

# Axe View Wadbrook Devon

## *Archaeological Evaluation*



for  
INRG (Solar Parks) Ltd

CA Project: 880002  
CA Report: 15605

August 2015



# Axe View Wadbrook Devon

## Archaeological Evaluation

CA Project: 880002  
CA Report: 15605



Document Control Grid						
Revision	Date	Author	Checked by	Status	Reasons for revision	Approved by
A	7 August 2015	Charlotte Haines	Laurent Coleman	Internal review		Simon Cox

*This report is confidential to the client. Cotswold Archaeology accepts no responsibility or liability to any third party to whom this report, or any part of it, is made known. Any such party relies upon this report entirely at their own risk. No part of this report may be reproduced by any means without permission.*

## CONTENTS

SUMMARY .....	2
1. INTRODUCTION.....	3
2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND.....	4
3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES.....	4
4. METHODOLOGY .....	5
5. RESULTS (FIGS 2 - 6).....	6
6. THE FINDS .....	8
7. THE BIOLOGICAL EVIDENCE .....	9
8. DISCUSSION.....	10
9. CA PROJECT TEAM.....	11
10. REFERENCES.....	11
APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS .....	14
APPENDIX B: THE FINDS.....	16
APPENDIX C: THE PALAEOENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE.....	16
APPENDIX D: OASIS REPORT FORM .....	17

## LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

- Fig. 1 Site location plan (1:25,000)
- Fig. 2 Trench location plan showing archaeological features and geophysical survey results (1:1250 and 1:500)
- Fig. 3 Trench 13: plan (1:200), section (1:20) and photograph
- Fig. 4 Trenches 16 and 18: plan (1:200)
- Fig. 5 Trench 16: section (1:20) and photograph
- Fig. 6 Trench 18: sections (1:20) and photographs

## SUMMARY

<b>Project Name:</b>	Axe View
<b>Location:</b>	Wadbrook, Devon
<b>NGR:</b>	ST 3285 0183
<b>Type:</b>	Evaluation
<b>Date:</b>	13 – 24 July 2015
<b>Planning Reference:</b>	East Devon District Council (EDDC) 15/0645/MFUL
<b>Location of Archive:</b>	To be deposited with the Royal Albert Memorial Museum (RAMM)
<b>Accession Number:</b>	RAMM: 15/21
<b>Site Code:</b>	AXE 15

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in July 2015 on land at Axe View, Wadbrook, Devon. A total of twenty-five trenches was excavated.

A Middle to Late Bronze Age sub oval enclosure and contemporary features were identified in the eastern part of the site. A probable Roman ditch was identified to the south.



## 1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 In July 2015 Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological evaluation for INRG (Solar Parks) Ltd on land at Axe View, Wadbrook, Devon (centred on NGR: ST 3285 0183; Fig. 1). An application (EDDC ref. no 15/0645/MFUL) has been made for development of ground mounted photovoltaic solar arrays with transformer stations, internal access track, biodiversity enhancement, landscaping, fencing, security measures, access gate and ancillary infrastructure. Stephen Reed, Archaeologist, Historic Environment Team, Devon County Council (DCCHET) (archaeological advisor to EDDC) outlined a requirement for desk-based assessment, geophysical survey and trial trenching. The desk-based assessment and geophysical survey have now been undertaken and this document represents the report on the trial trenching.
- 1.2 The evaluation was carried out in accordance with a detailed *Written Scheme of Investigation* (WSI) produced by CA (2015) and approved by Mr Reed. The fieldwork also followed *Standard and guidance: Archaeological field evaluation* (CIfA 2014), the *Management of Archaeological Projects* (English Heritage 1991) and the *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MORPHE): Project Manager's Guide* (English Heritage 2006). It was monitored by Mr Reed, including site visits on 14 and 23 July 2015.

### **The site**

- 1.3 The development area is approximately 8.9ha, and comprises an irregular parcel of land currently under pasture and arable cultivation, situated approximately 230m to the east of the hamlet of Wadbrook and c. 340m to the east of the River Axe. The eastern and, partially, southern and northern boundaries of the site are defined by local lanes, with the remainder of the site surrounded by farmland
- 1.4 The site is located on gentle, generally north facing, slopes on a ridge between the River Axe, approximately 340m to the west of the site, its tributary the Blackwater River, approximately 150m to the north of the site and a small watercourse feeding into the Blackwater River, known as Fair Water, c. 620m to the east. The topography within the site rises gently from approximately c. 55m above Ordnance Datum (AOD) in the north-western corner to c. 65m AOD to the south and west.

- 1.5 The geology on the site is mapped as mudstone of the Charmouth Mudstone Formation, sedimentary bedrock, overlain by the Quaternary River Terrace Deposits comprising sand and gravel (BGS 2015). The natural substrate encountered during the evaluation was consistent with the mapped geology, comprising silty clay with frequent gravel.

## 2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The site has previously been subject to heritage desk-based assessment (CA 2014a) and geophysical survey (PCG 2015), and reference to these documents should be made for a full archaeological background. However a brief summary of the findings of these studies is outlined below.
- 2.2 Lower Palaeolithic artefacts have been retrieved from the River Axe gravel terrace deposits in the vicinity of the site. There is the potential for Lower Palaeolithic remains to be present within the Pleistocene sediments underlying the site, although such remains are likely to be present at a significant depth below ground level (CA 2014; English Heritage and the Prehistoric Society 2008).
- 2.3 There is limited evidence for later prehistoric and Roman activity in the vicinity of the site, however, such activity is recorded elsewhere in the River Axe environs. It is likely that from the medieval period onwards, the site comprised farmland (CA 2014).
- 2.4 A geophysical survey of the site undertaken by Pre-Construct Geophysics Ltd in March 2015, detected traces of two possible sub-circular enclosures (possibly of prehistoric origin) in the central part of the site. A small number of potential anomalies containing burnt materials were identified in the southern and north-eastern parts of the site (PCG 2015).

## 3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 3.1 The objectives of the evaluation are 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 *Standard and guidance: Archaeological field evaluation* (ClfA 2014), the evaluation has been

designed to be minimally intrusive and minimally destructive to archaeological remains. The information gathered will enable EDDC 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).

#### 4. METHODOLOGY

- 4.1 The fieldwork comprised the excavation of 25 trenches, undertaken in two phases, in the locations shown on the attached plan (Fig. 2). Trenches 1 to 24 were excavated as per the WSI (16 trenches were 50m in length, 5 trenches were 25m in length, 1 trench was 20m in length and 2 trenches were 15m in length). A further trench (Trench 25; 15m in length) was requested by Mr Reed during the initial monitoring visit. All trenches were 1.8m in width. 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*.
- 4.2 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* (CA 2013).
- 4.3 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* and were sampled and processed. A bulk environmental sample <1> was recovered from the fill, 1303, of ditch 1302. All artefacts recovered were processed in accordance with Technical Manual 3 *Treatment of Finds Immediately after Excavation*.
- 4.4 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 the Royal Albert Memorial Museum under accession number RAMM: 15/21, along with the site archive. A summary of information from this



project, set out within Appendix D, will be entered onto the OASIS online database of archaeological projects in Britain.

## 5. RESULTS (FIGS 2 - 6)

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

5.2 No archaeological features or deposits were identified in Trenches 1-12, 14, 15, 17 and 19-25. The natural substrate was identified at a depth of between 0.2m to 0.3m below present ground level (bpgl) in all trenches and comprised gravel within a clay matrix. The natural was directly sealed by plough soil. Archaeological features, which were recorded in Trenches 13, 16, and 18, cut the natural substrate and were sealed by ploughsoil. Modern field drains were identified in Trenches 1, 2, 12, 13, 16, 20 and 24. A modern feature was identified in Trench 13.

