

LAND AT CATON FARM, CATON, ASHBURTON, DEVON

(Centred on NGR SX 7839 7207)

Results of Archaeological Monitoring and Recording

Dartmoor National Park Authority Planning Reference:
0308/18 (condition 3)

Prepared by:
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On behalf of:
Atkins Global

Document No: ACD1958/2/0

Date: September 2022

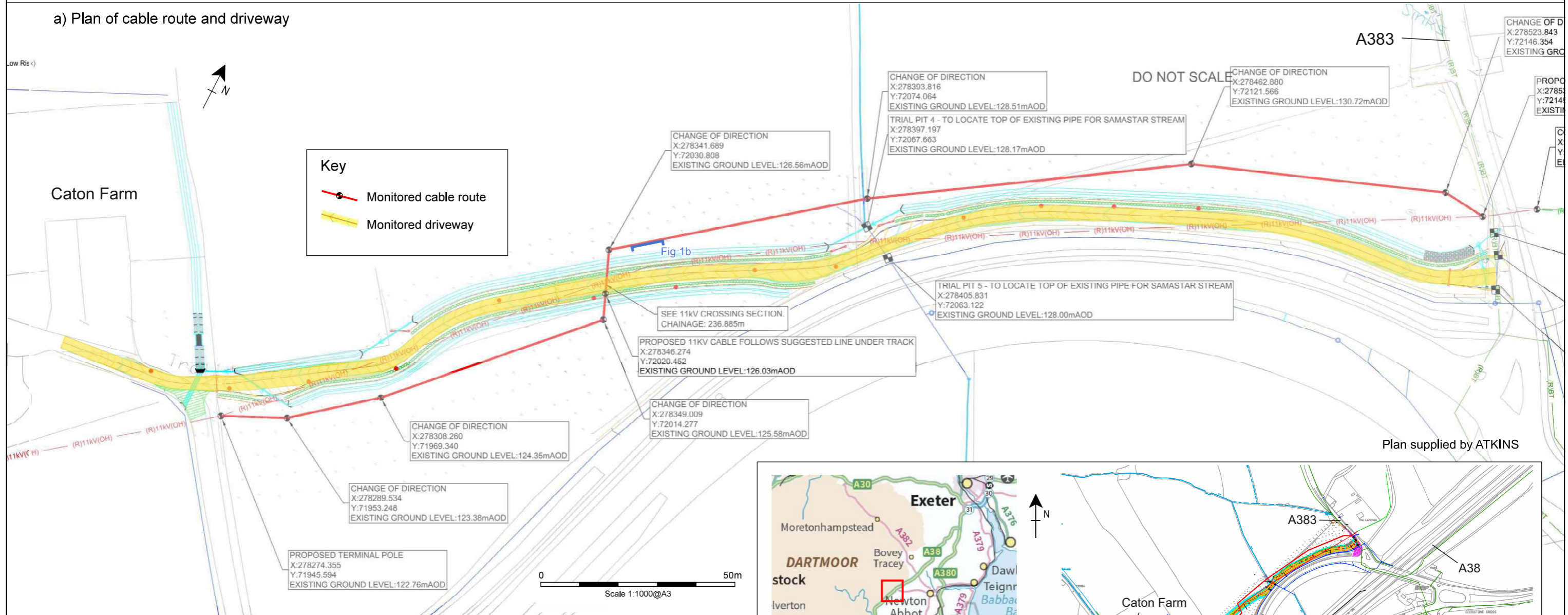


archaeology

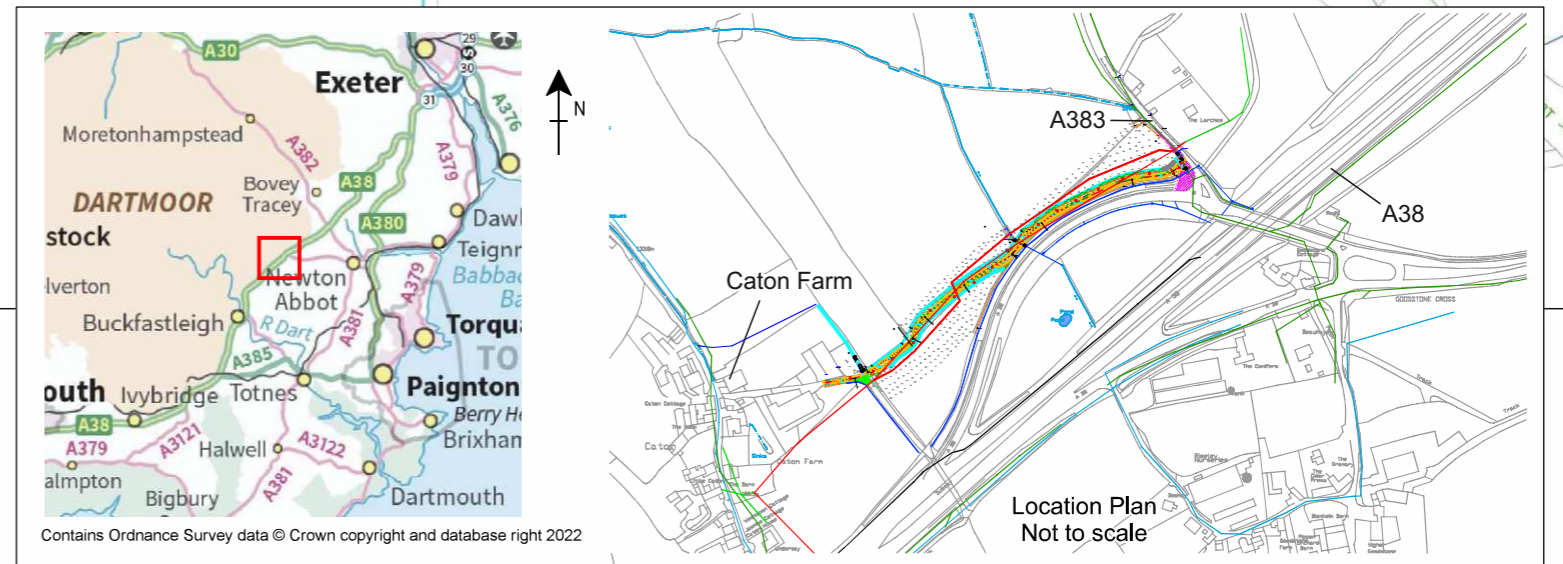
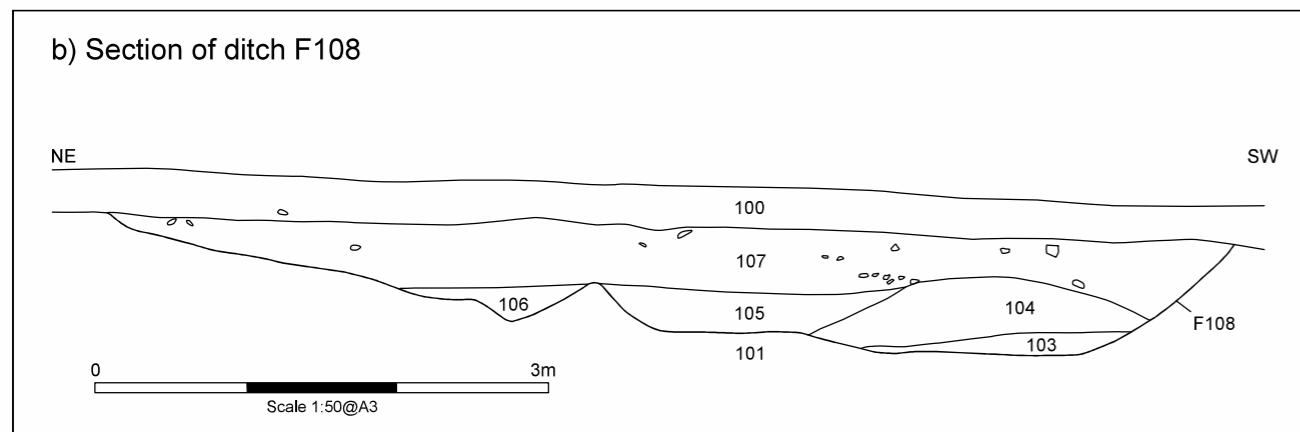
Dartmoor Historic Environment Record

