

Devon County Council Historic Environment Record

Civil Parish & District: Clovelly, Torridge	National Grid Reference SS 31292 23368	Number:
Subject: Archaeological monitoring on cable trenching at Clovelly Cross, Clovelly, Devon		Photo attached? Yes
SAM no: 1018522	Recipient museum: Museum of Barnstaple and North Devon (MBND)	
OASIS ID: southwes1-515134	Museum Accession no: N/A	
Contractor's reference number/code: CHCC23	Dates fieldwork undertaken: 18 th -20 th October 2023	
<p>Description of works.</p> <p>Archaeological monitoring and recording was undertaken by South West Archaeology Ltd. (SWARCH) at the request of National Grid (the Client) during the installation of electrical cabling beneath the road at Clovelly Cross, Higher Clovelly, Devon. This work was carried out by P. Webb between 18th and 20th October 2023 in accordance with the Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI; Boyd 2023) and Scheduled Monument Consent (S00244395).</p> <p>The cable trench was located across the B3237 just to the north of the roundabout with the A39 at Clovelly Cross, Higher Clovelly. The cable trench runs within the curtilage of the Scheduled Clovelly Dykes Hillfort (1018522). The land is relatively flat at a height of c.210m AOD. The soils here are the well-drained fine loamy soils over rock of the Neath Association (SSEW 1983); which overlie the sedimentary mudstone of the Pilton Crackington Formation (BGS 2022).</p> <p>The site lies in an area of archaeological potential, within the curtilage of the Clovelly Dykes Hillfort; a funerary barrow is (1018521) is located to the west and a holy well (1018521) to the east. Much of the surrounding landscape includes evidence for medieval and later farming and settlement.</p> <p>Two sections of cable trench (Trenches 01-02), each c.0.60m wide and measuring c.15m in length, were excavated by mechanical excavator to a depth of c.0.70m using a toothless grading bucket (where possible) under archaeological supervision. The stratigraphy varied across the site, Trench 01 containing only layers of compacted/concreted tarmac from the road construction; Trench 02 comprising topsoil, mid yellow-brown friable-soft silt-clay c.0.10-0.20m thick; overlying re-deposited natural, mid yellow-brown friable-soft silt-clay and natural yellow clay up to 0.20m thick; and concrete of the former road construction.</p> <p>No archaeological features or deposits were identified during the works.</p> <p>Conclusions</p> <p>Despite being situated within the curtilage of the Clovelly Dykes Hillfort, the archaeological monitoring identified only ground disturbance associated with the construction of the existing and former B3237 road surfaces and cabling for roadside streetlights.</p> <p>Bibliography</p> <p>Boyd, N. 2023: <i>Cable Installation, Clovelly Cross, Torridge, Devon: Written Scheme of Investigation</i>. SWARCH report no. CHCC23WSIv1.</p> <p>British Geological Survey 2022: <i>Geology of Britain Viewer</i>. http://geologyviewer.bgs.ac.uk</p> <p>Soil Survey of England and Wales 1983: <i>Legend for the 1:250,000 Soil Map of England and Wales</i>.</p>		
Recorder: P. Webb		Date sent to HER: 19.10.23

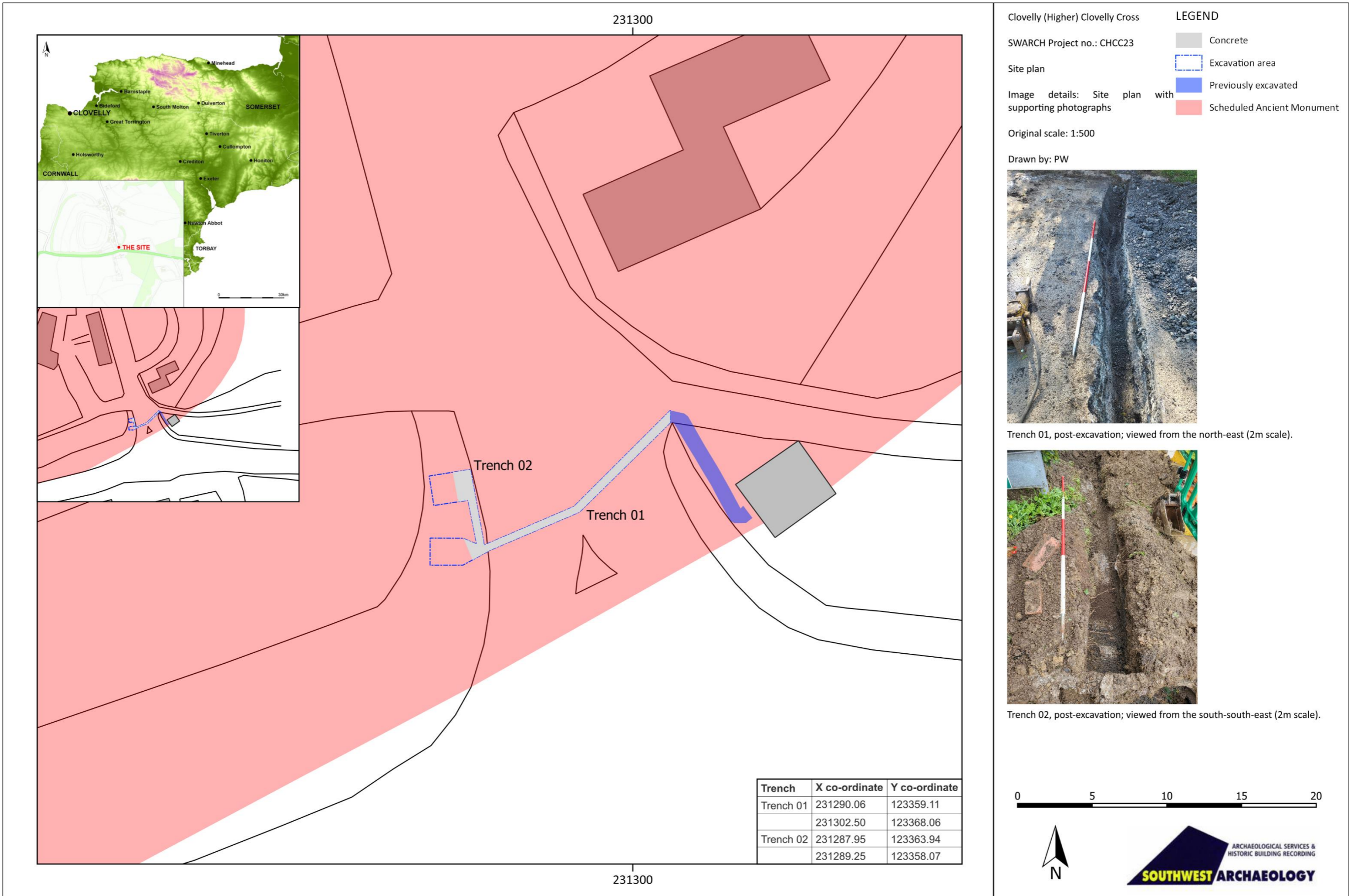


FIGURE 1: SUPPORTING IMAGES; SITE PLAN SHOWING LOCATION OF EXCAVATED TRENCHES, WITH REPRESENTATIVE PHOTOGRAPHS (CONTAINS ORDNANCE SURVEY DATA © CROWN COPYRIGHT).