LAND NORTH OF CHAPEL HOUSE
STOKE RIVERS
NORTH DEVON
DEVON

Results of a Desk-Based Assessment, Heritage Impact Assessment, Geophysical Survey and Evaluation Trenching

South West Archaeology Ltd. report no. 181125

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES & HISTORIC BUILDING RECORDING
SOUTHWEST ARCHAEOLOGY

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LAND NORTH OF CHAPEL HOUSE, STOKE RIVERS, NORTH DEVON, DEVON

Results of a Desk-Based Assessment, Heritage Impact Assessment, Geophysical Survey and Evaluation Trenching

By S. Walls, F. Balmond and P. Bonvoisin

Report Version: FINAL
25th November 2018

Work undertaken by SWARCH a private client

SUMMARY

This report presents the results of a desk-based assessment, geophysical survey, heritage impact assessment and evaluation trenching carried out by South West Archaeology Ltd. (SWARCH) for land North of Chapel House, Stoke Rivers, North Devon as part of the planning submissions for the site for a residential development.

The site is located to the west of the Parish Church of St. Bartholomew, occupying part of a field shown as a single larger field from at least the early 19th century. The field was subsequently sub-divided in the 20th century.

The geophysical survey identified eleven groups of anomalies the most significant of which were probable ditch features associated with removed boundaries. Possible modern services and disturbed ground were identifiable in the southern part of the survey area. The results of the geophysical survey served to highlight areas to target during the evaluation excavations.

*The evaluation trenching validated the results of the geophysical survey, and six ditches, the remnants of a hedgebank and a lead water pipe were exposed and excavated. The majority of these features dated to the post-medieval or modern era, although a small assemblage of residual late medieval material was also recovered. On the basis of the geophysical survey, evaluation trenching and desk-based assessment the archaeological potential of the site appears to be **low**.*

*In terms of indirect impacts, most of the designated heritage assets in the wider area would not be impacted upon by the proposed development. Three assets which lie in close proximity to the site and were considered in detail in this assessment, only the high value Grade I Listed Church of St. Bartholomew's will suffer any level of impact, and this largely being caused by its high sensitivity and proximity to the site. Overall the impact of the development will have slight to minor impacts to the Historic Landscape and heritage assets within it (**negligible** to **negative minor**), with much of this reflective of some cumulative effect.*

*With this in mind, the overall impact of the proposed development can be assessed as **neutral to negligible**. The impact of the development on the low valued buried archaeological resource may be **permanent** and **irreversible**.*

November 2018

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

WOODWARD SMITH ARCHITECTS (THE AGENT)
THE LANDOWNER, FOR ACCESS AND PLANT PROVISION
THE CLIENT
THE STAFF OF THE DEVON HERITAGE CENTRE (DHC)
THE STAFF OF THE DEVON COUNTY HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT TEAM (DCHET)

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

LOCATION:	LAND NORTH OF CHAPEL HOUSE
PARISH:	STOKE RIVERS
DISTRICT:	NORTH DEVON
COUNTY:	DEVON
NGR:	SS 63270 35422
PLANNING REF:	63019
DCCHET REF:	ARCH/DM/ND/30958A
MUSEUM REFERENCE NO.:	PENDING
OASIS NO. :	SOUTHWES1-330847

1.1 PROJECT BACKGROUND

South West Archaeology Ltd. (SWARCH) was commissioned by a Private Client to undertake a desk-based assessment, heritage impact assessment, geophysical survey and evaluation trenching for land north of Chapel House, Stoke Rivers, North Devon in advance of a proposed residential development. This work was undertaken in accordance with best practice and CIfA guidelines.

1.2 TOPOGRAPHICAL AND GEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

Stoke Rivers is a small village east of Barnstaple in North Devon, approximately 2km south-west of Bratton Fleming and 3km east of Goodleigh. It is located just on the western side of a gently sloping spur of land which leads down to tributaries of the River Yeo on its north, west and southern sides. The site lies to the west of the parish church of St Bartholomew, a large enclosed field in the northern part of the village. The soils of this area are well drained, fine loamy and fine silty soils over rock of the Denbigh 1 Association; these overlie the sedimentary sandstone, mudstone and siltstone of the Baggy Sandstones Formation (BGS 2018).

1.3 HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Stoke Rivers is listed at Domesday as estocha when it had a population of 15 households. It lies in the deanery and hundred of Shirwell. It was passed by Baldwin de Rivers, Earl of Devon to Philip de Soleny from whom it passed down the female line to the Chichester family (Lysons 1822). The tithe map for Stoke Rivers shows that the development site was owned by the Chichesters in 1842 and in 1856, the date of an altered apportionment, was part of the New House holding (on the south western edge of Stoke Rivers) and was occupied by Abraham Fry.

1.4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

The proposed site is located in close proximity to the Parish Church of St. Bartholomew (GI Listed), with a variety of historic (listed and unlisted) buildings in the immediate area. Being located within the core of the historic church town of a pre-conquest manor, the site was therefore considered to have high archaeological potential.

No archaeological works appear to have been carried out in the surrounding area prior to 2018. Whilst there are no significant known features within the boundary of the proposed development site, buildings in the immediate area range from 15th to 19th century in date. In the wider landscape a number of prehistoric enclosures are noted, including two scheduled examples, one c.500m to the north in Smay's Wood (MDV1965) and the other 1.6km to the east at Stoke Beara Castle (MDV1970).

The site lies within an area partially identified as post-medieval enclosed land on the Devon Historic Landscape Characterisation (HLC) and partly within the historic settlement.

1.5 METHODOLOGY

This work was undertaken in accordance with best practice. The desk-based assessment follows the guidance as outlined in: *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment* (CIfA 2014a) and *Understanding Place: historic area assessments in a planning and development context* (English Heritage 2012).

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 heritage impact assessment follows the guidance outlined in: Conservation Principles: policies and guidance for the sustainable management of the historic environment (English Heritage 2008a), The Setting of Heritage Assets (Historic England 2015), Seeing History in the View (English Heritage 2011), Managing Change in the Historic Environment: Setting (Historic Scotland 2010), and with reference to Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment 3rd Edition (Landscape Institute 2013).

Three evaluation trenches (totalling c.65m in length) were excavated in accordance with a Project Design drawn up in consultation with Devon County Historic Environment Team (DCHET). The evaluation trenches were opened by 360 degree tracked excavator with toothless grading bucket, and all exposed archaeological features were excavated by hand to the depth of *in situ* subsoil/weathered natural.

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

2.0 HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT

2.1 HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT - OVERVIEW

The purpose of heritage impact assessment is twofold: Firstly, to understand – insofar as is reasonably practicable and in proportion to the importance of the asset – the significance of a historic building, complex, area, monument or archaeological site (the 'heritage asset'). Secondly, to assess the likely effect of a proposed development on the heritage asset (direct impact) and/or its setting (indirect impact). This methodology employed in this assessment is based on the approach outlined in the relevant DoT guidance (DMRB vol.11; WEBTAG), used in conjunction with the ICOMOS (2011) guidance and the staged approach advocated in *The Setting of Heritage Assets* (GPA3 Historic England 2015). The methodology employed in this assessment can be found in Appendix 2.

2.2 NATIONAL POLICY

General policy and guidance for the conservation of the historic environment are now contained within the *National Planning Policy Framework* (Department for Communities and Local Government 2018). The relevant guidance is reproduced below:

Paragraph 189
In determining applications, local planning authorities should require the applicant to describe the significance of any heritage assets affected, including the contribution made by their setting. The level of detail should be proportionate to the assets' importance and no more than is sufficient to understand the potential impact of the proposal on their significance. As a minimum the relevant historic environment record should be consulted and the heritage assets assessed using appropriate expertise where necessary. Where a site on which a development is proposed includes or has the potential to include heritage assets with archaeological interest, local planning authorities should require developers to submit an appropriate desk-based assessment and, where necessary, a field evaluation.

Paragraph 190
Local planning authorities should identify and assess the particular significance of any heritage asset that may be affected by a proposal (including by development affecting the setting of a heritage asset) taking account of the available evidence and any necessary expertise. They should take this assessment into account when considering the impact of a proposal on a heritage asset, to avoid or minimise conflict between the heritage asset's conservation and any aspect of the proposal.

A further key document is the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990, in particular section 66(1), which provides *statutory protection* to the setting of Listed buildings:

In considering whether to grant planning permission for development which affects a listed building or its setting, the local planning authority or, as the case may be, the Secretary of State shall have special regard to the desirability of preserving the building or its setting or any features of special architectural or historic interest which it possesses.

2.3 LOCAL POLICY

Policy ST15: *Conserving Heritage Assets* in *The North Devon and Torridge Plan 2011-2031* makes the following statement:

(1) The quality of northern Devon's historic environment will be preserved and enhanced through positive management by:
(a) conserving and enhancing the historic dimension of the landscape;
(b) conserving and enhancing cultural, built, historic and archaeological features of national and local importance and their settings, including those that are not formally designated;
(c) identifying and protecting locally important buildings that contribute to the area's local character and identity; and
(d) increasing opportunities for access, education and appreciation of all aspects of northern Devon's historic environment, for all sections of the community.
(2) Proposals to improve the energy efficiency of, or to generate renewable energy from historic buildings or surrounding heritage assets will be supported where:
(a) there is no loss or degradation of historic fabric including traditional windows; and
(b) equivalent carbon savings cannot be achieved by alternative siting or design that would have a less severe impact on the integrity of heritage assets.

2.4 STRUCTURE OF ASSESSMENT – DIRECT AND INDIRECT IMPACTS

This assessment is broken down into two main sections. Section 3.0 addresses the *direct impact* of the proposed development i.e. the physical effect the development may have on heritage assets within or immediately adjacent to, the development site. Designated heritage assets on or close to a site are a known quantity, understood and addressed via the *design and access statement* and other planning documents. Robust assessment, however, also requires a clear understanding of the value and significance of the *archaeological* potential of a site. This is achieved via the staged process of archaeological investigation detailed in Section 3.0. Section 4.0 assesses the likely effect of the proposed development on known and quantified designated heritage assets in the local area. In this instance the impact is almost always indirect i.e. the proposed development impinges on the *setting* of the heritage asset in question, and does not have a direct physical effect.

3.0 DIRECT IMPACTS

3.1 STRUCTURE OF ASSESSMENT

For the purposes of this assessment, the *direct effect* of a development is taken to be its direct physical effect on the buried archaeological resource. In most instances the effect will be limited to the site itself. However, unlike designated heritage assets (see Section 4.0) the archaeological potential of a site, and the significance of that archaeology, must be quantified by means of a staged programme of archaeological investigation. Sections 3.2-3.5 examine the documentary, cartographic and archaeological background to the site; Section 3.6 details the results of the geophysical (gradiometer) survey undertaken. Section 3.7 summarises this information in order to determine the significance of the archaeology, the potential for harm, and outlines mitigation strategies as appropriate. Appendix 1 details the methodology employed to make this judgement.

3.2 DOCUMENTARY HISTORY

Stoke Rivers is recorded at Domesday as estocha when it had a population of 15 households. The lord of the manor in 1066 was Alric and by 1086 was William de Poillei. It lies in the deanery and hundred of Shirwell. It was passed by Baldwin de Rivers, Earl of Devon to Philip de Soleny from whom it passed down the female line to the Chichester family (Lysons 1822). The tithe map for Stoke Rivers shows that the development site was owned by the Chichesters in 1842 and in 1856, the date of an altered apportionment, as part of New House (on the south western edge of Stoke Rivers) and was occupied by Abraham Fry. The field is named as Higher Barn Meadow as was used for pasture. The 1841 census records that Abraham Fry was a farmer who lived at New House with his wife and three young children, his father, nephew and six servants. The 1851 census records that Abraham Fry was a farmer of 250 acres. By the 1861 census the Fry family are still resident at New House and have 6 of their children living with them along with 6 servants. The 1871 census records that John Haskings and his family are now resident at New House and he is recorded as a farmer of 117 acres, less than half the holding the Fry family had in 1851. It is unclear whether Higher Barn Meadow remained a part of their farm at this date.

3.3 CARTOGRAPHIC DEVELOPMENT

The earliest relatively detailed cartographic source available to this study is the 1804 Surveyor's Draft map for the Barnstaple area (Figure 2). These draft maps are generally a reliable depiction of road layout, extent of development and location of farms, and the general field-scape/pattern. Stoke Rivers is depicted and the site appears to be within an enclosed field to the west of the church, seemingly with buildings shown to its west, between the field and the road. The road to the south of the site is depicted as incredibly wide and open areas around the road junctions in the village.

The 1842 Stoke Rivers tithe map (**Error! Reference source not found.**) provides the first detailed cartographic depiction of the site. The site incorporates one plot of land (204 'Higher Barn Meadow'), which is part of New House. It is owned by Sir Arthur Chichester (Lord of the Manor) and occupied by Abraham Fry. The tithe map shows Stoke Rivers as a small settlement surrounded by agricultural land.

The tithe map (in conjunction) with the OS Surveyors draft would appear to suggest that the road to the south of the site was likely the original 'ancient' main route way (it is a ridge top route), and that the main road which now turns and runs to the west of the site was a later diversion. The location of the church set back from this ancient route, may indicate that there was formerly a

'town place' (i.e. functioned as a village green/pound/meeting place, etc.) that by the 19th century had begun to be infilled (see Figure 3) with buildings, etc.

FIGURE 2: EXTRACT FROM THE 1804 ORDNANCE SURVEY SURVEYOR'S DRAFT MAP FOR THE BARNSTAPLE AREA (THE APPROXIMATE LOCATION OF THE SITE IS INDICATED) (BL).
THE BLUE LINE INDICATES THE LIKELY 'ANCIENT' MAIN ROAD.

FIGURE 3: EXTRACT FROM THE STOKE RIVERS TITHE MAP OF 1842; THE MODERN FIELD IN WHICH THE SITE IS LOCATED IS OUTLINED IN RED (DHC). THE LOCATION OF A POSITED 'TOWN PLACE' IS INDICATED IN BLUE.

By the time of the 1888 Ordnance Survey (OS) 1st edition map (Figure 4) there is little change to the settlement of Stoke Rivers although a school has been built on the eastern side of the village. The development site remains as part of one larger enclosed field.

FIGURE 4: EXTRACT FROM THE OS FIRST EDITION 6" MAP, PUBLISHED 1888; THE MODERN FIELD IN WHICH THE SITE IS LOCATED IS OUTLINED IN RED (NLS).

