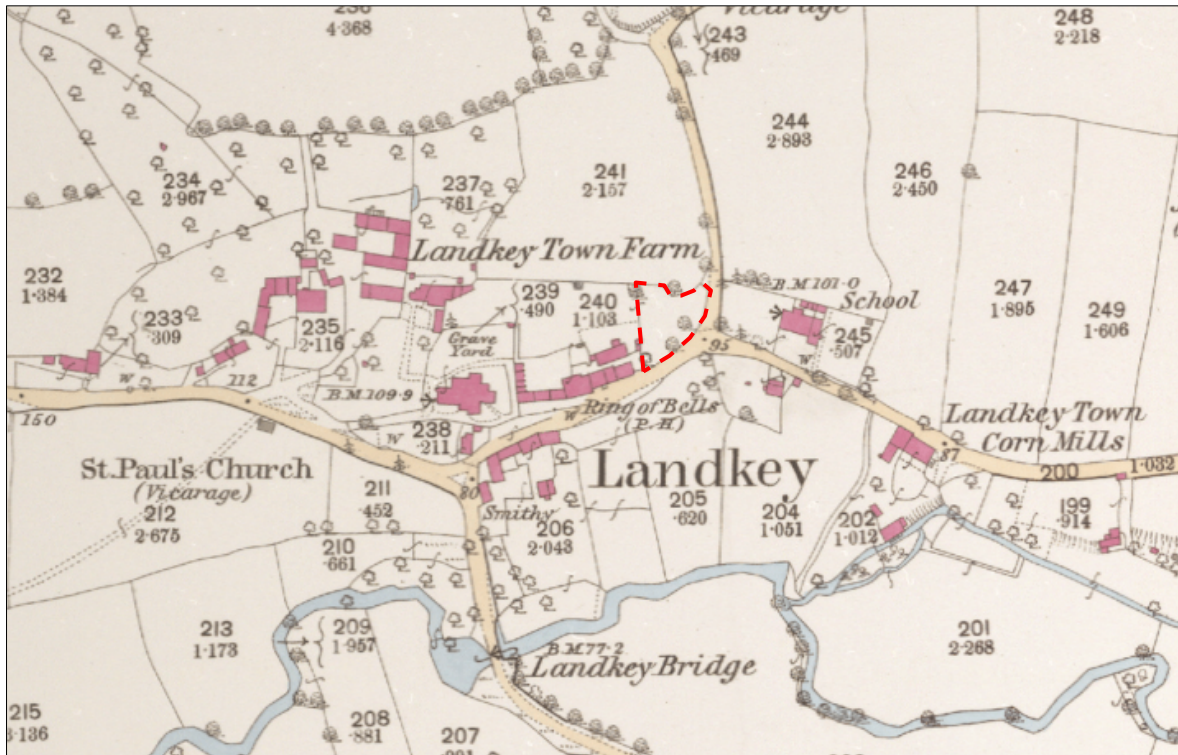


FIGURE 4: EXTRACT FROM THE OS FIRST EDITION 25" MAP OF 1888; THE EXTENT OF THE SURVEY AREA IS INDICATED (DHC).

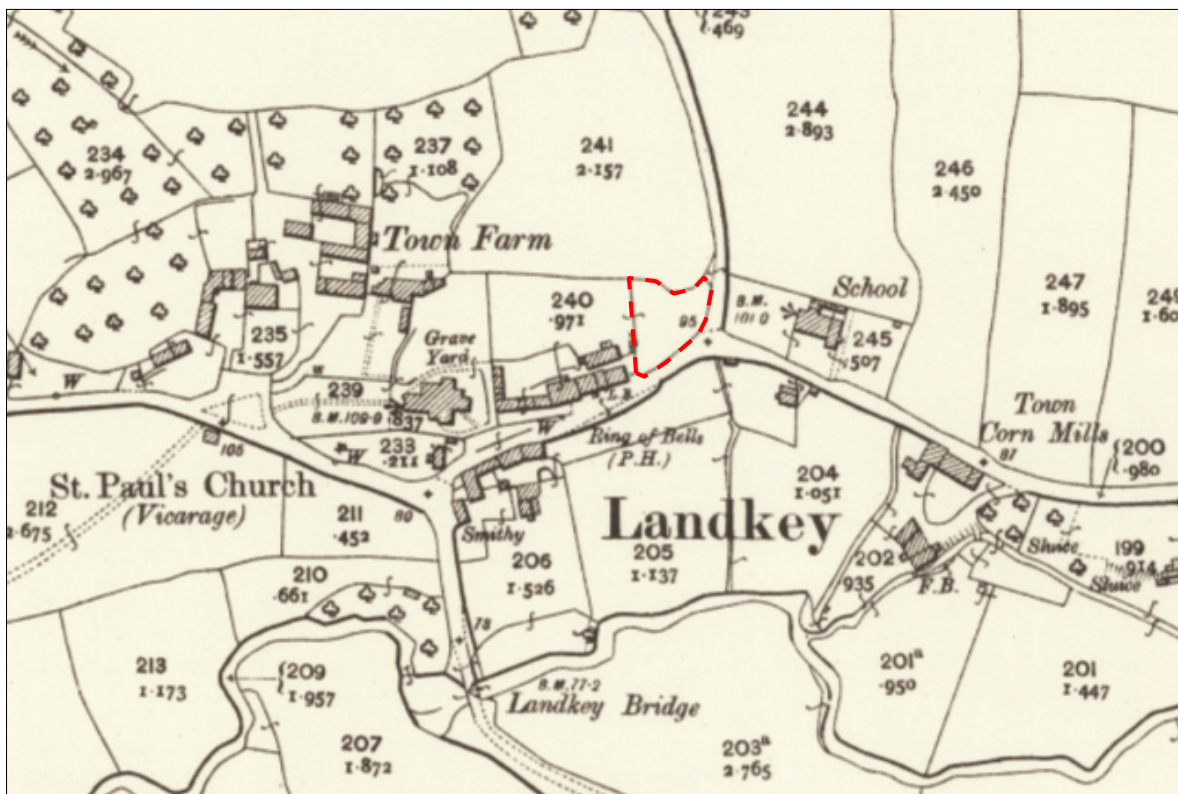


FIGURE 5: EXTRACT FROM THE SECOND EDITION OS 6" MAP OF 1913; THE EXTENT OF THE SURVEY AREA IS INDICATED (DHC).

### 2.3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

The locality has seen a small amount of archaeological fieldwork, including: historic building recording at Town Mills; geophysical survey at Birch Road and Westacott; and archaeological monitoring at Town Mills and Old Hill Farm. These have largely identified elements of the historic field system or in the case of building recording have established phasing of the structures. The Devon & Dartmoor Historic Environment Record (HER) lists a series of designated and undesignated assets in the local area, mostly arising from documentary or place-name references to medieval and post-medieval sites (see Table 2 and Figure 6).

The historic landscape characterisation (HLC) for Devon shows the site as being situated within the *historic settlement* of Landkey Town, surrounded by areas of *post-medieval enclosure with medieval elements; modern enclosure; modern settlement* and watermeadow.

