Cotswold Archaeology

Rydon Farm
Ogwell
Devon

Archaeological Evaluation

for

Orta Solar Limited

CA Project: 4655
CA Report: 13711
Accession Number: RAMM: 13/74

April 2014

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SUMMARY

Project Name:	Rydon Farm
Location:	Ogwell, Devon
NGR:	SX 8374 6878 and SX 8452 6883
Type:	Evaluation
Date:	9-17 December 2013
Planning Reference:	Teignbridge District Council 13/02129/MAJ
Location of Archive:	To be deposited with Royal Albert Memorial Museum, Exeter
Accession Number:	RAMM: 13/74
Site Code:	RFO 13

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in December 2013 at Rydon Farm, Ogwell, Devon. A total of sixteen trenches was excavated.

The evaluation identified a number of archaeological features which generally correlated well with a preceding geophysical survey. Archaeologically significant features encountered comprised ditches and pits dated to the prehistoric and post-medieval periods.

Evidence for prehistoric activity was identified in Trenches 13 and 14. Pottery of Middle or Later Bronze Age date (*c.* 1600–1000 BC) and a crude endscraper consistent with Bronze Age dating was recovered from the ditch fills of a sub oval enclosure. A potentially contemporary roundhouse gully and pit were revealed within the enclosure.

Undated features, including ditches and pits, were identified in Trenches 1, 3, 4, 7, 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13.

Features, including plough scars, land drains and ditches, relating to recent agricultural activity were also identified.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 In December 2013 Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological evaluation for Orta Solar Limited on land at Rydon Farm, Ottery St Mary, Devon (centred on NGR: SX 8374 6878 and SX 8452 6883; Fig. 1). The archaeological evaluation forms part of a programme of archaeological works undertaken to accompany a planning application (Teignbridge District Council (TDC) planning ref: 13/02129/MAJ). Stephen Reed, Archaeologist, Devon County Council Historic Environment Team (DCCHET), archaeological advisor to TDC, recommended that the programme of archaeological works was undertaken.

1.2 The evaluation was carried out in accordance with a subsequent detailed Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) produced by Cotswold Archaeology (2013a) and approved by Mr Reed. The evaluation also followed the *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (IfA 2009), the *Management of Archaeological Projects 2* (English Heritage 1991) and the *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MORPHE): Project Manager's Guide* (EH 2006). It was monitored by Mr Reed, including site visits on 13 and 17 December 2013.

1.3 The WSI and trench location plan were submitted to, and approved by, Stephen Reed following the completion of the first phase of geophysical survey. Due to the harvesting of crops, the second phase of geophysical survey was delayed and the provisional results became available whilst the trenching being undertaken. An additional trench location plan was then submitted to Stephen Reed and further alterations to the trench plan were made following on-site discussions with Stephen Reed. The final, agreed trench layout is presented as Fig. 2.

The site

1.4 The proposed development area comprises two separate areas of land to the east and west of Rydon Farm. The western area (equestrian centre) is 11.3ha in extent, with the eastern area (agricultural land) being 10ha. The western area is situated on the north-facing slope of Rydon Hill and lies at approximately 90m AOD. The eastern area straddles an east/west orientated valley of a (seasonal) stream and lies at a similar height.

1.5 The underlying bedrock geology of the area is mapped as East Ogwell Limestone Formation of the Devonian Period with areas of Whiteway Mudstone Formation and Ugbrooke Sandstone Formation of Carboniferous and Devonian Period to the east of site (BGS 2013). No superficial deposits are recorded. The natural substrate was identified in all of the evaluation trenches.

Archaeological background

1.6 An archaeological desk-based assessment (DBA) of the site and its immediate surroundings was carried out in support of the application (CA 2013b). A summary of findings set out in this document is given below.

1.7 The earliest evidence for human activity within the vicinity of the site comes from a findspot of Neolithic flints found almost directly between the two areas of the development site. Probable Bronze Age round barrows have been identified to both the north and south of the site. Four non-contiguous areas of land in the vicinity of the site contain probable evidence for prehistoric field systems

1.8 A series of earthworks forming sub-rectangular enclosures approximately 1km north of the site have been identified as a prehistoric, possibly Iron Age, field system. A saddle quern, sherds of Iron Age type and an undecorated spindle whorl were found at the above site. Berry Down Hillfort is only 700m north of the site. A number of clearance cairns may be associated with the system, although they may instead be natural features. A series of low irregular banks have been identified as a Late Bronze Age and Iron Age field system approximately 880m south of the site. Possible clearance cairns and areas of 'settlement' earthworks have been identified, although they are much degraded and some earthworks may be natural features. A further area of linear banks forming squarish plots approximately 450m south of the site have been interpreted as a Late Bronze Age and Iron Age field system. Associated with this field system are two small grass covered mounds *c.* 5.5m in diameter and 0.4m high identified as Iron Age huts. Also of note is Denbury Hillfort which is located 1.7km west of the site and points to definite Iron Age activity within the local area.

1.9 The sole piece of evidence from the Roman period within the vicinity of the site is the discovery of a Roman coin hoard approximately 460m south-west of the site. A total of 243 coins was found in April and May 2007, and given their distribution and composition, it is clear that they constitute a single hoard that has been disturbed

and scattered since their burial. The latest identifiable coins were struck for the Emperor Valentinian (AD 364-78), perhaps indicating an approximate date of deposition.

1.10 The proposed site would have formed part of the agricultural lands farmed by the nearby settlements during the medieval period. Devon County Council's Historic Landscape Characterisation records this area as 'medieval enclosures based on strip fields', with the land probably first being enclosed by hedge-banks during the later medieval period. An area of medieval and/or post-medieval ridge and furrow has been recorded approximately 600m south of the eastern area.

1.11 During the post-medieval period the land-use within the vicinity of the site appears to have largely continued to comprise large tracts of farmland consisting of enclosed former medieval open fields. However, immediately to the south of the western area, a small tract of land is classified by Devon County Council's Historic Landscape Characterisation as an area of 18th or 19th-century 'post-medieval enclosure'.

1.12 Modern heritage assets consist of the site of a Second World War searchlight battery approximately 200m south of the site.

1.13 The sole heritage asset identified by the DBA within the site itself is a stretch of historic hedgerow marking the parish boundary between Wolborough and Abbotskerswell. This hedgerow is extant between the northern and eastern fields of the eastern area, but has largely been removed between the southern and eastern fields. The hedgerow forming the northern boundary of the western area, adjacent to Denbury Road, is also a historic hedgerow, demarcating the northern boundary of Wolborough Parish. The date of this parish boundary, and therefore the hedgerows, is unknown, for their earliest depiction is on the 1845 Wolborough Tithe Map. However, under The Hedgerows Regulations Act, 1997, any hedgerow marking the boundary of at least one historic parish existing before 1850 is classified as 'important'.

1.14 The geophysical survey was carried out in two phases by Stratascan (2013). The first phase (upon which the WSI and accompanying trench location plan were based) comprised the central part of the western area and the eastern area. The second phase comprised the western and southern parts of western area. The geophysical survey identified (Figs 2 to 4): Anomalies possible relating to historic

field boundaries (1). Positive anomalies probably relating to possible cut archaeological features (2). Negative anomalies relating to possible bank/earthwork archaeological features (3). Small positive anomalies, possible pits (4). Anomalies probably relating to ploughing (5). Anomalies probably relating to buried services (6 and 7). Scattered magnetic debris and modern debris (8 and 9). Areas of amorphous magnetic variation relating to geological/pedological features (10). It was considered possible that some of the anomalies (for example those targeted by Trenches 7, 8, 13 and 15) may have related to prehistoric funerary and/or occupation activity (CA 2013a).

Archaeological objectives

1.15 The objectives of the evaluation were to provide information about the archaeological resource within the site, including its presence/absence, character, extent, date, integrity, state of preservation and quality. In accordance with the *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (IfA 2009), the evaluation was designed to be minimally intrusive and minimally destructive to archaeological remains. The information gathered will enable TDC to identify and assess the particular significance of any heritage asset, consider the impact of the proposed development upon it, and to avoid or minimise conflict between the heritage asset's conservation and any aspect of the development proposal, in line with the *National Planning Policy Framework* (DCLG 2012).