The OS 2nd edition map, published 1907 (Figure 5) shows general continuity across the site and the landscape. A chapel is labelled just south of the development site and the field in which the site sits remains unaltered from previous mapping.

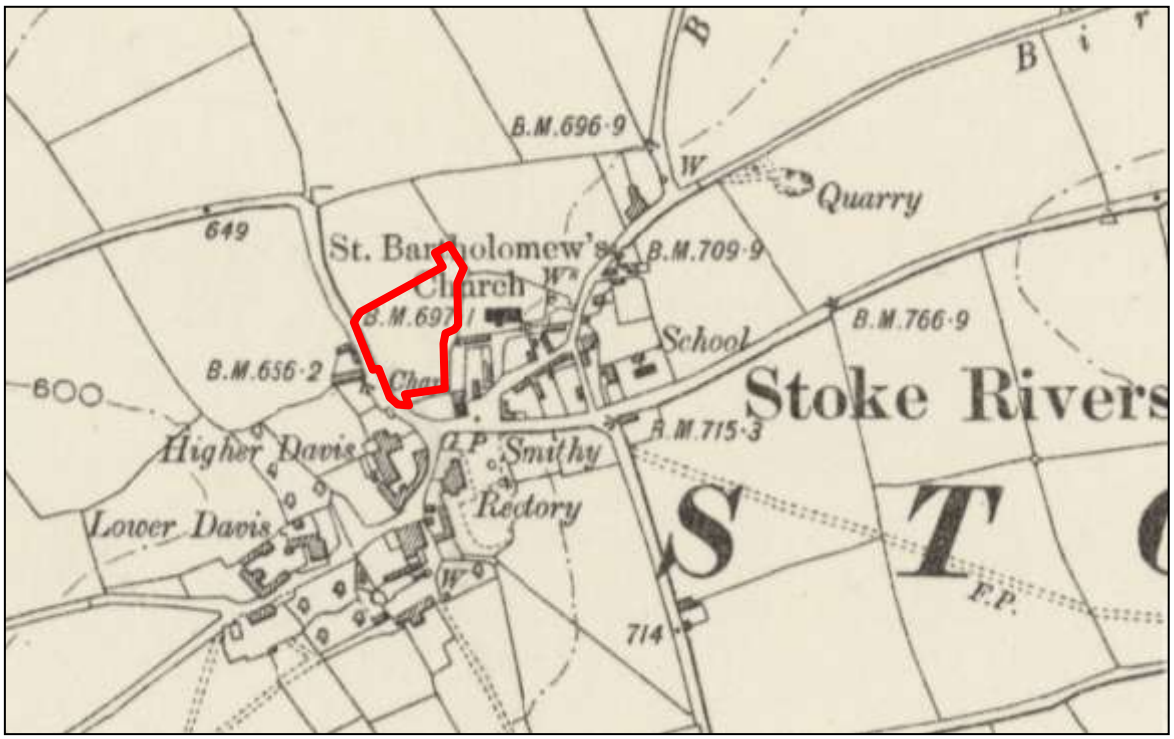

FIGURE 5: EXTRACT FROM THE SECOND EDITION OS 6" MAP OF 1905; THE MODERN FIELD IN WHICH THE SITE IS LOCATED IS OUTLINED IN RED (NLS).

3.4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

The site has not been subject to previous archaeological works. There is no archaeological work recorded in the Devon HER within 1km of the site. The Devon Historic Environment Record (HER) list one scheduled monument and eight listed buildings within 1km of the proposed site. The site does not lie within a World Heritage Site or Conservation Area

The site lies within an area partially identified as post-medieval enclosed land on the Devon Historic Landscape Characterisation (HLC) and partly within the historic settlement.

3.4.1 PREHISTORIC 4000BC - AD43

The only documented evidence for prehistoric activity in the vicinity of the site is the scheduled oval enclosure to the north of the site in Smay's Wood. This is thought to date to the Iron Age period. There is no earlier recorded evidence for prehistoric activity in the immediate area although a number of Iron Age hillforts are evident in the wider landscape.

3.4.2 ROMANO-BRITISH AD43 – AD409

There is no evidence for Roman activity within the vicinity of the site and Romano-British activity is limited to the enclosure sites mentioned above.

3.4.3 EARLY MEDIEVAL AD410 – AD1065

The settlement of Stoke Rivers, which is mentioned at Domesday is the only recorded site within 1km of the development which dates to the Early Medieval period.

3.4.4 MEDIEVAL AD1066 - AD1540

The only site of Medieval date recorded within 1km of the proposed site is the Grade I listed Church of St Bartholomew and its associated rood screen.

3.4.5 POST-MEDIEVAL AND MODERN AD1540 - PRESENT

A number of sites of Post Medieval date are located within 1km of the site including a number of predominantly Grade II listed buildings within Stoke Rivers and on outlying farms. No modern sites are identified although an undated quarry and well are both identified on the Devon HER within a 1km radius.

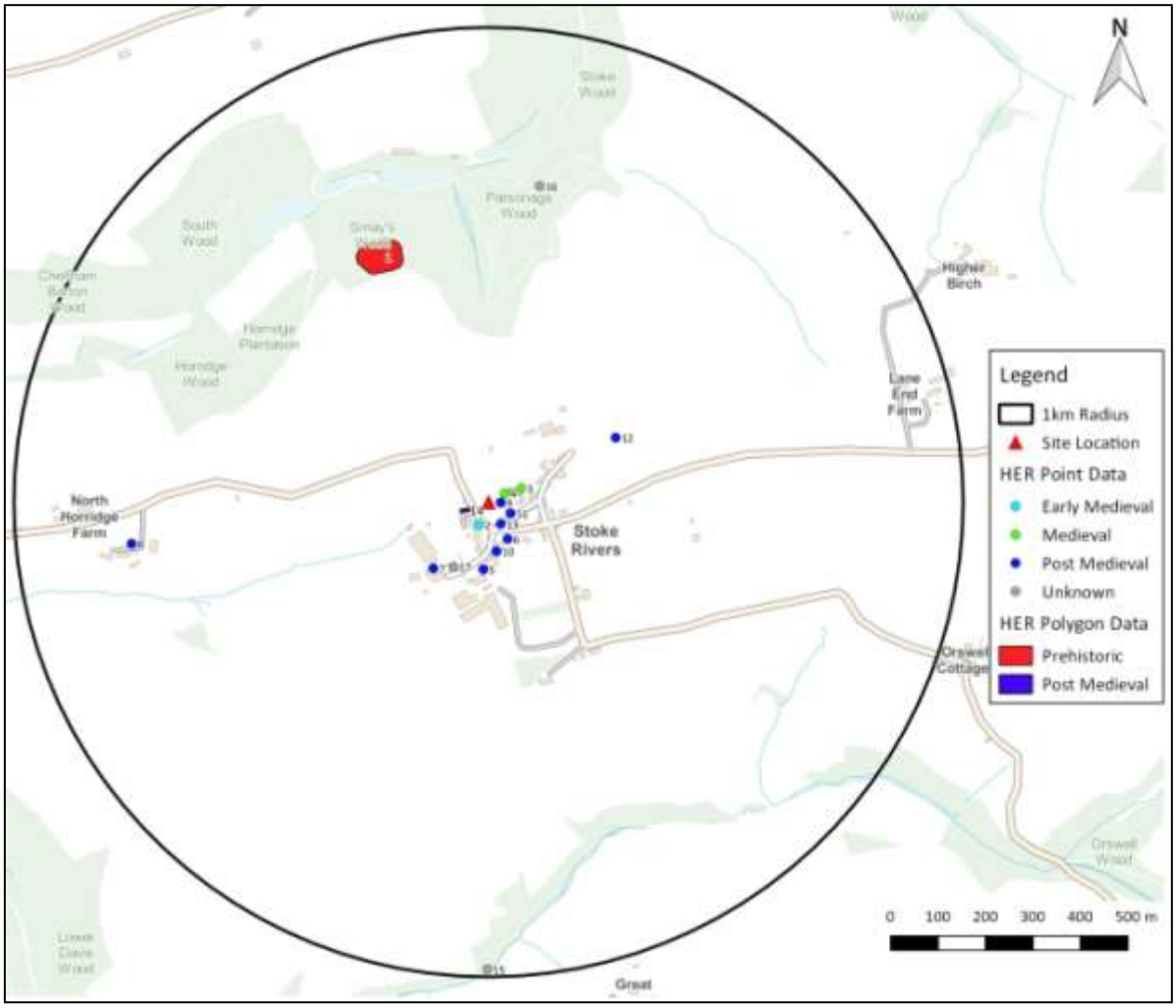

FIGURE 6: NEARBY HERITAGE ASSETS (SOURCE: DEVON HER).

TABLE 1: TABLE OF NEARBY UNDESIGNATED HERITAGE ASSETS (SOURCE: DEVON HER).

No.	HER Number	Name	Summary	Period	Designated Asset
1	MDV1965	Enclosure in Smay's Wood, Stoke Rivers	Small enclosure on side of steeply sloping valley.	Prehistoric	Scheduled Ancient Monument
2	MDV19069	Settlement in the Parish of Stoke Rivers	Stoke rivers, alias stoke St. Mary, was estocha in Domesday. It was held by William de Poillei. Before the conquest it was held by Alric. Early descents of the manor given (Reichel).	Early Medieval	
3	MDV95502	Church Of St Bartholomew	Church of St. Bartholomew, mainly late 15th century/early 16th century but may be some earlier fabric.	Early Medieval	Grade I Listed
4	MDV1968	Rood Screen in the Parish of Stoke Rivers	Rood screen in St. Bartholomew's parish church. Screen and carved bench ends removed and bought and preserved at Wear Giffard manor house. Other parts erected in parish church there. Other part said to be in private hands at South Molton.	Medieval	
5	MDV39988	Farmhouse in the Parish of Stoke Rivers	Newhouse.	Early Medieval	Grade II Listed
6	MDV39997	Vicarage in the Parish of Stoke Rivers	Glebe house.	Medieval	Grade II Listed
7	MDV36720	Farmhouse in the Parish of Stoke Rivers	Lower Davis farmhouse. Farmhouse. Probably 1630. Much altered and	Medieval	Grade II Listed

			extended in 19th century. Whitewashed rendered stone and cob. Gable ended slate roofs, some brick to rear. Possibly originally 3 cells in line, but at an early date the lower end must have been demolished.		
8	MDV36721	Farmhouse in the Parish of Stoke Rivers	South Horridge farmhouse. Farmhouse. C17 with some late c18 or c19 rebuilding and alterations. Colour washed roughcast rendered rubble and cob. Scantle slate roof with gable ends. Rubble stack to right end with drip, axial brick stack and tall lateral hall.	Early Medieval	Grade II Listed
9	MDV1969	Sundial in the Parish of Stoke Rivers	Parish church, sundial. Dated 1770. One of eight extant dials signed by john berry. Motto: 'life passeth like a shadow' (Crowley).	Post Medieval	
10	MDV1971	Dovecote, Stoke Rivers.	Dovecote at Stoke Rivers, standing on rising ground in the Rectory Garden. Externally octagonal, internally rounded.	Post Medieval	
11	MDV32502	Gate in the Parish of Stoke Rivers	Gatepiers and archway to stoke rivers churchyard, approx 10m to south porch of stoke rivers church. Gatepiers probably 18th century, archway 19th century. Piers of stone rubble with dressed stone cappings. Wrought iron archway. Gatepiers square in section.	Post Medieval	Grade II Listed
12	MDV32541	Quarry in the Parish of Stoke Rivers		Post Medieval	
13	MDV39989	Baptist Chapel, Stoke Rivers	Baptist chapel.	Post Medieval	Grade II Listed
14	MDV36719	Dutch Barn North of Higher Davis Farmhouse	Dutch barn, mid 19th century, open-sided with each truss carried on 5 pairs of tall circular piers.	Post Medieval	Grade II Listed
15	MDV32958	Mill Pond in the Parish of Stoke Rivers		Unknown	
16	MDV54889	Mine in the Parish of Stoke Rivers	Un-named mine. Adit located in parsonage wood. Mineral/date unknown (claughton).	Unknown	
17	MDV64113	Bee Bole in the Parish of Stoke Rivers	Structure known as the bee house. A listed stone building, covered in vegetation, has a conical thatched roof. Circular inside and is now know to be octagonal externally. Known in 1727 as a pigeon house and then converted into a bee house about 40 years	Unknown	Grade II* Listed

3.5 AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY AND LIDAR

Assessment of the readily-available aerial photography and LiDAR (Figures 7 and 8) for the site show limited topographic features. A feature associated with a possible west-east division of the field is visible on both the LiDAR and aerial photography and a further possible boundary or division is visible in the southern part of the field on the LiDAR data only. Former field boundaries are evident in the wider landscape on LiDAR data.

FIGURE 7: AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH OF THE SITE TAKEN IN 2001 (SOURCE GOOGLE EARTH; ©2018 INFOTERRA & BLUESKY); THE APPROXIMATE LOCATION OF THE SITE IS OUTLINED IN RED.