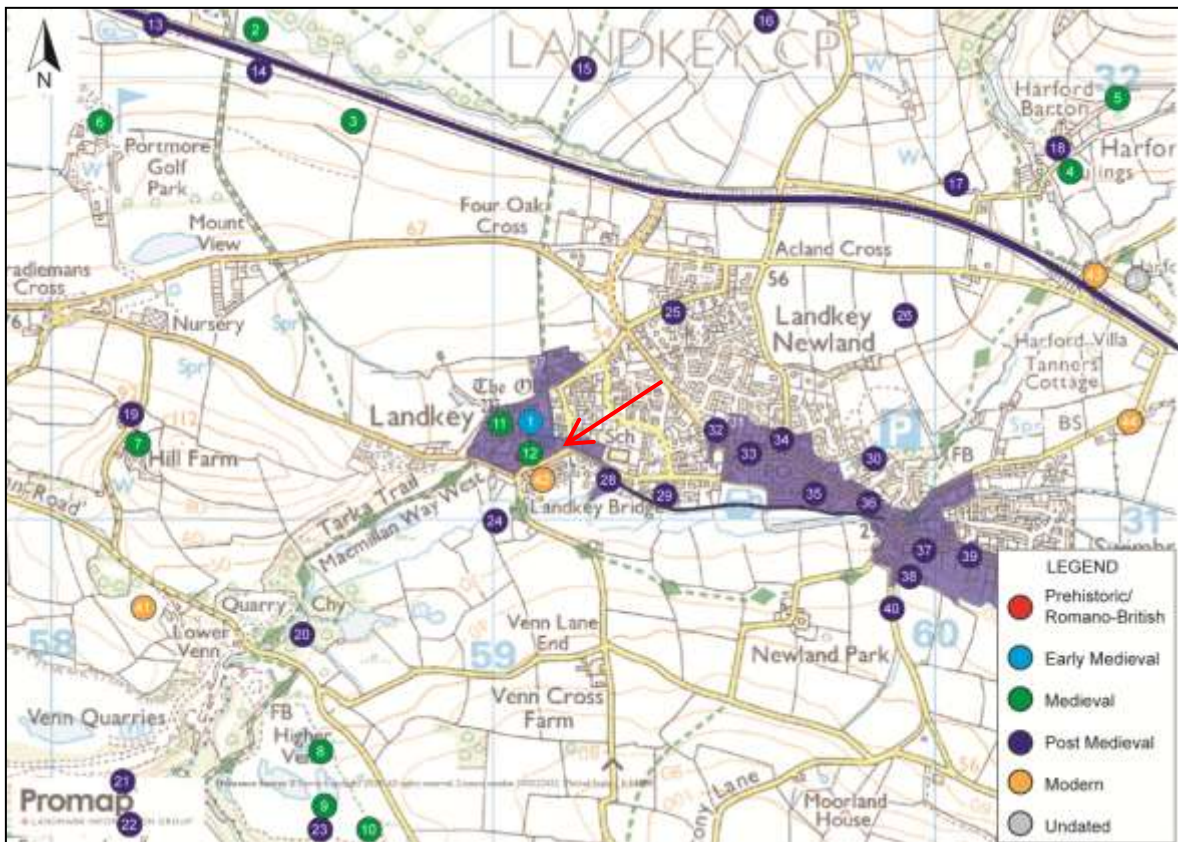


FIGURE 6: NEARBY HERITAGE ASSETS (THE SITE IS INDICATED) (SOURCE: DEVON & DARTMOOR HER).

TABLE 2: TABLE OF NEARBY UNDESIGNATED HERITAGE ASSETS (SOURCE: DEVON & DARTMOOR HER).

No.	Mon ID.	Name	Record	Details
1	MDV19248	Settlement	Documentary	The settlement of Landkey is first recorded in Domesday, the 'lan' element suggesting pre-10 <sup>th</sup> century origins.
2	MDV23370	Area of possible ridge and furrow	Aerial photograph	Possible area of ridge and furrow visible on aerial photographs.
3	MDV899	Deserted settlement	Earthworks	A settlement believed to be called Pill formerly existed and is visible as a series of earth mounds and hollows.
4	MDV19272	Settlement	Documentary	Settlement at Harford is recorded as being in existence by the mid 12 <sup>th</sup> century.
5	MDV12078	Chapel	Earthwork	Site of St. Mary's Chapel. Earthwork platform is visible.
6	List1164847 MDV32856 MDV95808	Barn approximately 10m east of Portmore Farmhouse	Listed Building	Grade II Listed 17 <sup>th</sup> century barn.
	MDV23378	Portmore Farm	Documentary	Portmore Farm is first recorded in 1319.



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No.	Mon ID.	Name	Record	Details
	MDV38912	Medieval pottery at Portmore Farm	Findspot	Trial trenching in 1987 at Portmore Farm produced medieval pottery.
7	List1325305 MDV108492	Higher Hill, Landkey	Listed Building	Grade II Listed late 15 <sup>th</sup> or early 16 <sup>th</sup> century farmhouse. Higher hill is the oldest of the Hill steadings, comprising a cottage, two shippons and a threshing barn.
8	MDV61251	Medieval pottery	Findspot	Medieval pottery scatter from a field to the south-east of Venn Quarry.
9	MDV61253	Boundary	Earthwork	Earthwork bank boundary, possibly with medieval origins.
10	MDV61252	Artefact scatter	Findspot	Pottery scatter, possibly indicating earlier settlement.
11	List1325269 MDV32833 MDV95812	The Old Manor	Listed Building	Grade II* listed late 15 <sup>th</sup> century manor with 17 <sup>th</sup> century alterations.
	List1164951 MDV32832 MDV95809	Store shed 5m SE of The Old Manor	Listed Building	Grade II listed 19 <sup>th</sup> century store sheds.
12	List1107687 MDV894 MDV95805	Church of St Paul	Listed Building	Grade I listed 13 <sup>th</sup> century church with 15 <sup>th</sup> and 16 <sup>th</sup> century additions. 19 <sup>th</sup> century restoration.
	List1164986 MDV95810 MDV112121	The Causeway and Ring o' Bells Inn	Listed Building	Grade II listed late 15 <sup>th</sup> century row of three cottages and public house with 17 <sup>th</sup> century alterations
	MDV892	Church House	Building	Row of three cottages with possible medieval origins.
	MDV893	Sundial	Monument	Church sundial dated 1768 and signed by John Berry.
	MDV41907	Enclosed cemetery	Documentary	It has been suggested that Landkey churchyard is the site of an early Christian graveyard.
13	MDV902	Railway	Structure	The Devon & Somerset Railway company was formed in 1864 and closed in 1966. The line of the railway is now the Barnstaple Bypass.
14	MDV32806	Signal post	Cartographic	Signal post depicted on 20 <sup>th</sup> century mapping.
15	MDV119860	Agricultural activity, Westacott	Earthworks	Series of anomalies consistent with agricultural activity identified during geophysical survey.
16	MDV117022	Orchards at East Acland Farm	Cartographic	Orchards recorded on the Ordnance Survey 1 <sup>st</sup> edition map.
17	MDV117421	Orchard	Cartographic	Orchards recorded on the Ordnance Survey 1 <sup>st</sup> edition map.
18	List1107685 MDV95787 MDV32907	Harford Barton	Listed Building	Grade II* Listed early 17 <sup>th</sup> century barton.
	MDV23987	Quarry	Earthwork	Quarry marked on the tithe map. Now a large hollow with orchard and pond.
19	MDV108488	Hill, Landkey	Documentary	The settlement of Hill is first documented in 1595.
	MDV895	Hill Farmhouse	Buildings	16 <sup>th</sup> century? Farmhouse and outbuilding.
	MDV63745	Farm building at Hill Farm	Building	Substantial agricultural building at Hill Farm.
20	MDV889	Quarry	Earthwork	Venn Quarries. 19 <sup>th</sup> century quarry worked by W. Buckingham of Hill Farm. Ceased operation in 1880.
	MDV16389	Lime Kiln	Structure	Three limekilns survive in varying condition.
	MDV16391	Wheel Pit	Structure	Masonry wheel pit and water wheels associated with Venn Quarry
	MDV16392	Findspot in the parish of Landkey	Structure	A tall chimney with a square profile stands on the edge of the old quarry.
21	MDV16393	Leat	Earthwork	Mill leat serving Whitemoor Mill and Cornmill at Bishops Tawton. Believed to be in use by 1605.
22	MDV58064	Quarry	Cartographic	Quarry marked on early 20 <sup>th</sup> century OS mapping.
	MDV77402	Building, south of Hall's Whitemoor	Cartographic	Building depicted on 1 <sup>st</sup> and 2 <sup>nd</sup> edition OS maps. No longer exists.
23	MDV61254	Terrace	Earthwork	Terrace in a field south-east of Venn Quarry. Appears to mark line of tithe map field boundary.
	MDV61255	Ditch	Earthwork	Dry watercourse/former ditch forming tithe

