# HAZARD FARM, HARBERTON, DEVON

## (NGR SX 7503 5923)

## Results of an archaeological trench evaluation

## Planning Ref. South Hams District Council 23/2485/12/F

Prepared by
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with a contribution by
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On behalf of:
TGC Renewables Ltd

Report No: ACD554/3/1

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AC archaeology

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**CONTENTS**

***Summary***

*An archaeological trench evaluation on land at Hazard Farm, Harberton, Devon (NGR SX 7503 5923) was undertaken by AC archaeology during February 2013. The site occupies approximately 12.4 hectares to the northwest of Harberton.*

*The evaluation comprised the machine-excavation of 23 trenches totalling 750m in length, with each trench 1.80m wide. Each trench was positioned to relate to one or more geophysical anomalies in an area with a high potential for archaeological features including a potential multi-phase large sub-circular enclosure measuring 180-200m and two concentric sub-rectilinear or sub-circular features. Other areas of interest included a potential occupation area in the northeast of the site and amorphous field boundaries in the south of the development area.*

*The evaluation identified that the large sub-circular enclosure was a natural outcrop of geology with complex terracing and that the foci of archaeology was a very large double ditch enclosure that contained late Iron Age ceramics. Associated pits and small gullies were also exposed. In the northwest part of the site a number of ephemeral gullies and pits were associated with changing agricultural boundaries of an unknown age and only a large pit in eastern proximity of the site suggested variations in localised landuse.*

*The results of the trial trench evaluation have allowed an assessment of the potential archaeological deposits to be prepared. The area around the double ditched enclosure is of high significance, and due to the shallow soil cover above, strip, map and sample excavation is recommended in advance of construction. The discrete areas of agricultural and possible occupation are of medium significance, and here, if construction is to impact on the buried archaeology then it is recommended that a watching brief is carried out. The remainder of the site has low potential and therefore significance.*

## 1. INTRODUCTION (Fig 1)

**1.1** An archaeological trench evaluation on land at Hazard Farm, Harberton, near Totnes, Devon (NGR SX 7503 5923) was undertaken by AC archaeology during February 2013. The work was commissioned by TGC Renewables Ltd and was required by the South Hams District Council as a condition of planning permission for the construction of a new solar farm and associated works, as advised by Devon County Council Historic Environment Team (hereafter DCHET). The location of the site is shown on Fig 1.

**1.2** The site occupies an area approximately 12.4 hectares and covers five plots of agricultural land, which occupy a moderately steep south-facing slope, to the south west of Hazard Farm. The land lies between 83-105m aOD, with an underlying solid geology comprising Middle Devonian Slates (British Geological Survey online 2011). The soils of the development area are a mixture of loams surrounded by free draining, slightly acidic soils with low fertility and containing a mixture of neutral and acidic pastures, arable cultivation alongside deciduous woodland and heath (LandIS Soilscape online 2013).

## 2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND (Fig. 2)

**2.1** A desk-based archaeological assessment (James 2012) and subsequent geophysical survey (Dean 2012) have been previously undertaken for the site. The assessment established that archaeological potential within the application area was on the basis of two field names, which could be indicative of the presence of prehistoric burial mounds or reference to the early medieval settlement of Hazard. A regionally significant Neolithic settlement site, with an associated flint assemblage and other finds, has been found immediately to the east at Hazard Hill; a second Neolithic flint assemblage has also been recovered from land to the south at Furze Down. Evidence for Mesolithic activity and later Bronze Age activity has also been identified at Hazard Hill, suggesting that the area was a significant location throughout much of the prehistoric period. It was concluded that the application area lies on land that is very similar in topographic terms and it is therefore quite possible that similar such assemblages may be present within the site.

**2.2** A subsequent geophysical survey (see base data on Fig. 2) identified a series of sub-surface anomalies across the site, including a possible multi-phase large sub-circular enclosure, measuring some 180m by 200m in extent, across the northern part of the application area. Within this enclosure are two concentric sub-rectangular or sub-circular archaeological features. Other anomalies identified appear to relate to early land division and potential settlement and industry.

## 3. AIM OF THE WORK

**3.1** The aim of the trial trench evaluation was to establish the presence or absence, extent, depth, character and date of any archaeological features, deposits or finds within the site, with particular reference to the anomalies identified during the geophysical survey. The results of the work will be reviewed and used to inform any subsequent mitigation as a condition of planning permission, if granted.

## 4. METHODOLOGY (Fig. 2)

**4.1** The archaeological evaluation was undertaken in accordance with the Institute for Archaeologists 2009 document *Standards and Guidance for Field Evaluation*, with reference a brief prepared by the DCHET (Tait 2013) and with a *Written Scheme of Investigation* prepared by AC archaeology (Valentin 2013), submitted to and approved by the DCHET prior to commencement on site.

