THE DONKEY SANCTUARY
TROW FARM
SALCOMBE REGIS
DEVON

Results of a Desk-Based Assessment
&
Archaeological Monitoring and Recording

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For

Mr David Barbour of The Donkey Sanctuary

By

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National Grid Reference: SY15658899
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OASIS reference: southwes1-46268
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Pottery: Henrietta Quinnell & Roger Taylor
Archaeometallurgical Debris: Lee Bray & Gill Juleff

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Summary

South West Archaeology undertook a programme of archaeological monitoring and recording at the Donkey Sanctuary, Trow Farm, Salcombe Regis, Devon, in advance of the construction of a composting pad, dirty water storage tank and access road. Fieldwalking recovered 300+ fragments of worked lithic material and Prehistoric pottery. The topsoil strip revealed a number of linear features related to the historic fieldscape, and a scatter of small pits that contained a small but important assemblage of Early, Middle and Later Neolithic and Mid and Late Iron Age pottery. The flint is typical of other assemblages collected in the locality and is dated probably to between the later Neolithic and Middle Bronze Age. Some of the Iron Age features contained waste material indicative of iron smelting, although no smelting furnace site was identified.

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Acknowledgements

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The staff of the Devon Records Office
The staff of the North Devon Records Office
The staff of the West Country Studies Library
The Devon County Historic Environment Service

1.0 Introduction

Location: The Donkey Sanctuary, Trow Farm
Parish: Salcombe Regis
District: East Devon
County: Devon
NGR: SY15658899

1.1 Background

South West Archaeology (SWARCH) were asked by David Barbour of The Donkey Sanctuary (the Client) to prepare a historical and archaeological desk-based assessment and carry out archaeological monitoring and recording at The Donkey Sanctuary, Trow Farm, Salcombe Regis, East Devon. The programme of work was commissioned in accordance with PPG16 *Archaeology & Planning* (1990), Devon County Structure Plan Policy CO8 and the *Condition* of a planning consent and were undertaken prior to development of the site, this relating to the construction of a composting pad and dirty water store.

1.2 Topographical and Geological Background

The site lies around 300m south of Trow Farm, with groundworks for an access road situated to the east and for water storage tanks to the south-west (see Figure 2). The site is located on a flat plateau at around 160m AOD. The underlying geology consists of clay-with-flints and chert overlying Cretaceous chalk. A boundary within the latter runs north by north-east to south by south-west across the area where the overlying clay is thinner (British Geological Survey 1974). The soils are of the Batcombe Association (Soil Survey of England and Wales 1983). The Devon County Historic Landscape Characterisation defines the area as 'medieval enclosures based on strip fields', although there have been alterations to the field systems in recent years. Willowbeds have been established immediately to the south of the site.

1.3 Historical Background

Scatters of flint and chert tools (lithic scatters), indicative of Prehistoric settlement activity, have been found widely in the area. It is known that flint finds such as these, retrieved from the surface of ploughed fields, represent only a fraction of the number of artefacts that may be present within and beneath the ploughsoil. Such lithic scatters provide evidence for settlement and land use through much of the Prehistoric period, particularly the Mesolithic, Neolithic and Bronze Age. They also provide important insights into technology. The ready local supply of high quality toolmaking flint and chert from Beer Head mean that its hinterland has high potential for the identification of Prehistoric settlements and tool-manufacturing sites.

1.4 Archaeological Background

An area of topsoil was partially stripped before archaeological monitoring was in place; when this area (the composting pad) was visited by DCHES it was immediately noted that there were flint and chert artefacts, as well as waste material, on the exposed surface and in the spoil bunds. A geophysical survey was subsequently undertaken (Substrata report 070528-5) which indicated the presence of possible archaeological features within and adjacent to the composting pad area.

1.5 Methodology

The desk-based assessment was carried out by Terry Green and was undertaken with reference to IfA guidelines on the preparation of archaeological assessments. Documentary and cartographic sources held at the Devon Record Office, the West Country Studies Library, the North Devon Record Office and the Devon County Historic Environment Service (DCHES) were consulted.

The archaeological investigation was carried out during September and October 2007 in accordance with the Written Scheme of Investigation (Appendix 2) drawn up in consultation with DCHES and was undertaken in accordance with Institute for Archaeologists guidelines.

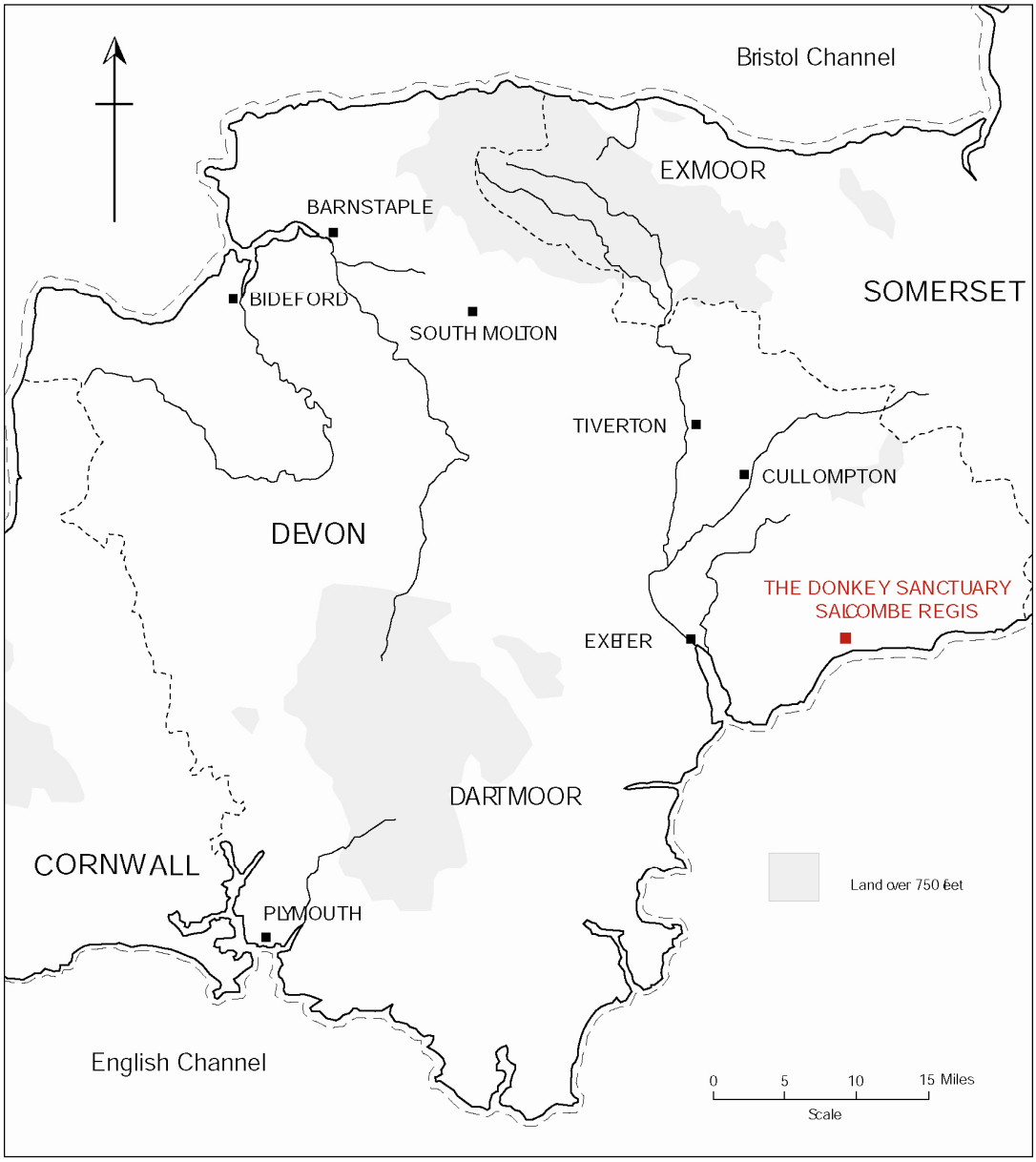

Figure 1: Regional Location

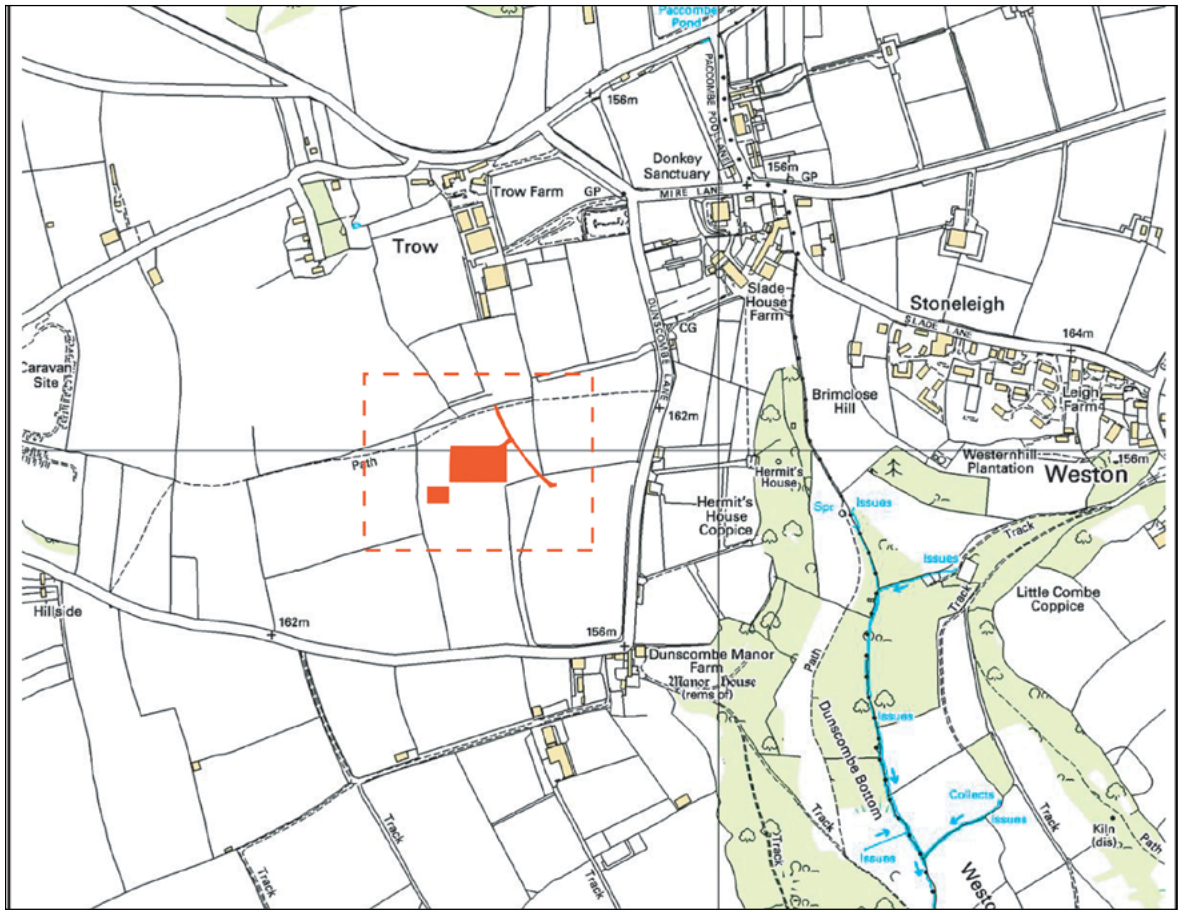

Figure 2: Site location (the site is indicated).

The area examined comprised approximately 4000m² of pasture field; much of which had initially been stripped of topsoil by machine some months prior to the involvement of South West Archaeology. During the period between the initial topsoil strip and subsequent archaeological investigation, onsite vehicular activity had left wheel ruts across the site. This disturbance was easily identified by its shape in plan and loose, topsoil-like fills and was therefore discounted from the archaeological record. This stripped area was fieldwalked on a 10m grid for the recovery of artefacts prior to any further activity. Some of the spoil in the extant spoil heaps was sieved to recover artefacts.

The area of the proposed development was then re-stripped under archaeological supervision using a tracked mechanical excavator with toothless grading bucket. This was considered necessary because the earlier removal of topsoil had not reached a sufficient depth to reveal the undisturbed natural ground and any archaeological features that might be present. Some additional topsoil stripping (with similar machinery and supervision) was carried out in three additional areas: a narrow strip along the western side of the composting pad; an area to the south-west where dirty water storage tanks were to be installed; and an area to the east along the route of a new access road.

The surviving archaeology was comprised of features cut into the natural subsoil. All features, except those that were the product of modern activity, were planned and excavated. In the case of linear features a proportion of the fills were removed, sufficient to understand their date, form and function. A photographic record was compiled along with a drawn record at appropriate scales (1:20 to 1:200) and a written record of standard single context sheets was compiled. Note that all levels on site were relative to an arbitrary onsite benchmark of 100m.

Figure 3: The southern edge of the Compost Pad site looking west; the differential vegetation growth marks where an earlier topsoil strip took place, prior to archaeological monitoring.

Figure 4: The southern edge of the Compost Pad site looking west, following the monitored site-strip; most of the visible features are modern vehicle tracks.

2.0 Results of the Desk-Based Assessment

2.1 Trow Farm: Brief History

Trow receives its first documentary mention in 1282 when it was *atte Trewe* 'at the trees'. It was within the manor of Salcombe, a possession of the Dean and Chapter of Exeter. Salcombe was apparently never a King's manor, the addition of *Regis* to the name not appearing before the 18th century (Gover *et al.* 1932, 595). Within the manor of Salcombe, Thorn, neighbour to Trow, was apparently the principal settlement within the manor. The modern Trow Farm appears to have arisen as a result of the amalgamation of five farms in 1725. Manor court records of 1728 indicate that the Clapp Family then held South Combe, Thorn, Hillway, Luckises and others in the area all brought together and called Trow and amounting to 120 acres (Hoskins 1940-41, 8-9).

In 1802 the Manor of Salcombe Regis, still a possession of the Dean and Chapter of Exeter, was surveyed and mapped. At this date Trow Farm itself amounted to 98 acres. It was mapped again by the tithe surveyors in 1839. In the tithe apportionment of the same date the ownership is shown as shared between Charles and Sarah Cornish. The Rev. George Cornish was Lord of the manor.

2.2 Cartography

2.2.1 Extract from a Map of the Manor of Salcombe Regis, 1802

This map, commissioned by the Dean and Chapter of Exeter Cathedral, is the earliest detailed map available. The area of land here in question is represented by the fields numbered q22 and the eastern half of d4. In the accompanying schedule q22 is named *Down Park*. To the west is field q6: *Great Mare,* and almost immediately to the north – separated by only a narrow strip – is q23: *Little Mare*. The term Mare suggests a reflex of Old English *gemære* 'boundary'. This seems a likely interpretation since a footpath running through *Great Mare*, through *Down Park* and defining the edge of the narrow strip to the south of *Little Mare* continues the line of a long boundary extending from Thorn Farm, an important medieval settlement, and on to Burrow, another early settlement. This footpath is now extinguished and re-routed somewhat to the north. It seems from this map that the north-eastern boundary of the field may correspond to a furlong boundary in a medieval field-system attached to Trow Farm, of which the narrow strip might be a remnant. Alternatively, the mare in question could refer to the *mare and colt* chambered tomb located nearby (see below).

2.2.2 Extract from the Salcombe Regis Tithe Map, 1839

On this map the field boundaries remain as in 1802. The area here in question now comprises the field numbered 422 ('Eight Acres') and the eastern half of 474 ('Outer Dunscombe').

2.2.3 Extract from the Ordnance Survey 1st Edition map at 1:2500, 1888

The boundaries remain as in 1802 and 1839.The area in question now comprises fields 496 and the eastern half of 497. There is now a footpath running from the hamlet of Trow south to the road from Salcombe Regis to Dunscombe. The footpath traverses field number 496 and runs along the eastern edge of 497.

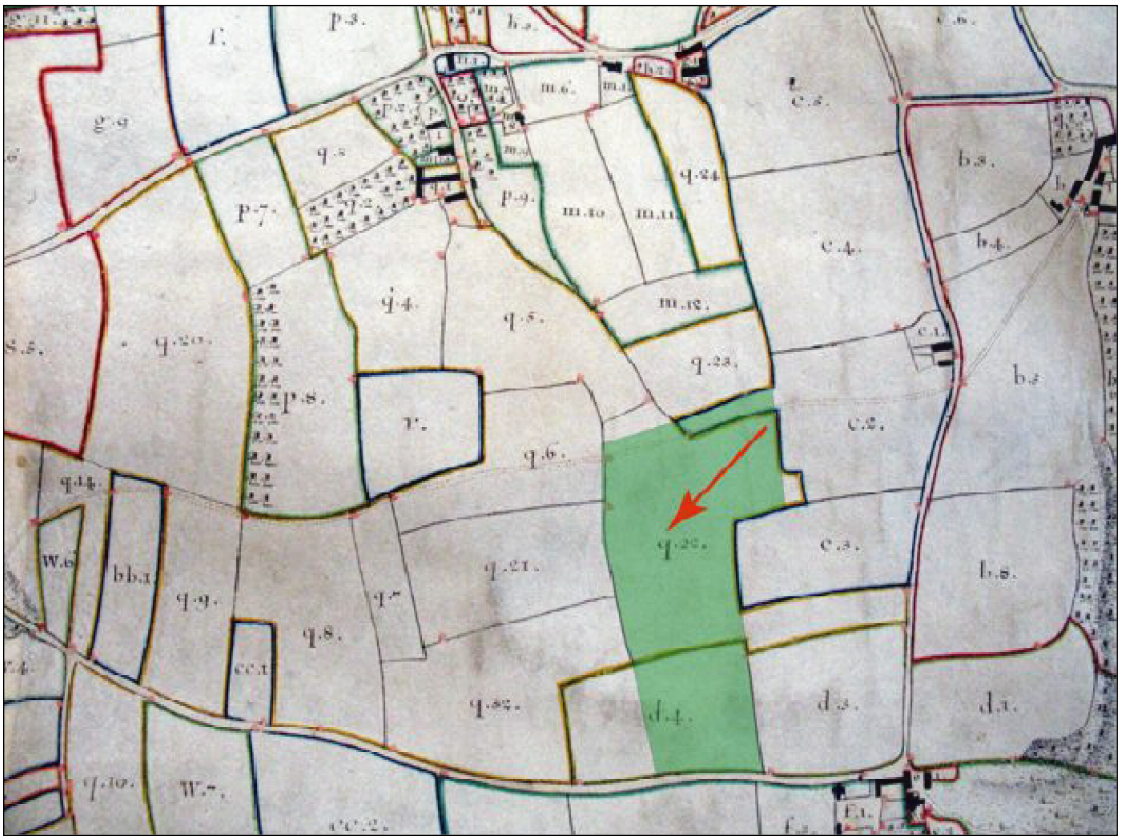

Figure 5: Extract from 'A map of the Manor of Salcombe Regis. Property of the Dean and Chapter of Exeter' 1802. The area now occupied by the field in question is highlighted in green; the arrow indicates the approximate location of the Compost Pad and Dirty Water Store (DRO: 337 add 3/3/3/22).

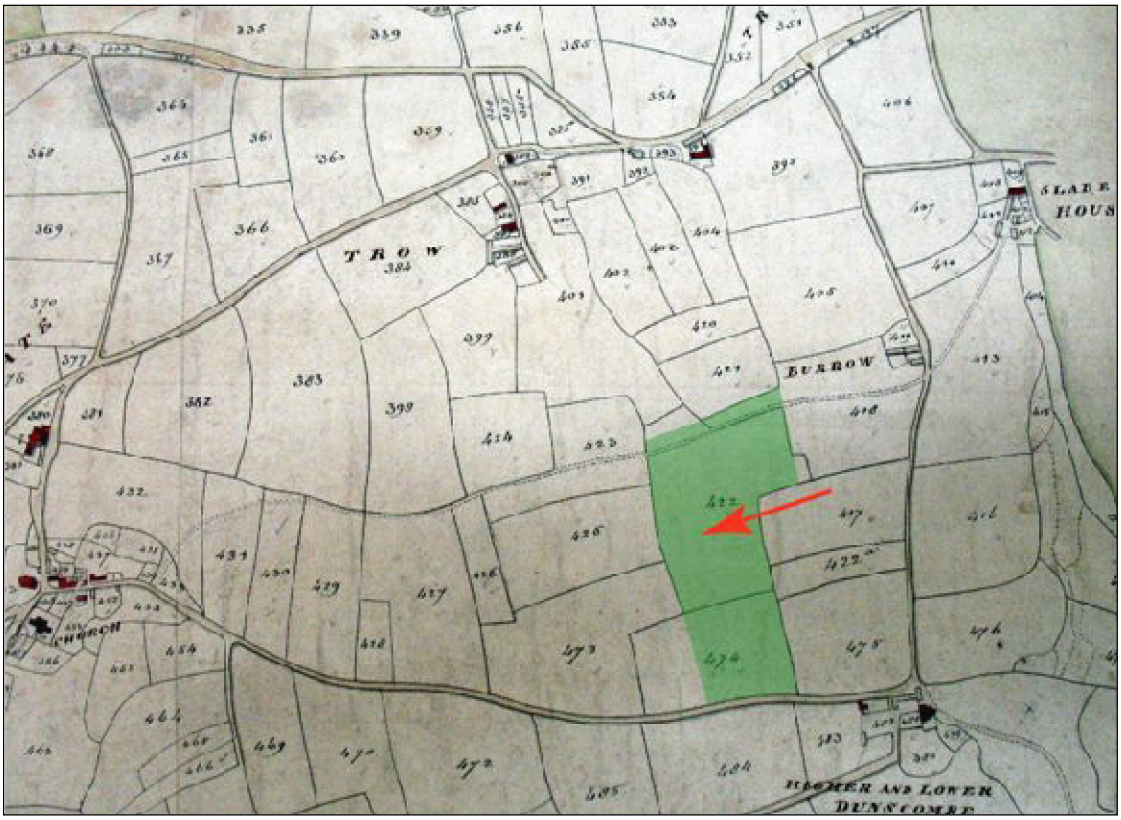

Figure 6: Extract from the Salcombe Regis tithe map, 1839 (the site is indicated) (DRO).

2.2.4 Extract from the Ordnance Survey 2nd Edition map at 1:2500, 1905

Boundaries remain as in 1888.