Methodology

1.16 The fieldwork comprised the excavation of 16 trenches in the locations shown on the attached plans (Figs. 2-4). All trenches were 30m long and 1.8m wide. Trench 6 was moved to the north to avoid a modern trackway, with Trench 12 being moved to the west due to its proximity to a hedgerow. The locations of Trenches 15 and 16 were revised from the locations outlined in the WSI (CA 2013a) following the completion of the second phase of the geophysical survey and on-site discussions between CA and Stephen Reed, DCCHET. Trenches were set out on OS National Grid (NGR) co-ordinates using Leica GPS and surveyed in accordance with CA Technical Manual 4 *Survey Manual* (2012).

1.17 All trenches were excavated by mechanical excavator equipped with a toothless grading bucket. All machine excavation was undertaken under constant archaeological supervision to the top of the first significant archaeological horizon or the natural substrate, whichever was encountered first. Where archaeological

deposits were encountered they were excavated by hand in accordance with CA Technical Manual 1: *Fieldwork Recording Manual* (2013).

1.18 Deposits were assessed for their palaeoenvironmental potential in accordance with CA Technical Manual 2: *The Taking and Processing of Environmental and Other Samples from Archaeological Sites* (2003). Following on site discussions between CA and Stephen Reed, DCCHET, one feature in Trench 13 was sampled and processed (Appendix C). All artefacts recovered were processed in accordance with Technical Manual 3 *Treatment of Finds Immediately after Excavation* (1995).

1.19 The archive and artefacts from the evaluation are currently held by CA at their offices in Kemble. Subject to the agreement of the legal landowner the artefacts will be deposited with Royal Albert Memorial Museum, Exeter, along with the site under Accession Number: RAMM: 13/74. A summary of information from this project, set out within Appendix E, will be entered onto the OASIS online database of archaeological projects in Britain.

2. RESULTS (FIGS 3-6)

2.1 This section provides an overview of the evaluation results; detailed summaries of the recorded contexts, finds, environmental samples (palaeoenvironmental evidence) and radiocarbon dates are to be found in Appendices A, B, C and D respectively.

2.2 All identified archaeological features cut the natural substrate and the fills were sealed by subsoil, except where probable post-medieval and/or modern features cut through the overlying subsoil.

2.3 Archaeological features were encountered in Trenches 1, 3, 4, 7, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14. Of these, pit 710 (Trench 7), and ditch 1304 (Trench 13) were cut through the subsoil and are thought to be of relatively recent date.

2.4 In Trenches 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12 modern field drains were noted, often corresponding with linear geophysical anomalies. Modern services (not illustrated) corresponding with geophysical anomalies were identified in Trenches 2 and 6 and evidence for recent ploughing was identified in Trench 7.

2.5 No archaeological features or deposits were identified in Trenches 2, 5, 6, 8, 15 and 16. In most cases geophysical anomalies in these trenches were attributed to modern or geological features.

General Stratigraphy

2.6 The natural substrate in the western part of the site (Trenches 1 to 6 inclusive and 16) comprised red-brown silty clay interspersed with outcrops of weathered limestone. In the eastern part of the site (Trenches 7 to 15 inclusive) the natural substrate comprised grey mudstone with red-brown silty clay patches. In the majority of trenches the natural substrate was overlain by silty clay subsoil (averaging 0.2m in thickness) and a silty clay topsoil (averaging 0.25m thick). Within Trench 16 and the central part of Trench 4 the natural substrate was directly overlain by ploughsoil *c.* 0.25m thick..

2.7 In Trenches 3, 6 and 14 the natural substrate was overlain by probable colluvial deposits which were in turn overlain by subsoil and topsoil. Colluvial and/or alluvial deposits were also identified in Trench 12 and these deposits were associated with the dry valley and/or the broadly north/south orientated, meandering seasonal stream. Further deposits associated with the stream and/or the dry valley were identified in Trenches 8 and 9.

Trench 1 (Fig. 3)

2.8 The natural substrate, 102, was identified at a depth of 0.4m below present ground level (bpgl) in Trench 1. It was cut by three similarly (north-east/south-west) orientated, undated ditches 104, 108 and 110. Ditches 104 and 110 measured 0.97m and 0.8m in width and 0.29m and 0.22m in depth respectively. Both ditches had a similar profile with moderate sloping sides to a slightly rounded base, and had similar silty clay fills (103 and 109). The north-western edge of ditch 104 was cut by a circular pit, 106, measuring 0.64m in diameter and 0.21m in depth. The pit contained a single artefactually sterile silty clay fill, 105.

2.9 Ditch 108 had a 'V'-shaped profile and measured 0.62m in width and 0.53m in depth. Its single silty clay fill, 107, contained no datable artefacts. Ditch 104 corresponded with a north-east/south-west aligned linear feature identified by the geophysical survey.

Trench 3 (Fig. 3)

2.10 The natural substrate, 303, was identified at a depth of between 0.72m and 1.3m bpgl in Trench 3. Two converging ditches, 305 and 307, corresponding with linear geophysical anomalies, were identified at the centre of the trench. The ditches were orientated north-east/south-west, measured 0.7m and 0.62m in width and 0.18m and 0.1m in depth respectively. Both ditches had a similar profile, with moderate sloping sides to a slightly rounded base, and contained similar artefactually sterile silty clay fills (304 and 306).

Trench 4 (Fig. 3)

2.11 The natural substrate, 403, was identified at a depth of between 0.24 and 0.6m bpgl in Trench 4. It was cut by an undated north-west/south-east aligned ditch, 404, that broadly corresponded with a linear geophysical anomaly identified by the geophysical survey. Ditch 404 measured 1.48m in width, 0.25m in depth with moderate sloping sides to a flat base and contained a single silty clay fill, 403.

Trench 7 (Fig. 4)

2.12 The natural substrate, 702, was identified at a depth of 0.5m bpgl in Trench 7 and was cut by undated pit 706. Pit 706 measured 1.72m in length, in excess of 0.46m in width and had a maximum depth of 0.37m. It had irregular sides and base, and contained a single artefactually sterile silty clay fill, 705. This fill (and the natural substrate) were sealed by subsoil 701 which was 0.26m thick and which was cut by pit 710. Pit 710 measured 3.8m in length, in excess of 0.66m in width, and 0.94m in depth. It had steep sloping sides, an irregular base and contained a series of undated fills (709, 708 and 707).

Trench 9 (Fig. 4)

2.13 The natural substrate, 903, was identified at a depth of 0.23m bpgl in Trench 9. Ditch 905, identified in the eastern part of the trench, measured 0.41m in width, 0.11m in depth and had a 'U'-shaped profile. It contained a single undated silty clay fill, 904, which merged with alluvial deposit 902 to the west. This ditch was not identified by the geophysical survey.

Trench 10 (Fig. 4)

2.14 The natural substrate, 1002, was identified at an average depth of 0.38m bpgl in Trench 10. It was cut by circular pit 1004 at the northern end of the trench.

Measuring 0.6m in diameter and 0.06m in depth, pit 1004 contained a single artefactually sterile, stony fill, 1003.

Trench 11 (Fig. 4)

2.15 The natural substrate, 1102, was identified at an average depth of 0.6m bpgl in Trench 11. It was cut by circular pit 1104 in the central part of the trench. The pit measured 0.88m in diameter, 0.2m in depth, and contained a single artefactually sterile, stony, clay silt backfill, 1103.

Trench 12 (Fig. 4)

2.16 The natural substrate, 1204, was identified at a depth of between 0.54 and 0.9m bpgl in Trench 12. It was overlain at the western end of the trench by an 8m wide alluvial deposit of dark grey clayey silt, 1203, which represents the fill of the seasonal stream also identified in Trenches 8 and 9. Deposit 1203 was overlain by 0.24m thick silty clay layer 1202, interpreted as alluvium deposited within the base of the valley during episodes of overbank flooding.