**4.2** The evaluation initially comprised the machine excavation of 23 trenches totalling 750m in length, with each trench 1.8m wide (Fig. 2). The trenches were located in areas where ground disturbance was proposed, but also targeting the principal anomalies identified during the geophysical survey. In several cases it was necessary to extend trenches and locally widen trenches for further clarification of complex areas of archaeological activity.

**4.3** All trenches were located to known National Grid co-ordinates using a Topcon GMS-2 hand-held GPS to 100mm accuracy. The removal of soil overburden was undertaken under the control and direction of the site archaeologist. Non-archaeological overburden (topsoil and subsoil) was removed by a mechanical excavator in spits no greater than 100mm in depth, using a toothless bucket and stored alongside the trench at least 1m away. Stripping by mechanical excavator ceased at a level at which archaeological deposits or natural geology was exposed.

**4.4** Following the removal of the overburden the trench bases were cleaned by hand, where necessary, and any subsoil deposits and features identified, investigated and recorded. Spoil heaps were also reviewed for displaced artefacts which were recovered.

**4.5** All trenches were recorded in accordance with the AC archaeology *pro forma* recording system, comprising written, graphic and photographic records, and with reference to AC archaeology's *General Site Recording Manual, Version 2*.

## 5. RESULTS (Fig. 2; Plates 1 to 9)

### 5.1 Introduction

In total eight of the 23 trenches were absent of any archaeological features including one in field two (trench 3), two in field three (trenches 14 and 15) and five in field five (trenches 16, 18, 19, 20 and 21). The remaining 15 trenches contained a mixture of ditches, pits and postholes conforming to the geophysical anomalies and features. The following results are discussed by field and on a trench by trench basis.

### 5.2 Field 1

Field 1 was located at the north end of the development area and contained two trenches (22 and 23). No geophysical survey had previously been undertaken. In each trench several small archaeological features were found. Trench 22 was excavated to a depth of 500mm down to solid shillet and mudstone. Two small ditch features, measuring in excess of 2m and 800mm wide with sharp yet irregular edges and bottoms, cut directly into the natural. The ditches were filled with a light reddish-brown coloured silty clay loam with no archaeological artefacts and most likely derived from the overlying colluvial subsoil. In trench 23 a similar 1m wide ditch feature was also encountered on a similar northeast to southwest alignment with very similar morphological characteristics. The fill of this feature consisted of a dark brown to reddish brown silty clay loam with shale and schist fragments but no dating evidence and once again probably derives from the colluvial overburden. Adjacent to this ditch was a small amorphous feature with a light yellow to orange fill which might be associated with vegetation growth in the vicinity of the boundary feature.

### 5.3 Field 1 (Plates 1 to 5)

Field 2 was located in the west side of the development area and contained six trenches (3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8; see Plate 1). The trenches were positioned to investigate a number of geophysical anomalies including a potential multi-phase large sub-circular enclosure measuring 180-200m and two concentric sub-rectilinear or sub-circular archaeological features. In both trenches 5 and 6 small, heavily truncated, irregular hollows filled with dark reddish, brown silty clay was found which most likely derives from the colluvial subsoil that overlies the trenches. No archaeological artefacts were found in any of the features excavated and neither was there any evidence of other subtle archaeological features associated with occupation or activity within the potential enclosure. The lack of archaeological features or deposits in trench 3 also reiterates this pattern. The character of the large sub-circular feature was determined in trench 4 that was orientated northwest to southeast across a very distinctive break in slope. The trench was excavated down to the natural geology and contained two clear terrace cuts typically following the contours of the hill (Plate 2). These terraces had a sharp northeast or inner edge, with sharp, distinct edges and breaks of slope and more gentle south western edges, which tapered away and left a relatively flat base. These terraces were filled with a mixture of degraded natural alongside deeper deposits of a brown to grey yellowish-brown silty clay loam which derives from the movement of soils downslope and intensified by extensive ploughing on the uppermost plateau. In the colluvial fill of the

upper terrace (415) a single fragment of later Iron Age pottery was found that may indicate that the terracing was in place at or before this period, but since a fragment of clay pipe was also found at the top of the horizon it is also possible that the pottery may have been transported downslope by plough action or indeed imported during the construction or destruction of the later hedge bank depicted on mid-19th and early 20th century mapping.

In the northeast end of field 2, two trenches (7 and 8) were positioned to analyse two concentric geophysical anomalies. Both features were identified in the trenches but it was clear that the inner feature was exceptionally large and therefore trench 7 was enlarged in order to provide a clearer picture of its extent. The trenches were excavated down to a mixture of hard and degraded shillet but unlike other trenches in the field there was very little subsoil present and most were only excavated to a depth of 200-270mm. The outer concentric feature F723 was a very distinctive boundary ditch measuring 1.77m wide by 1.04m deep (Plate 3). The edges were very distinctive with a clear symmetrical 'v' shaped profile and steep 60-70$^0$ edges. The ditch contained 13 fills including redeposited natural, fine-grained fills and slumped bank material. Most of the fills contained no archaeological artefacts, however context 715, a mid orange-brown sandy clay, contained two sherds of late Iron Age pottery suggesting infilling by this period. Indeed the morphology of the ditch also indicates that the feature is likely to date to the middle or late Iron Age.