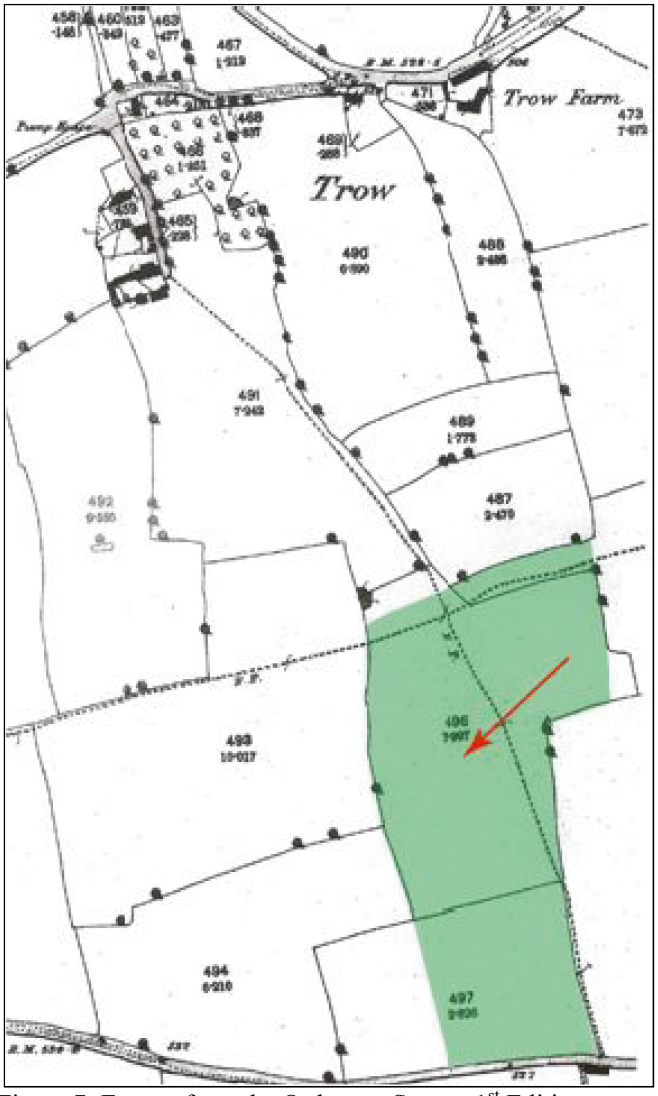

Figure 7: Extract from the Ordnance Survey 1st Edition map at a scale of 1:2500, 1888 (WCSL).

Figure 8: Extract from the Ordnance Survey 2nd Edition map at a scale of 1:2500, 1905 (DRO).

2.2.5 Aerial photograph taken by the RAF in 1946

This suggests no change since 1905. At this date the field in question was under pasture.

2.2.6 The late 20th century (1997) Ordnance Survey 1:25000 map

This shows a slight change in the field boundaries: the eastern boundary of the field formerly numbered 496 has been straightened. In addition, the footpaths have been re-routed, the north-south footpath now running along the western boundary of the field previously numbered 496, then dog-legging along the northern and then the eastern boundaries of field number 497. As indicated above, the west-east footpath has been diverted to the north.

2.2.7 The Site Today

Fields formerly numbered 496 and the eastern half of 497 have been amalgamated into a single field, NG6328, with a new boundary created through the centre of what was formerly field number 497. The northern boundary of the field formerly numbered 496 has been quite radically reconfigured.

Figure 9: Aerial photograph of 1946 (DCHES).

2.3 Archaeological Implications of Boundary Changes

The present northern boundary of field number NG6328 appears to correspond (in its eastern half) to a ploughland boundary within the medieval fieldsystem of Trow. A footpath ran a little way to the south of the present northern boundary. A furlong boundary traced part of the line of a long west-east boundary, which may have been of some importance in the medieval period. Remnants of this may show up in any fieldwalking or incidents of ground disturbance. Running west-east through the southern third of field number NG6328 may be the remains of a probably post-medieval boundary.

2.4 Flint Scatters: Previous Work

2.4.1 The Lichfield-Smith Collection

Figure **10** is an extract from a map produced by Mr Lichfield-Smith recording the results of fieldwalking in the area between 1981 and 1984 (DCHES: Salcombe Regis Parish File). On the map the fields formerly numbered 496 and 497 are hatched and provided with a date,

indicating that they were ploughed and walked in October 1984. Both fields are over-written NIL, signifying no artefacts, only cores and waste with residual clay-with-flint nodules. The areas over-written F/FND were ploughed areas with concentrated sites of flint artefacts, cores, waste and prepared flakes and blades.

The Lichfield-Smith collection is in the RAM Museum, Exeter.

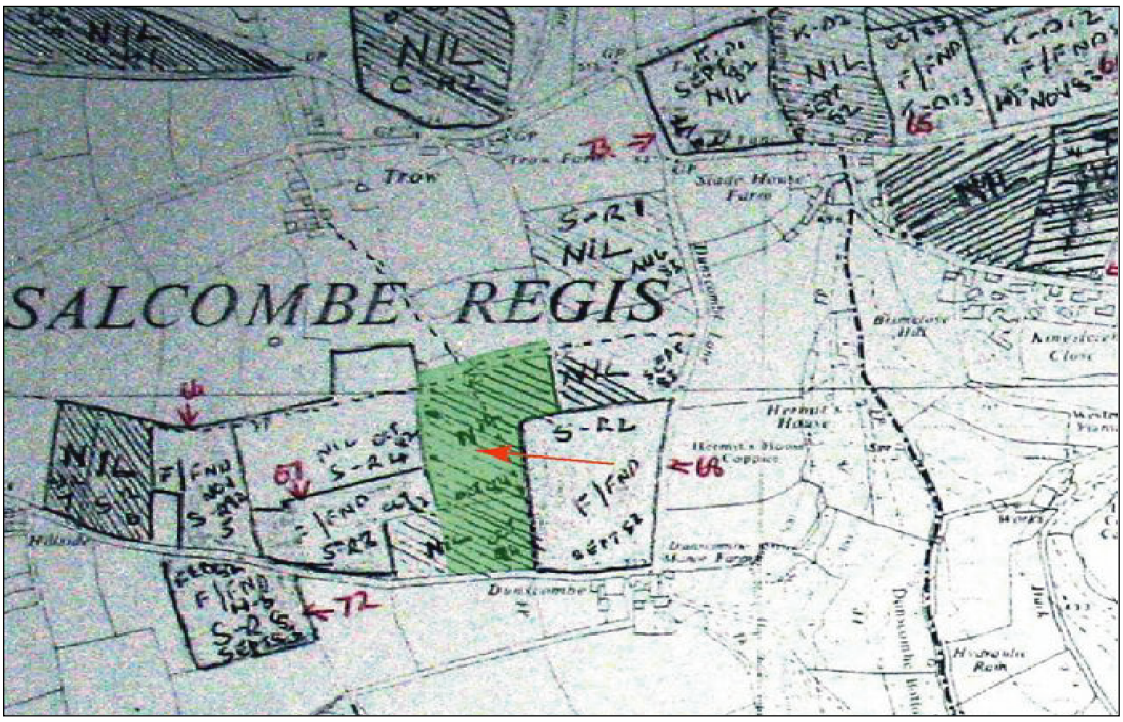

Figure 10: Extract from a map of the Salcombe Regis and Branscombe area, annotated by Lichfield Smith, 1981 (DCHES: Salcombe Regis parish file).

2.4.2 Excavation and Field-walking in the Beer-Branscombe Area

The following discussion is based on the work of Tingle (1998).

In 1986 and 1990, excavation of colluvial deposits took place at Bovey Lane to the north-west of Beer (Figure 11), and fields were walked in search of flint scatters in two nearby areas (Figure 12). The area designated as the Northern Plateau extends north and west from the Beer area to include the Salcombe Regis area. This plateau lies between roughly 150m and 170m AOD and is an eroded peneplane of Upper Greensand. In the area of the Donkey Sanctuary the surface geology is characterised by clay-with-flints, an erosion product of Cretaceous deposits over the Upper Greensand. Over this area extensive flint scatters have been noted and the suspicion has always been that the proximity of the chalk cliffs of Beer Head, with their bands of high quality flint, might account for the prolific flint-working activity in this near-coastal area. Tingle's report examines this supposition on the basis of the field evidence. The following notes may help to place the Donkey Sanctuary site in context.

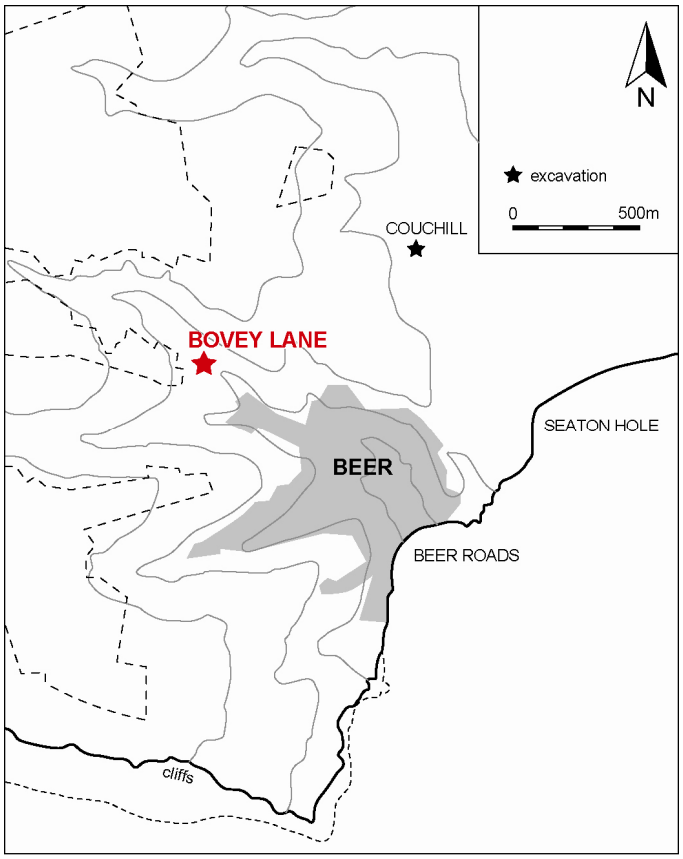

Figure 11: Map showing the location of the excavation site at Bovey Lane (after Tingle 1998).

The excavation of colluvial deposits in a combe above Beer revealed – beneath a considerable depth of colluvium – evidence of domestic occupation in the form of a specialised stone-tool assemblage together with charcoal, marine mollusc fragments, animal bones, cattle teeth, fragments of Neolithic pottery and a small quantity of carbonised grain. Tingle laid some emphasis on the importance of such sealed deposits for the understanding of Prehistoric subsistence activity.

Fieldwalking during 1986 and 1990 covered a total area of 216 hectares of arable land above Beer and Branscombe. This resulted in the collection of 12,379 pieces of worked stone plus 3194 pieces of burnt flint, 151 items of worked Upper Greensand chert, some Iron Age sherds and a low density scatter of Romano-British material.

It was noteworthy that the fieldwalking produced no axes and no polished tools of any type, while arrowheads were limited to crudely-made oblique versions. The assemblage was characteristically unspecialised, in direct contrast to the more specialised assemblage of cores and blades from the colluvial deposit at Bovey Lane. It was thought that the area might be peripheral to the principal area of activity at Beer.

Several clusters of finds were distinguished. These were characterised as ‘industrial’ (with all classes of flakes present in quantity) or ‘domestic’ (having a high concentration of retouched tools: notched flakes, retouched flakes, scrapers, borers and burnt flints). The retouched tools were concentrated at two locations on flat hilltops overlooking the sea. One such location was excavated in order to determine the nature of the implement concentration. Tingle states (1998, 100): ‘Extensive sample excavation of the topsoil revealed two groups of subsoil features both of which were associated with Beaker pottery. To the south of the main concentration of retouched tools, a large oval feature was found to contain the remains of a fire into which

freshly knapped flint, chert and sandstone flakes had been introduced together with pieces of heavily-abraded pottery. The northern end of the feature was filled with locally-derived flint nodules which may originally have formed part of a cairn. To the south of this feature beneath the densest part of the scatter a group of three pits contained a small assemblage of tools all made from chalk flint.' Interesting as this association between knapped flint and other artefacts with apparent ritual activity was thought to be, no direct association could be made between the surface concentration and the deposits beneath.

Although the concentration of 'Beer' flint appeared to increase towards the coastal chalk cliffs, there was no clear overall bias towards Beer flint, nodules from clay-with-flint deposits, beach pebbles or Greensand chert.

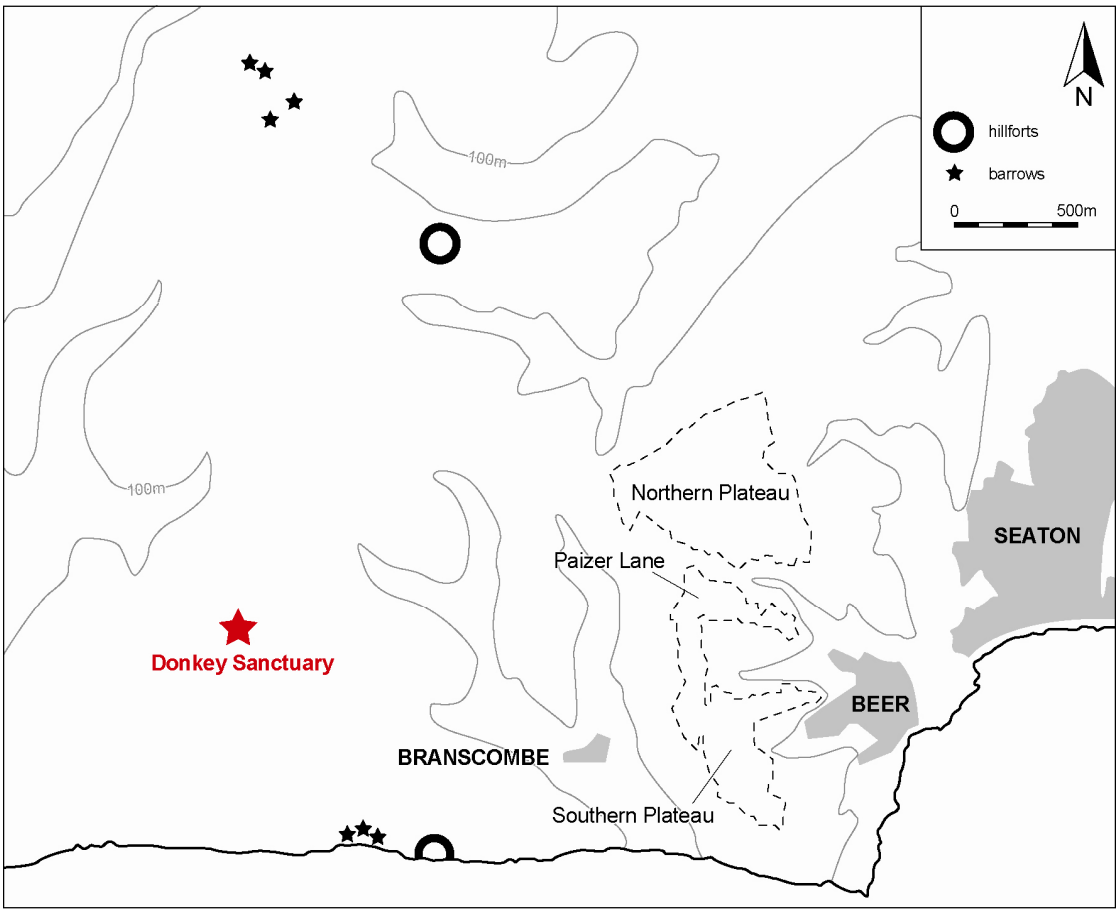

Figure 12: Map showing the location of the Donkey Sanctuary in relation to the areas that were field-walked (North Plateau, Paizer Lane and Southern Plateau) (after Tingle 1998).

2.4.3 Archaeological Implications

To be meaningful within the context of previous work in the general area, any collection of flint debris and/or artefacts should be considered in terms of its general character. The topographic distribution of any concentrations of material should be recorded.

2.5 Other Archaeological Sites in the Near Vicinity (from the Devon HER)

2.4.4 Prehistoric

10902 Almost immediately to the south-west (SY15868871) a contracted interment was apparently found in 1901. There was no barrow.

10913 At SY161-887- on Dunscombe Farm a contracted interment was found in 1850 during the construction of a limekiln.

16646 Remains of a chambered tomb: 'a large flint breccia balanced on another', known as Mare and Colt.

57212 Oval enclosure photographed from the air as a soil mark. The curve in the hedge to the north may reflect the northern side of this enclosure where it was present in the landscape as an earthwork (Griffith 1986). This corresponds to the site of 'Burrow' shown on the 1839 tithe map (Figure 6). The site lies on broad, level hill top. Coincides with a hollow. Possibly re-use of a Prehistoric enclosure.

2.4.5 Medieval

1090: At SY15868871 Dunscombe manor house now in ruins; said by owner to have been destroyed by fire c.1650.

10929 At SY15898890 is the site of Burg Manor House; ruins of a Manor House shown on the tithe map of 1840.

3.0 Sumary of the Geophysical Survey

A geophysical survey (Substrata report 070528-5) was carried out in the field containing the proposed development, after topsoil stripping had occurred but before subsequent fieldwork took place. The results are summarised below:

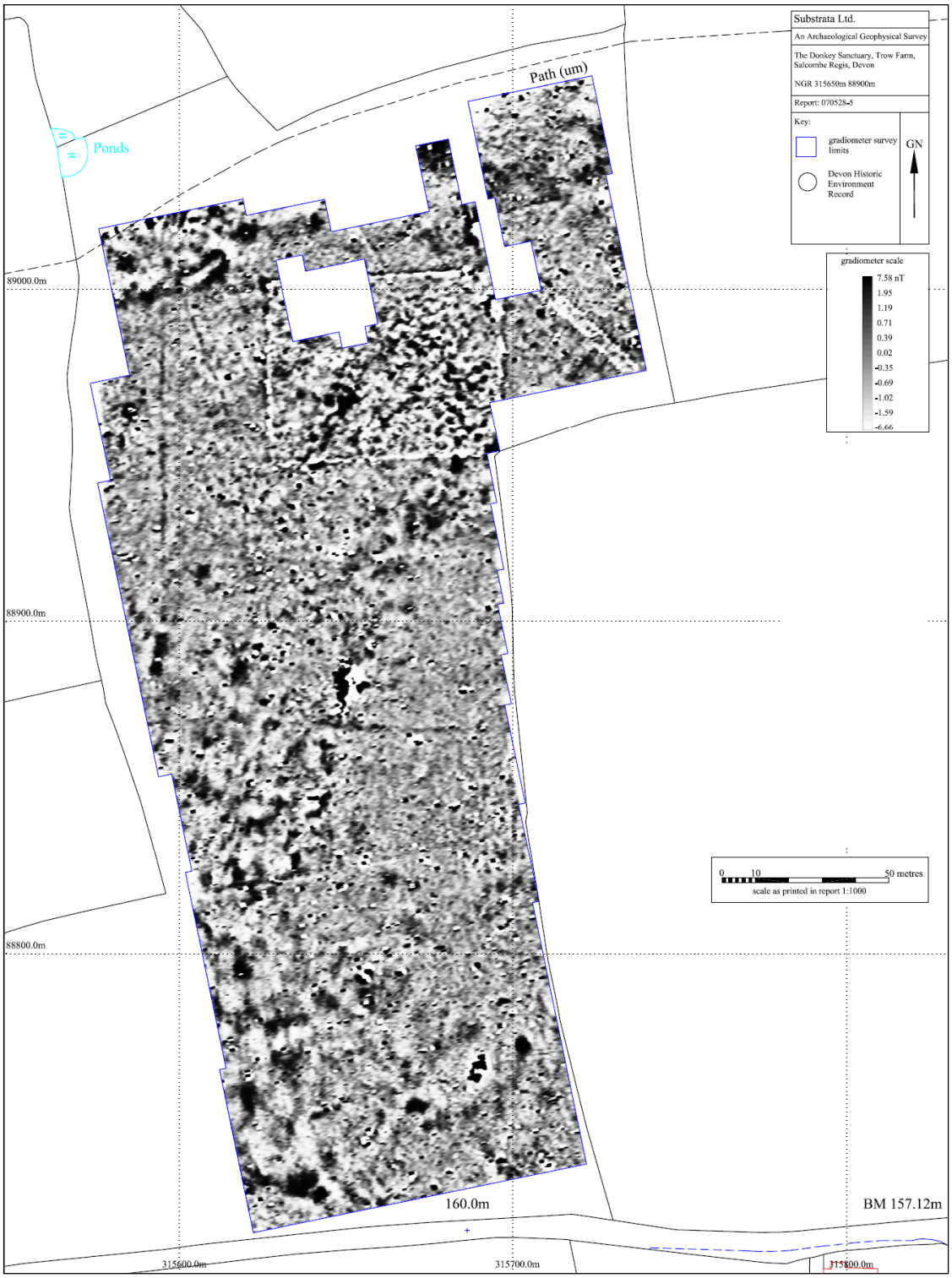

Figure 13: The shade plot of the processed data (Substrata report 070528-5 figure 3).

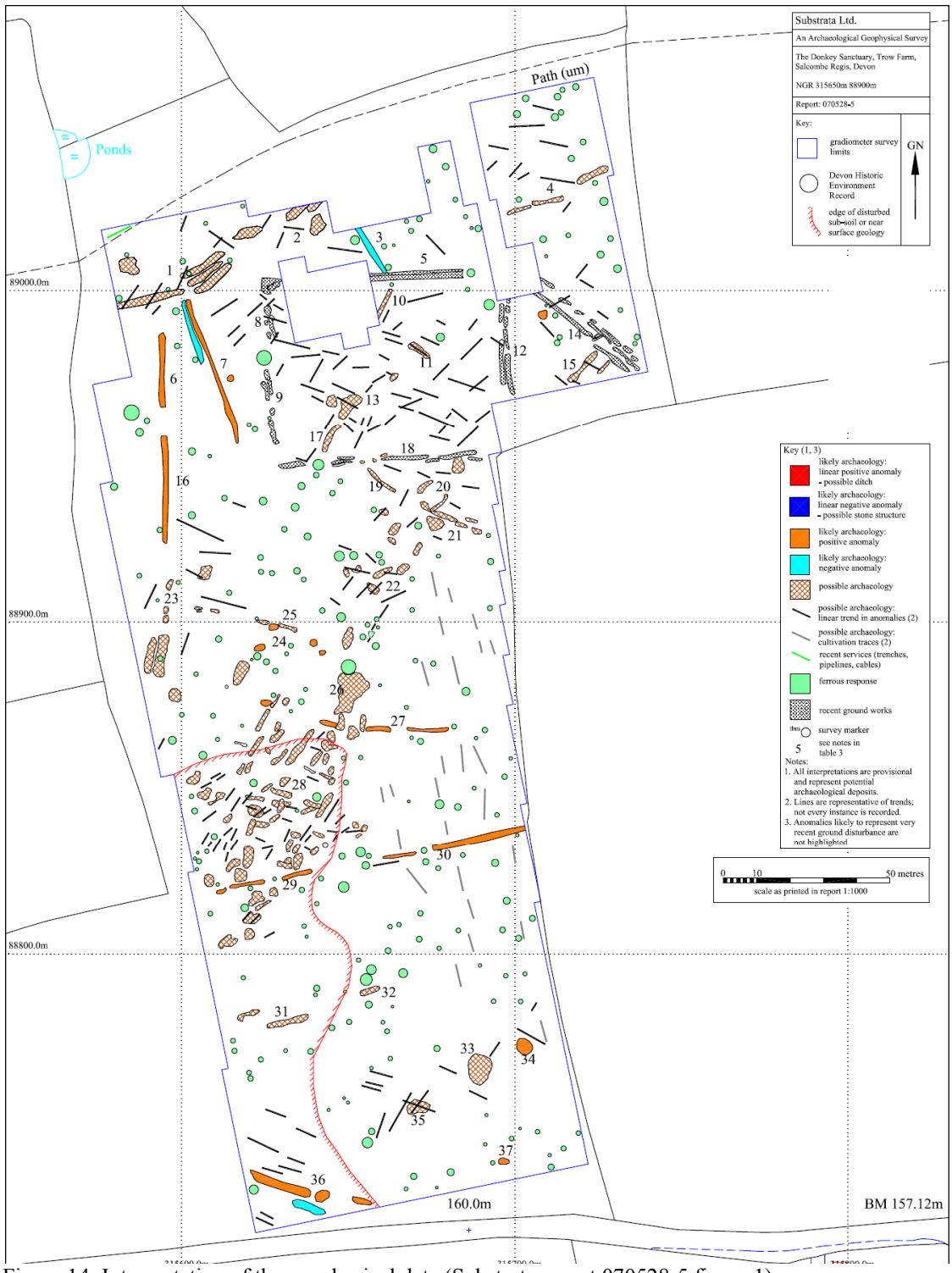

Figure 14: Interpretation of the geophysical data (Substrata report 070528-5 figure 1).