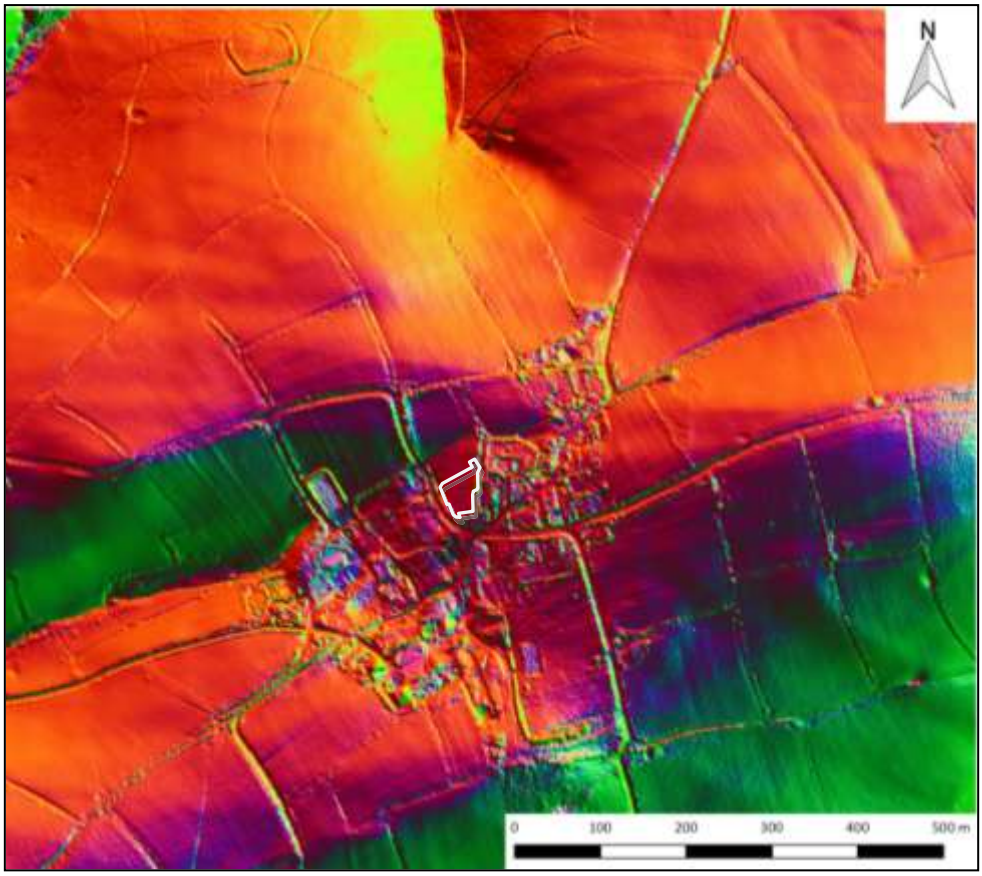

FIGURE 8: IMAGE DERIVED FROM 1M RESOLUTION LIDAR DATA; THE FIELD IN WHICH THE SITE IS LOCATED IS INDICATED (PROCESSED USING RVT VER1.3 IN QGIS, PCA OF HILLSHADING D16_H35_RGB). DATA: CONTAINS PUBLIC SECTOR INFORMATION LICENSED UNDER THE OPEN GOVERNMENT LICENCE V3.0.

3.6 GEOPHYSICAL SURVEY

3.6.1 INTRODUCTION

An area of *c.*0.37ha was the subject of a magnetometry (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 9th of October 2018 by P. Bonvoisin; the survey data was processed by P. Bonvoisin.

3.6.2 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* (CIfA 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 3.0.33.6*. 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 Field 1A: 0.3733ha surveyed; Max. 94.85nT, Min. -103.44nT; Standard Deviation 4.74, mean -0.14nT, median 0.00nT.

3.6.3 SITE INSPECTION

The site comprises the southern half of a single field of pasture; the northern border of the field is comprised of a wooden fence with metallic gate set in the centre. The northern corner of the field also contains another metallic gate. The eastern and western boundaries of the field are comprised of hedgebanks, with the bank bordering the churchyard containing mature trees. Much of the western boundary is overgrown.

A full complement of site photographs can be found in Appendix 3.

3.6.4 RESULTS

Table 3 with the accompanying Figures 10 and 11 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 2: INTERPRETATION OF GRADIOMETER SURVEY DATA.

Anomaly Group	Class and Certainty	Form	Archaeological Characterisation	Comments
1	Moderate positive probable	Linear	Ditch	Indicative of a discreet cut linear or ditch, runs parallel to anomaly group 4, likely associated with anomaly group 2. Responses of < +7nT.
2	Moderate positive, probable	Linear	Ditch	Indicative of a cut linear or ditch, runs parallel to the boundary to the churchyard. Responses of < +7nT.
3	Weak positive, possible	Thin linear	Cut feature	Indicative of a discrete cut feature. Responses of *c.* +5nT.
4	Strong positive to weak negative, probable	Flanked linear	Previous field boundary	Indicative of a ditch with raised ground to side, possible previous field boundary or division. Responses of *c.*+12nT to *c.*-5nT.
5	Strong positive to negative, probable	Flanked fragmented linear	Previous field boundary	Indicative of a cut feature such as a ditch, runs parallel to anomaly group 4. Responses of <+15nT.
6	Very strong positive to moderate negative, probable	Flanked linear	Previous field boundary	Indicative of a ditch with raised ground to either side, possible previous field boundary. Responses of <+36nT.
7	Weak negative, possible	Curvilinear	Possible utility or drain	Indicative of raised ground or similar feature, possible line of field drain or non-metallic utility. Responses of <-3nT.
8	Weak negative, probable	Thin linear	Possible utility or drain	Indicative of raised ground or similar feature, possible line of field drain or non-metallic utility. Responses of *c.*-3nT to *c.*-5nT.
9	Weak negative, possible	Circular linear	Possible imprint feature	Indicative of a discrete cut feature, possible imprint feature. Responses of *c.*+/-2nT.
10	Strong positive, probable	Rectilinear	Cut feature, possible pit	Indicative of a cut feature, possible pit or short ditch. Responses of *c.* <+15nT.
11	Moderate to weak positive, possible	Circular areas	Possible cut features	Indicative of discrete cut features, possibly representative of small pits or similar features. Responses of *c.*<+6nT.

3.6.5 DISCUSSION

The geophysical survey identified 11 anomaly groups within the survey; cartographic and visual sources supporting the discussion and comments can be seen in the desk-based assessment above, with anomaly group 4 possibly showing up on available LiDAR data for the site.

Group 1 (<+7nT) is indicative of a discrete cut feature, such as a ditch. The orientation of this feature, parallel to anomaly group 4 and facing downhill may suggest a relationship to a previous field division system. Likely related to or part of the same feature as anomaly group 2 as they appear to meet.

Group 2 <+7nT) is indicative of a discrete cut feature, such as a ditch. This feature runs parallel to the boundary of the churchyard and may be related, perhaps indicative of a track or similar

feature running along the boundary. Likely related to or part of the same feature as anomaly group 1 as they appear to meet and respect each other.

Group 3 (*c.*+5nT) is a discrete cut feature, indicative of a ditch or similar feature such as field drain.

Groups 4 (*c.*+12nT to *c.*-5nT), and 5 (<+15nT) are moderate positive linears with flanking negative borders and are indicative of cut linears, with group 4 having raised ground wither side of the linear cut. Group 5 likely indicates a very similar feature to anomaly group 4 but has a less clear response due to orientation and positioning on the edge of the slope at on the border of the field. Both groups 4 and 5 probably indicative previous field divisions.

Group 6 (<+36nT) is a very strong positive linear with negative borders and has a similar form to anomaly group 4 but shows a much stronger response, possibly being representative of a more recent field division or boundary.

Groups 7 (<-3nT), and 8 (*c.*-3nT to *c.*-5nT), are thin weak negative linears, indicative of narrow field drains or features such as buried utilities. Anomaly group 8 appears to cross over anomaly group 6 and is likely more modern.

Group 9 (*c.*+/-2nT) is a very weak curvilinear, the strength of response indicated that this may simply be an impression feature, possibly from an animal feeder or similar process.

Group 10 (<+15nT) is a moderate short rectilinear, indicative of a cut feature, such as a possible pit.

Group 11 (*c.*<+6nT) are moderate positive spots, indicative of either cut features or a background response.

Modern disturbance, Di-Polar anomalies and magnetic disturbance are also located across the site. Magnetic disturbance is mostly restricted to the northern boundary of the site, where two metallic gates are present, and towards the southern boundary of the site where a small building abuts the site. Di-Polar anomalies are present across the site, concentrated halfway along the eastern boundary of the site where the site abuts residential gardens.

FIGURE 9: VIEW ALONG THE NORTHERN BOUNDARY OF THE SITE; VIEWED FROM THE SOUTH-WEST (2M SCALE).

FIGURE 10: VIEW TOWARDS THE CHURCH; VIEWED FROM THE SOUTH-SOUTH-WEST (2M SCALE).

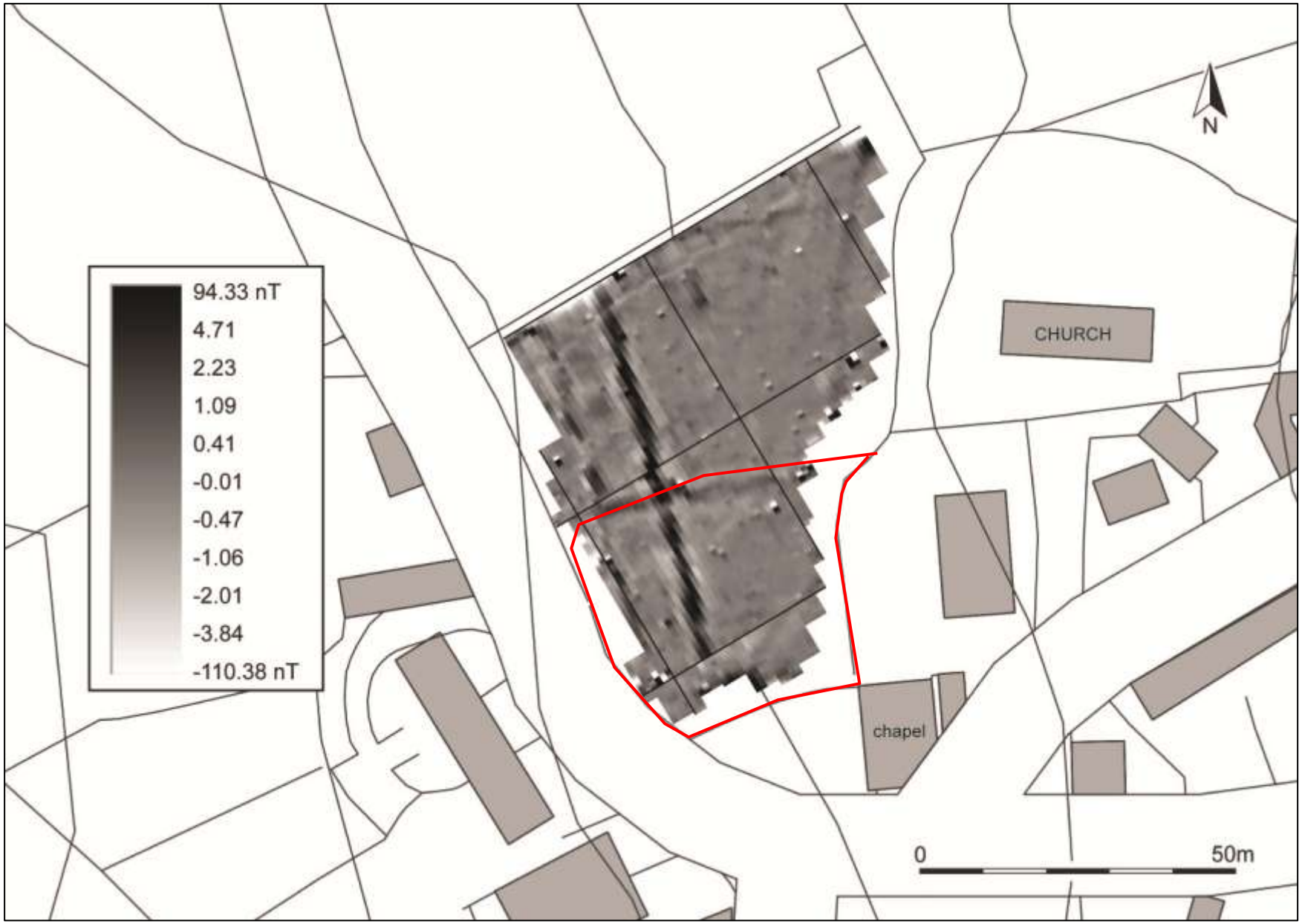

FIGURE 11: SHADE PLOT OF GRADIOMETER SURVEY DATA; MINIMAL PROCESSING. THE SITE IS INDICATED IN RED.

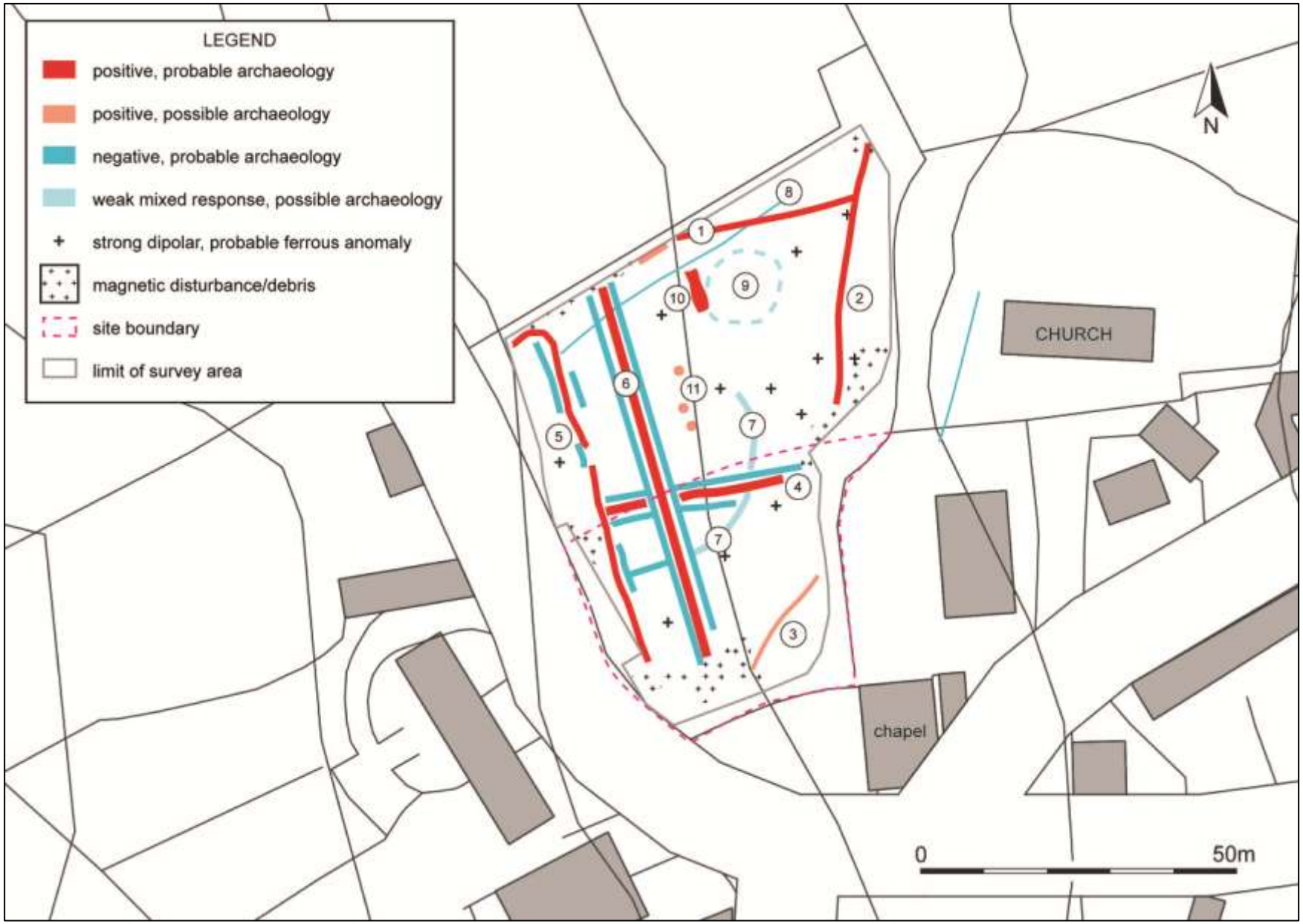

FIGURE 12: INTERPRETATION OF GRADIOMETER SURVEY DATA.

