



Land at Gnaton Farm Creacombe Cross Yealmpton Devon

Archaeological Evaluation



for Gnaton Farms

CA Project: 880224 CA Report: 17548

June 2019



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SUMMARY

Project Name: Land at Gnaton Farm, Creacombe Cross

Location: Yealmpton, Devon

NGR: 259435 050036

Type: Evaluation

Date: 29 August–8 September 2017

Location of Archive: To be deposited with the Plymouth City Museum and Art Gallery

and the Archaeology Data Service (ADS)

Site Code: CCY17

In August and September 2017, Cotswold Archaeology carried out an archaeological evaluation of land at Gnaton Farm, Creacombe Cross, Yealmpton, Devon. A total of 24 trenches was excavated within the site.

The evaluation recorded a single isolated cremation of Middle Iron Age date. Also recorded were a large number of ditches, most of which were concentrated in the north-western corner of the site. The majority of these ditches apparently represent former boundaries associated with the extant field system.

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 In August and September 2017, Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological evaluation of land at Gnaton Farm, Creacombe Cross, Yealmpton, Devon (centred at NGR: 259435 050036; Fig. 1). This evaluation was undertaken for Gnaton Farms.
- 1.2 The evaluation results will inform a planning application for the construction of a solar farm at the site (planning application ref: 1109/17/FUL) which has been made to South Hams District Council. The scope of the evaluation was defined in discussions with Stephen Reed, Senior Historic Environment Officer, Devon County Council Historic Environment Team (DCCHET).
- 1.3 The evaluation was carried out in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) produced by CA (2017a) and approved by Stephen Reed. It was also in line with Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation (ClfA 2014), Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE) PPN 3: Archaeological Excavation (Historic England 2015) and Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE): Project Manager's Guide (Historic England 2015). It was monitored by Stephen Reed, including site visits on 30 August and 7 September 2017.

The site

- 1.4 The evaluation site lies north of Creacombe Farm and approximately 2.3km southeast of Yealmpton (Fig. 1). The site currently comprises three agricultural fields. It is bordered to the south and west by roads, and to the north, east and south-west by agricultural fields.
- 1.5 The site occupies a gentle south-facing slope above the head of a small stream valley. The site is situated within agricultural land, with the majority of its boundaries defined by traditional Devon hedge-banks and hedgerows. The northern boundary is undefined. The surrounding landscape is undulating and rural in character, comprising a patchwork of agricultural fields with isolated farmsteads and small nucleated settlements concentrated in stream valleys.

1.6 The solid geology of the site is mapped as sandstones, siltstones and mudstones of the Staddon Formation, a sedimentary bedrock which formed approximately 398–407 million years ago in the Devonian Period (BGS 2017).

2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 The evaluation site has been the subject of a desk-based archaeological assessment (prepared as part of an environmental statement; Cotswold Archaeology 2017b), and a geophysical survey (Substrata 2016). The following text is summarised from these sources, which should be referred to for a full archaeological background.

Prehistoric (pre-AD 43)

- 2.2 Mesolithic/Neolithic worked flints have been recovered as surface finds near Creacombe Cross.
- 2.3 A group of three Bronze Age bowl barrows lies to the south of the evaluation site, with the northern mound lying immediately south of the site.
- 2.4 A circular ditched feature has been recorded as a cropmark on aerial photographs approximately 730m south-west of the evaluation site. While this feature has not been verified through intrusive investigation, it is thought to be similar in form to the Iron Age lowland settlement enclosures recorded elsewhere in south Devon.

Roman (AD 43-AD 410)

2.5 There is no recorded evidence of Roman activity in the vicinity of the evaluation site.

Early medieval (AD 410–1066) and medieval (1066–1539)

- 2.6 Creacombe, which lies approximately 150m south-west of the evaluation site, was first recorded in the Domesday Survey of 1086. However, no early medieval archaeological remains are known in the immediate vicinity of the site.
- 2.7 The pattern of medieval settlement in the local landscape is thought to have closely resembled that which is currently in existence, comprising scattered farmsteads on areas of higher ground, with nucleated villages in the valleys below. It is probable

that the evaluation site would have formed part of the agricultural hinterland of the nearby settlements during the medieval period.

Post-medieval (1539–1800) and modern (1800–present)

2.8 The evaluation site appears to have remained within a predominantly rural landscape throughout the post-medieval and modern periods. The Newton Ferrers and Holbeton tithe maps (1839 and 1842) depict the site as arable land divided into a number of fields of varying sizes. Cartographic sources from the 19th and 20th centuries document the removal of several field boundaries over time.

Geophysical survey

- 2.9 A concentration of linear anomalies was recorded in the north-eastern part of the site. Not all of these corresponded to boundaries visible on historic mapping, although they were generally on the same alignment as the historic field system. Several discrete anomalies were also recorded in this area.
- 2.10 Further linear anomalies in the remainder of the site corresponded to former field boundaries visible on 19th century mapping (shown in red on Figs. 2 and 3).

3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 3.1 As defined in the WSI (CA 2017a), the objectives of the evaluation were to provide further information about the likely archaeological resource within the site, including its presence/absence, character, extent, date, integrity, state of preservation and quality. This information will enable South Hams District Council to identify and assess the particular significance of any archaeological heritage assets within the site, and to consider the impact of the proposed development upon that significance. If appropriate, it will allow the applicant to develop strategies to avoid or minimise conflict between heritage asset conservation and the development proposal, in line with the *National Planning Policy Framework* (DCLG 2012).
- 3.2 Specific objectives related to this project were:
 - to ground truth the geophysical survey results; and

 to test for any Bronze Activity that might be associated with the Bronze Age bowl barrows to the south of the evaluation site (see *Archaeological background*, above).

4. METHODOLOGY

- 4.1 The evaluation fieldwork comprised the excavation of 24 trenches (Fig. 2):
 - 11no 30m x 1.8m trenches; and
 - 13no 50m x 1.8m trenches.
- 4.2 The trenches were located both to test geophysical anomalies and to provide a representative sample of the geophysically "blank" areas.
- 4.3 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.* All trenches were excavated by a mechanical excavator equipped with a toothless grading bucket. All machine excavation was undertaken under constant archaeological supervision to the top of the natural substrate. Where archaeological deposits were encountered, they were excavated by hand in accordance with *CA Technical Manual 1: Fieldwork Recording Manual.*
- 4.4 Deposits were assessed for their palaeoenvironmental potential and samples were taken in accordance with CA Technical Manual 2: The Taking and Processing of Environmental and Other Samples from Archaeological Sites. All recovered artefacts were processed in accordance with CA Technical Manual 3: Treatment of Finds Immediately after Excavation.
- 4.5 The archive will consist of two elements: the material (finds) archive and the digital archive. Subject to the agreement of the legal landowner, the material archive will be deposited with the Plymouth City Museum and Art Gallery. The digital archive will be deposited with the Archaeology Data Service (ADS).
- 4.6 A summary of information from this project, as set out in Appendix F, will be entered onto the OASIS online database of archaeological projects in Britain, along with an uploaded copy of this report.

5. RESULTS

- 5.1 This section provides an overview of the evaluation results. Detailed summaries of the recorded contexts are given in Appendix A. Details of the artefactual material recovered during the evaluation are given in Section 6 and Appendix B. Details of the palaeoenvironmental evidence from the site are given in Section 7 and Appendix C .Details of the human bone recovered from the site are given in Section 8 and Appendix D. Details of the radiocarbon date from the site are given in Appendix 9 and Appendix E.
- 5.2 The natural geological substrate comprised red and yellow clays with bands of compact sand and degraded mudstone. It was exposed in all trenches at a depth of 0.3m–0.56m below the present ground level.
- In 10 of the trenches, the upper 0.1m–0.16m of the natural substrate had been weathered/disturbed by geological processes such as frost fracturing. A thin (0.1m–0.21m) silty clay subsoil layer was present in nine of the trenches. Both the weathered natural and the subsoil layer were sometimes intermittent within individual trenches. All trenches were sealed by the modern topsoil.
- 5.4 The archaeological features at the site were generally cut into the natural substrate/weathered natural and sealed by the subsoil (where present) or the topsoil (where no subsoil present). The only exception to this was ditch 2304 (T23), which was cut into the subsoil and sealed by the topsoil.
- 5.5 T5, T10, T12, T14, T15 and T16 contained no archaeological features and are not discussed further. The remainder of the trenches are discussed below.

Trench 1

- 5.6 North-west/south-east aligned ditch 103 (Fig. 4, Sec. AA) was 0.55m wide and 0.18m deep, with a single undated fill (104).
- 5.7 North/south aligned ditch 107 (Fig. 4, Sec. BB) was 0.7m wide and 0.28m deep. It contained a single fill (108), from which a prehistoric worked flint fragment was recovered.

- 5.8 North-north-west/south-south-east aligned ditch 109 was not excavated in T1. Its continuation was recorded in T9 (905), T7 (706) and T6 (606).
- 5.9 Two modern services were present in the western end of the trench, both of which were on the lines of geophysical anomalies.

Trench 2

- 5.10 North-north-east/south-south-west aligned ditch 204 (Fig. 5, Sec. CC) was 0.74m wide and 0.23m deep, with a single undated fill (203).
- 5.11 Two modern services were present in T2, both of which were on the lines of geophysical anomalies.

Trench 3

5.12 East/west aligned ditch 303 (Fig. 6, Sec. DD) was 0.64m wide and 0.22m deep, with a single undated fill (304).

Trench 4

- 5.13 North-north-east/south-south-west aligned ditch 403 was 0.84m wide and 0.4m deep, with two undated fills (404 and 405).
- 5.14 Two modern services were present in T4, both of which were on the lines of geophysical anomalies.

Trench 6

- 5.15 North/south aligned ditch 604 was 0.8m wide and 0.13m deep, with a single undated fill (603).
- 5.16 North-north-west/south-south-east aligned ditch 606 was not excavated in T6. Its continuation was recorded in T9 (905), T7 (706) and T1 (109). Parallel ditch 608 was also not excavated. Its continuation was recorded in T7 (708) and T9 (907).

