



Carloggas Grove St Columb Major Cornwall

Archaeological Watching Brief



for Kier Living

CA Project: 880042 CA Report: 15874

January 2016



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SUMMARY

Project Name: Carloggas Grove

Location: St Columb Major, Cornwall

NGR: SW 9021 6306

Type: Watching Brief

Date: 28 July – 30 October 2015

Planning Reference: PA 14/10562

Location of Archive: To be deposited with Cornwall Record Office

Site Code: SCM 15

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology during groundworks associated with the construction of a housing development at land at Carloggas Grove, St Columb Major, Cornwall.

A detailed assessment of the chronology of the site was hampered by the lack of dating evidence recovered. Undated ditches and pits were identified across the site. Some of the ditches are parallel to an extant field boundary and may be of post-medieval date.

The northern corner of a possible rectangular enclosure was identified in the south-eastern part of the site. The ditch had a distinctive profile and it is possible that this feature is of Roman date.

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Between July and October 2015 Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological watching brief for Kier Living at land at Carloggas Grove, St Columb Major, Cornwall (centred on NGR: SW 9021 6306; Fig. 1). The watching brief was undertaken to fulfil a condition (8) attached to a planning consent for a housing development (Cornwall Council planning ref: PA14/10562).
- 1.2 The watching brief was carried out in accordance with a detailed *Written Scheme of Investigation* (WSI) produced by Cornwall Archaeological Unit (2015) and a *Method Statement* (CA 2015) both approved by Phil Copleston, Senior Development Officer (Historic Environment), Cornwall Council. The fieldwork also followed *Standard and guidance: Archaeological watching brief* (ClfA 2014).

The site

- 1.3 The site is located on the western edge of the village of St Columb Major and is situated on a small hill at a height of 101m AOD. The ground drops downward to the north-east. The site previously comprised two fields under pasture and scrubland.
- 1.4 The underlying bedrock geology of the area is mapped as Slate, Siltstone and Sandstone of the Meadfoot Group (BGS 2016). Natural substrate comprising grey clay with shale patches was encountered within the observed groundworks.

2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The archaeological background is outlined in the WSI (CAU 2015) and the salient points are briefly summarised below:
- 2.2 The prehistoric evidence form the vicinity of Carloggas is relatively sparse. One Bronze Age socketed axe head was discovered close to Bosworgey, less than 0.5km north of the site. Another similar axe head was discovered in a pool near Trekenning to the southeast. A possible barrow, likely to be of Bronze Age date, has been identified on aerial photographs of Trekenning (CAU 2015).
- 2.3 Later prehistory or Roman activity is marked by rounds. These are likely settlement enclosures and the sub-circular example at Tresawle Farm is a Scheduled

Monument. Another round is said to lie under the parish church in St Columb Major (CAU 2015).

3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 3.1 The objectives of the archaeological works were:
 - to monitor groundworks, and to identify, investigate and record all significant buried archaeological deposits revealed on the site during the course of the development groundworks;
 - at the conclusion of the project, to produce an integrated archive for the project work and a report setting out the results of the project and the archaeological conclusions that can be drawn from the recorded data.

4. METHODOLOGY

- 4.1 The fieldwork followed the methodology set out within the *WSI* (CAU 2015) and *Method Statement* (CA 2015). An archaeologist was present during intrusive groundworks comprising the stripping of the site to expose the top of the natural substrate (Fig. 2).
- 4.2 Where archaeological deposits were encountered written, graphic and photographic records were compiled in accordance with CA Technical Manual 1: *Fieldwork Recording Manual*.
- 4.3 The archive and artefacts from the watching brief are currently held by CA at their offices in Kemble. Subject to the agreement of the legal landowner the artefacts will be deposited initially at ReStore PLC, Liskeard and eventually at Cornwall Record Office, along with the site archive. A summary of information from this project, set out within Appendix C will be entered onto the OASIS online database of archaeological projects in Britain.