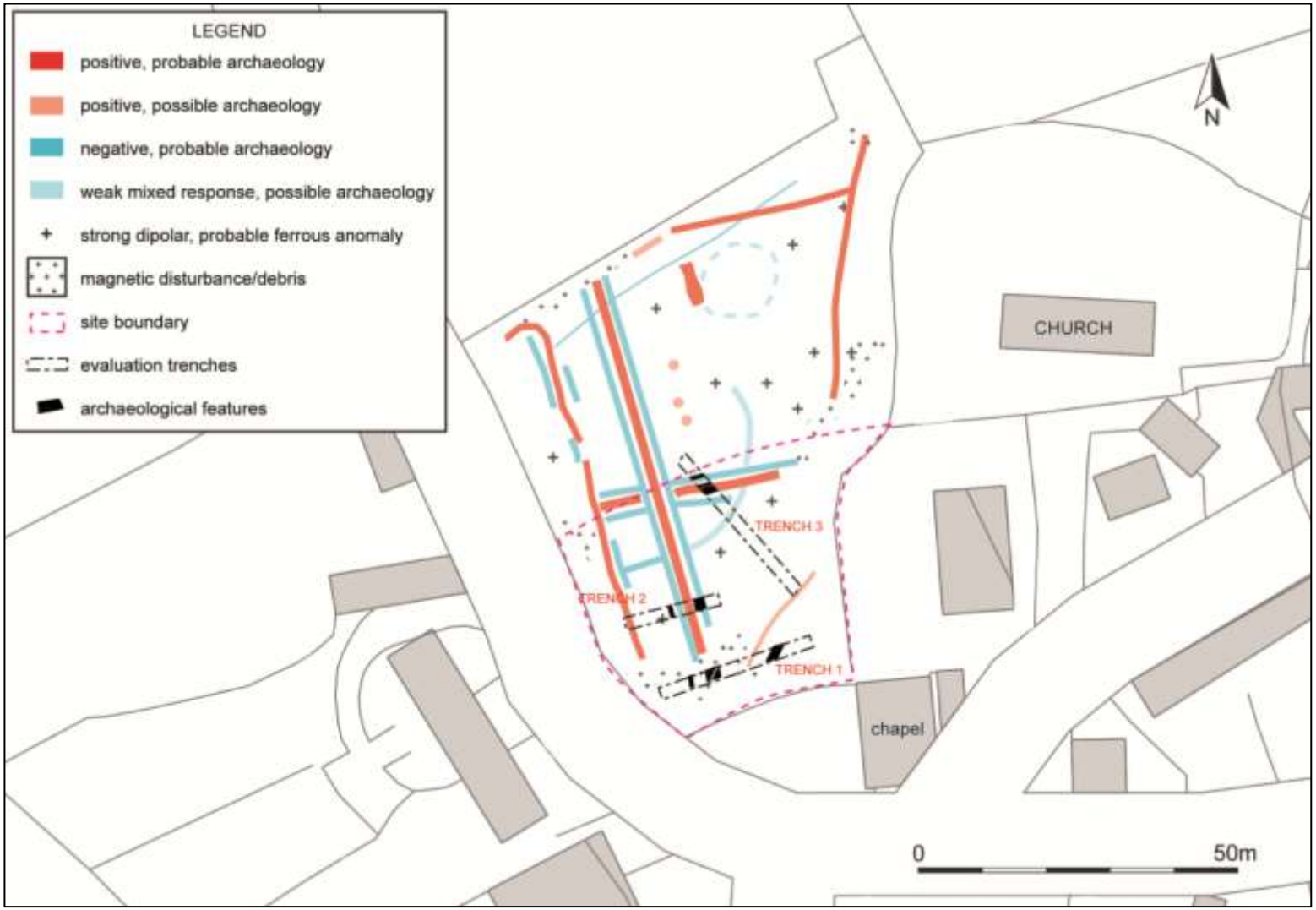

FIGURE 13: TRENCH PLAN OVERLAYING THE GEOPHYSICS INTERPRETATION.

3.7 RESULTS OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

3.7.1 INTRODUCTION

The evaluation trenching was undertaken on the 16th October 2018 by S. Walls. Three trenches totalling a total length of 63m were opened by a machine fitted with a 1.6m wide toothless grading bucket. In total six ditches, part of a bank and a lead water pipe were exposed across the three trenches, two of the ditches and the lead pipe were exposed in more than one trench (see Figure 13).

3.7.2 DEPOSIT MODEL

The stratigraphy across the site was fairly consistent, with a 0.35-0.45m thick soft grey-brown silt-clay topsoil (100/200/300), with rare to occasional shillet fragments. For the most part the topsoil directly overly the natural, which consisted of a reddish-yellow silt-clay with abundant to common shillet fragments. The stone banding within the shillet was broadly orientated east to west. To the south of the site (in Trench 1) a 0.2m thick layer of a lower topsoil of soft dark grey-brown silt clay overlay the natural; suggesting that areas to the north had probably been subject to a greater degree of truncation.

3.7.3 TRENCH 1

Trench 1 was located at the southern end of the site and orientated east-west, to target a series of linear anomalies and magnetic disturbance apparent on the geophysics. Three linear ditches were identified, Ditches [103], [105] and [110] and a lead water pipe.

Towards the eastern end of the Trench, Ditch [103] was aligned north-east to south-west and was c.1.2m wide, and 0.42m deep ditch, with steep sloping sides and a slightly concaved base. Ditch [102] contained two fills, an upper fill (103) of yellow-grey silt-clay with occasional too rare shillet fragments and a basal fill (104) of re-deposited natural with abundant shillet fragments. This feature likely corresponded to Anomaly Group 3 on the geophysics results.

At the western end of the trench were two north-south orientated ditches with a 1.7m gap between, which have been interpreted as a removed field boundary. These ditches correspond with Anomaly Group 6 on the geophysics results. Ditch [105] is the eastern and larger of the ditches, measuring c.2.1m wide and 0.8m deep with steep sloped sides and a gently concaved base. Ditch [105], contained four fills, an upper fill (106) almost identical to the topsoil (101) overlaying the feature, this overlay Fill (107) a yellow-grey silt-clay with common to occasional sub-angular medium sized stone (>40mm dia.) and rare to occasional charcoal. Fill (107) most likely has been derived from the eroding/demolished hedgebank, with the stone more abundant to the west. Fill (107) overlay a clean silting up deposit Fill (108) with abundant small shillet fragments. The basal fill (109) comprised a grey silt-clay with common medium sized stones. A lead pipe cut through the topsoil above this ditch.

The western ditch (Ditch [110]) flanking this posited removed hedgebank was considerably narrower and shallower, although with a similar profile to Ditch [105]. Ditch [110] was 0.6m wide and 0.22m deep with a single fill (111) of clean reddish-grey silt-clay with rare to occasional shillet fragments.

3.7.4 TRENCH 2

Trench 2 was located centrally in the site and orientated east-west, and exposed continuations of the same two post-medieval boundary ditches (Ditch [201]/[105] and Ditch [203]/[110]), as seen in Trench 1. These features were only exposed in plan, and not fully excavated. The other parallel feature identified in the geophysics (Anomaly Group 5) was not encountered within the limits of the

trench, and may reflect the topography of the site, with the ground sloping away to the road from the approximate western end of Trench 2.

3.7.5 TRENCH 3

Trench 3 was orientated to north-west to south-east to catch several other anomaly groups. To the northern end of the trench three ditches ([301], [303] and [305]) and the remnants of a hedgebank {307} were identified, and a north-south orientated lead water pipe was encountered near the centre of the trench.

All three ditches respected each other and were on an east-west orientation, the northern most pair of Ditches [301] and [303] were both narrow (0.5m and 0.3m wide) and shallow features c.0.05m deep, with flat to slightly concaved bases and single fills of grey-brown silt-clays. Ditch [305], to the south of the group was more substantive, being c.1.2m wide and 0.38m deep with steep sloping sides and a gently concaved base. Ditch [305] contained a single fill (306) of greyish-brown silt-clay with common sub-angular to angular medium sized (>c.50mm dia.) stones, particularly to the southern side. To the south of Ditch [305] was a c.0.06-0.1m thick layer of sub-angular stone {307}, seemingly pressed into/bonded with natural, this partially overlay Fill (306), and has been interpreted as the remnants of a removed hedgebank.

A lead pipe was encountered art the point Anomaly Group 7 should have occurred. This is likely part of the same the water pipe as encountered within Trench 1. It is plausible that it has been in part previously removed/truncated, as it not a clearly discernible feature running across the site within the geophysics results. However, within living memory a water pipe used to feed Lower Davis from a well to the north-east of the site (Landowners Pers. Comm.)

3.7.6 FINDS

A small assemblage of material was recovered from the site, consisting primarily of post-medieval North Devon wares.

From the Topsoil (300) ×1 fragment (<1g) of burnt bone and ×2 sherds (13g) of North Devon Gravel Free (NDGF) post-medieval ware from the 17th-18th centuries.

The stratified finds consisted of; ×1 sherd (31g) of an 18th century North Devon gravel tempered ware from Ditch Fill (106), ×2 sherds (69g) of an abraded possible 17th century scraffito dish from Ditch Fill (107) and ×8 sherds (78g) of a possible medieval tile from Ditch Fill (108).
Features in Trench 3 contained; ×1 sherd (16g) of a 15th century NDGF “barley-twisted” handle from Gully Fill (302), ×2 of corroded iron nails (30g) from Ditch Fill (306), and ×1 sherd (6g) of 17th-18th NDGF From Bank Material {307}.

3.7.7 DISCUSSION

The evaluation demonstrated the validity of the geophysics results, and demonstrated the existence of several field-boundaries, most likely of medieval or more likely post-medieval origin. Only one feature Ditch [103] does not fit within this pattern of boundaries. However, the nature of its fill and profile is similar to the other excavated features, and it seems most likely that this feature represents a drain/ ditch formerly serving the church/churchyard to the north-east. It is notable that the ‘modern’ lead water pipe was almost identically orientated (where exposed).

The background of residual medieval finds is hardly surprising given the location of the site, but in general there was a paucity of finds from within the topsoil.

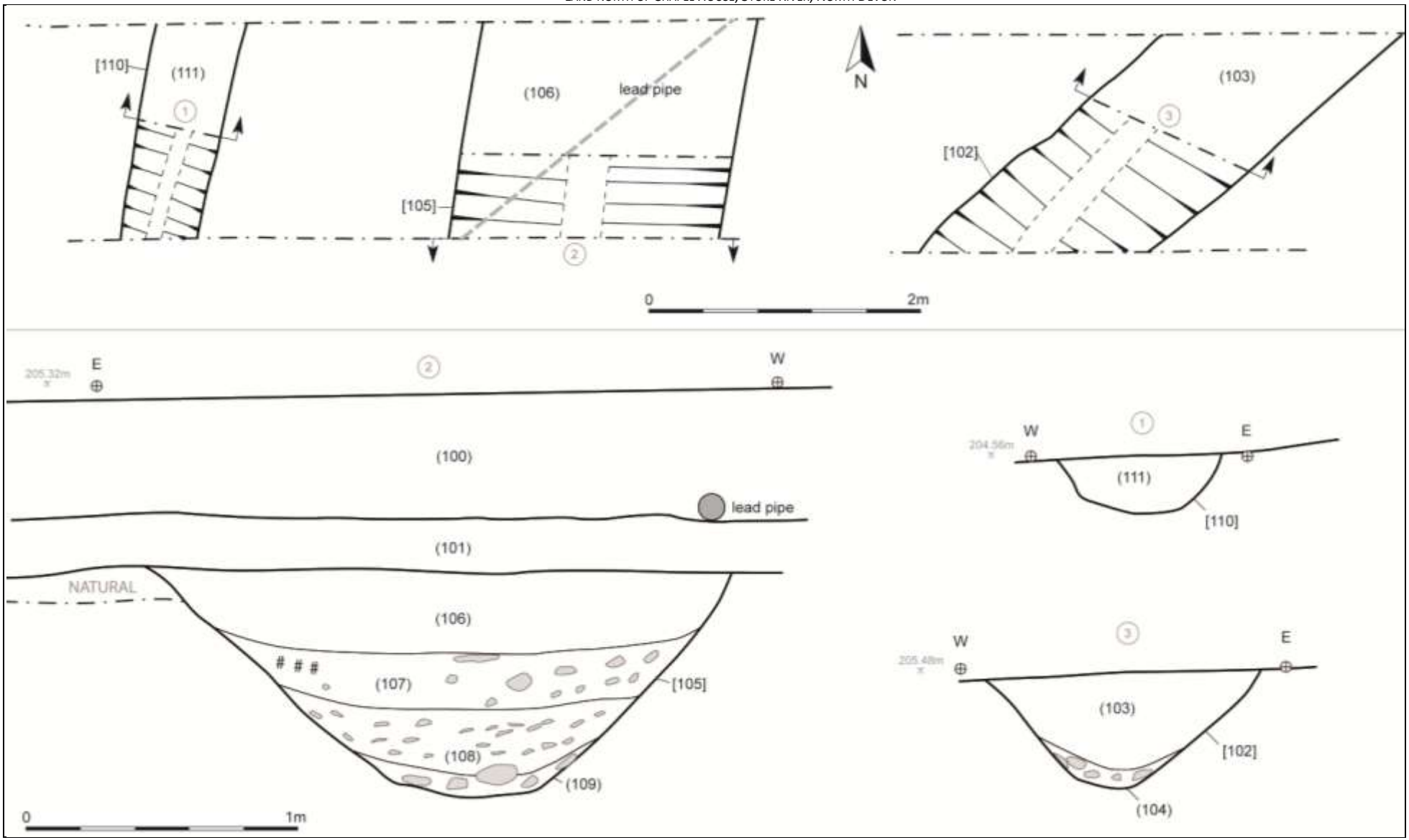

FIGURE 14: PLAN AND SECTIONS OF TRENCH 1.

