

Land at Trecarrack Road Camborne Cornwall

Archaeological Watching Brief



for
Kier Living Ltd

CA Project: 880079
CA Report: 16114

March 2016



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A	7 March 2016	Jacopo Cerasoni	Derek Evans	Internal review	–	Laurent Coleman

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SUMMARY

Project Name:	Land at Trecarrack Road
Location:	Camborne, Cornwall
NGR:	SW 6609 4001
Type:	Watching brief
Date:	18–26 January 2016
Planning Reference:	PA13/08953
Location of Archive:	To be deposited with the Royal Cornwall Museum
Site Code:	TRC 15

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology during groundworks associated with residential development of the site.

The watching brief recorded three shallow ditches. Two of these ditches contained 18th/19th century artefacts, and it is likely that all three are post-medieval in date.



1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 In January 2016, Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological watching brief for Kier Living Ltd on land at Trecarrack Road, Camborne, Cornwall (centred on NGR: SW 6609 4001; Fig. 1).
- 1.2 Planning permission for residential development of the site was granted by Cornwall Council, conditional on a programme of archaeological work (planning ref: PA13/08953, condition 6). The scope of this watching brief was defined subsequently by Sean Taylor, Development Officer (Historic Environment), Cornwall Council.
- 1.3 The watching brief was carried out in accordance with a written scheme of investigation prepared by South West Archaeology (2014), as well as a method statement produced by CA (2016) and approved by Cornwall Council acting on the advice of Sean Taylor. The fieldwork also followed *Standard and guidance: Archaeological watching brief* (ClfA 2014).

The site

- 1.4 The development site encloses c. 1.2ha and lies on the eastern fringes of Camborne. Prior to the development, the site comprised pastoral land with a road running through its north-western area. This site is bounded to the north, south and west by houses, with further fields lying to the east.
- 1.5 The underlying bedrock geology of the area is mapped as Carnmenellis Intrusion granite of the Permian and Carboniferous Periods. No superficial deposits are recorded (BGS 2016). The geological substrate exposed during the watching brief comprised brown-yellow silty sand.

2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The following section is summarised from information given in a written scheme of investigation prepared by South West Archaeology (2014).



2.2 The fields to the east of the watching brief site are named 'Round Field' on the 1840 Camborne Tithe Award Map and Apportionment, which might indicate that they were the former site of a round (an enclosed settlement of late prehistoric/Roman date). No other evidence for such a settlement is known, however.

2.3 The site is located between two major surface components of the mining works known as Dolcoath. Nineteenth-century Ordnance Survey maps do not show any mining works within the site.

3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

3.1 The objectives of the archaeological watching brief were:

- to monitor groundworks, and to identify, investigate and record any significant buried archaeological deposits thus revealed; and
- to produce an integrated project archive and a report setting out the project results 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 method statement (CA 2016). An archaeologist was present during intrusive groundworks, which comprised the stripping of topsoil and subsoil from the site in advance of residential development. Stripping works were monitored in Fields 2–4 only (see Fig. 2); Field 1 had already been stripped and stoned up prior to the commencement of monitoring.

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 project archive is currently held by CA at their offices in Kemble. CA will make arrangements for the deposition of the archive with the Royal Cornwall Museum. A summary of information from this project, as set out within Appendix C, will be entered onto the OASIS online database of archaeological projects in Britain.

