

UNLOCKING OUR COASTAL HERITAGE PROJECT:

PARK HEAD BRONZE AGE BARROW - LOWER BUTTER COVE, ST EVAL, CORNWALL

NGR SW 8444 7120

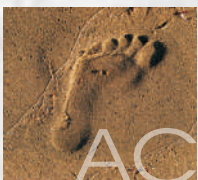
Results of archaeological excavation

Prepared by:
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On behalf of:
The National Trust

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AC archaeology

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RESULTS OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATION

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Summary

An archaeological investigation of Park Head Barrow on the cliff top at Lower Butter Cove, St Eval, Cornwall was carried out by AC archaeology between October and December 2012. The work was commissioned by The National Trust as part of the 'Unlocking Our Coastal Heritage' project. The site is located on the cliff edge just to the south of Porthcothan, on the North Cornwall coast. The barrow is part of a group of eight barrows within the Cornwall Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. The barrow has been partly destroyed through cliff erosion.

The work comprised the excavation of two quadrants of the barrow structure and a 1 x 1 m test pit located to the NE of the barrow. Excavation of the barrow established two phases of construction, as well as an indication of its use. A clay mound was constructed directly onto a buried soil horizon and subsequently burnt. Later a further covering of soil and rubble material enclosed within a stone kerb wall was added to the mound. A small assemblage of Bronze Age flints was recovered, but unfortunately none from secure contexts. The surviving portion of the barrow was extremely disturbed by rabbit burrowing. The test pit revealed evidence of modern ploughing.

1. INTRODUCTION (Fig. 1; Plates 1-4)

- 1.1 An archaeological investigation of the disturbed Park Head Barrow on the cliff top at Lower Butter Cove, St Eval, Cornwall (SW 8444 7120; Fig. 1) was carried out by AC archaeology between 10 October and 7 December 2012. The work was commissioned by The National Trust as part of the 'Unlocking Our Coastal Heritage' project.
- 1.2 The barrow lies on the top of the cliff, a portion of the barrow, estimated to account for approximately half of it, has already been lost to the sea. The ground cover is coastal grassland grazed by cattle (see Plates 1-4). The barrow is visible as an earthwork and was approximately 17m at its widest extent. The site lies within the Cornwall Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, in an Area of Great Historic Value and is located within a Site of Special Scientific Interest. It is a Scheduled Ancient Monument.

2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND (Figs 2-3; Appendix 1)

- 2.1 The '**Unlocking Our Coastal Heritage**' project, aims to improve the visitor experience along the South West Coast Path as part of a Sustainable Rural Tourism theme. It has been awarded European grant aid through the Rural Development Programme for England (RDPE). The project will be delivered through the Rural Development Agency (RDA), the South West Coast Path team (SWCP) and the National Trust (NT). A number of archaeological sites have been selected on the basis that this funding will further aid their conservation, enhancement and future management. The sites were chosen on the basis that they were on or adjacent to the South West Coast Path and that they are currently at risk of being irreparably damaged or lost, or could be made more accessible for wider audiences. The site was chosen on the basis that it is currently at risk of being irreparably damaged or lost.

- 2.2** The archaeological works at Lower Butter Cove included a topographical survey of Park Head Barrow and its associated funerary landscape and the subsequent excavation of part of the barrow. Park Head Barrow forms part of a wider group of eight barrows scattered across the headland (Fig. 2). A section of the barrow has already been destroyed by cliff erosion and rabbit burrowing combined with cattle and visitor erosion. It was therefore selected for excavation because the loss of such a finite resource may be mitigated by the data gained through topographical survey and excavation (followed by consolidation). The results of this investigation will provide information for the future conservation, enhancement and management of the area.
- 2.3** Park Head Barrow, and its associated funerary landscape, is located on the edge of the western cliffs at Park Head, some 1.7km southwest of Porthcothan, near St Eval. The cliffs at Park Head Barrow rise to a maximum height of 52m aOD. The underlying geology for the area comprises slate and siltstones of the Trevoze Slate formation and the Rosenum formation (British Geological Survey online 2012). The ground cover is primarily coastal grassland grazed by cattle, with marginal areas partly covered in bracken, gorse and brambles.
- 2.4** Park Head Barrow forms part of a group of eight Bronze Age barrows situated on the Park Head headland (C&SHER Ref. No. 21822). Six, including Park Head Barrow, are Scheduled Ancient Monuments and detailed plans and profiles are shown in Fig. 3. They are irregular in distribution, with no obvious pattern. The barrows are summarised in Appendix 1 based on a field survey by Dr Phil Newman, commissioned for this project.

3. AIMS

- 3.1** The excavation of the barrow was to enable a clearer understanding of the monument before its integrity was irrevocably lost. The overall aim of the work was to enable safe public access and use of the area, a clearer understanding of the archaeological resource and help with future conservation and management issues. The excavation was undertaken in accordance to a brief prepared by the National Trust Archaeologist (Parry 2011) and a Written Scheme of Investigation prepared by AC archaeology (James 2012).
- 3.2** More specific aims were as follows:
- To gain a fuller understanding of the construction method of the monument via more extensive exposure;
 - To establish the presence/absence of any associated internal features, as well as any artefacts or ecofacts;
 - To identify evidence of phasing, such as earlier features/land surfaces, as well as subsequent re-modelling;
 - To use any palaeoenvironmental evidence for landscape reconstruction and aspects of ancient economy;
 - To assess the potential for scientific dating to contribute towards an understanding of the development of the site;
 - To help widen our understanding of Bronze Age mortuary practice and monumentality, including individual identity and social status;
 - To provide a baseline record against which any future changes may be measured and recorded.