### ***Trench 13 (Figs 2 & 3)***

5.3 The natural substrate, 1301, was cut by an east/west aligned ditch, 1302, measuring 0.87m in width and 0.33m in depth. The ditch had steeply sloping sides, a concave base and contained a single fill, 1303, which comprised mid blue grey silty clay with frequent charcoal inclusions (Fig. 3, section AA). A single sherd of pottery recovered from the fill dates to the mid 3rd to 4th-century AD. A bulk environmental sample <1301> recovered from the fill contained an assemblage of very poorly-preserved charcoal identified as oak (*Quercus*), cherry species (*Prunus*) and alder/hazel (*Alnus glutinosa/Corylus avellana*) together with fragments of fired clay and worked and burnt flint. The fill of the ditch was overlain by plough soil, 1300. This feature had not been previously identified by the geophysical survey.

5.4 A modern ditch, which was identified at the south-eastern end of Trench 13, corresponded to a north-east/south-west aligned anomaly identified by the geophysical survey (ibid.). The fill of the feature contained modern building material, nails and pottery (not retained) and the feature was not excavated.





**Trench 16 (Figs 2, 4 and 5)**

- 5.5 The natural substrate, 1601, was cut by a north-west/south-east aligned ditch, 1602, which measured 1.41m in width and 0.78m in depth (Fig. 5, section BB). The ditch, which had steeply sloping sides and a concave base, contained two fills, 1603 and 1604. No dateable material was recovered from either the primary fill, 1603, which comprised dark yellow grey silty clay or the secondary fill, 1604, which comprised mid greenish brown silty clay. The secondary fill was overlain by plough soil, 1600. This ditch corresponds to the south-western side of the eastern probable sub-circular enclosure identified by the geophysical survey.

**Trench 18 (Figs 2, 4 and 6)**

- 5.6 The natural substrate, 1801, was cut by three ditches and a pit. Ditch 1802, which was aligned broadly east/west, measured 1.4m in width and 0.35m in depth and had gently sloping sides and a concave base (Fig. 6, section CC). It contained a single fill, 1803, which comprised mid grey brown clay silt. Late Bronze Age pottery (two sherds) and a worked Greensand chert flake were recovered from this fill. Oval pit, 1804, located to the north-west of ditch 1802, measured 1.95m in length, greater than 1.3m in width and 0.5m in depth. This feature, which had steeply sloping sides and a flat base, contained a single fill, 1805, which comprised mid brown clay silt (Fig. 6, section DD). Pottery recovered from the fill of the pit dates to the Middle to Late Bronze Age. Neither pit 1804 nor ditch 1802 was identified by the geophysical survey.
- 5.7 Ditches 1806 and 1810 were located at the north-eastern and south-western end of Trench 18 respectively. These features correlate with the same probable large sub-circular enclosure identified by the geophysical survey and identified as ditch 1602 in Trench 16. The ditches were of similar dimensions measuring approximately 1.8 to 1.9m in width and 0.7m in depth (Fig. 6, sections EE and FF). Three fills, 1807, 1808 and 1809, were identified within ditch 1806, whilst a single fill, 1811, was identified within ditch 1810. The fills of ditch 1806 comprised; mid yellowish brown silty gravel, 1807, dark brown clay silt 1808, and mid brown clay silt, 1809. Whilst no finds were recovered from the primary or tertiary fills (1807 and 1809 respectively) Middle Bronze Age pottery (3 sherds) was retrieved from the secondary fill, 1808. Similarly, pottery of Late Bronze Age date (2 sherds) was also recovered from single fill 1811 of ditch 1810. The fill comprised mid brown silty gravel. The upper fills of all of the features were covered by plough soil 1800.

## 6. THE FINDS

6.1 Artefactual material from evaluation was hand-recovered from five deposits; ditch fills and a pit fill. The recovered material dates to the Bronze Age and Roman periods. Quantities of the artefact types recovered are given in Appendix A. The pottery has been recorded according to sherd count/weight per fabric. Recording also included vessel form/rim morphology and any evidence for use in the form of carbonised/other residues (however, none was apparent). Roman fabric codes are equated to the type series for Exeter as defined by Holbrook and Bidwell (1991); National Roman Fabric Reference Collection codes are also given in Appendix B (Tomber and Dore 1998).

### ***Bronze Age pottery***

6.2 The assemblage consists of 33 sherds (251g) from four contexts in two fabrics. Fabric 1 contains common inclusions generally no more than 1mm across, is generally thin-walled and reduced: one of its components appears to be chert probably derived from the Upper Greensand in the general locality. Fabric 2 contains sparse inclusions, in some cases up to 3-5mm. This is generally thicker than Fabric 1 and generally oxidised. Inclusions appear to be of grog and also of rock, presumably moderately local.

6.3 The only context to produce sherds with any form was fill 1805 of pit 1804 which contained two sherds from a simple rim from an apparent bowl and one rimsherd with a very slight out-turn, both in Fabric 1. The only piece with form in thick-walled Fabric 2 was a base angle sherd. The Fabric 1 forms occur in Late Bronze Age Plain Ware, notably at Tinney's Lane, Sherborne (Best *et al.* 2013, 35) but do not occur in Devon or West Dorset in Middle Bronze Age assemblages. Fabric 2 with possible grog may be of this earlier date. There are to date no sites in the Axe Valley with Late Bronze Age ceramics and only limited data on Middle Bronze Age material.

6.4 Finds of Middle Bronze Age material currently known to the author from the Axe Valley and West Dorset may be summarised as follows. A sherd, with Trevisker affinities, comes from Dalwood Farm, Kilmington. There is probable contemporary material from Harepath Road, Seaton and Burrowshot Cross, Axminster (Quinnell 1993) in extreme east Devon. There was also some Trevisker material from Seaton Down excavated by Exeter Archaeology in its last years before closing. Into Dorset/South West Somerset there is a small amount of Trevisker-related material at

Doghouse Hill near Golden Cap (Papworth 2013, 220) and a large amount from an enclosure at Templecombe Junction, Chard (Quinnell 2012, 165).

### ***Roman pottery***

- 6.6 The only Roman pottery recovered is a rimsherd from a (Seager Smith and Davies) Type 25 conical flanged bowl in Dorset Black-burnished ware (TF31). The sherd was recovered from fill 1303 of ditch 1302. This type of pottery was manufactured near Poole in Dorset and when found outside the county it typically dates to the 2nd to 4th centuries (Davies *et al.* 1994, 107). This form can be more precisely dated to the mid 3rd to 4th centuries (Seager Smith and Davies 1993, 34–5), however, it is in a poor, abraded condition.

### ***Lithics***

- 6.4 Fill 1803 of ditch 1802 produced a broken denticulate made on a bladelike flake of Greensand chert. The heavily edge damaged condition suggests that this item may have been redeposited. Two worked flint items (a flake and a chip), recovered from the bulk environmental sample <1301> recovered from the fill, 1303, of ditch 1302, are only broadly dateable to the prehistoric period, and are residual within a later feature.

## **7. THE BIOLOGICAL EVIDENCE**

- 7.1 One environmental sample (35 litres of soil) was retrieved 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).