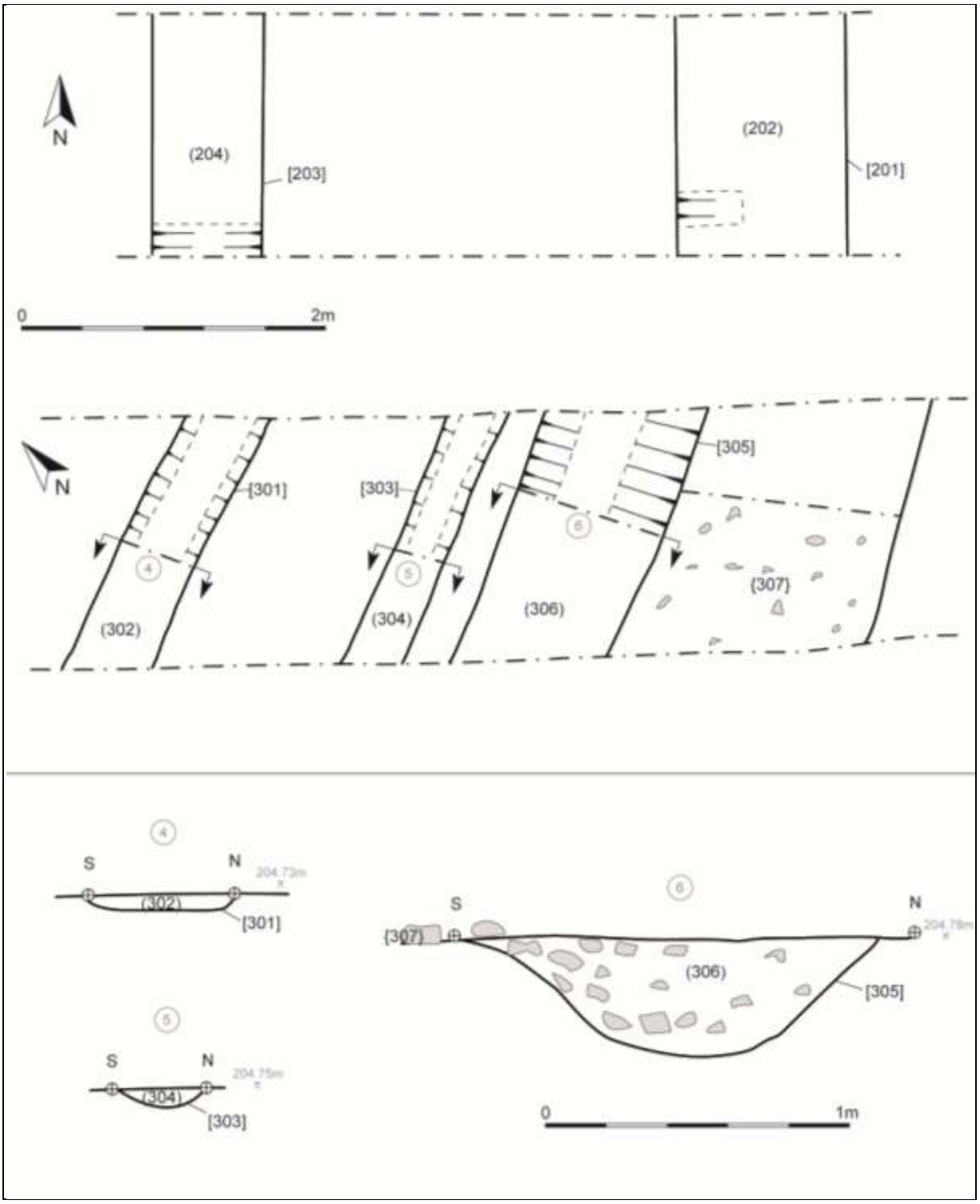

FIGURE 15: PLAN AND SECTIONS OF TRENCHES 2 AND 3.

3.8 ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL AND IMPACT SUMMARY

The direct *effect* of the development would be the disturbance or destruction of archaeological features or deposits present within the footprint of the development; the *impact* of the development would depend on the presence and significance of archaeological features and deposits.

Based on the results of the desk-based assessment, geophysical survey and evaluation trenching– agricultural features probably related to post medieval field boundaries, drainage; and water pipes, the archaeological potential of the site would appear to be *low*. Further archaeological works are

unlikely to be necessary, although should further developments occur to the north of the site it is advised that further archaeological work should be undertaken.

TABLE 3: SUMMARY OF DIRECT IMPACTS.

Asset	Type	Distance	Value	Magnitude of Impact	Assessment	Overall Assessment
Direct Impacts						
Unidentified archaeological features	U/D	Onsite	low	Major	Slight	Slight/moderate
After mitigation			Negligible	Minor	Neutral/Slight	Neutral/Negligible

4.0 INDIRECT IMPACTS

4.1 STRUCTURE OF THE ASSESSMENT

For the purposes of this assessment, the *indirect effect* of a development is taken to be its effect on the wider historic environment. The principal focus of such an assessment falls upon identified designated heritage assets like Listed buildings or Scheduled Monuments. Depending on the nature of the heritage asset concerned, and the size, character and design of a development, its effect – and principally its visual effect – can impact on designated assets up to 20km away.

The methodology adopted in this document is based on that outlined in *The Setting of Heritage Assets* (GPA3 Historic England 2015), with reference to ICOMOS (2011) and DoT (DMRB, WEBTAG) guidance. The assessment of effect at this stage of a development is an essentially subjective one, but one based on the experience and professional judgement of the authors. Appendix 1 details the methodology employed.

This report follows the staged approach to proportionate decision making outlined in *The Setting of Heritage Assets* (Historic England 2015, 6). *Step one* is to identify the designated heritage assets that might be affected by the development. The first stage of that process is to determine an appropriate search radius, and this would vary according to the height, size and/or prominence of the proposed development. For instance, the search radius for a wind turbine, as determined by its height and dynamic character, would be much larger than for a single house plot or small agricultural building. The second stage in the process is to look at the heritage assets within the search radius and assign to one of three categories:

- Category #1 assets: Where proximity to the proposed development, the significance of the heritage asset concerned, or the likely magnitude of impact, demands detailed consideration.
- Category #2 assets: Assets where location and current setting would indicate that the impact of the proposed development is likely to be limited, but some uncertainty remains
- Category #3 assets: Assets where location, current setting, significance would strongly indicate the impact would be no higher than negligible and detailed consideration both unnecessary and disproportionate. These assets are still listed in the impact summary table.

For *Step two* and *Step three*, and with an emphasis on practicality and proportionality (*Setting of Heritage Assets* p15 and p18), this assessment then groups and initially discusses heritage assets by category (e.g. churches, historic settlements, funerary remains etc.) to avoid repetitious narrative; each site is then discussed individually, and the particulars of each site teased out. The initial discussion establishes the baseline sensitivity of a given category of monument or building to the potential effect, the individual entry elaborates on local circumstance and site-specific factors. The individual assessments should be read in conjunction with the overall discussion, as the impact assessment is a reflection of both.

4.2 QUANTIFICATION

The size of the proposal site would indicate a search radius of 1km is sufficient to identify those designated heritage assets where an appreciable effect might be experienced.

There are a small number of designated heritage assets in the local area: seven GII Listed structures, 1 Grade II* Listed Structure (Bee Bole/Dovecote); 1 Grade I Listed Church (St. Bartholomew's) and 1 Scheduled enclosure in Smay's Wood. There are no Conservation Areas, Registered Parks and Gardens or Battlefields within this area.

With an emphasis on practicality and proportionality (see *Setting of Heritage Assets* p15 and p18), only those assets where there is the possibility for a effect greater than negligible (see Table 8 in Appendix 1) are considered here in detail.

- Category #1 assets: St Bartholomew's Church
- Category #2 assets: None.
- Category #3 assets: the other assets within 0.5km.

4.3 IMPACT BY CLASS OF MONUMENT OR STRUCTURE

4.3.1 CHURCHES AND PRE-REFORMATION CHAPELS

Most parish churches tend to be associated with a settlement (village or hamlet), and therefore their immediate context lies within the setting of the village (see elsewhere). Church buildings are usually Grade II* or Grade I Listed structures, on the basis they are often the only surviving medieval buildings in a parish, and their nature places of religious worship.

In more recent centuries the church building and associated structures functioned as *the* focus for religious devotion in a parish. At the same time, they were also theatres of social interaction, where parishioners of differing social backgrounds came together and renegotiated their social contract.

In terms of setting, many churches are still surrounded by their churchtowns. Viewed within the context of the settlement itself, churches are unlikely to be affected by the construction of a wind turbine unless it is to be located in close proximity. The location of the church within its settlement, and its relationship with these buildings, would remain unchanged: the church often being the visual focus on the main village street.

This is not the case for the church tower. While these structures are rarely open to the public, in rural communities they are frequently the most prominent visual feature in the landscape, especially where the church is itself located in a topographically prominent location. The towers of these structures were clearly *meant* to be highly visible, ostentatious reminders of the presence of the established church with its message of religious dominance/assurance. However, churches were often built and largely maintained by their laity, and as such were a focus for the *local* expression of religious devotion. It was this local devotion that led to the adornment of their interiors and the elaboration of their exteriors, including the tower.

Where parishes are relatively small, the tower would be visible to the residents of multiple parishes. This would have been a clear expression of the religious devotion – or rather, the competitive piety – of a particular social group. This competitive piety that led to the building of these towers had a very local focus, and very much reflected the aspirations of the local gentry. If the proposed development is located within the landscape in such a way to interrupt line-of-sight between church towers, or compete with the tower from certain vantages, then it would very definitely impact on the setting of these monuments.

As the guidance on setting makes clear, views from or to the tower are less important than the contribution of the setting to the significance of the heritage asset itself. The higher assessment for the tower addresses the concern it will be affected by a new and intrusive element in this landscape.

Churchyards often contained Listed gravestones or box tombs, and associated yard walls and curtilage are usually also Listed. The setting of all of these assets is usually extremely local in

character, and local blocking, whether from the body of the church, church walls, shrubs and trees, and/or other buildings, always plays an important role. As such, the construction of a wind turbine is unlikely to have a negative impact.

What is important and why

Churches are often the only substantial medieval buildings in a parish, and reflect local aspirations, prosperity, local and regional architectural trends; they usually stand within graveyards, and these may have pre-Christian origins (evidential value). They are highly visible structures, identified with particular geographical areas and settlements, and can be viewed as a quintessential part of the English landscape (historical/illustrative). They can be associated with notable local families, usually survive as places of worship, and are sometimes the subject of paintings. Comprehensive restoration in the later 19th century means many local medieval churches are associated with notable ecclesiastical architects (historical/associational). The 19th century also saw the proliferation of churches and parishes in areas like Manchester, where industrialisation and urbanisation went hand-in-hand. Churches are often attractive buildings that straddle the distinction between holistic design and piecemeal/incremental development, all overlain and blurred with the 'patina of age' (aesthetic/design and aesthetic/fortuitous). They have great communal value, perhaps more in the past than in the present day, with strong commemorative, symbolic, spiritual and social value.

Asset Name: **Church of St Bartholomew's**	
Parish: Stoke Rivers, North Devon	Value: High
Designation: GI	Distance to Development: 0.05km
Summary: Listing Text - Parish church, mainly late C15/early C16 but may be some earlier fabric. Some 18th century work survives. Main restoration in 1880's and in 1905 by Tamlin, but possibly some earlier restoration work of 1831. Stone rubble with stone dressings. Slate roofs with coped gabled ends. West tower, nave, chancel, south aisle and south porch. Tower of 3 stages with embattled parapet and stone gargoyles to each corner polygonal stair turret to south side with 2 small traceried windows above 5 slits.	
Conservation Value: The church is of high aesthetic value and it contains a number of good quality internal fittings and monuments. The building is currently on the Heritage at Risk Register (Category C), due to problems with damp, particularly in the tower, and issues with roof and rainwater goods.	
Authenticity and Integrity: The 19th century restoration works was not as extensive as for many other parish churches, but was undertaken over multiple phases, currently in a slowly deteriorating condition.	
Setting: The church stands central to the small village of Stoke Rivers, on a natural high point at the western end of a ridge of high ground. The position affords the church (and its tower) good visual prominence from the south and west in particular. The village is essentially rural and agricultural in character and is predominantly located to the south and east of the church.	
Contribution of Setting to the Significance of the Asset: The setting in the village and wider largely open agricultural landscapes defines this as a small rural church which serves the village community. The small size of the village, has meant that the church retains a level of visual prominence within the community and the wider landscape, although there is substantive local blocking from trees, buildings, etc.	
Magnitude of Effect: The proposed development lies to the south-west of the Church and will be set lower topographically, and below and within the visual and physical lines of existing buildings within the village (i.e. converted barns to the west of the site, The Chapel House to the south and Church Cottages to the east). The character and nature of the Churches setting will therefore not be altered, although additional building (roofs, etc.) will appear in views of the village and Church. Views out and the setting will slightly change, but the character of that setting, of rural village nature will be no different. The church was built to serve the village community and the proposed houses merely reflect an attempt to develop and sustain that same community.	
Magnitude of Impact: High value asset and negligible change	
Overall Impact Assessment: Slight	

4.3.2 HISTORIC LANDSCAPE

General Landscape Character

The landscape of the British Isles is highly variable, both in terms of topography and historical biology. Natural England has divided the British Isles into numerous 'character areas' based on topography, biodiversity, geodiversity and cultural and economic activity. The County Councils and AONBs have undertaken similar exercises, as well as Historic Landscape Characterisation.

Some character areas are better able to withstand the visual impact of development than others. Rolling countryside with wooded valleys and restricted views can withstand a larger number of sites than an open and largely flat landscape overlooked by higher ground. The English landscape is already populated by a large and diverse number of intrusive modern elements, e.g. electricity pylons, factories, modern housing estates, quarries, and turbines, but the question of cumulative impact must be considered. The aesthetics of individual developments is open to question, and site specific, but as intrusive new visual elements within the landscape, it can only be **negative**.

The proposed site would be constructed within the ***Exmoor Fringe*** Landscape Character Area (LCA):

- This landscape of rolling, interlocking ridges, deeply incised by river valleys and patterned by beech hedges, provides an important setting and transition to Exmoor. The upland river valleys drain southwards from the high moorland, forming deep clefts in the landscape that contain clean, fast-flowing water and are clothed in ancient oak woodlands. Tree features and hilltop clumps form notable landmarks. The area is sparsely settled, with individual farmsteads and small hamlets and vernacular buildings that are mainly of sandstone and slate. Seen from the south (and west), the area forms the foreground landscape to Exmoor. The area is under pressure for change, with pony paddocks, lack of hedge/tree maintenance and housing cited amongst the pressures on this landscape. The development of the proposed site will be consistent with a gradual growth of small rural settlements, and not cause any significant impact to the LCA. Some loss of hedgebanks and the addition of further modern buildings will have a **negligible** impact.