4. EXCAVATION METHODOLOGY (Plate 5)

- 4.1** The western portion of the barrow had been eroded by coastal erosion, leaving only the remnant to the east extant. This eastern portion was excavated in two quadrants, separated by a 1.15m central baulk. However, for safety reasons, a margin of at least 2.0m was left between the excavation site and the cliff edge. This was variable due to the eroded condition of the cliff edge, but some surviving barrow material remained in this baulk. The investigation of the barrow initially comprised the removal and storage of turf and the underlying subsoil (see Plate 5).
- 4.2** Exposed rubble collapse was then cleaned, recorded and removed by hand in sequence to expose the kerb stones. Further hand-excavation of features and deposits was undertaken and was followed by the removal of the central mound to allow for the recovery of artefacts, detection of burials, the mound's profile to be recorded and to establish the presence or absence of any buried soil horizon below the monument.
- 4.3** A 1.0 x 1.0m test pit was excavated by hand 30m NE of the barrow. Its location was chosen to test the depth of soil in the vicinity of the barrow and to establish the history of land use on the headland.
- 4.4** The site was recorded in accordance with the AC archaeology pro-forma recording system, comprising written, graphic and photographic records, and in accordance with AC archaeology's *General Site Recording Manual, Version 2 (Revised August 2012)*. Overall site plans were drawn at a scale of 1:50, with detailed plans drawn at 1:20 and sections of excavated features at 1:10. All levels have been related to Ordnance Datum.

5. RESULTS (Plan Fig. 4 and sections Fig. 5; Plates 6-14; Appendix 2)

5.1 Introduction

The excavation revealed that the deposits were in a parlous state due to general erosion and extensive damage by rabbit burrowing. It was possible, however, to identify four phases of site history. A pre-structural phase, a barrow construction phase, a barrow consolidation phase and an abandonment phase. In addition, a 1.0 x 1.0m test pit was excavated to establish the nature of the soils and the history of land use on the headland. The feature and context descriptions are summarised in Appendix 2.

5.2 Phase 0: Pre-structural deposits

A natural layer of decaying shale bedrock (102) mixed with material from the overlying soil horizon was exposed below the removed central mound of the barrow. The decayed layer was 0.10m thick and sat directly on the natural bedrock (107), which consisted of shale with quartz veins throughout. The natural rock was present at a depth of 0.45 – 0.50m below the existing ground surface.

Located above the natural deposits and below the mound material was a remnant buried soil horizon (108). This very dark organic layer of firm clayey silt was approximately 0.10m thick, but had been heavily disturbed by rabbit burrowing.

5.3 Phase 1: Barrow construction

A central mound consisting of a light orange burnt clay material with occasional small pieces of angular shale (104) forms the primary core of the barrow. This clay was up to 0.26m thick and may have spread to a diameter in excess of 11m. The light orange colour of the clay appeared to be redder and darker towards the top of the deposit,

indicating that the burning took place in-situ, rather than the material having been imported already burnt. No charcoal-rich or ash layers were present. The mound had been very heavily disturbed by rabbit burrowing activity, so much so, that little remained and the interface with the over and underlying deposits was unclear in many places. Where the relationship between the clay mound and later fill (109) of Phase 2 (see below) could be observed, it showed that the mound had steep sides preserved.

No evidence of burial was located within or below the burnt clay mound (104) of the Phase 1 barrow.

5.4 Phase 2: Barrow consolidation

F106 is an arc of stone kerbing surviving to a height of 0.25m and consisting of large (c. 0.5 x 0.4 x 0.3m) angular and rounded quartz stones with smaller (c. 0.06 x 0.06 x 0.04m) flat, rounded shale and slates. It has a diameter of approximately 12.75m along the longest exposed axis. The kerb is a coursed dry stone wall with a maximum of two courses remaining *in-situ*.

The kerb appears to have been built at the same time as a fill (109) that was deposited between the kerb and the burnt clay mound of the barrow. The fill was a firm mid greyish brown clayey silt with frequent very small to medium angular shale stones, creating a rubble-like consistency. The rubble fill appeared to support sections of the kerb and is therefore most likely contemporary with its construction. It is also clear that (109) overlies the central clay mound indicating that the original diameter of the barrow was enlarged to the edge of the kerb.

There was no sign of an external ditch surrounding the barrow within the excavation area.

No evidence for burial was present.

5.5 Phase 3: Abandonment deposits

A large deposit (103) of dark greyish brown clayey silt with occasional pieces of very small to medium shale pieces appears to be the slumped remains of the main mound material. Within this deposit were a large number of stones (105) that appear to have collapsed from the stone kerb (F106). The slumped material contained two waste flakes and chip of flint, a fine-grained mudstone whetstone, but also a 1920 One Penny coin, suggesting that the flints (and possibly the whetstone) are residual. The deposit (103) is an erosion layer representing continuous disturbance to the barrow over a long period of time. Some of the presumed collapsed kerb stones (105) sit directly on the natural decaying bedrock (102) indicating that erosion of the re-modelled barrow started soon after its completion.

Overlying the slumped barrow a subsoil developed (101). It consisted of a mid-dark brown firm clayey silt with frequent small to medium angular shale. Overlying the majority of the barrow was a thin layer of topsoil (100) covered with turf. Three residual flints, three flakes and a core fragment of probable Bronze Age date, were recovered from this deposit.

5.6 Test Pit (Plan and section Fig. 6)

A 1.0 x 1.0m test pit was excavated 30m NE of the barrow. The deposits consisted of a 0.32m deep turf and topsoil deposit (200), overlaying a thin (0.04m thick) possible buried soil horizon (201), which overlay the natural bedrock (202) present at 0.36m below the ground surface. Cut into the rock, and aligned N–S, was a shallow ‘V’-shaped gully (F203), 0.24m wide and 0.11m deep. This was interpreted as a plough furrow. No finds were recovered.

6. THE FINDS by Naomi Payne

6.1 Introduction and methodology

All finds recovered on site during the excavation were retained, cleaned and marked where appropriate. They were then quantified according to material type within each context and the assemblage was scanned to extract information regarding the range, nature and date of artefacts represented. The finds comprised a small assemblage of worked flint, a whetstone and a penny of George V. The finds are summarised in table 1 below.

Context	Context description	Worked flint		Worked stone		Copper alloy	
		No.	Wt (g)	No.	Wt (g)	No.	Wt (g)
100	Turf	4	61				
103	Slumped/eroded mound material	3	6	1	24	1	8
Totals		7	67	1	24	1	8

Table 1: Summary of finds by context

6.2 Copper alloy

A copper alloy penny of George V was recovered from context 103. The coin dates from 1920.