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No.	Mon ID.	Name	Record	Details
				map field boundary.
	MDV61256	Gully	Earthwork	Gully forming course of former stream. May be associated as a boundary with a removed hedge-line.
24	MDV32832	Malt House	Building	A malthouse existed in what is now the parish room until the beginning of the 20 <sup>th</sup> century.
25	MDV23962	House	Structure	The tithe map shows a number of houses and gardens. Only the stone wall of the easternmost one survives.
26	MDV109727	Former field boundaries and plough scars	Earthwork	Features associated with historic field boundaries, though may reflect medieval origins.
27	CA	Landkey Town	Conservation Area	
28	List1107688 MDV32834 MDV95786	Manor House, Town Mills	Listed Building	Grade II listed 1659 house including bake-house with early 20 <sup>th</sup> century extension.
	MDV32835	Mill Leat, Town Mills	Structure	The mill leat serving Town Mills is recorded on the 19 <sup>th</sup> and 20 <sup>th</sup> century OS mapping. Still survives.
	List1317498 MDV32836	Town Mills	Listed Building	Grade II listed mid 19 <sup>th</sup> century water mill with external wheel on east side.
	MDV80004	Waterwheel, Town Mills	Structure	Overshot waterwheel. Cast iron with elm wood buckets.
	MDV80007	Covered Yard with Millstones, Town Mills	Structure	Covered yard between the mill and the storehouse. Shown on early 20 <sup>th</sup> century mapping.
29	MDV32843	Quarry	Cartographic	An old quarry is shown on 20 <sup>th</sup> century mapping.
30	MDV32830	Somerfield House	Building	Somerfield House, including yard entrance and gates. Early 16 <sup>th</sup> century, with possible earlier fabric.
	MDV69875	Leat	Cartographic	Site of mill leat shown on 19 <sup>th</sup> century OS mapping.
31	CA	Landkey and Swimbridge Newland Conservation Area	Conservation Area	
32	MDV32842	Jubilee Chapel	Building	Former Bible Christian chapel depicted on 20 <sup>th</sup> century mapping.
33	List1164898 MDV95789 MDV32851	Nonconformist Chapel	Listed Building	Grade II listed Wesleyan Methodist Chapel built 1868.
	List1393873 MDV78469	Landkey War Memorial	Listed Building	Grade II listed war memorial to the men of the parish who died in World War I.
	MDV1814	Beulah Chapel	Building	Beulah Chapel opened in 1865, with school opening in 1867. Chapel closed in 1955.
	MDV32851	Wesleyan Chapel	Building	Wesleyan Methodist chapel built in 1868.
	MDV32828	Milestone	Cartographic	A milestone is depicted on the later 20 <sup>th</sup> century OS mapping.
34	List1325268 MDV95794 MDV32827	Thatch End Wallbrook Cottage	Listed Building	Grade II listed 16 <sup>th</sup> century house remodelled in the late 17 <sup>th</sup> or early 18 <sup>th</sup> century.
35	MDV32916	Mill	Building	Site of Landkey Castle Mill. Possibly 18 <sup>th</sup> century 'Landkey Mill'.
	MDV32841	Forge	Cartographic	A forge is marked on 20 <sup>th</sup> century OS mapping.
36	List1107686 MDV32829 MDV95788	Apple Tree Cottage	Listed Building	Grade II listed late 16 <sup>th</sup> century cottage.
	List1164904 MDV95790	Somerfield House	Listed Building	Grade II listed early 16 <sup>th</sup> century house including yard entrance and gates.
	MDV32840	Forge	Cartographic	A forge is shown on 20 <sup>th</sup> century mapping.
37	List1317128 MDV33808 MDV95792	Ratcliffes	Listed Building	Grade II listed Ratcliffes farmhouse, including barn. 16 <sup>th</sup> century.
	MDV1996	Mill	Documentary	The 19 <sup>th</sup> century tithe map lists four 'mill' field names to the east of Newland Corn Mill.
38	MDV890	Watermill	Documentary	Mill House is shown on 20 <sup>th</sup> century OS mapping.
39	MDV33750	Farmhouse	Building	The Ingle and Rose Cottage. Early 16 <sup>th</sup> century house remodelled in 17 <sup>th</sup> century.
	List1165850 MDV33749	Rocky Side	Listed Building	Grade II listed early 16 <sup>th</sup> century farmhouse remodelled in 17 <sup>th</sup> century.



No.	Mon ID.	Name	Record	Details
	MDV95791			
40	MDV32917	Leat	Cartographic	Mill leat shown on 20 <sup>th</sup> century OS mapping.
41	MDV45070	Quarry	Cartographic	Part of Venn Quarry. Quarry marked on 20 <sup>th</sup> century OS mapping.
42	MDV32844	Forge	Cartographic	A smithy is shown on early 20 <sup>th</sup> century OS mapping. The area has since been redeveloped.
43	MDV23988	Cottage	Cartographic	Cottage and garden recorded on tithe map. No longer exists.
44	MDV32947 MDV32945 MDV32948	Boundary stone	Cartographic	Boundary stones depicted on 20 <sup>th</sup> century mapping.
45	MDV32900	Boundary stone	Cartographic	Boundary stone recorded on 20 <sup>th</sup> century mapping.
	MDV32901	Boundary stone	Cartographic	Boundary stone recorded on 20 <sup>th</sup> century mapping.

### 2.3.1 EARLY-MEDIEVAL AD410 – AD1066

The earliest activity recorded within the study area reflects the potential origins of settlement at Landkey, and whilst not identifying the specific beginnings of settlement, the inclusion of the place-name element ‘lan’ within the name Landkey indicates that a settlement had been established by the early-medieval period (MDV19248).

### 2.3.2 MEDIEVAL AD1066 - AD1540

Several of the farms, including Harford (MDV19272) and Portmore Farm (MDV23378) have medieval origins, first documented in the 12<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> centuries; whilst St Paul’s Church at Landkey has surviving 13<sup>th</sup> century fabric (MDV894). Landkey can be seen to have developed further during the 15<sup>th</sup> century, the Old Manor (MDV32833) and several of the houses surrounding the church (MDV95810, 112121) dating this period.

### 2.3.3 POST-MEDIEVAL AND MODERN AD1540 - PRESENT

Population and settlement expanded during the post-medieval period, most notably reflected in the development of the settlements of Landkey, Swimbridge and Newlands, largely in the 19<sup>th</sup> century but through from the 16<sup>th</sup> (Apple Tree Cottage, MDV32829; Ratcliffes, MDV33808; Somerfield House, MDV32830; Thatch End & Wallbrook, MDV32827;), and 17<sup>th</sup> (Manor House, MDV32834; Town Mills, MDV32836) centuries. Additional farmsteads and settlements were also appearing at Hill (MDV108488) during the 16<sup>th</sup> century; whilst Harford Barton (MDV95787) was re-developed during the 17<sup>th</sup> century.