2.17 Towards the eastern end of the trench the natural substrate was cut by undated pit 1208 which measured 0.5m in diameter, 0.09m in depth, had moderate sloping sides to a flat base and contained a single clay silt fill 1207. It was also cut by north/south aligned ditch 1206 which measured 0.68m in width, 0.2m in depth, with moderate sloping sides to a rounded base and contained a single artefactually sterile silty clay fill 1205). The ditch correlated with one of the linear anomalies identified by the geophysical survey.

Trench 13 (Figs 4 & 5)

2.18 Natural substrate 1302, revealed at a depth of 0.4m to 0.66m bpgl, was cut by a north-west/south-east aligned ditch 1308 towards the eastern end of the trench. This ditch measured 1.73m in width, at least 1.0m in depth with steeply sloping sides. It corresponded to the northern side of an sub oval enclosure measuring approximately 42m north-east/south-west and 25m north-west/south-east visible on the geophysical survey. The ditch contained a sequence of fills, 1307, 1306 and 1305 but could not be fully excavated due to health and safety considerations: Lowest recorded fill 1307 was at least 0.32m thick and largely comprised mudstone. Secondary fill 1306 was 0.12m in thick, comprised clay silt and contained 26 sherds of Middle or Later Bronze Age pottery. Upper fill 1305, largely comprising mudstone

fragments, was artefactually sterile (Fig. 5, section AA and photograph). It may have represented the collapsed remains of an adjacent bank.

2.19 An environmental sample <1> taken from fill 1306 within ditch 1308 contained a single, poorly preserved, cereal grain and a small amount of charcoal. The poor preservation of the plant macrofossils and the highly-fragmented nature of the charcoal suggest that the recovered ecofactual material accumulated from wind-blown hearth debris. A radiocarbon date (SUERC-51774 1491-1289 cal BC; Appendix D) was obtained from the cereal grain.

2.20 Fill 1305 was sealed by silty clay subsoil 1301 which measured between 0.1m and 0.4m in thickness and was cut by north-west/south-east aligned ditch 1304 (Fig. 5, section BB) in the central part of the trench.

2.21 Ditch 1304 was 2.42m in width,0.42m in depth, and had moderate sloping sides to a flat base that was cut slightly deeper along its eastern edge. It contained two artefactually sterile fills 1303 and 1309 (Fig. 5, section BB) and broadly correlated with a north-west/south-east orientated geophysical anomaly.

Trench 14 (Figs 4 & 6)

2.22 The natural substrate, 1402, was revealed at a depth of between 0.38m and 0.82m bpgl in Trench 14 and showed possible evidence of being stepped or terraced. A shallow depression in the natural substrate was filled by a silty clay colluvial deposit, 1412, measuring up to 0.24m thick in the central part of the trench.

2.23 To the south of deposit 1412, the natural substrate was cut by north-east/south-west aligned ditch 1409. This ditch measured 1.94m in width, 0.98m in depth with steeply sloping sides. Corresponding with the southern side of a sub oval enclosure visible on geophysical survey, the ditch contained a sequence of fills, 1408, 1407 and 1406, however it was not fully excavated due to the high level of groundwater. The lowest recorded fill, 1408, measured in excess of 0.14m thick and comprised silt and mudstone. Secondary fill 1407 measured 0.53m in thickness, comprised silt with occasional mudstone fragments and contained one piece of worked flint; a crude endscraper consistent with Bronze Age dating (although the possibility of it being residual cannot be entirely discounted). Upper fill 1406 comprised silt and mudstone fragments (Fig. 6, section EE and photograph). It was artefactually sterile and may represent the collapse of an adjacent, interior, bank.

2.24 East/west aligned ditch 1403 identified close to the northern extent of the trench measured 1.1m in width, 0.42m in depth with moderate sloping sides to a narrow flat base. Corresponding with a curvilinear anomaly visible on the geophysical survey, the ditch contained two fills, 1404 and 1405. The lower fill, 1404, consisted of silty clay with mudstone fragments and contained an undated abraded fragment of fired clay. The upper silty clay fill, 1405, was artefactually sterile (Fig. 6, section DD and photograph).

2.25 Pit 1410 measured 0.45m in diameter and 0.05m in depth, with irregular shallow sloping sides to a flat base. Its single silty grey fill, 1411, contained no artefacts (Fig. 6, section FF and photograph).

The finds and palaeoenvironmental evidence

Pottery

2.26 A total of twenty-six sherds of undecorated prehistoric pottery, in a course igneous/metamorphic rock-temper fabric, was recovered from fill 1306 within ditch 1308. A total of four rimsherds enabled identification as a possible barrel urn featuring an externally expanded/internally bevelled rim. This vessel type is first seen in the Deverel-Rimbury tradition, and is typically found across southern Britain between 1400-1000 BC (Middle Bronze Age), although the form also continues earlier into the prehistoric period (Gibson and Woods 1997, 95-96; 142-145). Several sherds retained thick, carbonised deposits which suggest the urn was used as a cooking vessel.

Worked flint

2.27 Fill 1407 of ditch 1409 produced a flint end scraper made on a very thick flake. The form appears to be that of a keeled scraper, which is an upper Palaeolithic tool made on a thick flake with a very steep profile resembling the keel of an upturned boat. However, the retouch is rather crude suggesting this may simply be a roughly made end scraper utilising a particularly thick flake, which would be typical of a Bronze Age tool.

Environmental samples

2.29 One environmental sample (23 litres of soil) was retrieved from a single deposit with the intention of recovering evidence of industrial or domestic activity and material for

radiocarbon dating. The sample was processed by standard flotation procedures (CA Technical Manual No. 2).

2.30 Sample <1> was recovered from fill 1306 within ditch 1308 which is dated to the Middle to Late Bronze Age from the recovered pottery. The sample contained a single poorly preserved cereal grain, which has been identified as wheat, possibly emmer/spelt wheat (*Triticum dicoccum/Triticum spelta*). A small amount of charcoal was also recovered but was highly fragmented, preventing identification. The poor preservation of the plant macrofossils and the highly-fragmented nature of the charcoal suggests this ecofactual material accumulated from wind-blown hearth debris. The assemblage is too small to ascertain whether crop processing was taking place on site. The cereal grain would be suitable for radiocarbon dating if required.

3. DISCUSSION

3.1 The evaluation has identified a limited number of archaeological features within the site. While the geophysical survey suggested the site had archaeological potential (Stratascan 2012), the majority of the geophysical anomalies that were subsequently identified during the current trenching were found to represent either geological features, modern drains and services and/or undated field boundaries. Where archaeological features were encountered there was a reasonable correlation with the results of the preceding geophysical survey. Within the eastern-most field of the eastern area (Trenches 13 and 14) a probable prehistoric enclosure with internal features consistent with settlement activity was revealed.

Prehistoric

3.2 Evidence for prehistoric activity comprised sherds of pottery of Middle or Later Bronze Age date and a crude endscraper of probable Bronze Age date recovered from two ditch fills in Trenches 13 and 14. Ditches 1308 and 1409, in Trenches 13 and 14 respectively, represent the eastern and northern sides of a sub oval enclosure measuring approximately 42m north-east/south-west and 25m north-west/south-east visible on the geophysical survey. Ecofactual material recovered from the fill (1306) of the enclosure ditch in Trench 13 has been interpreted as accumulating from wind-blown hearth debris also suggesting the presence of settlement activity in the vicinity. This ecofatual material included a carbonised

cereal grain and a radiocarbon date (SUERC-51774 1491-1289 cal BC; Appendix D) was obtained from this. The radiocarbon date corresponds to the date of the pottery (Middle to Late Bronze Age) which was recovered from fill 1306.

3.3 Within the enclosure, undated ditch 1403 corresponded with a curvilinear geophysical anomaly and may represent a roundhouse gully. The lower silty clay fill 1404 of the ditch contained an abraded fragment of fired clay, which cannot be dated. An undated pit 1410, was located to the south of ditch 1403, and could potentially represent associated settlement activity.