6.3 Worked flint

A total of seven pieces (67g) of worked flint was recovered from two contexts. The turf (100) produced three flakes and a core fragment. The largest flake has been roughly retouched to create a crude scraper. Context 103 produced two further waste flakes and a chip. Three of the pieces of worked flint are primary flakes with pebble cortex on the dorsal surface. The range in size and form of the flakes, the coarseness of the scraper and the use of easily available material all point towards a Bronze Age date for the assemblage.

6.4 Worked stone

A fine-grained mudstone whetstone (24g) was recovered from context 103. The whetstone is broadly rectangular, with a flat oval cross-section measuring 18 x 8mm. It is broken at both ends and has a maximum length of 76mm. The whetstone cannot be dated typologically.

7. DISCUSSION (Plate 2)

7.1 The excavation confirmed the generally poor state of preservation of the barrow remains, with damage caused by rabbit burrowing throughout the site, and considerable erosion through natural, cattle and human activity.

- 7.2** The central clay mound was constructed directly onto the existing ground surface with no special preparation apparent; the presence, though heavily disturbed, of the former soil horizon attests to this. The mound itself, with its reddish/orange colouring appears to have been heavily burnt. The uniform grading of the colouration and the more intense burning to the top of the mound indicates *in-situ* burning, rather than the importation of previously burnt clay. No indication of the type of burning that occurred was visible. There were no postholes or large ash and charcoal spreads that may have indicated funeral pyre activity, although it is possible that the level of erosion, as seen by the large amount of slumping, is likely to have removed such evidence.
- 7.3** The second phase of activity involved the enlarging of the mound to the perimeter defined by the construction of the kerb wall. The clay mound had steep sides implying that it had not been exposed to the elements for long before the second phase of activity took place. The construction of the kerb wall occurred after the burning on the mound had taken place as indicated by the lack of evidence for burning in the fill deposit 109.
- 7.4** There was no sign of an external ditch surrounding the barrow within the excavation area and no indication of from where the mound material was derived.
- 7.5** The primary mound of burnt clay with later modification by the addition of soil and rubble within a stone kerb compares well with the variety of construction practices noted for the barrows of North Cornwall (Christie 1985). The kerb, in particular, has local parallels. At Cataclews Point, near Harlyn, only 6km north of Park Head, excavation of a barrow revealed two kerbs, the outer with a diameter of 9.1m and incorporating a few quartz pebbles (*ibid.*). At Treligga 1, on Start Point, south of Tintagel, excavation of the cairn revealed a kerb of quartz and slate with a diameter of 8.5m (*ibid.*). The original diameter of the kerb at Park Head Barrow will have been much greater as the arc exposed is estimated to be only a third of the circumference of the assumed complete kerb circle. The kerb at Park Head with its distinctive use of quartz, found in the local geology, has a proposed reconstructed diameter of c. 17.5m. The large diameter is also matched by the size of the kerb itself as the quantity of fallen and loose stone material (105) indicates that the original structure stood to three or four courses. The use of quartz at Treligga 1 was regarded as deliberate as this white and glistening stone will stand out as an architectural feature if the design was to leave the kerb exposed. At Park Head Barrow the collapsed kerb stones with slumped mound material over the top reveals that the kerb was not exposed for any significant period of time and that the local availability of quartz may have dictated its use.
- 7.6** Structural complexity and the use of a variety of materials at Park Head Barrow, clay, stone and soil, is becoming recognised, albeit tentatively, as a regional tradition in Bronze Age Cornwall and Devon, as is the modification of the barrow form over time (e.g. Jones and Quinnell 2008: 48; Jones 2005). At Crig-a-mennis, near the north coast above Perranporth, the final phases of barrow building consisted of a shale rubble cap, a kerb revetment wall of shale and quartz, and a white quartz final cap (Christie 1960). The mound layers at Crig-a-mennis may have been created during repeated visits to the site following the principal cremations (Owoc 2008). A concern with tracking the seasonal movement of the sun, as shown by the earthworks of the ditch at Crig-a-Mennis, betrays an interest in the location not obvious in its less than spectacular setting (Owoc 2008). The landscape setting of the Park Head barrows are, however, cliff top and spectacular (Plate 2). Unimpeded views of sunsets into the ocean were assured and may, at least in part, account for their position.

- 7.7** No human remains were found in the excavation. Where they occur elsewhere, such interments are often found central to the barrow and this was probably missed by several metres in the area available for excavation. However, despite the general expectation that barrow groups form funerary landscapes, the evidence from Cornish barrow excavations has shown that their primary function may not necessarily be as edifices for receiving human remains. Henrietta Quinnell (Miles 1975) noted for Cornish sites that mounds could be built without burials and that cremations appear to be token or partial in the majority of sites where they are found. Similar conclusions have more recently been drawn from excavations of Bronze Age cairns on Stannon Down, Bodmin Moor, where deposition of special objects and the marking of special places in the landscape may have been as, or more, important than providing a place for the remains of the dead (Jones 2006).
- 7.8** The test pit confirmed the evidence from the field survey that the headland had been subject to agricultural improvement through ploughing in modern times.

8. CONCLUSIONS

- 8.1** Although Park Head Barrow was found to be very heavily eroded and disturbed, the excavation has been able to meet some of the aims outlined in Section 3.
- 8.2** The nature of the construction has been established with a clay core and a later soil and rubble upper layer within a stone kerb. No ditch was identified.
- 8.3** Apart from the kerb, the absence of internal features was established as well as the absence of finds from secure contexts.
- 8.4** It was possible to identify phasing in the barrow structure with two phases of barrow construction evident.
- 8.5** The extremely disturbed nature of the barrow means that potential for the use of palaeoenvironmental evidence was very poor. For the same reason the potential for scientific dating was also very poor.
- 8.6** Park Head Barrow is part of a wider Bronze Age landscape of monuments along the Park Head coastline. Further work on the surrounding features may be able to provide additional information as to how this barrow fits in with the others in the landscape and for how long this coastline was a focus of barrow-building activity. The excavation, although not revealing evidence for mortuary practices, did show that the primary mound had been the focus for a fire and that following this the mound was enlarged and enclosed in a kerb. This illustrates that the barrow had more than one episode of use in the Bronze Age and fits in to the emerging understanding that barrow use and form may change and that this may indicate a change in the function of the site and/or its role in its landscape context.
- 8.7** The field survey has provided a baseline record against which any future changes to the barrows may be measured and recorded.