During the 19<sup>th</sup> century, despite there being increased industrial activity, including quarrying at Venn (MDV889) and the creation of infrastructure associated with the creation of the railway (MDV902), agriculture still played an important role.

## 3.0 RESULTS OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

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### 3.1 INTRODUCTION

The archaeological evaluation was carried out between 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> March 2018 and comprised the excavation of three trenches, each 1.40m wide and totalling c.40m in length, by tracked mechanical excavator to the depth of archaeological deposits or weathered natural using a toothless grading bucket. Exposed archaeological deposits were excavated by hand and in accordance with the PD and ClfA guidelines. A total of seven features were identified in the three evaluation trenches including: two possible construction cuts; one drain (continuing between two trenches); one floor surface; one hearth; one robber trench; and one large cut feature (across two trenches) (Figure 7). What follows is a summary of each trench with finds noted where they occur. Detailed context descriptions can be found in Appendix 1; a finds concordance in Appendix 2; and the photographic archive in Appendix 3.

### 3.2 DEPOSIT MODEL

The stratigraphy of the site was consistent across the whole area. A friable dark brown-grey clay-silt loam topsoil 0.15-0.25m thick overlay a dark grey-brown clay-silt sub soil 0.10-0.40m thick. These soils overlay the natural shillet bedrock. The thickness of these soils was consistent across the site, though the subsoil was observed to be deeper towards the eastern end of the site in Trench 01.

#### 3.2.1 EVALUATION OF METHODOLOGY

Access to the site was very difficult, and the size of the excavator used (3t) limited the width of the trenches excavated. In addition, the weather during the evaluation was very wet and a high water table and water ingress was a particular issue, especially for Trench 01. Nonetheless, archaeological features were investigated and recorded according to the agreed PD.

### 3.3 TRENCH 01

Trench 01 was located towards the north-eastern corner of the site and measured 11m long on a north to south alignment; the topsoil (100) together with the subsoil (101) was c.0.55m thick and directly overlay the natural.

A single large cut feature was identified extending beyond the limits of the trench to the north and east (Figures 10-11). It was encountered in Trench 02 (below, as [203]). It was observed to measure 9m+ long by 2m+ wide and 0.40m+ deep, with moderate sloping sides. It could not be fully excavated due to rapid ingress of groundwater, but was over 0.4m deep. Four fills were identified: soft grey-brown silt-clays (104), (105), and (106), and soft yellow-brown-grey clay (107). These fills contained angular stone, brick and plaster indicating that it contained demolition material. Finds recovered from the fills of this feature included: 6 sherds (240g) of North Devon gravel tempered ware, 1 sherd (4g) of North Devon sgraffito, 1 sherd (10g) of English stoneware, 6 sherds (71g) of white refined earthenware, 1 fragment (667g) of engineering brick, and 1 whole (1510g) brick.

Finds recovered from the topsoil (100): 1 sherd (13g) of North Devon gravel free ware, 1 fragment (123g) of stoneware bed warmer, and 1 fragment (21g) of ceramic drain. Finds recovered from the subsoil (101): 4 sherds (377g) of North Devon Gravel-Free ware, and 6 sherds (61g) of white refined earthenware.

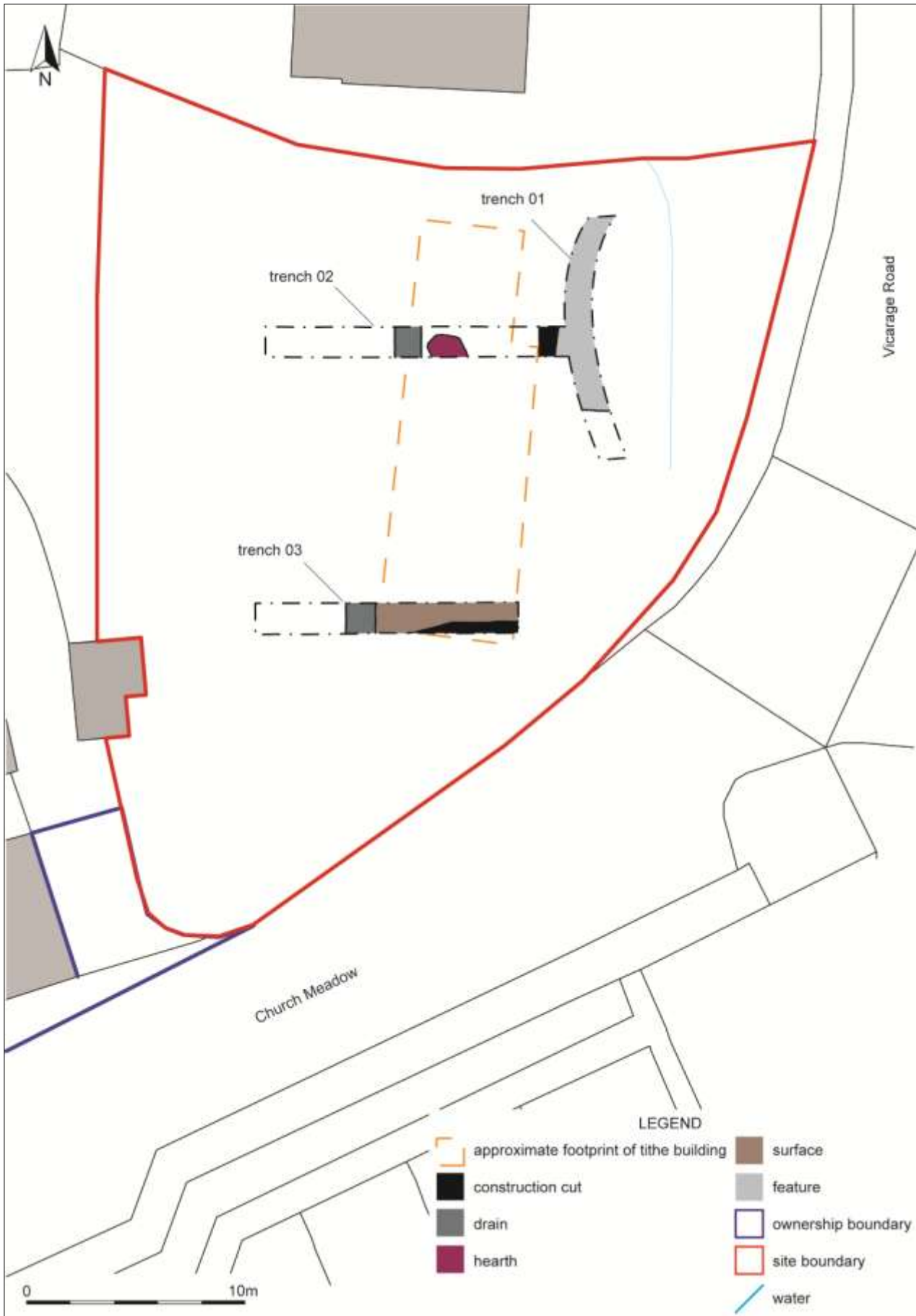


FIGURE 7: SITE PLAN SHOWING LOCATION OF THE TRENCHES AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL FEATURES.



FIGURE 8: DRAIN [208], NORTH-FACING SECTION SHOWING FEATURE FILLS AND OVERLYING SOIL LAYERS; VIEWED FROM THE NORTH (2M SCALE).

### 3.4 TRENCH 02

Trench 02 was located towards the centre of the site and measured 14.6m long on an east to west alignment; the topsoil (200) together with subsoil (201) was c.0.38m thick and directly overlay the natural. Four features were identified within this trench, including: one possible construction cut; one drain; one hearth; and one other cut feature (see Figures 8-11).