Undated

3.4 A small number of isolated, artefactually undated pits (106, 706, 710, 1004, 1104 and 1208) that were not identified by the geophysical survey were revealed in Trenches 1, 7, 10, 11 and 12. Ditches 104, 108, 110, 305, 307, 404, 905, 1206 and 1304 in Trenches 1, 3, 4, 9, 12 and 13 respectively were also artefactually undated. A number of the undated features (pit 710 and ditch 1304) were found to cut the subsoil and are probably of relatively recent date.

Post-medieval and modern

3.5 A number of features (including plan scar, land drains and ditches) relating to recent agricultural activity were also identified.

4. CA PROJECT TEAM

Fieldwork was undertaken by Ray Holt, assisted by Michael Joyce, Peter Searle, Jerry Austin and Hazel O'Neil. The report was written by Ray Holt assisted by Aleksandra Osinska. The finds report was written by Jacky Sommerville. The palaeoenvironmental report was written by Sarah Cobain. The illustrations were prepared by Rebecca Riley. The archive has been compiled by Ray Holt, and prepared for deposition by Jon Hart. The project was managed for CA by Laurent Coleman.

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APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Trench No.	Context No.	Type	Fill of	Context interpretation	Description	L (m)	W (m)	Depth/thickness (m)	Spot-date
1	100	deposit		topsoil	mid orange brown silty clay with occasional sub-angular stones	>30	>1.9	0.21	
1	101	deposit		subsoil	mid red brown silty clay with occasional stones	>30	>1.9	0.19	
1	102	natural		natural geology	pink red clay with yellow brown clay	>30	>1.9	n/a	
1	103	fill	104	fill of ditch	mid red brown silty clay	>1.9	0.97	0.29	
1	104	cut		ditch	linear, NE/SW aligned possible field/hedge boundary ditch	>1.9	0.97	0.29	
1	105	fill	106	fill of pit	mid red brown silty clay	0.64	0.64	0.21	
1	106	cut		pit	circular pit of uncertain purpose	0.64	0.64	0.21	
1	107	fill	108	fill of ditch	mid yellow brown silty clay	>1.9	0.62	0.53	
1	108	cut		ditch	linear, steep sided, NE/SW aligned possible boundary ditch	>1.9	0.62	0.53	
1	109	fill	110	fill of ditch	mid orange grey silty clay	>1.8	0.8	0.22	
1	110	cut		ditch	linear, NE/SW aligned boundary ditch	>1.8	0.8	0.22	
2	200	deposit		topsoil	mid orange brown silty clay with occasional sub-angular stones	>30	>1.9	0.24	
2	201	deposit		subsoil	mid red brown silty clay with occasional stones	>30	>1.9	0.56	
2	202	natural		natural geology	pink red and orange clay with gravel	>30	>1.9	n/a	
3	300	deposit		topsoil	mid orange brown silty clay with occasional sub-angular stones	>30	>1.9	0.24	
3	301	deposit		subsoil	mid red brown silty clay with occasional stones	>30	>1.9	0.48	
3	302	deposit		layer	mid yellow brown silty clay with occasional stones	>30	>1.9	0.54	
3	303	natural		natural geology	pink red and orange clay with gravel	>30	>1.9	n/a	
3	304	fill	305	fill of ditch	mid to light grey brown silty clay	>1.8	0.7	0.18	
3	305	cut		ditch	linear, NE/SW aligned boundary ditch	>1.8	0.7	0.18	
3	306	fill	306	fill of ditch	mid brown grey silty clay	>1.8	0.62	0.1	
3	307	cut		ditch	linear, NE/SW aligned boundary ditch	>1.8	0.62	0.1	
4	400	deposit		topsoil	mid orange brown silty clay	>30	>1.9	0.24	
4	401	deposit		subsoil	mid brown orange silty clay	>30	>1.9	0.36	
4	402	natural		natural geology	mid brown red clay with grey blue stones	>30	>1.9	n/a	
4	403	fill	404	fill of ditch	fill of possible boundary ditch	>1.8	1.48	0.25	
4	404	cut		ditch	N/S aligned possible boundary ditch	>1.8	1.48	0.25	
5	500	deposit		topsoil	light to mid orange	>30	>1.9	0.36	

Trench No.	Context No.	Type	Fill of	Context interpretation	Description	L (m)	W (m)	Depth/thickness (m)	Spot-date
					brown silty clay				
5	501	deposit		subsoil	light brown orange silty clay	>30	>1.9	0.44	
5	502	natural		natural geology	pink red clay with grey blue stones	>30	>1.9	n/a	
5	503	fill	504	fill of tree throw	dark grey red silty clay				
5	504	cut		three throw	tree throw/rooting				
6	600	deposit		topsoil	mid orange brown silty clay with occasional sub-angular stones	>30	>1.9	0.26	
6	601	deposit		subsoil	mid red brown silty clay with occasional stones	>30	>1.9	0.3	
6	602	deposit		colluvium	yellow brown clayey silt	>30	>1.9	0.42	
6	603	natural		natural geology	mid yellow brown silty clay with occasional stones	>30	>1.9	n/a	
7	700	deposit		topsoil	mid grey brown silt	>30	>1.9	0.24	
7	701	deposit		subsoil	mid red brown clayey silt	>30	>1.9	0.26	
7	702	natural		natural geology	white with hints of blue and pink clayey shale	>30	>1.9	n/a	
7	703	fill	704	fill of linear	mid orange brown clayey silt	>1.9	0.41	0.29	
7	704	cut		linear feature	NW/SE aligned linear feature, potentially modern subsoiler drainage	>1.9	0.41	0.55	
7	705	fill	706	fill of pit	mid brown orange silty clay	1.72	>0.46	0.32	
7	706	cut		pit	sub-circular pit of indeterminate function	1.72	>0.46	0.32	
7	707	fill	710	primary fill of pit	mid grey brown and light grey clayey silt	3.8	>0.66	>0.4	
7	708	fill	710	middle fill of pit	light grey stone/shale, deliberate backfill	>1.13	>0.66	0.6	
7	709	fill	710	top fill of pit	mid red grey clayey silt		0.54	0.07	
7	710	cut		pit	sub-circular steep sided pit, possibly modern machine cut pit	3.8	>0.66	0.94	
7	711	fill	712	fill of linear	light orange grey silty clay	>1.8	0.36	0.12	
7	712	cut		linear feature	NW/SE aligned linear feature, potentially modern subsoiler drainage	>1.8	0.36	0.52	
8	800	deposit		topsoil	mid grey brown clayey silt	>30	>1.9	0.2	
8	801	deposit		subsoil	mid grey brown clayey silt	>30	>1.9	0.12	
8	802	natural		natural geology	light yellow grey clay and silt	>30	>1.9	n/a	
8	803	deposit		layer	mid grey brown clayey silt	>1.9	5		
9	900	deposit		topsoil	mid grey brown silt	>30	>1.9	0.1	
9	901	deposit		subsoil	mid red brown clayey silt	>30	>1.9	0.13	
9	902	deposit		layer	dark grey with red spots water borne deposit			>0.23	
9	903	natural		natural geology	grey yellow brown clay with frequent stones	>30	>1.9	n/a	