9. ARCHIVE

- 9.1** The paper and digital archive and finds are currently held at the offices of AC archaeology Ltd, in Unit 4 Halthaias Workshops, Bradninch, near Exeter, Devon, EX5 4LQ. They will be deposited with the National Trust to be retained as part of the property archive.

- 9.2 An online OASIS entry has been completed, using the unique identifier 150397, which will include a digital copy of this report.

10. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- 10.1 The fieldwork as commissioned by the National Trust and managed for them by James Parry. The project was managed for AC archaeology by Tanya James and Andrew Passmore. The field survey was carried out by Dr Phil Newman of South-west Landscape Investigations, and the excavation by Christopher Caine, Gareth Holes, Naomi Kysh and Stella de-Villiers (AC archaeology). The report was prepared by Dr Paul Rainbird, with the illustrations prepared by Dr Phil Newman and Elisabeth Patkai. The finds were quantified by Dr Naomi Payne.

11. REFERENCES

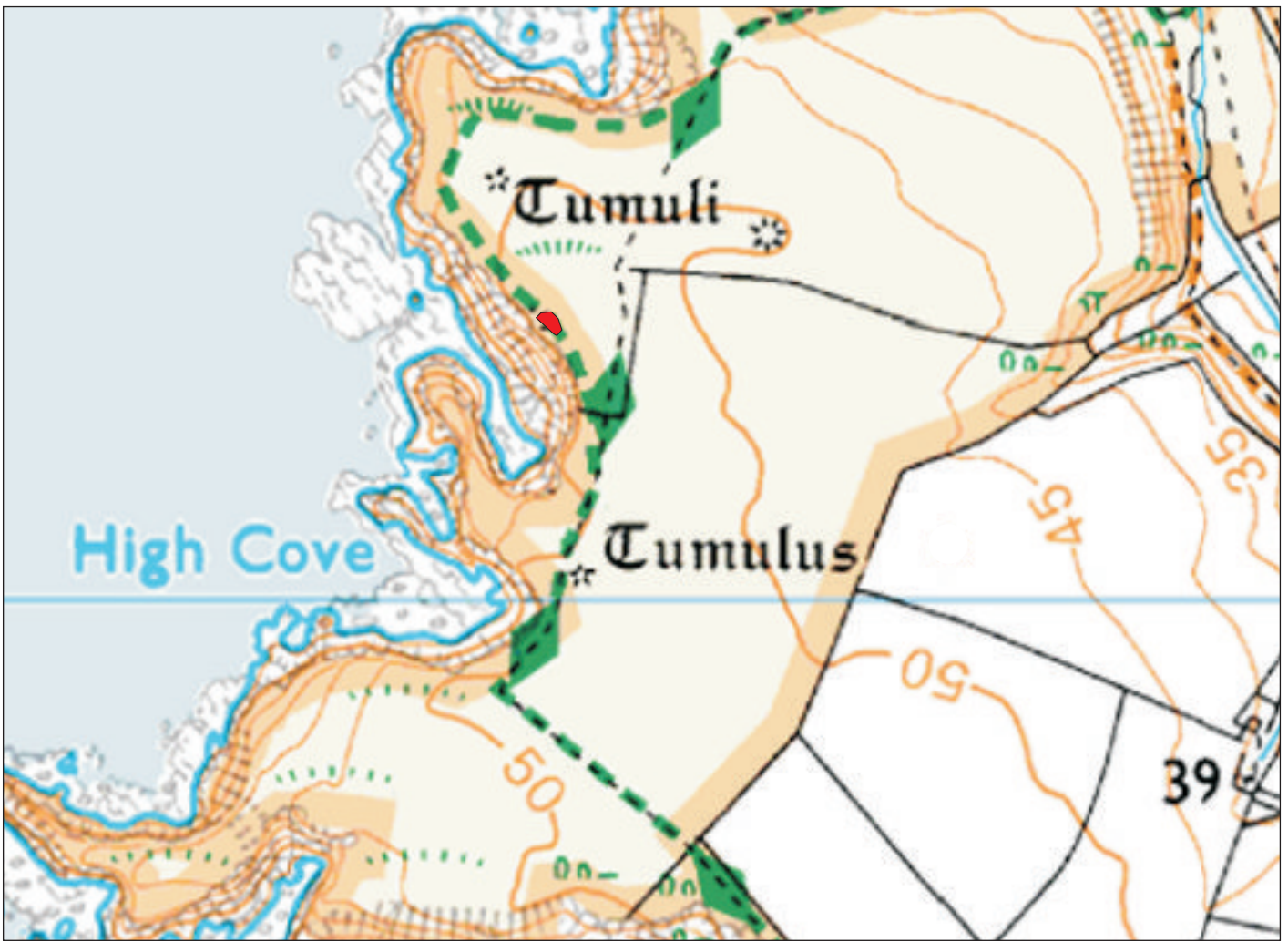
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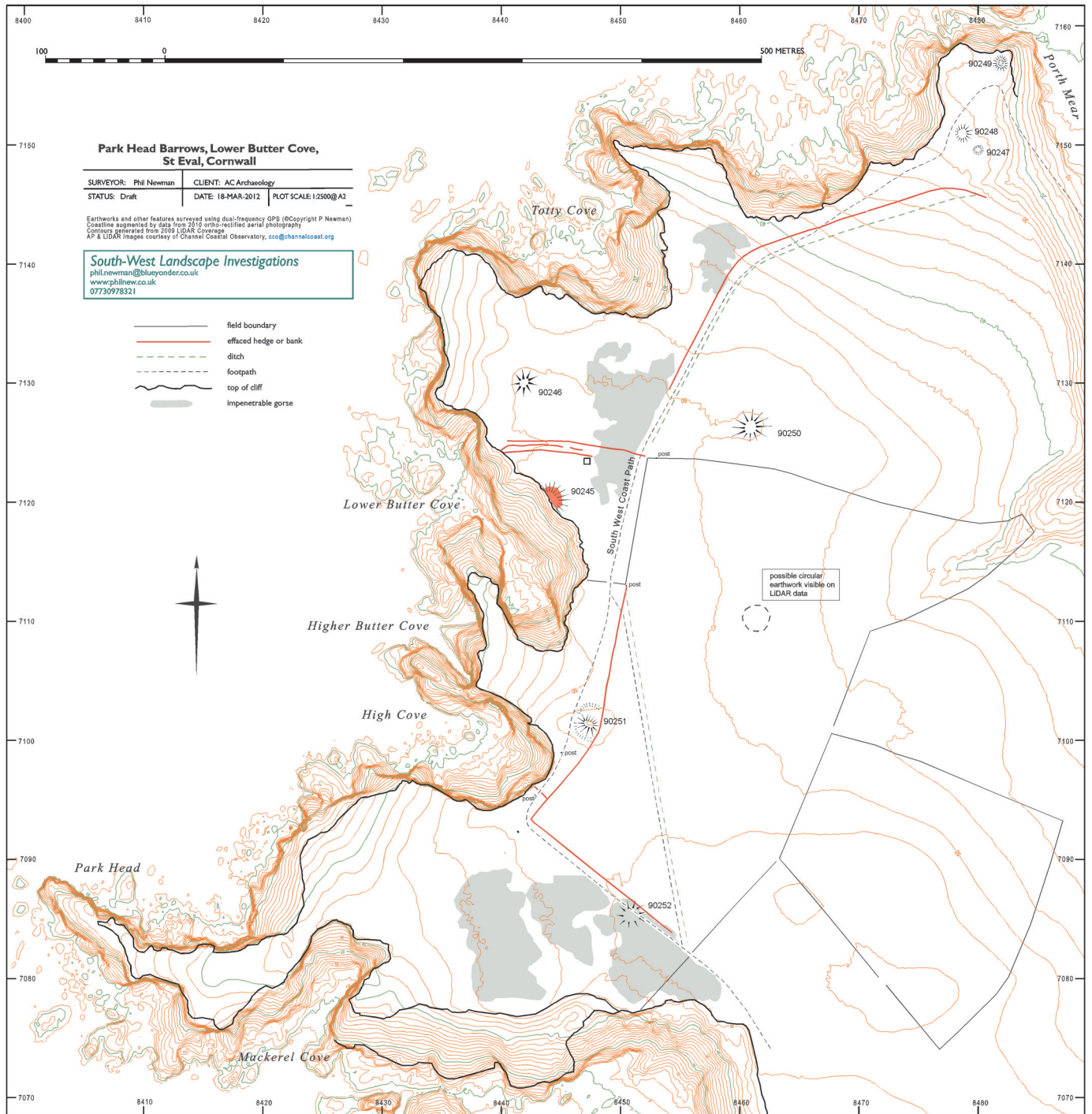
Excavation area