Investigation of the inner concentric feature F724 showed that this was an even larger ditch measuring 5.40m wide by 2.80m deep, with an ovoid shape in plan, a distinctive 'v' shape profile and very sharp edges and breaks of slope (Plate 4). The feature contained a large number of fills possibly originating from the outer edge but no upstanding remains of a bank remained. The 14 fills included degraded natural slumps and redeposited bank material but also dark brown organic silty clay loams with abundant charcoal alongside a remnant colluvial deposit (725) which contained the only ceramic evidence; two fragments of later Iron Age pottery.

The archaeological activity in field 2 appeared, therefore, to be concentrated in the northeast of the field and a number of other features were found which were not identified during the geophysical survey. In trench 7, a smaller curvilinear ditch, measuring 1.15m wide by 420mm deep, was located close to the outer ditch feature, alongside several small pits and a small post hole. These features might be contemporaneous with the double ditch enclosure but might also relate to vegetation hollows and no dating evidence was present. Trench 8 also contained two small sub rounded pits measuring 660mm and 1.46m in diameter, filled with light yellowish-brown silty clays but with no dating evidence. A more distinctive pit F809 was located at the northeast edge of trench 8 next to the outer edge of the large inner ditch feature (Plate 5). This sub-ovoid shaped feature with a rounded base contained evidence of *in situ* burning including dark red coloured burnt clay and dark brown to black silty clay with numerous charcoal. The location of this pit between the two large curvilinear ditches suggests that it is contemporary with these features.

**5.4** **Field 3** (Plate 6)

Field 3 was located to the east and southeast of field 2 in an area of extremely wet and boggy land. In total, four trenches were excavated two across the eastern edge of the large sub-circular enclosure (1 and 2) and two across several large amorphous anomalies possibly later field boundaries (14 and 15). Trenches 1 and 2 were excavated to the natural geology and this was encountered from 450mm to 700mm from the surface, and as seen in trench 4, field 2 clearly showed that the geophysical anomalies were a result of deepened colluvial soils which had collected within terraced areas of the natural (Plate 6). Within the enclosure in trench 1 there was a

small gully feature measuring 350mm by 100mm which was cut into the shillet but this is likely to be part of the extensive drainage system which crosses the whole area and was also identified in trenches 2, 14 and 15. Indeed, water management and ground stabilisation appears to have occurred frequently in the area as in the northeast of trench 1 an area of stone cobbling was found within mottled light blue to grey coloured silty clays.

In the south end of field 3, in trenches 14 and 15 gleyed soils were commonplace as a result of a changeable water table and colluvial deposition. In both of these trenches no archaeological features were encountered and the geophysical anomalies were marked by large hollows filled with colluvium and gleyed clays, which were possibly part of ancient hedgebanks or field boundaries, or even natural hollows.

**5.5** **Field 4** (Plates 7 and 8)

Field 4 was located northeast of field three on the rising ground towards Hazard Hill. In total five trenches were excavated (9, 10, 11, 12 and 13) across a number of geophysical anomalies. Trenches 9 to 12 were focused upon a concentration of potential boundary or occupation features. In each the depth of overburden ranged from 350mm to 600mm and included topsoil, colluvium and degraded natural. Trenches 11 and 12 appeared to be on the hinterland of the focus of archaeology as they only contained a single boundary ditch feature ranging from 510 – 760mm wide and filled with a light grey to brown silty clay loam with few inclusions and no artefacts. In the north of field 4 however there were a higher concentration of geophysical anomalies which were investigated in Trenches 9 and 10. Trench 10 contained five distinctive northwest to southeast orientated small ditch features, including F008 (Plate 7). These had clear symmetrical profiles with sharp edges and rounded bases and were cut into the natural. These boundary features contained dark reddish, orange-brown coloured silty clay fills deriving from the overlying colluvium with very little organic inclusions and no dating material. Alongside the boundary features, ten smaller ephemeral features were also found and investigated but these proved to be a mixture of irregular degraded vegetation hollows and spreads of colluvium and unlikely to be concentrations of archaeological features associated with occupation. All of these discrete features also contained mottled red to dark orange coloured silty clay fills of similar origin to the ditches and therefore most likely derive from a colluvial source. No dating was found in any of the features from trenches 9 or 10 and the features are mostly likely associated with the creation and maintenance of land divisions in an agricultural landscape.

Trench 13 was positioned to investigate a large geophysical anomaly which could have potentially been several large interlinked pits. However, the physical characteristics of feature F1319 (Plate 8) show that it is most likely a natural hollow in the geology which has been exploited by vegetation and the fills heavily affected by post burial soil processes. The identification and investigation of the natural feature in trench 13 are likely to explain the geophysical anomalies which continue into the lower part of field 3 and were not identified in trenches 14 and 15 because of more extreme colluvial and groundwater post burial soil processes.