Trench 7

5.17 North/south aligned ditch 704 was 0.9m wide and 0.35m deep, with a single undated fill (703).

5.18 North-north-west/south-south-east aligned ditch 706 was 1m wide and 0.25m deep. Parallel ditch 708 was not excavated, but a residual/redeposited prehistoric worked flint was recovered from its upper surface. The continuation of ditch 708 was recorded in T6 (608) and T9 (907).

Trench 8

5.19 East/west aligned ditch 803 was 0.6m wide and 0.42m deep, with a single undated fill (804).

Trench 9

North/south aligned ditch 905 (Fig. 7, Sec. EE) was 0.68m wide and 0.34m deep. It had two undated fills (903 and 904). Parallel ditch 907 (Fig. 7, Sec. EE) was 0.95m wide and 0.1m deep; a redeposited/residual late Mesolithic/early Neolithic worked flint fragment was recovered from its single fill (906). The remnants of a former bank (908) were visible in the trench section between ditches 905 and 907. This bank material was 2.29m in width and survived to 0.16m in height.

Trench 11

5.21 East/west aligned ditch 1104 was 0.88m wide and 0.35m deep. It contained a single fill (1103), from which a single Bronze Age pottery sherd was recovered.

Trench 13

- 5.22 North-west/south-east aligned ditch 1302 was 0.67m wide and 0.3m deep, with a single undated fill (1303).
- 5.23 North-west/south-east aligned ditch 1304 was not excavated. Its continuation was recorded as ditches 303 (T3), 803 (T8), and 1104 (T11).

Trench 17

5.24 North-east/south-west aligned ditch 1703 (Fig. 8, Sec. FF) was 0.9m wide and 0.23m deep, with a single undated fill (1704).

Trench 18

- 5.25 East/west aligned ditch 1802 (Fig. 9, Sec. GG) was 1.02m wide and 0.43m deep, with a single undated fill (1803).
- 5.26 North-east/south-west aligned ditch 1804 was not excavated.

Trench 19

- 5.27 North-east/south-west aligned ditch 1902 was 0.95m wide and 0.42m deep, with two undated fills (1903 and 1904).
- 5.28 Parallel north-east/south-west aligned ditches 1905 and 1907 were not excavated.

Trench 20

5.29 T20 contained a late post-medieval/modern stone-built culvert (2003), which ran through the northern end of the trench on a north-east/south-west alignment. A sherd of residual/redeposited Bronze Age pottery was recovered from culvert fill 2005.

Trench 21

5.30 Cremation pit 2104 (Fig. 10, Sec. GG) was 0.35m–0.46m in diameter and 0.19m in depth. It contained a charcoal-rich single fill (2103), which included fragments of burnt human bone (see Section 8). A Middle Iron Age (400 BC–100 BC) radiocarbon date was obtained for this bone (see Section 9).

Trench 22

5.31 North-east/south-west aligned ditch 2204 (Fig. 11, Sec. II) was 1.6m wide and 0.24m deep, with a single undated fill (2203).

Trench 23

5.32 North/south aligned ditch 2304 was 1.71m wide and 0.49m deep, with a single undated fill (2303). This ditch was cut into subsoil 2301 and sealed by topsoil 2300.

Trench 24

5.33 East/west aligned ditch 2403 (Fig. 12, Sec. JJ) was 0.8m wide and 0.42m deep, with a single undated fill (2404).

6. THE FINDS

6.1 The artefactual material recovered during the evaluation is listed in Appendix B and discussed further below.

Pottery

6.2 Two sherds of abraded prehistoric pottery (11g) were recovered, one each from deposits 1103 (ditch 1104, T11) and 2005 (culvert 2003, T20). Both occur in a micaceous fabric with quartzite inclusions. This fabric is suggestive of a Bronze Age date, but close dating is not possible in the absence of rims or other indicators of form. Both of these pottery sherds are apparently residual/redeposited in later features.

Other finds

- 6.3 One fragment of industrial waste, of indeterminate form and date, was recovered from deposit 203 (ditch 204, T2).
- 6.4 A single metal item, comprising a thin, curved strip of iron, was recovered from deposit 1103 (ditch 1104, T11). The item is fragmentary and cannot be dated closely.
- Three pieces (25g) of prehistoric worked flint were recovered from three deposits. Two flakes, recovered from deposits 108 (ditch 107, T1) and 705 (ditch 706, T7), cannot be closely dated. A small core recovered from deposit 906 (ditch 907, T9) is broadly dateable to the late Mesolithic/early Neolithic periods. All of these worked flints are apparently residual/redeposited in later features.

7. THE PALAEOENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

- 7.1 A single sample (18 litres of soil) was taken from cremation-related deposit 2103 (pit 2104, T21), in order to evaluate the preservation of palaeoenvironmental remains and with the intention of recovering cremated remains and any environmental evidence of funerary or domestic activity on the site. The sample was processed in line with CA Technical Manual 2: The Taking and Processing of Environmental and Other Samples from Archaeological Sites.
- 7.2 The sample assessment results are tabulated in Appendix C. The flot was moderately large, with a small amount of rooty material and modern seeds. The charred material was in varying levels of preservation.

- Only a single, indeterminate, poorly-preserved grain fragment was present in the assemblage from this deposit. A high number of charcoal fragments greater than 2mm were recovered. The charcoal included mature wood fragments identified solely as oak. Cremation burials usually contain some charcoal which has become accidently incorporated with cremated bone when pyre material was collected for burial. In this case, oak timbers would have been used for pyre construction. Oak fuel is commonly used within cremation pyres as it reaches the high temperatures required to fully cremate human remains. Fragments of burnt bone were also present within the sample (see Section 8).
- 7.4 There is no indication of the date of this cremation-related deposit from the environmental remains. A Middle Iron Age (400 BC–100 BC) radiocarbon date was obtained for the cremated bone (see Section 9).

8. THE HUMAN BONE

- A single deposit of cremated human bone was recovered from pit 2104 (fill 2103, T2). The bone assessment results are tabulated in Appendix D. The total weight of the cremated bone was 44.3g. This is a very low weight of bone and falls considerably short of a complete individual; the total weight of bone for an adult from modern crematoria varies from about 1,000g to 3,600g (McKinley 2000, 404). Experiments (McKinley 1997) have demonstrated that it is fairly easy to collect all of the bones from an undisturbed pyre, which often remain in anatomical order. However, it is frequently found that 50% or less of the bone available after cremation is included in burials, and a 'token' amount appears to have sufficed in most cases (McKinley 2000).
- 8.2 The heavily abraded edges of the bone from the evaluation site suggest that taphonomic factors may have played a large factor in the small quantity of bone present, with the acidic soil eroding the bone away. It is likely that a considerable amount has been lost due to this erosion. Additionally, the level of vertical truncation in unknown, but it is likely that some quantity of the original amount deposited has been removed by subsequent truncation.
- 8.3 The majority of bone was in the 5mm-10mm fraction size, indicating a high fragmentation level. The maximum fragment size was 36mm. This is below the

average of 45.2mm (McKinley 1994, 340–1) and is a further indication of the high fragmentation level.

- 8.4 The bone was consistently fully white in colour, which indicates full oxidation of the bone. This is only achieved by temperatures of over 645°C–800°C for several hours.
- 8.5 The generally small size and abraded nature of the bone, combined with the low quantity of bone, has meant that none of the bone could be confidently identified to skeletal element. No cranial fragments or tooth roots were identified.
- 8.6 There was insufficient bone available for either age or sex estimation. There were no repeated elements or different age/size parts to suggest more than one individual.
- 8.7 Pit 2104 was undated artefactually; however, a Middle Iron Age (400 BC–100 BC) radiocarbon date was obtained for the cremated bone (see Section 9).

Methodology

- 8.8 Standard methodology and reporting were followed (Brickley and McKinley 2004; Updated Guidelines to the Standards for Recording Human Remains (ClfA 2017)).
- 8.9 The entire cremation pit fill was retained and processed as an environmental sample, which involved wet sieving using flotation and a 0.5mm residue mesh. The dry bone was then removed from the sample and sieved through 10mm, 5mm and 2mm mesh sizes. The weight of the bone retained in each fraction and spit was recorded and its percentage of the total weight of the cremation was calculated. This enabled the degree of fragmentation to be quantified.
- 8.10 The bones retained from each sieve size were examined in detail and sorted into the following identifiable bone groups (where present): skull (including mandible and dentition), axial (clavicle, scapula, ribs, vertebra and pelvic elements), upper limb and lower limb. The separation of the bone into these groups helps illuminate any deliberate bias in the skeletal elements collected for burial.
- 8.11 Each bone group was weighed on digital scales and details of colour and largest fragment were recorded. Where possible, the presence of individual bones within the defined bone groups was noted. Any unidentifiable fragments of long bone shafts or cancellous bone, which often comprise the majority of bones recovered

from cremations, were weighed and incorporated into any subsequent quantitative analysis. The prevalence of unidentifiable bone is largely dependent on the degree of fragmentation, whereby larger fragments are easier to identify than smaller ones.

9. RADIOCARBON DATING

- 9.1 Radiocarbon dating was undertaken in order to ascertain the date of cremation pit 2104 (fill 2103). This was carried out by the Scottish Universities Environmental Research Centre (SUERC). The methodology employed is outlined in Dunbar *et al.* (2016).
- 9.2 The results are given in Table 1 (below); the radiocarbon dating certificate is included as Appendix E. The uncalibrated dates are conventional radiocarbon ages. The radiocarbon ages were calibrated using the University of Oxford Radiocarbon Accelerator Unit calibration programme OxCal v4.3.2 (2017) (Bronk Ramsey 2009) using the IntCal13 curve (Reimer et al. 2013).
- 9.3 The date ranges obtained are all within the Middle Iron Age (400 BC–100 BC).