5. RESULTS (FIGS 2-3)

- 5.1 This section provides an overview of the watching brief results; detailed summaries of the recorded contexts and finds are to be found in Appendices A and B respectively.
- 5.2 The natural geological substrate, comprising grey clay with shale patches, was encountered at an average depth of 0.6m below present ground level (bpgl). This was overlain by subsoil averaging 0.2m which was in turn sealed by 0.35m of topsoil.
- 5.3 Towards the centre of the observed groundworks area pit 1022 measured 0.67m in diameter and 0.23m in depth. A single sherd of pottery of medieval date was recovered from its single fill, 1021.
- Three intercutting groups of parallel ditches (Fig. 2, inset) were identified and comprised 1068/1072/1042/1056; 1024/1054/1040 (Fig. 3, Section AA) and 1066/1063/1046; and 1015/1065/1058/1052 and 1060/1044/1038. The ditches had moderately sloping sides and flat bases and were 0.7m wide and 0.2m deep on average. Each contained a single silty clay fill from which no artefactual material was recovered.
- 5.5 Within the observed area six ditches, 1005, 1048, 1071, 1083, 1090 and 1097 and three pits, 1009, 1011 and 1022, were also identified. All of these features were undated.
- Ditch 1026/1078/1074/1084/1032 lay at the south-eastern extent of the site. The ditch appeared to comprise the northern part of a conjectured rectangular enclosure that extended beyond the southern edge of the site. Sections excavated through the ditch showed that it had a regular 'V'-shaped profile and flat base (Fig. 3, Section BB) and measured 0.9m in width and 0.6m in depth. It contained three silty fills from which no artefactual evidence was recovered. The enclosure ditch was cut by undated north-west/south-east orientated ditch 1029/1027/1088/1090.
- 5.7 Within the possible enclosure, one posthole was identified. Posthole 1094 measured 0.44m in diameter and 0.18m in depth (Fig. 3, Section CC). It had a single fill, 1095, from which no dating evidence was retrieved.

6. THE FINDS

Artefactual material was hand-recovered from a single pit fill. The recovered material dates to the medieval period and is quantified in Appendix B.

Pottery: medieval

6.2 An unfeatured bodysherd in an oxidised-firing, slightly micaceous, sand-tempered fabric was retrieved from fill 1021 of pit 1022. A medieval date is most likely for this pottery.

7. DISCUSSION

- 7.1 The interpretation of the results is hindered by the almost complete lack of dating evidence, however, the identified archaeological remains appear to comprise: A medieval pit, three groups of parallel ditches and other features which probably relate to the recent agricultural use of the site and the northern part of a conjectured rectangular enclosure which may be of greater antiquity.
- 7.2 Pit 1022 identified nearby produced one sherd of medieval pottery and is the only securely-dated feature. However a probable medieval/post-medieval date for the three groups of parallel ditches is supported by the fact that ditch 1068/1072 is parallel to a modern field boundary.
- 7.3 The rectangular enclosure ditch identified in the south-eastern part of the site might be Roman considering its form and profile. However, the absence of artefactual evidence from the ditch makes further interpretation impossible.

8. CA PROJECT TEAM

Fieldwork was undertaken by supervised and undertaken by Christina Tapply and Jonathan Orellana, George Gandham, Jerry Austin and Mary Lutescu Jones. The report was written by Christina Tapply and Jonathan Orellana. The finds report was written by Jacky Sommerville. The illustrations were prepared by Leo Heatley. The archive has been compiled and prepared for deposition by Hazel O'Neill. The project was managed for CA by Laurent Coleman.