5. RESULTS

- 5.1 Natural geological substrate 102 comprised brown-yellow silty sand and was exposed at an average depth of 0.6m below the pre-development ground level. In Fields 2 and 4 (Fig. 2), the natural was overlain by 0.35m of sandy silt subsoil 101, which was sealed in turn by 0.25m of topsoil 100. In Field 3, the natural substrate lay 0.8m below pre-development ground level and was sealed directly by up to 0.7m of modern rubble 109, which was covered in turn by 0.1m of topsoil.
- 5.2 Three shallow ditches were cut into the natural substrate and sealed by the subsoil in Field 4 and at the boundary of Fields 2 and 3:
- 5.2 North-east/south-west-aligned ditch 103 (Fig. 3, sec. AA) was 9m long, 0.82m wide and 0.12m deep. A probable building fitting fragment, dating no earlier than the 18th or 19th centuries, was recovered from the single fill of this ditch (104).
- 5.3 Ditch 105 (Fig. 3, sec. BB) ran on a north-north-west/south-south-east alignment for 23m before turning to run north-west/south-east for 26m. This ditch was 0.86m wide and 0.09m deep. It contained a single fill (106), from which a single sherd of early/middle 18th-century pottery was recovered.
- 5.4 North-west/south-east-aligned ditch 107 (Fig. 3, sec. CC) was 11.25m long, 0.85m wide and 0.16m deep, with a single undated fill (108).

6. THE FINDS

- 6.1 The artefactual material recovered from the site is listed in Appendix B. All of the recorded material is of minimal archaeological significance and will not be retained.

Pottery

- 6.2 Single sherds of pottery were recovered from deposits 101 (21g) and 106 (2g). The sherd from subsoil deposit 101 occurs in an orange-firing glazed sandy and micaceous earthenware fabric with a pale green glaze to its inside surface. The sherd is unabraded and exhibits a thick carbonaceous residue to its exterior surface. Its form cannot be determined and broad dating across the 17th and 18th centuries is suggested. The second sherd, from deposit 106 (fill of ditch 105), is a bodysherd

in a white salt-glazed stoneware of a type produced in the Bristol and Staffordshire potteries in the early to middle 18th century. This sherd features 'scratched blue' decoration but is otherwise unfeatured and its form is indeterminate.

Other finds

- 6.3 A heavily-corroded iron object was recovered from deposit 104 (fill of ditch 103). This item is fragmentary but appears to be a building fitting, probably a clamp for securing of a drain pipe. As such, it is probably no earlier than the 18th or 19th centuries.

7. DISCUSSION

- 7.1 Three shallow ditches were recorded during the watching brief. Two of these ditches contained 18th/19th century artefacts, and it is likely that all three are post-medieval in date. These ditches do not correspond to any field boundaries depicted on 19th-century Ordnance Survey mapping, which might suggest that they are earlier post-medieval field boundaries which went out of use and silted up in the first half of the 18th century. The shallow nature of all three ditches might be indicative of truncation caused by later ploughing.

- 7.2 There was no evidence for activity pre-dating the post-medieval period at the site.

8. CA PROJECT TEAM

Fieldwork was undertaken by Christina Tapply, assisted by Edoardo Vigo. This report was written by Jacopo Cerasoni. The finds report was written by Jacky Somerville. The report illustrations were prepared by Sam O'Leary. The archive has been compiled and prepared for deposition by Hazel O'Neill. The project was managed for CA by Derek Evans.

9. REFERENCES

- BGS (British Geological Survey) 2016 *Geology of Britain Viewer* <http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html> Accessed 2 March 2016

CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2016 *Land at Trecarrack Road, Camborne, Cornwall: Method Statement for an Archaeological Watching Brief*

South West Archaeology 2014 *Written Scheme of Investigation for Archaeological Monitoring and Recording at land at Trecarrack Road, Cambourne, Cornwall, TR14 7UQ*



APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

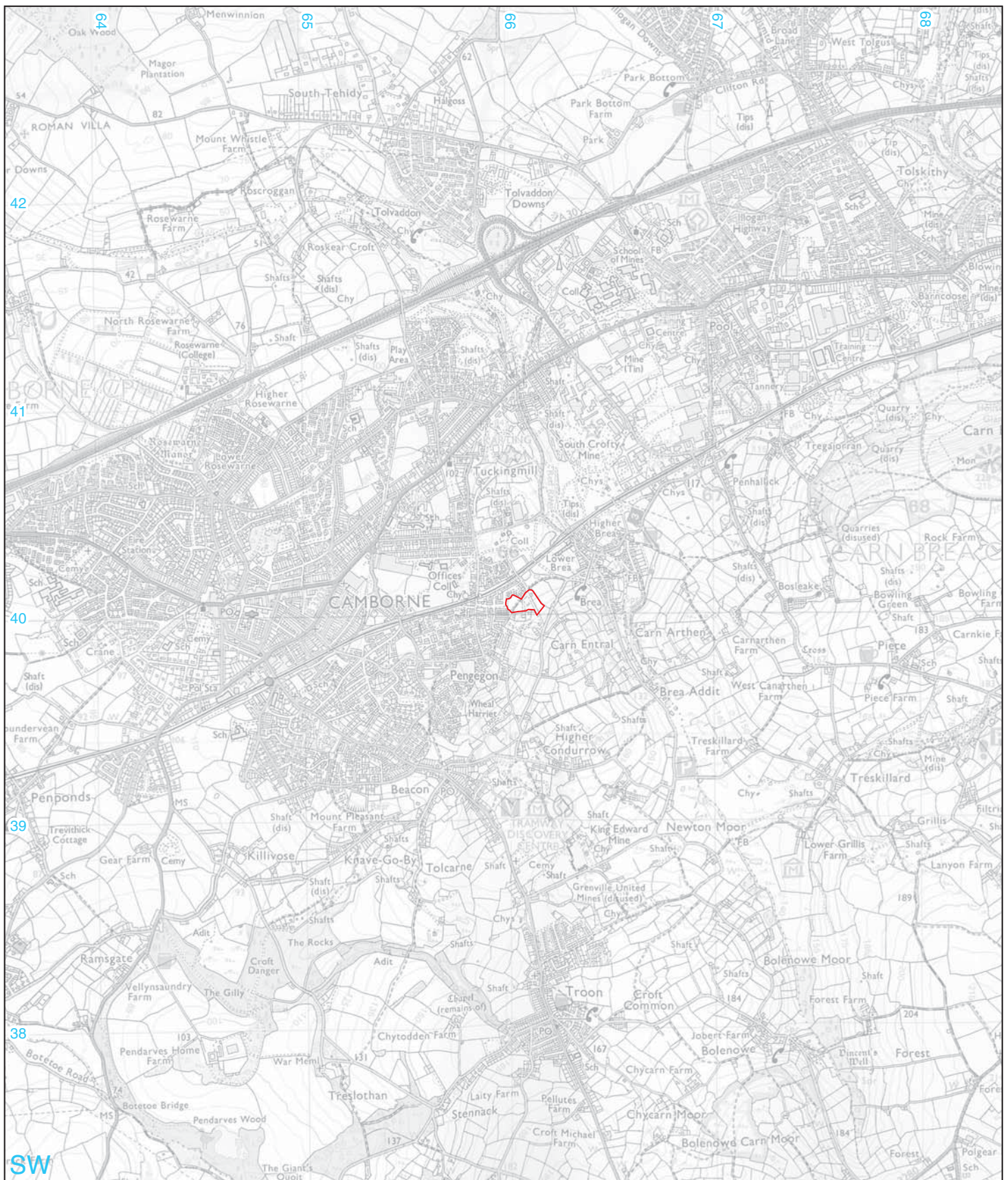
Context No.	Type	Fill of	Context interpretation	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth/thickness (m)	Spot-date
100	Layer		topsoil	Dark greyish brown sandy silt			0.25	
101	Layer		subsoil	Light greyish brown sandy silt			0.35	
102	Layer		natural	Brownish yellow silty sand				
103	Cut		ditch	Linear ditch, NE/SW-aligned	9	0.82	0.12	
104	Fill	103	fill of ditch	Dark greyish brown sandy silt		0.82	0.12	C18 or later
105	Cut		ditch	Linear ditch, NNW/SSE–NE/SW-aligned	49.5	0.86	0.09	
106	Fill	105	fill of ditch	Dark greyish brown sandy silt		0.86	0.09	E–M C18
107	Cut		ditch	Linear ditch, NW/SE-aligned	11.25	0.85	0.16	
108	Fill	107	fill of ditch	Dark greyish brown sandy silt		0.85	0.16	
109	Layer		made ground	Demolition material: brick and concrete rubble in a silty matrix			0.7	