PROJECT
Lower Butter Cove,
St Eval, Cornwall

TITLE
Fig. 1: Location of site



AC archaeology



**Park Head Barrows, Lower Butter Cove,
St Eval, Cornwall**

SURVEYOR: Phil Newman	CLIENT: AC Archaeology
STATUS: Draft	DATE: 18-MAR-2012 PLOT SCALE: 1:2500@A2

Earthworks and other features surveyed using dual-frequency GPS (©Copyright P Newman)
 Coastline augmented by data from 2010 ortho-rectified aerial photography
 Contours generated from 2008 LIDAR coverage
 AP & LIDAR images courtesy of Channel Coastal Observatory, cco@channelcoast.org

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 07730978321

- field boundary
- effaced hedge or bank
- ditch
- footpath
- top of cliff
- impenetrable gorse

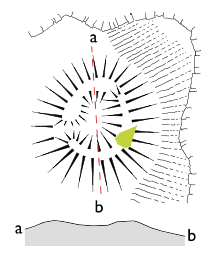
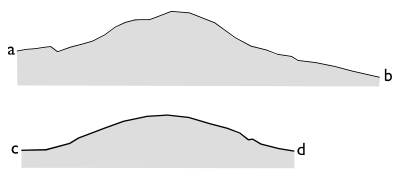
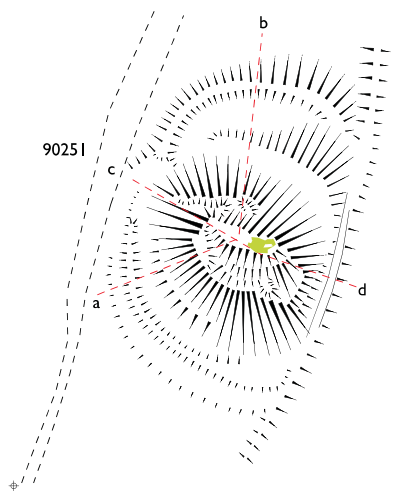
Excavation area

Test Pit

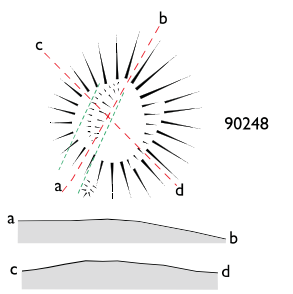
PROJECT
**Lower Butter Cove,
 St Eval, Cornwall**

TITLE
**Fig. 2: Location of barrow
 group and excavation area**

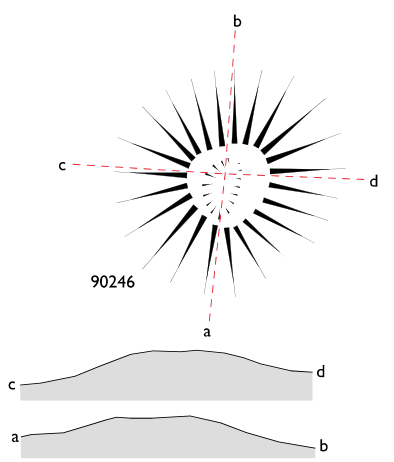
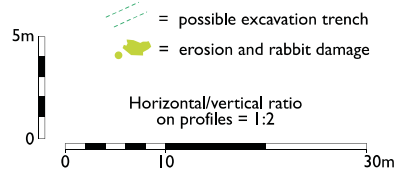