The eastern end of the trench extended across feature [103] in Trench 01 (discussed above; here labelled cut [203]). This wide feature cut the eastern side of a possible wall trench [205] aligned approximately north to south. The surviving part of this feature was 0.60m wide and 0.15m deep with moderate to steep sloping sides and a slightly concave base. It contained a single fill: (206), a soft grey-yellow-brown clay with shillet fragments. Finds recovered from this feature included: 1 sherd (34g) of North Devon gravel free ware.

Towards the centre of the trench was drain [208]; this drain was also encountered in Trench 03 (as [304]). The drain sat within a linear cut 1.40m wide and 0.60+m deep aligned approximately north-south with moderate sloping sides and slightly concave base. It contained two fills above the stone build of the drain: (209) and (210), soft yellow-grey-brown and brown-grey silt-clays with brick rubble. The build of the drain itself sat within a linear channel with near-vertical sides capped by angular and sub-angular stone and slate. This contained a single fill (215), a soft grey-brown silt-clay. Finds recovered from fill (210) included: 1 fragment (51g) of animal bone, 2 sherds (10g) of white refined earthenware, 1 (288g) burnt brick, and 1 (40g) vitrified brick fragment among an assemblage of brick fragments and CBM (3979g total).

Immediately to the east of drain [208] was a shallow sub-oval pit [211]. It was 1.50m × 1m+ across and 0.10m deep with moderate to steep sides and flat base. The hollow had been filled with (214) a soft grey clay-sand with abundant charcoal surrounded by brick and stone edging; it was sealed by (213), a compact lime mortar surface or possible build with re-deposited shillet (212). The base



of the feature appears to have been heat-affected, and this feature is interpreted as a hearth or the base of an oven or similar structure. Finds recovered from this feature included: 1 sherd (60g) of North Devon gravel tempered ware from fill (212); and 6 fragments (3733g) of burnt brick and 2 fragments (191g) of burnt stone from fill (214). The feature was overlain by a layer of soft brown-grey silt-clay (213).

Finds recovered from subsoil (201): 16 fragments (653g) of articulated animal bone, 2 sherds (11g) of white refined earthenware, and 1 fragment of plastic hosepipe.



FIGURE 9: HEARTH [211], NORTH-WEST FACING; VIEWED FROM THE NORTH-WEST (1M SCALE).

### 3.5 TRENCH 03

Trench 03 was located towards the southern end of the site and measured 12m long on an east to west alignment. Topsoil (300) together with subsoil (301) was c.0.35m thick; in this trench (301) and overlay a second subsoil (302), soft grey-brown silt-clay up to c.0.40m thick over the natural. Four features were identified within the trench, including: one possible construction cut; one drain; one floor surface; and one robber trench (see Figures 10-11).

Towards the centre of the trench was drain [304]; this drain was encountered in Trench 02 (as [208]). The drain sat within a linear cut 0.70m wide and 0.55+m deep with near vertical sides and angular to sub-angular stone capping. It had been backfilled with (305), a soft yellow-grey-brown silt-clay. Finds recovered from this feature included: 2 sherds (151g) of North Devon gravel tempered ware, 1 fragment (24g) of brick, and 1 (128g) socketed iron object. The feature had been cut along its eastern edge by a robber trench [313]; this measured 0.70m wide and 0.40m deep with near vertical sides and flat base. It contained two fills (307) and (309), yellow-brown and red-brown silt-clays that included large fragments of mortar floor (312).

Construction cut [310] was a linear feature located along the southern edge of the trench and orientated approximately east to west. It was 0.50m wide and 0.08m deep with steep sides and a flat base; and contained a single fill (311), soft grey-yellow-brown clay with shillet.

Surface (312) comprised the partial and fragmented remains of a lime mortar floor between construction cut [310] and robber cut [313]; this was probably an internal floor surface. These features were all sealed by a layer of soft grey-brown silt-clay (302) (as noted above).

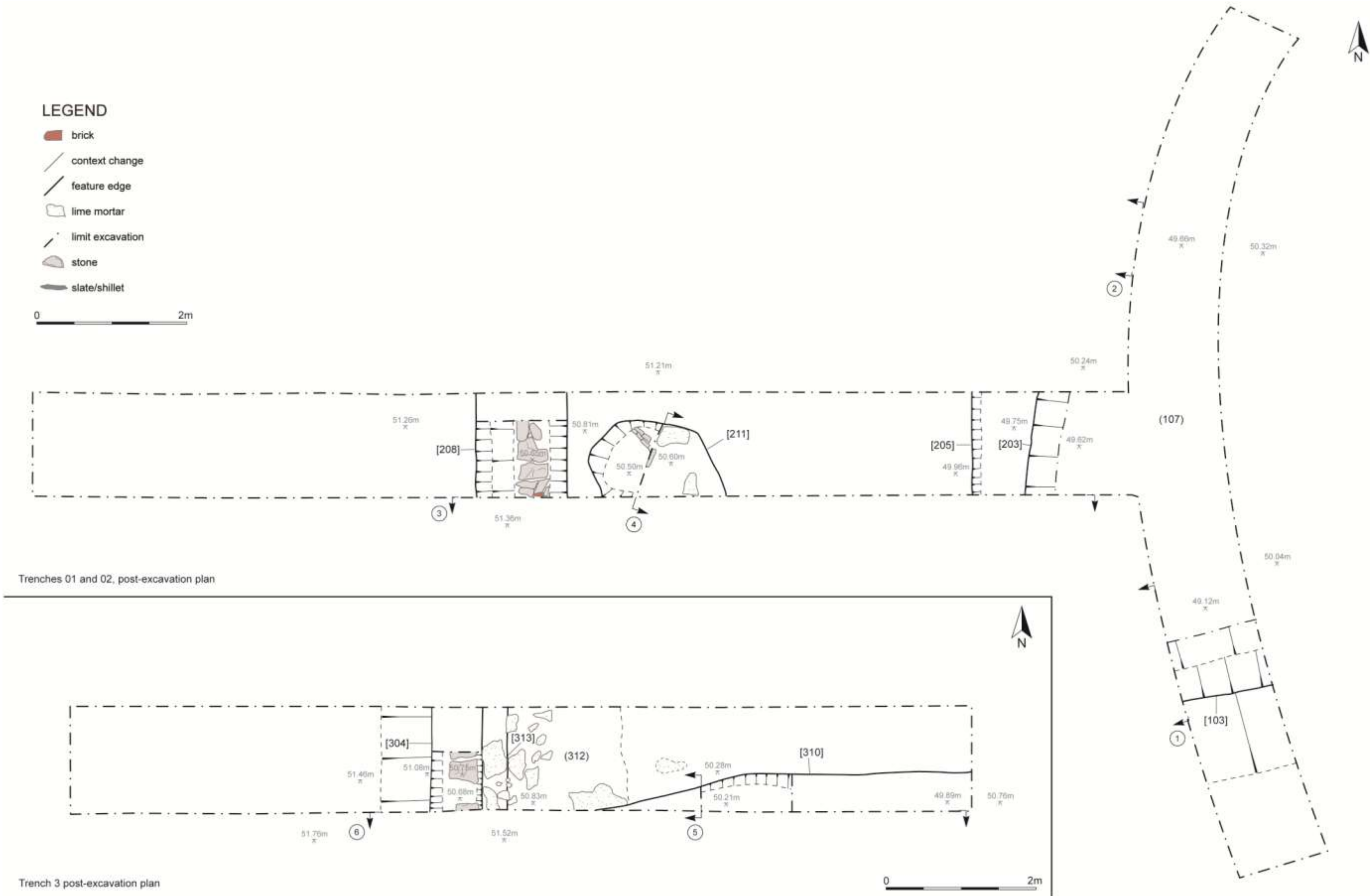
Finds recovered from topsoil (200): 3 fragments (23g) of white refined earthenware, 1 (4g) brick fragment and 1 (2g) clay pipe stem fragment.