APPENDIX B: THE FINDS*Table B1: Finds concordance*

Context	Class	Description	Ct.	Wt.(g)	Date
101	Pmed pottery	Glazed earthenware	1	21	C17–C18
104	Pmed pottery	White salt-glazed stoneware	1	32	E–M C18
106	Iron object	Buildings fitting	1	-	C18 or later

APPENDIX C: OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS		
Project Name	Land at Trecarrack Road, Camborne, Cornwall: archaeological watching brief	
Short description	<p>An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology during groundworks associated with residential development of the site.</p> <p>The watching brief recorded three shallow ditches. Two of these ditches contained 18th/19th century artefacts, and it is likely that all three are post-medieval in date.</p>	
Project dates	18–26 January 2016	
Project type	Watching brief	
Previous work	Desk-based assessment (South West Archaeology)	
Future work	Unknown	
PROJECT LOCATION		
Site Location	Land at Trecarrack Road, Camborne, Cornwall: archaeological watching brief	
Study area (M ² /ha)	1.2ha	
Site co-ordinates	SW 6609 4001	
PROJECT CREATORS		
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Brief originator	Cornwall Council	
Project Design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Manager	Derek Evans	
Project Supervisor	Christina Tapply	
MONUMENT TYPE	None	
SIGNIFICANT FINDS	None	
PROJECT ARCHIVES		
	Intended final location of archive	Content
Physical	N/A	N/A
Paper	Royal Cornwall Museum	Context sheets, registers, drawings
Digital	Royal Cornwall Museum	Database, digital photos
BIBLIOGRAPHY		
Cotswold Archaeology 2016 <i>Land at Trecarrack Road, Camborne, Cornwall: Archaeological Watching Brief CA typescript report 16114</i>		



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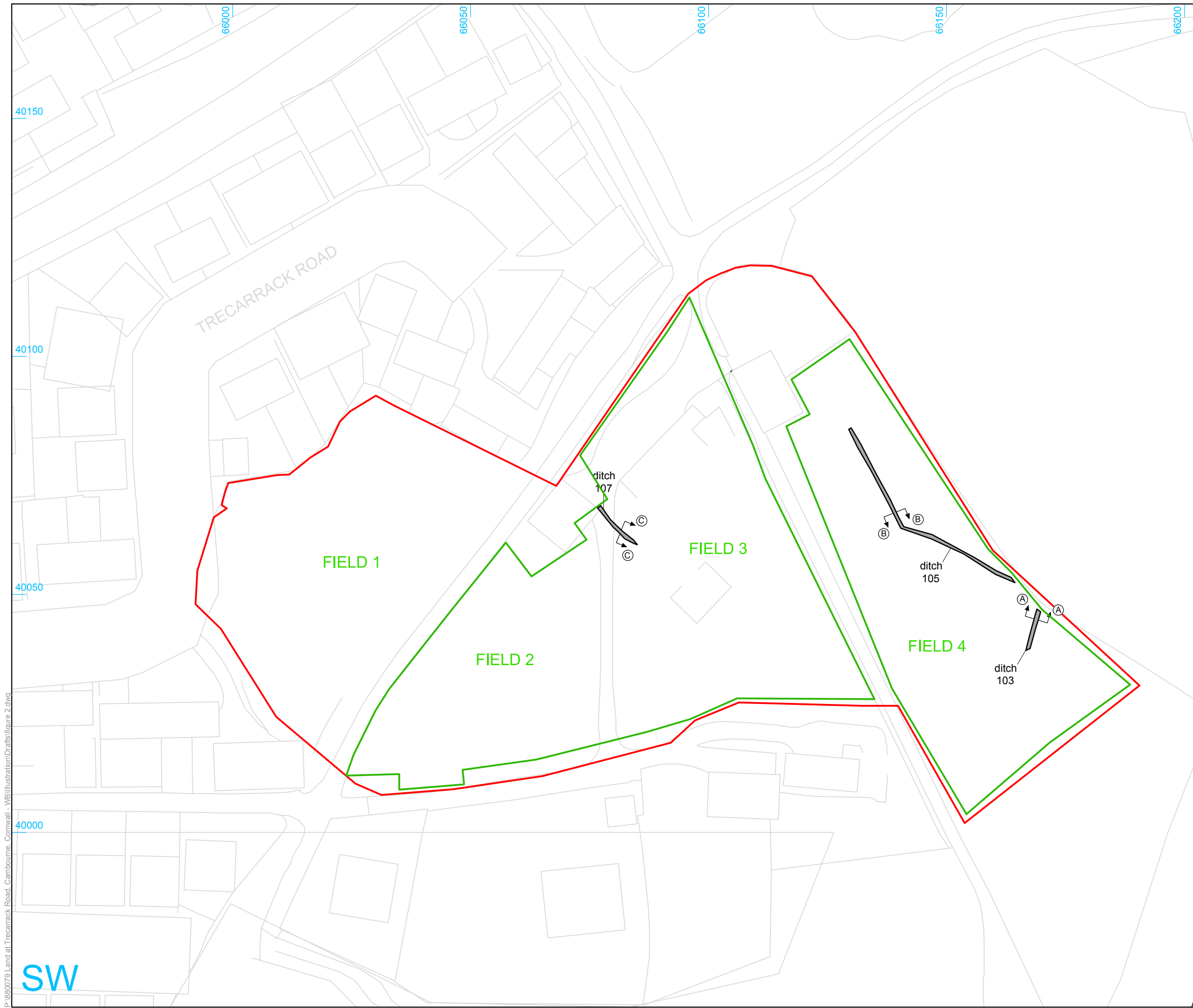
PROJECT TITLE
 Land at Trecarrack Road, Camborne,
 Cornwall