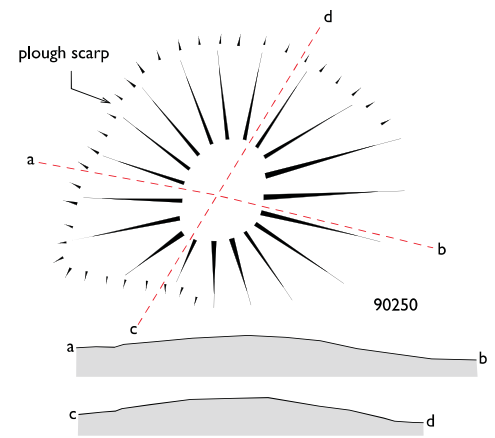
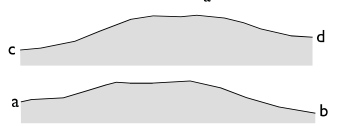
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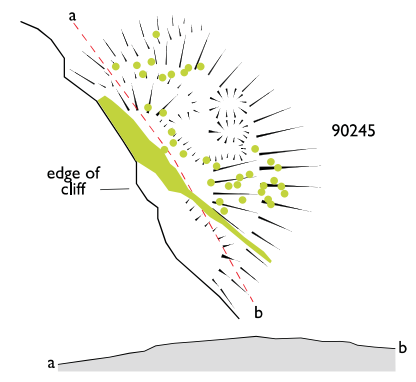
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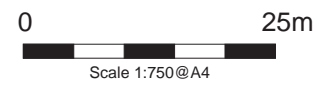
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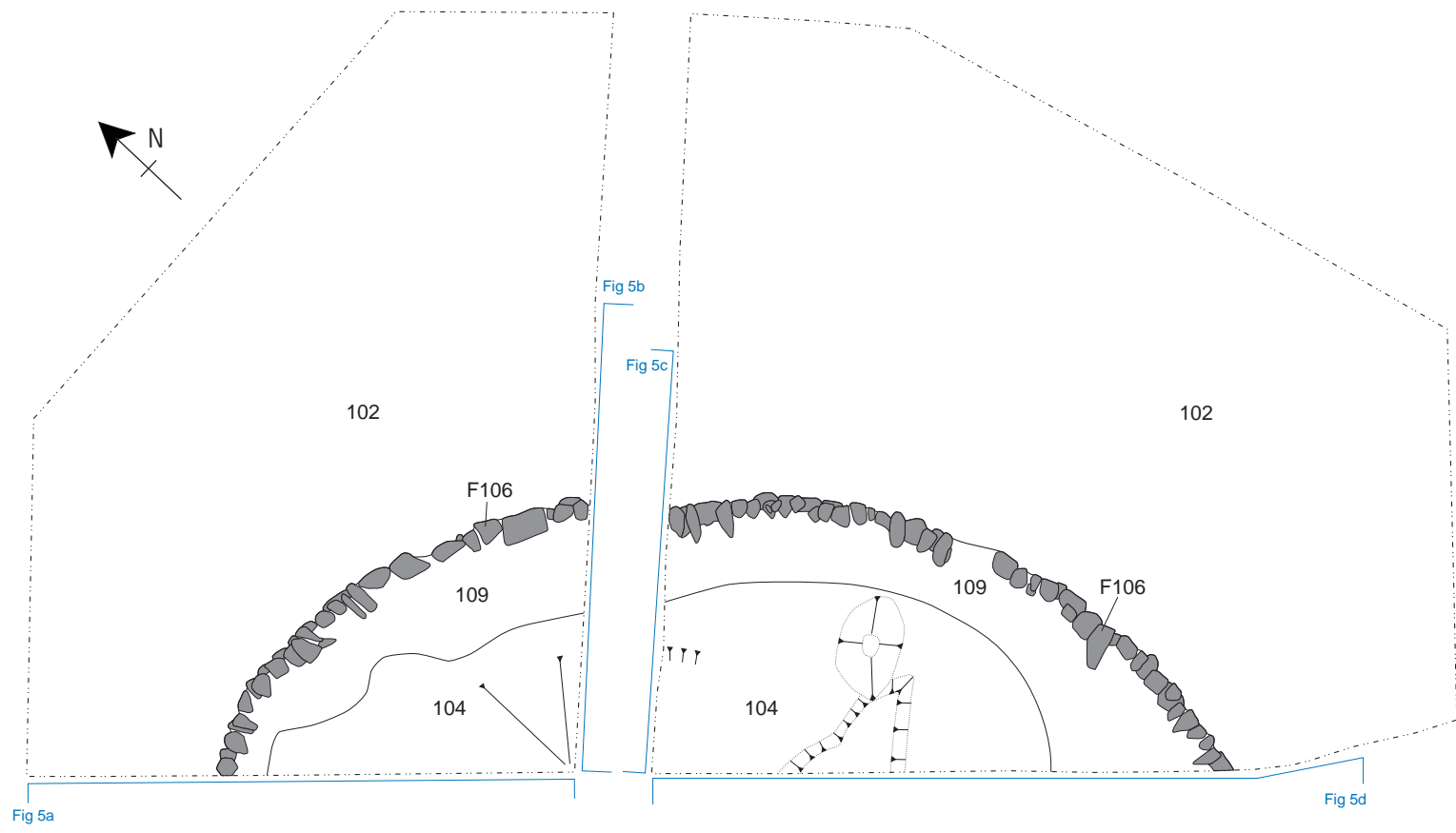
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PROJECT
Lower Butter Cove,
St Eval, Cornwall

