

Tonedale Farm Linden Hill, Wellington Somerset

Archaeological Evaluation



for
AB Heritage

CA Project: 880023
CA Report: 15539

June 2015



Tonedale Farm, Linden Hill
Wellington
Somerset

Archaeological Evaluation

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A	30 June 2015	Tina Tapply	Laurie Coleman	Internal review		Simon Cox

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Fig. 1 Site location plan (1:25,000)

Fig. 2 Trench location plan showing geophysical survey results (1:2000)



SUMMARY

Project Name: Tonedale Farm, Linden Hill
Location: Wellington, Somerset
NGR: ST 1199 2091
Type: Evaluation
Date: 18 June 2015
Planning Reference: Taunton Deane Borough Council 43/15/0008
Location of Archive: To be deposited with Somerset Heritage Centre: TTNCM: 45/2015
Site Code: TWF 15

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in June 2015 at Tonedale Farm, Linden Hill, Wellington, Somerset. A single trench was excavated.

No finds, features or deposits of archaeological significance were identified during the evaluation. The targeted geophysical anomaly corresponded to a change in the natural substrate.



1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 In June 2015 Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological evaluation for AB Heritage at Tonedale Farm, Linden Hill, Wellington, Somerset (centred on NGR: ST 1199 2091; Fig. 1. A planning application (planning application ref. 43/15/0008) for a Solar Farm at the site has been submitted and Steven Membery, Senior Historic Environment Officer, South West Heritage Trust and archaeological advisor to Taunton Deane Borough Council (TDBC) requested that an archaeological evaluation was undertaken in order to provide further information on the archaeological resource within the site.
- 1.2 The evaluation was carried out in accordance a detailed *Written Scheme of Investigation* (WSI) produced by CA (2015) and approved by Steven Membery, Senior Historic Environment Officer, South West Heritage Trust. 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 Steven Membery including a site visit on 18 June 2015.

The site

- 1.3 The proposed development area is 10ha, and comprises agricultural land (three fields) located to the north of Tonedale Farm. The site lies at approximately 85m AOD, with undulating topography.
- 1.4 The underlying bedrock geology of the area is mapped as Budleigh Salterton Pebble Beds Formation (conglomerate) dating to the Triassic period (BGS 2015). The natural substrate, comprising red brown silty clay, was identified within the evaluation trench.

2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 2.1 A Heritage Assessment has been prepared (Minerva Heritage 2015) and the salient points are outlined as follows:

- 2.2 The site lies within a Historic Landscape Character Area which consists of anciently enclosed land which was modified between the 17th to 19th centuries. The only heritage assets located within the site were former field boundaries identified on aerial photographs taken between 1946 and 1994. No evidence for these features was identified during the site visit (Minerva Heritage 2015, 11).
- 2.3 Geophysical survey (AB Heritage 2015) subsequently identified anomalies (GP 2 and 3) corresponding to the post-medieval field boundaries, an anomaly corresponding to a road (GP 4) and a linear anomaly of uncertain origin (GP 1).

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 *Standard and guidance: Archaeological field evaluation* (CIfA 2014). This information will enable TDDC 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 a single trench, which was 30m long and 1.8m wide, targeted upon the geophysical anomaly. The Trench was 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 The trench was 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*.

- 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*; no deposits were identified that required sampling. All artefacts recovered were processed in accordance with Technical Manual 3 *Treatment of Finds Immediately after Excavation*.
- 4.4 The archive and from the evaluation are currently held by CA at their offices in Kemble. The archive will be deposited with Somerset Heritage Centre under accession number TTNCM: 45/2015. A summary of information from this project, set out within Appendix B, will be entered onto the OASIS online database of archaeological projects in Britain

5. RESULTS (FIG. 1)

Trench 1

- 5.1 The natural substrate, comprising red brown silty clay, 102, was identified at 0.5m below present ground level (bpgl). This was overlain by subsoil 101 (0.3m thick) and topsoil 100 (0.2m thick).

6. DISCUSSION

- 6.1 The targeted geophysical anomaly was found to relate to a change in the natural substrate and no other features, finds or deposits of archaeological significance were identified.