9. REFERENCES

BGS (British Geological Survey) 2016 *Geology of Britain Viewer* http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html Accessed 6 January 2016

CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2015 Method Statement for an Archaeological Watching Brief

Cornwall Archaeological Unit, Cornwall Council 2015 Carloggas Grove, St. Columb Major: Written Scheme of Investigation for archaeological Watching Brief

APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Context No.	Туре	Fill of	Context interpretation	Description	L (m)	W (m)	Depth/thi	Spot- date
						,	(m)	
1000	Layer		topsoil	Dark brown, silty clay, friable			0.35	
1001	Layer		subsoil	Medium brown, silty clay, friable			0.20	
1002	Layer		natural	Mixed blue/grey/yellow/orange clay/shale			>0.55	
1003	Stone		foundation stone	Hedge bank boundary	0.70	0.20		
1004	Hedge		hedge bank	Hedge bank boundary	>1.10	1.90		
1005	Cut		ditch	Ditch cut N-S	4.20	1.10	0.50	
1006	Fill	1005	fill	Medium orange brown silty clay	4.20	1.10	0.50	
1007	Cut		ditch	Irregular ditch cut/ tree throw	1.55	1.35	0.63	
1008	Fill	1007	ditch	Medium yellow brown silty clay	1.56	1.50	0.60	
1009	Cut		pit/posthole	Sub oval post hole/ pit	1.00	0.45	0.19	
1010	Fill	1009	fill	Medium orange brown silty clay	1.00	0.45	0.19	
1011	Cut		pit/posthole	Oval irregular shape	1.05	0.65	0.40	
1012	Fill	1011	fill	Medium orange brown silty clay	1.05	0.65	0.40	
1013	Cut		tree throw	Possible Tree throw	3.20	1.10	0.55	
1014	Fill	1013	fill	Medium yellow brown silty clay	3.20	1.10	0.55	
1015	Cut		Hedge bank	Hedge bank boundary		0.80		
1016	Fill	1015	fill	Medium brown silty clay		0.80		
1017	Cut		hedge bank	Running parallel to 1015				
1018	Fill	1017	fill	Medium brown silty clay				
1019	Cut		tree throw	Cut of tree throw	2.30	1.50		
1020	Cut		tree throw	Cut of tree throw	2.30	1.20		
1021	Fill	1022	fill of pit	Light to medium brown silty clay	0.67	0.23		Medieval
1022	Cut		cut of pit	Oval shaped pit	0.67	0.23		
1023	Fill	1024	fill of ditch	Medium red brown silty clay	1.00	0.75	0.20	
1024	Cut		cut of ditch	Cut of linear ditch	1.00	0.75	0.20	
1025	Fill	1026	fill of ditch	Light to medium brown silty clay	0.50	0.80	0.47	
1026	Cut		cut of ditch	Cut of linear ditch, almost V shaped	0.50	0.80	0.47	
1027	Cut		cut of ditch	Cut of linear ditch terminus NW/SE	1.00	0.18	0.06	
1028	Fill	1027	Fill of ditch	Reddish brown silty clay	1.00	0.18	0.06	
1029	Cut		cut of ditch	Cut of linear ditch NNW-SSE	1.00	0.85	0.30	
1030	Fill	1029	fill of ditch	Light yellow brown silty clay	1.00	0.85	0.30	
1031	Fill	1029	fill of ditch	Reddish brown silty clay		0.85	0.10	
1032	Cut		cut of ditch	Cut of linear ditch, V type	1.60	1.10	0.65	
1033	Fill	1032	fill of ditch	Medium reddish brown silty clay	1.60	1.10	0.35	
1034	Fill	1032	fill of ditch	Light yellow brown silty clay	1.60	0.90	0.25	
1035	Fill	1032	fill of ditch	Reddish brown silty clay	1.60	0.70	0.23	
1036	Fill	1037	fill of gully	Medium red brown silty clay	1.00	0.35	0.05	
1037	Cut		cut of gully	Cut of a linear gully NW-SE	1.00	0.35	0.05	
1038	Cut		cut of linear	Cut of linear NW-SE	0.95	0.30	0.15	
1039	Fill	1038	fill of linear	Light red brown silty clay	0.95	0.30	0.15	
1040	Cut		cut of linear	Cut of linear ditch NE-SW	0.55	0.24	0.10	

