

CREDITON LINK ROAD, WELLPARKS ROUNDABOUT TO LORDS MEADOW INDUSTRIAL ESTATE, CREDITON, DEVON

NGR SY 8447 9995

Results of an Archaeological Watching Brief

Prepared by
Stella De-Villiers

On behalf of:
Devon County Highways

Report No: ACD704/1/0

Date: December 2013



AC archaeology

Devon County Council Historic Environment Record

Civil Parish & District: Crediton, Devon	National Grid Reference SY 8447 9995	Number: (Leave blank for HES to fill in)
Subject: Construction of a link road between Wellparks roundabout and Lords Meadow Industrial Estate, Crediton, Devon: Results of an archaeological watching brief.		Photo attached? Y
Planning Application no: DCC/3272/2011	Recipient museum: Royal Albert Memorial Museum, Exeter	
OASIS ID: 162404	Museum Accession no: Temporary reference number: RAMM 13/40	
Contractor's reference number/code: ACD 704	Dates fieldwork undertaken: 22 – 25 July 2013	
<p>Description of works</p> <p>An archaeological watching brief was maintained during ground works associated with the construction of a link road between Wellparks roundabout and Lords Meadow Industrial Estate, Crediton, Devon. The work was carried out by AC archaeology and was commissioned by Devon County Highways.</p> <p>The route extends over a distance of around 700m and is situated on agricultural land on the north side of the A377 road and to the east of Crediton. It lies on ground which slopes down to the south, between c. 90m and 40m OD. The underlying solid geology of the area comprises Permian Breccia, with superficial alluvial sands, gravels and clays in the two floodplain areas.</p> <p>The site has been subject to a previous archaeological trench evaluation and a watching brief of geotechnical trial pits. With the exception of two modern drainage ditches and a small quantity of finds, including two pieces of prehistoric flaked stone, generally negative archaeological results were recorded.</p> <p>Groundworks were monitored in the area of higher ground towards the middle of the scheme, where there was a topographic potential for the presence of archaeological remains and where a stuck flint was previously recovered (Fig 1). The monitored section of the link road was excavated using a tracked-machine fitted with a toothless bucket.</p> <p>Results</p> <p>Natural subsoil (104), which comprised a mid brownish red sandy-clay with abundant gravels, was exposed at a depth of 0.27m below a mid reddish-brown clayey-loam ploughsoil (100). A total of two linear features (F113 and F114) and a probable pit (F107) were exposed within the monitored section of the link road route (Fig 1).</p> <p>Ditch F113 measured a maximum of 0.9m wide and was visible for a length of 29m before petering out or terminating within the line of a modern service trench to the NNW. Two segments were excavated across the feature (102 and 111) which exposed a moderately steep sloping side and flat to concave based profile that was a maximum of 0.28m deep. It contained a consistent mid reddish-brown silty-clay fill (103 and 112) that had common sub-angular gravel inclusions. No finds were recovered from feature F113.</p> <p>NNW to SSE aligned ditch F114 measured a maximum of 0.55m wide and was visible for a distance of 62m before petering out to the northwest. Two segments were excavated across the feature (105 and 109). Both segments had a similar moderately steep sloping side and a concave base profiles that were a maximum of 0.15m deep. The ditch contained a consistent mid reddish-brown silty-clay fill (106 and 110) that was undated.</p>		