### 3.6 DISCUSSION




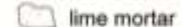



The evaluation identified seven features across the three trenches, all dated to the post-medieval or modern periods. Given the cartographic evidence for a structure on the site, it is likely features [205], [310] and [313] relate to the former walls of this building, albeit almost entirely robbed out. No *in situ* structural materials were encountered, but the fills of the large cut feature to the east [103] [203], contained angular stone, brick and mortar/plaster fragments. Absence of foundations is a consistent trope of lower-status vernacular buildings in Devon, and we may conclude the building was predominantly cob-built, but perhaps with brick detailing. The fragmentary lime mortar floor (311), and perhaps (213), would represent the internal floor surface. The shallow pit/hearth [211] located towards the northern end of the building may be the base of an oven or similar structure built into a gable-end axial stack, as the building shown on the tithe map steps in beyond this point.

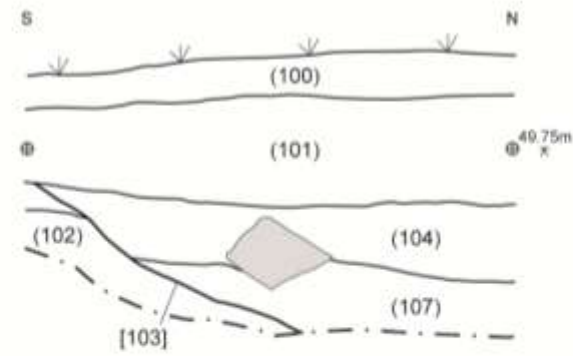
There is some evidence for phasing, in that large feature [103] [203] cuts the posited east wall, and drain [208] [304] runs along the projected line of (and presumably removed) the west wall. These features were then sealed by subsoil layer (207) (302). The function and purpose of the drain is self-explanatory, but the function or purpose of feature [103] [203] is unclear. Modern OS maps show a watercourse here, with a stream issuing from the southern side of the road junction. The fills were certainly waterlogged, so perhaps this is an infilled stream channel.

In terms of dating, almost all the pottery can be dated to the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century, being a mix of table whitewares and more bulky North Devon coarsewares; the range of wares represented is entirely consistent with a domestic context. The bricks recovered are handmade and lacking in frogs, a mix of standard 110mm and earlier 50mm thick examples.

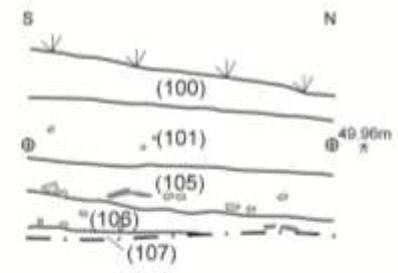


**LEGEND**

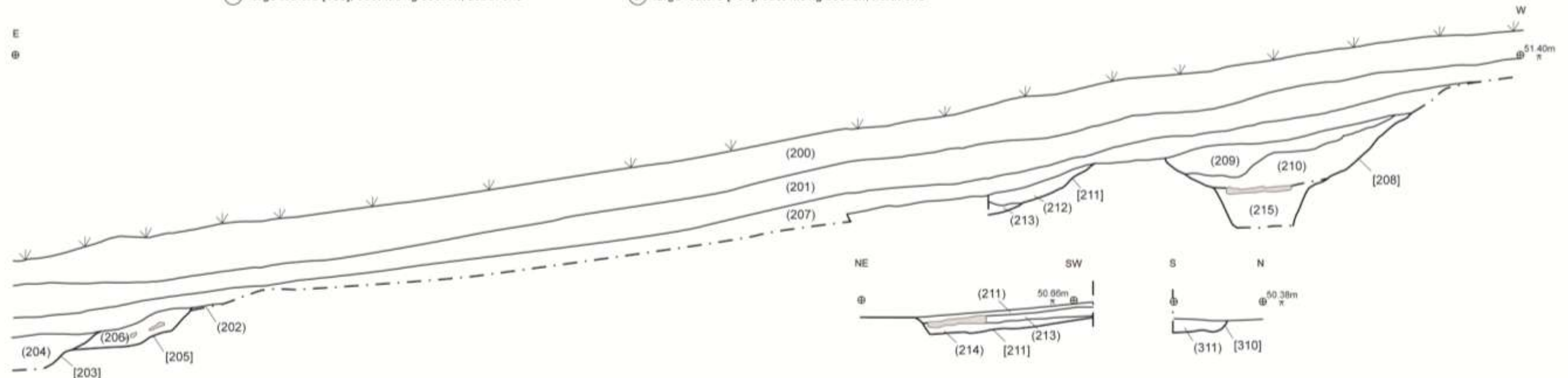
-  brick
-  context change
-  feature edge
-  lime mortar
-  limit excavation
-  stone
-  slate/shillet



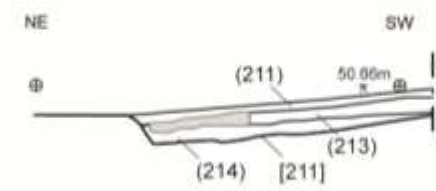
① large feature [103], east-facing section, south end



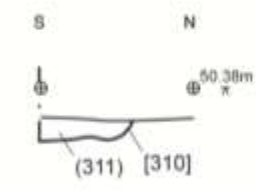
② large feature [103], east-facing section, north end



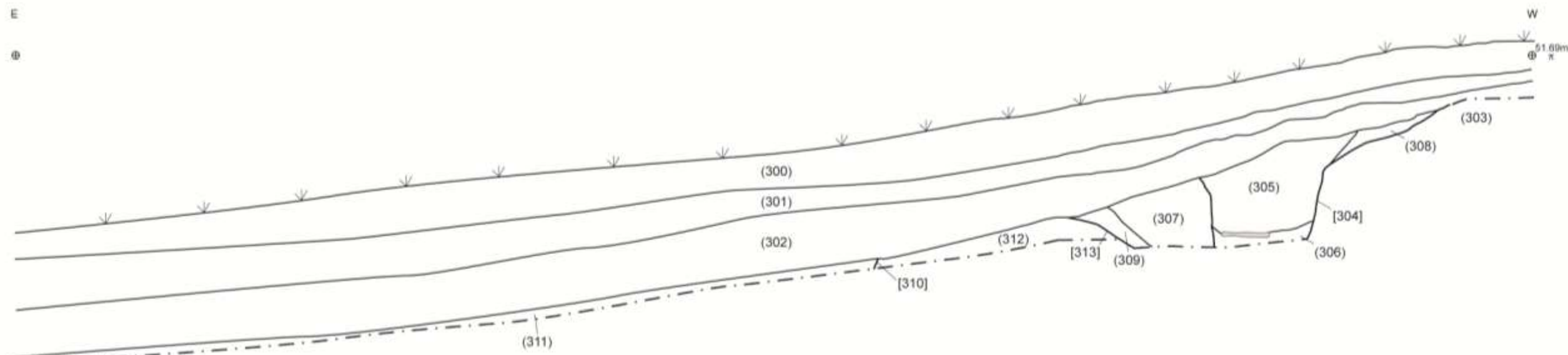
③ trench 2 north-facing section across site of possible building, detailing terrace cut [203], construction cut [205], drain [208] and hearth [211]



④ hearth [211], north-west facing section



⑤ construction cut [310], east-facing section



⑥ drain [304], north-facing section



FIGURE 11: TRENCH SECTIONS. HEIGHTS BASED ON AN ARBITRARY TBM OF 50.00M AOD.