	Fill	1040	fill of linear					
1042				Medium red brown silty clay	0.55	0.24	0.10	
	Cut		cut of linear	Cut of linear ditch NNE-SSW	0.55	0.64	0.12	
	Fill	1042	fill of linear	Greyish brown silty clay	0.55	0.64	0.12	
	Cut		cut of linear	Cut of linear ditch SE-NW	0.47	0.28	0.08	
	Fill	1044	fill of linear	Light red brown silty clay	0.47	0.28	0.08	
	Cut		cut of linear	Cut of linear ditch NE-SW	0.58	0.45	0.14	
	Fill	1046	fill of linear	Medium red brown silty clay	0.58	0.45	0.14	
	Cut		cut of linear	Cut of linear ditch SW-NE	2.00	1.35	0.18	
	Fill	1048	fill of linear	Reddish brown silty clay	2.00	1.35	0.18	
	Cut		cut of linear	Cut of linear ditch SW-NE	1.25	0.18	0.08	
	Fill	1050	fill of linear	Reddish brown silty clay	1.25	0.18	0.08	
	Cut		cut of linear	Cut of linear ditch NW-SE		0.22	0.09	
	Fill	1052	fill of linear	Light brown silty clay		0.22	0.09	
1054	Cut		cut of linear	Cut of linear ditch SW-NE	0.45	0.30	0.16	
1055	Fill	1054	fill of linear	Medium brown silty clay	0.45	0.38	0.16	
1056	Cut		cut of linear	Cut of linear ditch NNE-SSW	0.63	0.37	0.10	
1057	Fill	1052	fill of linear	Greyish brown silty clay	0.63	0.37	0.10	
1058	Cut		cut of linear	Cut of linear ditch NW-SE	0.54	0.77	0.13	
1059	Fill	1058	fill of linear	Medium reddish brown silty clay	0.54	0.77	0.13	
1060	Cut		cut of linear	Cut of linear ditch NW-SE	0.74	0.86	0.15	
1061	Fill	1060	fill of linear	Light to medium reddish brown silty clay	0.74	0.86	0.15	
1062	Fill	1063	fill of linear	Light to medium brown silty clay	0.92		0.15	
1063	Cut		cut of linear	Cut of linear ditch SW-NE	0.92		0.15	
1064	Fill	1065	fill of linear	Medium brown silty clay	0.30		0.15	
1065	Cut		cut of linear	Cut of linear ditch SE-NW	0.30		0.15	
1066	Cut		cut of linear	Cut of linear ditch NE-SW	1.00	1.13	0.30	
1067	Fill	1066	fill of linear	Reddish brown silty clay	1.00	1.13	0.30	
1068	Cut		cut of linear	Cut of linear ditch NE-SW	1.00	0.90	0.22	
1069	Fill	1068	fill of linear	Medium Reddish brown silty clay	1.00	0.90	0.22	
1070	Fill	1071	fill of linear	Light grey brown silty clay	1.00	0.86	0.30	
1071	Cut		cut of linear	Cut of linear ditch NE-SW	1.00	0.86	0.30	
1072	Cut		cut of linear	Cut of linear ditch ENE-WSW	1.44	0.87	0.34	
1073	Fill		fill of linear	Medium reddish brown silty clay	1.44	0.87	0.34	
1074	Cut		cut of linear	Cut of curvy linear ditch SE-W	2.10	0.50	0.15	
1075	Fill	1075	fill of linear	Medium reddish brown silty clay	2.10	0.50	0.15	
1076	Fill	1077	fill of linear	Light grey brown silty clay	0.85	0.40	0.30	
1077	Cut		cut of linear	Cut of linear ditch NW-SE	0.85	0.40	0.30	
1078	Cut		cut of linear	Cut of linear ditch	1.24	0.56	0.44	
1079	Fill	1078	fill of linear	Medium Reddish brown silty clay	1.24	0.56	0.44	
1080	Fill	1071	fill of linear	Light grey brown silty clay	1.70		0.30	
1081	Cut		cut of linear	Cut of linear ditch NW-SE	1.70		0.30	
1082	Fill	1083	fill of linear	Medium grey brown silty clay	1.45		0.20	
1083	Cut		cut of linear	Cut of linear ditch S-N	1.45		0.20	
1084	Cut		cut of linear	Cut of linear ditch NW-SE	1.70	0.88	0.52	
1085	Fill		fill of linear	Yellow brown silty clay	1.70	0.72	0.52	
1086	Fill	1084	fill of linear	Light Yellow brown silty clay	1.70	0.58	0.16	