4.3.3 AGGREGATE IMPACT

The aggregate impact of a proposed development is an assessment of the overall effect of a single development on multiple heritage assets. This differs from cumulative impact (below), which is an assessment of multiple developments on a single heritage asset. Aggregate impact is particularly difficult to quantify, as the threshold of acceptability will vary according to the type, quality, number and location of heritage assets, and the individual impact assessments themselves.

Based on the restricted number of assets where any appreciable effect is likely, the aggregate impact of this development is **neutral**.

4.3.4 CUMULATIVE IMPACT

Cumulative impacts affecting the setting of a heritage asset can derive from the combination of different environmental impacts (such as visual intrusion, noise, dust and vibration) arising from a single development or from the overall effect of a series of discrete developments. In the latter case, the cumulative visual impact may be the result of different developments within a single view, the effect of developments seen when looking in different directions from a single viewpoint, of the sequential viewing of several developments when moving through the setting of one or more heritage assets.
The Setting of Heritage Assets 2011a, 25

*The key for all cumulative impact assessments is to focus on the **likely significant** effects and in particular those likely to influence decision-making.*
GLVIA 2013, 123

An assessment of cumulative impact is, however, very difficult to gauge, as it must take into account existing, consented and proposed developments. The threshold of acceptability has not, however, been established, and landscape capacity would inevitability vary according to landscape character. The proposed development would have little to no impact on the nearby heritage assets, despite its close proximity. With that in mind, an assessment of **negligible** is appropriate.

TABLE 4: SUMMARY OF IMPACTS.

Asset	Type	Distance	Value	Magnitude of Impact	Assessment	Overall Assessment
Indirect Impacts						
St. Bartholomew's Church	I	c.20m	High	Negligible	Slight	Negligible
Baptist Chapel	II	c.10m	Medium	Negligible	Neutral/ Slight	Negligible
Dutch Barn c.85m North of Higher Davis Farmhouse	II	c.35m	Medium	Negligible	Neutral/ Slight	Negligible
Indirect Impacts						
Historic Landscape – Exmoor Fringe	n/a	n/a	High	Negligible	Neutral/ Slight	Negligible
Aggregate Impact	n/a	n/a	High	Negligible	Neutral/ Slight	Negligible
Cumulative Impact	n/a	n/a	High	Negligible	Neutral/ Slight	Negligible

5.0 CONCLUSION

The site is located to the west of the Parish Church of St. Bartholomew, in the small village of Stoke Rivers. The site occupies the southern part of a modern field, formerly shown as a single larger field from at least the early 19th century. The field was subsequently sub-divided in the 20th century. The main road through the village now wraps around the site, to the west, but likely once ran east-west along the ridge and past Lower Davis Farm. The Church is set back from the main road, suggesting that there may have formerly been a large enclosure or open space to the south of the present churchyard; historically (17th century onwards?) this became infilled with buildings.

The geophysical survey identified eleven groups of anomalies the most significant of which were probable ditch features associated with removed boundaries. Possible modern services and disturbed ground were identifiable in the southern part of the survey area. The results of the geophysical survey served to highlight areas to target during the evaluation excavations.

The evaluation trenching validated the results of the geophysical survey, and six ditches, the remnants of a hedgebank and a lead water pipe were exposed and excavated. The majority of these features dated to the post-medieval or modern era, although a small assemblage of residual late medieval material was also recovered. On the basis of the geophysical survey, evaluation trenching and desk-based assessment the archaeological potential of the site appears to be **low**.

In terms of indirect impacts, most of the designated heritage assets in the wider area would not be impacted upon by the proposed development. Three assets which lie in close proximity to the site and were considered in detail in this assessment, only the high value Grade I Listed Church of St. Bartholomew's will suffer any level of impact, and this largely being caused by its high sensitivity and proximity to the site. Overall the impact of the development will have slight to minor impacts to the Historic Landscape and heritage assets within it (**negligible** to **negative minor**), with much of this reflective of some cumulative effect.

With this in mind, the overall impact of the proposed development can be assessed as **neutral to negligible**. The impact of the development on the low valued buried archaeological resource may be **permanent** and **irreversible**.

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Stoke Rivers tithe map and apportionment 1841

National Library of Scotland (NLS)

OS 1st Edition Map

OS 2nd Edition Map

APPENDIX 1: IMPACT ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGY

Heritage Impact Assessment - Overview

The purpose of heritage impact assessment is twofold: Firstly, to understand – insofar as is reasonable practicable and in proportion to the importance of the asset – the significance of a historic building, complex, area or archaeological monument (the 'heritage asset'). Secondly, to assess the likely effect of a proposed development on the heritage asset (direct impact) and its setting (indirect impact). This methodology employed in this assessment is based on the staged approach advocated in *The Setting of Heritage Assets* (GPA3 Historic England 2015), used in conjunction with the ICOMOS (2011) and DoT (DMRB vol.11; WEBTAG) guidance. This Appendix contains details of the methodology used in this report.

National Policy

General policy and guidance for the conservation of the historic environment are now contained within the *National Planning Policy Framework* (Department for Communities and Local Government 2018). The relevant guidance is reproduced below:

Paragraph 189

In determining applications, local planning authorities should require the applicant to describe the significance of any heritage assets affected, including the contribution made by their setting. The level of detail should be proportionate to the assets' importance and no more than is sufficient to understand the potential impact of the proposal on their significance. As a minimum the relevant historic environment record should be consulted and the heritage assets assessed using appropriate expertise where necessary. Where a site on which a development is proposed includes or has the potential to include heritage assets with archaeological interest, local planning authorities should require developers to submit an appropriate desk-based assessment and, where necessary, a field evaluation.

Paragraph 190

Local planning authorities should identify and assess the particular significance of any heritage asset that may be affected by a proposal (including by development affecting the setting of a heritage asset) taking account of the available evidence and any necessary expertise. They should take this assessment into account when considering the impact of a proposal on a heritage asset, to avoid or minimise conflict between the heritage asset's conservation and any aspect of the proposal.

A further key document is the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990, in particular section 66(1), which provides *statutory protection* to the setting of Listed buildings:

In considering whether to grant planning permission for development which affects a listed building or its setting, the local planning authority or, as the case may be, the Secretary of State shall have special regard to the desirability of preserving the building or its setting or any features of special architectural or historic interest which it possesses.

Cultural Value – Designated Heritage Assets

The majority of the most important ('nationally important') heritage assets are protected through *designation*, with varying levels of statutory protection. These assets fall into one of six categories, although designations often overlap, so a Listed early medieval cross may also be Scheduled, lie within the curtilage of Listed church, inside a Conservation Area, and on the edge of a Registered Park and Garden that falls within a world Heritage Site.

Listed Buildings

A Listed building is an occupied dwelling or standing structure which is of special architectural or historical interest. These structures are found on the *Statutory List of Buildings of Special Architectural or Historic Interest.* The status of Listed buildings is applied to 300,000-400,000 buildings across the United Kingdom. Recognition of the need to protect historic buildings began after the Second World War, where significant numbers of buildings had been damaged in the county towns and capitals of the United Kingdom. Buildings that were considered to be of 'architectural merit' were included. The Inspectorate of Ancient Monuments supervised the collation of the list, drawn up by members of two societies: The Royal Institute of British Architects and the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings. Initially the lists were only used to assess which buildings should receive government grants to be repaired and conserved if damaged by bombing. The *Town and Country Planning Act 1947* formalised the process within England and Wales, Scotland and Ireland following different procedures. Under the 1979 *Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act* a structure cannot be considered a Scheduled Monument if it is occupied as a dwelling, making a clear distinction in the treatment of the two forms of heritage asset. Any alterations or works intended to a Listed Building must first

acquire Listed Building Consent, as well as planning permission. Further phases of 'listing' were rolled out in the 1960s, 1980s and 2000s; English Heritage advise on the listing process and administer the procedure, in England, as with the Scheduled Monuments.

Some exemption is given to buildings used for worship where institutions or religious organisations (such as the Church of England) have their own permissions and regulatory procedures. Some structures, such as bridges, monuments, military structures and some ancient structures may also be Scheduled as well as Listed. War memorials, milestones and other structures are included in the list, and more modern structures are increasingly being included for their architectural or social value.

Buildings are split into various levels of significance: Grade I (2.5% of the total) representing buildings of exceptional (international) interest; Grade II* (5.5% of the total) representing buildings of particular (national) importance; Grade II (92%) buildings are of merit and are by far the most widespread. Inevitably, accuracy of the Listing for individual structures varies, particularly for Grade II structures; for instance, it is not always clear why some 19th century farmhouses are Listed while others are not, and differences may only reflect local government boundaries, policies and individuals.

Other buildings that fall within the curtilage of a Listed building are afforded some protection as they form part of the essential setting of the designated structure, e.g. a farmyard of barns, complexes of historic industrial buildings, service buildings to stately homes etc. These can be described as having *group value*.

Conservation Areas
Local authorities are obliged to identify and delineate areas of special architectural or historic interest as Conservation Areas, which introduces additional controls and protection over change within those places. Usually, but not exclusively, they relate to historic settlements, and there are c.7000 Conservation Areas in England.

Scheduled Monuments
In the United Kingdom, a Scheduled Monument is considered an historic building, structure (ruin) or archaeological site of **'national importance'**. Various pieces of legislation, under planning, conservation, etc., are used for legally protecting heritage assets given this title from damage and destruction; such legislation is grouped together under the term 'designation', that is, having statutory protection under the *Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979*. A heritage asset is a part of the historic environment that is valued because of its historic, archaeological, architectural or artistic interest; those of national importance have extra legal protection through designation. Important sites have been recognised as requiring protection since the late 19th century, when the first 'schedule' or list of monuments was compiled in 1882. The conservation and preservation of these monuments was given statutory priority over other land uses under this first schedule. County Lists of the monuments are kept and updated by the Department for Culture, Media and Sport. In the later 20th century sites are identified by English Heritage (one of the Government's advisory bodies) of being of national importance and included in the schedule. Under the current statutory protection any works required on or to a designated monument can only be undertaken with a successful application for Scheduled Monument Consent. There are 19,000-20,000 Scheduled Monuments in England.

Registered Parks and Gardens
Culturally and historically important 'man-made' or 'designed' landscapes, such as parks and gardens are currently "listed" on a non-statutory basis, included on the 'Register of Historic Parks and Gardens of special historic interest in England' which was established in 1983 and is, like Listed Buildings and Scheduled Monuments, administered by Historic England. Sites included on this register are of **national importance** and there are currently 1,600 sites on the list, many associated with stately homes of Grade II* or Grade I status. Emphasis is laid on 'designed' landscapes, not the value of botanical planting. Sites can include town squares and private gardens, city parks, cemeteries and gardens around institutions such as hospitals and government buildings. Planned elements and changing fashions in landscaping and forms are a main focus of the assessment.

Registered Battlefields
Battles are dramatic and often pivotal events in the history of any people or nation. Since 1995 Historic England maintains a register of 46 battlefields in order to afford them a measure of protection through the planning system. The key requirements for registration are battles of national significance, a securely identified location, and its topographical integrity – the ability to 'read' the battle on the ground.

World Heritage Sites

Arising from the UNESCO World Heritage Convention in 1972, Article 1 of the Operational Guidelines (2015, no.49) states: 'Outstanding Universal Value means cultural and/or natural significance which is so exceptional as to transcend national boundaries and to be of common importance for present and future generations of all humanity'. These sites are recognised at an international level for their intrinsic importance to the story of humanity, and should be accorded the highest level of protection within the planning system.

Value and Importance

While every heritage asset, designated or otherwise, has some intrinsic merit, the act of designation creates a hierarchy of importance that is reflected by the weight afforded to their preservation and enhancement within the planning system. The system is far from perfect, impaired by an imperfect understanding of individual heritage assets, but the value system that has evolved does provide a useful guide to the *relative* importance of heritage assets. Provision is also made for heritage assets where value is not recognised through designation (e.g. undesignated 'monuments of Schedulable quality and importance' should be regarded as being of *high* value); equally, there are designated monuments and structures of *low* relative merit.

TABLE 5: THE HIERARCHY OF VALUE/IMPORTANCE (BASED ON THE DMRB VOL.11 TABLES 5.1, 6.1 & 7.1).

Hierarchy of Value/Importance	
Very High	Structures inscribed as of universal importance as World Heritage Sites; Other buildings of recognised international importance; World Heritage Sites (including nominated sites) with archaeological remains; Archaeological assets of acknowledged international importance; Archaeological assets that can contribute significantly to international research objectives; World Heritage Sites inscribed for their historic landscape qualities; Historic landscapes of international value, whether designated or not; Extremely well preserved historic landscapes with exceptional coherence, time-depth, or other critical factor(s).
High	Scheduled Monuments with standing remains; Grade I and Grade II* (Scotland: Category A) Listed Buildings; Other Listed buildings that can be shown to have exceptional qualities in their fabric or historical associations not adequately reflected in the Listing grade; Conservation Areas containing very important buildings; Undesignated structures of clear national importance; Undesignated assets of Schedulable quality and importance; Assets that can contribute significantly to national research objectives. Designated historic landscapes of outstanding interest; Undesignated landscapes of outstanding interest; Undesignated landscapes of high quality and importance, demonstrable national value; Well-preserved historic landscapes, exhibiting considerable coherence, time-depth or other critical factor(s).
Medium	Grade II (Scotland: Category B) Listed Buildings; Historic (unlisted) buildings that can be shown to have exceptional qualities in their fabric or historical associations; Conservation Areas containing buildings that contribute significantly to its historic character; Historic Townscape or built-up areas with important historic integrity in their buildings, or built settings (e.g. including street furniture and other structures); Designated or undesignated archaeological assets that contribute to regional research objectives; Designated special historic landscapes; Undesignated historic landscapes that would justify special historic landscape designation, landscapes of regional value; Averagely well-preserved historic landscapes with reasonable coherence, time-depth or other critical factor(s).
Low	Locally Listed buildings (Scotland Category C(S) Listed Buildings); Historic (unlisted) buildings of modest quality in their fabric or historical association; Historic Townscape or built-up areas of limited historic integrity in their buildings, or built settings (e.g. including street furniture and other structures); Designated and undesignated archaeological assets of local importance; Archaeological assets compromised by poor preservation and/or poor survival of contextual associations; Archaeological assets of limited value, but with potential to contribute to local research objectives; Robust undesignated historic landscapes; Historic landscapes with importance to local interest groups; Historic landscapes whose value is limited by poor preservation and/or poor survival of contextual associations.
Negligible	Buildings of no architectural or historical note; buildings of an intrusive character; Assets with very little or no surviving archaeological interest; Landscapes with little or no significant historical interest.
Unknown	Buildings with some hidden (i.e. inaccessible) potential for historic significance; The importance of the archaeological resource has not been ascertained.