A number of probable archaeological features were identified, together with a relatively large number of possible features, spread across the whole survey area. A small number of linear features were recorded that may belong to an earlier fieldsystem (anomalies 3, 7, 27 and 36), as well as a small number of probable pits (anomalies 24, 34 and 35), and anomalies 26 and 33 may contain ferrous material.

4.0 Results of the Archaeological Investigations

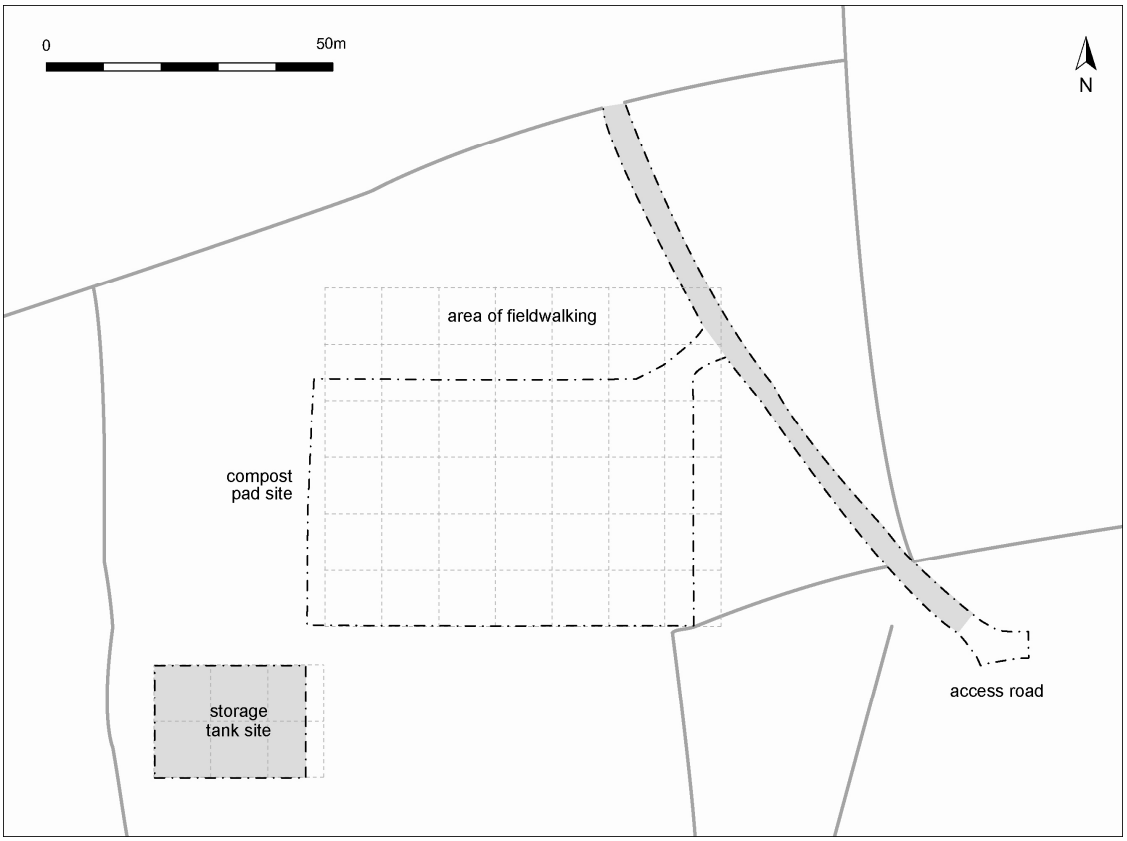

Figure 15: Detail of the investigated areas.

4.1 Field-walking, Topsoil Strip and Spoil Sieving

4.1.1 Field-walking and Topsoil Strip

The Compost Pad had been partially stripped of topsoil before archaeological monitoring commenced; it measured 70×60m and, for the purposes of the fieldwalking, was divided into a series of 10m grid squares. A certain amount of surface disturbance was evident, as was the development of vegetation; therefore the percentage of the exposed and visible topsoil in each grid square was calculated (Figure 16).

On the whole however, the visibility problems did not hamper the recovery of material, and those areas with apparent poor visibility (e.g. the west and north-east part of the site) still produced sizeable assemblages of flint and pottery. Following the fieldwalking the site was stripped again by machine; this was necessary to clear the vegetation and because the earlier unsupervised strip had removed insufficient topsoil in some areas. A further 50-75mm of soil was removed and the material collected with reference to the original grid. The finds recovered during fieldwalking included some struck flint and a small quantity of pottery (Figure 17 and Figure 18).

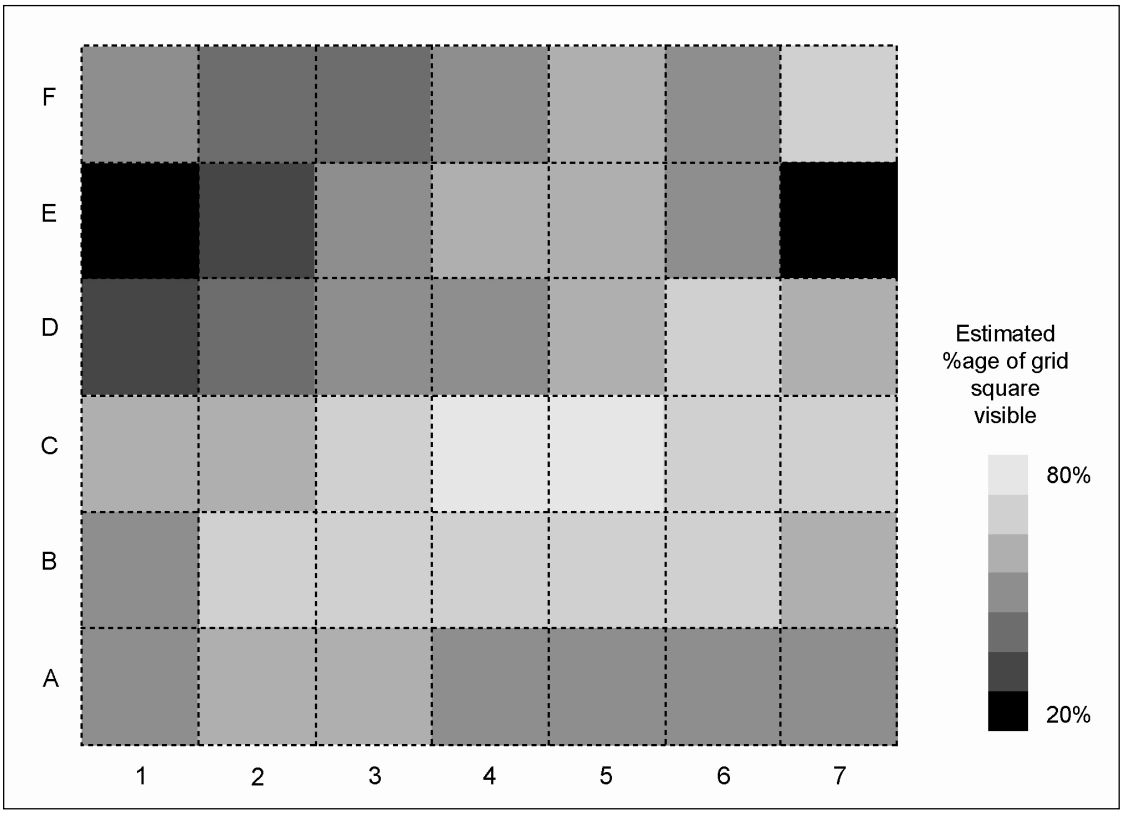

Figure 16: Visibility of topsoil on the fieldwalking grid.

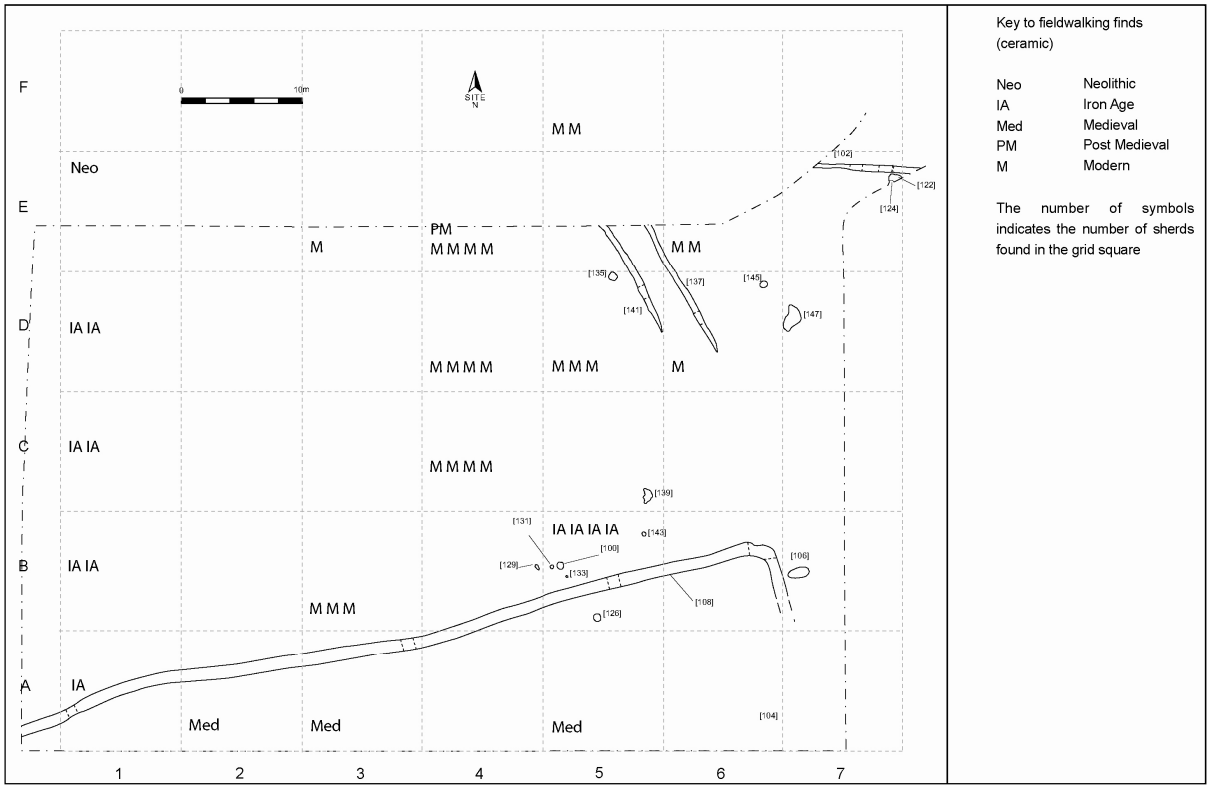

Figure 17: Ceramics recovered during the fieldwalking.

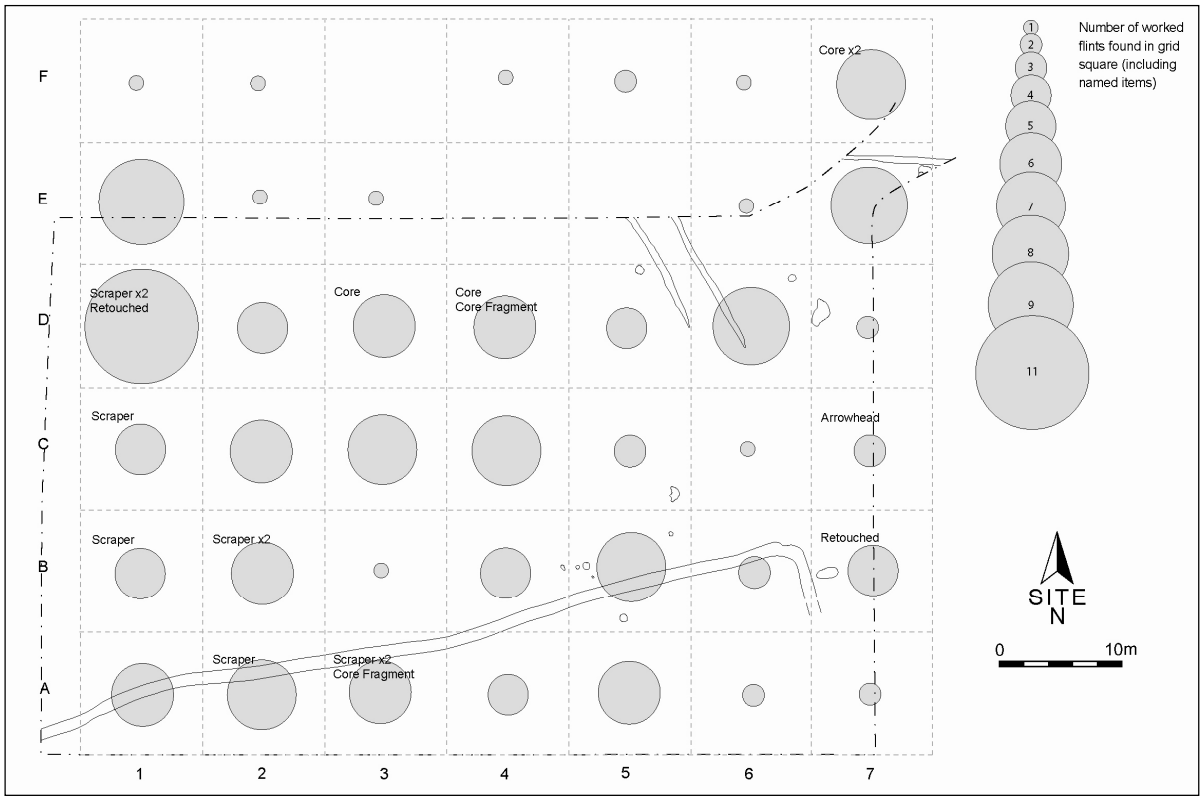

Figure 18: Lithics recovered during fieldwalking and topsoil stripping of the Compost Pad site. The grid represents the area stripped prior to archaeological involvement.

The ceramics recovered can be summarised as follows (the Prehistoric material is discussed in Appendix 6):

Date	Neolithic	Iron Age	Medieval	Post Medieval	Modern
No. of sherds	1	11	3	1	24

As illustrated in Figure 17, many of the ceramic finds consisted of modern and medieval material; no such material was found within any of the excavated features. The medieval material was only found along the southern edge of the site.

Fieldwalking also produced a range of Prehistoric material:

i. Iron-Age pottery (and a single Neolithic sherd) scattered along the western edge of the site (Squares 1A, 1B, 1C and 1D).
ii. Iron-Age pottery grouped in the central south-east part of the site (Square 5B).

The flint recovered is discussed in more detail in Appendix 5 but can be summarised as follows:

Find	Worked flakes	Scrapers	Arrowheads	Cores	Core Fragments	Retouched
Number	135	9	1	4	2	2

The distribution of flint is shown in Figure 18. It was scattered across the site, although there was a trend for more material, in terms of both flakes and tools, to be found along the western edge of the examined area. The proposed Dirty Water Store lay to the south-west, here an area 20×27m was also stripped of topsoil (see Figure 15). No archaeological features were revealed, but a quantity of unstratified lithics was recovered (see Figure 19):

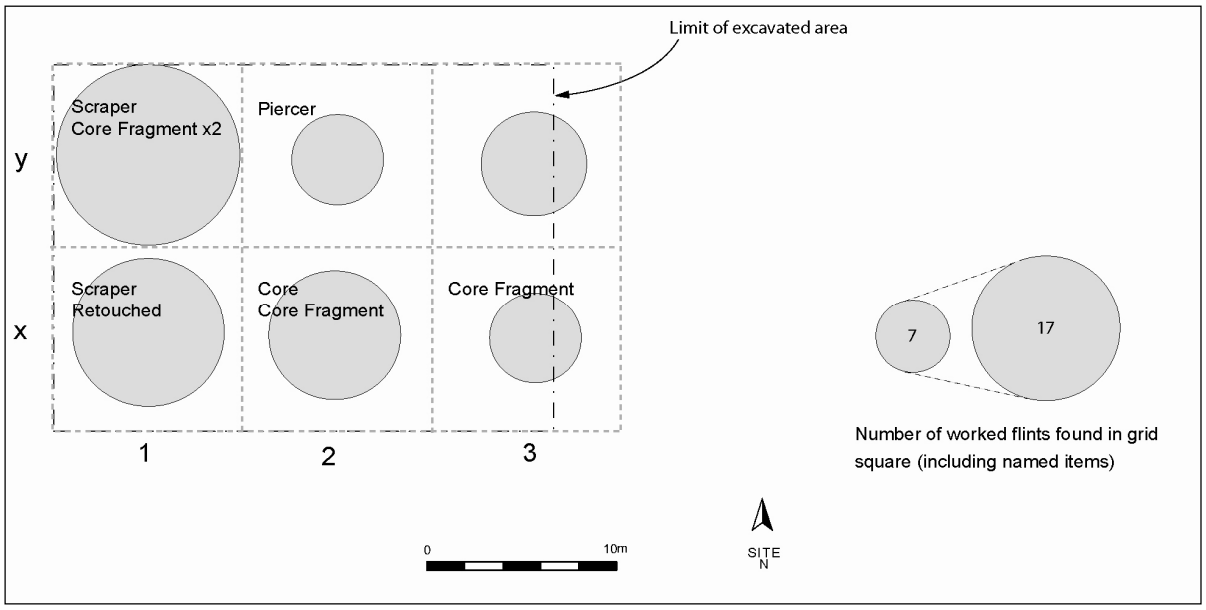

Figure 19: Lithics collected during the topsoil strip of the Dirty Water Store site.

Find	Worked flakes	Scrapers	Piercers	Cores	Core Fragments	Retouched
Number	4	2	1	1	4	1

The quantity of flint found in each grid square is similar to that found on the western edge of the Compost Pad, although it should be noted that the methods of collection are not directly comparable as all the topsoil stripping in the Dirty Water Store area was carried out under archaeological supervision.

Several hundred litres of soil were sieved from the Compost Pad and Willow Bed spoil heaps, but very few finds were recovered so the process was discontinued. The results of the spoil sieving are contained in the tables below.

Ceramics	Iron Age sherds	Medieval	Post-Medieval	Modern
Willow Beds	1	4	5	2
Compost Pad	2	0	6	**7**

Lithics	Flakes	Core Fragments	Cores	Retouched	Scrapers	Tribrach or Piercer
Willow Beds	23	-	1	-	-	1
Compost Pad	23	1	-	2	2	-

4.2 Excavation

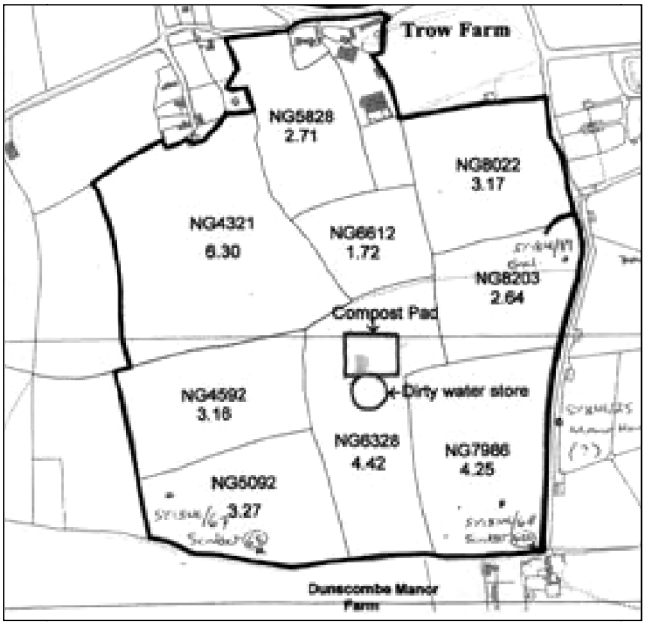

Figure 20: The location of the proposed Compost Pad and Dirty Water Store (DCHES).