**5.6** **Field 5** (Plate 9)

Field 5 was located in the very southeast corner of the application area in an area not included in the geophysical survey. Six trenches were excavated with all but one (trench 17) containing no archaeological features or artefacts. In contrast to the empty trenches, trench 17 was located upon a central plateau – the others were on very steep slopes – and contained several small boundary ditches and a pit. The boundary ditches typically measured *c*. 900mm wide and were between 150-200mm

deep. Much like the features found in field four, these contained dark grey to brown silty clay loam fills, which derived from the overlying colluvial subsoil. No artefacts were recovered from these features but F1707 cut through a pit F1709 (Plate 9) implying some chronological depth. The earlier circular-shaped pit had a symmetrical profile, rounded base and contained evidence of in situ burning and numerous charcoal fragments in three distinct fills.

## 6. THE FINDS, by Naomi Payne

**6.1** All recovered finds 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.

**6.2** The 23 evaluation trenches produced a small assemblage of prehistoric pottery, surface and subsoil finds of medieval and post-medieval pottery, several worked flints and a hammerstone, iron smelting slag, a small quantity of fired clay, a piece of modern bottle glass and a clay pipe fragment. The finds are summarised in Table 1 below.

| Context | Context Description | Prehistoric pottery | | Medieval pottery | | Post-medieval pottery | | Worked flint/stone | | Clay pipe | | Slag | | Fired clay | | Glass | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | No | Wt | No | Wt | No | Wt | No | Wt | No | Wt | No | Wt | No | Wt | No | Wt |
| U/S Fld 4 | Unstratified field 4 | | | 2 | 19 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 20 | | | | | | | | |
| U/S Fld 5 | Unstratified field 5 | | | 4 | 8 | 7 | 71 | 4 | 152 | | | | | | | 1 | 21 |
| 201 | Trench 2 subsoil | | | | | 1 | 57 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 401 | Trench 4 subsoil | | | | | 1 | 10 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 415 | Slumped deposit within terrace cut [416] | 1 | 12 | | | | | | | 1 | 4 | | | | | | |
| 715 | Fill of ditch [723] below (712) | 7 | 24 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 716 | Fill of ditch [723] below (715) | 1 | 22 | | | | | 1 | 3 | | | | | | | | |
| 725 | Uppermost fill of ditch [724] | 2 | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 727 | Fill of ditch [724] below (726) | | | | | | | | | | | 2 | 807 | | | | |
| 1712 | Main fill of pit [1709] | | | | | | | 1 | 1 | | | | | 4 | 1.3 | | |
| **Totals** | | **11** | **59** | **6** | **27** | **10** | **140** | **8** | **176** | **1** | **4** | **2** | **807** | **4** | **1.3** | **1** | **21** |

Table 1: Summary of finds by context (weights in grams)

### 6.3 Prehistoric pottery

A total of 11 sherds (59g) of late prehistoric pottery was recovered from four contexts within two trenches. With the exception of the sherd from Trench 4 (which was residual), the remaining pottery was from three contexts within two ditches in Trench 7. All of the pieces are body sherds, with the exception of one possible base sherd.

The pottery is later Iron Age in date. There are two main fabric groups. The sherd from 716 and all but one of the sherds from 715 contain common well-sorted black mica, sparse less well-sorted grey stone inclusions (up to 3mm) and occasional voids. The sherds are mostly reduced (light grey to dark grey) with some patchy oxidation. The other sherd from 715, which is possibly a base sherd, and the sherd from 415 are both in granite-derived fabrics with abundant well-sorted inclusions. The two sherds from 725 are too small to be especially diagnostic but both could also be late Iron Age in date.

### 6.4 Medieval pottery

A total of seven sherds (29g) of medieval pottery were surface finds in Fields 4 and 5. These are all body sherds in the local Totnes-type ware fabric.

### 6.5 Post-medieval pottery

A total of 10 sherds (140g) of post-medieval and modern pottery was recovered as surface finds in Fields 4 and 5, and from the subsoil in Trenches 2 and 4. The sherds include Totnes, Barnstaple and South Somerset products, as well as industrially-made stoneware, transfer-print and Jackfield-type ware.

### 6.6 Worked flint/stone

A total of seven pieces of worked flint and a quartz hammerstone (total weight 176g) were recovered as surface finds in Fields 4 and 5, and from two contexts in Trenches 7 and 17. All of the worked flints are waste flakes, with no signs of additional working. They are most likely to date from the Neolithic or Early Bronze Age.

### 6.7 Slag

A total of 2 pieces (807g) of iron smelting slag were recovered from context 727, a fill of ditch F724. This may well be of Iron Age date as Iron Age pottery was recovered from other fills in the same ditch. The slag appears to be furnace slag and has charcoal or wood impressions on one side. The size of the larger piece (almost 800g) suggests that the smelting activity was taking place fairly close by in the vicinity.