TITLE
Fig. 3: Plans and profiles
of barrows





PROJECT
 Lower Butter Cove,
 St Eval, Cornwall

TITLE
 Fig. 4: Plan of NW and
 SE quadrants of barrow



a) Plan of test pit

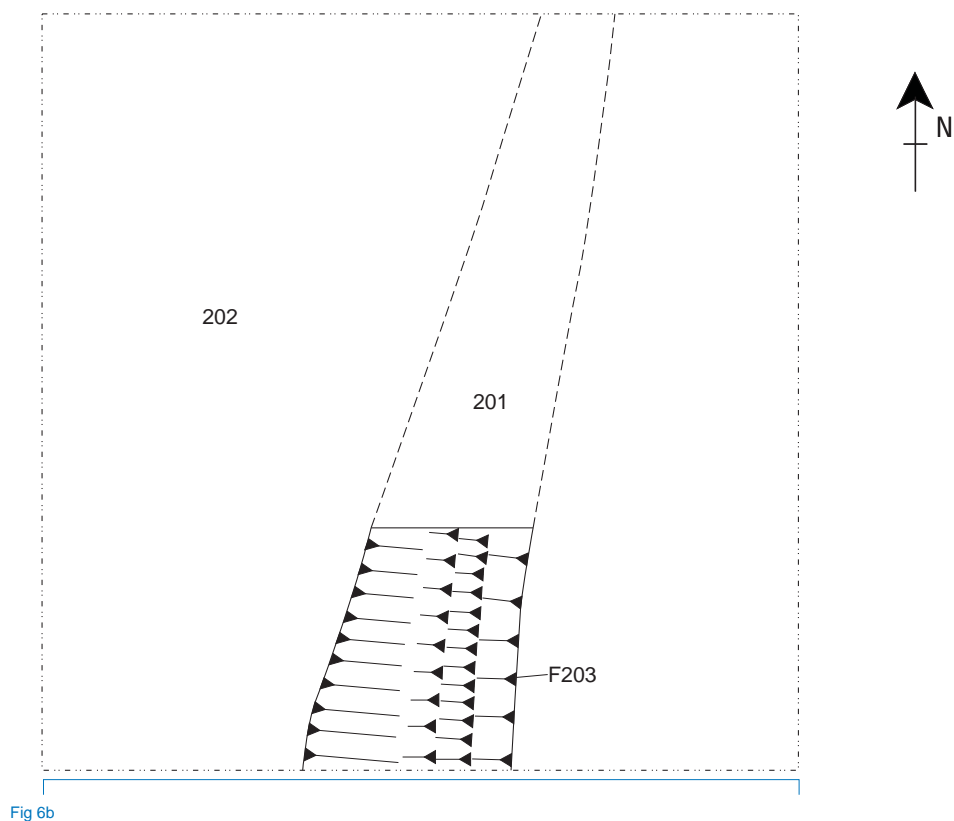
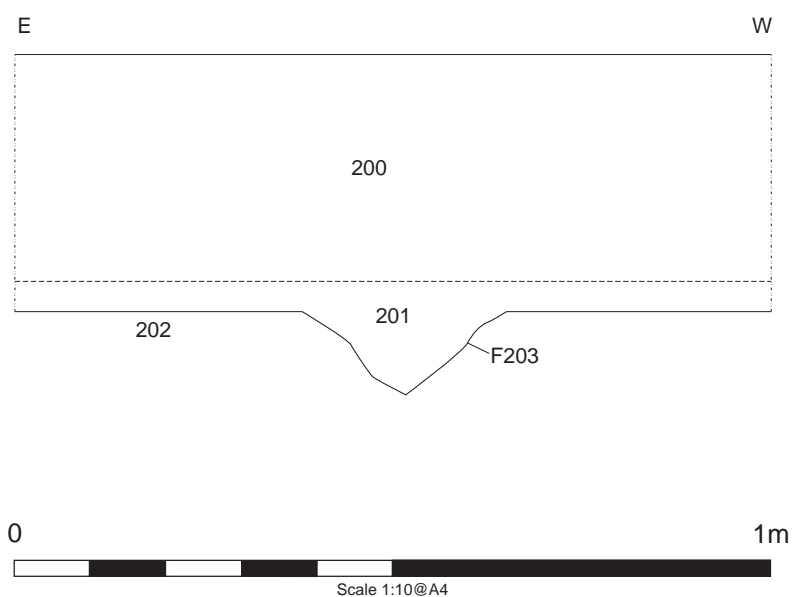


Fig 6b

b) Section of F23



PROJECT

Lower Butter Cove, St Eval, Cornwall

TITLE

Fig. 6: Plan and section of Test Pit

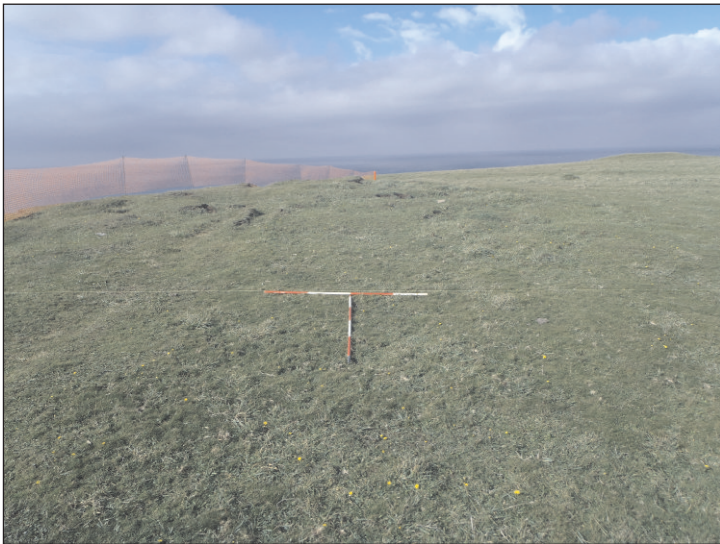


Plate 1: Pre-excavated view of barrow, view from the SE (scale 2x2m)



Plate 2: View of surrounding coastline from the NW



Plate 3: Working shot of de-turfing, view from the SE

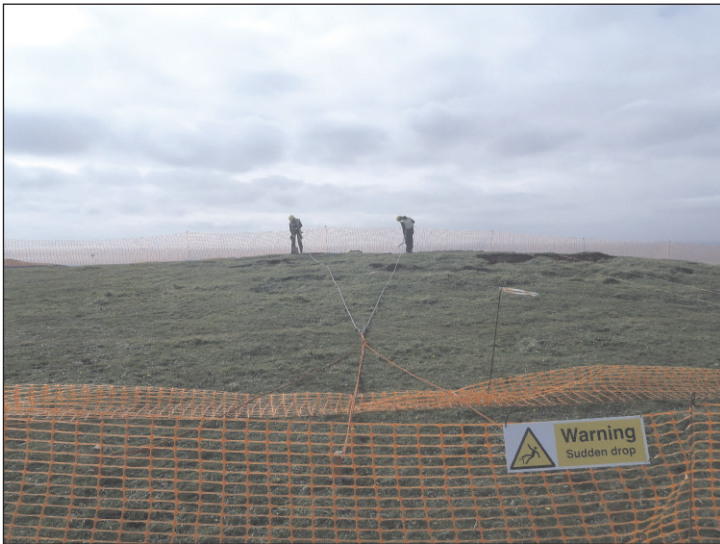


Plate 4: Working shot of de-turfing, view from the NE



Plate 5: Working shot of barrow with topsoil removed, view from the N (scale 2x2m)