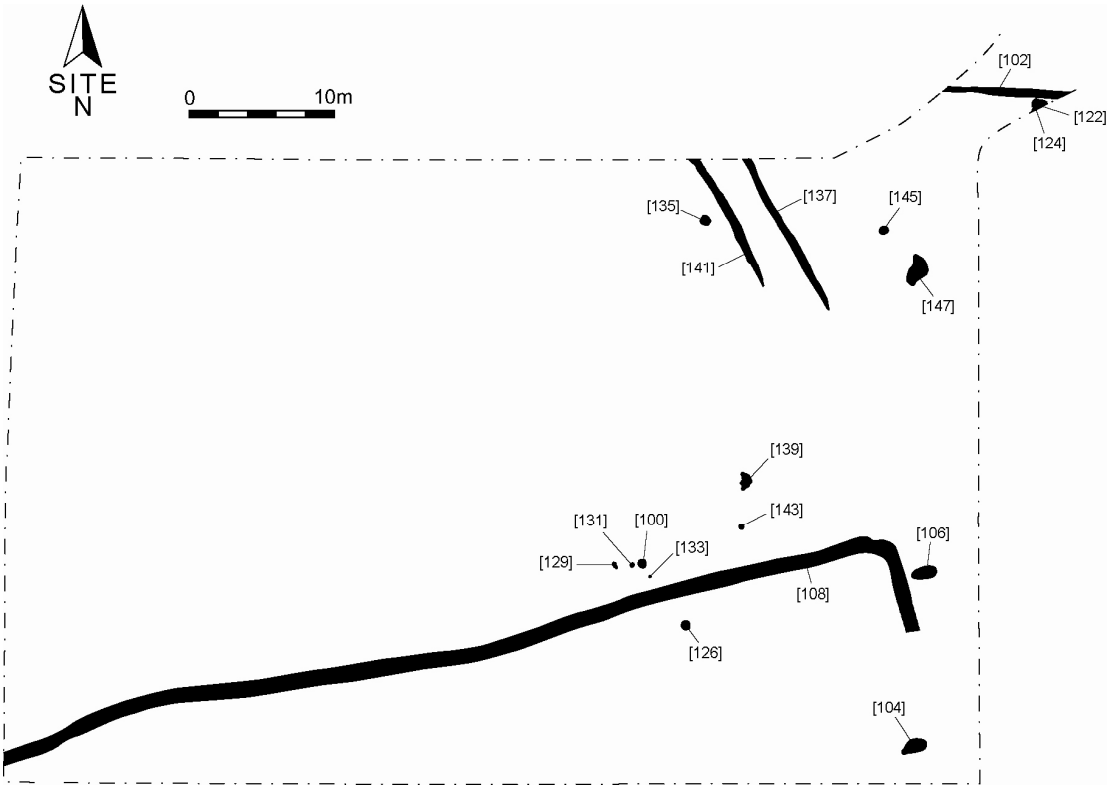

Figure 21: Distribution of archaeological features on the site of the Compost Pad.

The underlying subsoil was mostly a stiff orange-brown silt-clay with some flint nodule inclusions; to the west of the site the flint was far more common. The ploughsoil across the entire site was a greyish-brown clay silt 0.3-0.4m thick. The removal of this ploughsoil

revealed several features cut into the subsoil (Figure 21). These lay mainly in the eastern part of the Compost Pad and at the southern end of the Access Road to the east.

4.2.1 Linear features

Figure 22: A section through Linear [108], viewed from the east-north-east (scale 0.5m).

Ditch [108] (Figure 21, Figure 22 and Figure 23*)*
This feature ran 62m east-north-east from the south-west corner of the Compost Pad site before turning a right angle and running 5m south-south-east. It was 1m wide at the top and generally 0.3m deep; in profile it had fairly steep sides and a flat base. The sides and base were a little irregular. As it turned to the south-south-east the feature became shallower and petered out. It was filled with (109), a compact light greyish-brown clay-silt with occasional fragments of charcoal and flint nodules. This fill contained two struck flint flakes, three small and much abraded sherds of probable Iron Age pottery and a fragment of slag (see Appendices 6-7).

Gully [102] (Figure 21, Figure 24, Figure 25 and Figure 27)
This feature ran 9m east-west across the route of the Access Road into the north-east corner of the Compost Pad site. It was 0.4m wide and *c*.0.2m deep; it varied in profile from a flattened U-shape to flat base. It was filled with (103), a very firm grey clay-silt with occasional pieces of natural flint, charcoal fragments and small pieces of burnt clay. The fill also contained a worked flint flake, a sherd of Iron-Age pottery and a fragment of iron ore (see Appendix 7).

Gully [137] (Figure 21, Figure 26 and Figure 29)
This feature ran 11m south-east from the north edge of the Compost Pad site. It was 0.45m wide and 0.75m deep; it had a flat base and sides that sloped down at *c*.40°. The feature was truncated to the south. It was filled with (138), a fairly soft greyish-brown clay silt in which grit was common and flint rare. This fill also contained a worked flint flake and a piece of vitrified material (see Appendix 7).

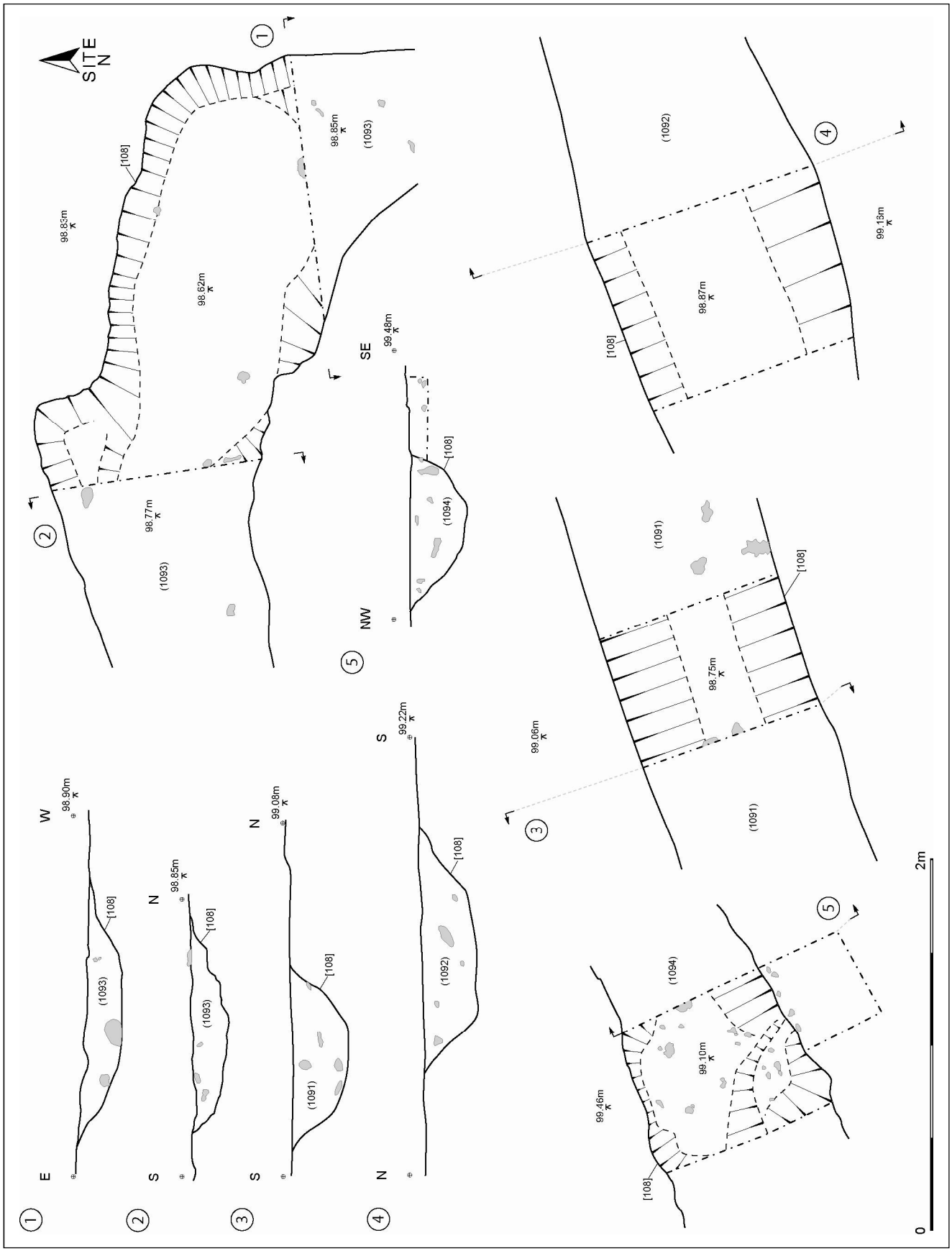

Figure 23: Plan and sections through linear feature [108].

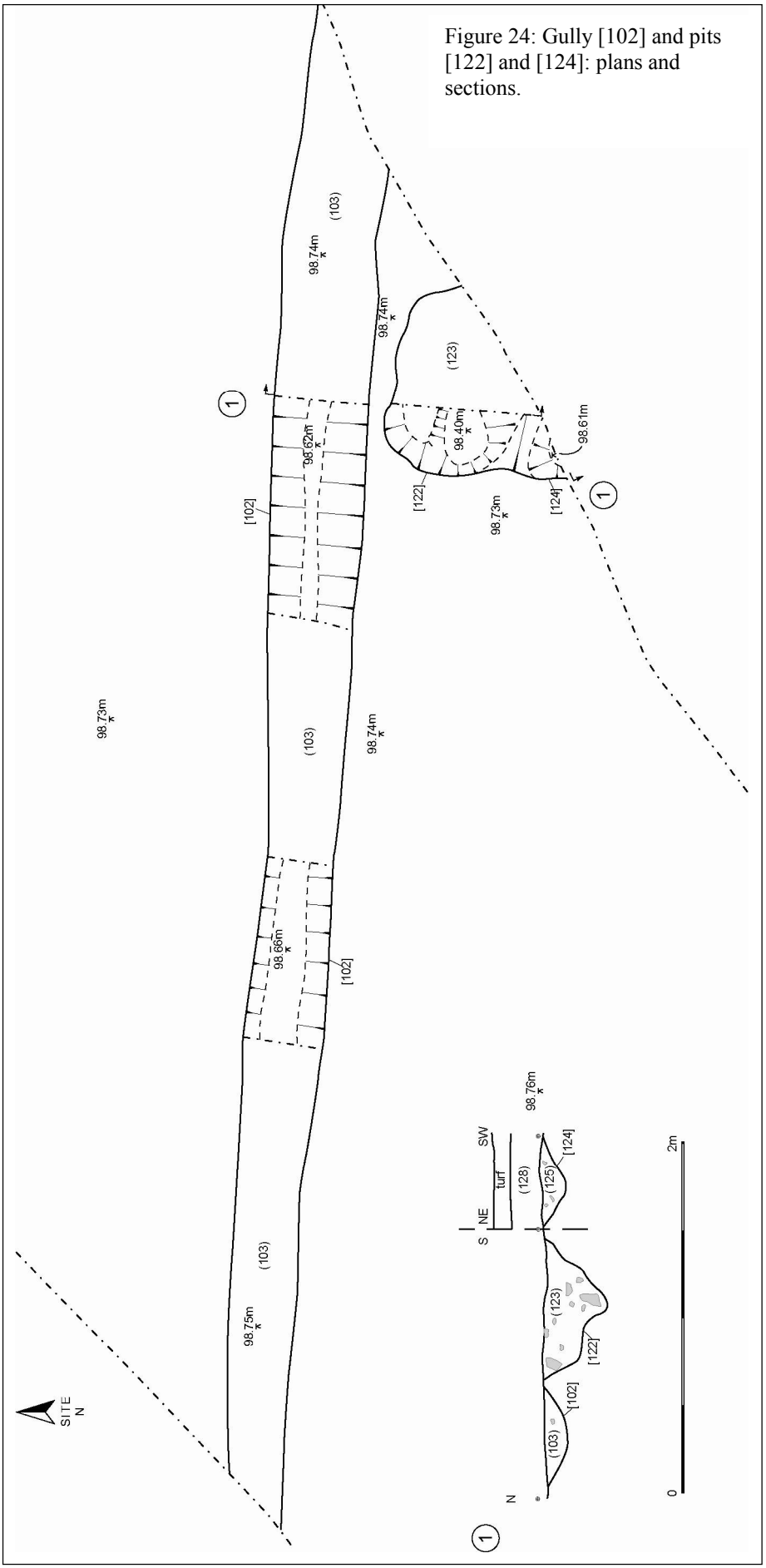

Figure 24: Gully [102] and pits [122] and [124]: plans and sections.

Figure 25: Gully [102], viewed from the east (scale 1m).

Figure 26: Gully [137], viewed from the south-east (scale 0.5m).

Figure 27: From left to right: gully [102], pit [122] and pit [124], viewed from the west; all these features contained waste that could be related to iron smelting (scale 0.5m).

Gully [141] (Figure 21, Figure 28 and Figure 29)

This feature ran 9m south-east from the north edge of the Compost Pad site; it ran 2.5m to the west of [137] and parallel to that feature. It was 0.65m wide and <0.15m deep; the base was flat with sloping sides. It was filled with (142), a friable grey-brown clay-silt with some lumps of firm orange clay and some natural flint. There was also a single worked flint flake.

Figure 28: Gully [141], viewed from the south-east (scale 0.5m).

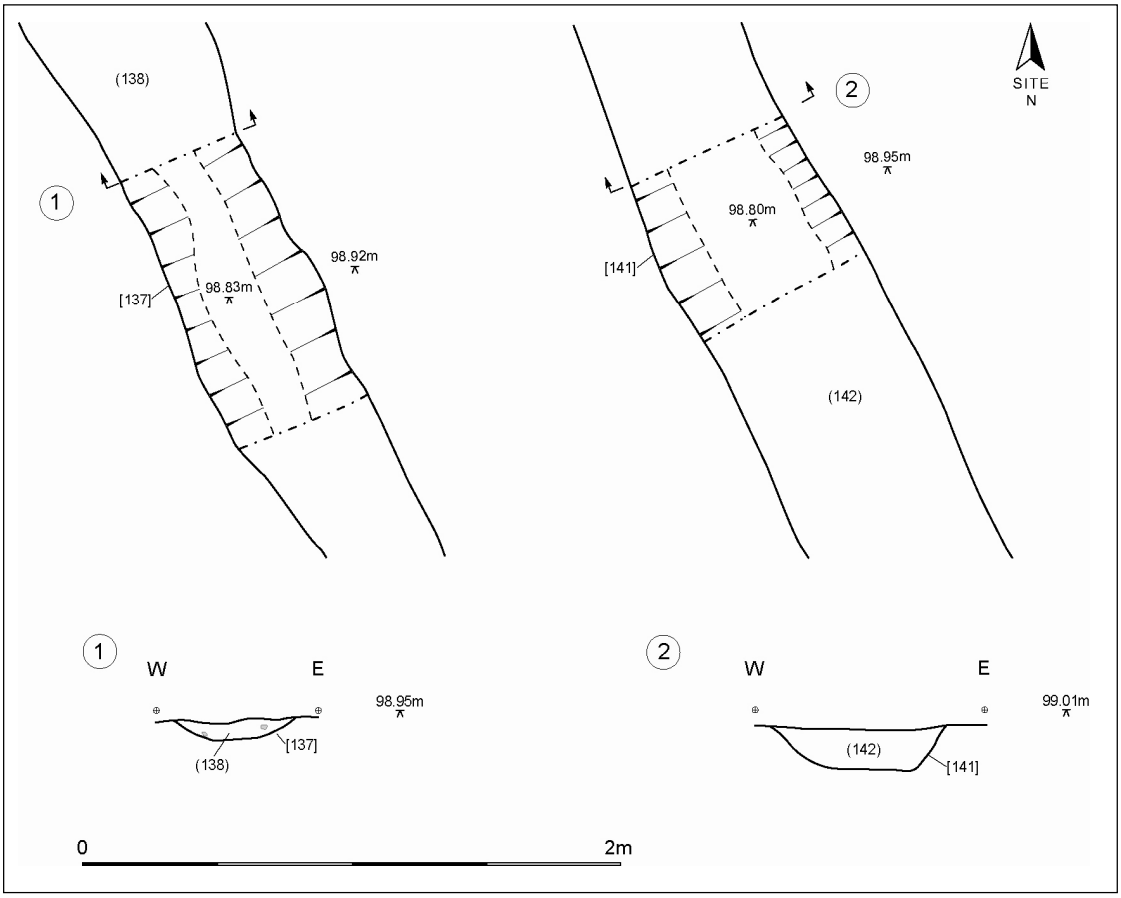

Figure 29: Linear features [137] and [141]: plans and sections.

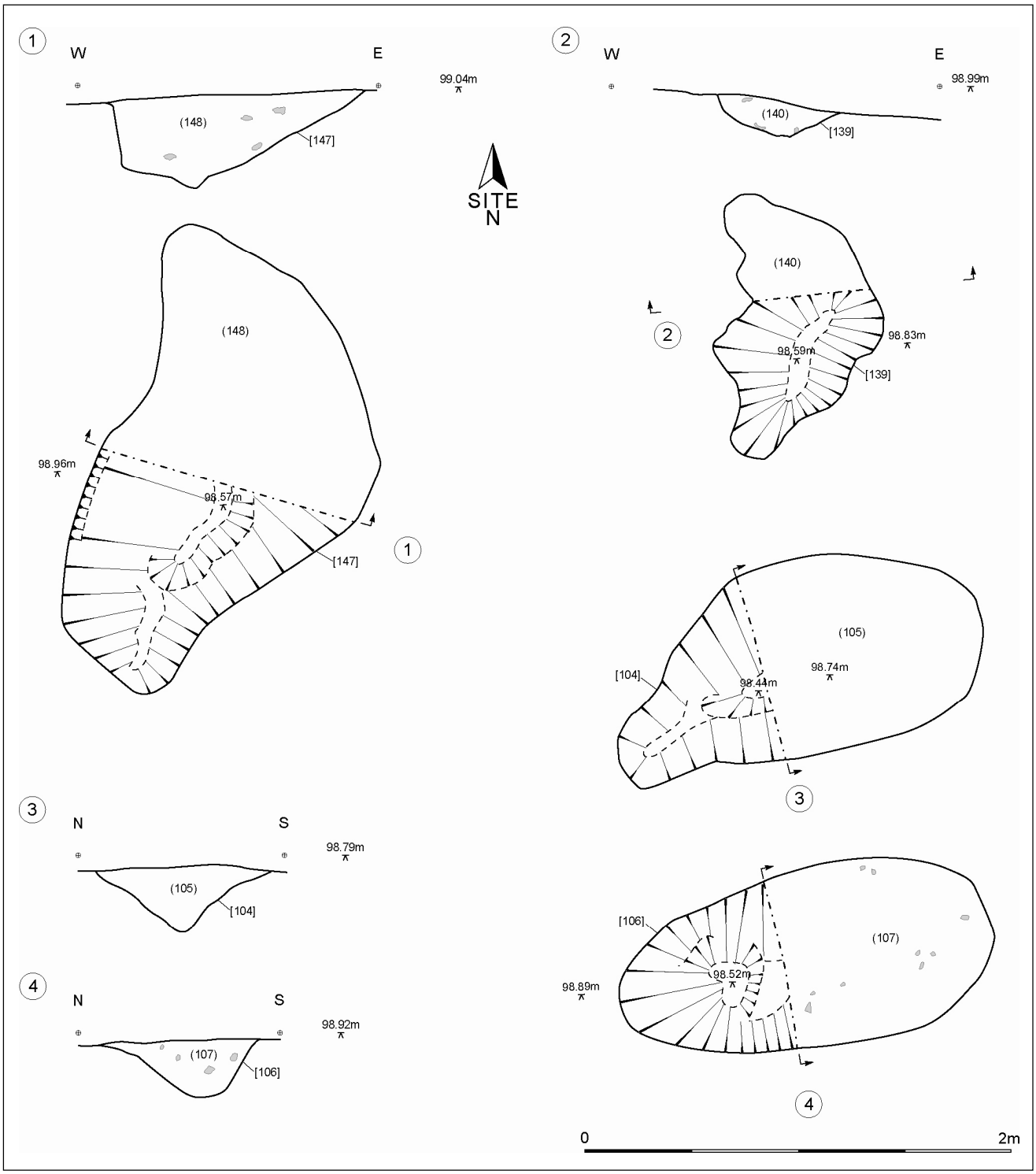

Figure 30: Elongated pits: plans and sections.

4.2.2 Elongated Pits (Figure 21 & Figure 30)

Four, rather similar, pits lay within the eastern part of the Compost Pad site. All were somewhat irregular ovals and, with the exception of [106], tending toward being crescent-shaped. In profile they tended toward irregularity, with one side steeper than the other and a narrow, deep area toward their centre. Their details are tabulated below.

Cut No.	Fill No.	Alignment	Length	Width	Depth
[104]	105	WSW-ENE	1.5m	1m	0.30m
[106]	107	WSW-ENE	1.8m	0.8m	0.25m
[139]	140	N-S	1.3m	0.8m	0.15m
[147]	148	NNE-SSW	2.2m	1.2m	0.40m

All had similar fills: grey clay-silts with some flint inclusions. Artefactual material was not present. Such features would normally be interpreted as tree-throws.

4.2.3 Small Pits (Figure 21, Figure 31, Figure 32, Figure 33 & Figure 34)

Scattered across the eastern part of the Compost Pad site lay three circular features and a small sub-rectangular feature. Their details are tabulated below.

Cut No.	Fill No.	Diameter	Depth	Profile
[126]	127	0.6m	0.10m	Flat base
[135]	136	0.8×0.65m	0.25m	Flat base
[143]	144	0.3m	0.20m	U-shaped
[145]	146	0.55m	0.20m	V-shaped

Figure 31: Pit [126], viewed from the east (scale 0.5m).

The fill of [126] was (127), a dark grey to black soft clay silt, rich in charcoal fragments with flint inclusions, some burnt; it also contained a struck flint flake. In places the natural clay around the edges of this feature was pink or orange in colour, indicative of oxidation due to heating. Feature [143] was filled with (144), a soft grey-brown slightly clayey silt containing several large flint nodules and four sherds of Iron Age pottery. The fill of [145] was a fairly

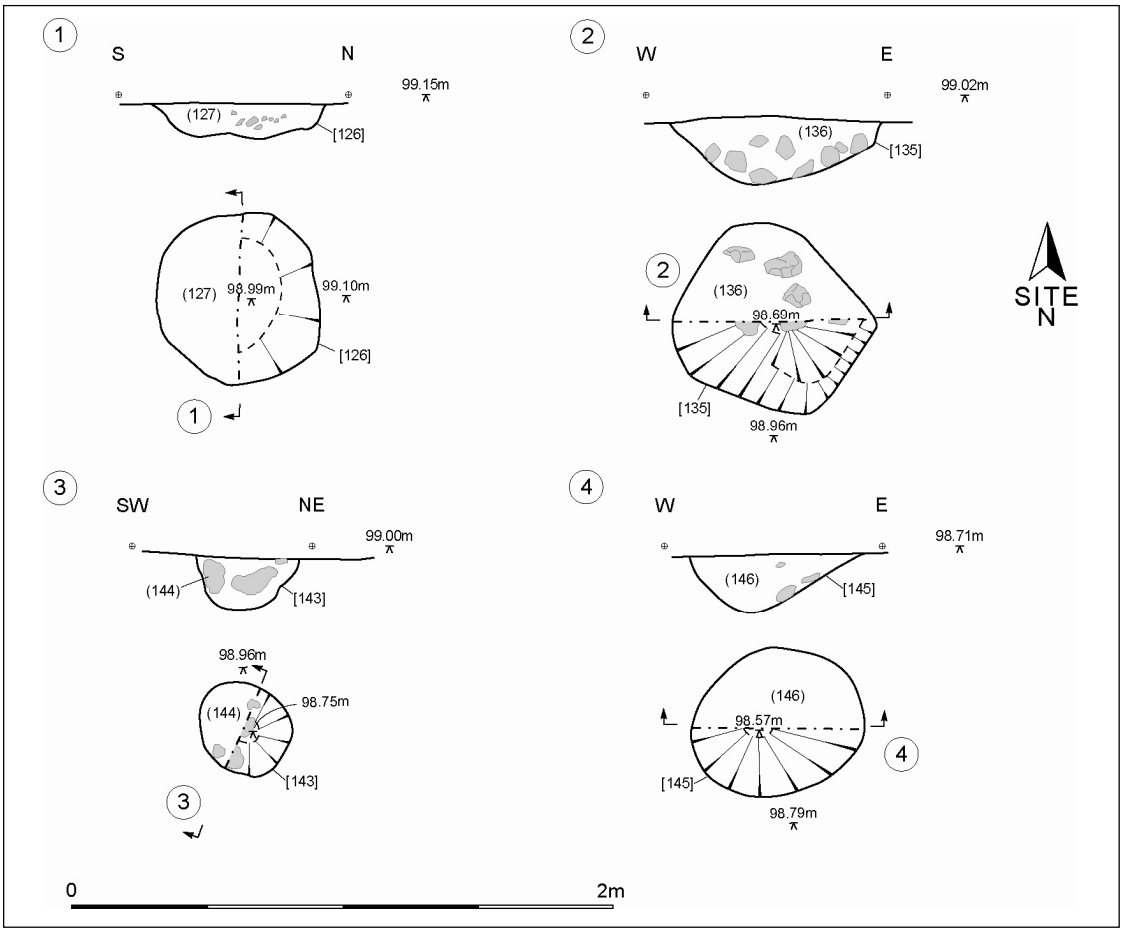

Figure 32: Small pits: plans and sections.