Trench No.	Context No.	Type	Fill of	Context interpretation	Description	L (m)	W (m)	Depth/thickness (m)	Spot-date
9	904	fill	905	fill of ditch	mid brown silty clay	>1.9	0.41	0.11	
9	905	cut		ditch	irregular, shallow, NNE/SSW aligned linear	>1.9	0.41	0.11	
9	906	fill	907	fill of ditch	mid grey brown silty clay mixed with rubble	>1.8	0.96	0.52	
9	907	cut		ditch	NE/SW aligned drainage ditch	>1.8	0.96	0.52	
10	1000	deposit		topsoil	mid grey brown silty clay	>30	>1.9	0.16	
10	1001	deposit		subsoil	mid to light brown orange silt	>30	>1.9	0.22	
10	1002	natural		natural geology	light yellow grey clay and silt	>30	>1.9	n/a	
10	1003	fill	1004	fill of pit	mid grey brown silty clay	0.62	0.6	0.06	
10	1004	cut		pit	circular pit of indeterminate function	0.62	0.6	0.06	
11	1100	deposit		topsoil	mid grey brown clayey silt	>30	>1.9	0.16	
11	1101	deposit		subsoil	mid grey brown clayey silt	>30	>1.9	0.44	
11	1102	natural		natural geology	mid grey brown clayey silt	>30	>1.9	n/a	
11	1103	fill	1104	fill of pit	dark to mid grey brown and red grey clayey silt	0.88	0.87	0.2	
11	1104	cut		pit	circular shallow pit of indeterminate function	0.88	0.87	0.2	
12	1200	deposit		topsoil	mid grey brown clayey silt	>30	>1.9	0.1	
12	1201	deposit		subsoil	mid red brown clayey silt	>30	>1.9	0.2	
12	1202	deposit		colluvium	light yellow brown silty clay	>30	>1.9	0.24	
12	1203	deposit		layer	dark grey clayey silt with stones, water borne deposit			>0.25	
12	1204	natural		natural geology	mid yellow brown silty clay with occasional stones	>30	>1.9	n/a	
12	1205	fill	1206	fill of linear	mid brown silty clay	>1.9	0.68	0.2	
12	1206	cut		linear feature	NW/SW aligned linear feature, probably a drainage gully	>1.9	0.68	0.2	
12	1207	fill	1208	fill of pit	mid brown clayey silt		0.5	0.09	
12	1208	cut		pit	circular shallow pit of indeterminate function		0.5	0.09	
13	1300	deposit		topsoil	mid grey brown silty clay	>30	>1.8	0.2	
13	1301	deposit		subsoil	mid to light brown orange silt	>30	>1.8	0.4	
13	1302	natural		natural geology	orange clay	>30	>1.8	n/a	
13	1303	fill	1304	upper fill of ditch	mid brown grey silty clay	>1.8	2.42	0.42	
13	1304	cut		ditch	linear N/S aligned post medieval ditch	>1.8	2.42	0.42	
13	1305	fill	1308	upper fill of ditch	mid brown grey silt and shillet	>2.1	1.55	0.56	
13	1306	fill	1308	middle fill of ditch	mid brown clayey silt	>2.1	1.73	0.12	MBA or LBA
13	1307	fill	1308	lower fill of ditch	light grey shillet	>2.1	>0.34	>0.23	
13	1308	cut		ditch	probably part of ring ditch	>2.1	1.73	>0.9	

Trench No.	Context No.	Type	Fill of	Context interpretation	Description	L (m)	W (m)	Depth/thickness (m)	Spot-date
13	1309	fill	1304	lower fill of ditch	mid brown silty clay with stones		2	0.22	
14	1400	deposit		topsoil	mid brown silty clay	>30	>1.8	0.28	
14	1401	deposit		subsoil	mid red brown silty clay	>30	>1.8	0.25	
14	1402	natural		natural geology	grey laminated mud stone with red brown silty patches	>30	>1.8	n/a	
14	1403	cut		ditch	S/E aligned ditch	>1.9	1.1	0.43	
14	1404	fill	1403	primary fill of ditch	light grey brown silty clay	>1.9	1.1	0.3	
14	1405	fill	1403	secondary fill of ditch	light yellow brown silty clay	>1.9	0.77	0.22	
14	1406	fill	1409	upper fill of ditch	blue grey shale and silt	>1.9	1.7	0.15	
14	1407	fill	1409	middle fill of ditch	mid orange brown silt and shillet	>1.9	1.87	0.53	?BA
14	1408	fill	1409	lower fill of ditch	red brown silt and shillet	>1.9	1.1	>0.14	
14	1409	cut		ditch	Large NE/SW aligned ditch, possibly enclosure or boundary ditch	>1.9	1.94	>0.98	
14	1410	cut		pit	circular pit of indeterminate function	0.45	0.45	0.05	
14	1411	fill	1410	fill of pit	mid grey brown silty clay	0.45	0.45	0.05	
14	1412	deposit		layer/colluvium	red brown silty clay	4.7	>1.9	0.22	
15	1500	deposit		topsoil	mid brown silty clay	>30	>1.9	0.25	
15	1501	deposit		subsoil	mid red brown silty clay	>30	>1.9	0.25	
15	1502	natural		natural geology	grey laminated mud stone with red brown silty patches	>30	>1.9	n/a	
16	1600	deposit		topsoil	red brown silty clay with limestone	>29.9	>1.9	0.40	
16	1601	natural		natural geology	bedrock	>29.9	>1.9	n/a	

APPENDIX B: THE FINDS

Finds concordance

Context	Description	Count	Weight(g)	Spot-date
1306	Prehistoric pottery: igneous/metamorphic rock tempered fabric	26	443	MBA-LBA
1404	Fired clay	1	8	-
1407	Worked flint: scraper	1	53	-

APPENDIX C: THE PALAEOENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

Plant macrofossil identifications

Context number				1306
Feature number				1308
Sample number (SS)				1
Flot volume (ml)				1.5
Sample volume processed (l)				23
Soil remaining (l)				0
Period				MBA-LBA
Plant macrofossil preservation				Poor
Habitat Code	**Family**	**Species**	**Common Name**	
E	Poaceae	*Triticum cf Triticum dicoccum/Triticum spelta*	Wheat sp. cf emmer/spelt wheat grain	+
Flot inclusions				
Charcoal quantity				+++ (s)

Key
E = economic species
+ = 1-4 items; ++ = 5-20 items; +++ = 21-40 items; ++++ = 40+ items
(s) = the majority of the charcoal fragments highly fragmented and too small to identify
MBA-LBA = Middle to Late Bronze Age

APPENDIX D: RADIOCARBON DATING

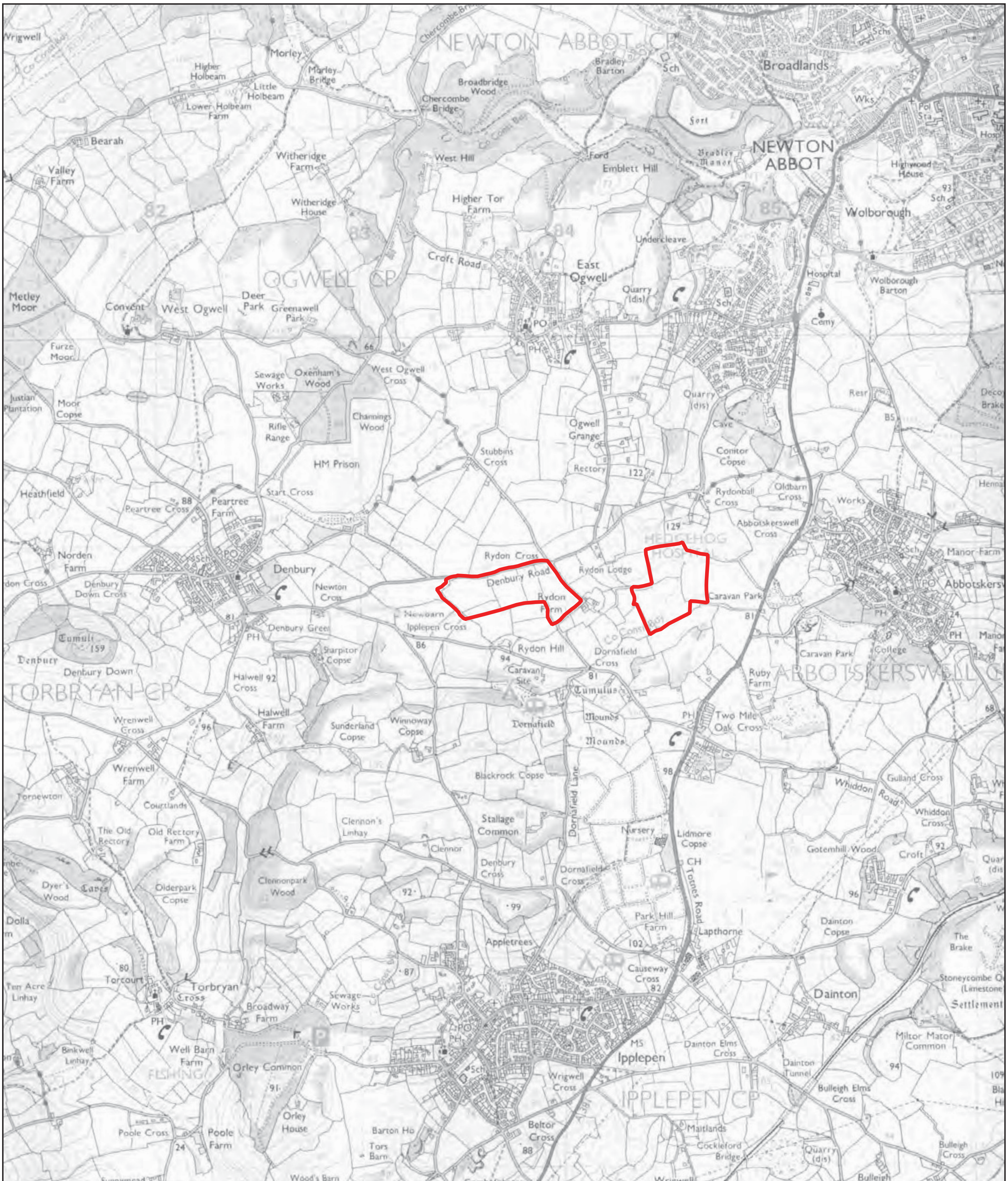
Radiocarbon dating was undertaken in order to confirm the dates of ditch 1308. The sample was analysed during April 2014 at Scottish Universities Environmental Research Centre (SUERC), Rankine Avenue, Scottish Enterprise Technology Park, East Kilbride, Glasgow, G75 0QF, Scotland.