Concepts – Conservation Principles

In making an assessment, this document adopts the conservation values (*evidential*, *historical*, *aesthetic* and *communal*) laid out in *Conservation Principles* (English Heritage 2008), and the concepts of *authenticity* and *integrity*

as laid out in the guidance on assessing World Heritage Sites (ICOMOS 2011). This is in order to determine the relative importance of *setting* to the significance of a given heritage asset.

Evidential Value
Evidential value (or research potential) is derived from the potential of a structure or site to provide physical evidence about past human activity, and may not be readily recognised or even visible. This is the primary form of data for periods without adequate written documentation. This is the least equivocal value: evidential value is absolute; all other ascribed values (see below) are subjective. However,

Historical Value
Historical value (narrative) is derived from the ways in which past people, events and aspects of life can be connected via a place to the present; it can be *illustrative* or *associative*.

Illustrative value is the visible expression of evidential value; it has the power to aid interpretation of the past through making connections with, and providing insights into, past communities and their activities through a shared experience of place. Illustrative value tends to be greater if a place features the first or only surviving example of a particular innovation of design or technology.

Associative value arises from a connection to a notable person, family, event or historical movement. It can intensify understanding by linking the historical past to the physical present, always assuming the place bears any resemblance to its appearance at the time. Associational value can also be derived from known or suspected links with other monuments (e.g. barrow cemeteries, church towers) or cultural affiliations (e.g. Methodism).

Buildings and landscapes can also be associated with literature, art, music or film, and this association can inform and guide responses to those places.

Historical value depends on sound identification and the direct experience of physical remains or landscapes. Authenticity can be strengthened by change, being a living building or landscape, and historical values are harmed only where adaptation obliterates or conceals them. The appropriate use of a place – e.g. a working mill, or a church for worship – illustrates the relationship between design and function and may make a major contribution to historical value. Conversely, cessation of that activity – e.g. conversion of farm buildings to holiday homes – may essentially destroy it.

Aesthetic Value
Aesthetic value (emotion) is derived from the way in which people draw sensory and intellectual stimulation from a place or landscape. Value can be the result of *conscious design*, or the *fortuitous outcome* of landscape evolution; many places combine both aspects, often enhanced by the passage of time.

Design value relates primarily to the aesthetic qualities generated by the conscious design of a building, structure or landscape; it incorporates composition, materials, philosophy and the role of patronage. It may have associational value, if undertaken by a known architect or landscape gardener, and its importance is enhanced if it is seen as innovative, influential or a good surviving example. Landscape parks, country houses and model farms all have design value. The landscape is not static, and a designed feature can develop and mature, resulting in the 'patina of age'.

Some aesthetic value developed *fortuitously* over time as the result of a succession of responses within a particular cultural framework e.g. the seemingly organic form of an urban or rural landscape or the relationship of vernacular buildings and their materials to the landscape. Aesthetic values are where a proposed development usually have their most pronounced impact: the indirect effects of most developments are predominantly visual or aural, and can extent many kilometres from the site itself. In many instances the impact of a development is incongruous, but that is itself an aesthetic response, conditioned by prevailing cultural attitudes to what the historic landscape should look like.

Communal Value
Communal value (togetherness) is derived from the meaning a place holds for people, and may be closely bound up with historical/associative and aesthetic values; it can be *commemorative, symbolic*, *social* or *spiritual*.

Commemorative and symbolic value reflects the meanings of a place to those who draw part of their identity from it, or who have emotional links to it e.g. war memorials. Some buildings or places (e.g. the Palace of Westminster) can symbolise wider values. Other places (e.g. Porton Down Chemical Testing Facility) have negative or uncomfortable

associations that nonetheless have meaning and significance to some and should not be forgotten. *Social value* need not have any relationship to surviving fabric, as it is the continuity of function that is important. *Spiritual value* is attached to places and can arise from the beliefs of a particular religion or past or contemporary perceptions of the spirit of place. Spiritual value can be ascribed to places sanctified by hundreds of years of veneration or worship, or wild places with few signs of modern life. Value is dependent on the perceived survival of historic fabric or character, and can be very sensitive to change. The key aspect of communal value is that it brings specific groups of people together in a meaningful way.

Authenticity
Authenticity, as defined by UNESCO (2015, no.80), is the ability of a property to convey the attributes of the outstanding universal value of the property. 'The ability to understand the value attributed to the heritage depends on the degree to which information sources about this value may be understood as credible or truthful'. Outside of a World Heritage Site, authenticity may usefully be employed to convey the sense a place or structure is a truthful representation of the thing it purports to portray. Converted farmbuildings, for instance, survive in good condition, but are drained of the authenticity of a working farm environment.

Integrity
Integrity, as defined by UNESCO (2015, no.88), is the measure of wholeness or intactness of the cultural heritage ad its attributes. Outside of a World Heritage Site, integrity can be taken to represent the survival and condition of a structure, monument or landscape. The intrinsic value of those examples that survive in good condition is undoubtedly greater than those where survival is partial, and condition poor.

Summary
As indicated, individual developments have a minimal or tangential effect on most of the heritage values outlined above, largely because almost all effects are indirect. The principle values in contention are aesthetic/designed and, to a lesser degree aesthetic/fortuitous. There are also clear implications for other value elements (particularly historical and associational, communal and spiritual), where views or sensory experience is important. As ever, however, the key element here is not the intrinsic value of the heritage asset, nor the impact on setting, but the relative contribution of setting to the value of the asset.

Setting – The Setting of Heritage Assets
The principle guidance on this topic is contained within two publications: *The Setting of Heritage Assets* (Historic England 2015) and *Seeing History in the View* (English Heritage 2011). While interlinked and complementary, it is useful to consider heritage assets in terms of their *setting* i.e. their immediate landscape context and the environment within which they are seen and experienced, and their *views* i.e. designed or fortuitous vistas experienced by the visitor when at the heritage asset itself, or those that include the heritage asset. This corresponds to the experience of its wider landscape setting.

Where the impact of a proposed development is largely indirect, *setting* is the primary consideration of any HIA. It is a somewhat nebulous and subjective assessment of what does, should, could or did constitute the lived experience of a monument or structure. The following extracts are from the Historic England publication *The Setting of Heritage Assets* (2015, 2 & 4):

The NPPF makes it clear that the setting of a heritage asset is the surroundings in which a heritage asset is experienced. Its extent is not fixed and may change as the asset and its surroundings evolve.

Setting is not a heritage asset, nor a heritage designation. Its importance lies in what it contributes to the significance of the heritage asset. This depends on a wide range of physical elements within, as well as perceptual and associational attributes, pertaining to the heritage asset's surroundings.

While setting can be mapped in the context of an individual application or proposal, it does not have a fixed boundary and cannot be definitively and permanently described for all time as a spatially bounded area or as lying within a set distance of a heritage asset because what comprises a heritage asset's setting may change as the asset and its surroundings evolve or as the asset becomes better understood or due to the varying impacts of different proposals.

The HIA below sets out to determine the magnitude of the effect and the sensitivity of the heritage asset to that effect. The fundamental issue is that proximity and visual and/or aural relationships may affect the experience of a

heritage asset, but if setting is tangential to the significance of that monument or structure, then the impact assessment will reflect this. This is explored in more detail below.

Landscape Context

The determination of *landscape context* is an important part of the assessment process. This is the physical space within which any given heritage asset is perceived and experienced. The experience of this physical space is related to the scale of the landform, and modified by cultural and biological factors like field boundaries, settlements, trees and woodland. Together, these determine the character and extent of the setting.

Landscape context is based on topography, and can vary in scale from the very small – e.g. a narrow valley where views and vistas are restricted – to the very large – e.g. wide valleys or extensive upland moors with 360° views. Where very large landforms are concerned, a distinction can be drawn between the immediate context of an asset (this can be limited to a few hundred metres or less, where cultural and biological factors impede visibility and/or experience), and the wider context (i.e. the wider landscape within which the asset sits).

When new developments are introduced into a landscape, proximity alone is not a guide to magnitude of effect. Dependant on the nature and sensitivity of the heritage asset, the magnitude of effect is potentially much greater where the proposed development is to be located within the landscape context of a given heritage asset. Likewise, where the proposed development would be located outside the landscape context of a given heritage asset, the magnitude of effect would usually be lower. Each case is judged on its individual merits, and in some instances the significance of an asset is actually greater outside of its immediate landscape context, for example, where church towers function as landmarks in the wider landscape.

Views

Historic and significant views are the associated and complementary element to setting, but can be considered separately as developments may appear in a designed view without necessarily falling within the setting of a heritage asset *per se*. As such, significant views fall within the aesthetic value of a heritage asset, and may be *designed* (i.e. deliberately conceived and arranged, such as within parkland or an urban environment) or *fortuitous* (i.e. the graduated development of a landscape 'naturally' brings forth something considered aesthetically pleasing, or at least impressive, as with particular rural landscapes or seascapes), or a combination of both (i.e. the *patina of age*, see below). The following extract is from the English Heritage publication *Seeing History in the View* (2011, 3):

Views play an important part in shaping our appreciation and understanding of England's historic environment, whether in towns or cities or in the countryside. Some of those views were deliberately designed to be seen as a unity. Much more commonly, a significant view is a historical composite, the cumulative result of a long process of development.

The Setting of Heritage Assets (2015, 3) lists a number of instances where views contribute to the particular significance of a heritage asset:

- Views where relationships between the asset and other historic assets or places or natural features are particularly relevant;
- Views with historical associations, including viewing points and the topography of battlefields;
- Views where the composition within the view was a fundamental aspect of the design or function of the heritage asset;
- Views between heritage assets and natural or topographic features, or phenomena such as solar and lunar events;
- Views between heritage assets which were intended to be seen from one another for aesthetic, functional, ceremonial or religious reasons, such as military or defensive sites, telegraphs or beacons, Prehistoric funerary and ceremonial sites.

On a landscape scale, views, taken in the broadest sense, are possible from anywhere to anything, and each may be accorded an aesthetic value according to subjective taste. Given that terrain, the biological and built environment, and public access restrict our theoretical ability to see anything from anywhere, in this assessment the term *principal view* is employed to denote both the deliberate views created within designed landscapes, and those fortuitous views that may be considered of aesthetic value and worth preserving. It should be noted, however, that there are distance thresholds beyond which perception and recognition fail, and this is directly related to the scale, height, massing and nature of the heritage asset in question. For instance, beyond 2km the Grade II cottage comprises a single indistinct component within the wider historic landscape, whereas at 5km or even 10km a large stately home or castle may still

be recognisable. By extension, where assets cannot be seen or recognised i.e. entirely concealed within woodland, or too distant to be distinguished, then visual harm to setting is moot. To reflect this emphasis on recognition, the term *landmark asset* is employed to denote those sites where the structure (e.g. church tower), remains (e.g. earthwork ramparts) or – in some instances – the physical character of the immediate landscape (e.g. a distinctive landform like a tall domed hill) make them visible on a landscape scale. In some cases, these landmark assets may exert landscape *primacy*, where they are the tallest or most obvious man-made structure within line-of-sight. However, this is not always the case, typically where there are numerous similar monuments (multiple engine houses in mining areas, for instance) or where modern developments have overtaken the heritage asset in height and/or massing.

Yet visibility alone is not a clear guide to visual impact. People perceive size, shape and distance using many cues, so context is critically important. For instance, research on electricity pylons (Hull & Bishop 1988) has indicated scenic impact is influenced by landscape complexity: the visual impact of pylons is less pronounced within complex scenes, especially at longer distances, presumably because they are less of a focal point and the attention of the observer is diverted. There are many qualifiers that serve to increase or decrease the visual impact of a proposed development (see Table 2), some of which are seasonal or weather-related.

Thus the principal consideration of assessment of indirect effects cannot be visual impact *per se*. It is an assessment of the likely magnitude of effect, the importance of setting to the significance of the heritage asset, and the sensitivity of that setting to the visual or aural intrusion of the proposed development. The schema used to guide assessments is shown in Table 2 (below).

Type and Scale of Impact

The effect of a proposed development on a heritage asset can be direct (i.e. the designated structure itself is being modified or demolished, the archaeological monument will be built over), or indirect (e.g. a housing estate built in the fields next to a Listed farmhouse, and wind turbine erected near a hillfort etc.); in the latter instance the principal effect is on the setting of the heritage asset. A distinction can be made between construction and operational phase effects. Individual developments can affect multiple heritage assets (aggregate impact), and contribute to overall change within the historic environment (cumulative impact).

Construction phase: construction works have direct, physical effects on the buried archaeology of a site, and a pronounced but indirect effect on neighbouring properties. Direct effects may extend beyond the nominal footprint of a site e.g. where related works or site compounds are located off-site. Indirect effects are both visual and aural, and may also affect air quality, water flow and traffic in the local area.

Operational phase: the operational phase of a development is either temporary (e.g. wind turbine or mobile phone mast) or effectively permanent (housing development or road scheme). The effects at this stage are largely indirect, and can be partly mitigated over time through provision of screening. Large development would have an effect on historic landscape character, as they transform areas from one character type (e.g. agricultural farmland) into another (e.g. suburban).

Cumulative Impact: a single development will have a physical and a visual impact, but a second and a third site in the same area will have a synergistic and cumulative impact above and beyond that of a single site. The cumulative impact of a proposed development is particularly difficult to estimate, given the assessment must take into consideration operational, consented and proposals in planning.

Aggregate Impact: a single development will usually affect multiple individual heritage assets. In this assessment, the term aggregate impact is used to distinguish this from cumulative impact. In essence, this is the impact on the designated parts of the historic environment as a whole.

Scale of Impact

The effect of development and associated infrastructure on the historic environment can include positive as well as negative outcomes. However, all development changes the character of a local environment, and alters the character of a building, or the setting within which it is experienced. change is invariably viewed as negative, particularly within respect to larger developments; thus while there can be beneficial outcomes (e.g. positive/moderate), there is a presumption here that, as large and inescapably modern intrusive visual actors in the historic landscape, the impact of a development will almost always be **neutral** (i.e. no impact) or **negative** i.e. it will have a **detrimental impact** on the setting of ancient monuments and protected historic buildings.