## 4.0 CONCLUSION

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The evaluation identified seven features across the three trenches, all post-medieval or more probably 18<sup>th</sup> or 19<sup>th</sup> century in date. Some of these features correspond with the structure shown on the site on the 1845 tithe map, but it appears this structure was comprehensively demolished before c.1880. Following its demolition a drain was dug that destroyed the western wall of the building, and a very large feature was excavated to the east; the fills of the latter feature were waterlogged, and it is likely to relate to the drainage of the site. Almost all of the material recovered from the site can be dated to the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century and is domestic in character.

Given the results of the archaeological evaluation, and the type, age and preservation of the features encountered, the archaeological potential of the site is deemed to be *low* and further archaeological investigation of limited value.

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### *Devon Record Office:*

Landkey tithe map and apportionment 1845

OS 1<sup>st</sup> edition 1 to 25 inch scale map Devon Sheet XIII.12, surveyed 1887, published 1888

OS 1<sup>st</sup> edition 1 to 25 inch scale map Devon Sheet XIII.12, surveyed 1903, published 1904

APPENDIX 1: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Context	Type	Description	Relationships	Depth/thickness (m)	Spot date
<b>Trench 01</b>					
(100)	Layer	TURF/TOPSOIL - dark brown-grey soft-friable clay-silt loam.	Overlies (101)	c.0.15m thick	Modern
(101)	Layer	SUBSOIL - dark grey-brown soft-friable clay-silt.	Overlain by (100); overlies (104), (105)	Up to 0.40m thick	C18-C19
(102)	Natural	NATURAL - shillet within brown-yellow soft clay.	Overlain by (101); cut by [103]	-	-
[103]	Cut	FEATURE - possible linear or sub-oval feature orientated approximately north to south. Measures 9+m x 2+m x 0.40+m deep with moderate sides. Not fully excavated due to water incursion.	Filled by (104), (105), (106), (107); cuts (102); same as [203]	0.40+m deep	-
(104)	Fill	UPPER FILL OF [103] - mid slightly grey-brown soft silt clay.	Overlain by (101); overlies (107); fill of [103]; same as (204)	c.0.25m thick	C19 or C20
(105)	Fill	FILL OF [103] - mid grey-brown soft clay with common sub-angular stone and plaster.	Overlain by (101); overlies (106); fill of [103]	c.0.15m thick	-
(106)	Fill	FILL OF [103] - dark brown soft gritty clay with abundant sub-angular stone.	Overlain by (105); overlies (107); fill of [103]	c.0.10m thick	-
(107)	Fill	FILL OF [103] - mid yellow-brown-grey soft gritty clay with common sub-angular stone and brick.	Overlain by (104), (106); fill of [103]	0.20+m thick	C18-C19
<b>Trench 02</b>					
(200)	Layer	TURF/TOPSOIL - dark brown-grey soft-friable clay-silt loam.	Overlies (201)	c.0.20m thick	Modern
(201)	Layer	LOWER TOPSOIL - dark grey-brown soft-friable clay-silt.	Overlain by (200); overlies (207)	c.0.18m thick	C19
(202)	Natural	NATURAL - shillet within yellow soft-clay.	Overlain by (207); cut by [205], [208], [211]	-	-
[203]	Cut	FEATURE CUT – possible linear or sub-oval feature orientated approximately north to south. Measures 9+m x 2+m x 0.40m deep with moderate sides. Not fully excavated due to water incursion. Same as [103]	Filled by (204); cuts (206); same as [103]	0.40m deep	-
(204)	Fill	FILL OF [203] - mid slightly grey-brown soft silt-clay.	Overlain by (207); fill of [203]; same as (104)	0.18+m thick	-
[205]	Cut	CONSTRUCTION CUT – linear feature orientated north to south. Measures 0.60m x 0.15m deep with moderate-steep sides and slightly concave base.	Filled by (206); cuts (202)	0.15m deep	-
(206)	Fill	FILL OF [205] - mid-light grey-yellow-brown soft-clay with common shillet.	Cut by [203]; fill of [205]	0.15m thick	C18
(207)	Layer	LAYER - light brown-gray friable-soft silt-clay.	Overlain by (201); overlies (204), (209), (212)	0.18m thick	-
[208]	Cut	DRAIN – linear stone capped drain orientated north to south. Measures 1.40m x 0.60+m deep with moderate to near vertical sides.	Filled by (209), (210), (215); cuts (202); same as [304]	0.60+m deep	-
(209)	Fill	FILL OF [208] - mid light yellow-grey-brown soft silt-clay.	Overlain by (207); overlies (210); fill of [208]	Up to 0.20m thick	-

LAND OFF VICARAGE AND MANOR ROADS, LANDKEY, NORTH DEVON, DEVON

Context	Type	Description	Relationships	Depth/thickness (m)	Spot date
(210)	Fill	FILL OF [208] - mid brown-grey soft silt-clay with common shillet and sub-angular stone and brick.	Overlain by (209); overlies (215); fill of [208]	c.0.20m thick	C18-C19
[211]	Cut	HEARTH - sub-oval feature orientated north-west to south-east. Measures c.1.50m x 1+m x 0.10m deep with moderate-steep sides and flat base.	Filled by (212), (213), (214); cuts (202)	0.10m deep	-
(212)	Fill	FILL OF [211] - shillet in mid grey-soft clay.	Overlain by (207); overlies (213); fill of [211]	c.0.10m thick	Post-med
(213)	Fill	FILL OF [211] - lime mortar forming concreted surface.	Overlain by (212); overlies (214); fill of [211]	c.0.04m thick	-
(214)	Fill	FILL OF [211] - mid grey soft and lose clay-sand with charcoal/black lense and bricks laid within.	Overlain by (213); fill of [211]	0.04m thick	-
(215)	Fill	DRAIN INFILL WITHIN [208] - mid grey-brown soft-friable silt-clay.	Overlain by (210); fill of [208]	0.22+m thick	-
<b>Trench 03</b>					
(300)	Layer	TURF/TOPSOIL - dark brown-grey soft-friable clay silt-loam.	Overlies (301)	Up to 0.25m thick	Modern
(301)	Layer	LOWER TOPSOIL - dark grey-brown soft-friable clay-silt.	Overlain by (300); overlies (302)	Up to 0.10m thick	-
(302)	Layer	LAYER - mid grey-brown soft silt-clay.	Overlain by (301); overlies (307), (312)	Up to 0.22m thick	-
(303)	Layer	NATURAL - shillet within soft yellow clay.	Overlain by (302); cut by [304], [310]	-	-
[304]	Cut	DRAIN – linear feature orientated north to south. Measures 2+m wide×0.60+m deep with moderate to near vertical sides.	Filled by (305), (306), (308); cuts (303); same as [208]	0.60+m deep	-
(305)	Fill	UPPER FILL OF [304] - mid yellow-grey-brown soft silt-clay with abundant shillet.	Cut by [313]; overlies (306), (308); fill of [304]	0.50m thick	Post-med
(306)	Fill	FILL OF [304] - mid yellow-brown soft clay with common shillet.	Overlain by (305); fill of [304]	0.10+m thick	-
(307)	Fill	FILL OF [313]. Mid yellow-brown friable-soft silt-clay with occasional shillet.	Overlain by (302); overlies (309); fill of [313]	0.35+m thick	-
(308)	Fill	FILL OF [304] - mid grey-yellow-brown soft clay with abundant shillet.	Overlain by (305); fill of [304]	0.06m thick	-
(309)	Fill	FILL OF [313] - mid red-brown friable loose silt and shillet.	Overlain by (307); fill of [304]	c.0.10m thick	-
[310]	Cut	CONSTRUCTION CUT – linear feature orientated north-east to south-west. Measures 0.50m wide ×0.08m deep with steep sides and flat base.	Filled by (311); cuts (303)	0.08m deep	-
(311)	Fill	FILL OF [310] - mid grey-yellow-brown soft clay with common shillet.	Overlain by (302); fill of [310]	0.08m thick	-
(312)	Surface	FLOOR SURFACE - concreted lime mortar, now heavily broken with brick and shillet mixed in.	Overlain by (302); overlies (303)	-	-
[313]	Cut	ROBBER TRENCH – linear feature orientated approximately north to south. Measures 0.60m wide and 0.40m deep with near vertical sides.	Filled by (307), (309); cuts (305).	0.40m deep	-