### 6.8 Fired clay

A total of four small pieces of fired clay (1.3g) were recovered from the fill of a pit, 1712, in Trench 17. It is possible that these are in fact pottery, but they do not retain any of their original surfaces and are too small to be usefully diagnostic.

### 6.9 Glass

A single fragment (21g) of an industrially-produced codd-neck bottle was found on the surface in Field 5. This is late 19th or early 20th century in date.

### 6.10 Clay pipe

A clay pipe stem fragment (4g) was recovered from (415), a slumped deposit within terrace cut [416]. It cannot be closely dated.

## 7. ENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLING AND RADIOCARBON DATING

**7.1** In total 10 features were sampled (Table 2) and these were taken from a range of features including three pits F1709, F809 and F1321, the large internal ditch in field 2 F724 and several smaller charcoal-rich vegetation features, a gully and a post hole. Of these sampled features, three were selected to have radiocarbon dating conducted as the quantity and quality of carbonised material was decent enough to determine a more detailed date for the archaeological activity occurring on the site. The samples will be assessed by Dr Mike Allen prior to radiocarbon dating.

| Sample No | Trench No | Context No | Sample Description | Radiocarbon date required |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 17 | (1712) | Fill of pit F1709 | Yes |
| 2 | 17 | (1708) | Fill of small gully F1707 | |
| 3 | 23 | (2307) | Fill of charcoal rich vegetation feature F2306 | |
| 4 | 8 | (804) | Charcoal fill of pit F809 | Yes |
| 5 | 8 | (805) | Burnt clay fill of pit F809 | Yes |

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 6 | 8 | (810) | Fill of charcoal rich vegetation feature F813 | |
| 7 | 13 | (1320) | Charcoal fill of pit F1321 | |
| 8 | 7 | (728) | Charcoal and organic fill of ditch F724 | Yes |
| 9 | 5 | (505) | Charcoal fill of F507 | |
| 10 | 8 | (804-805) | Fills of pit F809 | Yes |

Table 2: Environmental and radiocarbon samples

## 8. DISCUSSION

**8.1** The trench evaluation has established that in general the anomalies identified during the geophysical survey can be identified as features, although these are both archaeological and of natural origin. Only a few small archaeological features were exposed that had not been identified during the geophysical survey.

**8.2** The evaluation has recorded the presence of a range of archaeological remains including the periphery of a possible occupation area in trenches 7 and 8 in the northeast side of field 2. The exceptionally large double ditched boundary features and associated pits and gullies form part of an occupation area, the majority of which occurs outside the development area in the small field to the northeast. This area is situated to the northeast of the large 180-200m wide outer 'enclosure' which comprises the adaption of a terraced natural outcrop of geology rather than a massive purposely constructed defensive circuit and probably demarcates an area of agricultural infields from the wider farming landscape. Indeed the quality of the plateau for the development of occupation within it may have been a reason for choosing the site in the first place and if occupation features had been present there is a great chance that they have been lost due to extensive ploughing and the removal of subsoil from the top of the site and into the surrounding lowland areas. This can clearly be seen in the filling of the terrace areas in trenches 4 and 2 (Plates 2 and 6).

**8.3** Concentrations of more ephemeral archaeology associated with an agricultural landscape are present in other trenches in the development area especially trenches 22, 23, 12 and 11, and there is a further increase in concentration in trenches 9 and 10 alongside some possible degraded occupational features but convincing evidence is lacking and here these features are most likely connected to vegetation activity around an ever developing agricultural landscape. However, hints at rural occupation within these field boundaries is illustrated within trench 17, where the large pit feature with distinctive *in situ* burning has a direct physical relationship with a small boundary feature suggesting prolonged activity on the site.

## 9. ASSESSMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE, LEVEL OF IMPACT AND MITIGATION (Fig. 3)

**9.1** Based upon the results of the trench evaluation, and with reference to the geophysical survey, the archaeological features have been classified, and their significance assessed. The results are set out in Table 3, and illustrated in Fig. 3.

| Significance | Location | Area (m) | Archaeological Features | Soil Depth | Notes |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **High** | Field 2 | 45 x 130m | Double ditched enclosure and associated pits and ditches | <150mm | Most of occupation area outside development area |
| **Medium** | Field 1 | 45 x 90m | Agricultural features | 400- | No geophysics in |

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | + access road | | 600mm | field 1 |
| | Field 4 | 120 x 100m | Concentration of agricultural features | 400-600mm | |
| | Field 5 | 70 x 60m | Agricultural and occupational features | 400-600mm | No geophysical in field 5 so current area extrapolated solely from trench 17 |
| **Low** | Fields 2-5 | N/A | None or very ephemeral probable agricultural features | Varies between fields | |

Table 3: Grading of significance of archaeological features

### 9.2 High significance

The northeastern area around field 2 is classified as of high archaeological significance due to the presence of the exceptionally large double ditched enclosure, and associated features. Despite determining the extent of the features within the development area only a very small quantity of ceramic dating was gathered from the fills and in other areas of the features, more discrete artefacts and environmental deposits may be present which can determine their date, form and function more concisely. There may also be more discrete features present which are associated with the enclosure which the geophysics and trial trench evaluation has not picked up

The extremely shallow soils present in the area mean that there would be an impact from both the construction of the access route following the hedgebank, as well as the construction of the pv modules. It is therefore recommended that this high significance area requires a strip, map and record excavation across the extent of the double ditch enclosure measuring 45 x 130m area to investigate a larger area.