Plate 6: Working shot of kerbing F106 in NW quadrant of barrow, view from the NE



Plate 7: Collapsed kerbing 105 exposed in northwest quadrant of barrow, view from the northeast (scale 2x2m)



Plate 8: Kerbing 105 removed and *in-situ* kerbing F106 exposed in NW quadrant, view from the NE (scale 2x2m)



Plate 9: *In-situ* kerbing F106 and mound material 104 exposed in NW quadrant, view from the SE (scale 2m)



Plate 10: Exposed kerb stones F106 and 105 with mound material 104 in SE quadrant of barrow, view from the NW (scale 2m)



Plate 11: Kerbing 105 removed and *in-situ* kerb stones F106 exposed with mound material 104 in SE quadrant, view from the SE (scale 2x2m)



Plate 12: NE facing section of SE quadrant, with *in-situ* kerb stones F106 in foreground, view from the southeast (scale 2m)



Plate 13: SE facing section of SE quadrant with *in-situ* kerb stones F106 in foreground, view from the SE (scale 2m)



Plate 14: Central mound material 104 removed, exposing bedrock 107 in SE quadrant, with *in-situ* kerb stones F106 in foreground, view from the SE (scale 2x2m)

Appendix 1

Summary of barrows on Park Head headland

Appendix 1: Summary of barrows on Park Head headland

NTSMR/C&SHER Ref No	Grid Ref	Description	Status
90245/ 21780.50	SW 8444 7120	Park Head Barrow. A disturbed barrow 0.60 – 1.00m high, and an approximate measurable diameter of 17m. Rabbit damage is so severe that the profile does not survive. A linear erosion hollow running N-S parallel with the cliff edge was probably formed by use as a footpath.	SM No 645
90246/ 21780.40	SW 8441 7130	An approximately circular bowl barrow of classic profile with a base diameter of 22 and 23m and maximum height of 1.3m. The top surface is roughly level, with a diameter of 6.5m and there is a slight elliptical hollow, with a maximum depth of 0.15m indicating possible evidence of antiquarian intervention.	SM No 645
90247/ 21780.30	SW 8479 7148	A shallow ring-like earthwork. The smallest barrow in the group with a diameter of 8.4m and comprising of a low earth ring 2.3m wide and up to 0.2m high. Evidence of disturbance by digging is slight, although may be obscured by gorse. Tentatively this earthwork may have origins as a small ring cairn.	-
90248/ 21780.20	SW 8478 7150	The barrow comprises a low, spread, approximately circular mound with a maximum diameter of 16.5m and a height of 1.0m. There are slight traces of a linear cutting across the upper surface which may indicate a thoroughly backfilled excavation trench.	SM No 645
90249/ 21780.10	SW 8481 7157	The barrow comprises a nearly circular mound 0.7m high and approximately 13.6m in diameter. A small excavation hollow in the top measures 6.0 x 4.0m and is approximately 0.5m deep.	SM No 645
90250/ 21780.60	SW 8461 7126	The barrow consists of a low, spread, earthwork with a maximum height of 0.6m. The base of the mound is not circular, probably the result of ploughing, and overall dimensions are 27m by 33.6m. Approximately $\frac{3}{4}$ of the circumference has a 0.18m high plough scarp.	SM No 645
90251/ 21780.70	SW 8447 7101	This barrow comprises a mound with an elliptical footprint of 22 x 18m. The mound has a maximum height of 2.3m and an elliptical top surface of 7 x 1.6m. Surrounding the mound is a slight curvi-linear earthen bank of between 1.7 to 3.3m wide and a maximum height of 0.3m but on average only 0.1m. On the eastern quarter of the barrow, overlying the base of the mound, is the clear scar from a former post-medieval hedgebank. On the upper surface of the mound, at the eastern end, a patch of erosion may mark the former site of an OS triangulation point marked on the 1881 OS map.	SM No. 645
90252/ 21780.80	SW 8454 7084	The barrow is a low earthen mound which at the time of survey was covered by impenetrable gorse. It is very approximately 23m in diameter and 0.5m high. The NE sector of the barrow is overlain by the remnants of a removed field boundary.	-

Appendix 2

Feature and context descriptions



Appendix 2: Feature and context descriptions

Context No.	Description of deposit	Type	Depth from ground level
100	Dark brown/black firm silty loam containing moderate small angular shale	Topsoil	0m – 0.10m
101	Mid – dark brown firm clayey silt with frequent small – medium angular shale	Topsoil	0m – 0.10m
102	Dark blackish grey friable silty clay with frequent sub-angular shale	Decayed natural layer	0.32m – 0.50m
103	Dark greyish brown firm clayey silt with frequent small angular shale	Slumped/eroded mound material	0.06m – 0.52m
104	Light reddish/orange firm burnt clay with moderate small angular shale	Burnt central mound material	0.10m – 0.45m
105	Quartz, shale and slate stones (0.06 x 0.06 x 0.04m – 0.60 x 0.40 x 0.30m)	Collapsed curb material	0.30m – 0.55m
F106	Quartz, shale and slate stones (0.06 x 0.06 x 0.04m – 0.60 x 0.40 x 0.30m), with a dark brown firm clayey slit matrix	Curb wall around barrow	0.35 – 0.50m
107	Mid yellowish shale, with quartz veins	Natural bedrock	0.40m+
108	Dark brown/black firm clayey silt with occasional small angular shale	Buried soil horizon	0.52m – 0.62m
109	Mid greyish brown firm clayey silt with frequent small to medium angular shale	In-filling material	0.06m – 0.45m
200	Light brown friable silt	Topsoil	0 – 0.32m
201	Light brown firm silty clay with orange flecks	Possible buried soil horizon	0.32 – 0.36m
202	Shillet	Natural bedrock	0.36m+
F203	V-shaped gully, measuring 0.24m wide by 0.11m deep, filled with 201	Plough scar	0.36m

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