Civil Parish & District: Ashburton, Teignbridge District Council	National Grid Reference SX 7839 7207	Number: (Leave blank)
Subject: Land at Caton Farm, Caton, Ashburton, Devon: results of archaeological monitoring and recording		Photo attached? Plates 1-3
Planning Application no: Dartmoor National Park Authority planning ref. 0308/18 (condition 3)	Recipient museum: N/A	
OASIS ID: 509156	Museum Accession no: N/A	
Contractor's reference number/code: ACD1958	Dates fieldwork undertaken: 7th June 2021 to 22nd February 2022	
<p>Introduction</p> <p>Archaeological monitoring and recording (controlled watching brief) during groundworks associated with the construction of a new farm drive and cable trench on land at Caton Farm, Caton, Ashburton, Devon (SX 7839 7207) was undertaken by AC archaeology (Plates 1 and 2).</p> <p>Caton Farm lies some 2km to the northeast of Ashburton, with the hamlet of Caton situated adjacent to the southwest (Fig. 1). Monitored groundworks for the new cable trench and driveway new drive were located to the northeast of the farm on land bounded to the southeast by a slip road extending from the A38. It extended from an existing rough track and yard area adjacent to the farm and across two pasture plots and linked to the A383 to the northeast. The route lies on ground that slopes gradually to the southwest between 130m and 120m above Ordnance Datum., with the underlying solid geology comprising limestone of the Chercombe Bridge Limestone Formation (www.bgs.ac.uk 2022).</p> <p>Caton is a settlement of probable medieval origin. It is named '<i>Cadetone</i>' in a Subsidy Roll or taxation document dated to 1330 (Dartmoor NPA HER ref. MDV107697). The hamlet lies in an agricultural landscape made up of a system of mostly strip fields that are fossilised in the surviving field layout. These are also likely to be of medieval origin (MDV119706).</p> <p>Results</p> <p>Natural subsoil (context 101), which consisted of a mid-yellow and mid grey clay was exposed at a depth of between 0.3m and 0.7m below existing levels. It was overlain by a mid-reddish brown clayey loam subsoil (where present) and a mid-greyish brown silty clay loam topsoil (100).</p> <p>One archaeological feature was observed in section in the cable trench (See Fig. 1b and Plate 3). This comprised a broad shallow ditch (F108), measuring 7.5m wide by 0.8m deep, with an irregular base and which contained five clay and silty clay fills (103 to 107). The ditch contained no finds but corresponds with the position of a field boundary present on the Ashburton parish tithe map of 1840. Subsequent historic mapping shows that the boundary was removed after the mid-20th century.</p> <p>Conclusions</p> <p>One archaeological feature, comprising a former field boundary ditch, for a hedgebank which was removed after the mid-20th century was recorded. No pre-modern finds were recovered. The results of the archaeological monitoring and recording indicate that the site has been historically in agriculture use with no evidence for historic or earlier settlement or use of the location.</p> <p>This report represents the archive for the project.</p>		
Recorder: Rohan Ramoutar, AC archaeology	Date sent to HER: 16 September 2022	

a) Plan of cable route and driveway



b) Section of ditch F108



PROJECT
Land at Caton Farm, Caton Ashburton,
Devon

TITLE
Fig. 1: Location of site, monitored cable
route, driveway and section of ditch
F108



Plate 1: General view of monitored drive, looking northwest (scale 1m)



Plate 2: General view of cable trench, looking east



Plate 3: Ditch F108, looking south (scales 2m and 1m)

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