### 9.3 Medium significance

Three areas of medium significance have also been determined. The first of these is the northeastern area of field 4 in an area 120 x 100m which encompasses trenches 9 and 10 and other geophysical anomalies. It should be noted that development is currently not proposed within the northwest half of this area. The second area is located in the central area of field 5 around trench 17. Both these areas have important yet ephemeral archaeological features associated with agricultural activity and possibly occupation that would require mapping and excavation should the development extend further into the deeper soils present in these areas.

In these areas the archaeology would be clearly protected if ground fixing mounts were utilised for the pv modules. These areas should therefore be monitored by way of a watching brief.

The third area is field 1 where several small boundary ditches were found. This area will form the compound and access track to the site, and the deeper soils here may well protect the archaeology. If excavation deeper than 400-600mm is required then groundworks should be monitored by way of a watching brief.

### 9.4 Low significance

The remainder of the site has been characterised as being of low significance. This is on the basis of containing either no archaeological deposits or features, or having archaeological deposits with limited potential to enhance understanding of the landscape. No mitigation is recommended.

## 10. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

**10.1** The evaluation was commissioned by TGC Renewables Ltd, and managed for them by peter McLaren and for AC archaeology by John Valentin. The evaluation was carried out by Dr Ben Pears with assistance from Will Smith, Elisabeth Patkai, Amy Cosgrove and Jon Hall. The report was prepared by Dr Ben Pears with the plates and illustrations prepared by Elisabeth Patkai. The finds were analysed by Dr Naomi Payne and an assessment of the prehistoric pottery was prepared by Henrietta Quinnell.

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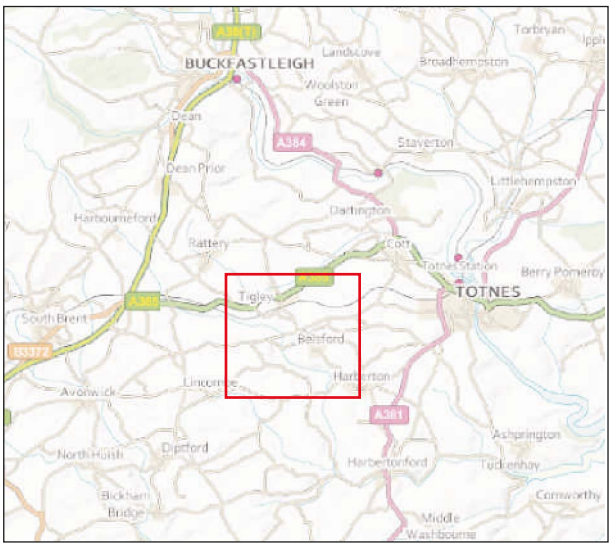
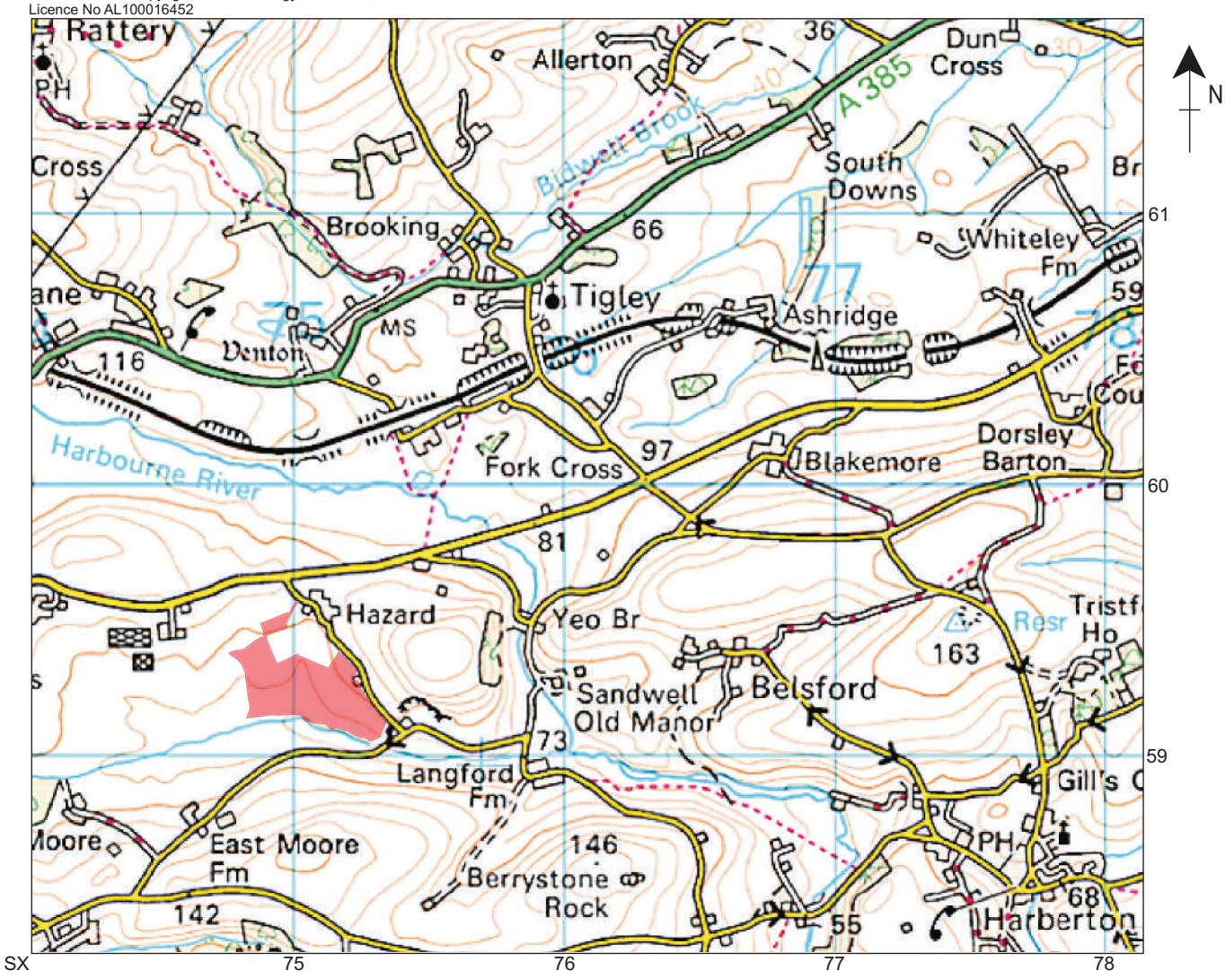