Feature	Lab No.	Material	δ ¹³ C		Calibrated radiocarbon age, 95.4% probability	
Cremation		Unidentified cremated	-22.2‰	,	395–347 cal BC (31.3%) 321–206 cal BC (64.1%)	384–355 cal BC (24.5%) 290–232 cal BC (43.7%)
pit 2104		bone				

Table 1: Radiocarbon dating results

10. DISCUSSION

- 10.1 The evaluation recorded a single isolated cremation of Middle Iron Age date. Also recorded were a large number of ditches, most of which were concentrated in the north-western corner of the site. The majority of these ditches apparently represent former boundaries associated with the extant field system.
- 10.2 There was a good correspondence with the results of the previous geophysical survey (Substrata 2016). The majority of the ditches recorded by the evaluation had been detected by the survey, and most geophysical anomalies were found to have been caused by below-ground archaeological features. Parallel north-east/south-

west aligned anomalies in the north-western part of the site were found to have been caused by modern services (T1, T2, T4).

Mesolithic-Bronze Age (10,000 BC-700 BC)

10.3 Three pieces of prehistoric worked flint were recovered as residual/redeposited artefacts within later features (ditch 107, T1; ditch 706, T7; ditch 907, T9). Two of these fragments cannot be closely dated, but one is broadly dateable to the late Mesolithic/early Neolithic periods. Additionally, two sherds of abraded Bronze Age pottery were recovered as residual/redeposited artefacts from later ditch 1104 (T11) and culvert 2003 (T20). These artefacts are representative of broad background earlier prehistoric activity in the area.

Middle Iron Age (400 BC-100 BC)

- 10.4 T21 contained a buried human cremation (pit 2104). There was insufficient bone for age or sex estimation. A Middle Iron Age radiocarbon date was obtained from the bone.
- 10.5 A possible Iron Age settlement enclosure has been recorded as a cropmark on aerial photographs approximately 730m south-west of the evaluation site, although this feature has not been confirmed by intrusive archaeological works (see *Archaeological background*, above). The isolated Iron Age cremation recorded by the present evaluation may therefore represent outlying funerary activity associated with this putative settlement.

Post-medieval (1540–1800) and modern (1800–present)

10.6 Several of the ditches recorded by the evaluation corresponded to former field boundaries depicted on the 1839 Holbeton Tithe Map (these boundaries are shown in red on Figs. 2 and 3). The remainder of the ditches recorded by the evaluation were almost all on the same alignments as the historic/extant boundaries, indicating that they are elements of the post-medieval field system which were removed prior to 1839.

11. CA PROJECT TEAM

- 11.1 The evaluation fieldwork was undertaken by Jerry Austin, assisted by Christina Tapply, George Gandham, Parris Stubbins and Victoria Parsons. This report was written by Jerry Austin and Derek Evans.
- 11.2 The finds report was written by Katie Marsden. The palaeoenvironmental evidence report was written by Sarah F. Wyles and Sarah Cobain. The human bones report was written by Sharon Clough. The report illustrations were prepared by Charlotte Patman. The project archive has been compiled and prepared for deposition by Hazel O'Neill. The project was managed for CA by Derek Evans.

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APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

				Trench 1				
Context No.	Type	Fill of	Context interpretation	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
100	Layer		Topsoil	Mid-brown silty clay			0.4	
101	Layer		Subsoil/weathered natural	Red-brown silty clay			0.16	
102	Geology		Natural	Mixed, red and orange clays				
103	Cut		Ditch	NW/SE aligned	7	0.55	0.18	
104	Deposit	103	Fill of ditch	Mid-brown clay silt			0.18	
105	Cut		Terminus of 103	NW/SE aligned, terminates in SE		0.6	0.12	
106	Deposit	105	Fill of ditch	Mid-brown clay silt			0.12	
107	Cut		Ditch	N/S aligned		0.7	0.28	
108	Deposit	107	Fill of ditch	Mid-reddish brown clay silt		0.7	0.28	
109	Cut		Ditch, unexcavated	NNW/SSE aligned		1.12		PM
110	Deposit	109	Fill of ditch	Mid-brown silty clay		1.12		
111	Cut		Modern service			0.45		
112	Deposit	111	Backfill of service			0.45		
113	Cut		Modern service			0.44		
114	Deposit	113	Backfill of service			0.44		

				Trench 2				
Context No.	Type	Fill of	Context interpretation	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot- date
200	Layer		Topsoil	Mid-reddish brown silty clay			0.41	
201	Layer		Subsoil	Mid-orange with yellow brown patches and shillet inclusions			0.1	
202	Geology		Natural	Light yellow brown silty clay with frequent mudstone inclusions				
203	Deposit	204	Ditch fill	Light grey brown silty clay occasional shillet inclusions and rare clinker		0.74	0.23	
204	Cut		Ditch	N/S aligned		0.74	0.23	
205	Deposit	206	Backfill of service	Not fully excavated		0.5		
206	Cut		Modern service	Not fully excavated		0.5		
207	Deposit		Backfill of service	Not fully excavated		0.5		
208	Cut	207	Modern service	Not fully excavated		0.5		

				Trench 3				
Context	Туре	Fill	Context	Description	Length	Width	Depth	Spot-
No.		of	interpretation		(m)	(m)	(m)	date
300	Layer		Topsoil	Mid-reddish brown silty clay			0.3	
301	Layer		Subsoil/weathered natural	Mid-orange brown with yellow brown patches and shillet inclusions			0.16	
302	Geology		Natural	Light yellow brown silty clay with frequent mudstone inclusions				
303	Cut		Ditch	E/W aligned		0.64	0.22	
304	Deposit	303	Ditch fill	Mid-orange brown clay silt		0.74	0.23	

				Trench 4				
Context No.	Туре	Fill of	Context interpretation	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot- date
400	Layer		Topsoil	Mid-reddish brown silty clay			0.3	
401	Layer		Subsoil/weathered natural	Mid-orange brown clay with abundant stone inclusions			0.1	
402	Geology		Natural	Mixed light red and yellow clay with occasional mudstone inclusions				
403	Cut		Ditch	N/S aligned		0.84	0.4	
404	Deposit	403	Ditch fill	Mid-reddish brown clay silt. First fill		0.72	0.29	
405	Deposit	403	Ditch fill	Mid-brown orange silty clay. Second fill		0.84	0.11	
406	Cut		Modern service			8.0		
407	Deposit	406	Backfill of service			0.8		
408	Cut		Modern service			0.44		
409	Deposit	408	Backfill of service			0.44		

				Trench 5				
Context	Туре	Fill	Context	Description	Length	Width	Depth	Spot-
No. 500	Lover	of	interpretation Topsoil	Mid raddiah brawn ailtu alau	(m)	(m)	(m) 0.3	date
500	Layer		-1	Mid-reddish brown silty clay			0.3	
501	Layer		Subsoil / weathered natural	Mid-orange brown clay with abundant stone inclusions			0.1	
502	Geology		Natural	Mixed light red and yellow clay, yellow sand with frequent degraded mudstone				

				Trench 6				
Context No.	Туре	Fill of	Context interpretation	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot- date
600	Layer		Topsoil	Mid-reddish brown silty clay			0.26	
601	Layer		Subsoil / weathered natural	Mid-orange brown and red clay with occasional gravels and degraded mudstone inclusions			0.1	
602	Geology		Natural	Mixed, mid and light red clay bands with frequent degraded mudstone				
603	Deposit	604	Ditch fill	Mid-reddish brown sandy silt. Frequent mudstone inclusions		0.8	0.13	
604	Cut		Ditch	N/S aligned		8.0	0.13	
605	Deposit	606	Ditch fill	Mid-brown silty clay		1		
606	Cut		Ditch	N/S aligned. Unexcavated		1		PM
607	Deposit		Ditch fill	Mid-brown silty clay		0.5		
608	Cut		Ditch	N/S aligned. Unexcavated		0.5		PM

				Trench 7				
Context No.	Type	Fill of	Context interpretation	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot- date
700	Layer		Topsoil	Mid-reddish brown silty clay			0.2	
701	Layer		Subsoil / weathered natural	Light-red brown silty clay with occasional stone inclusions			0.1	
702	Geology		Natural	Mixed red and yellow clay, with frequent degraded mudstone				
703	Deposit	704	Ditch fill	Red brown silty clay occasional mudstone inclusions		0.9	0.35	
704	Cut		Ditch	N/S aligned		0.9	0.35	
705	Deposit	706	Ditch fill	Mid-brown silty, occasional shillet inclusions		1	0.25	
706	Cut		Ditch	N/S aligned		1	0.25	PM
707	Deposit	708	Ditch fill	Mid-brown silty, occasional shillet inclusions		0.5		
708	Cut		Ditch	N/S aligned. Unexcavated		0.5		PM

				Trench 8				
Context No.	Туре	Fill of	Context interpretation	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot- date
800	Layer		Topsoil	Mid-reddish brown silty clay			0.3	
801	Layer		Subsoil / weathered natural	Light-red brown silty clay with occasional stone inclusions			0.16	
802	Geology		Natural	Mid-orange brown silty clay occasional yellow sand patches and degraded mudstone				
803	Cut		Ditch	E/W aligned		0.6	0.42	
804	Deposit	803	Ditch fill	Mid-red brown clay silt rare small stone inclusions		0.9	0.42	

				Trench 9				
Context No.	Type	Fill of	Context interpretation	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot- date
900	Layer		Topsoil	Mid-reddish brown silty clay			0.4	
901	Layer		Subsoil	Light-red brown silty clay with occasional stone inclusions			0.1	
902	Geology		Natural	Mid-orange brown silty clay occasional yellow sand patches and degraded mudstone				
903	Deposit	905	Ditch fill	Mid-yellow brown sandy silt. Second fill		1.36	0.24	
904	Deposit	905	Ditch fill	Mid-grey brown silty clay occasional stone inclusions. Contained animal bone. First fill		0.68	0.1	
905	Cut		Ditch	N/S aligned		0.68	0.34	PM
906	Deposit	907	Ditch fill	Light yellowish brown silty clay		0.89	0.1	
907	Cut		Ditch	N/S aligned		0.89	0.1	PM
908	Deposit		Bank	N/S aligned between ditches 905/907		2.29	0.16	