7. CA PROJECT TEAM

Fieldwork was undertaken by Tina Tapply, assisted by George Gandham. The report was written by Tina Tapply. The illustrations were prepared by Aleksandra Osinska. The archive has been compiled by Tina Tapply, and prepared for deposition by Hazel O'Neill. The project was managed for CA by Laurent Coleman.

8. REFERENCES

AB Heritage 2015 *Tonedale Farm, Wellington, Somerset: Geophysics Survey Report*. AB Heritage Project No **10551**

BGS (British Geological Survey) 2015 *Geology of Britain Viewer* http://maps.bgs.ac.uk/geology_viewer_google/googleviewer.html Accessed 10 June 2012

Minerva Heritage 2015 *Land at Tonedale Farm, Linden Hill, Wellington, Somerset: Heritage Assessment*. Minerva Heritage Project Code **BMRS014**



APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Trench No.	Context No.	Type	Fill of	Context interpretation	Description	L (m)	W (m)	D (m)
1	100	Layer		topsoil	light grey brown silty clay	30	1.8	0.2
1	101	Layer		subsoil	brown silty clay	30	1.8	0.3
1	102	Layer		natural	Red brown silty clay	30	0.8	0.5

APPENDIX B: OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS	
Project Name	Tonedale Farm, Linden Hill, Wellington, Somerset
Short description	
Project dates	18 June 2015
Project type (e.g. desk-based, field evaluation etc)	Geophysical Survey (AB heritage 2015)
Previous work	
Future work	Unknown
PROJECT LOCATION	
Site Location	Tonedale Farm, Linden Hill, Wellington, Somerset
Study area (M ² /ha)	10ha
Site co-ordinates (8 Fig Grid Reference)	ST 1199 2091
PROJECT CREATORS	
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology
Project Brief originator	
Project Design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology
Project Manager	Laurent Coleman
Project Supervisor	Tina Tapply
MONUMENT TYPE	None
SIGNIFICANT FINDS	None
PROJECT ARCHIVES	
	Intended final location of archive (museum/Accession no.)
	Content (e.g. pottery, animal bone etc)
Physical	Na
Paper	Somerset Heritage Centre: TTNCM 45/2015
Digital	Somerset Heritage Centre: TTNCM 45/2015
	Context sheets
	Digital photos, survey data
BIBLIOGRAPHY	

CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2015 *Tonedale Farm, Linden Hill, Wellington, Somerset: Archaeological Evaluation*.
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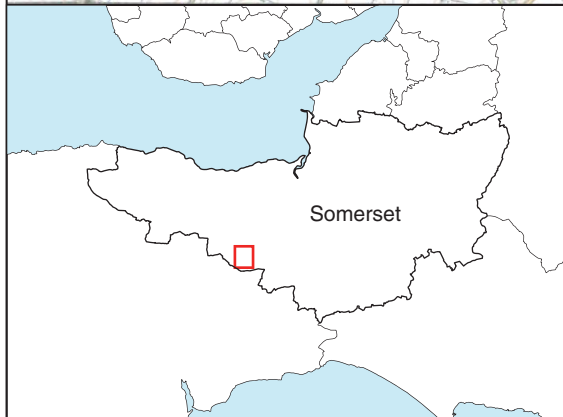
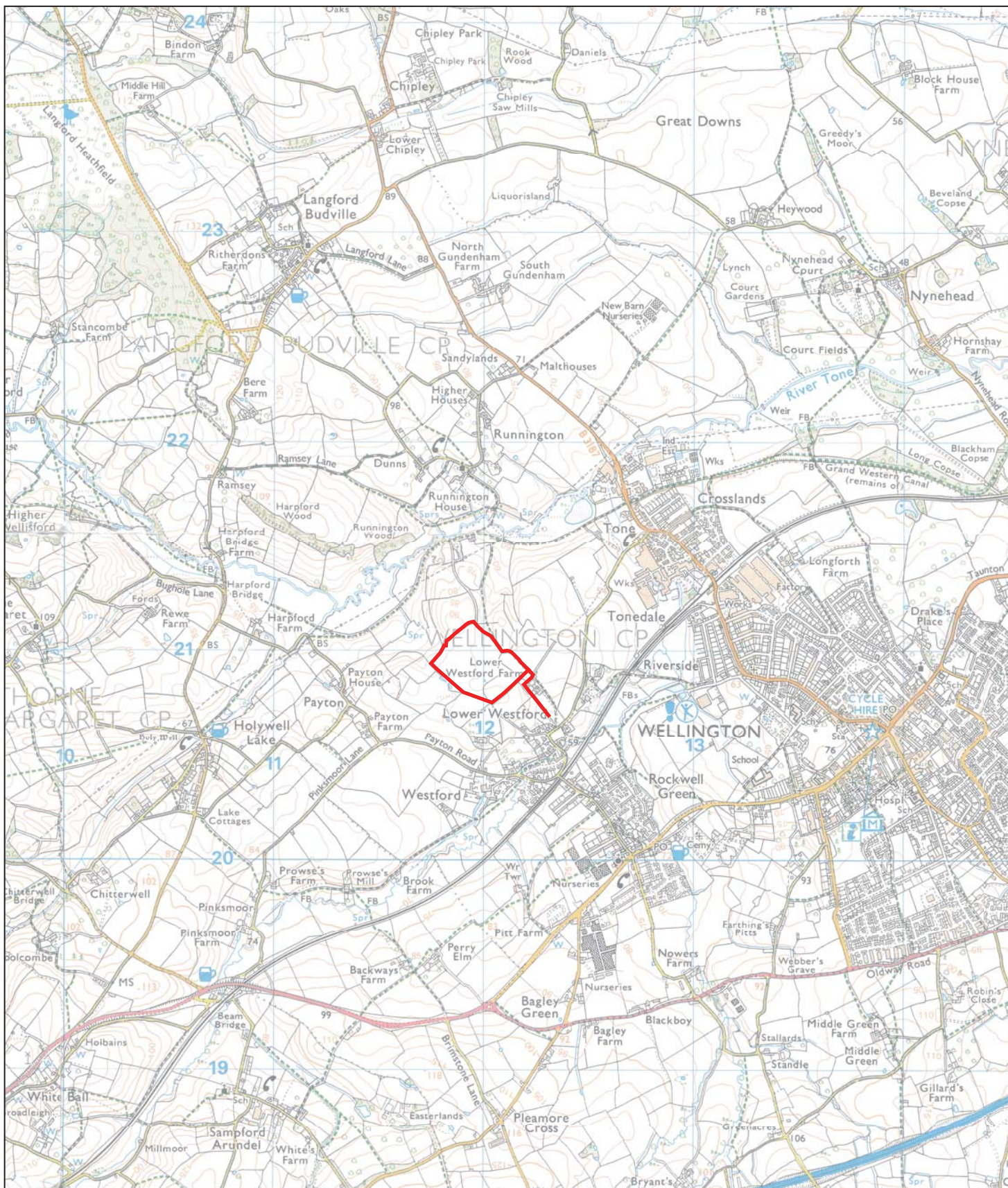
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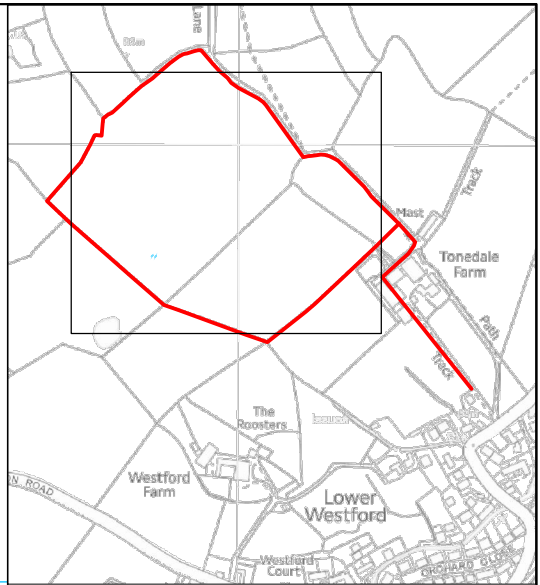
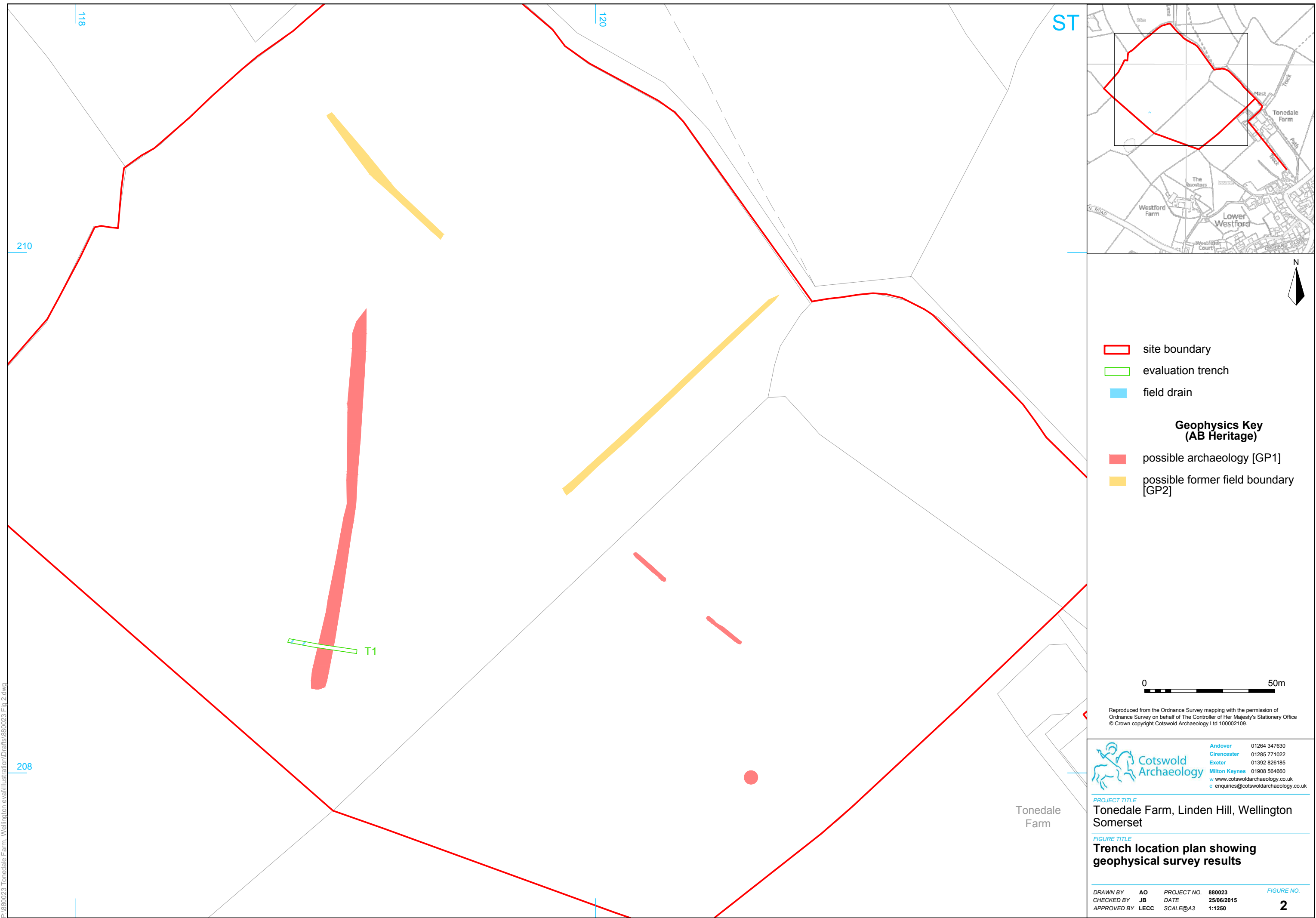
PROJECT TITLE
 Tonedale Farm, Linden Hill, Wellington
 Somerset






FIGURE TITLE
 Site location plan

0 1km

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DRAWN BY	AO	PROJECT NO.	880023	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	JB	DATE	25/06/2015	
APPROVED BY	LECC	SCALE@A4	1:25,000	1



-  site boundary
 -  evaluation trench
 -  field drain
- Geophysics Key
(AB Heritage)**
-  possible archaeology [GP1]
 -  possible former field boundary [GP2]



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PROJECT TITLE
 Tonedale Farm, Linden Hill, Wellington Somerset

FIGURE TITLE
 Trench location plan showing geophysical survey results

DRAWN BY	AO	PROJECT NO.	880023	FIGURE NO.	2
CHECKED BY	JB	DATE	25/06/2015		
APPROVED BY	LECC	SCALE@A3	1:1250		

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