The samples were successfully dated using the AMS method. The uncalibrated dates are conventional radiocarbon ages. The radiocarbon ages were calibrated by SUERC using the University of Oxford Radiocarbon Accelerator Unit calibration programme OxCal 4.1.7 (Bronk Ramsey 2009) using the IntCal13 curve (Reimer *et al.* 2013).

Feature	**Lab No.**	**Material**	**$\delta^{13}C$**	**Radiocarbon Age**	**95.4% probability**	**68.2% probability**
Context 1306 Ditch 1308	SUERC-51774	Carbonised grain – *Triticum (cf Triticum dicoccum/Triticum spelta)* Wheat sp (cf emmer/spelt wheat)	-22.9 ‰	3121 ± 33 yr BP	1491-1483 cal BC (1.2%) 1453-1289 cal BC (94.2%)	1433-1384 cal BC (45.5%) 1340-1310 cal BC (22.7%)

APPENDIX E: OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS		
Project Name	Rydon Farm, Ogwell, Devon	
Short description	An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in December 2013 at Rydon Farm, Ogwell, Devon. A total of sixteen trenches was excavated. The evaluation identified a number of archaeological features which generally correlated well with a preceding geophysical survey. Archaeologically significant features encountered comprised ditches and pits dated to the prehistoric and post-medieval periods. Evidence for prehistoric activity was identified in Trenches 13 and 14. Pottery of Middle or Later Bronze Age date (*c.* 1600–1000 BC) and a crude endscraper consistent with Bronze Age dating was recovered from the ditch fills of a sub oval enclosure. A potentially contemporary roundhouse gully and pit were revealed within the enclosure. Undated features, including ditches and pits, were identified in Trenches 1, 3, 4, 7, 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13. Features, including plough scars, land drains and ditches, relating to recent agricultural activity were also identified.	
Project dates	9 – 17 December 2013	
Project type	Field Evaluation	
Previous work (reference to organisation or SMR numbers etc)	Geophysics (Stratascan 2013) DBA (CA 2013)	
Future work	Unknown	
PROJECT LOCATION		
Site Location	Rydon Farm, Ogwell, Devon	
Study area	21.3ha	
Site co-ordinates (8 Fig Grid Reference)	NGR: SX 8374 6878 and SX 8452 6883	
PROJECT CREATORS		
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Manager	Laurent Coleman	
Project Supervisor	Ray Holt	
MONUMENT TYPE	None	
SIGNIFICANT FINDS	None	
PROJECT ARCHIVES	Intended final location of archive (museum/Accession no.)	Content
Physical	Royal Albert Memorial Museum, Exeter	Pottery, flint
Paper	Royal Albert Memorial Museum, Exeter	Context sheets, trench recording forms, section drawings, photographic registers
Digital	Royal Albert Memorial Museum, Exeter	Digital photos
BIBLIOGRAPHY		
CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2013 *Rydon Farm, Ogwell, Devon: Archaeological Evaluation.* CA typescript report **13711**		



N

0 1km

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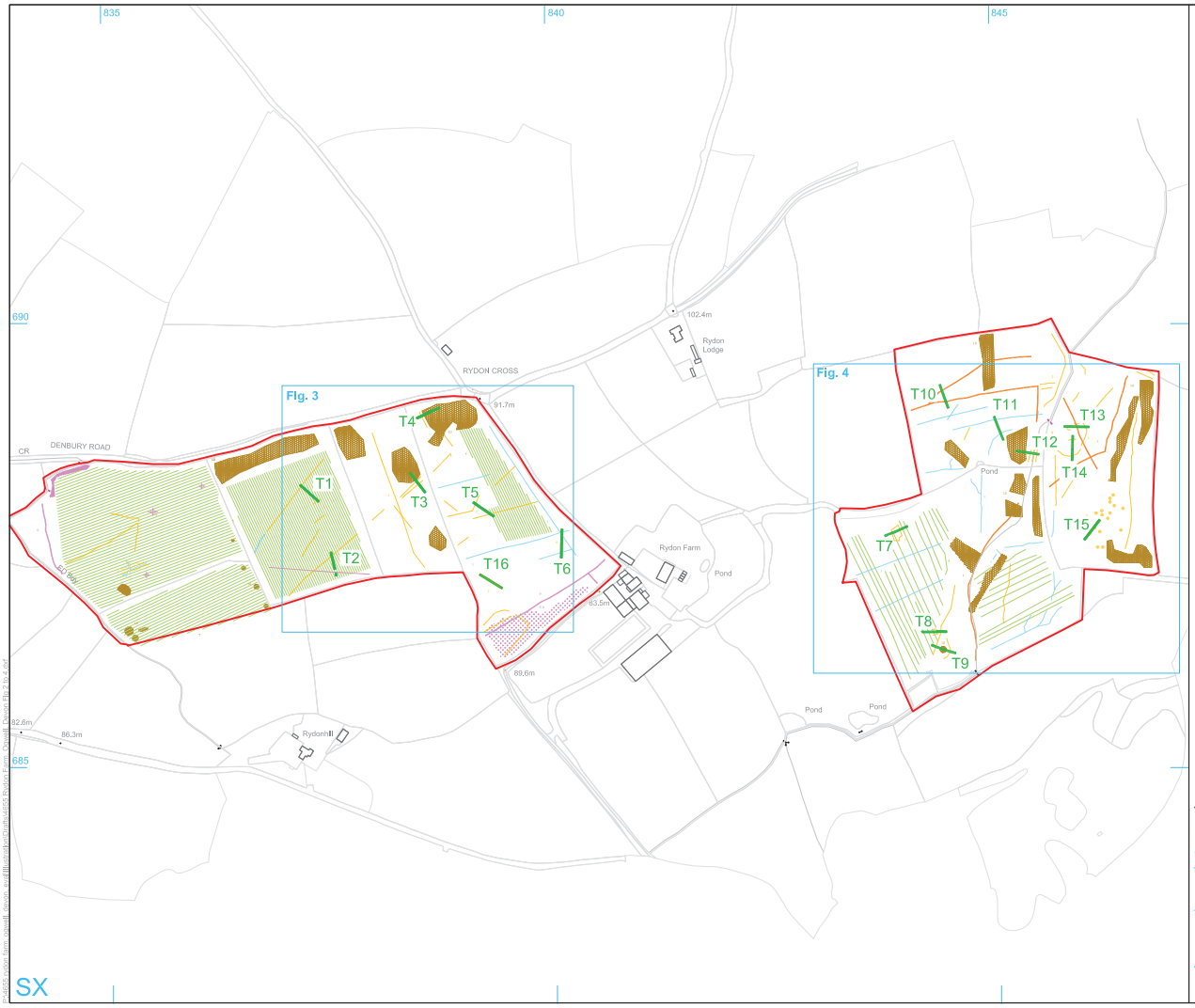
PROJECT TITLE