	Trench 10									
Context No.	Туре	Fill of	Context interpretation	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot- date		
1000	Layer	Oi	Topsoil	Mid-reddish brown silty clay	(111)	(111)	0.4	date		
1001	Layer		Subsoil	Light-red brown silty clay with occasional stone inclusions			0.15			
1002	Geology		Natural	Mid-orange brown silty clay occasional yellow sand patches and degraded mudstone						

	Trench 11										
Context No.	Туре	Fill of	Context interpretation	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot- date			
1100	Layer		Topsoil	Mid-reddish brown silty clay			0.44				
1101	Layer		Subsoil / weathered natural	Light-yellow brown silty clay with occasional stone inclusions			0.1				
1102	Geology		Natural	Mid-orange brown silty clay occasional yellow sand patches and degraded mudstone							
1103	Deposit	1104	Ditch fill	Light red brown silty clay, frequent grit inclusions		0.88	0.35	?			
1104	Cut		Ditch	W/E aligned		0.88	0.35				

	Trench 12									
Context No.	Туре	Fill of	Context interpretation	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot- date		
1200	Layer		Topsoil	Mid-reddish brown silty clay			0.4			
1201	Layer		Subsoil	Light-red brown silty clay with occasional stone inclusions			0.1			
1202	Geology		Natural	Mid-orange brown clay with occasional yellow sand patches and degraded mudstone						

	Trench 13										
Context No.	Туре	Fill of	Context interpretation	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot- date			
1300	Layer		Topsoil	Mid-reddish brown silty clay			0.4				
1301	Geology		Natural	Mid-orange brown silty clay occasional yellow sand patches and degraded mudstone			0.15				
1302	Cut		Ditch	NW/SE aligned		0.67	0.3				
1303	Deposit	1302	Ditch fill	light red brown clay silt, occasional shillet and charcoal inclusions		0.67	0.3				
1304	Cut		Ditch	NW/SE aligned; unexcavated		0.6	0.32				
1305	Deposit	1304	Ditch fill	Unexcavated		0.6	0.32				

	Trench 14										
Context No.	Туре	Fill of	Context interpretation	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot- date			
1400	Layer		Topsoil	Mid-reddish brown silty clay			0.4				
1401	Layer		Subsoil / weathered natural	Light-red brown silty clay with occasional stone inclusions			0.15				
1402	Geology		Natural	Mid-orange brown silty clay occasional yellow sand patches and degraded mudstone							

	Trench 15									
Context No.	Туре	Fill of	Context interpretation	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot- date		
1500	Layer		Topsoil	Mid-reddish brown silty clay			0.43			
1501	Geology		Natural	Light brown silty clay occasional degraded mudstone						

	Trench 16									
Context No.	Type	Fill of	Context interpretation	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot- date		
1600	Layer		Topsoil	Mid-reddish brown silty clay			0.3			
1601	Layer		Subsoil / weathered natural	Mid-reddish brown silty clay with occasional stone inclusions			0.1			
1602	Geology		Natural	Mid-orange brown silty clay occasional yellow sand patches and degraded mudstone						

	Trench 17										
Context No.	Туре	Fill of	Context interpretation	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot- date			
1700	Layer		Topsoil	Mid-reddish brown silty clay			0.3				
1701	Layer		Subsoil / weathered natural	Mid-red brown silty clay with occasional stone inclusions			0.21				
1702	Geology		Natural	Mid-orange brown silty clay occasional yellow sand patches and degraded mudstone							
1703	Cut		Ditch	NE/SW aligned		0.9	0.23				
1704	Deposit		Ditch fill	mid-brown clay silt		0.9	0.23				

	Trench 18										
Context No.	Type	Fill of	Context interpretation	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot- date			
1800	Layer		Topsoil	Mid-reddish brown silty clay			0.38				
1801	Geology		Natural	Mid-red brown clay with occasional degraded mudstone							
1802	Cut		Ditch	E/W aligned		1.02	0.43				
1803	Deposit	1802	Fill	Reddish brown silty clay, occasional stone inclusions		1.02	0.43				
1804	Cut		Ditch	NE/SW aligned. Unexcavated		1.74		PM			
1805	Deposit	1804	Ditch fill	Mid-reddish brown silty clay Unexcavated		1.74					

				Trench 19				
Context No.	Туре	Fill of	Context interpretation	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot- date
1900	Layer		Topsoil	Mid-reddish brown silty clay			0.45	
1901	Geology		Natural	Mid-red brown clay with occasional light yellow degraded mudstone				
1902	Cut		Ditch	NE/SW aligned.		0.95	0.42	
1903	Deposit	1902	Ditch fill	Light brown silty clay. First fill		0.18	0.1	
1904	Deposit	1902	Ditch fill	Mid-grey brown silty clay, abundant shillet inclusions. Second fill		0.95	0.35	
1905	Cut		Ditch	NE/SW aligned. Unexcavated		1.67		PM
1906	Deposit	1905	Ditch fill	Mid-reddish brown silty clay, occasional stone inclusions Unexcavated		1.67		
1907	Cut		Ditch	NE/SW aligned. Unexcavated		1.13		PM
1908	Deposit	1907	Ditch fill	Mid-reddish brown silty clay, occasional stone inclusions Unexcavated		1.13		

				Trench 20				
Context No.	Туре	Fill of	Context interpretation	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot- date
2000	Layer		Topsoil	Mid-reddish brown silty clay			0.35	
2001	Geology		Natural	Mid-red brown clay with occasional light yellow degraded mudstone				
2002	Deposit	2005	Sedimentary fill	Mid-grey brown silty clay, fine grit inclusions	8	0.42	0.11	
2003	Structure	2004	Culvert	Vertical laid edging stone with a stone roof cap	8	0.58	0.4	
2004	Cut		Construction cut	NE/SW aligned. Cut for 2003	8	0.58	0.4	
2005	Deposit	2004	Roof collapse of 2003	Mid-greyish brown silty clay with abundant large stones laid horizontally, slightly slumping	8	0.62	0.14	?

	Trench 21										
Context No.	Туре	Fill of	Context interpretation	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot- date			
2100	Layer		Topsoil	Mid-reddish brown silty clay			0.32				
2101	Layer		Subsoil	Red brown silty clay with occasional sub-angular stone inclusions			0.1				
2102	Geology		Natural	Mid-red brown clay with occasional bands of degraded mudstone							
2103	Deposit	2104	Cremation pit fill	Mid-reddish brown silty clay. Containing occasional burnt bone and rare charcoal flecks	0.46	0.35	0.19	MIA			
2104	Cut		Cremation pit cut	Sub circular.	0.46	0.35	0.19				

	Trench 22							
Context No.	Туре	Fill of	Context interpretation			Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot- date
2200	Layer		Topsoil	Mid-reddish brown silty clay			0.2	
2201	Layer		Subsoil	Reddish brown silty clay with occasional sub-angular stone inclusions			0.1	
2202	Geology		Natural	Mid-red brown clay with frequent bands of degraded mudstone				
2203	Deposit	2204	Ditch fill	Light reddish brown sandy clay with frequent sub-angular stone inclusions	1.8	1.6	0.24	
2204	Cut		Ditch	E/W aligned.	1.8	1.6	0.24	

	Trench 23							
Context No.	Туре	Fill of	Context interpretation	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot- date
2300	Layer		Topsoil	Mid-reddish brown silty clay			0.21	
2301	Layer		Subsoil	Light red brown sandy clay with occasional sub-angular stone inclusions			0.17	
2302	Geology		Natural	Mid-red brown clay with occasional bands of degraded mudstone				
2303	Deposit	2304	Ditch fill	Mid-reddish brown clay silt. Frequent sub angular stone inclusions		1.71	0.49	
2304	Cut		Ditch	N/S aligned.		1.71	0.49	PM

	Trench 24							
Context No.	Туре	Fill of	Context interpretation			Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot- date
2400	Layer		Topsoil	Mid-reddish brown silty clay			0.4	
2401	Layer		Subsoil	Mixed, light red brown and yellow brown silty clay			0.16	
2402	Geology		Natural	Variable- red brown clay with occasional bands of sand and degraded mudstone				
2403	Cut		Ditch	W/E aligned.		0.8	0.42	
2304	Deposit	2403	Ditch fill	Mid-reddish brown clay silt. Rare sub angular stone and charcoal fleck inclusions		0.8	0.42	

APPENDIX B: FINDS CONCORDANCE

Context	Feature	Trench	Class	Description	Ct.	Wt.(g)	Spot-date
108	Ditch 107	1	Flint	Flake	1	1	-
203	Ditch 204	2	Industrial waste	Indeterminate	1	1	-
705	Ditch 706	7	Flint	Flake	1	3	-
906	Ditch 907	9	Flint	Core	1	21	-
1103	Ditch 1104	11	Iron	Sheet	1	2	BA
1103	DIICH 1104	11	Bronze Age pottery	Quartzite-gritted	1	9	DA
2005	Culvert 2003	20	Bronze Age pottery	Quartzite-gritted	1	2	ВА

APPENDIX C: THE PALAEOENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

Feature	Context	Sample	Vol (L)	Flot size (ml)	Roots %	Grain	Chaff	Charred Other	Notes for Table	Charcoal > 4/2mm	Charcoal ID.	Other
Trench 2	1: undated	l crematio	n related	d deposit								
2104	2103	1	18	100	5	*	-	-	indet. grain frags	***/****	Oak	Burnt bone

Key: * = 1–4 items; ** = 5–19 items; *** = 20–49 items; **** = 50–99 items; ***** = >100 items

APPENDIX D: THE HUMAN BONE

Context	Sample no.	Feature	Total weight of cremated	<10mm (g)	10-5mm (g)	5-2mm (g)
			bone (g)	(9)	(9)	(9)
2103	1	Pit 2104	44.3	3.6 (8.1%)	24.4 (55.07%)	16.3 (36.79%)

APPENDIX E: RADIOCARBON CERTIFICATE

(Follows)



Scottish Universities Environmental Research Centre

Rankine Avenue, Scottish Enterprise Technology Park, East Kilbride, Glasgow G75 0QF, Scotland, UK Director: Professor F M Stuart Tel: +44 (0)1355 223332 Fax: +44 (0)1355 229898 www.glasgow.ac.uk/suerc



RADIOCARBON DATING CERTIFICATE 05 April 2019

Laboratory Code SUERC-85666 (GU51106)

Submitter Emma Aitken

> Cotswold Archaeology Unit 8 The IO Centre

Fingle Drive Stonebridge

Milton Keynes MK13 0AT

Site Reference Creacombe Cross

Context Reference 2103

Sample Reference CCY17-2103

Material Cremated bone: Unidentified cremated bone

δ¹³C relative to VPDB -22.2 %

Radiocarbon Age BP 2250 ± 30

N.B. The above ¹⁴C age is quoted in conventional years BP (before 1950 AD) and requires calibration to the calendar timescale. The error, expressed at the one sigma level of confidence, includes components from the counting statistics on the sample, modern reference standard and blank and the random machine error.