Figure 33: Feature [143], viewed from the south-east. Note the large flint nodules in the fill, perhaps post-packing (scale 0.5m).

Figure 34: Feature [135], viewed from the south (scale 0.5m).

soft grey-brown clay-silt (146) with some pockets of firm orange clay, soft light-grey silt and natural flints.

In the north part of the Compost Pad site lay [135], a sub-rectangular cut 0.8×0.65m and 0.25m deep with rounded corners, steep sides and a flattish base. It was filled with (136), a compact, dark grey-brown clay silt with frequent flint nodules 100-200mm in diameter (with one 300mm diameter).

4.2.4 Features on the Access Road (Figure 35)

About 60m to the east of the Compost Pad site lay a group of six features revealed during groundworks for the Access Road. The fills of these features were all very similar: compact grey-orange (often mottled between these extremes) clay-silts with some inclusions of sub-angular natural flint and no artefactual material. The morphology of these features is summarised in the table below.

Cut No.	Fill No.	Shape in plan	Dimensions	Profile
[116]	110	Irregular, sub-rectangular	2.5m NW-SE <1.2m SE-NW <0.5m deep	Irregular, to SE
[117]	111	Sub-circular	0.85m SW-NE 0.75m SE-NW <0.25m deep	Near vertical sides, concave base
[118]	112	Irregular	<0.5m across <200mm deep	Near vertical sides, concave base
[119]	113	Sub-circular	0.9m NE-SW 1.0m NW-SE <0.55m deep	Near vertical sides, base shallow bowl
[120]	114	Sub-circular	0.7m N-S by 0.6m E-W <0.3m deep	Steep sides, concave base

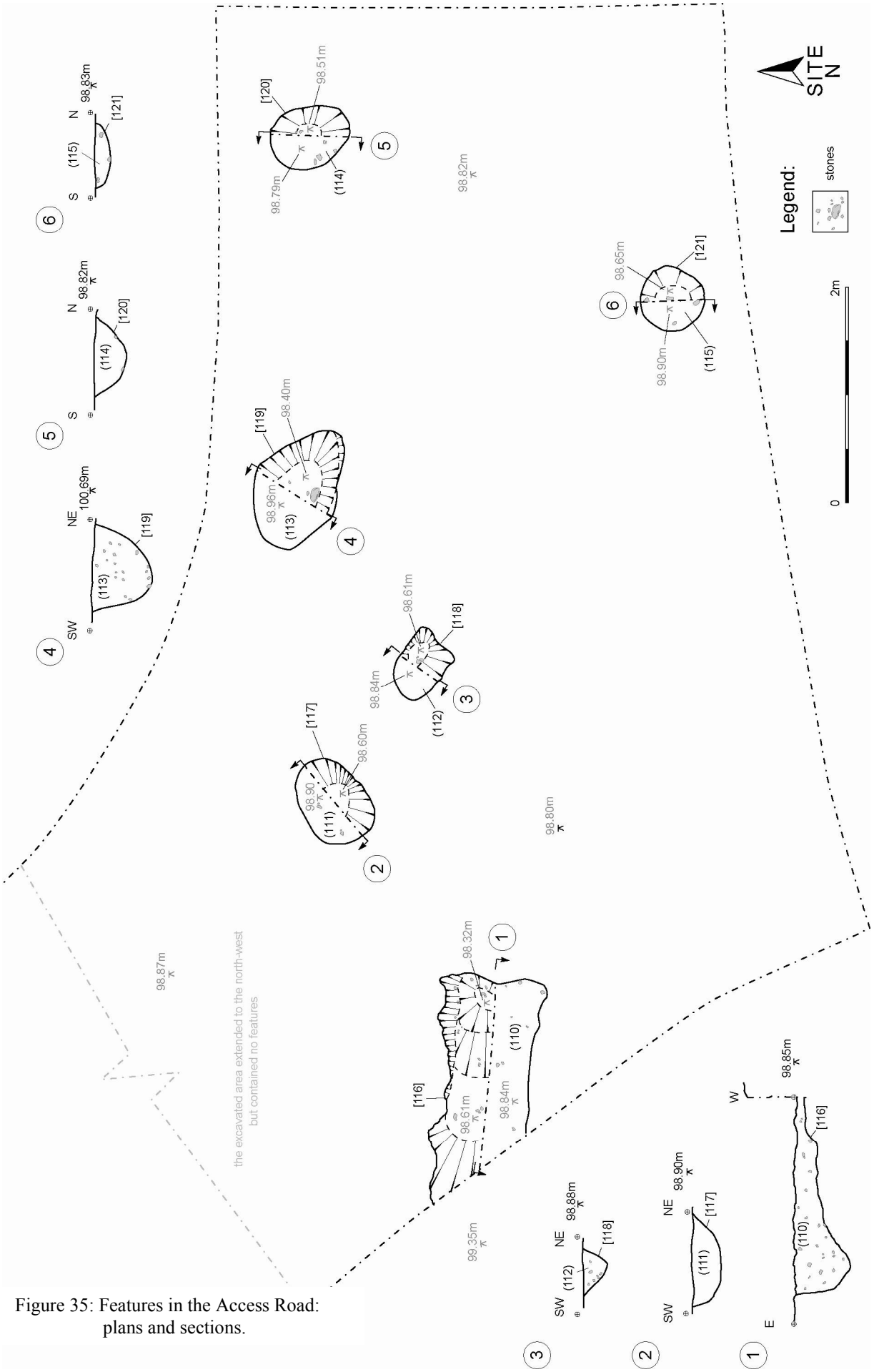

Figure 35: Features in the Access Road: plans and sections.

Figure

4.2.5 North-East Pit Group (Figure 21, Figure 24 & Figure 27)

On the route of the Access Road in the north-east corner of the Compost Pad, part of two intercutting pits [122] and [124] were revealed extending under the south east edge of the excavation. The visible part of [122] was sub-rectangular in plan, measuring 0.8×0.5m across and 0.35m deep; the sides were steep and stepped down in the south-west part of the feature. That part of [124] that was visible was a rounded cut 0.3×0.15m across and 0.15m deep. [122] was filled with (123), a firm grey silt-clay containing abundant natural flints, plentiful charcoal fragments and occasional pieces of heat-affected clay and stone as well as a fragment of iron ore (see Appendix 7). This fill also contained 11 worked flint flakes and 23 sherds of Iron-Age pottery. This included 3 sherds of a Middle Iron Age Gabbroic fabric from the Lizard in Cornwall; these sherds included a base that had been trimmed to form a disk, the edge of which was abraded, suggesting it had been curated (see Appendix 6; Fabric 3).

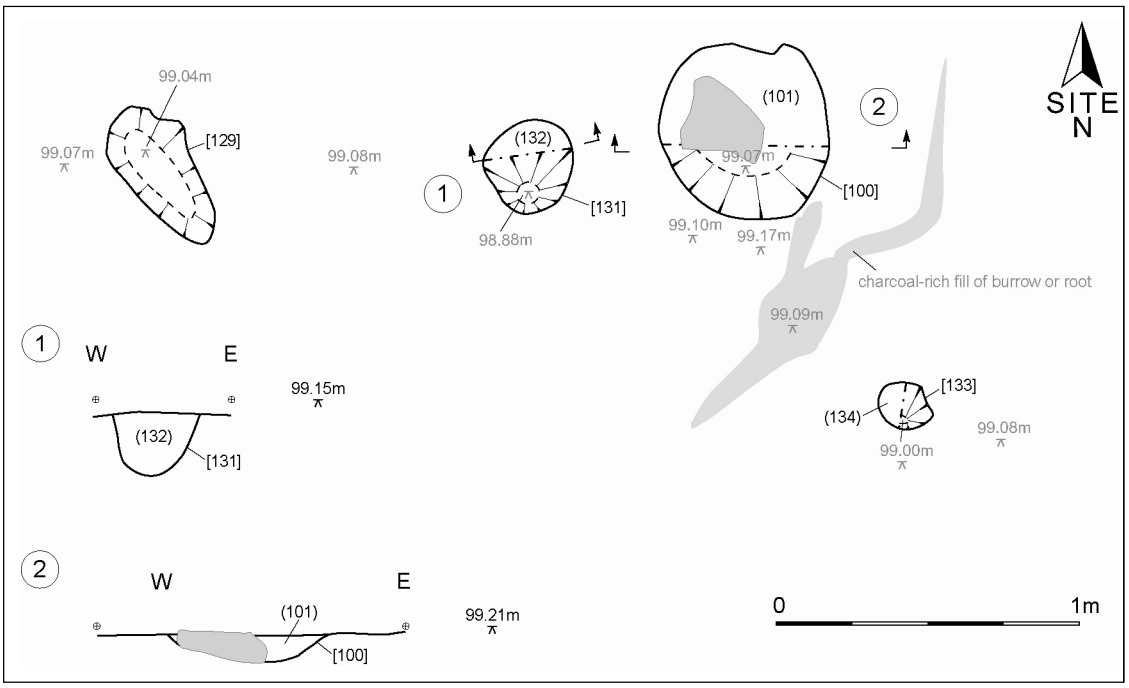

Figure 36: The central pit group: plans and sections. Sections of [129] and [133] were not drawn, the former being less than 40mm deep and the latter being of natural origin.

The fill of [124] was also a grey silt-clay (125), with 4 sherds of Iron-Age pottery as well as occasional pieces of heat-affected clay and stone. During the excavation of these features it was noted that some heat-affected clay and stone was also present in the layer of soil (128) above them. Seven pieces of iron slag (25-55mm across) came from this layer (Appendix 7). Context (128) also contained 13 sherds of Iron Age pottery. The Iron-Age pottery in (125) and (128) included one and two sherds respectively of Late Iron Age material thought to be a South-East Dorset Black-Burnished ware from the Poole Harbour area (see Appendix 6, Fabric 6).

4.2.6 Central Pit Group (Figure 21, Figure 36 & Figure 37)

In the middle of the Compost Pad site laid a group of four features, the details of which are tabulated below.

Cut No.	Fill No.	Shape in plan	Dimensions	Profile
[100]	101	Round	0.55m diameter <100mm deep	Concave
[129]	130	Irregular oval	<0.4m NW-SE <50mm deep	Irregular concave
[131]	132	Round	280mm diameter <250mm deep	Vertical sides, concave base deeper to S

Figure 37: Feature [100], viewed from the south (scale 0.5m).

The fills of all these features were brown-grey clay silts with fragments of charcoal and natural flint inclusions. (101) contained four worked flint flakes and 18 sherds of Neolithic pottery; (130) included four worked flint flakes and 7 Neolithic pottery sherds.

4.3 The Finds

The finds are listed and briefly discussed in general terms below; their presence in individual contexts has been examined in the text relating to each feature. More detailed, specialist analysis is to be found in the relevant appendices to the rear of this report.

4.3.1 Lithics

323 pieces of worked flint with a total weight of 4404.5g were recovered. 271 pieces derive from the topsoil within the footprint of a composting facility and 25 pieces from the spoil heap from the planting of Willow Beds to the south. The excavated features produced 27 worked flint flakes. Amongst the topsoil of the area of the compost heaps were the following:

Lithic Tool	**No.**	**Weight** (grams)
Piercer	2	73
Retouched	5	80
Oblique Arrowhead	1	6
Scraper	13	358
Core	6	379
Core Fragment	7	454

The analysis of these flints (Appendix 5) concludes that the assemblage is rather similar to others in the East Devon coastal area and that it probably relates to late Neolithic to early Bronze Age activity.

4.3.2 Ceramics

The ceramic assemblage consisted of a scatter of late Neolithic, Iron Age, medieval and post-medieval/modern material in the site topsoil and a quantity of Neolithic and Iron Age pottery in certain excavated contexts detailed below:

Context	**No. of sherds**	**Weight** (grams)	**Notes**
101	18	98	Neolithic
103	1	3	Iron Age
123	23	126	Iron Age
125	4	17	Iron Age
128	13	58	Iron Age
130	7	40	Neolithic
144	4	100	Iron Age

Analysis of the Prehistoric material (Appendix 6) found that the Neolithic material dated to the early Neolithic and the Iron Age material dated from the end of the Early Iron Age *c*.300BC to the Later Iron Age in the 1st century AD. Petrographic analysis suggests that the production of the Neolithic pottery is fairly local, although some may have come from the Lyme Regis area about 15km to the east. Most of the Iron Age pottery is also locally produced, although one fabric contains Gabbroic clay from the Lizard in Cornwall, and another came from the Poole Harbour region in Dorset.

4.3.3 Technological Debris

A small quantity of material suggestive of craft or industrial activity was found on site. This material was mostly concentrated in the north-east corner of the site in contexts (123) (128) and (138). It was examined by L. Bray and G. Juleff (see Appendix 7) with the exception of the fired clay in (128) which was analysed by H. Quinnell (see Appendix 6). It was concluded that all these artefacts could be associated with an activity requiring a high temperature, probably iron smelting.

Context	**Number**	**Material**
103	1	Iron Ore
123	1	Iron Ore
123	5	Heated stone
128	7	Slag
128	4	Fired clay
138	1	Vitrified refractory material
5B	1	Vitrified refractory material
7A	1	Slag

4.4 Interpretation

It is clear that a degree of truncation caused by modern and earlier ploughing has occurred. In addition, as most of the features were very shallow and their fills contained little or no artefactual material, it is inevitable that much of the interpretation cannot be specific or detailed.

4.4.1 Field walking and spoil sieving

Pottery – topsoil
The very limited quantity of medieval and modern material scattered across the site indicates the absence of any occupation or land use beyond the agricultural at this time. The very small quantity of medieval material suggests that even arable cultivation was limited. The concentration of medieval sherds along the southern edge of the site, and the absence of modern material in this area, indicates differences in land use. If feature [108] is a field boundary – as seems likely – then it may have marked the division between arable and pastoral agriculture at various times; the field name *mare* (from *gemære* meaning boundary) may be significant in this context. However, the very small amount of medieval and modern material makes any interpretation of significance speculative at best.

As noted above, the Prehistoric pottery was found in two groups, consisting almost entirely of Iron Age material, with a single Neolithic sherd in Group 1.

Group 1 does not correlate with any archaeological features observed in excavation, but may relate to Prehistoric activity to the west of the excavated area. The linear features picked up by the geophysical survey (Figure 13& Figure 14) lying 10-30m to the west of the site might be associated with this. It should be noted that Middle Neolithic pottery is very rare in Devon, with only five other examples known in the county (see Appendix 6).

Group 2 appears to be associated with a set of nearby features: [100] [108] [126] [129] [131] [133] and [143]. The four sherds of Iron-Age pottery from feature [143] were of the same type as that in Group 2, and this would suggest they were derived from the fills of Pit [143] and disturbed either by agriculture or earlier groundworks related to the current development.

Flint – topsoil
The scatter of flint across the site is similar to that found in fieldwalking exercises elsewhere along the East Devon coast and is indicative of Prehistoric activity in the later Neolithic to Early Bronze Age (Appendix 5). As with the Prehistoric pottery, more flint flakes and tools were found along the western edge of the site, again indicating Prehistoric activity beyond the western limit of excavation. The number of flint flakes and tools found during the topsoil strip for the storage tanks to the south-west is similar to that of the west side of the compost pad, adding to the impression of activity in this area. The lithics collected during the soil-sieving exercise from the spoil heaps of the earlier strip of the Compost Pad and Willow Bed sites fitted into this pattern.

4.4.2 Linear Features

Ditch [108]
An examination of the 19th century mapping (Figure 5 & Figure 6) indicates that this feature shares a common alignment with the historic fieldscape, and the truncated return to the south-east also runs toward the corner of a field just outside the excavated area. It seems likely therefore that ditch [108] belonged to a historic field boundary, possibly related to the late medieval or early post-medieval enclosure of an open field system. As noted above, this field

boundary may mark the division between pastoral and arable agricultural practices, as medieval pottery – probably derived from manuring practices – is only found to the south of this feature. The few flint flakes and scraps of Iron Age pottery found in the fill of this ditch are typical of those found scattered across the site and are probably residual. The truncation of this feature to the south-east is probably due to recent ploughing.

Gullies [102] [137] and [141]
These features lay on the north-eastern edge of the excavated area, and as such it is difficult to draw firm conclusions concerning these features. Both [102] and [137] contained some material similar to that in the nearby pits [122] and [124], and thus they could be related to late Prehistoric activities in the vicinity (probably industrial, see the interpretation of [122] and [124] below). However, similar material is also present in the soil layer (128) overlying these pits, and so its presence in the fills of these gullies may be accidental. As gullies [137] and [141] run in parallel *c*.2.5m apart, this may indicate they are the flanking ditches of a former hedgebank, and if so their course suggests they met the corner of [108]. The shallowness of the gullies and the truncation of [137] and [141] to the south-east is indicative of damage by ploughing.

4.4.3 Elongated Pits [104] [106] [139] and [147]

The somewhat irregular form of these features, and the complete absence of artefactual material in their fills, suggests a natural origin, probably as tree-throws.

4.4.4 Small Pits [126] [135] [143] and [145]

These isolated features are difficult to interpret. The presence of struck and burnt flint in [126] indicates a Prehistoric date, whilst the abundant charcoal in its fill and oxidation around the cut probably indicates a fire *in situ*. As no baking or reduction of the natural clay has occurred, this fire was not particularly large or intense and is unlikely to be the product of industrial activity, but is perhaps best interpreted as a campfire or domestic hearth. However, there are no features nearby indicative of associated structures.

The pottery in [143] indicates an Iron Age date. The form of this feature and the presence of numerous large flint nodules are suggestive of a posthole with packing, although examination of the surrounding area showed no further similar features which could indicate the presence of a structure on the site.

4.4.5 Features on the Access Road [116] [117] [118] [119] [120] and [121]

The clean and homogeneous fills of these features suggests they were not open for any great period of time before being backfilled. Beyond that it is difficult to draw any further conclusions as to the purpose and dating of this collection of small- to medium-sized pits.

4.4.6 North East Pit Group [122] and [124]

The pottery found within these pits and within the layer immediately above them (128) was locally derived and generally suggestive of a Middle Iron Age date for these features. As noted above, the assemblage includes pottery that incorporates small quantities Gabbroic clay derived from a source on the Lizard Peninsula in Cornwall, as well as material from south-east Dorset.

The other finds within these features and layer (128) indicate iron smelting took place nearby. There are a total of seven pieces of slag, one of iron ore, five heated stones and four fragments of fired clay within (123), (124) and (128). Furthermore (103) and (138), the fills of nearby gullies, contained one (possibly residual) piece of iron ore and one fragment of vitrified

material. The specialist analysis (Appendix 7) suggests that ore from the local Greensand was being smelted using non-slag tapping technology, e.g. the slag was allowed to accumulate within the furnace and was not extracted during smelting. The heated stone and fired clay may have formed part of the structure of a dismantled furnace. Fragments of slag, ore and vitrified material found elsewhere on the site are probably residual, having been dispersed by agricultural activity.

The excavation did not reveal any structure or location that could be interpreted as a furnace or smelting site. The earlier geophysical survey (Substrata 2007) covered the entire field containing the development, but did not detect any sites of this nature. Given that the geophysical signature of an iron-smelting furnace is highly distinctive it seems very likely that any smelting took place beyond the limits of the development.

4.4.7 Central Pit Group [100] [129] [131] and [133]

The pottery in pit [129] is of Early Neolithic date; its deposition in a small concave pit is not uncommon, with a similar example excavated at Long Range, west of Honiton (see Appendix 6). The pottery from Feature [100], although of a different fabric, is of a similar date. The form of Feature [132] is indicative of a posthole. The undercut nature of Feature [134] and the presence of other, elongated and irregular disturbances around these features is suggestive of roots or animal burrows. Overall, this group of features seem to be the product of activity in the Early Neolithic period and subject to later disturbance. The small size and number of features, and the disturbance in the area, makes any further interpretation difficult.

5.0 Conclusions

5.1 Archaeological Summary

Archaeological monitoring at the Compost Pad site at Trow Farm revealed evidence for Early Neolithic to Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age activity. There was also occupation in the Mid- to Late Iron Age associated with iron smelting. The distribution of the finds in the topsoil would suggest more intense Prehistoric activity to the west. The presence of Iron Age furnace waste in the north-east of the site suggests that the furnace itself lies beyond the limits of the excavated area, and a more extensive geophysical survey might reveal its location. Any additional development in the area would necessitate further archaeological monitoring.

5.2 Conclusion

The archaeology of the site indicates the area was occupied and used – although not necessarily continuously – over an extremely long period. Pottery dating to the Neolithic period was retrieved during the fieldwalking exercise, and from the fills of several features. Evidence for Neolithic occupation is hardly common in Devon and the Donkey Sanctuary joins a very small group of sites that have produced comparable material. Structural evidence is extremely rare; sites are usually marked by a spread of semi-regular or irregular pits conforming to no overall pattern. On this basis, it is likely that many of the undated pits will be Neolithic in date. At least four of the excavated pits are probably tree-throws; a relatively common feature on Neolithic sites in Devon (see SWARCH *forthcoming*).

Early Neolithic material was recovered from pits [100] and [129]. These were both small, shallow features <100mm deep. Pit [100] is similar to another Early Neolithic example excavated at the Long Range site (Fitzpatrick *et al.* 1999, 138) and falls within a relatively common tradition of deposition is bowl-shaped pits (see Thomas 1999). One of the vessels featured an out-turned rim, a feature more commonly encountered in South Wales, which marks this vessel out as slightly more unusual.