### ***Late Roman***

- 7.2 Sample <1301> was recovered from fill 1303 within ditch 1302. The sample contained no plant macrofossil material, but did contain a moderate assemblage of very poorly-preserved charcoal identified as oak (*Quercus*), cherry species (*Prunus*) and alder/hazel (*Alnus glutinosa/Corylus avellana*). The absence of any further artefactual or ecofactual material means no further interpretation of function can be made other than suggesting this deposit is a dump of domestic/industrial firing debris. Any charcoal, excluding oak, would be suitable for radiocarbon dating.

## 8. DISCUSSION

8.1 The evaluation identified features of Middle Bronze Age and Late Roman date, located exclusively in the eastern part of the site. The geophysical survey appears to have been largely effective but the probable western enclosure depicted by the survey was not identified by the archaeological evaluation (Trenches 9, 10 and 25) and the Roman ditch identified in Trench 13 during the evaluation was not depicted by the geophysical survey.

### ***Middle to Late Bronze Age***

8.2 Middle to Late Bronze Age pottery was recovered from all of the features recorded in Trench 18 which comprised three ditches and a pit. Ditches 1806 and 1810 correspond to a large sub-circular enclosure which was identified by the geophysical survey (PCG 2015). Ditch 1602 in Trench 16 also corresponded with this feature. The enclosure measures approximately 38m north-east to south-west and 30m north-west to south-east and is likely to be indicative of settlement activity on site in this period. Possible north-eastern, north-western and south-eastern facing entrances to the enclosure are depicted by the geophysical survey and ditch 1802 and pit 1804 probably represent contemporary internal settlement features. Where known, enclosures in this region contain few internal (Fowler 1983).

8.3 Settlement evidence of Middle Bronze Age date in this region is not extensive but includes a similar sub-oval enclosure discovered at Chard Junction Quarry, Thorncombe, Dorset, located 3.9km to the north-east of the site (Taylor and Preston 2004). Here, part of a possible post-built roundhouse was recorded within an elliptical enclosure of comparable dimensions, along with a number of internal pits and possible evidence for funerary deposits.

8.4 A similar enclosure was also identified at Rydon Farm, Ogewell, Devon; this enclosure was sub oval with a length of 42m and a width of 25m. 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. A potentially contemporary roundhouse gully and pit were revealed within the enclosure (CA 2014b).



### **Roman**

- 8.5 Ditch 1302 contained pottery dating to the mid 3rd to 4th-century AD and poorly-preserved charcoal fragments possibly indicative of settlement and/or industrial activity in the vicinity, although, the lack of further contemporary features in the adjacent trenches would probably suggest an agricultural function for the ditch.

## **9. CA PROJECT TEAM**

Fieldwork was undertaken by Jonathon Orellana assisted by Mary Lutescu-Jones George Gandham and Christina Tapply. The report was written by Charlotte Haines. The finds report was compiled by Henrietta Quinnell (Bronze Age pottery) and Jacky Sommerville (Roman pottery and Lithics). The palaeoenvironmental report was compiled by Sarah Cobain. The illustrations were prepared by Aleksandra Osinska. The archive has been compiled by Charlotte Haines, and prepared for deposition by Hazel O'Neill. The project was managed for CA by Laurent Coleman.

## **10. REFERENCES**

- Best, J., Woodward, A. and Tyler, K. 2013 *Late Bronze Age Pottery Production: Evidence from a 12th to 11th century BC Settlement at Tinney's Lane, Sherborne, Dorset*. Dorchester. Dorset Natural History and Archaeological Society Monograph **21**.
- BGS (British Geological Survey): <http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html>  
(accessed 7 November 2013)
- Britnell, W. and Silvester, R. J. (eds.) 2012 *Reflections on the Past. Essays in honour of Frances Lynch*. Welshpool. Cambrian Archaeological Association.
- CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2014a *Axe View, Wadbrook, Devon: Heritage Desk Based Assessment* CA Typescript Report **14500**
- CA 2014b *Rydon Farm, Ogwell, Devon: Archaeological Evaluation* CA Typescript Report **13711**
- CA 2015 *Axe View, Wadbrook, Devon: Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Evaluation*

Davies, B., Richardson, B. and Tomber, R. 1994 *The archaeology of Roman London Volume 5: A dated corpus of early Roman pottery from the City of London*. CBA Research Report **98**. London. Museum of London and Council for British Archaeology.

English Heritage and the Prehistoric Society 2008 *Research and Conservation Framework for the British Palaeolithic*, <http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/publications/research-and-conservation-framework-for-british-palaeolithic/palaeolithic-framework.pdf> (accessed 10 November 2014)

Holbrook, N. and Bidwell, P. T. 1991 *Roman Finds from Exeter*. Exeter Archaeological Reports: **4**. Exeter. Exeter City Council and the University of Exeter.

Papworth, M. 2013 Excavations at Thorncombe Beacon, Doghouse Hill and Golden Cap on the Gold Cap Estate, West Dorset, *Proc Dorset Nat Hist Archaeol Soc* **134**, 205–48.

PCG (Pre-Construct Geophysics) 2015 *Axe View, Wadbrook, Devon: Archaeological Geophysical Survey*

Quinnell, H 1993 'Bronze Age Pottery from Burrowshot Cross, Axminster', in Weddell *et al.* 1993, 89–92.

Quinnell, H, 2012. 'Trevisker Pottery; Some Recent Studies', in Britnell & Silvester (eds.) 2012, 146–71.

Seager Smith, R. and Davies, S. M. 1993 'Roman Pottery', in Woodward *et al.* 1993, 202–14 .

Taylor, A. and Preston, S. 2004 The Excavation of a Middle Bronze Age Settlement at Hodge Ditch, Chard Junction Quarry, Thorncombe, Dorset, *Proceedings of the Dorset Natural History and Archaeological Society*, vol. 126, pp. 27-42, [http://www.tvas.co.uk/reports/pdf/dorset\\_proc126\\_2004\\_27-42.pdf](http://www.tvas.co.uk/reports/pdf/dorset_proc126_2004_27-42.pdf) (accessed 31/07/15)

Tomber. R. and Dore. J. 1998 *The National Roman Fabric Reference Collection: A Handbook*. MOLaS Monograph **2**. London.

Weddell, P. J., Reed, S. J. and Simpson, S. J. 1993 'Excavation of the Exeter-Dorchester Roman Road at the River Yarty and the Roman Fort Ditch and Settlement Site at Woodbury, near Axminster'. *Proc. Devon Archaeol. Soc.* **51**, 33–133.

Woodward, P.J., Davies, S.M. and Graham, A.H. 1993 *Excavations at Greyhound Yard, Dorchester 1981–4*. Dorchester. Dorset Natural History and Archaeological Society.





## APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Trench No.	Context No.	Type	Fill of	Context interpretation	Description	L (m)	W (m)	D (m)	Spot-date
1	100	Layer		Plough soil	Light grey brown silty clay with frequent gravel			0.3	
1	101	Layer		Natural substrate	Light yellow orange silty clay with frequent gravel				
2	200	Layer		Plough soil	Light grey brown silty clay with frequent gravel			0.2	
2	201	Layer		Natural substrate	Light yellow orange silty clay with frequent gravel				
3	300	Layer		Plough soil	Light grey brown silty clay with frequent gravel			0.27	
3	301	Layer		Natural substrate	Light yellow orange silty clay with frequent gravel				
4	400	Layer		Plough soil	Light grey brown silty clay with frequent gravel			0.26	
4	401	Layer		Natural substrate	Light yellow orange silty clay with frequent gravel				
5	500	Layer		Plough soil	Light grey brown silty clay with frequent gravel			0.25	
5	501	Layer		Natural substrate	Light yellow orange silty clay with frequent gravel				
6	600	Layer		Plough soil	Light grey brown silty clay with frequent gravel			0.28	
6	601	Layer		Natural substrate	Light yellow orange silty clay with frequent gravel				
7	700	Layer		Plough soil	Light grey brown silty clay with frequent gravel			0.25	
7	701	Layer		Natural substrate	Light yellow orange silty clay with frequent gravel				
8	800	Layer		Plough soil	Light grey brown silty clay with frequent gravel			0.29	
8	801	Layer		Natural substrate	Light yellow orange silty clay with frequent gravel				
9	900	Layer		Plough soil	Mid brown grey silty clay			0.3	
9	901	Layer		Natural substrate	Gravel in mid grey yellow clay matrix				
10	1000	Layer		Plough soil	Mid brown grey silty clay			0.3	
10	1001	Layer		Natural substrate	Gravel in light grey yellow clay matrix				
11	1100	Layer		Plough soil	Mid brown grey silty clay			0.3	
11	1101	Layer		Natural substrate	Gravel in yellow grey clay matrix				
12	1200	Layer		Plough soil	Mid brown grey silty clay			0.3	
12	1201	Layer		Natural substrate	Gravel in yellow grey clay matrix				
13	1300	Layer		Plough soil	Mid brown grey silty clay			0.3	
13	1301	Layer		Natural substrate	Gravel in yellow grey clay matrix				
13	1302	Cut		Ditch	East/west aligned linear, V-shaped with concave base	>1	0.87	0.33	
13	1303	Fill	1302	Ditch fill	Mid blue grey silty clay	>1	0.87	0.33	MC3-C4
14	1400	Layer		Plough soil	Mid brown grey silty clay			0.3	
14	1401	Layer		Natural substrate	Mid yellow grey clay and gravel				
15	1501	Layer		Plough soil	Mid brown grey silty clay			0.3	
15	1502	Layer		Natural substrate	Gravel in yellow grey clay matrix				
16	1600	Layer		Plough soil	Mid brown grey silty clay			0.3	
16	1601	Layer		Natural substrate	Gravel in yellow grey clay matrix				
16	1602	Cut		Ditch	Curvilinear with V-shaped	>2	1.41	0.78	

					profile and concave base				
16	1603	Fill	1602	Ditch fill	Dark yellowish grey silty clay	>2	0.64	0.27	
16	1604	Fill	1602	Ditch fill	Mid greenish brown silty clay	>2	1.41	0.49	
17	1700	Layer		Plough soil	Mid brown grey silty clay			0.3	
17	1701	Layer		Natural substrate	Gravel in yellow grey clay matrix				
18	1800	Layer		Plough soil	Mid brown grey silty clay			0.3	
18	1801	Layer		Natural substrate	Gravel in yellow grey clay matrix				
18	1802	Cut		Ditch	East/west aligned linear with concave base	>2	1.4	0.35	
18	1803	Fill	1802	Ditch fill	Mid grey brown clay silt with flecks of charcoal	>2	1.4	0.35	LBA
18	1804	Cut		Pit	Oval with steep sides and flat base	1.95		0.5	
18	1805	Fill	1804	Pit fill	Mid brown clay silt with frequent stone	1.95		0.5	MBA/LBA
18	1806	Cut		Ditch	Linear with steep sides and concave base	>2	1.9	0.7	
18	1807	Fill	1806	Ditch fill	Gravel in mid yellow brown silt matrix	>2	1	0.15	
18	1808	Fill	1806	Ditch fill	Dark brown clay silt	>2	1.6	0.3	MBA
18	1809	Fill	1806	Ditch fill	Mid brown clay silt	>2	1.9	0.3	
18	1810	Cut		Ditch	Linear with steep sides and concave base	>2	1.8	0.7	
18	1811	Fill	1810	Ditch fill	Gravel in mid brown silt	>2	1.8	0.7	LBA
19	1900	Layer		Plough soil	Mid brown grey silty clay			0.3	
19	1901	Layer		Natural substrate	Gravel in grey clay matrix				
20	2000	Layer		Plough soil	Mid brown grey silty clay			0.3	
20	2001	Layer		Natural substrate	Gravel in grey clay matrix				
21	2100	Layer		Plough soil	Mid brown grey silty clay			0.3	
21	2101	Layer		Natural substrate	Gravel in grey clay matrix				
22	2200	Layer		Plough soil	Mid brown grey silty clay			0.3	
22	2201	Layer		Natural substrate	Gravel in grey clay matrix				
23	2300	Layer		Plough soil	Mid brown grey silty clay			0.3	
23	2301	Layer		Natural substrate	Gravel in grey clay matrix				
24	2400	Layer		Plough soil	Mid brown grey silty clay			0.3	
24	2401	Layer		Natural substrate	Gravel in grey clay matrix				
25	2500	Layer		Plough soil	Mid brown grey silty clay			0.3	
25	2501	Layer		Natural substrate	Gravel in grey clay matrix				

## APPENDIX B: THE FINDS

Context	Category	Description	Fabric Code/ NRFRC*	Count	Weight (g)	Spot-date
1303	Roman pottery	Dorset Black-burnished ware	TF31/ <b>DOR BB1</b>	1	5	MC3-C4
<1301>	Fired clay			1	<1	
<1301>	Worked flint	Flake, chip		2	<1	
<1301>	Burnt flint			4	<1	
1803	Early prehistoric pottery	Chert-tempered fabric	F1	2	7	LBA
	Worked Greensand chert	Flake (bladlike)		1	13	
1805	Early prehistoric pottery	Chert-tempered fabric	F1	9	28	MBA/LBA
	Early prehistoric pottery	Grog-and-rock tempered fabric	F2	17	181	
	Fired clay			16	88	
	Charcoal			2	<1	
1808	Early prehistoric pottery	Grog-and-rock tempered fabric	F2	3	23	MBA
1811	Early prehistoric pottery	Chert-tempered fabric	F1	2	12	LBA

\* National Roman Fabric Reference Collection codes in bold

## APPENDIX C: THE PALAEOENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

## Charcoal Identifications

Context number		1303	
Feature number		1302	
Sample number (SS)		1301	
Flot volume (ml)		6	
Sample volume processed (l)		35	
Soil remaining (l)		0	
Period		LR	
Charcoal quantity		+++	
Charcoal preservation		Poor	
Family	Species	Common Name	
Betulaceae	<i>Alnus glutinosa</i> (L.) Gaertn./ <i>Corylus avellana</i> L.	Alder/Hazel	3
Fagaceae	<i>Quercus petraea</i> (Matt.) Liebl./ <i>Quercus robur</i> L. h/w	Sessile Oak/ Pedunculate Oak	5
Rosaceae	<i>Prunus</i>	Cherry species	2
Number of Fragments:			10

## Key

LR = Late Roman

+ = 1–4 fragments; ++ = 4–20 items; +++ = 21–49 items; ++++ = 50–99 items; +++++ = 100–500 items; ++++++ = >500 items