Samples with a SUERC coding are measured at the Scottish Universities Environmental Research Centre AMS Laboratory and should be quoted as such in any reports within the scientific literature. The laboratory GU coding should also be given in parentheses after the SUERC code.

Detailed descriptions of the methods employed by the SUERC Radiocarbon Laboratory can be found in Dunbar et al. (2016) *Radiocarbon 58(1) pp.9-23*.

For any queries relating to this certificate, the laboratory can be contacted at suerc-c14lab@glasgow.ac.uk.

B Tagney

Conventional age and calibration age ranges calculated by:

Checked and signed off by:







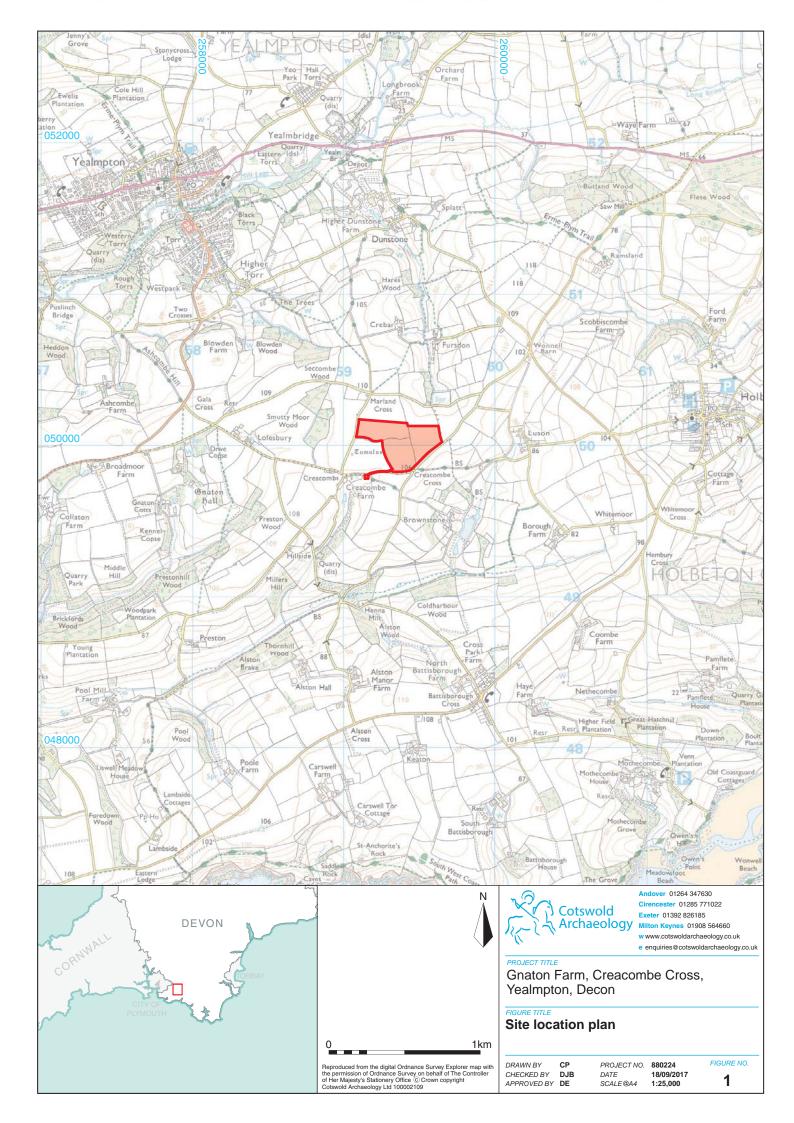
The radiocarbon age given overleaf is calibrated to the calendar timescale using the Oxford Radiocarbon Accelerator Unit calibration program OxCal 4.*

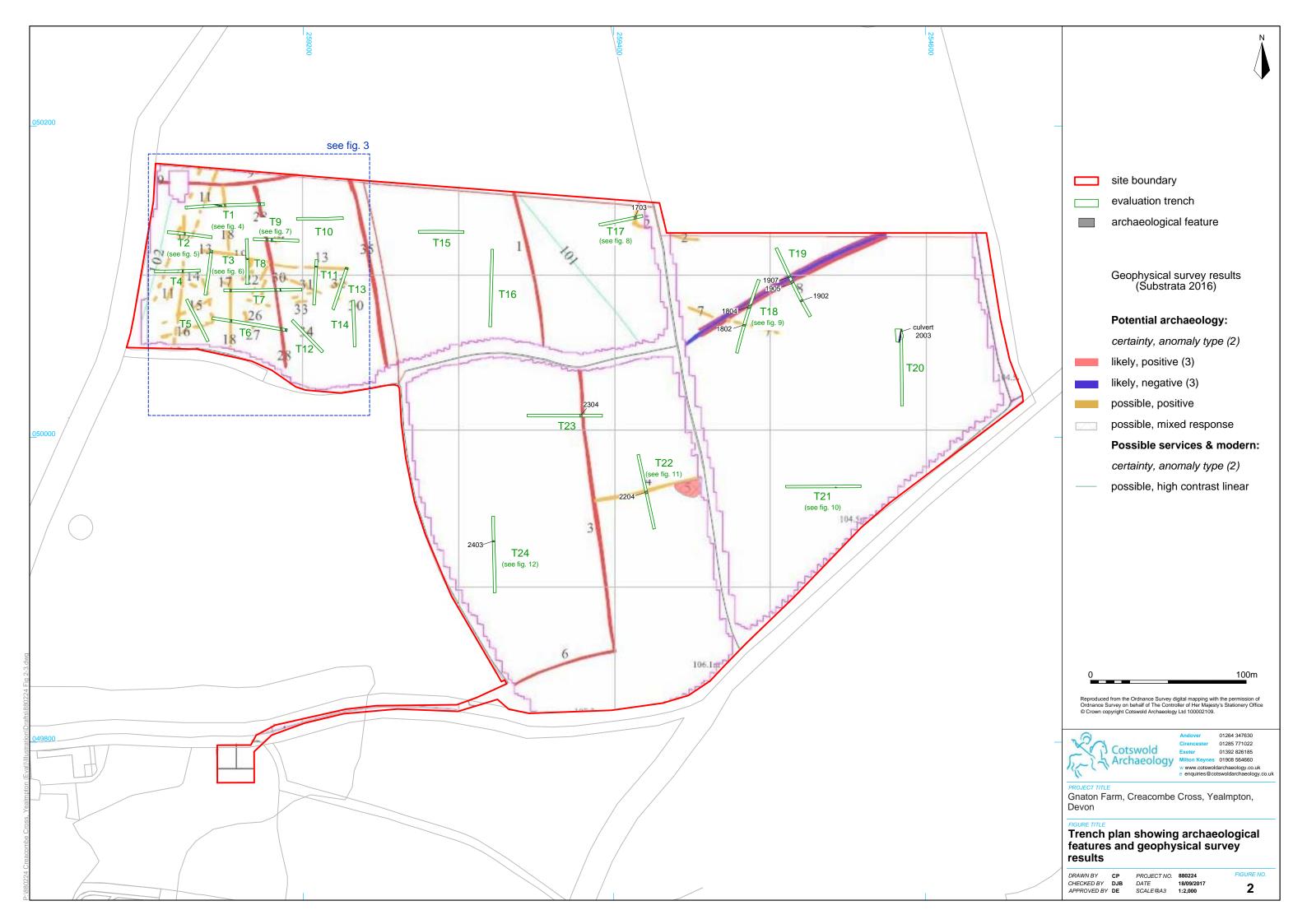
The above date ranges have been calibrated using the IntCal13 atmospheric calibration curve!