0 1km

Scale 1:25,000@A4

Application area

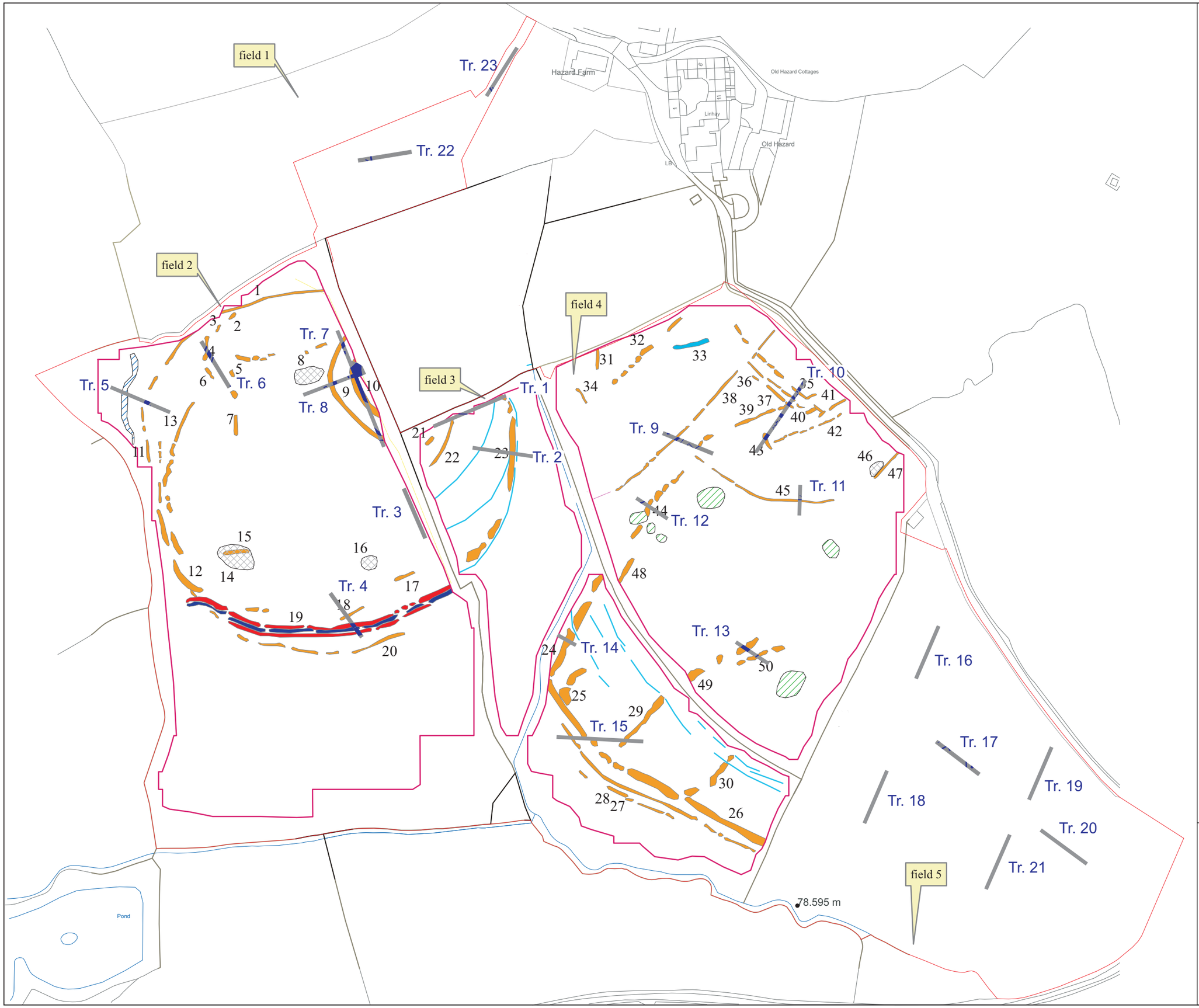
PROJECT

Hazard Farm, Harberton, Devon

TITLE

Fig. 1: Location of site

AC archaeology




**Legend**

- gradiometer survey area

**gradiometer potential archaeology**

- likely archaeology, positive anomaly (4)
- likely archaeology, negative anomaly (4)
- possible archaeology, positive anomaly
- possible archaeology, negative anomaly
- possible archaeology, mixed anomalies

**gradiometer services and modern**

- possible services, fiedl drains
- possible services, field drains

**gradiometer potential natural**

- likely natural, stream
- possible natural, spring

Archaeological trenches

Archaeological features

N

0 100m

Scale 1:2000@A3

PROJECT

Hazard Farm, Harberton, Devon

TITLE

Fig. 2: Archaeological features in relation to the geophysical anomalies

AC archaeology

field 1
field 2
field 3
field 4
field 5
Tr. 1
Tr. 2
Tr. 3
Tr. 4
Tr. 5
Tr. 6
Tr. 7
Tr. 8
Tr. 9
Tr. 10
Tr. 11
Tr. 12
Tr. 13
Tr. 14
Tr. 15
Tr. 16
Tr. 17
Tr. 18
Tr. 19
Tr. 20
Tr. 21
Tr. 22
Tr. 23
Hazard Farm
Old Hazard Cottages
Linhay
Old Hazard
LB
Pond
78.595 m

**Legend**

- gradiometer survey area

**gradiometer potential archaeology**

- likely archaeology, positive anomaly (4)
- likely archaeology, negative anomaly (4)
- possible archaeology, positive anomaly
- possible archaeology, negative anomaly