## APPENDIX D: OASIS REPORT FORM

<b>PROJECT DETAILS</b>		
Project Name	Axe View, Wadbrook, Devon	
Short description	<p>An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in July 2015 on land at Axe View, Wadbrook, Devon. A total of twenty-five trenches was excavated.</p> <p>A Middle to Late Bronze Age sub oval enclosure and contemporary features was identified in the eastern part of the site. A probable Roman ditch was identified to the south.</p>	
Project dates	13 – 24 July 2015	
Project type	Evaluation	
Previous work	Desk based Assessment CA 2014 Geophysical Survey PCG 2015	
Future work	Unknown	
<b>PROJECT LOCATION</b>		
Site Location	Axe View, Wadbrook, Devon	
Study area (M <sup>2</sup> /ha)	8.9ha	
Site co-ordinates (8 Fig Grid Reference)	ST 3285 0183	
<b>PROJECT CREATORS</b>		
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Brief originator	N/A	
Project Design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Manager	Laurent Coleman	
Project Supervisor	Jonathon Orellana	
<b>MONUMENT TYPE</b>		
	None	
<b>SIGNIFICANT FINDS</b>		
	None	
<b>PROJECT ARCHIVES</b>		
	Intended final location of archive	Content
Physical	Royal Albert Memorial Museum RAMM: 15/21	Ceramics
Paper	Royal Albert Memorial Museum RAMM: 15/21	Context sheets, trench sheets, section drawings
Digital	Royal Albert Memorial Museum RAMM: 15/21	Survey data, digital photos
<b>BIBLIOGRAPHY</b>		
CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2015 Axe View, Wadbrook, Devon: <i>Archaeological Evaluation</i> . CA typescript report <b>15605</b>		

### **Andover Office**

Stanley House  
Walworth Road  
Andover  
Hampshire  
SP10 5LH

t: 01264 347630

### **Cirencester Office**

Building 11  
Kemble Enterprise Park  
Cirencester  
Gloucestershire  
GL7 6BQ

t: 01285 771022

### **Exeter Office**

Unit 8  
Basepoint Business Centre  
Yeoford Way  
Marsh Barton Trading Estate  
Exeter  
EX2 8LB

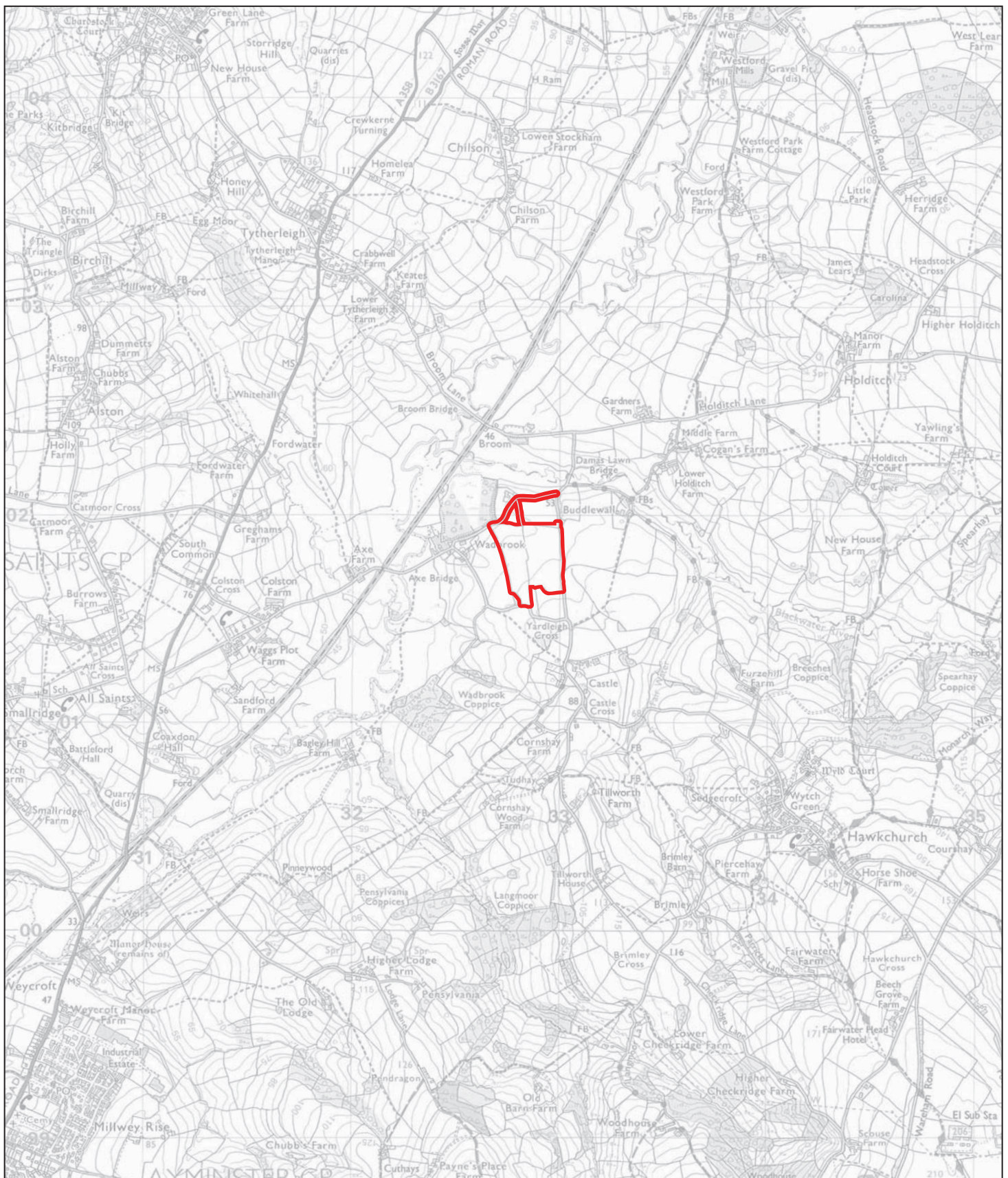
t: 01392 826185

### **Milton Keynes Office**

41 Burners Lane South  
Kiln Farm  
Milton Keynes  
Buckinghamshire  
MK11 3HA

t: 01908 564660





0 1km



Andover 01264 347630  
 Cirencester 01285 771022  
 Exeter 01392 826185  
 Milton Keynes 01908 564660  
[www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk](http://www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk)  
[enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk)