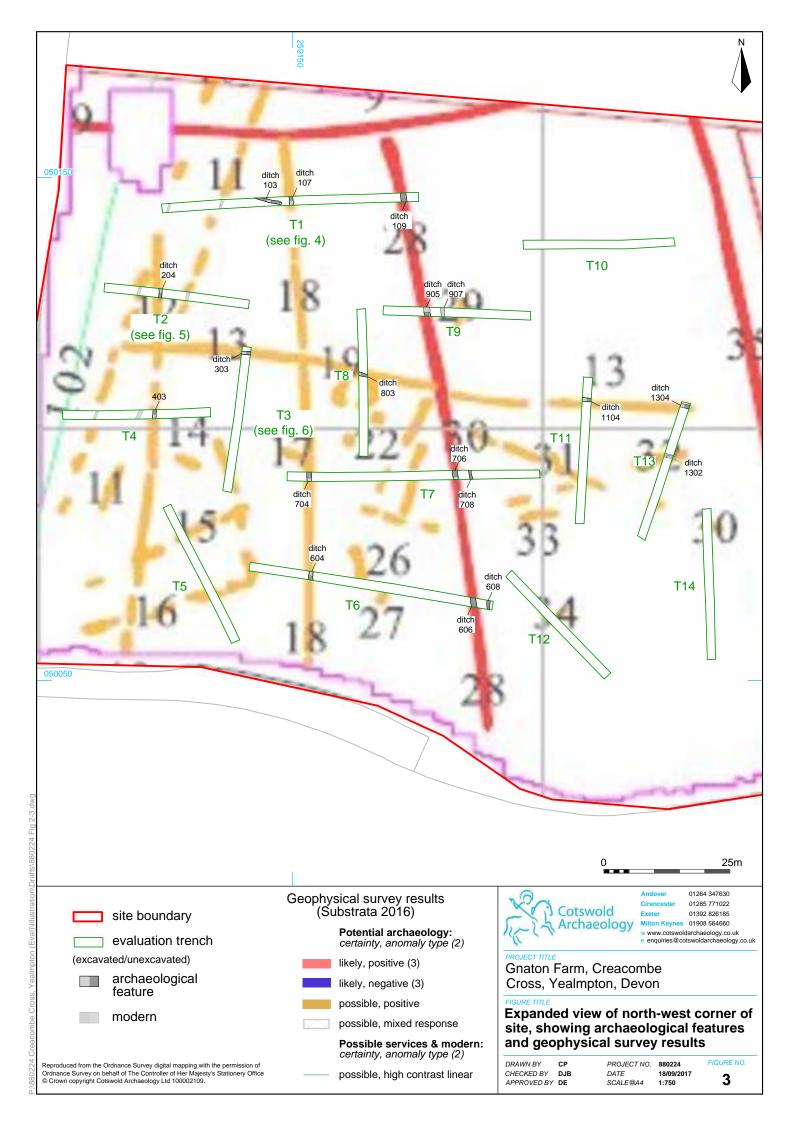
Please contact the laboratory if you wish to discuss this further.

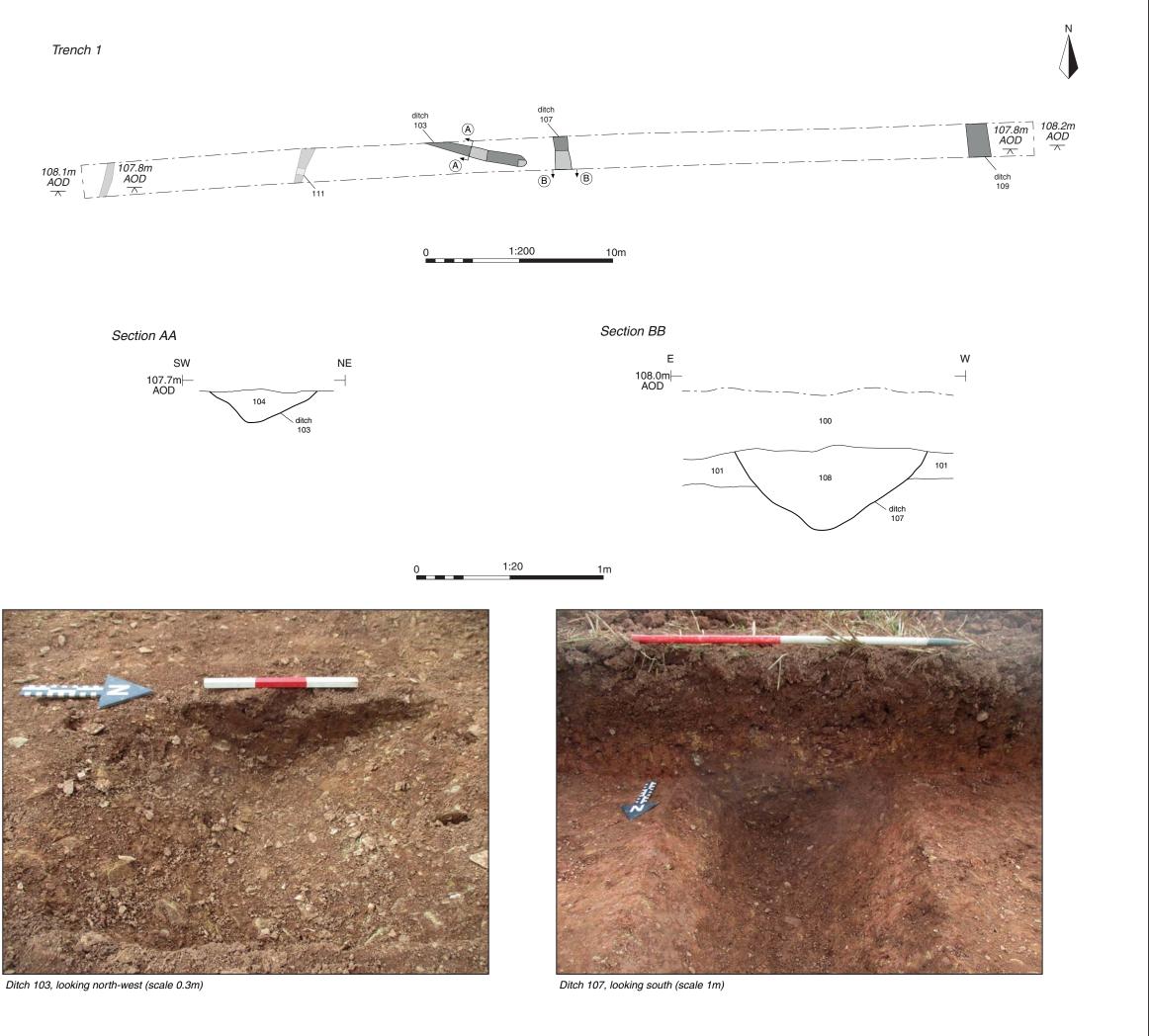
APPENDIX F: OASIS REPORT FORM

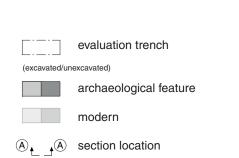
PROJECT DETAILS						
Project name	Land at Gnaton Farm, Creacombe Cross	s, Yealmpton, Devon				
Short description	In August and September 2017, Cotswold Archaeology carried of an archaeological evaluation of land at Gnaton Farm, Creacomb Cross, Yealmpton, Devon. A total of 24 trenches was excavate within the site.					
	The evaluation recorded a single isolated cremation of Middle Iron Age date. Also recorded were a large number of ditches, most of which were concentrated in the north-western corner of the site. The majority of these ditches apparently represent former boundaries associated with the extant field system.					
Project dates	29–31 August and 1–8 September 2017					
Project type	Field evaluation					
Previous work Desk-based assessment (Cotswold Archaeology 2017) Geophysical survey (Substrate 2016)						
Future work	Unknown	Unknown				
PROJECT LOCATION						
Site location Land at Gnaton Farm, Creacombe Cross, Yealmpton						
Study area (m²/ha)	1,731 m ²					
Site co-ordinates	259435 050036					
PROJECT CREATORS						
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology					
Project brief originator	N/A					
Project design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology					
Project Manager	Derek Evans					
Project Supervisor	Jeremy Austin					
MONUMENT TYPE	?Bronze Age cremation pit. Post medieva	al/modern ditches				
SIGNIFICANT FINDS	None					
PROJECT ARCHIVES	Intended final location of archive	Content				
Physical	Plymouth City Museum and Art Gallery	Ceramics, flint				
Paper	N/A	N/A				
Digital	Archaeology Data Service (ADS)	Database, digital photos, survey data, scans of primary site archive				
BIBLIOGRAPHY	Cotswold Archaeology 2017 Land at Gnaton Farm, Creacombe Cross, Yealmpton, Devon: Archaeological Evaluation CA typescript report 17548					













Gnaton Farm, Creacombe Cross, Yealmpton, Devon

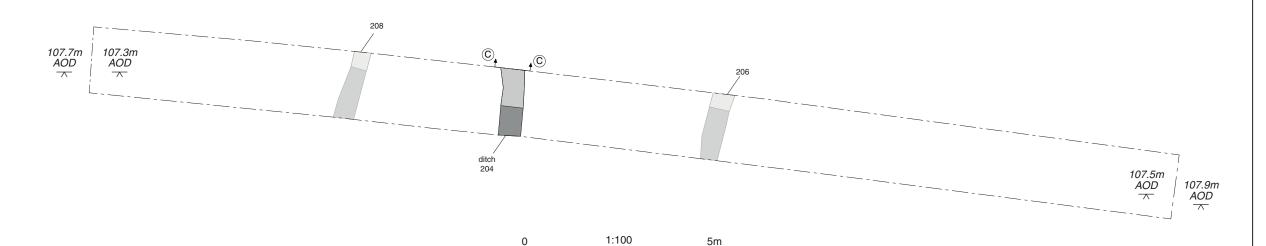
Trench 1: plan, sections and photographs

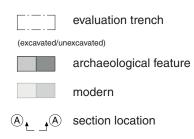
DRAWN BY CP
CHECKED BY DJB
APPROVED BY DE

PROJECT NO. 880224 DATE 18/09/2017 SCALE@A3 1:200 & 1:20

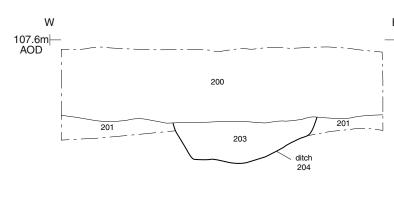


Trench 2













Ditch 204, looking north (scale 1m)