Rydon Farm, Ogwell, Devon

FIGURE TITLE

Site location plan

PROJECT NO.	**4655**	*DATE*	**07-01-14**	*FIGURE NO.*
DRAWN BY	**JB**	*REVISION*	**00**	
APPROVED BY	**LM**	*SCALE@A4*	**1:25,000**	**1**



N

site

evaluation trench

Geophysical Survey Key (Stratascan 2013)

PROBABLE ARCHAEOLOGY

- Positive anomaly / weak positive anomaly - probable cut feature of archaeological origin
- Negative anomaly / weak negative anomaly - probable bank or earthwork of archaeological origin
- Moderate strength discrete anomaly - probable thermoremanent feature
- Widely spaced curving parallel linear anomalies - probably related to ridge-and-furrow

POSSIBLE ARCHAEOLOGY

- Positive anomaly / weak positive anomaly - possible cut feature of archaeological origin
- Negative anomaly / weak negative anomaly - possible bank or earthwork of archaeological origin
- Moderate strength discrete anomaly - possible thermoremanent feature
- Linear feature possibly relating to historic field boundary

OTHER ANOMALIES

- Closely spaced parallel linear anomalies - probably related to agricultural activity such as ploughing
- Linear anomaly - probably related to pipe, cable or other modern service
- Linear anomaly - possibly related to land drain
- Magnetic disturbance associated with nearby metal object such as service or field boundary
- Strong magnetic debris - possible disturbed or made ground
- Scattered magnetic debris
- Area of amorphous magnetic variation - probable natural (e.g. geological or pedological) origin
- Linear anomaly possibly related to former field boundary

0 200m

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PROJECT TITLE
Rydon Farm, Ogwell, Devon

FIGURE TITLE
Trench location plan, showing geophysical survey results

PROJECT NO.	4655	DATE	07-01-14	FIGURE NO.	
DRAWN BY	JB	REVISION	00		2
APPROVED BY	ATB	SCALE@A3	1:5000		

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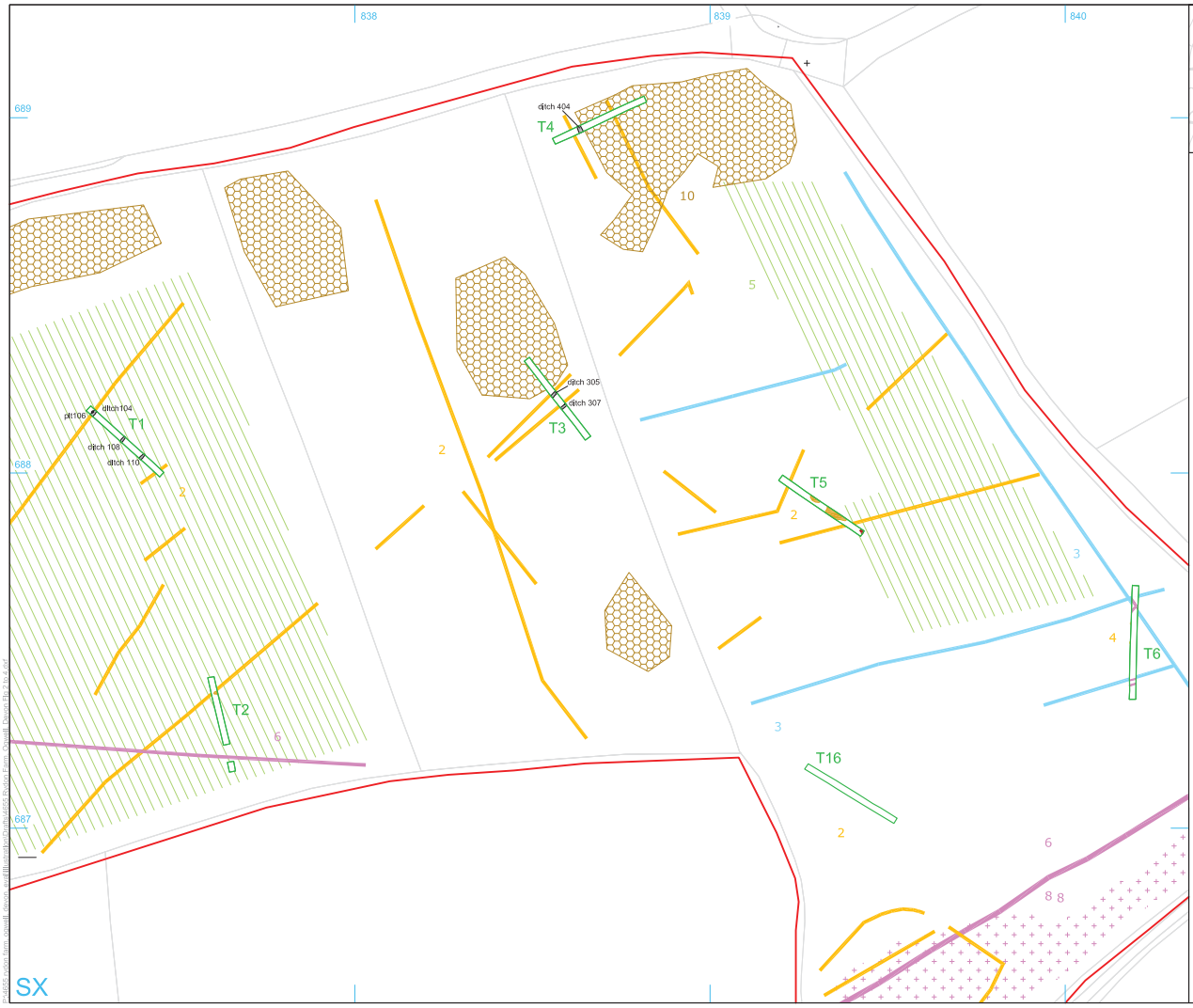

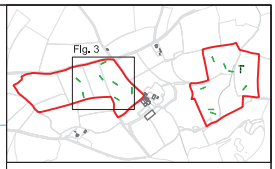

N

site
evaluation trench
archaeologlcal feature
modern
treethrow
geological feature

Geophysical Survey Key
(Stratascan 2013)

PROBABLE ARCHAEOLOGY

Positive anomaly / weak positive anomaly - probable cut feature of archaeological origin

Negative anomaly / weak negative anomaly - probable bank or earthwork of archaeological origin

Moderate strength discrete anomaly - probable thermoremanent feature

Widely spaced curving parallel linear anomalies - probably related to ridge-and-furrow

POSSIBLE ARCHAEOLOGY

Positive anomaly / weak positive anomaly - possible cut feature of archaeological origin

Negative anomaly / weak negative anomaly - possible bank or earthwork of archaeological origin

Moderate strength discrete anomaly - possible thermoremanent feature

Linear feature possibly relating to historic field boundary

OTHER ANOMALIES

Closely spaced parallel linear anomalies - probably related to agricultural activity such as ploughing

Linear anomaly - probably related to pipe, cable or other modern service

Linear anomaly - possibly related to land drain

Magnetic disturbance associated with nearby metal object such as service or field boundary