PROJECT TITLE  
 Axe View, Wadbrook, Devon

FIGURE TITLE  
 Site location plan

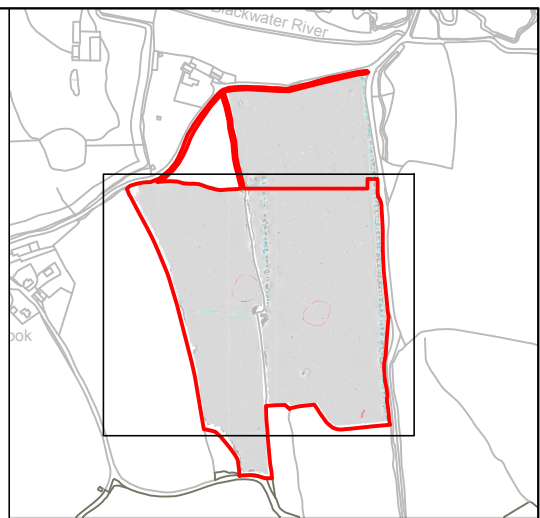
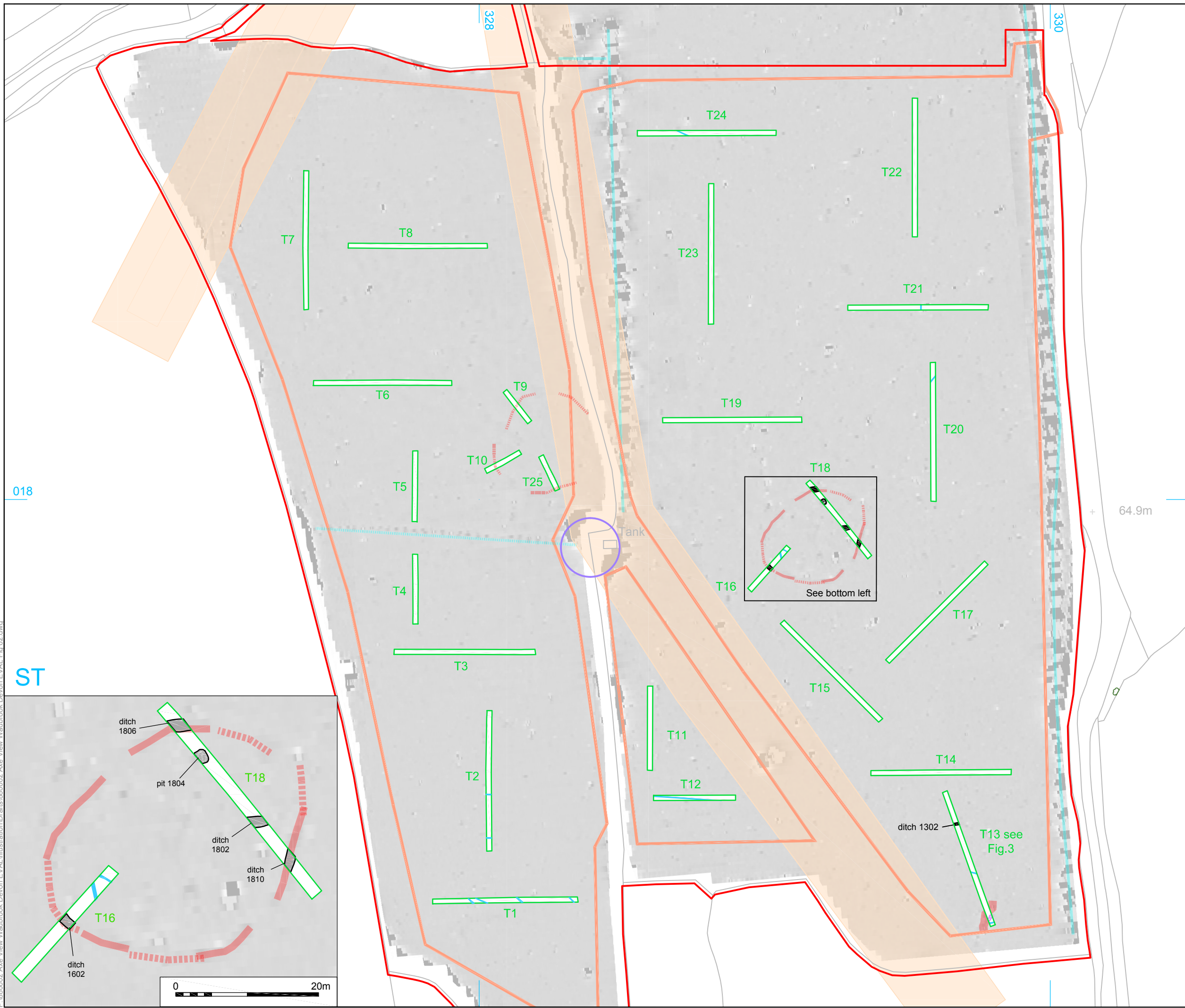
DRAWN BY LM/AO PROJECT NO. 880002  
 CHECKED BY RP/MLM DATE 30/07/15  
 APPROVED BY LECC SCALE@A4 1:25,000

FIGURE NO.

1

Reproduced from the 2008 Ordnance Survey Explorer map with the permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown copyright Cotswold Archaeology Ltd 100002109





- ▭ site boundary
- ▭ evaluation trench
- ▭ area of solar arrays
- ▭ overhead cable buffer zone
- badger sett buffer zone
- ▭ archaeological feature
- ▭ field drain
- ▭ modern

**Geophysical Survey key (PCG 2015)**

- ▭ Typically modern (rubble, metal objects/fencing etc)
- ▭ Archaeological remains typically produce weak magnetic anomalies within this range (e.g. ditches/pits). Exceptions include fired material (e.g. tile/pittery, kilns, hearths and other sites subject to intense heat)
- ▭ Typically modern (rubble, metal objects/fencing etc)
- ▭ Ditch
- ▭ Cultivation?
- ▭ Recent boundary
- ▭ Service



on the Ordnance Survey Digital mapping with the permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown copyright Cotswold Archaeology Ltd 100002109.

**Cotswold Archaeology**

Andover	01264 347630
Cirencester	01285 771022
Exeter	01392 826185
Milton Keynes	01908 564660

www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk  
enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk

**PROJECT TITLE**  
Axe View, Wadbrook, Devon

**FIGURE TITLE**  
Trench location plan showing archaeological features and geophysical survey results

DRAWN BY	LM/AO	PROJECT NO.	880002	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	RP/ILM	DATE	30/07/2015	<b>2</b>
APPROVED BY	LECC	SCALE@A3	1:1250 and 1:500	

P:\880002 Axe View Wadbrook Devon EVAL\Illustration\Drawings\880002 Axe View Wadbrook Devon EVAL Fig.02.dwg