Gnaton Farm, Creacombe Cross, Yealmpton, Devon

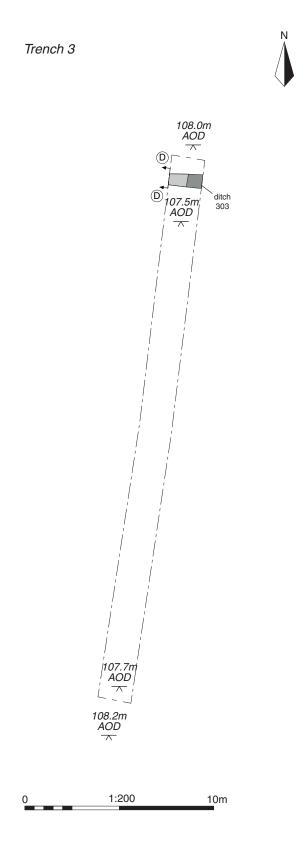
Trench 2: plan, section and photograph

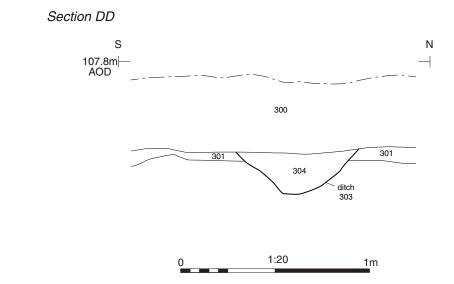
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CHECKED BY DJB
APPROVED BY DE

PROJECT NO. 880224

DATE 18/09/2017

SCALE@A3 1:100 & 1:20







Ditch 303, looking west (scale 1m)





Andover 01264 347630
Cirencester 01285 771022
Exeter 01392 826185
Milton Keynes 01908 564660
w www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.u

PROJECT TITLE

Gnaton Farm, Creacombe Cross, Yealmpton, Devon

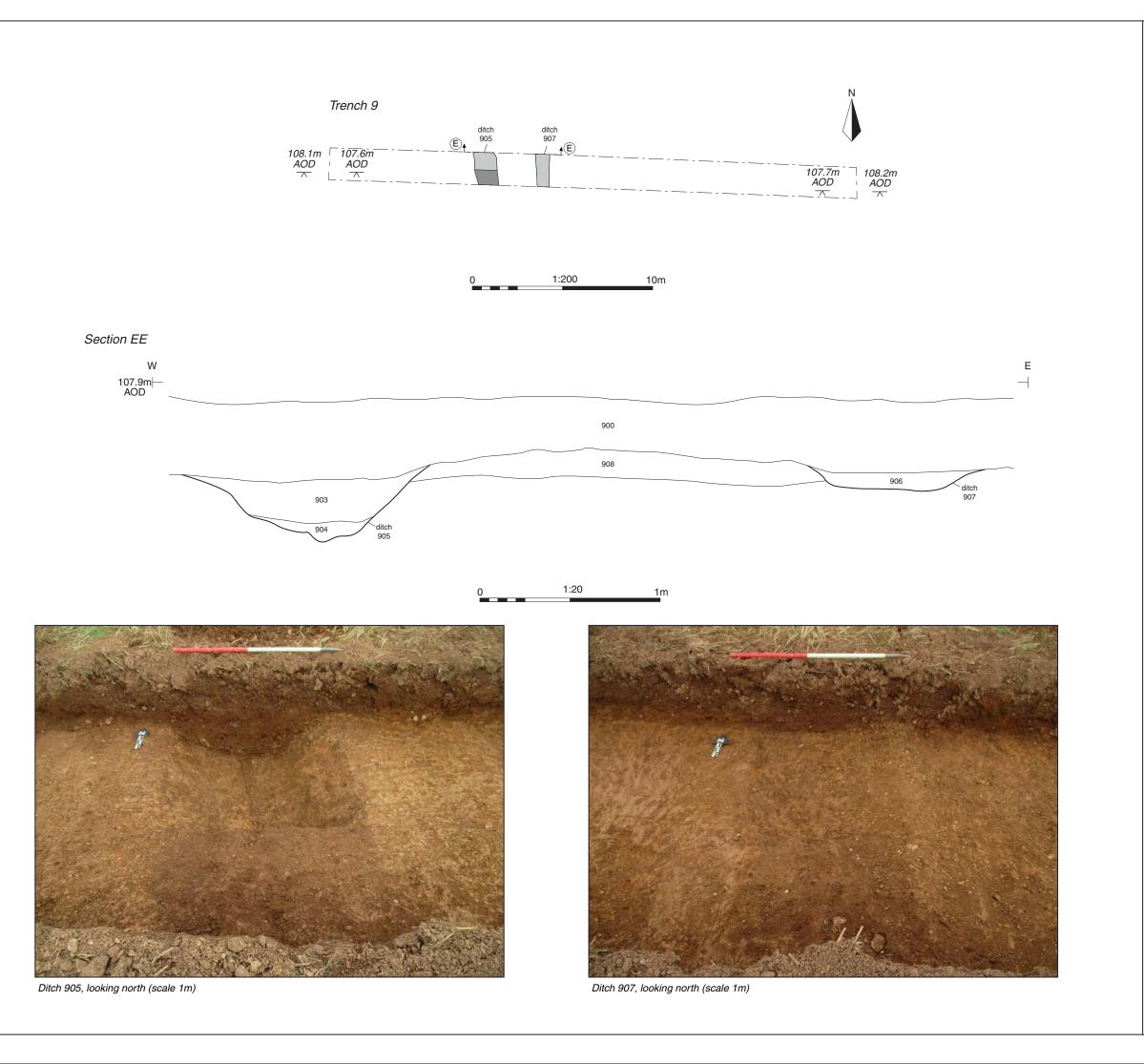
FIGURE TITLE

Trench 3: plan, section and photograph

 DRAWN BY
 CP
 PROJECT NO.
 880224
 FIGURE NO.

 CHECKED BY
 DJB
 DATE
 18/09/2017

 APPROVED BY
 DE
 SCALE@A3
 1:200 & 1:20







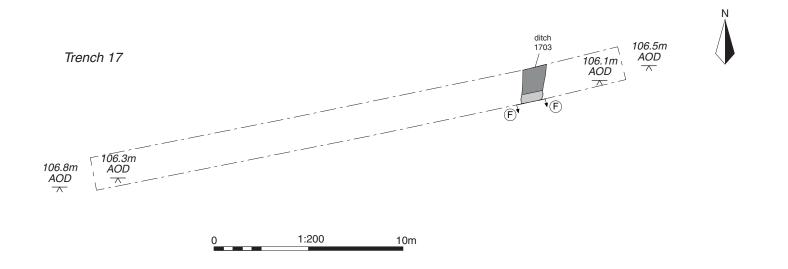
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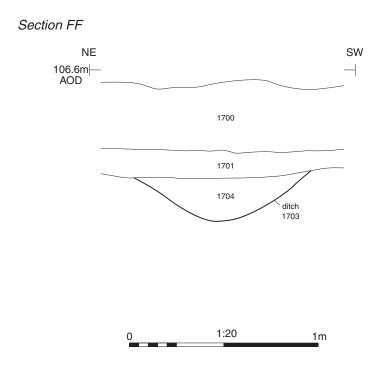
Gnaton Farm, Creacombe Cross, Yealmpton, Devon

Trench 9: plan, section and photographs

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APPROVED BY DE

PROJECT NO. 880224 DATE 18/09/2017 SCALE@A3 1:200 & 1:20







Ditch 1703, looking south-east (scale 1m)





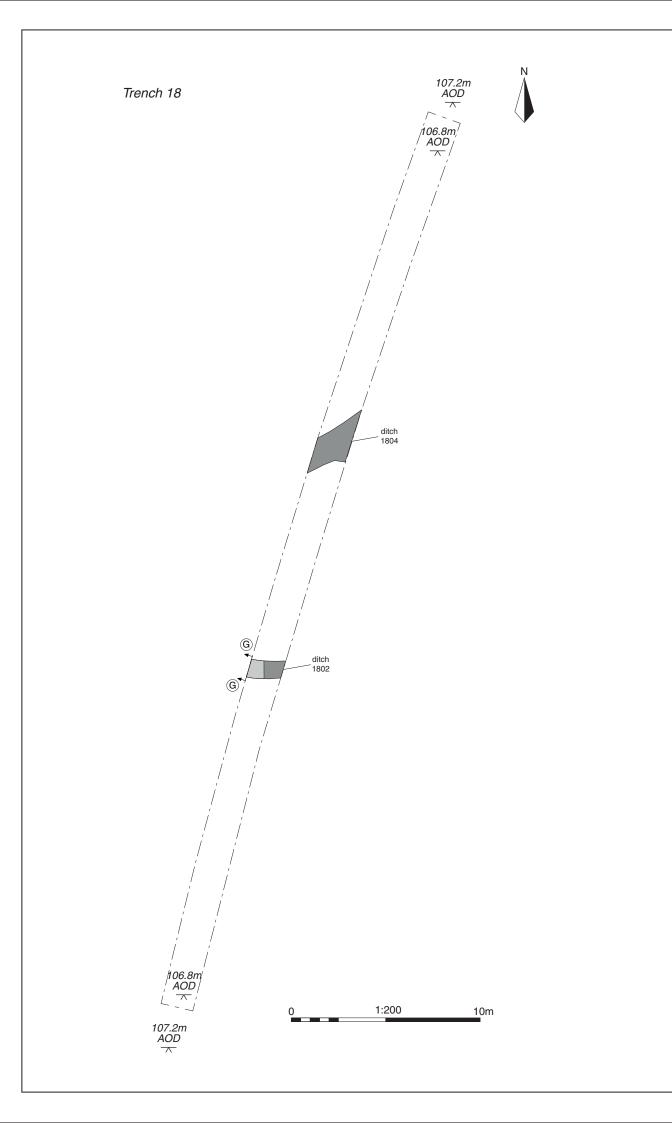
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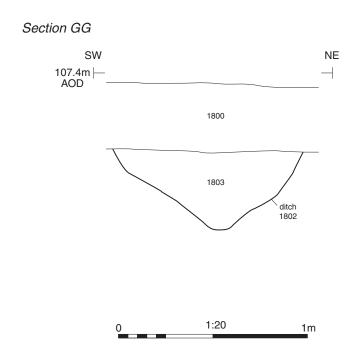
Gnaton Farm, Creacombe Cross, Yealmpton, Devon