Strong magnetic debris - possible disturbed or made ground

Scattered magnetic debris

Area of amorphous magnetic variation - probable natural (e.g. geological or pedological) origin

Linear anomaly possibly related to former field boundary

0 50m

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PROJECT TITLE
Rydon Farm, Ogwell, Devon

FIGURE TITLE
Trenches 1 to 6 and 16, showing archaeological features and geophysical survey results

PROJECT NO.	4655	DATE	17-12-13	FIGURE NO.
DRAWN BY	JB	REVISION	00	3
APPROVED BY	ATB	SCALE@A3	1:1000	

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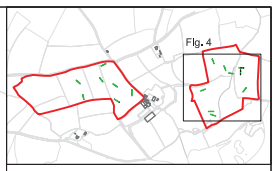

N

site

evaluation trench

area to be excluded from development / zero impact methodology to be adopted

archaeological feature

geological feature

modern

Geophysical Survey Key (Stratascan 2013)

PROBABLE ARCHAEOLOGY

Positive anomaly / weak positive anomaly - probable cut feature of archaeological origin

Negative anomaly / weak negative anomaly - probable bank or earthwork of archaeological origin

Moderate strength discrete anomaly - probable thermoremanent feature

Widely spaced curving parallel linear anomalies - probably related to ridge-and-furrow

POSSIBLE ARCHAEOLOGY

Positive anomaly / weak positive anomaly - possible cut feature of archaeological origin

Negative anomaly / weak negative anomaly - possible bank or earthwork of archaeological origin

Moderate strength discrete anomaly - possible thermoremanent feature

Linear feature possibly relating to historic field boundary

OTHER ANOMALIES

Closely spaced parallel linear anomalies - probably related to agricultural activity such as ploughing

Linear anomaly - probably related to pipe, cable or other modern service

Linear anomaly - possibly related to land drain

Magnetic disturbance associated with nearby metal object such as service or field boundary

Strong magnetic debris - possible disturbed or made ground

Scattered magnetic debris

Area of amorphous magnetic variation - probable natural (e.g. geological or pedological) origin

Linear anomaly possibly related to former field boundary

0 50m

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PROJECT TITLE
Rydon Farm, Ogwell, Devon

FIGURE TITLE
Trenches 7 to 15, showing archaeological features and geophysical survey results

PROJECT NO.	4655	DATE	17-12-13	FIGURE NO.	
DRAWN BY	RJR	REVISION	00		4
APPROVED BY	ATB	SCALE@A3	1:1250		

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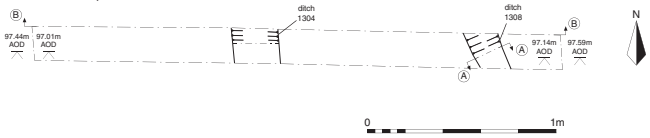
Trench 13, plan



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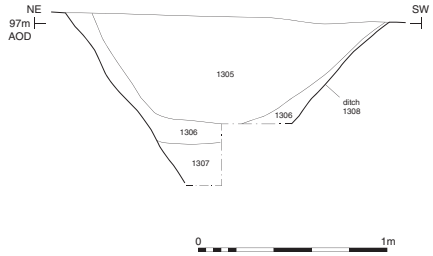
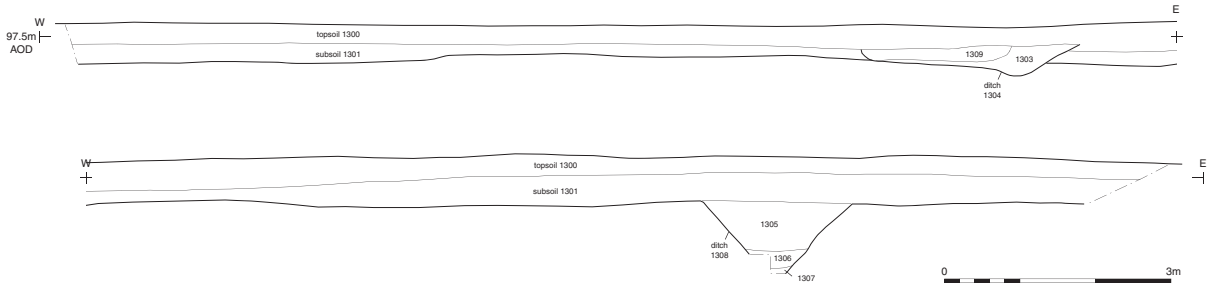


Trench 13, ditch 1308, looking south-east (scale 1m)

Section BB



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PROJECT TITLE
Rydon Farm, Ogwell, Devon

FIGURE TITLE
Trench 13; plan, sections and photograph

PROJECT NO.	4655	DATE	01/01/2014	FIGURE NO.
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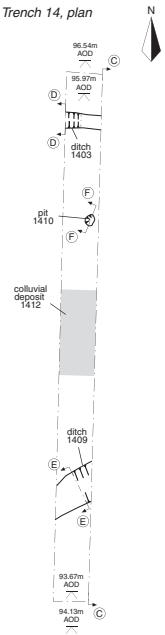
APPROVED BY	LM	SCALE@A3	1:20, 1:50 & 1:200	

Trench 14, plan



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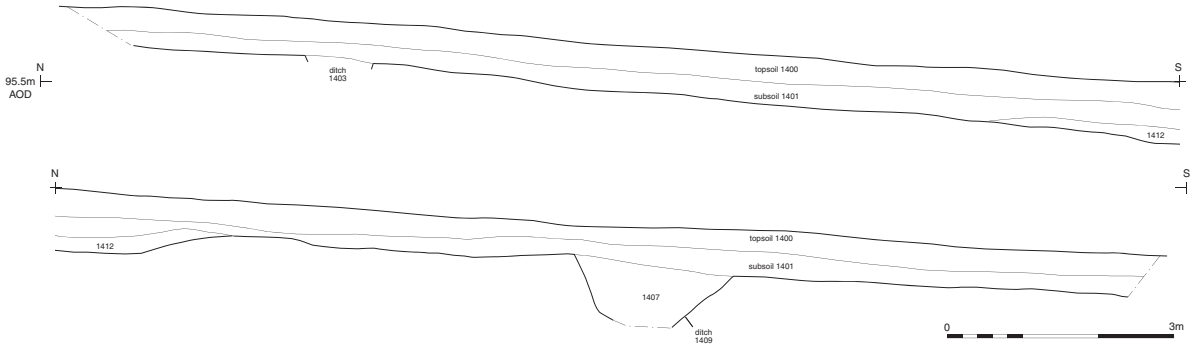

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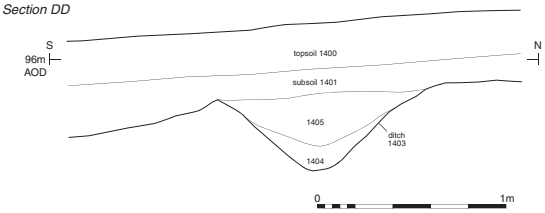

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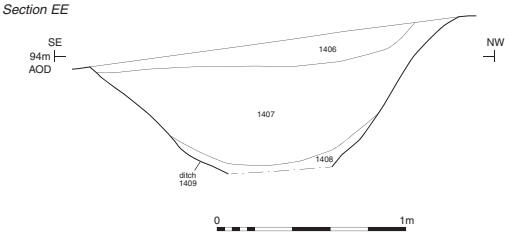

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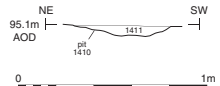

Trench 14, ditch 1409, looking east (scale 1m)

Trench 14, ditch 1403, looking west (scale 1m and 0.2m)

Trench 14, pit 1410, looking east (scale 0.4m)

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PROJECT TITLE
Rydon Farm, Ogwell, Devon

FIGURE TITLE
Trench 14; plan, sections and photographs

PROJECT NO.	4655	DATE	01/01/2014	FIGURE NO.
DRAWN BY	JB	REVISION	00	6
APPROVED BY	LM	SCALE@A3	1:20, 1:50 & 1:200	