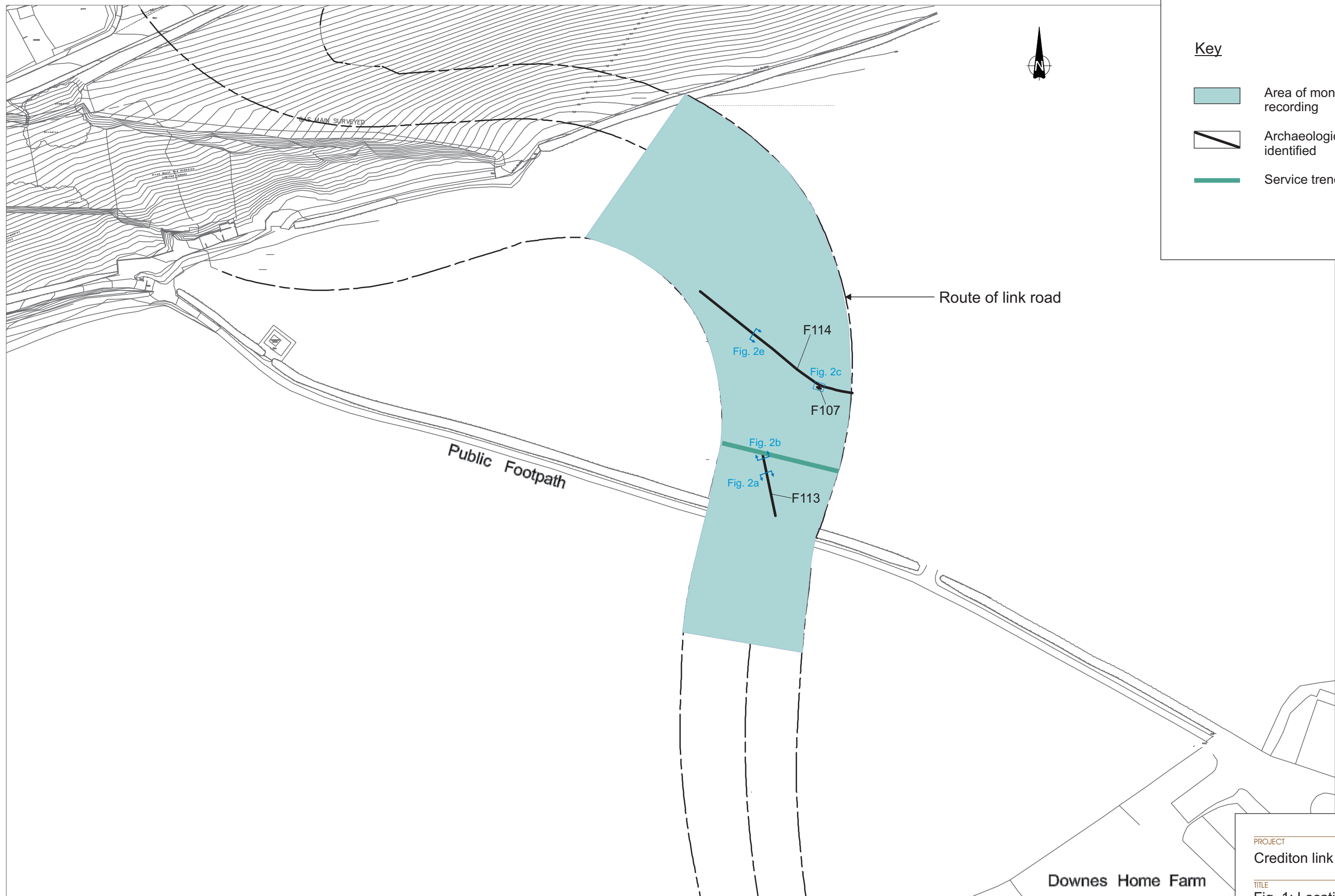
Probable oval-shaped pit F107 measured 1.9m long and 1m wide with a moderately steep sloping sides and flat-based profile that was 0.1m deep. It contained a mid reddish-brown silty clay fill (108) that was undated.

Comment




Each of the three archaeological features was plough-truncated and undated. The two ditch features may relate to former agricultural boundaries. Ditch F113 was not visible to the southwest of the field boundary flanking the public footpath and may indicated that it represents a former sub-division of the existing arrangement. The function of possible pit F107 was not established

There were no pre-modern finds recovered from the ploughsoil.

Recorder:	Date sent to HER:
Stella De-Villiers. AC Archaeology	11/12/2013




Key

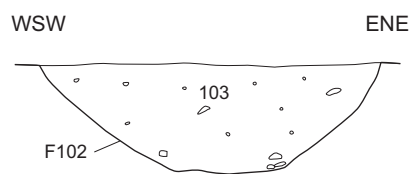
-  Area of monitoring and recording
-  Archaeological features identified
-  Service trench route

PROJECT
Crediton link road

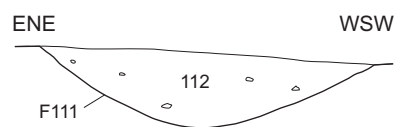
TITLE
Fig. 1: Location of monitored area and archaeological features