A single unstratified sherd of Middle Neolithic Peterborough Ware was also recovered, and this joins a very select group of eight sites in Devon (Castle Hill, Honiton; Westward Ho!; Bray Valley Quarry; Bovey Lane, Beer; Broadsands; Knowle Lane, Cullompton; and Topsham – see Quinnell 2007).

The later Neolithic is represented by the large oblique arrowhead from Grid 7C. While this was the only closely datable artefact in the flint assemblage, analysis of the assemblage would indicate that most of the rest of the lithics also date from this period. While not closely datable, the miniature Tribrach – if correctly identified – is an exceptionally rare artefact. The distribution of the lithics would suggest the site lies on the edge of a settlement or activity area, located to the west of the site.

There was an intensification of use of the site in the Iron Age, with a number of features producing Iron Age pottery and metal smelting debris. The overall quantity of material remains small and is characterised by unstratified material and material from irregular pits. Most of the pottery is of Middle Iron Age date, with some later material. The fabric analysis indicates most of the material was locally produced, but some material from the Poole Harbour area of Dorset, and the Lizard Peninsula in Cornwall was also recovered. This would demonstrate the local population had access to wider regional resources, but is not unexpected given that Beer flint has a very wide distribution across the South West.

Later occupation is restricted to unstratified medieval and post-medieval material, probably derived from manuring practices, though many of the linear features excavated probably relate to the layout of the historic fieldscape.

To conclude, the excavation at the Trow Farm site revealed evidence for Neolithic and Iron Age activity spanning millennia. The lithic assemblage may be fairly typical of East Devon, but the ceramic assemblage represents a small but important group of Neolithic and Iron Age material. Contemporary features were restricted to relatively small and often irregular pits, including what would normally be interpreted as tree-throws, but this is entirely representative of the period in question. The excavated site covers only a relatively small area, and it is highly likely any further development will encounter comparable archaeological remains.

5.3 Concluding Comments *by Henrietta Quinnell*

The significance of the archaeological data from the Donkey Sanctuary lies in its apparent *unimportance*. Most projects that reach publication are concerned with sites of a particular type, such as houses or hillforts. The data from the Donkey Sanctuary relates to activities, with pits and with artefacts dropped or deposited, but with no context in which that activity was taking place. For the Neolithic – and for the Early Bronze Age if the flints do extend that far forward in time – the national scarcity of recognisable house sites and the frequency of pits has allowed these pits to become a distinctive form of 'site' (eg Thomas 1999, 64-74), marking locales that were used for short periods by communities who moved around their landscapes. Sometimes, as at Wayland's, Tiverton, a pit contains artefacts which have been curated and demonstrates structured deposition. The publication of Wayland's (Leverett and Quinnell 2010) gives details of this and other Early Neolithic pit sites, Long Range, West Hill, Hayes Farm, Clyst Honiton, and Willand Road, Cullompton: there is also a pit at Pixies Parlour, Ottery St Mary (Quinnell forthcoming). At the Donkey Sanctuary no lithics were identified as being definitely contemporary with the Early Neolithic pits, but it is possible that some pieces of debitage were of this date.

The Middle Neolithic Peterborough sherd P2 is effectively unstratified, but is insufficiently robust to have spent very long in the topsoil. Three of the nine sites with Peterborough pottery are of pits: Topsham (Smith 1975), OTA 2.03, Ottery St Mary, and FTC 2.02, Staverton (Quinnell forthcoming). It is quite possible that the some of the lithic assemblage is contemporary with it, although the oblique arrowhead more probably would be rather later and contemporary with Grooved Ware, the Neolithic pottery style which succeeds Peterborough in the 3rd millennium BC.

The lithic assemblage can only be assigned to the tradition which spans the Later Neolithic and the Early Bronze Age, broadly from the late 4th millennium to the mid 2nd millennium BC. It made use of locally-occurring surface flint. Tingle (see Appendix 5) refers to several scatters of this material found within a kilometre or so of the Donkey Sanctuary and has commented elsewhere (1998) on the frequency of this material in coastal East Devon. His comments are supported by data held by the Devon Historic Environment Record. The opportunity of investigation provided by the works at the Donkey Sanctuary reminds us that excavation on the site of any of these similar scatters might be similarly productive. It may reasonably be assumed that, by the 3rd millennium BC, substantial breaks in the forest cover had become established in East Devon, with some, as at the Donkey Santuary, having first been opened in the 4th millennium.

After the Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age, data for the use of the Donkey Santuary locale is absent until, probably, a date late in the Early Iron Age, broadly the 4th century BC. Several sherds in layer (128) appear to be of this date and the gulley [102] may also be of this date: however the sherd it contains is abraded and the possibility of redeposition cannot be ruled out.

The gabbroic base from pit [122] was made in the Middle Iron Age, sometime between the 3rd century BC and the 1st century AD. It has, however, been trimmed and used as an artefact and may have been deposited at some date subsequent to its manufacture. Pit [122] can only be dated broadly to the Middle Iron Age. Pit [124] contains sherds of Dorset Fabric 6, which currently cannot be dated in the area before the 1st century AD. Pit [122] and gulley [102], if its Iron Age sherd is not redeposited, are linked by the inclusion of iron-working debris to the small spread of this material in layer (128) and in broadly unstratified contexts. The nature of the iron working, using very local material, appears appropriate to the Iron Age although as Bray and Juleff point out (Appendix 7), the actual working was not carried out on the site of the excavation. Evidence for iron working has been found at the hillforts of Blackbury and Hembury, although it is currently unclear whether any at the latter site predates its occupation by the Roman army (Manning and Quinnell 2009, 128-9). There is also some evidence for iron working in the Middle/Late Iron Age settlement which predates the villa at Seaton (Silvester 1981,77-8). The scatter of features, pottery and iron working debris at the Donkey Sanctuary from the last four centuries of the Iron Age indicates the presence of settlement(s) somewhere in the vicinity. This scatter probably indicates activity in an adjacent area of enclosures and fields of which gulley [102] may have formed a part.

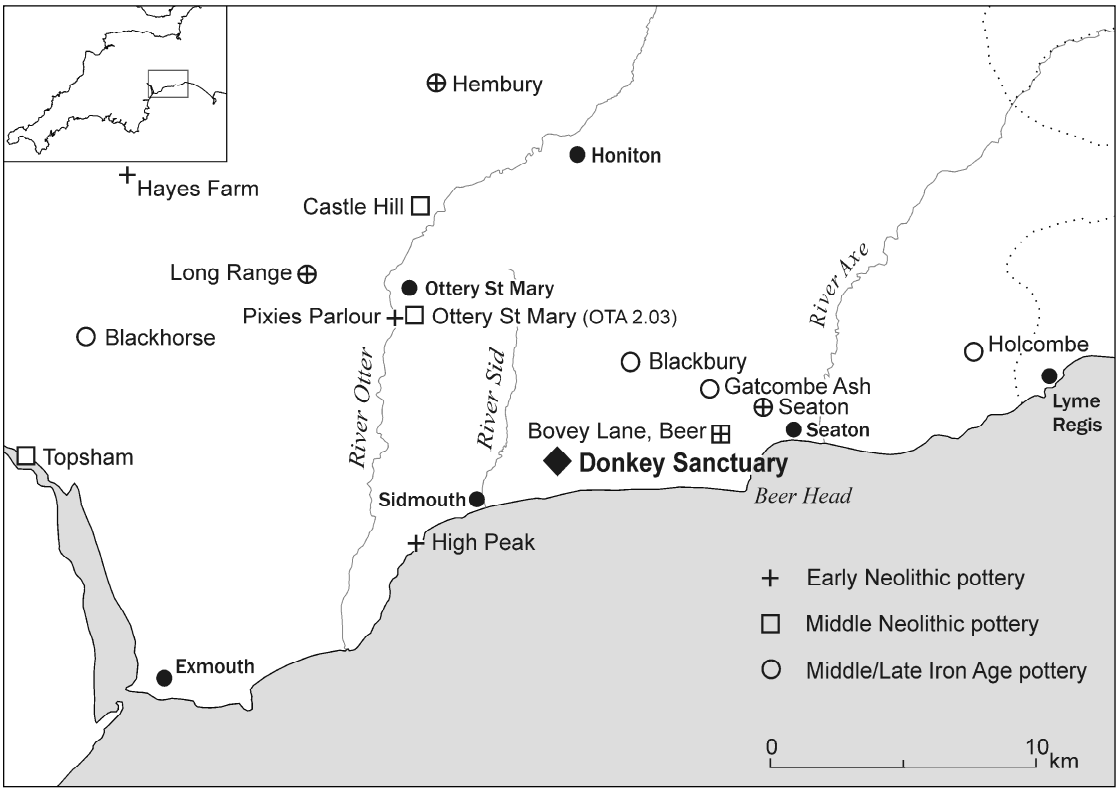

Figure 38: The location of the site in relation to other Neolithic and Iron Age sites in East Devon (from Gillard & Quinnell *forthcoming*) (Jane Read).

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Devon County Historic Environment Record:
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Devon Record Office:
Salcombe Regis Tithe Map and Tithe Apportionment 1839
Estate Map: 337 add 3/3/3/22

Websites:

Devon County Council Historic Landscape Characterisation:
http://www.devon.gov.uk/landscape-characterisation [accessed October 2007]

Appendix 1

BRIEF FOR PROGRAMME OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL RECORDING

Location: Land at the Donkey Sanctuary, Trow Farm.
Parish: Salcombe Regis
District: East Devon
County: Devon
NGR: SY15658899
Proposal: Composting pad, dirty water store & associated infrastructure
Plan. App. No: County Matter
DCAS Ref: ARCH/CM/ED 8371

1. PLANNING BACKGROUND

1.1 This brief, prepared by the Devon County Historic Environment Service (HES), relates to a programme of archaeological recording being commissioned by the Donkey Sanctuary (The Client).

1.2 The programme of archaeological work is being commissioned in accordance with PPG16 *Archaeology & Planning* (1990), Devon County Structure Plan Policy CO8 and a Condition of planning consent that requires that:
No development shall take place until the applicant, or their agent or successor in title, have secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation that has been submitted by the applicant and approved in writing by the planning authority.

1.3 This brief will inform a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) to be prepared by the Client's archaeological contractor/consultant (the Consultant). The WSI will be submitted to the Planning Authority for approval. The satisfactory implementation of the WSI will discharge the Condition.

2. THE DEVELOPMENT & PROGRAMME AREA

2.1 See Client plans for details of proposed developments.

2.2 The primary development to which the planning condition relates is for the construction of a composting pad and dirty water store. Topsoil stripping has been undertaken on the area of the composting pad and the site remains open. The pad will be reduced on completion of archaeological recording. Spoil has been stockpiled on site. A rectangular area of Water storage tanks at the southwest corner of the pad has yet to be stripped and reduced. The main dirty water storage area has yet to be topsoil stripped as has a further access road, but this will occur next year and is not the subject of this brief.

2.3 In the longer term it is proposed to construct a visitor centre in the field to the south east of the composting pad.

3. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

3.1 Scatters of flint and chert tools (lithic scatters), indicative of prehistoric settlement activity, have been found widely in the area. Many of these finds are in the Lichfield-Smith collection in the Royal Albert Memorial Museum, Exeter. It is known that flint finds such as these, retrieved from the surface of ploughed fields, represent only a fraction of the number of artefacts that may be present within and beneath the ploughsoil.

3.2 Such lithic scatters provide evidence for settlement and land use through much of the prehistoric period, particularly the Mesolithic, Neolithic and Bronze Age. They also provide important insights into technology. The ready local supply of high quality toolmaking flint and chert from Beer Head mean that its hinterland has high potential for the identification of prehistoric settlements and tool manufacturing sites.

3.3 The nearest previously recorded lithic scatter is from the field to the south-east of the compost pad, through which an access road is proposed and where the visitor centre may be sited. This scatter consisted of 420 artefacts including scrapers, blades, cores and other identifiable tools.

3.4 The currently stripped area has been visited by the DCAS and it is apparent that there are flint and chert artefacts, as well as waste material, on the scraped surface, in the exposed ploughsoil section and in the spoil. There may also be evidence of small cut features, although ground conditions were not ideal for their identification and observed features may be patches of unstripped ploughsoil.

3.5 Geophysical survey has been undertaken (Substrata, Interim Report May 2007) which indicates the presence of possible archaeological features within and adjacent to the composting pad area.

3.6 The underlying geology here is clay with flints and so natural and machine-fractured natural flint and chert is also present in some quantities.

4. STANDARDS & MONITORING

4.1 A professional archaeological consultant, to be agreed with the HES, shall carry out the programme of works. Staff must be suitably qualified and experienced for their project roles. All work should be carried out under the control of a Member of the Institute of Field Archaeologists (MIFA), or by a person of similar standing. The Written Scheme of Investigation will contain details of key project staff and specialists who may contribute during the course of the works - excavation and post-excavation.

4.2 All staff, including subcontractors, must be fully briefed and aware of the archaeological work required under the brief and written scheme of investigation, and must understand the aims and methodologies of the project.

4.3 Health and Safety matters, including site security, are matters for the consultant. However, adherence to all relevant regulations will be required.

4.4 The work shall be carried out in accordance with *IFA Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Excavation (1995),* as amended *(1999)*.

4.5 The archaeological consultant shall give the HES two weeks notice of commencement of works and shall be responsible for agreeing monitoring arrangements. Details will be agreed of any monitoring points where decisions on options within the programme are to be made.

4.6 In the event of particularly significant discoveries the Consultant will report this to HES. A site meeting between the Client, Consultant and HES will be held in order to discuss what further action may be required.

4.7 Monitoring will continue until the deposition of the site archive and finds, and the satisfactory completion of an OASIS report - see below.

5. CONTENT OF PROGRAMME

The Programme of work will include:

5.1 Desk-based study of existing records and aerial photographs in the Devon County Historic Environment Record (HER), published sources (e.g. Tingle, M. 1998, 'The Prehistory of Beer Head' *BAR British Series* **270**) and cartographic sources available in the Devon Record Office to provide a context for the current programme.

5.2 Artefact retrieval in the area already topsoil stripped. The stripped area of the pad will be gridded (e.g. 10 by 10 m grid) and surface finds collected in order to provide a plan of artefact density.

5.3 The stripped area will then be cleaned with an appropriate machine and toothless grading bucket and the grid and artefact retrieval process repeated.

5.4 Any archaeological deposits or features identified in the stripped area will be hand-cleaned and recorded in plan. Features that will be destroyed by the proposed reduction of the compost pad will then be fully or sample excavated. Archaeological features will be excavated by hand (unless exposed features are of a substantial nature, and in agreement with the HES) and recorded as per the *IFA Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Excavation (1995),* as amended *(1999)*. As a minimum:

- small discrete features will be fully excavated
- larger discrete features will be half-sectioned (50% excavated)
- long linear features will be excavated to sample 20% of their length - with investigative excavations distributed along the exposed length of any such feature
- should the above % excavation not yield sufficient information to allow the form and function of archaeological features/deposits to be determined full excavation of such features/deposits will be required. Additional excavation may also be required for the taking of palaeoenvironmental samples and recovery of artefacts

The full depth of archaeological deposits will be excavated. Any variation of the above shall be agreed in consultation with the HES.

5.5 Should deposits be exposed that contain palaeoenvironmental or datable elements appropriate sampling strategies should be initiated. The project will be organised so that specialist consultants who might be required to conserve or report on finds or advise or report on other aspects of the investigation (e.g. palaeoenvironmental analysis) can be called upon and undertake assessment and analysis of such deposits - if required.

5.6 Artefacts should be labelled and bagged on site.

5.7 All features shall be recorded in plan and section at a minimum scale of 1:20, larger where necessary.

5.8 A photographic record shall be made in B/W print supplemented by digital or colour transparency. If digital imagery is to be the sole photographic record then suitably archivable prints must be made of the digital images by a photographic laboratory. Laser or inkjet prints of digital images, while acceptable for inclusion in the report, are not an acceptable medium for archives. The drawn and written record will be on an appropriately archivable medium.

5.9 Human remains must initially be left in-situ, covered and protected. Removal can only take place under appropriate Ministry of Justice and environmental health regulations. Such removal must be in compliance with the relevant primary legislation.

5.10 Should gold or silver artefacts be exposed, these will be removed to a safe place and reported to the local coroner according to the procedures relating to the Treasure Act 1996. Where removal cannot be effected on the same working day as the discovery suitable security measures will be taken to protect the finds from theft.

5.11 The area of the proposed tanks will be topsoil stripped under archaeological supervision using a toothless grading bucket.

5.12 The stripped area will be pre-gridded so that artefacts in the topsoil can be retrieved, quantified and related to any below ground features.

5.13 The spoil will be sieved for the retrieval of lithic or other artefacts. Volunteers may be used.

5.14 Any archaeological deposits or cut features identified will be recorded following the methodology outlined above.

5.15 Optional: The post-excavation work will incorporate analysis of a lithic assemblage recently retrieved from work on the new access road to the Donkey Sanctuary isolation units (Contact HES for finds).

5.16 Optional: The spoil from the areas already stripped will be subject to a rapid salvage retrieval of artefacts through bulk sieving. Volunteers may be used.

5.17 Optional: Cultivated soil around recent willow planting to the south of the composting pad will be fieldwalked for artefact retrieval. Volunteers may be used.

5.18 Post-excavation analysis of the lithic assemblage, environmental samples, ceramics, human remains and other finds will be undertaken by appropriate specialists.

6. PROGRAMME REPORT & ARCHIVE

6.1 An illustrated full report on the investigation shall be prepared collating the written, graphic, visible and recorded information outlined above. The report shall include plans of the trenches or areas of excavation and location of features in relation to the site boundary and the British National Grid, as well as details of trench stratigraphy, section and plan drawings. The report will also describe features, description of deposits and artefacts together with their interpretation. A copy of this brief shall be included in the report.

6.2 The HES would normally expect to receive the report within three months of completion of fieldwork - dependant upon the provision of specialist reports, radiocarbon dating results etc the production of which may exceed this period. If a substantial delay is anticipated then an interim report will be produced. A copy of this brief shall be included in the report.

6.3 t is recommended that a draft report is submitted to the HES for comment prior to its formal submission to the Local Planning Authority.

6.4 On completion of the report, in addition to copies required by the Client, hard copies of the report shall be supplied to the HES on the understanding that one of these copies will be deposited for public reference in the HER. In addition to the hard copies of the report, one copy shall be provided to the HES in digital format - in a format to be agreed in advance with the HES - on the understanding that it may in future be made available to researchers via a web-based version of the HER.

6.5 The archaeological consultant shall complete an online OASIS (*Online AccesS to the Index of archaeological investigationS*) form in respect of the archaeological work.

6.6 *Publication*

Should particularly significant remains, finds and/or deposits be encountered, then these, because of their importance, are likely to merit wider publication in line with government planning guidance. If such remains are encountered, the publication requirements – including any further analysis that may be necessary – will be confirmed with the HES.

6.7 The Client may wish to discuss public presentation of the results and finds of the programme of work.

7. DEPOSITION OF ARCHIVE AND FINDS

7.1 The archaeological consultant shall contact the Royal Albert Memorial Museum (RAMM), Exeter to obtain an accession number and agree conditions for deposition. *The accession number will be quoted in the Written Scheme of Investigation.*

7.2 An ordered and integrated site archive will be prepared in accordance with *The Management of Archaeological Projects* (English Heritage, 1991 2nd edition) upon completion of the entire project. This will be deposited with the Royal Albert Memorial Museum, Exeter, in consultation with the curator.

7.3 Archaeological finds resulting from the investigation (which are the property of the landowner), should be deposited with the RAMM - in a format to be agreed with the museum, and within a timetable to be agreed with the HES. The museum's guidelines for the deposition of archives for long-term storage should be adhered to. If ownership of all or any of the finds is to remain with

the landowner, provision and agreement must be made for the time-limited retention of the material and its full analysis and recording, by appropriate specialists. Agreement should be made with the RAMM for the return of artefacts for display at the proposed Visitor Centre.

7.4 The condition placed upon this development will not be regarded as discharged until the report has been produced and submitted to the HES and the LPA, the site archive deposited and the OASIS form submitted.

8. CONTACT NAMES AND ADDRESSES

Bill Horner, Deputy County Archaeologist, Devon County Council, Environment Economy & Culture Directorate, Matford Offices, County Hall, Exeter EX2 4QW (Tel: 01392-382494 Fax: 01392-383011 e-mail: bill.horner@devon.gov.uk).

David Barbour, Farms Surveyor, The Donkey Sanctuary, Trow Farm, Salcombe Regis, Sidmouth, Devon, EX10 0NU (Tel: 01395 578222 Fax 01395 579266 e-mail: enquiries@thedonkeysanctuary.com)

Appendix 2

WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION FOR AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL RECORDING AT LAND AT THE DONKEY SANCTUARY, TROW FARM, SALCOMBE REGIS, DEVON.

Location: Land at the Donkey Sanctuary, Trow Farm
Parish: Salcombe Regis
District: East Devon
County: Devon
NGR: SY1565 889
Planning Application nos: County Matter
Proposal: Composting pad, dirty water store & associated infrastructure.
DCHES Ref: ARCH/CM/ED8371

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 This document forms a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) which has been drawn up by South West Archaeology (SWARCH) at the request of David Barbour of The Donkey Sanctuary (The Client). It sets out the methodology for the proposed programme of archaeological recording on land at the site of The Donkey Sanctuary, Trow Farm, Salcombe Regis, East Devon. The WSI and the schedule of work it proposes conform to a brief supplied by Bill Horner of the Devon County Historic Environment Service (DCHES). The work is being commissioned in line with government planning policy (PPG No. *16 Archaeology and Planning* (DoE, 1990)), the Devon County Structure Plan Policy CO8 and the archaeological condition attached to the planning consent, which states that;

'No development work shall take place until the applicant has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted by the applicant and approved by the Planning Authority.

The development shall be carried out at all times in strict accordance with the approved scheme, or such other details as may be subsequently agreed in writing by the Planning Authority.'

1.2 A magnetometer survey has been undertaken for the areas covered by the present and the planned future works. The results of this survey will be used to inform the proposed programme of work covered by this WSI.

1.3 The programme of work to be carried out by SWARCH and covered by this WSI consists of:

1.3.1 Desk-based work to establish the context of the site.

1.3.2 Artefact retrieval and recording of archaeological features in areas already topsoil stripped. To include gridding of the pad area, the stripped access road and any other stripped area prior to surface finds collection.

1.3.3 The area of the proposed waste water tank and further access road will be topsoil stripped under archaeological supervision.

1.3.4 The spoil from the areas already stripped will be sieved for retrieval of artefacts. This will be carried out by local volunteers and overseen by SWARCH.

1.3.5 Surface finds from other areas already subject to ground disturbance (i.e. the Willow Plantation) may be collected by volunteers under the guidance of SWARCH staff.