018

ST

328

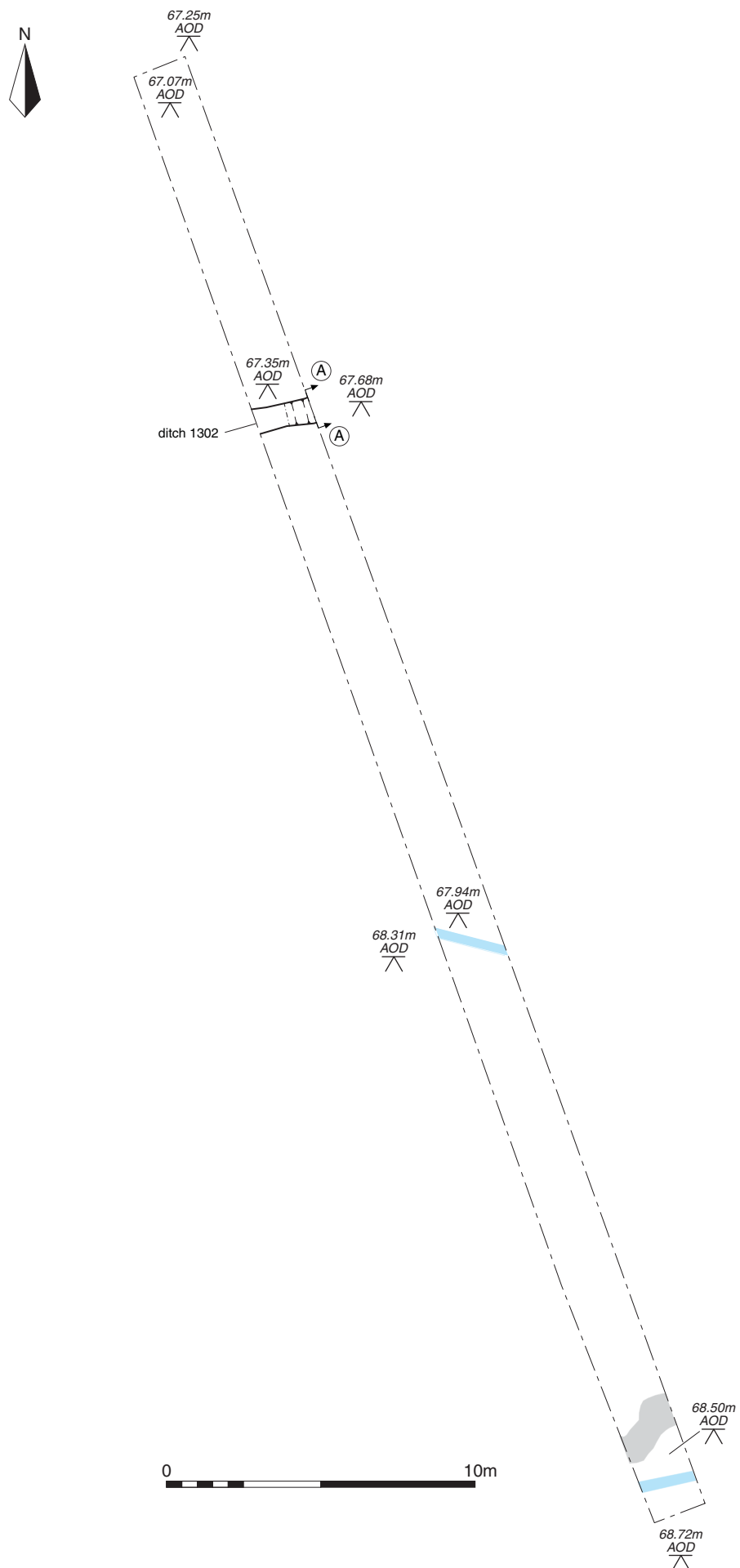
330

64.9m

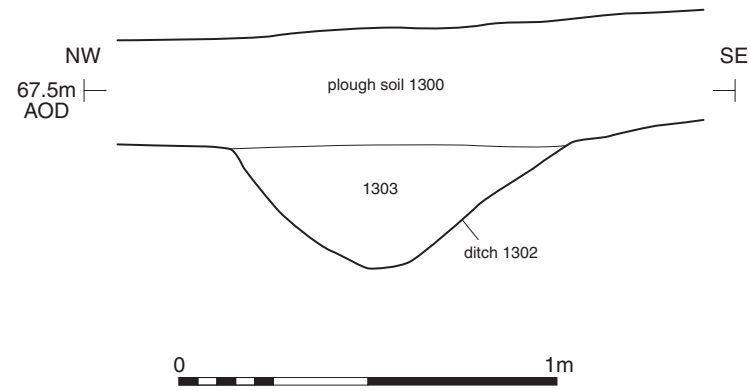







Trench 13, plan



Section AA



-  archaeological feature
-  field drain
-  modern feature



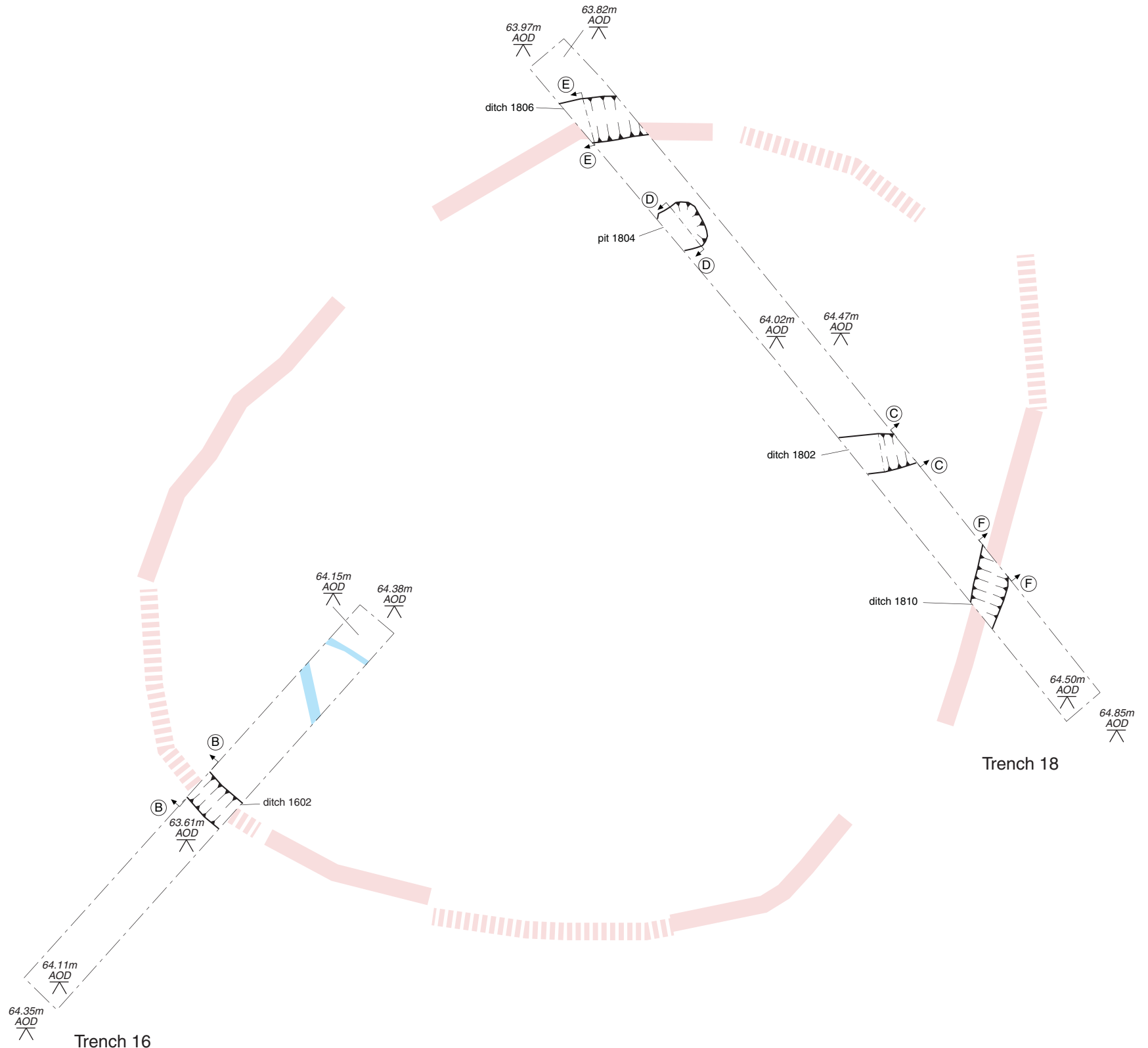
Ditch 1302, looking north-east (1m scale)





**Cotswold Archaeology**  
 Andover 01264 347630  
 Cirencester 01285 771022  
 Exeter 01392 826185  
 Milton Keynes 01908 564660  
 www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk  
 enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk

PROJECT TITLE  
**Axe View, Wadbrook, Devon**

FIGURE TITLE  
**Trench 13: plan, section and photograph**

DRAWN BY	AO	PROJECT NO.	880002	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	LM/RP	DATE	31/07/2015	<b>3</b>
APPROVED BY	LECC	SCALE@A3	1:200 & 1:20	