1087	Fill	1084	fill of linear	Medium reddish brown silty clay	1.70	0.42	0.18	
1088	Cut		cut of linear	Cut of linear ditch NW-SE	1.00	0.70	0.12	
1089	Fill	1088	fill of linear	Medium reddish brown silty clay	1.00	0.70	0.12	
1090	Cut		cut of linear	Cut of linear ditch NW-SE	0.66	0.22	0.06	
1091	Fill	1088	fill of linear	Medium Reddish brown silty clay	0.66	0.22	0.06	
1092	Fill	1093	fill of linear	Light grey brown silty clay	0.80	0.75	0.07	
1093	Cut		cut of linear	Cut of linear ditch N-S	0.80	0.75	0.07	
1094	Cut		cut of pit	Cut of oval pit	0.44	0.44	0.18	
1095	Fill	1094	fill of pit	Light to medium brown silty clay	0.44	0.44	0.18	
1096	Fill	1097	fill of linear	Light yellow brown silty clay	2.20	0.30	0.45	
1097	Cut		cut of linear	Cut of linear ditch E-W	2.20	0.30	0.45	
1098	Fill	1099	fill of linear	Light yellow brown silty clay	0.70	1.50		
1099	Cut		cut of linear	Cut of linear ditch E-W	0.70	1.50		

APPENDIX B: THE FINDS

Table 1: Finds concordance

Context	Category	Description	Fabric Code	Count	Weight (g)	Spot-date
1021	Medieval pottery	Sandy coarseware	SCW	1	2	C11-C15

APPENDIX C: OASIS REPORT FORM

Project Name	Carloggas Grove, St. Columb Major, Cor	nwall			
Short description	An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology during groundworks associated with the construction of a housing development at land at Carloggas Grove, St Columb Major, Cornwall. A detailed assessment of the chronology of the site was hampered by the lack of dating evidence recovered. Undated ditches and pits were identified across the site. Some of the ditches are parallel to an extant field boundary and may be of post-medieval date. The northern corner of a possible rectangular enclosure was identified in the south-eastern part of the site. The ditch had a distinctive profile and it is possible that this feature is of Roman date.				
Project dates	28 July – 30 October 2015				
Project type	Archaeological Watching Brief				
Previous work					
Future work					
PROJECT LOCATION					
Site Location	Carloggas Grove, St. Columb Major, Cornwall				
Study area					
Site co-ordinates (8 Fig Grid Reference)	SW 9021 6306				
PROJECT CREATORS					
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology				
Project Brief originator					
Project Design (WSI) originator	Cornwall Archaeological Unit				
Project Manager	Laurent Coleman				
Project Supervisor	Christina Tapply				
MONUMENT TYPE	None				
SIGNIFICANT FINDS					
PROJECT ARCHIVES	Intended final location of archive (museum/Accession no.)				
Physical	ReStore PLC, Cornwall Record Office				
Paper	ReStore PLC, Cornwall Record Office	Context sheets, registers, drawings			
Digital	ReStore PLC, Cornwall Record Office	Survey data, digital photos			
BIBLIOGRAPHY					