2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

Scatters of flint and chert tools (lithic scatters), indicative of prehistoric settlement activity, have been found widely in the area. Many of these finds are in the Lichfield-Smith collection in the Royal Albert Memorial Museum, Exeter. It is known that flint finds such as these, retrieved from the surface of ploughed fields, represent only a fraction of the number of artefacts that may be present within and beneath the ploughsoil. Such lithic scatters provide evidence for settlement and land use through much of the prehistoric period, particularly the Mesolithic, Neolithic and Bronze Age. They also provide important insights into technology. The ready local supply of high quality toolmaking flint and chert from Beer Head mean that its hinterland has high potential for the identification of prehistoric settlements and tool manufacturing sites.

The nearest previously recorded lithic scatter is from the field to the south-east of the compost pad, through which an access road is proposed and where the visitor centre may be sited. This scatter consisted of 420 artefacts including scrapers, blades, cores and other identifiable tools. The currently stripped area has been visited by the DCAS and it is apparent that there are flint and chert artefacts, as well as waste material, on the scraped surface, in the exposed ploughsoil section and in the spoil. There may also be evidence of small cut features, although ground conditions were not ideal for their identification and observed features may be patches of unstripped ploughsoil. The underlying geology here is clay with flints and so natural and machine-fractured natural flint and chert is also present in some quantities.

3.0 AIM

The principal objectives of the programme will be to survey, record and retrieve any surviving below ground deposits and surface finds within the areas of disturbed ground and those areas subject to development, and prepare a report setting out the results of the fieldwork.

4.0 METHOD

4.1 A desk-top assessment of the known history and archaeology of the site will be undertaken. This will collate documentary and cartographic information held in the Devon Historic Environment Service Historic Environment Record (HER), the West Country Studies Library and the Devon Records Office.

4.2 The archaeological work will be carried out in accordance with the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA) *Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Excavation (1995) and revised 2001)* and the *Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief (1994 and revised 2001).*

4.3 Health and Safety requirements will be observed at all times by any archaeological staff working on site.

4.3.1 Appropriate PPE will be employed at all times.

4.3.2 The site archaeologist will undertake any site safety induction course provided by the Client.

4.3.2 Should the sides of any trenches, or any built structures be deemed unstable, by virtue of depth or composition, trenches or built structures will be adequately shored, shuttered or stepped to allow safe access. The provision of such measures will be the responsibility of the client.

4.4 The topsoil strip in the area of the proposed water tank and further access road will be undertaken using a 360^{o} tracked or wheeled JCB-type machine with a toothless grading bucket, under archaeological supervision. If archaeological deposits are

reached at a level above the intended formation or invert level, they will be excavated by the site archaeologist down to the latter, by hand.

4.4.1 Should archaeological or palaeoenvironmental remains be exposed, machining will cease in that area to allow the site archaeologist to investigate, record and sample such deposits. The examination will be undertaken before the exposed level is affected by any further construction work and before plant and machinery is driven over it and sufficient time should be allowed in the construction programme to allow the site archaeologist to undertake these investigations. Any archaeological features discovered will then be cleaned, excavated by hand and recorded to IFA guidelines.

4.4.2 If complex or extraordinary archaeological deposits are exposed then the need for further mitigation will be agreed in consultation with the DCHES and the client.

4.4.3 Human remains must initially be left *in-situ*, covered and protected. Treatment of disarticulated human remains will follow guidance as set out in *Guidance for Best Practice for Treatment of Human Remains Excavated from Christian Burial Grounds in England* (2005, English Heritage and The Church of England). If any burials are encountered, all works must stop immediately and will only proceed in consultation with DCHES.

4.4.4 Bulk samples will be obtained where appropriate. Any excavation and sampling will be completed in accordance with the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA) *Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Excavation (1995 and revised 2001)* and the *Standard and Guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials (2001).*

4.4.5 Should gold or silver artefacts be exposed, these will be removed to a safe place and reported to the local coroner according to the procedures relating to the Treasure Act 1996. Where removal cannot be effected on the same working day as the discovery suitable security measures will be taken to protect the finds from theft.

4.5 The stripped area of the pad and the access road will be pre-gridded so that artefacts in the topsoil can be retrieved, quantified and related to any below ground deposits.

4.5.1 The grid used will be 10m x 10m. A smaller grid may be used in areas containing a higher density of artefacts.

4.5.2 Any archaeological deposits of features identified in the stripped areas will be recorded as in 5.0 below.

4.6 The spoil from areas already stripped will be dry sieved using a sieve fine enough to allow the retrieval of smaller artefacts. (Relevant procedures will be as 4.4 above and 5.2 below)

4.6 SWARCH will agree monitoring arrangements with DCHES and give two weeks notice, unless a shorter period is agreed, of commencement of the fieldwork. Details will be agreed of any monitoring points where decisions on options within the programme are to be made.

5.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL RECORDING

This will be based on IFA guidelines and those advised by DCHES and will consist of:

5.1 Recording the location of archaeological deposits and features.

5.2 Labelling and bagging of finds on site. Post-1800 unstratified pottery may be discarded on site after a representative sample has been retained.

5.3 Should suitable deposits be exposed that contain palaeoenvironmental or datable elements, appropriate sampling strategies will be initiated. The project will be organised so that specialist consultants who might be required to conserve or report on other aspects of the investigation (e.g. palaeoenvironmental analysis) can be called upon and undertake assessment and analysis of such deposits.

5.4 If archaeological features are exposed, then *as a minimum*:

5.4.1 Small discrete features will be fully excavated

5.4.2 Larger discrete features will be half-sectioned (50% excavated)

5.4.3 Long linear features will be excavated to sample 20% of their length – with investigative excavations distributed along the exposed length of any such feature.

5.5 Records will consist of standardised single context recording sheets. All features will be recorded in plan and section at a minimum scale of 1:20, larger where necessary. The drawn and written record will be on an appropriately archivable medium. The photographic record will be made in B/W print supplemented by digital or colour transparency.

6.0 ARCHIVE AND REPORT

6.1 An ordered and integrated site archive will be prepared in accordance with *The Management of Archaeological Projects* (English Heritage, 1991 2nd edition) upon completion of the project. This will include relevant correspondence together with context sheets, field drawings, and environmental, artefactual and photographic records. Ownership of some of the finds is to remain with the landowner, provision for a sample group to be retained will be discussed with The Donkey Sanctuary and Tom Cadbury of the RAMM and the relevant paperwork completed before deposition. The archive and majority of the finds will be deposited with The Royal Albert Memorial Museum at Exeter under an accession number to be confirmed (application in progress).

6.2 The reporting requirements will be confirmed with the DCHES on completion of the site in the form of an illustrated summary report and, if merited, wider publication. The report will be produced as soon as possible following completion of fieldwork, and submitted to DCHES, and the Client.

6.3 The report will include the following elements:

6.3.1 Results of the desk-based assessment including any relevant maps and plans;

6.3.2 A location plan and overall site plan showing the location of the areas subject to fieldwork as well as the distribution of any archaeological features;

6.3.3 Plans and sections of exposed features or deposits at a relevant scale;

6.3.4 A description of any remains and deposits identified including an interpretation of their character and significance;

6.3.5 An assessment of significant artefacts, environmental and scientific samples together with recommendations for further analysis;

6.3.6 Any specialist reports commissioned;

6.3.7 Discussion of the archaeological deposits encountered and their context;

6.3.8 A copy of the DCHES brief and this WSI shall be included as appendices.

6.4 DCCHES will receive the report within six months of completion of fieldwork, dependant on the provision of specialist reports, radiocarbon dating results etc, the production of which may exceed this period. If a substantial delay is anticipated then an interim report will be produced. The report will be supplied to DCHES on the understanding that one of these copies will be deposited for public reference in the HER. In addition to the hard copies of the report, one copy will be provided to the HES in digital format, or in a format to be agreed in advance with the DCHES, on the understanding that it may in future be made available to researchers via a web-based version of the HER.

6.5 Should they merit it; the results of these investigations will be published in an appropriate academic journal. If required, after the production of a summary report, a programme and timetable for this will be submitted to DCHES and the Client for approval.

6.6 A copy of the report detailing the results of these investigations will be submitted to the OASIS (*Online AccesS to the Index of archaeological Investigations*) database.

7.0 PERSONNEL

The project will be managed by Colin Humphreys; the site will be supervised by Jon Freeman/Martin Gillard of SWARCH. Relevant staff of the DCHES will be consulted as appropriate. Where necessary appropriate specialist advice will be sought, (see list of consultant specialists in the list below).

Deb Laing-Trengove, South West Archaeology, The Thornes, Kentisbury, Barnstaple, N. Devon, EX31 4NQ
Telephone: 01271 883000

List of specialists

Building recording
Robert Waterhouse, 13 Mill Meadow, Ashburton TQ13 7RN, Tel: 01364 652963
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Appendix 3

Context List

Context	Description
[100]	Circular cut 0.55m diameter <100mm deep, concave profile.
(101)	Fill of [100], fairly soft dark grey-brown clay-silt, charcoal flecks and some flint.
[102]	Linear cut <0.4m wide <200mm deep, runs 9m E-W.
(103)	Fill of [102], very firm grey clay-silt.
[104]	Roughly oval cut 1.5m WSW-ENE by <1m, <0.3m deep.
(105)	Fill of [104] soft, grey silt-clay.
[106]	Oval cut 1.8m E-W by 0.8m N-S, <0.4m deep – somewhat irregular.
(107)	Fill of [106], firm grey clay-silt, some sub-angular flint inclusions <40mm.
[108]	Linear cut 1m wide <0.3m deep; runs 62m WSW-ENE from W edge of site then turns right-angle to SSE, runs for 5m becoming shallower.
(109)	Fill of [108], light grey brown, dense silt-clay with occasional flint nodules.
(110)	Fill of [116], orange-grey firm clay-silt, some angular flint <20mm.
(111)	Fill of [117], orange-grey firm clay-silt, some sub-angular flint <20mm.
(112)	Fill of [118], orange-grey firm-compact clay-silt, some sub angular flint <30mm.
(113)	Fill of [119], mottled grey and orange fairly soft clay-silt, some sub-angular flint <40mm.
(114)	Fill of [120], orange-grey fairly firm clay-silt, a little sub-angular flint <30mm.
(115)	Fill of [121], orange-grey compact clay-silt, some angular flint <80mm.
[116]	Irregular, sub-oval cut, 2.5m NW-SE by 1.2m SW-NE <0.5m deep.
[117]	Sub circular cut 0.85m SW-NE by 0.75m SE-NW <250mm deep, concave profile.
[118]	Irregular cut around 0.5m across <200mm deep, steep sides and concave profile.
[119]	Sub-circular cut 0.9m NE-SW by 1m NW-SE <0.55m deep, steep sides and concave base.
[120]	Sub-circular cut 0.7m N-S by 0.6m E-W <0.3m deep, steep sides and concave base.
[121]	Circular cut 0.6m in diameter <150mm deep.
[122]	Oval? cut (S. end beyond edge of excavation) 0.8m N-S by 0.5m E-W <0.35m deep.
(123)	Fill of [122], firm grey silt clay, abundant flint <150mm, occasional heat-affected clay and stone.
[124]	Circular? cut (S. side beyond edge of excavation) 0.3m across <150mm deep.
(125)	Fill of [124], firm grey clay silt, common flint <30mm.
[126]	Circular cut 0.6m diameter <100mm deep, concave profile.
(127)	Fill of [126], dark grey-black clay-silt, generally soft with firm patches; abundant charcoal flecks, common angular flint <50mm.
(128)	Layer of brown-grey clay-silt, common flint <100mm; contains worked flint, pottery and burnt clay – over features [122] and [124].
[129]	Irregular cut <0.3m across <50mm deep.
(130)	Fill of [129], fairly soft brown-grey clay-silt; some sub-angular flints <20mm.
[131]	Circular cut 0.28m in diameter, 250mm deep, sides near vertical, concave base.
(132)	Fill of [131], fairly soft brown-grey clay-silt, occasional sub angular flint <30mm.
[133]	Irregular cut, probably a root or burrow.
(134)	Fill of [133], firm grey clay-silt.
[135]	Rectangular cut with rounded corners 0.8m SE-NW by 0.65m SW-NE <250mm deep, fairly steep sides and flat base.
(136)	Fill of [135], compact dark grey-brown clay-silt, common flint nodules 100-200mm.
[137]	Linear cut running 10m SSE-NNW to edge of excavation to N; 0.45m wide <75mm deep, flat base.
(138)	Fill of [137], fairly soft grey-brown clay-silt, gritty.
[139]	Irregular crescent-shaped cut, 1.3m N-S <0.8m E-W <0.4m deep, roughly V-shaped in profile.
(140)	Fill of [139], soft grey-brown clay-silt, occasional sub angular flint <30mm.
[141]	Linear cut running 7m SSE-NNW to edge of excavation to N; 0.65m wide <150mm deep, flat base.
(142)	Fill of [141], friable grey-brown clay-silt, occasional flint <100mm.
[143]	Circular cut 0.3m diameter 0.2m deep, near vertical sides, concave base.
(144)	Fill of [143], soft grey-brown slightly clay-silt, sub-angular flint nodules <200mm common.
[145]	Sub-circular cut 0.5-0.6m across <200mm deep, steep-sided concave profile.
(146)	Fill of [145], fairly soft grey-brown clay-silt, some flint <50mm.
[147]	Cut, irregular triangle, 2.2m N-S by 1.18m E-W <0.4m deep.
(148)	Fill of [147], compact pale grey silt-clay, pockets of firm, dense red clay; occasional angular flint <150mm.

Appendix 4

Finds Concordance

Context	Lithics		Pottery			Slag		Other		
	Frags.	Wgt.	Frags.	Wgt.	Notes	Frags.	Wgt.	Frags.	Wgt.	Type
Unstrat.	8	201	1	7	×1 Fabric 4					
Willow Beds Spoil	27	400	10	51	×4 medieval Upper Greensand; ×1 C16th rim; ×4 late med/Pmed			2	6	plastic
								1	8	bone
								2	17	Fe nails
								1	1	glass
								1	175	worked stone?
								1	3	clay pipe
								1	1	slate
								3	9	coal
Compost pad spoil heap	28	334	8	47	×6 late med/Pmed	2	51	3	16	plastic
								6	20	coal
								5	6	Fe nail
								1	1	clay pipe
								3	14	slate
								4	18	glass
								3	51	mortar
								9	576	Fe object
Grid 1A	7	11	1	1	×1 Fabric 4					
Grid 1B	5	71	2	1	×2 Fabric 4					
Grid 1C	5	43	2	1	×2 Fabric 4					
Grid 1D	13	170	2	2	×2 Fabric 4			1	8	coal
Grid 1E	9	70	1	7	×1 Fabric 2 [Peterborough Ware]			1	200	brick
								1	9	slate
Grid 1F	1	7								
Grid 1X	12	210	11	46	×3 Fabric 4; ×1 medieval jug sherd C13-14th; ×1 early medieval					
Grid 1Y	16	456						1	1	coal
								1	1	tooth
Grid 2A	7	59	2	7	C13-14th			1	8	coal
Grid 2B	6	88								
Grid 2C	6	66								
Grid 2D	4	40								
Grid 2E	1	1								
Grid 2F	1	2	1	4	medieval					
Grid 2X	11	384	1	15	C12-14th			4	18	coal
Grid 2Y	11	152								
Grid 3A	6	102	1	7	C14-16th			2	6	burnt clay
Grid 3B	1	3						2	21	stones
Grid 3C	9	50						3	18	plastic
Grid 3D	4	115								
Grid 3E	1	1								
Grid 3X	7	135	1	3	medieval			1	1	coal
Grid 3Y	5	65						1	5	glass
Grid 4A	4	25						20	3	burnt clay
Grid 4B	5	30								
Grid 4C	7	80	1	2	medieval					
Grid 4D	6	112						1	9	glass
Grid 4F	1	1								
Grid 4E			1	5	Westerwalt s/ware late C17th					
Grid 5A	6	32	1	5	medieval?					
Grid 5B	7	78	4	3	medieval	1	4	1	8	slate
Grid 5C	3	11						2	1	glass
Grid 5D	4	26								
Grid 5E	1	2	1	2	medieval					

Grid 5F	2	26								
Grid 6A	2	20								
Grid 6B	3	3								
Grid 6C	1	5								
Grid 6D	8	36	1	10	C18th-19th S. Som.					
Grid 6E	1	5								
Grid 6F	1	1								
Grid 7A	6	101				1	27	1	9	slate
Grid 7B	5	23								
Grid 7C	3	15								
Grid 7D	3	40								
Grid 7E	8	113						1	203	whetstone
Grid 7F	3	86								
(101)	4	68	25	101	×18 Fabric 2					
(103)	1	7	1	3	×1 Fabric 4	1	8			
(109.1)	1	1	3	2		1	2			
(109.2)	1	39								
(123)	11	36	23	126	×3 Fabric 3; ×20 Fabric 4			10	228	
(125)			4	17	×3 Fabric 4; ×1 Fabric 6					
(127)	4	77								
(128)			14	62	×10 Fabric 4; ×1 Fabric 5; ×2 Fabric 6; ×1 medieval	7	497	5	95	burnt clay
(130)	4	20	7	40	×7 Fabric 1					
(136)	2	7								
(138)	2	18				1	7	1	577	med. hay knife
(142)	1	5								
(144)			4	100	×4 Fabric 4					
TOTAL	332	4385	134	677		14	545			

Appendix 5

The Flint Assemblage *by M. Tingle*

Introduction
The assemblage is composed of 332 pieces weighing 4385g of which 271 pieces derive from the examination of the topsoil within the footprint of a composting facility. There are also 25 pieces from a separate stripped area (Willow Beds Spoil) and 27 waste flakes (213g) from groups of subsoil features.

Raw Materials
The flint is derived predominantly from localised surface deposits of clay with flints as has been observed in surface collection. There are also an uncorticated flake of a grey-green chert (Square 3D) of a type found in local deposits with coastal outcrops and the proximal end of a blade segment made from an orange-brown flint that probable derives from river gravels.

Composition and Technology
The total flint assemblage is made up of a range of waste flakes, core and core fragments typical of the expedient use of ample raw materials and similar to material recovered from fieldwalking around Beer and Branscombe (Tingle, 1998, 37-65). It is also very similar to the finds from more recent but unpublished field-walking carried out in 2000 and 2002, in fields at Berry Barton (SY 181 888 & SY 180 888) and Weston (SY 168 883 & 168 885), the latter being approximately 900m south of the Donkey Sanctuary site. At Berry Barton almost 1000 pieces of worked flint were recovered from 7.5 hectares of fieldwalking including examples of triangular, transverse and oblique arrowheads, arrowheads being notable rare finds in the fieldwalking at Beer.

Find	No.	Weight (grams)
Primary Flake	5	45
Secondary Flake	31	686
Tertiary Flake	72	914
Uncorticated Flake	95	700
Broken Flake	81	434.5
Piercer	2	73
Retouched	5	80
Oblique Arrowhead	1	6
Scraper	13	358
Core	6	579
Core Fragment	7	454
Burnt unworked flint	15	76
Total	323	4385

Table 1: The composition of the whole assemblage.

Find	No.	Weight (grams)
Secondary Flake	3	128
Tertiary Flake	6	100
Uncorticated Flake	6	45
Broken Flake	8	41
Core	1	76
Retouched? Piercer	1	20
Total	25	410

Table 2: Composition of the Willow Beds Spoil assemblage.

The small assemblage from the Willow spoil heap is unremarkable except for the presence of a single retouched piece, with three distinct ‘arms’ one of which is slightly longer than the other two. While this shares the same form and dimensions as a miniature Tribrach from Basingstoke, the poor workmanship of the piece suggests it is probably an unusually shaped piercer (Lamdin-Wymark & Field 2007; Lamdin-Wymark *pers. comm*.).

Distribution (Fig 13)
The worked flint from the field-walking and machine stripping tends to concentrate along the western edge of the stripped area. A similar pattern emerges when retouched tools alone are plotted with the exception of the oblique arrowhead.

Dating
There is only one datable piece within the entire assemblage, an oblique arrowhead from grid C7 in the composting pad. These are generally assumed to date from the late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age.

Conclusion
This is a small assemblage of worked flint of a type that is common in the area. It is composed of a range of core, core fragments and flakes that are characteristic of expedient flint reduction and includes a range of retouched tools that probably all date from the later Neolithic and Early Bronze Age.

Terminology
Throughout this analysis the term 'cortex' refers to the natural weathered exterior surface of a piece of flint while 'patination' denotes the colouration of the flaked surfaces exposed by human or natural agency. Following Andrevsky (1998, 104) dorsal cortex is divided into four categories; the term primary flake refers to those with cortex covering 100% of the dorsal face while secondary flakes have cortex on between 50% to 99% of the dorsal face. Tertiary flakes have cortex on 1% to 49% of the dorsal face while flakes with no dorsal cortex are referred to as non cortical.

A blade is defined as an elongated flake whose length is at least twice as great as its breadth. These often have parallel dorsal flake scars, a feature that can assist in the identification of broken blades that, by definition, have an indeterminate length/breadth ratio.

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Appendix 6

Prehistoric Pottery and Fired Clay by *H. Quinnell* with petrographic comment by *R. Taylor*

Introduction
The assemblage consists of 26 broadly local sherds of Neolithic date (weighing 144g) and 61 Iron Age sherds of varying dates (weighing 327g), mostly of local fabric tempered with Upper Greensand material but including gabbroic pieces from the Lizard and black-burnished sherds from Dorset.

Context	Fab1		Fab.2		Fab.3		Fab.4		Fab.5		Fab.6		Med./later	
	No.	*Wgt.*	*No.*	*Wgt.*	*No.*	*Wgt.*	*No.*	*Wgt.*	*No.*	*Wgt.*	*No.*	*Wgt.*	*No.*	*Wgt.*
Neolithic														
(101)			18	98										
(130)	7	40												
Grid 1E			1	6										
Iron Age														
(123)					3	49	20	77						
(125)							3	10			1	7		
(103)							1	3						
(128)							10	35	1	17	2	6	1	4
(144)							4	100						
Topsoil							1	7						
Grid 1A							1	1						
Grid 1B							2	1						
Grid 1C							2	1						
Grid 1D							2	2						
Grid 5B							4	3						
Grid 1X							3	7					8	40
Willow spoil							1	1					9	50
TOTAL	7	40	19	104	3	49	54	248	1	17	3	13	18	94

Table 1: The Pottery from The Donkey Sanctuary, Salcombe Regis (weight in grams).

Fabric Groups

Fabric 1: Chert and fine sand. Soft, with moderate inclusions ranging from fine to very coarse. Generally reduced, 5YR very dark grey.

Petrography: Chert and chertified sandstone – white and white and grey fragments, 0.05-8mm; quartz – sand abundant in the matrix, rare rounded and polished grains, 0.05-0.5 mm, rarely 1mm; mica – muscovite cleavage flakes up to 0.1mm; tourmaline – rare black glossy grains, 00.1-0.2 mm; shell – one silicified fragment, 0.6mm.