- possible archaeology, mixed anomalies

**gradiometer services and modern**

- possible services, fiedl drains
- possible services, field drains

**gradiometer potential natural**

- likely natural, stream
- possible natural, spring

- Archaeological trenches
- Archaeological features
- High
- Medium
- Low

N

0 100m

Scale 1:2000@A3

PROJECT

Hazard Farm, Harberton, Devon

TITLE

Fig. 3: Significance of archaeological deposits

AC archaeology

Plate 1: Overview of trenches in field 2, looking North

Plate 2: Trench 4, section showing terracing on the southern edge of the large sub-circular enclosure, looking southeast (scale 1m)

Plate 3: Trench 7, section of outer ditch feature F723, looking southeast (scale 1m)

Plate 4: Trench 7, section of inner ditch feature F724, looking northeast (scale 2x1m and 1x2m)

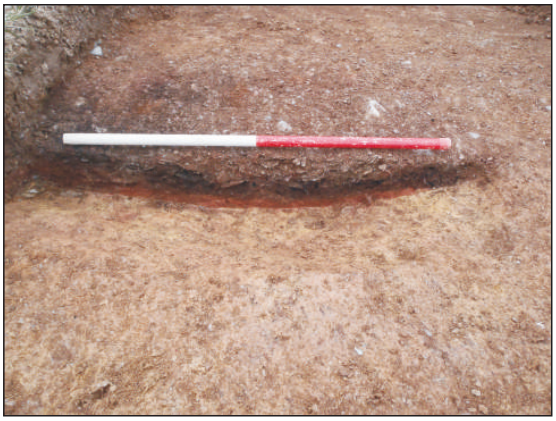


Plate 5: Trench 8, section of pit feature F809, looking northeast (scale 1m)

Plate 6: Trench 2, section showing terracing on the eastern edge of the large sub-circular enclosure, looking (scale 2m)

Plate 7: Trench 10, shallow ditch feature F1008, looking southeast (scale 1m)

Plate 8: Trench 13, section of irregular pit feature, looking northeast (scale 2m)

Plate 9: Trench 17, section of pit feature F1709, looking east (scale 1m)

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