-  archaeological feature
-  field drain
-  geophysical anomaly



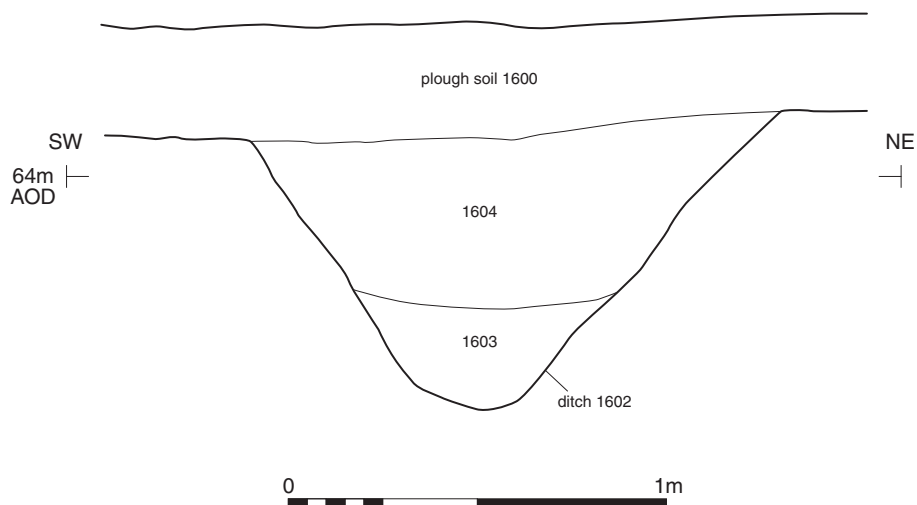

**Cotswold Archaeology**  
 Andover 01264 347630  
 Cirencester 01285 771022  
 Exeter 01392 826185  
 Milton Keynes 01908 564660  
 www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk  
 enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk

PROJECT TITLE  
**Axe View, Wadbrook, Devon**

FIGURE TITLE  
**Trenches 16 and 18: plan**

DRAWN BY	AO	PROJECT NO.	880002	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	LM/RP	DATE	31/07/2015	<b>4</b>
APPROVED BY	LECC	SCALE@A3	1:200	

Section BB



Ditch 1602, looking north-west (1m scale)



Andover 01264 347630  
Cirencester 01285 771022  
Exeter 01392 826185  
Milton Keynes 01908 564660  
www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk  
enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk

PROJECT TITLE

Axe View, Wadbrook, Devon

FIGURE TITLE

Trench 16: section and photograph

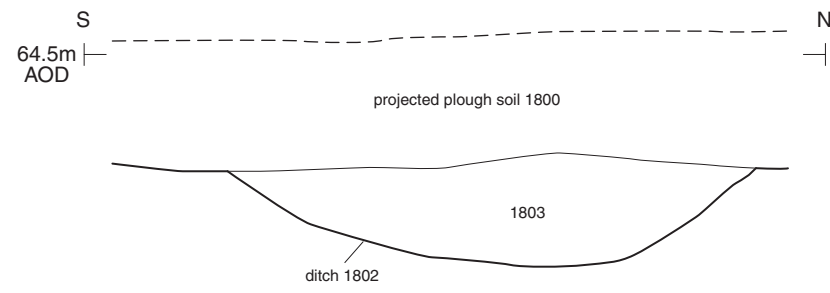
DRAWN BY AO PROJECT NO. 880002  
CHECKED BY LM/RP DATE 31/07/2015  
APPROVED BY LECC SCALE@A4 1:20

FIGURE NO.

5



Section CC

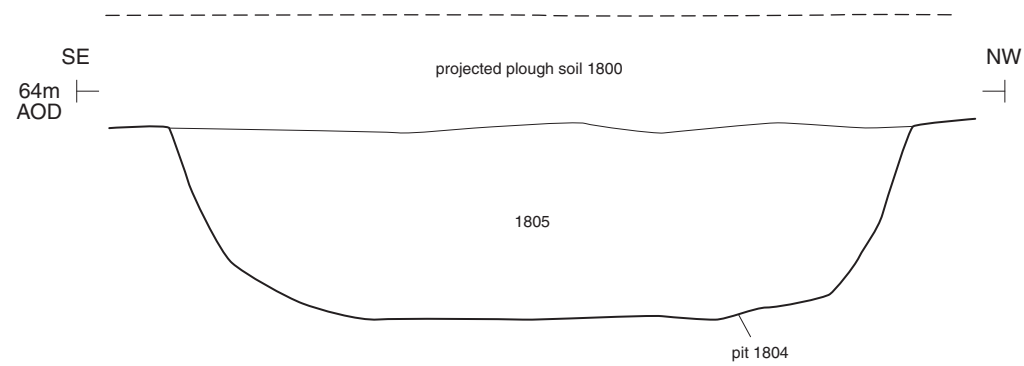


Ditch 1802, looking east (0.4m scale)



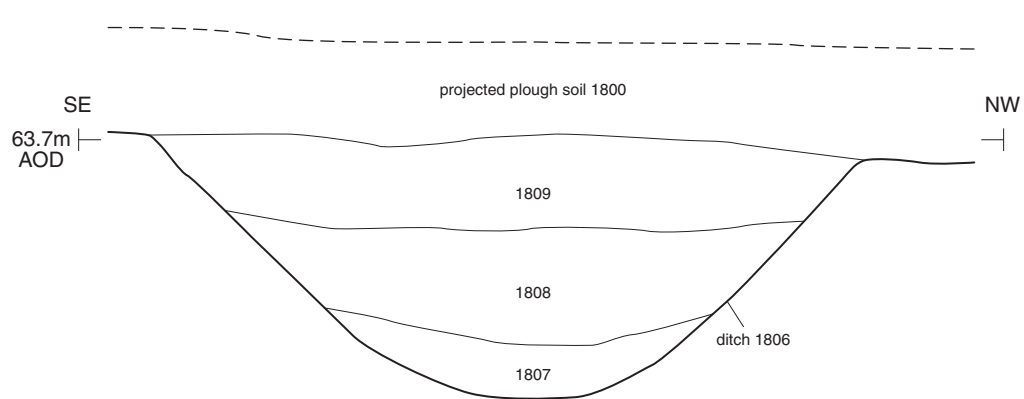
Pit 1804, looking south-west (1m scale)

Section DD

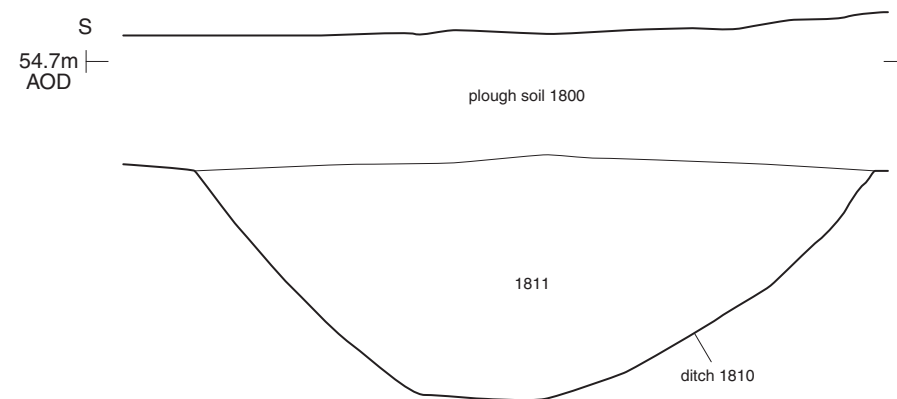


Ditch 1806, looking south-west (1m scale)

Section EE



Section FF




**Cotswold Archaeology**  
 Andover 01264 347630  
 Cirencester 01285 771022  
 Exeter 01392 826185  
 Milton Keynes 01908 564660  
 www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk  
 enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk

PROJECT TITLE  
**Axe View, Wadbrook, Devon**

FIGURE TITLE  
**Trench 18: sections and photographs**

DRAWN BY	AO	PROJECT NO.	880002	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	LM/RP	DATE	31/07/2015	<b>6</b>
APPROVED BY	LECC	SCALE@A3	1:20	