This assessment incorporates the systematic approach outlined in the ICOMOS and DoT guidance (see Tables 6-8), used to complement and support the more narrative but subjective approach advocated by Historic England (see Table 5). This provides a useful balance between rigid logic and nebulous subjectivity (e.g. the significance of effect on a Grade II Listed building can never be greater than moderate/large; an impact of negative/substantial is almost never achieved). This is in adherence with GPA3 (2015, 7).

TABLE 6: MAGNITUDE OF IMPACT (BASED ON DMRB VOL.11 TABLES 5.3, 6.3 AND 7.3).

Factors in the Assessment of Magnitude of Impact – Buildings and Archaeology	
Major	Change to key historic building elements, such that the resource is totally altered; Change to most or all key archaeological materials, so that the resource is totally altered; Comprehensive changes to the setting.
Moderate	Change to many key historic building elements, the resource is significantly modified; Changes to many key archaeological materials, so that the resource is clearly modified; Changes to the setting of an historic building or asset, such that it is significantly modified.
Minor	Change to key historic building elements, such that the asset is slightly different; Changes to key archaeological materials, such that the asset is slightly altered; Change to setting of an historic building, such that it is noticeably changed.
Negligible	Slight changes to elements of a heritage asset or setting that hardly affects it.
No Change	No change to fabric or setting.
Factors in the Assessment of Magnitude of Impact – Historic Landscapes	
Major	Change to most or all key historic landscape elements, parcels or components; extreme visual effects; gross change of noise or change to sound quality; fundamental changes to use or access; resulting in total change to historic landscape character unit.
Moderate	Changes to many key historic landscape elements or components, visual change to many key aspects of the historic landscape, noticeable differences in noise quality, considerable changes to use or access; resulting in moderate changes to historic landscape character.
Minor	Changes to few key historic landscape elements, or components, slight visual changes to few key aspects of historic landscape, limited changes to noise levels or sound quality; slight changes to use or access: resulting in minor changes to historic landscape character.
Negligible	Very minor changes to key historic landscape elements, parcels or components, virtually unchanged visual effects, very slight changes in noise levels or sound quality; very slight changes to use or access; resulting in a very small change to historic landscape character.
No Change	No change to elements, parcels or components; no visual or audible changes; no changes arising from in amenity or community factors.

TABLE 7: SIGNIFICANCE OF EFFECTS MATRIX (BASED ON DRMB VOL.11 TABLES 5.4, 6.4 AND 7.4; ICOMOS 2011, 9-10).

Value of Assets	Magnitude of Impact (positive or negative)				
	No Change	Negligible	Minor	Moderate	Major
Very High	Neutral	Slight	Moderate/Large	Large/Very Large	Very Large
High	Neutral	Slight	Moderate/Slight	Moderate/Large	Large/Very Large
Medium	Neutral	Neutral/Slight	Slight	Moderate	Moderate/Large
Low	Neutral	Neutral/Slight	Neutral/Slight	Slight	Slight/Moderate
Negligible	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral/Slight	Neutral/Slight	Slight

TABLE 8: SCALE OF IMPACT.

Scale of Impact	
Neutral	No impact on the heritage asset.
Negligible	Where the developments may be visible or audible, but would not affect the heritage asset or its setting, due to the nature of the asset, distance, topography, or local blocking.
Negative/minor	Where the development would have an effect on the heritage asset or its setting, but that effect is restricted due to the nature of the asset, distance, or screening from other buildings or vegetation.
Negative/moderate	Where the development would have a pronounced impact on the heritage asset or its setting, due to the sensitivity of the asset and/or proximity. The effect may be ameliorated by screening or mitigation.
Negative/substantial	Where the development would have a severe and unavoidable effect on the heritage asset or its setting, due to the particular sensitivity of the asset and/or close physical proximity. Screening or mitigation could not ameliorate the effect of the development in these instances.

TABLE 9: IMPORTANCE OF SETTING TO INTRINSIC SIGNIFICANCE.

Importance of Setting to the Significance of the Asset	
Paramount	Examples: Round barrow; follies, eyecatchers, stone circles
Integral	Examples: Hillfort; country houses
Important	Examples: Prominent church towers; war memorials
Incidental	Examples: Thatched cottages
Irrelevant	Examples: Milestones

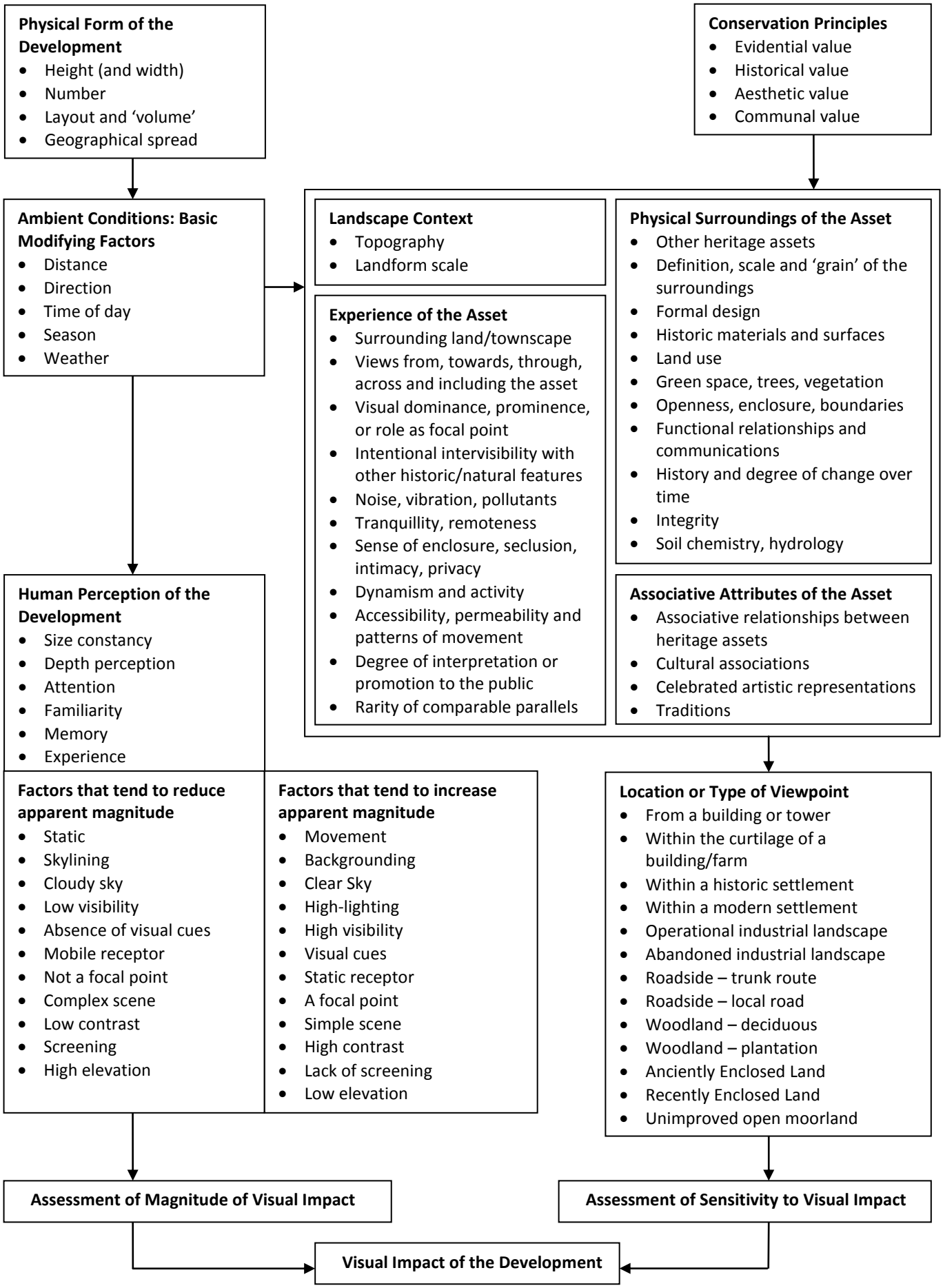

TABLE 10: THE CONCEPTUAL MODEL FOR VISUAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROPOSED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF NEWCASTLE (2002, 63), MODIFIED TO INCLUDE ELEMENTS OF *ASSESSMENT STEP 2* FROM THE SETTING OF HERITAGE ASSETS (HISTORIC ENGLAND 2015, 9).

APPENDIX 2: ADDITIONAL GRAPHICAL IMAGES OF THE GRADIOMETER SURVEY

FIGURE 16: GEOPHYSICAL SURVEY GRID LOCATION AND NUMBERING.

APPENDIX 3: CONTEXT LIST

Context	Type	Description	Relationships	depth/thickness (m)	Spot date
Trench 1					
(100)	Topsoil	Soft, grey-brown silt-clay.	Overlies (101)	c.0.42m	-
(101)	Subsoil	Soft, dark-grey brown silt-clay.	Overlain by (100)	c. 0.19m	-
[102]	Cut	Linear feature, running north-south and orientated toward church and well. c.1.1m wide.	Filled by (103), (104)	c. 0.42m	-
(103)	Fill	Mid yellow-grey silt clay, with occasional too rare stone.	Overlain by (101); overlies (104); fill of [102]	c. 0.33m	-
(104)	Fill	Basal fill - Mid yellow-grey silt clay, with small abundant fragments of shillet.	Overlain by (103); fill of [102]	c. 0.06m	-
[105]	Cut	Ditch feature running north-west to south-east. c.2m wide.	Filled by (106), (107), (108), (109)	c. 0.84m	-
(106)	Fill	Clean, reddish-grey silt-clay (similar to topsoil).	Overlain by (101); overlies (107); fill of [105]	c.0.3m	-
(107)	Fill	Yellow/grey silt-clay with common/occasional stones – mostly sub-angular, medium sized; with rare to occasional charcoal. Demolished/eroded hedgebank material. More stone to the west.	Overlain by (106); overlies (108); fill of [105]	c. 0.21m	-
(108)	Fill	Yellowish-grey, with abundant small shillet fragments (silting up).	Overlain by (107); overlies (109); fill of [105]	c. 0.26m	-
(109)	Fill	Basal fill – grey, with medium sized stones.	Overlain by (108); fill of [105]	c. 0.08m	-
[110]	Cut	Ditch running north-west to south-east. 0.6m wide.	Filled by (111)	c.0.22m	-
(111)	Fill	Reddish-grey silt-clay.	Overlain by (101); fill of [110]	c.0.22m	-
Trench 2					
(200)	Topsoil	Soft, grey-brown silt-clay.	Overlies (202), (204)	c.0.42m	-
[201]	Cut	Large ditch, running north-south, c.1.2m wide.	Filled by (202)	-	-
(202)	Fill	Fill of ditch [201]	Overlain by (200); fill of [201]	-	-
[203]	Cut	Narrower ditch, running north-south, c.0.7m wide.	Filled by (204)	-	-
(204)	Fill	Fill of ditch [203]	Overlain by (200); fill of [203]	-	-
Trench 3					
(300)	Topsoil	Soft, grey-brown silt-clay.	Overlies (302), (304), (306)	c.0.42m	-
[301]	Cut	Narrow gulley, running east-west, c.0.5m wide.	Filled by (302)	c.0.05m	-
(302)	Fill	Mid grey-brown silt-clay.	Overlain by (300); fill of [301]	c.0.05m	-
[303]	Cut	Narrow (middle) linear, running east-west, 0.3m wide.	Filled by (304)	c.0.04m	-
(304)	Fill	Same as (302) – slightly more stone.	Overlain by (300); fill of [303]	c.0.04m	-
[305]	Cut	Wider linear, running east-west, 1.2m wide.	Filled by (306)	c.0.39m	-
(306)	Fill	Grey-brown silt-clay, with common stone.	Overlain by (300); filled of [305]	c.0.39m	-
{307}	Bank	Remnant of bank – medium sized sub-angular stones, pressed into natural – had spread onto [305].	Overlain by (300); abuts [305]	c.0.1m	-

APPENDIX 4: SUPPORTING PHOTOGRAPHS

1. EVIDENCE OF ROADSIDE QUARRY/TERRACE IN NORTH-WEST CORNER OF FIELD, FROM THE SOUTH (2M SCALE).

2. SHOT OF THE CURRENT GATED FIELD ACCESS, FROM THE NORTH-EAST (2M SCALE).

3. STONE OUTBUILDINGS ASSOCIATED WITH THE CHAPEL HOUSE AND ABUTTING THE SOUTHERN BOUNDARY OF THE SITE; FROM THE NORTH-WEST (2M SCALE).

4. ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S CHURCH, FROM THE SOUTHERN APPROACH (2M SCALE).

5. THE CHURCHYARD BOUNDARY, ADJACENT TO THE SITE, FROM THE NORTH-EAST (NO SCALE).

6. VIEW OUT FROM CHURCHYARD TO THE OPEN LANDSCAPE, FROM THE NORTH-EAST (NO SCALE).

7. DITCH [102], SOUTH-WEST FACING SECTION, FROM THE SOUTH-WEST (1M SCALE).

8. DITCH [102], FROM THE SOUTH-WEST (1M SCALE).

9. DITCH [110], NORTH-NORTH-WEST FACING SECTION, VIEWED FROM THE NORTH-NORTH-WEST (1M SCALE).

10. DITCH [105], NORTH-NORTH-WEST FACING SECTION, VIEWED FROM THE NORTH-NORTH-WEST (1M SCALE).

11. DITCH [105] AND [110], OBLIQUE ANGLE, FROM THE NORTH-NORTH-WEST (1M SCALE).

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

14. DITCH [301], NORTH-EAST FACING SECTION, FROM THE NORTH-EAST (0.4M SCALE).

15. DITCH [303], NORTH-EAST FACING SECTION, FROM THE NORTH-EAST (0.4M SCALE).

16. DITCH [305] SOUTH-WEST FACING SECTION, FROM THE SOUTH-WEST (1M SCALE).

17. LEFT: DITCH [301] AND [303], IN PLAN, FROM THE SOUTH-EAST (1M AND 0.4M SCALES).
18. RIGHT: DITCHES [305], [303] AND [301], FROM SOUTH-SOUTH-EAST (1M SCALE).

19. TRENCH 3, POST-EX, VIEWED FROM THE SOUTH-EAST (1M SCALE).

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