Comment: A clay with a fine sand content derived from the local Upper Greensand and added crushed chert. Early Neolithic.

Fabric 2: Chert in Lias clay. Soft, sparse generally very coarse inclusions. Reduced 5YR very dark gray.

Petrography sherd from Machine 1E: chert – white and grey and white, angular fragments, 0.1-4mm.

Comment: The chert fragments are the only visible temper component in the smooth clay matrix. The chert is of local origin but the source of the clay is uncertain. Lower Lias clay is a possibility. The angularity and size range of the chert fragments suggests that they have been deliberately crushed.

Petrography sherd from (101): Chert and chertified sandstone – A scatter of white to translucent mottled angular fragments, 0.5-7mm.

Comment: A sparse chert temper in a smooth matrix clay. The provenance of the clay is uncertain but the most likely source is the Lower Lias to the East in the Lyme Regis area. The chert appears to have been deliberately added. Early/Middle Neolithic.

Fabric 3: Gabbroic. Soft, with sparse inclusions ranging from fine to very coarse. Reduced 5YR 4/2 dark reddish gray.

Petrograpy: Feldspar – soft greyish white altered angular grains and some harder cleaved grains, 1-3.5mm, mainly less than 1mm; amphibole – sparse dark grey to light brown, fibrous and elongated grains, 0.1-0.8mm; magnetite – a scatter of black glossy sub-angular magnetic grains, 0.1-1.2mm; quartz – sparse transparent angular to sub-rounded grains, 0.2- 0.6mm; mica –muscovite cleavage flakes mainly less than 0.05mm, rarely 0.6mm.

Comment: A fine-grained gabbroic fabric from the Lizard in Cornwall. Middle Iron Age.

Fabric 4: Upper Greensand. Soft, with abundant inclusions ranging from fine to very coarse. Reduced 5YR 4/3 reddish brown to 3/1 very dark grey.

Petrography sherd from (125): Quartz – colourless transparent to translucent and some brown stained, angular to well-rounded and polished grains, 0.1-1.2mm, rarely 2mm; mica – a scatter of muscovite cleavage flakes up to 0.1mm; tourmaline – a scatter of black glossy sub-rounded to rounded grains 0.1-0.5mm; shell – silicified fragments, 1.6 and 7mm; chert – sparse, white angular and brownish fragments, 2-4mm; rock fragments – sandstone, hard silicified buff and soft white angular fragments, 2-3.5mm.

Comment: An Upper Greensand-derived temper. Other sherds, especially that examined from (144) have varying quantities of the various inclusions (see archive). Iron Age.

Fabric 5: Upper Greensand and Lias. Soft, abundant inclusions ranging from fine to very coarse. Moderately reduced 5YR 4/1 dark grey.

Petrography: Quartz – Colourless transparent to translucent occasionally white, angular and some rounded and polished grains, 0.05-1mm, occasionally 2.5mm; rock fragments – shale medium grey cleaved tabular to non-calcareous sub-rounded fragments,1-4.5mm.

Comment: The provenance of this sherd is uncertain. Although the quartz sand is similar to that from the Upper Greensand, other constituents which typify the Upper Greensand are absent and it could be a modern beach sand. However, it seems more reasonable to suspect that the shale inclusions are from the Lower Lias to the east and are an incidental component of a Lower Lias clay with an Upper Greensand temper; the sherd is then more comparable with others of Fabric 2 from the site. The alternative is that it is a modern beach sand temper with some shale input from local rocks with the nearest source area for shale inclusions in the South Hams district to the west. This source is considerably more distant and seems unlikely. Iron Age.

Fabric 6: Durotrigian. Hard, common medium inclusions of quartz sand, very dark grey 5YR 5/1.

Comment: Comparable to the Poole Harbour fabrics of Late Iron Age Dorset and their successors South-East Dorset black-burnished ware. Late Iron Age.

Early Neolithic

Seven sherds of Fabric 1 weighing 40g, moderately abraded, came from (130) fill of pit [129]: these included P1. 18 sherds of Fabric 2 weighing 98g, again moderately abraded, came from (101) fill of pit [100]. These represented at least two separate vessels, with walls *c*.8mm and 14mm thick respectively; several of the thicker pieces had distinct bowl curvature.

P1 (Figure 39) (130) fill of pit [129] Fabric 1. Rim of shallow open bowl, flat-topped rim with both internal and external extension. The open bowl form is a distinctive feature of the South West regional style (Smith 1981, Figs 66, 68). The form of the rim is unusual, with the internal extension probably resulting from irregularities in manufacture. Out-turned rims are rare in the South West Early Neolithic (see Liddell 1932, Pl XVIII), rather more common in South Wales (Petersen 2003, Fig 9.14).

The overall appearance of the fabric, the use of crushed chert temper and the presence of bowl forms identifies this material as Early Neolithic. Deposition of Early Neolithic pottery in shallow bowl shaped pits is common at this period (Thomas 1999, 64-74). This is the fourth occurrence of such deposition recorded in east Devon. One of the others is at Long Range west of Honiton (Fitzpatrick *et al* 1999, 138), where the fabrics contain a simple mix of sand and chert although the chert is less prominent. The second is at Pixies Parlour, near Ottery St Mary (SY 096 943), site OTA 3.04 excavated by Cotswold Archaeology in 2006 in advance of a pipeline (Quinnell *forthcoming*): a wide range of fabrics, some broadly comparable to those at the Donkey Sanctuary, were recovered. Both Long Range and Pixies Parlour produced sherds from carinated bowls but not from bowls comparable to P1. The fourth is at Hayes Farm, Clyst Honiton, and has widely scattered pits found by Cotswold Archaeology in the 1990s, work currently unpublished (information author HQ).

Middle Neolithic

P2 (Figure 39) from machining Area 1E. A single abraded sherd weighing 6g in Fabric 2 from the neck of a Peterborough bowl. The sherd has split through its thickness on a coil join. The remnants of impressed zig-zag decoration probably formed by lengths of twisted cord occur below the neck. The sherd is very similar to the vessels from Castle Hill, Honiton, which belong to the Mortlake subdivision of Peterborough ware (Fitzpatrick et al 1999, Fig 23). Recent programmes of radiocarbon dating have demonstrated that Peterborough Ware succeeds Early Neolithic ceramics and predates Grooved Ware, with a probable span of *c*.3400 cal BC to 2500 cal BC (Gibson & Kinnes 1997; Gibson 2002, 78-80) and that all styles of Peterborough pottery had developed by *c*.3000 cal BC. Generally Middle Neolithic pottery is rare in Devon compared to that of the preceding Early Neolithic. The piece represents only the sixth find spot: in addition to Castle Hill, sherds come from Westward Ho!, Bray Valley Quarry in Brayford, Bovey Lane at Beer, Topsham and Broadsands (Quinnell & Taylor 2007). The most recent finds were made by Cotswold Archaeology in 2006 on works in advance of a pipeline (Quinnell *forthcoming*). A pit at site OTA 2.03 (SY 103 945) close to Ottery St Mary produced Mortlake sherds while a group of pits at site FTC 2.02 (SX 810 642) near Staverton produced some fifty sherds in Fengate style.

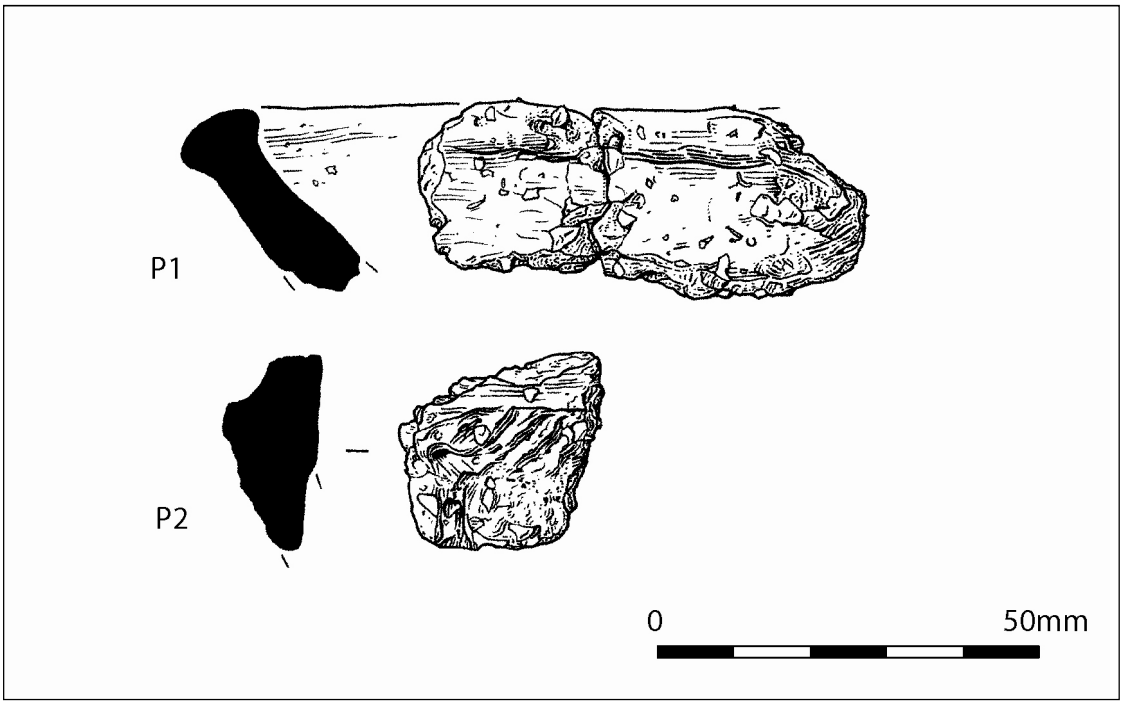

Figure 39: **P1** Early Neolithic bowl and **P2** Peterborough neck sherd (scale 1:1) (drawn by Jane Read).

Iron Age

Context (123) in pit [122] contained three joining sherds in gabbroic Fabric 3. These come from a base which has been trimmed to a rough disc *c.*80mm in diameter, with abrasion on the trimmed edge. Gabbroic material is well established as present in the South Western Decorated tradition of the Devon Middle Iron Age (Peacock 1969; Quinnell 2011). There are also 20 sherds in Upper Greensand Fabric 4 including a non-diagnostic base angle. Sherds are generally fresh.

Context (125) in pit [124) three moderately abraded sherds in Fabric 4 and one in Dorset Fabric 6.

Context (103) in gully [102] one moderately abraded sherd in Fabric 4.

Layer (128) ten sherds of Fabric 4 including a simple out-turned rim comparable to those at Blackbury and part of a rim with a short out-turn and marked internal bevel; there are no close comparanda known for this rim but some of the vessels in the late Early Iron Age component at Blackbury may be comparable (Young & Richardson 1954-5, Figs 8-9). The layer also contains part of a large out-turned rim in Fabric 5 which again may belong to the end of the Early Iron Age (cf Silvester 1981, Fig 11, No 8). However there are two small burnished pieces in Dorset Fabric 6 which appear to come from a Late Iron Age cooking pot, possibly with a beaded rim (cf Seaton, Bidwell & Silvester 1981, Fig 12), with a well-burnished outer surface. The Fabric 6 sherds are fresh while those of other fabrics are abraded. The presence of a medieval sherd demonstrates the possibility of intrusion.

Context (144) in pit [143] four abraded sherds Fabric 4 *c.*10mm thick all from the same vessel.

Topsoil also produce a Fabric 4 rim comparable to late Early Iron Age examples quoted from Blackbury (Young & Richardson 1954-5 (Figs 8-10).

The dating of these contexts within the Iron Age is difficult. The best parallels for the scrappy rims in Fabrics 4 and 5 come from the late Early Iron Age assemblages at Blackbury (Young & Richardson 1954-5) and at Seaton (Silvester 1981). Neither of these assemblages provide a clear stratigraphic distinction between Early Iron Age and Middle Iron Age forms: the problems relating to this are clearly outlined by Silvester (1981, 63). The Upper Greensand Fabrics 4 and 5 appear broadly comparable with those at Seaton (ibid). Gabbroic Fabric 3 has not so far been found in Early Iron Age contexts in East Devon: it occurs in the Middle Iron Age at Hembury (Peacock 1969, 58) and at Blackhorse outside Exeter (Fitzpatrick et al 1999, 179). The Dorset sherds do not date before the Late Iron Age and are sufficiently undiagnostic that they could come from early Roman period forms.

The interpretation of partly-excavated sites can be difficult. The best chronological statement that can be made about the Donkey Sanctuary material is that there was activity on the site at the end of the Early Iron Age, around 300 BC. All the Fabric 4/5 material could be of this date: it is generally abraded and may be redeposited in some contexts. It is possible that gully [102] which only contains a sherd of Fabric 4 is of this date. The gabbroic sherd from pit [122] was made in the Middle Iron Age, sometime between the 3rd century BC and the 1st century AD: it has however been

trimmed and used as an artefact and may have been deposited at some date subsequent to its manufacture. Pit [124] and layer (128) contain Dorset Fabric 6 sherds and probably belong to the 1st century AD. There was therefore a long period of activity in the Iron Age at the site.

Medieval and later pottery
In addition to the sherds in Table 1 the following contexts produced only medieval or later sherds/weight (grams): (109) 3/2, Field-walking 2A 2/4, 2F 1/5, 3A 1/8, 4C 1/4, 4E 1/8, 5A 1/4, 5E 1/3, Machine 2X 1/16, 3X 1/5, Compost Pad Spoil 8/48.

Fired clay kiln material
Several pieces were found in layer (128).

Fragment 1: Three joining fragments weighing 44g have an abraded curved outer surface; these are soft and oxidized 2.5 YR 5/8 red with 2.5 YR 3/1 very dark grey reduced core. There are sparse inclusions in a range of sizes.

Petrography: *Plant impressions* – common impressions of grass leaves and some stem fragments, some containing carbonised remnants, 1-10mm long, mainly between 2 and 4mm; *quartz* – a scatter of transparent to translucent colourless to white sub-angular rough surfaced grains and sparse sub-rounded to rounded grains, 0.1-1mm; *white grains* – soft angular non calcareous indeterminate possibly gypsum or white clay, 0.1-2mm; *rock fragments* – a scatter of fairly soft, buff slightly silty sub-angular to sub-rounded non-calcareous fragments, 1-5mm; *mica* – muscovite cleavage flakes in the matrix up to 0.05mm.

Comment: A grass-tempered clay with some incidental mineral grains and fragments. The clay is local, derived from the Tertiary residual clay/flint deposits near the site.

Fragment 2: A flattish fragment c 30mm thick weighing 49g, showing traces of vesicularity and incipient fusion, with one small vitrified patch over an area of c 4 sq cm on the flatter surface. Soft, varying from oxidized 5 YR 6/6 reddish yellow to reduced 5YR 4/1 dark gray, with sparse inclusions.

Petrography: *rock fragments* – sparse soft white, sub-rounded non-calcareous fragments up to 2-7.5mm; *quartz* – rare transparent angular and rounded 1-1.6mm; *chert* – sparse white 2mm and white and pale greyish mottled 4 and 7.5mm sub-angular fragments. A small fragment 3g of similar appearance to (2) contains *limonitic iron oxide* – dark brown sub-angular fragments, 2, 3 and 5mm; chert – white sub angular fragment, 2mm.

Comment: Clay daub kiln/furnace lining showing evidence of exposure to high temperature, from a local silty clay probably derived from the Tertiary residual clay/flint deposits near the site.

While traditionally fired-clay shaped artefacts have been interpreted as loomweights, recent studies have provided alternative explanations as kiln and oven furniture (Poole 1995). This suits the minimal evidence from South West Britain very well where only occasionally artefacts have been found, e.g. at Blackbury (Young & Richardson 1954-5, 56), but usually never in the quantities needed for weighting looms. The picture has altered somewhat by the find of 15 clay loom weights in a pit at Hayes Farm west of Exeter in 2012 (B. Horner *pers. comm.*). The evidence for some activity involving higher temperatures than domestic cooking at the Donkey Sanctuary supports the kiln/oven furniture interpretation.

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Appendix 7

Technological Debris by *L. S. Bray* and *G. Juleff*

The following is an assessment of the small assemblage of technological debris recovered during excavation at The Donkey Sanctuary, Trow Farm, Salcombe Regis. It consisted of 18 fragments of material from seven different contexts and included slag, iron ore, refractory material and heated rock.

Description

Context 103
A single complete piece of iron ore was recovered from this context with a nodular morphology and a maximum diameter of 20mm.

Context 123
The first find from this context consisted of a nodule of iron ore with a diameter of 35mm. This had been fragmented during excavation and its interior displayed a well-defined radiating crystal structure. The interior of the nodule was orange in colour suggesting a limonitic mineralogy, although the exterior was a thin (~2mm maximum) shell of a grey mineral with a red streak, possibly goethite.
Also recovered from context 123 were five fragments of fairly fine-grained sandstone with a homogenous texture. Their colour ranged from buff to a light salmon pink which suggested a degree of heating.

Context 128
Seven fragments of slag were derived from this context with a maximum dimension ranging from 25 to 55mm. All the specimens were dense with a dark grey, glassy and occasionally crystalline appearance typical of many metallurgical slags. Additionally, most displayed a vesicular texture and bore frequent charcoal impressions, in some places sufficiently numerous to give the impression of slag accumulation amidst a lattice of charcoal fragments. Although the assemblage was fragmented, several specimens showed remnants of surfaces with an abraded appearance.

Context 138
This context yielded a small, amorphous fragment of vitrified refractory material measuring 30mm in its maximum dimension.

Context 109
A small (15mm diameter) nodule was recovered from context 109 which gave a red streak (when rubbed on white porcelain) and thus, despite its apparently low density is probably iron ore.

Grid 5B
The specimen from this context consisted of a small (25 mm) vitrified fragment of refractory material. It has a very low density and displays the honeycomb texture typical of vitrified material but is otherwise undiagnostic.

Grid 7A
The final fragment of the assemblage was a fragment of slag with a vesicular texture and an abraded surface. The charcoal impressions present in the slag from context 123 were absent.

Conclusions
The small size of the assemblage and its derivation in a number of different contexts makes interpretation difficult. However, the presence of metallurgical slag, iron ore and small amounts of vitrified material suggests that the best interpretation is that it is the result of iron smelting. This is particularly the case for the material from context 123. As noted, the charcoal impressions in this group suggest its accumulation within a body of fuel, probably within a furnace. The absence of tap slag from the assemblage as a whole may also be significant, perhaps suggesting the use of a non-tap slagging technology. Nodules of iron ore were also recovered from several contexts (103, 123, and 109). Mineralogically these appear to be limonitic and probably derive from ore sources of the Upper Cretaceous Greensand which outcrop locally to the site. Two fragments of refractory material were retrieved during the excavations. These were small and morphologically non-diagnostic although both were strongly vitrified indicating their subjection to significantly elevated temperatures. The whole assemblage is suggestive of iron smelting, although given its retrieval from several different contexts, its small size and the lack of evidence for pyrotechnic structures on the site, this probably did not take place in the investigated area. The indications of weathering and abrasion on several fragments of slag and refractory material support this conclusion, suggesting that this material was exposed on the surface for some time before being re-deposited and buried.

Appendix 8

List of Photographs on CDROM to the rear of this report

NO.	Description	Date	From	Scale
SDC07 (1)	General shots of site, pre-strip.	10.09.07	E	-
SDC07 (2)	As above.	10.09.07	SSE	-
SDC07 (3)	As above.	20.09.07	SE	-
SDC07 (4)	As above.	20.09.07	SE	-
SDC07 (5)	General shots of site, post-strip.	24.09.07	SE	-
SDC07 (6)	Volunteers sieving.	25.09.07	S	-
SDC07 (7)	Fields to be walked.	25.09.07	E	-
SDC07 (8)	As above.	25.09.07	SE	-
SDC07 (9)	As above.	25.09.07	E	-
SDC07 (10)	As above.	25.09.07	E	-
SDC07 (11)	[100] post-excavation.	25.09.07	S	0.5m
SDC07 (12)	General shot.	26.09.07	N	-
SDC07 (13)	[102] post-excavation.	26.09.07	E	1m
SDC07 (14)	[117] post-excavation.	27.09.07	E	0.5m
SDC07 (15)	As above.	27.09.07	W	0.5m
SDC07 (16)	[119] post-excavation.	28.09.07	NE	0.5m
SDC07 (17)	[119] section post-excavation.	28.09.07	SW	0.5m
SDC07 (18)	[120] section post-excavation.	28.09.07	SE	0.5m
SDC07 (19)	As above.	28.09.07	SE	0.5m
SDC07 (20)	[121] post-excavation.	28.09.07	SE	0.5m
SDC07 (21)	As above.	28.09.07	SE	0.5m
SDC07 (22)	[118] post-excavation.	28.09.07	SW	0.5m
SDC07 (23)	As above.	28.09.07	E	0.5m
SDC07 (24)	[116] section post-excavation.	28.09.07	E	0.5m
SDC07 (25)	As above.	28.09.07	E	0.5m
SDC07 (26)	As above.	28.09.07	N	0.5m
SDC07 (27)	As above.	28.09.07	N	0.5m
SDC07 (28)	As above.	28.09.07	N	0.5m
SDC07 (29)	Working shot: Séana Cummings	28.09.07	-	-
SDC07 (30)	As above: Dr Lee Bray.	28.09.07	-	-
SDC07 (31)	[104] post-excavation	01.10.07	SW	0.5m
SDC07 (32)	As above.	01.10.07	SW	0.5m
SDC07 (33)	[106] post-excavation.	01.10.07	W	0.5m
SDC07 (34)	[108] post-excavation.	02.10.07	ENE	0.5m
SDC07 (35)	[102] [122] [124] post-excavation.	02.10.07	W	0.5m
SDC07 (36)	[108] post-excavation.	03.10.07	W	1m
SDC07 (37)	[126] post-excavation.	03.10.07	E	0.5m
SDC07 (38)	[108] corner post-excavation.	03.10.07	N	1m
SDC07 (39)	As above.	03.10.07	E	1m
SDC07 (40)	[129] post-excavation.	03.10.07	S	0.5m
SDC07 (41)	[131] posthole post-excavation.	03.10.07	S	0.5m
SDC07 (42)	[133] burrow/root post-excavation.	04.10.07	E	0.5m
SDC07 (43)	[135] post-excavation.	04.10.07	S	0.5m
SDC07 (44)	[137] gully post-excavation.	04.10.07	SE	0.5m
SDC07 (45)	As above.	04.10.07	SE	0.5m
SDC07 (46)	[139] post-excavation.	04.10.07	S	0.5m
SDC07 (47)	[141] linear post-excavation.	04.10.07	SE	0.5m
SDC07 (48)	[143] posthole post-excavation.	04.10.07	SE	0.5m
SDC07 (49)	[108] post-excavation west-facing section.	05.10.07	W	1m
SDC07 (50)	[147] post-excavation.	05.10.07	S	1m
SDC07 (51)	[145] post-excavation.	05.10.07	S	0.5m

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