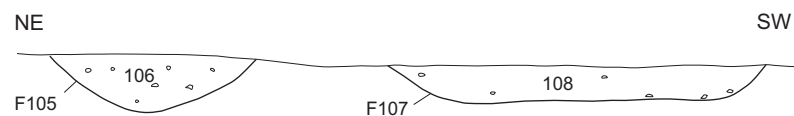
a) Section of ditch F102



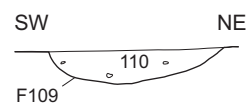
b) Section of ditch F111



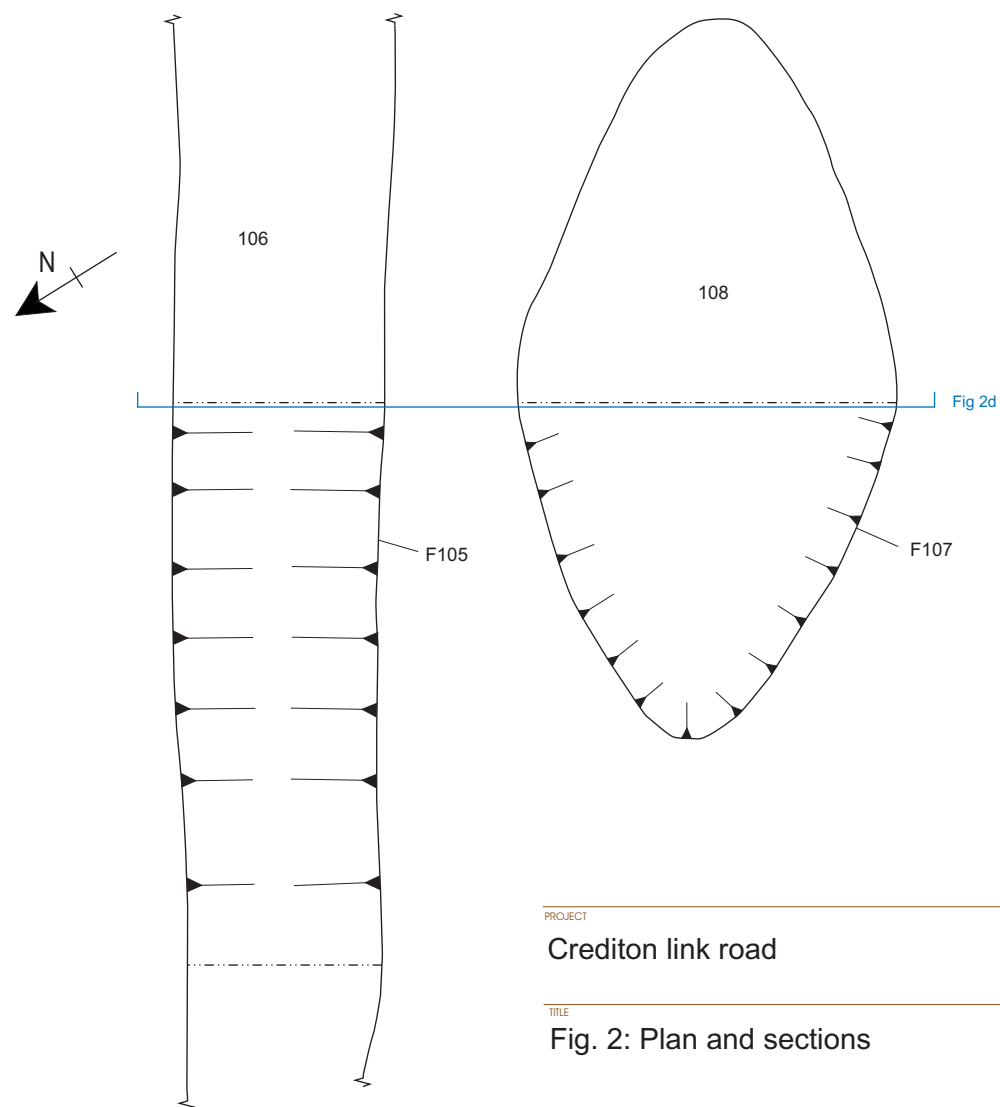
d) Section of gully F105 and pit F107



e) Section of gully F109



c) Plan of gully F105 and pit F107



PROJECT

Crediton link road

TITLE

Fig. 2: Plan and sections



Plate 1: General view of site, view to NW



Plate 2: Ditch F113, view to SSE (scale 1m)

Devon Office

AC archaeology Ltd
Unit 4, Halthaies Workshops
Bradninch
Nr Exeter
Devon
EX5 4LQ

Telephone/Fax: 01392 882410

Wiltshire Office

AC archaeology Ltd
Manor Farm Stables
Chicklade
Hindon
Nr Salisbury
Wiltshire
SP3 5SU

Telephone: 01747 820581
Fax: 01747 820440

www.acarchaeology.co.uk