FIGURE TITLE
 Site location plan



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DRAWN BY	SO	PROJECT NO.	880079	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	LM	DATE	02-02-2016	
APPROVED BY	DE	SCALE@A4	1:25,000	1



-  site boundary
-  observed groundworks
-  archaeological feature
-  section location



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PROJECT TITLE
 Land at Trecarrack Road, Camborne, Cornwall

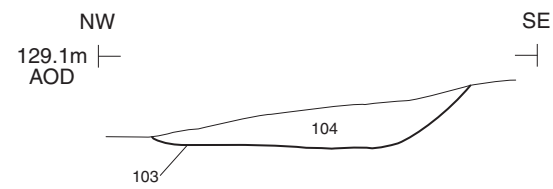
FIGURE TITLE
 The site, showing monitored groundworks and recorded archaeological features

DRAWN BY SO	PROJECT NO. 880079	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY LM	DATE 02/02/2016	2
APPROVED BY DE	SCALE@A3 1:750	

P:\880079 Land at Trecarrack Road, Camborne, Cornwall - WB\Illustration\Drafts\figure 2.dwg

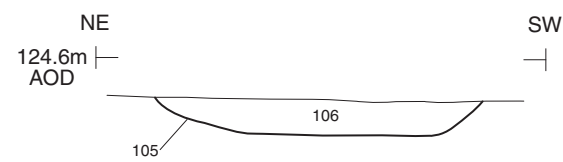
SW

Section AA



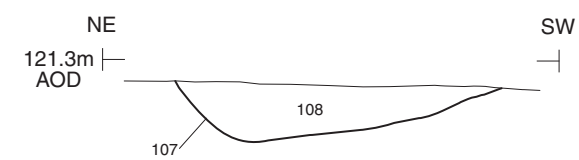
Ditch 103, looking north-east (scale 0.3m)

Section BB



Ditch 105, looking south-east (scale 0.3m)

Section CC



Ditch 107, looking south-east (scale 0.3m)




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PROJECT TITLE
 Land at Trecarrack Road, Camborne,
 Cornwall

FIGURE TITLE
**Ditches 103, 105 and 107: sections and
 photographs**

DRAWN BY	SO	PROJECT NO.	880079	FIGURE NO.
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