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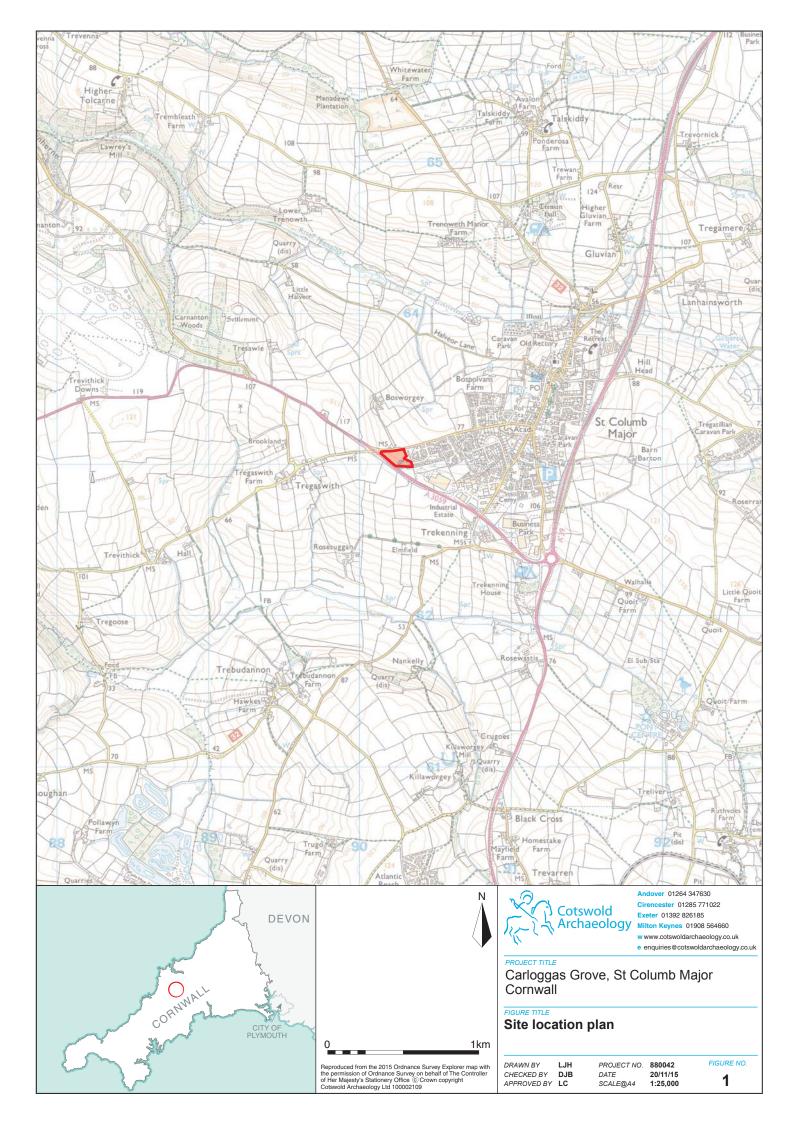
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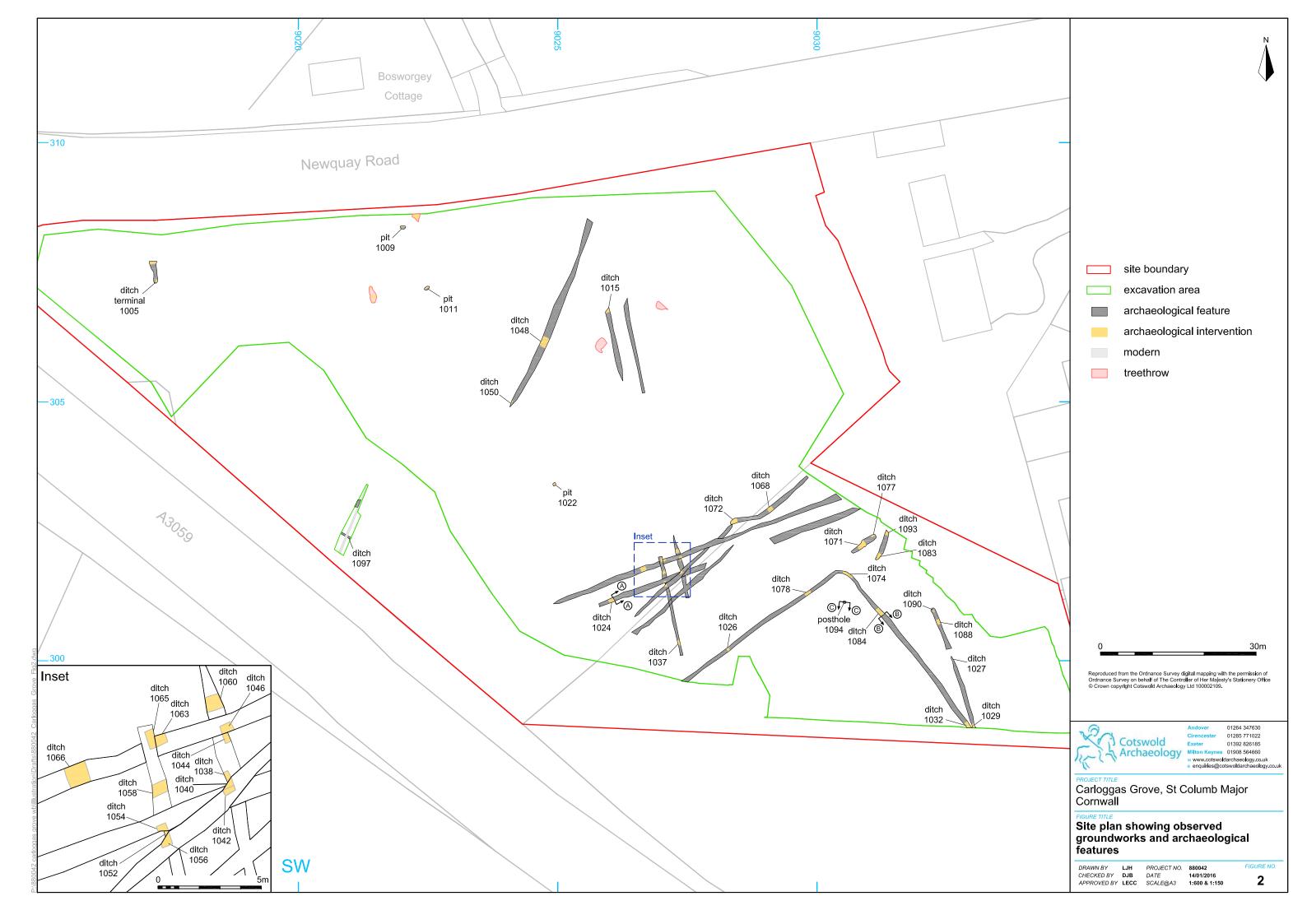
Milton Keynes Office

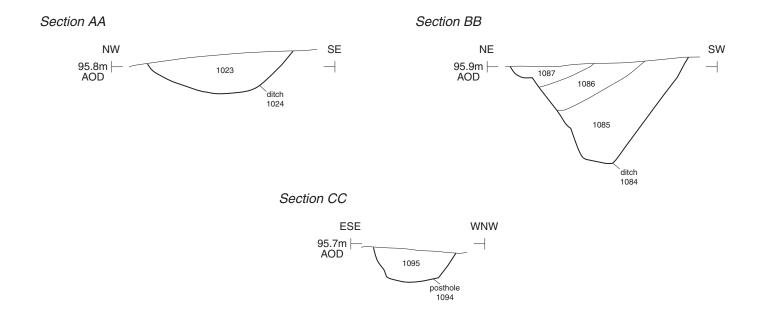
41 Burners Lane South Kiln Farm Milton Keynes Buckinghamshire MK11 3HA

t: 01908 564660











South-west facing section of ditch [1024] (0.2m scale)



North-west facing section of ditch [1084] (0.5m scale)



North-east facing section of posthole [1094] (0.2m scale)