APPENDIX 2: FINDS CONCORDANCE

Context	POTTERY			OTHER			DATE
	Sherds	Wgt. (g)	Notes	Frgs.	Wgt. (g)	Notes	
(100)	1	12	White refined earthenware	1	21	Ceramic drain	C19
	1	13	North Devon gravel free				PM
	1	123	Ceramic hot-water bottle fragment				C20
(101)	4	377	North Devon gravel-free small Type 3 bowl, conjoining, full profile				C18
	6	51	White refined earthenware				C18-C19
(104)	1	10	English stoneware				C19
(105)				1	650	Engineering brick fragment	C19-C20
(107)	1	4	North Devon Sgraffito	1	1510	Brick	C18
	6	240	North Devon gravel tempered, x2 rim, x1 base				PM
	6	71	White refined earthenware, x2 base, x4 body, cups				C18-C19
(201)	2	11	White refined earthenware, body	16	653	Animal bone, burial	C19
				2	3845	Brick	C19-C20
				1	4	Plastic hosepipe	C20
(206)	1	33	North Devon Gravel Free rim				PM
(210)	2	10	White refined earthenware, body	1	51	Animal bone	C18-C19
				6	1149	Ceramic Building Material, possibly all brick, some burnt, 1 vitrified	C18-C19
(212)	1	60	North Devon Gravel Tempered base with bright yellow residue on interior	1	1053	Metal rod	PM
(213)				2	5969	Floor slabs (concrete?)	C19-C20
(214)				7	3668	Brick, burnt	C19
				2	191	Stone, burnt	C19
(300)	3	23	White refined earthenware	1	2	Clay pipe, stem	C19
				1	4	Brick fragment	C19
(305)	2	151	North Devon Gravel Tempered 1xrim	1	24	Brick fragment	C19
				1	128	Iron socketed object	C19
				2	424	Stone, burnt	-
(311)				5	482	Ceramic Building Material	C19
(312)				3	2243	Ceramic Building Material, inc 1 brick	C19



APPENDIX 3: PHOTOGRAPHIC ARCHIVE



1. VIEW ACROSS THE SITE FROM THE SOUTHERN BOUNDARY SHOWING THE RELATIONSHIP OF THE SITE TO THE VILLAGE; VIEWED FROM THE SOUTH-WEST (NO SCALE).



2. VIEW ALONG THE SOUTHERN SITE BOUNDARY SHOWING THE RELATIONSHIP OF THE SITE WITH THE VILLAGE; VIEWED FROM THE WEST (NO SCALE).





3. VIEW ACROSS THE SITE TO THE CHURCH; VIEWED FROM THE EAST (NO SCALE).



4. TRENCH 01 POST-EXCAVATION SHOWING WATER INGRESS; VIEWED FROM THE NORTH (1M & 2M SCALES).





5. TRENCH 01 POST-EXCAVATION SHOWING WATER INGRESS; VIEWED FROM THE SOUTH (1M & 2M SCALES).



6. TRENCH 01, EAST-FACING REPRESENTATIVE SECTION, NORTH END, SHOWING SOIL LAYERS OVER MADE GROUND, WITH INGRESS OF WATER; VIEWED FROM THE EAST (1M SCALE).





7. FEATURE [103], EAST-FACING SECTION SHOWING THE SOUTHERN EDGE OF THE FEATURE AND WATER INGRESS; VIEWED FROM THE EAST (1M SCALE).



8. TRENCH 02, POST-EXCAVATION SHOWING EXCAVATED FEATURES; VIEWED FROM THE EAST (1M & 2M SCALES).





9. TRENCH 02, POST-EXCAVATION SHOWING EXCAVATED FEATURES; VIEWED FROM THE WEST (1M & 2M SCALES).



10. CUT [203] AND CONSTRUCTION CUT [205], NORTH-FACING SECTION SHOWING FILLS IN RELATION TO OVERLYING SOIL LAYERS; VIEWED FROM THE NORTH (1M SCALE).





11. FEATURE [203] AND CONSTRUCTION CUT [205], POST-EXCAVATION; VIEWED FROM THE NORTH (1M SCALE).



12. DRAIN [208], POST-EXCAVATION SHOWING UPPER STONE CAPPING CONSTRUCTION; VIEWED FROM THE NORTH (2M SCALE).





13. DRAIN [208], DETAIL OF NORTH FACING SECTION SHOWING DRAIN CONSTRUCTION AND INFILL, NOTE THE INGRESS OF WATER; VIEWED FROM THE NORTH (1M SCALE).



14. DRAIN [208] AND HEARTH [211], NORTH-FACING SECTION SHOWING FILLS AND OVERLYING SOIL LAYERS; VIEWED FROM THE NORTH (2M SCALE).





15. DRAIN [208] AND HEARTH [211], OBLIQUE NORTH-FACING SECTION, SHOWING FILLS IN RELATION TO OVERLYING SOIL LAYERS; VIEWED FROM THE NORTH-WEST (2M SCALE).



16. HEARTH [211], NORTH-FACING SECTION SHOWING FEATURE FILLS AND OVERLYING SOIL LAYERS; VIEWED FROM THE NORTH (2M SCALE).





17. HEARTH [211], POST-EXCAVATION; VIEWED FROM THE NORTH (2M SCALE).



18. TRENCH 03, POST-EXCAVATION SHOWING THE EXCAVATED FEATURES; VIEWED FROM THE EAST (1M & 2M SCALES).





19. TRENCH 03, POST-EXCAVATION SHOWING THE EXCAVATED FEATURES; VIEWED FROM THE WEST (1M & 2M SCALES).



20. DRAIN [304], NORTH-FACING SECTION SHOWING THE FILLS AND OVERLYING SOIL LAYERS; VIEWED FROM THE NORTH (1M SCALE).





21 DRAIN [304], POST-EXCAVATION SHOWING ITS RELATIONSHIP WITH THE BROKEN REMAINS OF A FLOOR SURFACE (312); VIEWED FROM THE NORTH (1M SCALE).



22. DRAIN [304] AND FLOOR SURFACE (312), POST-EXCAVATION; VIEWED FROM THE NORTH (2M SCALE).





23. CONSTRUCTION CUT [310], NORTH-FACING TRENCH SECTION OVER FEATURE; VIEWED FROM THE NORTH (2M SCALE).



24. CONSTRUCTION CUT [310], POST-EXCAVATION; VIEWED FROM THE EAST (1M SCALE).



25. CONSTRUCTION CUT [310], EAST-FACING SECTION; VIEWED FROM THE EAST (PART 1M SCALE).



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

TEL: 01769 573555  
EMAIL: [MAIL@SWARCH.NET](mailto:MAIL@SWARCH.NET)