Trench 17: plan, section and photograph

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APPROVED BY DE

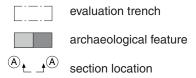
PROJECT NO. 880224 DATE 18/09/2017 SCALE@A3 1:200 & 1:20







Ditch 1802, looking north-west (scale 1m)





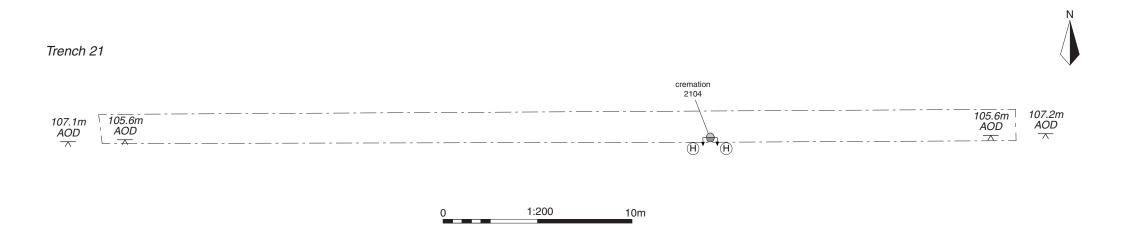
Andover 01264 347630 Cirencester 01285 771022

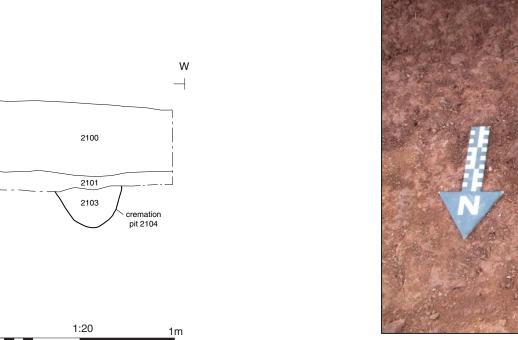
Graton Farm, Creacombe Cross, Yealmpton, Devon

Trench 18: plan, section and photograph

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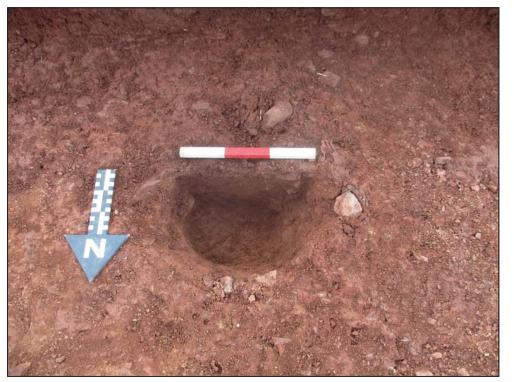
PROJECT NO. 880224 DATE 18/09/2017 SCALE@A3 1:200 & 1:20



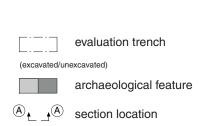


Section HH

E 106.3m├─ AOD



Cremation pit 2104, looking south (scale 0.3m)





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PROJECT TITLE

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FIGURE TITLE

Trench 21: plan, section and photograph

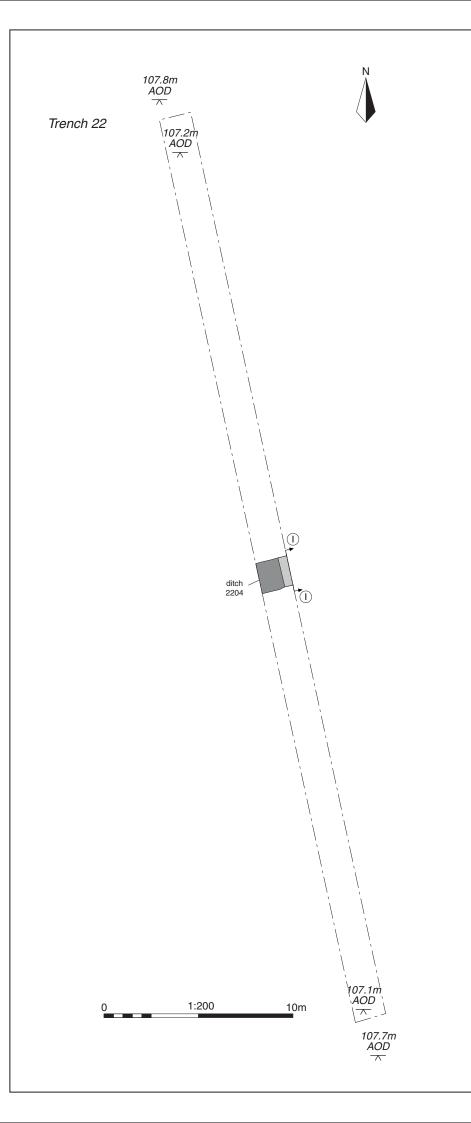
DRAWN BY CP PROJECT
CHECKED BY DJB DATE
APPROVED BY DE SCALE®

PROJECT NO. 880224

DATE 18/09/2017

SCALE@A3 1:200 & 1:20

224 FIGURE N 09/2017 00 & 1:20 **10**



Section II NW 107.4m AOD 2200 2201 2201 1120 1m



Ditch 2204, looking north-east (scale 1m)





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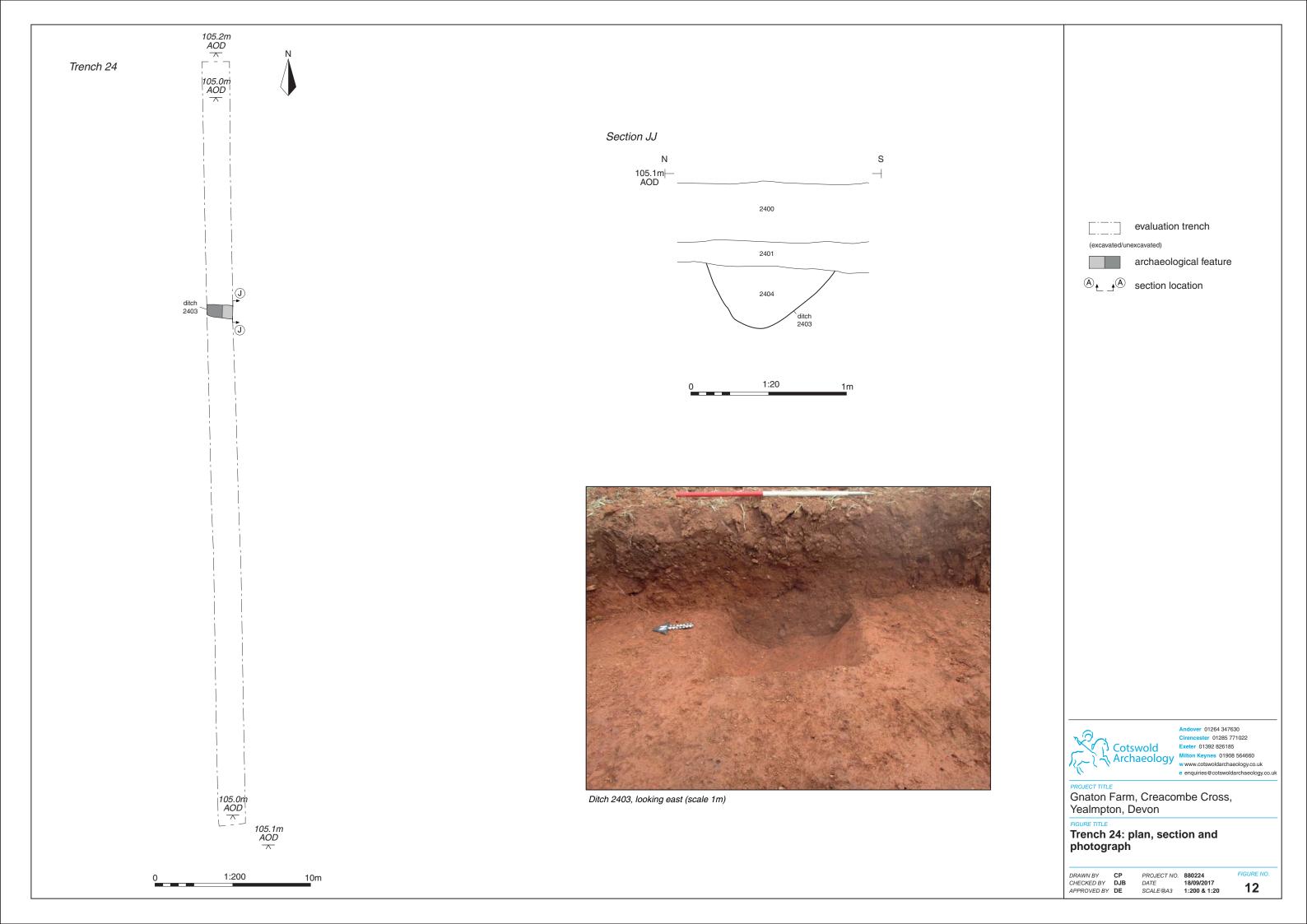
FIGURE TITLE

Trench 22: plan, section and photograph

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PROJECT NO. 880224 DATE 18/09/2017 SCALE@A3 1:200 & 1:20

24 FIGURE N 0/2017 0 & 1:20 **11**





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 1, Clyst Units Cofton Road Marsh Barton Exeter EX2 8QW

t: 01392 573970

Milton Keynes Office

Unit 8 - The IO Centre Fingle Drive, Stonebridge Milton Keynes Buckinghamshire MK13 0AT

t: 01908 564660

Suffolk Office

Unit 5, Plot 11, Maitland Road Lion Barn Industrial Estate Needham Market Suffolk IP6 8NZ

t: 01449 900120

e: enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk

